Over the past several years, American Legion Riders from Chapter 374 in Omaha, Neb., have raised thousands of dollars during their annual poker run for the Legion’s Operation Comfort Warriors (OCW) program. In preparation for this year’s event, the Riders wanted to highlight a Nebraska veteran who has benefited from an OCW grant.

However, when Department of Nebraska Adjutant and Legion Rider Dave Salak called National Headquarters, he learned an OCW grant has never been requested from the department. This prompted Salak to contact the VA Nebraska-Western Iowa Health Care System in Omaha and ask if “there was something that The American Legion could do to help them and (Brett Stidfole and I) put together a wish list,” Salak said. “I was overwhelmed when National approved everything on that list and still bought some extra comfort items. (OCW is) a truly generous program!”

An $8,000 grant was presented to the Omaha VA on March 14, which included health and hygiene items, kayaks, fishing poles, ping pong table, dart boards and a Bowflex machine.

“What this donation will do is help the veterans connect back into the community, with nature and with their families. It will not only help in behavior change with the veterans, but increase their social, cognitive and motor skills as well,” said Brett Stidfole, a recreational therapist in the hospital’s residential unit. Stidfole has surveyed the veterans in the past about what equipment they wanted to have on hand to aid in their recovery, so the items OCW donated were an answer to their needs.

The OCW donation “is our voice as well,” Stidfole said. “We are all very appreciative of this grant because we know how much it means to our veterans and to our staff because we know how much it’s going to help the veterans with their recovery. All these items are proven to decrease depression and anxiety, and increase well-being.”

During the presentation of the comfort items to Omaha VA staff, National Vice Commander Douglas Boldt spoke about the mission of OCW and the impact it’s had on wounded servicemembers, veterans and their families.

“This donation was special to me because I have spoken at several fundraisers for OCW but have never been involved with delivering the goods,” Boldt said.

Other Legion family members involved with the donation included Department of Nebraska Commander Beth Linn, and Legion Riders from Chapter 374 helped purchase, pack and deliver the items as well.

The donation “was way more than we ever imagined that we would get from the program. It’s incredible,” Salak said. “You could just see the looks on (hospital staff’s) faces during the delivery about how incredible the program is. OCW is based on what our organization is all about, which is helping veterans who need that extra support.”

**The Act of Giving**

In 2016, the Stoldorf family set a great example of charitable giving by naming the Department of Nebraska as a beneficiary in the Stoldorf Family Trust. The Stoldorf family cared enough about the ability of their Department to continue to serve our veterans to leave a legacy. In their design, they will receive $8,300 per year for 21 years, for a total gift of $174,300. How these dollars will ultimately be used to benefit the Department is yet to be determined. The Stoldorf family is not the first to make a gift to the Department but, while it’s fresh on our minds we use their gift as an example. The point is that charitable giving can and does help organizations maintain and grow. Charitable giving can be done during your lifetime or after you die. It could be a gift of appreciated stock that has a low cost basis for the donor, a gift of cash from an estate or trust, or in the form of Life Insurance death benefit. Other forms of gifts could be real estate or grain. Donations to war veterans organizations are deductible as charitable contributions on the donor’s federal income tax return. The Department meets the eligibility standards for tax purposes as set forth by the Internal Revenue Service tax code section 501(c)(19).

Did you know, that if you are over the age of 70 1/2, you could distribute from your IRA or other qualified account directly to Department let’s say for example $1,000. This would not be tax- able to you or Department. Everyone wins except the IRS. An added benefit is it counts toward your annual required minimum distribution (RMD). For additional information on how this strategy could work for you have a chat with your tax advisor. This is just one of many ways you could plan your gift.

