



DEPARTMENT of NEBRASKA
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September News 2022

Hello Members,

Did you send in your reservation to attend leadership school and the homecoming of President, Vicki Ozenbaugh, Commander, Don Suchy and Detachment Commander Chris Casey? It is on Saturday, October 1 in Seward. Banquet reservations are due September 21. You won't regret it!

Last month I sent out the IRS 8822b form. Units are responsible for communicating to Department their responsible party and that person's mailing address. Typically, the responsible party is your Treasurer or President. This information is provided to the IRS and is required to maintain your tax-exempt status. It is also the basis for filing your annual E990 tax return. Department maintains a binder of submitted forms. Only updates need to be submitted. If you are uncertain if your information is current, just submit another form. If you have questions, you can contact me anytime for assistance. The list I inherited shows that 14 units file their own E990 tax form. If you are one of those units, please confirm that on the form you received and return to Department via mail or email. I want to confirm that all units are up to date before tax returns are due after the first of the year.

Each unit received donation forms and there are more coming. *Our veterans appreciate your generosity.* I have a special request for each unit – please try to get your donations into headquarters by the 1st week of October. Our volunteer financial advisor has been performing all the bookkeeping duties. She is a "snowbird," and will be away six months. That means I get the bookkeeping title. Let's let her know we appreciate her and give her all the donations before she leaves.

The question of who the County Officers are and what are the dates for County events has been asked. My research shows that our records need updating. If you have County meetings, please let Department know so we can inform our Department and District Officers. They would welcome an invite to your County and Unit events.

We need your help locating Morissa Preister. She was the 2018-2019 Americanism Essay Contest Award winner in the Northwestern Division – Class IV Division for Best Essay. The subject was "How can we address and prevent homelessness in our communities?" If this young lady was from your Unit, please let me know. We have her certificate. Thanks.

Contents of the September Newsletter:

1. Department President Vicki Ozenbaugh
2. Department Secretary Pro Tem Jacki O'Neill
3. Membership Chairperson Beverly Neel

2022-23 Directory

Poppy Order form – lavender

Unit Assessments for Veterans Home and Gift Shop – green

American Legion Family VA&R 2022 Schedule for Dollar Days, Gift Shop and Gifts for Yanks Events

Jacki O'Neill

Pro Tem Secretary



PRESIDENT VICKI'S SEPTEMBER SNIP-ITS

MEETINGS--Fall is around the corner, which means County Meetings will be held across the state. I would be happy to attend those that I can make, I just need to know when and where. Also, a reminder that I would like to attend as many Unit meetings as well. Again, I need to know when your Unit meets and what time. I look forward to your invitations!

MEMBERSHIP—Members—have you paid your 2023 dues? Remember my wish to be 100 percent by December 31? What a happy dance I would do for you at Mid-Year! More importantly, it would mean that every member would be in good standing and have all their benefits available. Let's do it!

ABC BOOK—I know how everyone looks forward to receiving the ABC Book. The goal is to have it available by the middle of September. Pro Tem Secretary Jacki is currently working on it. What she will need ASAP after the National Convention is our program chairpersons to complete their sections. Why the wait? The National Chairpersons will reveal their plans for the 2022-2023 at National's.

2022-2023 ALA DIRECTORY—It is included in this mailing! Every effort was made to ensure that all information is correct. If you see any errors, please notify me.

LEADERSHIP/HOMECOMING—I hope to see many of you in Seward on Saturday, October 1. Commander Don, Detachment Commander Chris, and I would like to have a head count for the evening banquet. Please send your registration form (it can be found on our website under "Events") to Commander Don by August 21 for the \$15 cost. Otherwise, it will be \$20 at the door. The Leadership training in the afternoon has no cost associated with it.

UNIT TREASURERS—It has been brought to my attention that many Units' checks do not have their Unit Number on them. Please, the next time you need to order checks, add your Unit Name and Number. This helps in the office when recording your donations and making out the deposit. Thanks!

WORKING OUR PROGRAMS—As our Units and members work our many programs, please remember to write down what is being done along with the time, miles, dollars, etc., so you will have the information when it comes time to report.

SPEAKING OF REPORTS—We plan to have the new reporting format available by Leadership/Homecoming (if not before)! Stay tuned!

Thanks for sharing!

PATRIOTISM is a reason, not a season.

President Vicki
Never Forget, Ever Honor

2023 MEMBERSHIP – STRATEGY 101
STATE LIFE MEMBERSHIP (SLM)
Beverly A. Neel, Chair
57576 847th Road – Wayne NE 68787-7080
402 369 0152 bbneel1912@gmail.com

Hello Members,

This month we are going to dedicate our message to those Unit members who invested in the State Life Membership (SLM) program; which is NOT recognized by the National organization.

Members, many of you will recall that years ago (June 24, 1976 through July 1, 1998) the Department established a dues program for members to pay up for life and be done with paying annual dues. Remember, this was a Department-established program; not a National program. Many Auxiliary members took the Department up on this wonderful offer and signed up. I know when I joined the SLM program my total Unit dues were \$8. Those funds ran out a long time ago. I am now invested in the National Paid-Up-For-Life (PUFL) program.

Being invested in the National Paid-Up-For-Life program at this time, means that National's \$12.00 share of my total Unit dues can never go up. My portion of National dues of \$12.00 is locked in for the rest of my life.

As of 2023 (this membership year) Department's share of your Unit Senior dues is \$10.25. National's share of your Unit Senior dues is \$12.00. So very soon the total share that the Department will not receive annually from each of the just under 1,000 State Lifetime Members (SLM) is \$22.25. This means a deficit close to \$22,250 for the Department of Nebraska annually. ($\$22.25 \times 1000 = \$22,250$)

PLEASE KEEP IN MIND THAT FOR THE 2024 MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN, THE DEPARTMENT'S SHARE OF YOUR UNIT DUES WILL BE \$12.25 as a \$2.00 increase in the Department's share was approved BY THE Convention body at the 2022 Department Convention in Columbus NE.