To help put giving into perspective and for illustration purposes, let’s imagine what our financial picture would look like if just one half of current membership took steps to ensure that $1,000 would be gifted at death to Department, Post, County or District. The math works out something like this. Current membership in Nebraska is roughly 30,000. Let’s assume 1,000 of our members die per year over the next 20 years and leave a legacy of $1,000 each: 1,000 x $1,000 = $1,000,000 x 20 years = $20,000,000. Now let’s shrink bigger like the Stoldorf family. Let’s assume each member leaves a gift of $10,000. The math is something like this: 1,000 x $10,000 = $10,000,000 in just one year. Again, imagine how much it could be worth our veterans and their families in Nebraska. Our Preambule, in part, states that we “inculcate (instill) a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation”.

If you or someone in your family has ever received any type of VA benefits, it is highly likely that the American Legion had a role in securing those benefits. If you have ever taken advantage of the GI Bill, the American Legion definitely had a role in making that possible in your life.

In our last article in the Legionnaire, we wrote about the need for a dues increase. However, if Department begins to receive legacy gifts going forward, future dues increases may not be as necessary. Giving is easy with pre-planning. It only requires commitment and an intentional act of each member. If you care about the future of the Department of Nebraska American Legion, consider what you can do during your life or at your death to leave a legacy of whatever amount may be appropriate for your circumstance, no gift is too small.

One thing for sure, is to make certain that your estate planning documents are in place and up to date; that is your Will, Durable Power of Attorney, Medical Directive and verifying that you have proper beneficiaries on all of your accounts. Be sure to discuss gifting strategies with your estate planning attorney as you setup or review your estate plan.

There are so many ways to gift to our Department. The gift can also be directed to a preferred Department program such as scholarships, Boys State, Legion Baseball or restricted gift. Imagine once again, if our Department would establish a “Leg- acy” account that would hold monetary charitable gifts to help live out our purpose and vision. Income and a pre-determined percent of principle could be used annually in the general fund for the betterment of the Department of Nebraska. Finally, we leave you with these thoughts: There are at least five ways giving is good for us. Studies show that: 1) giving from the heart makes us feel happy, 2) giving is good for our health, 3) giving promotes cooperation and social connection, 4) giving evokes gratitude, 5) giving is contagious. When we give, we don’t only help the immediate recipient of our gift, we also spurs a ripple effect of generosity through our community.
Greetings my fellow Legionnaires! It has been an exciting month for Nebraska. February 26th-28th 25 members of our family gathered in Washington DC to discuss Veterans issues. We were able to visit both senators and all 3 congressmen. Senator Sasse once again will not support the Flag Protection Amendment. He believes that if we write a law making it a crime to desecrate our flag that it will just encourage more of the same. More information on National Commander Schmidt’s testimony on “The Hill” can be found at www.legion.org. Click on Legislation. This is what we need to work on.

After flying back from DC, we started National Vice Commander Doug Boldt’s membership tour. I was disappointed on the turnout from some of the Posts to help with this endeavor. We did not have any turn-ins to assist NVC Boldt. He was able to talk with some of the Post Officers and was asked some valuable questions. During NVC Boldt’s tour we attended Districts 4 and 6’s conventions. We also visited Potter and Gering Posts homes. An Operation School Talk was held at Elm Creek on Monday March 6th. It was an interesting event that I strongly encourage more Posts to hold. I have also attended District 3 and 5’s conventions. I was honored to be able to visit with National President Mary Davis at Valparaiso. Recruited her a lady Legionnaire!

On Monday, March 13th I was in Omaha to help with purchasing items for the Omaha VAMC through Operation Comfort Warriors. It took us 5 of us less than an hour to purchase almost $3,000 worth of personal items. That night I was in Kearney for their Legion Birthday Party. I had a great time and enjoyed the visit. I was solo at NVC Boldt and NVC Crosser also attended. I believe that I was able to recruit 4 eligible members for the Auxiliary. Just asking the right question at the right time. On Tuesday we held a Membership Kick Off in Omaha for the presentation of the OCW items to the VAMC. Also included were a pool table, 3 dartboard stations, kayaks with full gear and a Bow Flex gym! Thank you OCW! Our veterans will make great use of those items. Thank you Adjutant Dave Salak for seeing the need and working to see that they were filled. Thank you to the volunteers who shopped and bagged the items. Legion Riders Rock! Upcoming events for me include Legion Birthday Parties at Mitchell, Norfolk, and Omaha, part of the District 8 veterans tour on March 24th, and District 10 and 1 Conventions. On March 29th I will be at Gordon to assist the Legion Riders with honoring 3 Posts that support our Vietnam veterans.

Congratulations to Terry Cogill, District 1 Commander, for winning the trip to the Truman Pilgrimage in Missouri! Terry had the highest % of membership by my birthday to win the trip. Each Legionnaires receives to NCO’s and is entering the Big 12 Competition for our Division! Thank you for working hard to achieve this accomplishment. I am now asking you to encourage NVC Boldt stay #1. I would like to see 97% membership by May 1st. I know you can do this. Congratulations to my 100 Posts: Ainsworth, Chadron, Hay Springs, Brunswick, Petersburg, Chambers, Wauba, Crofton, Newman Grove, Pilger, Other, North Bend, Harginton, Allen, Winneba, Big Springs, Oshkosh, Kimball, Dix, Overton, Paxton, Tyson, Pleasanton, Wood River, Humphrey, Creston, Stromsburg, Malmo, Colon, Bellevue 637, Gretna, Bellevue 339, Herman, Fort Calhoun, Arapahoe, Elwood, Colberson, Palisades, Fairfield, Alma, Guide Rock, Carleton, Deshler, McCool Junction, Garland and Elk Creek! Great job!

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Don’t Give Up, We’ve Got This
Beth Linn, Department Commander

Page 2-The Nebraska Legionnaire-April/May, 2017

HAPPENINGS

Activities From Around the State

NCCCSAL FUNRAISER

Sunday, April 2nd

Nebraska’s Candidate for National Commander- Members of The American Legion Silent Auction & Raffle Early item pickup and bidding

June 24 and 25 in conference center lobby

Join us at the May convention Saturday from 6-8pm

Meet and Greet Candidate/ Raffle Drawings and Silent Auction

Benefit For Legionnaire

Kenny Hall

Sunday, April 30th

Free Will Donation Lunch and Silent Auction

11:00 am - 2:00 pm

Carroll Auditorium, Carroll

Nebraska

Kenny has been diagnosed with a severe lung disease. Kenny is being treated at the National Jewish Hospital in Denver and will have many future appointments in Denver in the upcoming months.

**Dennis & Deb Jensen are donating 1/4 of beef to raffle. If you can’t join us but would like to help, you can donate by sending monetary donations to:**

State Nebraska Bank

5% Hand Bank

122 Main Street

Wayne, NE 68787

UNO Student Veterans and Legion Members Help

In February, Jim Costello and Adjutant Salak met with the Omaha Mayor’s Office to discuss what our chapter could do to help and we get the word out about what we do. The Commandant for the Nebraska State LEGO, “TJ” Ewin, mentioned the Student Veterans Organization (SVO) of UNO have a program whereby they mentor young boys at the Omaha Home for Boys so that those young boys might earn their GED.

Adjutant Salak asked if it was possible that he could use local Omaha-area Posts to help ease the financial burden on SVO. The student veterans wanted to get for 30 boys at $35 a piece totaling $700.00.

Many Posts in District 8 stepped up to the challenge. We presented the Student Veteran Organization with checks to sponsor 15 of the boys ($25.50 each). SVO was very appreciative as you might imagine. This is the following for their donation: Bellevue Post 37, Bellevue Post 339, Benson Post 112, Millard Post 374, Omaha Post 1, Springfield Post 143, personal donation from Tim Rooney of Omaha, and District 8.

Commander’s Corner

Beth Linn

Department Commander

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Don’t Give Up, We’ve Got This
Beth Linn, Department Commander
April 1927
90 Years Ago
The never-to-be forgotten days of ‘17 and ‘18 will be re-lived by thousands of Legionnaires during the roll call of the Second A.E.F. in Paris next September. The Legion’s pilgrimage to France this year offers a glorious opportunity to a limited number of Legionnaires of seeing Paris, now more beautiful than ever in the security of peace.