At the 2022 National Convention in Milwaukee WI the National organization will propose a \$6.00 dues increase for Senior members. If National's \$6 dues raise is approved for year 2024, the Department of Nebraska will be responsible to transmit \$18.00 per SLM to the National organization; putting the Department with a larger deficit.

So where does the Department find the funding for your Senior per capita dues? It is taken from the General Fund; thus, taking away funding from other segments of our work for Veterans, military, family, children, youth and our communities. Membership dues are the foundation of a solid budget which covers expenses from wages, to utilities, supplies, and much more.

THIS DOES NOT AFFECT ANY UNIT MEMBER WHO SIGNED UP FOR THE NATIONAL PUFL PROGRAM. YOUR DEPARTMENT AND NATIONAL PER CAPITA DUES ARE LOCKED IN. (Application attached.)

Units with SLM members and SLM members also, would you please consider making a donation into the Department to help meet this financial shortfall? Your investment in the Department and its programs is greatly appreciated. \$10.25 Department and \$12 National share of your dues = \$22.25. Donations may be sent to:

Department ALA Treasurer, P O Box 5227, Lincoln NE 68505-0227 earmarked "Permanent Membership Fund". Due by October 1st. Thank you for your support.

DEPARTMENT AWARD CERTIFICATES

**PRESIDENT VICKI O's HAPPY BIRTHDAY AWARD
67% UNIT GOAL REACHED
AUGUST 18, 2022**

**PRESIDENT VICKI O's HAPPY BIRTHDAY AWARD
77% DISTRICT GOAL REACHED
AUGUST 18, 2022**

**MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING AWARD
100% UNIT GOAL REACHED
DECEMBER 29, 2022**

*The Membership program has \$400 available for recognizing great strides in the program. Based on the above awards those Units and Districts earning the respective certificate per award will have a special drawing on that date to determine \$50 awards to three Units, two Districts and three Units respectively to the above dates. **Funds are to be used to enhance membership growth.** Awards will be presented at the 2023 Mid-Year Conference. This is exciting to watch how Units and its members work diligently on membership without knowing there are awards awaiting their presentation. If there are not enough contestants for each category on the drawing date, the funds will be awarded as an unannounced award or two. Good luck!!! Thank you for your diligence.*

UNITS REACHING 67% GOAL BY AUGUST 18, 2022

District One – Newport Unit 0227	67.24%
District Two – Brunswick Unit 0357	82.35%
District Two – Primrose Unit 0347	75.00%
District Two – Battle Creek Unit 0075	67.86%
District Two – Creighton Unit 0074	89.91%
District Two – Bloomfield Unit 0249	73.20%
District Three – Decatur Unit 0215	70.15%
District 9 – Cambridge Unit 0199	73.68%
District Ten – Hardy Unit 0179	68.75%
District Eleven – Shickley Unit 0164	69.05%
District Twelve – Pleasant Dale Unit 0354	74.77%

These 11 Units were placed in a drawing so to speak (email number pick) where I asked Department President Vicki, Department Vice President Angie and Department Secretary Jacki to select three (3) numbers between 1 and 11 and those three (3) numbers receiving the most votes will receive \$50 for their respective Unit membership promotion. You will need to wait until 2023 Mid-Year Conference in Norfolk NE to learn who the lucky three (3) Units are.

**There were no Districts to reach the 77% Goal by August 22, 2022.
We will dream up another way for two (2) Districts to earn these big bucks.
Keep an eye out for the announcement of those winners.**

Unit Poppy Order

Deadline is November 1st for Poppy Orders

Today's Date: _____

ALL ORDERS WILL BE AT YOUR DISTRICT CONVENTION UNLESS UNIT ADVISES OTHERWISE.

Submit order with Payment to: American Legion Auxiliary, P O Box 5227, Lincoln, NE 68505-0227
Make check payable to: ALA Treasurer

District # _____ Unit Location _____ Unit # _____

ORDER	QUANTITY	COST	SALES TAX	TOTAL
Small Poppies @\$14.00	X			
Plus sales tax per 100		\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Large Poppies @\$10.00	X			
Plus sales tax per dozen		\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____

Date poppies are needed: _____ If not at District Convention see "Ship to" below

Contact person: _____ Day Phone _____

if possible poppies should be picked up at your District Convention

If you are requesting your order to be mailed please fill in address information below.

"SHIP-TO- ORDERS" - - - ALL MAIL ORDERS WILL INCLUDE A \$10 FEE FOR POSTAGE

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Mail Orders: Cost of Poppies \$ _____ + NE Sales/City Tax \$ _____ + Postage \$10.00 = Total Cost \$ _____
Use this space only if you want your poppy order mailed to the Unit or Unit member.

Be sure to add the sales tax to your order \$ _____ total enclosed Check # _____

Order early - We cannot guarantee that poppy orders received after November 1st can be filled.
Calculate using your city sales tax amount plus 5.5% for Nebraska sales tax - add tax to poppy order amount.

Keep this portion for your record - Unit Poppy Order

Order mailed to Department Headquarters on: _____

District # _____ Unit Location _____ Unit # _____

Ordered _____ Small Poppies (PER 100) _____ Large Poppies (PER DOZEN)

Date Requested _____ Contact Person _____

Poppies will be delivered to : District Convention Mail Pick-Up

Cost of Poppies \$ _____ + NE Sales/City Tax \$ _____ = \$ _____ Unit total cost if order is not shipped to the Unit or Unit member.