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The St. Paul Post is doing a good sized job of work for the community in the program which it has undertaken to put the St. Paul opera house into shape as a first class show house with capacity for all public gatherings. The Legion recently bought the building and the next step will be to remodel it.

May 1927
90 Years Ago
As soon as the call from Department Headquarters for flood relief was received from Valley Post, the officers started making plans for the raising of a fund. The post put on a feature moving picture in the local theater and took in about $120.00. The entire amount will be turned over to the Red Cross for flood relief. They post paying all expenses in connection with the show.

Shibbert estems it a district privilege and pleasure to entertain the Legionnaires during the Fourth Annual District Convention of the First Congressional District of the American Legion. Big post officers meeting, parade with lots of prizes, big fight and wrestling cards, drum and bugle corps, fast ball games, big free eats and a big meeting in the evening, with leading Legionnaires as speakers will be provided for your entertainment.

Many states are sending Bands or Drum Corps to Paris to represent their Department. In Nebraska there are no funds available for this purpose – the sale of forty thousand flag sets will turn the trick, as well as produce ten thousand dollars for the various post treasuries. The personnel of the Paris Drum Corps will be chosen at the State Convention in Lincoln August 1 to 3, 1927 by competition of all entrants. All Corps are eligible, none barred. Let’s all get busy and send a Nebraska Drum Corps to the great convention.

April 1937
80 Years Ago
New post is again sponsoring a post garden this season. The plan is to raise vegetables to be supplied to Legionnaires and their families in need of assistance.

Alliance Legion post and Auxiliary unit held a joint fun night-meeting recently to afford opportunity for the members to view the history of the organization during the past 15 years. A covered-dish supper started the evening off and special entertainment was given later.

The American Legion is sponsoring a district marble tournament in the ninth district, open to all boys under 16 years of age. This is the first event of its kind to be sponsored by the Nebraska Legion.

May 1937
80 Years Ago
With reports coming in from all parts of the state indicating that the Legion’s tree-planting program resulted in planting of approximately 14 million trees in Nebraska this spring, the organization can indulge in a feeling of pride and satisfaction that another worthwhile project has been put across in typical Legion fashion. As the goal set when plans were started, the statewide observance of Arbor Day, the day this state gave to the world – was 10 million trees, the movement went over the top by approximately 40%.

Martin-Graves Post of Bellevue presented a fine set of dining room furniture to the homemaking department of the Bellevue schools. Funds were raised through a variety program arranged by Legisnarrer Guy E. Tate.

Post 20 of Fremont recently carried a large advertisement in The Fremont Tribune resulting in considerable publicity for the post and helped it put its membership over the quota, according to officials. The “ad” carried the preamble to the constitution, roster of the 1937 members, present officers of the post and an urge that all world war veterans belong to The American Legion.

These Nebraska Centennial Coins are only $10.00. There are only a limited number so call Headquarters to get your now.

Straight Talk
Steve Burger
Department Service Officer

Veterans and Military Permits
The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission is proud to offer special permits to veterans age 64 and older, deployed military and disabled veterans at reduced or no cost. The following permits are available for veterans and members of the military.

Applications can be found at www.http://outdoornebraska.gov/veteransandmilitarypermits/

Veteran Permit
Veterans age 64 and older who are legal residents of Nebraska are eligible for a Veteran’s Annual Small Game Hunt/Fish/Fur Harvest Permit on a one time basis for $5. This permit includes all state stamps. A copy of a DD214 or a Veteran Indicator on the applicant’s Nebraska Driver’s License must be presented in person at the time of application. If a copy of a DD214 is not available, an application form and signature from a Veteran’s Service officer is required.

The Veteran Hunt/Fish/Fur Harvest Permit must be renewed annually for $5. It may be renewed at any Game and Parks office, online or at one of our vendor locations. Renewal does not require a copy of a DD214 or an application form.

Deployed Military Permit
A Nebraska resident who is or has been deployed out of the state with a branch of the United States military within the last 12 months shall, upon returning to the state, be eligible to receive an Annual Small Game Hunt/Fish/Fur Harvest Permit on a one time basis for $5. This permit includes all state stamps. A copy of deployment paperwork must be presented in person at the time of application.

To apply for a Deployed Military Permit via the mail, fill out the application and enclose a copy of your deployment papers and a check for $5. Mail to: Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, PO Box 30370, Lincoln NE 68503-0370.

Disabled Veteran Permit
Disabled Veterans who are legal residents of Nebraska and who have been deemed 50 percent or more service related or 100 percent disabled non-service connected and receive a pension from the Veterans Administration, are eligible for a Disabled Veteran’s Lifetime Annual Small Game Hunt/Fish/Fur Harvest Permit at no fee. This permit includes all state stamps.

Application form and signature from a Veteran’s Service officer is required. The application can be presented in person when applying for this permit.

To apply for a Disabled Veteran’s Permit via the mail, fill out the application and have it signed by a Veteran Service Office. Mail to: Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, PO Box 30370, Lincoln NE 68503-0370.

Burial at Sea
The National Cemetery Administration cannot provide burial at sea.

For More Assistance: If you have any questions about the Burial at Sea program, please contact the United States Navy Mortuary Affairs office toll-free at 1-866-787-0081. Or contact the Department of the Navy for information.

Active duty members and Veterans buried at sea may be eligible for a Government-furnished headstone or marker.

WE NEED PICTURES AND STORIES LET US KNOW WHAT YOUR POST, SQUADRON OR RIDERS ARE DOING. WE TAKE ITEMS FOR ARTICLES AND PICTURES BY E-MAIL AT comdirlegion@windstream.net
Patient safety is job one. It’s VA’s National Center for Patient Safety (NCPS), and it has:

- Contributed to an 82 percent decrease in deaths from suicide in VA inpatient mental health
- Helped reduce major fall-related injuries by five per cent since 2012
- Fostered a strong culture of safety throughout the Veterans Health Administration

A Toolkit to Help Prevent Falls

Falls are regularly one of the highest categories of sentinel events reported to The Joint Commission. To address this patient safety issue, NCPS developed a Falls Toolkit. The Toolkit has contributed to a 32 percent decrease in deaths from falls in VA inpatient mental health units throughout the United States.

For Veterans Having Surgery

We have information that will help you understand what will happen before your surgery and how your doctors and nurses will make sure that everything goes as planned.

For Veterans

The Daily Plan enhances patient safety by involving patients in their care. Veteran patients receive an itinerary, or road map that lets them see what will occur on a particular day. The plan encourages patients and family members to ask questions if something seems different than expected. This can help reduce potential errors and give Veterans and their caregivers’ peace of mind.

Clinical Team Training (CTT) was developed by NCPS to provide clinicians with the tools and strategies to practice effective teamwork behaviors and to communicate clearly, especially in critical situations. CTT employs Crew Resource Management (CRM) principles, developed in the airline industry, to improve team leadership, assertive communication, situational awareness and clinical decision making. Establishing a fair and just culture is critical for a thriving atmosphere of safety. My Voice Matters offers coaching, support and training for VA leaders on their journey to high-reliability through the establishment of a fair and just culture.

The Mental Health Environment of Care Checklist, created by NCPS in 2007 to evaluate and improve the safety of inpatient mental health units, has contributed to an 82 percent decrease in deaths from suicide in VA inpatient mental health units throughout the United States.

The Nebraska Homestead Exemptions and Overview

The Nebraska homestead exemption program is a property tax relief program for seven categories of homeowners: 1. Persons over age 65, 2. Veterans totally disabled by a non-service-connected accident or illness, 3. Qualified disabled individuals, 4. Qualified totally disabled veterans and their widowers, 5. Veterans whose home was substantially contributed to by the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) and their widow(er)s, 6. Unmarried widow(er)s of a servicemember who died on active duty or 7. Individuals who have a developmental disability.

There are income limits and homestead value requirements for categories 1, 2, 3, 6, and 7. The income limits are on a sliding scale. There are no income limits and homestead value requirements for categories 4 and 5.

For more detailed information guide sign up for the subscription service at revenue.nebraska.gov to get updates on your topics of interest and for more detailed explanation benefits.

The Legion Family is invited: Vietnam Memorial Dedication, To Honor all Vietnam Veterans

Norfolk Veterans Home 600 East Benjamin Ave.
Norfolk, NE
April 30th, 2017 2:00 pm
Guest Speaker: Jon R. Beckenhauer (Colonel, US Army Retired)

The month of April reminds us that not only spring is almost here, but so is Children & Youth Month. The American Legion has celebrated “April is Children & Youth Month” for the past 79 years by supporting and promoting its national theme — “Children – Our Most Precious Natural Resource.”

In 1938, April was designated as Child Welfare Month (now called Children & Youth Month). In 1941, at the Twenty-Third Annual National Convention, Resolution No. 537 passed April as the Official Child Welfare Month since it was such a success and had proven its worth.

During this month of celebration, American Legion Family members are encouraged to share their local communities the commitment’s encouragement to young people by hosting youth activities or by becoming involved in programs and organizations that support young people. As Americans, we need to remember that amid the problems we face daily with the environment, crime, unemployment and financial uncertainty, the one constant that will make or break this nation is our young people. They are our FUTURE! Our hopes and dreams for a better tomorrow rest in their hands.

Legion Family members are encouraged to invite local families and community leaders to their post to discuss the challenges facing children, families and the community, as well as share ideas for addressing those issues. Inviting subject-matter experts on child safety, health and education to present at the post event would also be beneficial. Remember to make any post event in April an opportunity to raise funds for Legion programs that support children and youth, such as the Temporary Financial Assistance program, local Family Support Network efforts or the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation. Whatever event you host or participate in as a Legion Family, remember to invite local leaders and officials to support the event and engage the media in publicity and promotion. Legion Family members can promote Children & Youth Month awareness through their local newspapers, radio and TV stations, civic groups, schools, social media and in conversations with other veterans and their families. Communities need to know that American Legion services are available and why young people matter.

For ideas on how to support and promote Children & Youth Month in your community, download a copy of the April Children & Youth Month brochure at: www.legion.org/publications.

Following the observance of Children and Youth Month, all department Children & Youth chairmen are urged to turn their attention to the annual reporting of expenditures and activities. Accurate records are vital to reporting in your department’s Consolidated Post Report, to include money spent or donated for the benefit of children and youth by all posts and squadrons.

Nebraska Legation Family- April/May, 2017

Important Office That Most Veterans Have Never Heard Of

Page 4 - The Nebraska Legation Family- April/May, 2017
A group of Nebraskans recently returned from Washington D.C. where we attended meetings with the National Organization and also went up to the Hill to meet with our Congressional Reps on Veterans Issues and Benefits. I had the good fortune of attending the National Security Meeting where at the latter part of the meetings, representatives of the DPAA (DEFENSE POW/MIA ACCOUNTING AGENCY) and The Chairman of the Board of the National League of POW/MIA families spoke and shared info on the status of the organizations and the works each was doing. I will mainly be sharing info from the League of POW/MIA families. Ann Mills-Griffiths is currently the Chairman of the Board, and as she put it: she was chairman for around 20 years before and getting a paycheck, then she retired, and now she is Chairman again but donating her work for free. Ann’s brother was a Navy aviator who was shot down in 1966 and is Missed in Action. I did have the good fortune of attending the latter part of the meetings, the leadership of both houses of Congress, the Bipartisan Congressional support, the leadership of both houses hosted the installation ceremony, at which League Executive Director Ann Mills-Griffiths delivered remarks representing the POW/MIA Families.

The sole mission of the League of Families is to obtain the release of all prisoners, the fullest possible accounting for the missing and repatriation of all recoverable remains of those who died serving our nation during the Vietnam War. A special Thank You goes out to The American Legion Auxiliary and The Sons of The American Legion for laying Wreaths at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Almost all of us from the Vietnam Era have friends, brothers, sisters, fellow service personnel on this wall. I do not have to worry about my emotions because the tears just flow. So proud of these who have made the ultimate sacrifice and do so miss them.

I did find out the best kept secret while at the Wall. The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund (VVMF) has an In Memory program which honors Vietnam Veterans whose family or friends have private memorials, which were cut short as a result of their service in Vietnam, but are not eligible for inscription on the Wall under DOD guidelines. The plaque that honors these veterans has been placed flush in the cement adjacent to the statue of three battle weary Vietnam War soldiers, and was dedicated as part of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in 2004. It reads: “In memory of the men and women who served in the Vietnam War and later died as a result of their service”. We honor and remember their sacrifice.

More information can be found at the following sites: www.VVMF.org/InMemory and also InMemory@vvmf.org.

Events Calendar

April (Children and Youth Month)
1 District 1 Meeting Ainsworth Post 79
8 Scholarship Committee Mtg. @ St. Hdq.
9 POW Recognition Day
16 Easter
21-23 Annual National Oratorical Contest
May
8-10 Spring Meetings, Indianapolis, IN.
8 VE Day 1945
14 Mother’s Day
15 Peace Officers Memorial Day
20 Armed Forces Day
29 Memorial Day
June
4-10 Cornhusker Boy’s State
12-16 Junior Law Cadet Program (Female)
14 Flag Day
18 Father’s Day
19-23 Junior Law Cadet Program (Male)
22 Department DEC Meeting
23-25 Department Convention-Columbus
July
4 Independence Day
18-22 Junior Shooting Sports-Air Rifle

Advertise Your Business in the Convention Program

It’s time to start putting together our Convention Program and the Department is selling space in the program for individuals or businesses to advertise. Prices are very reasonable.

Please distribute around your community businesses to garner support.

All ads and payment must be received before May 19, 2017. Program is 8.5 x 5.5 in size.

$10.00 Page split into eight sections for business cards
$20.00 Page split into four sections
$30.00 Page split into two sections

$60.00 Full page

Insurance: A Wise Investment for Your Future

During an economic slump like we’re in, it is wise to see where you can cut down on frivolous spending and to plan ahead with and save your money. There are other areas where you should consider spending more to help beef up your financial security in the long term. More than ever, insurance for those unexpected accidents and costly expenses are essential.

The Legionnaire Insurance Trust has been working hard for over 50 years to bring you and your family a variety of products that help you financially prepare yourself for the worst. For example, if you find you or your spouse in the hospital the Hospital Help Plan can pay you benefits while you are in the hospital. Our Cancer Care protection plan pays you to help fight cancer and speed your recovery.

To learn more about these products and more, visit us online at www.TheLT.com or give our customer service representatives a call at 1-800-235-6943 and we’d be happy to assist you.

Underwritten by: Transamerica Premier Life Insurance Company, Cedar Rapids, IA

Limitations and exclusions apply. Please see your certificate for details.

Page 5-The Nebraska Legionnaire-April/May, 2017
Legionnaire. We definitely have “got this” because we will not give up our best image of what and who it is to be a Nebraska Legionnaire. Thankful for those new Legionnaires who come aboard. We are continue our recruitment programs at full tilt while also being maintain, and enlarge, our membership across Nebraska. Let’s His prophets urge His followers that you and me are “…in perfect peace... (when) in Thee (God)... trusting Thee (God)” (Isaiah 26:3). All I’m offering is that trusting the Lord IS our best effort to maintain, and enlarge, our membership across Nebraska. Let’s continue our recruitment programs at full tilt while also being thankful for those new Legionnaires who come aboard. We are our best image of what and who it is to be a Nebraska Legionnaire. We have definitely have “got this” because we will not give up the fight to be the best Legionnaire department in the American Legion.

My fellow Legionnaires: I’m offering an opportunity for you to “pick my brain” about any Scripture. Whatever question you have will be held in confidence. Just submit your concern using our first name and last initial. I will respond to you via this column with your initials. Questions or concerns may be submitted via email, or by postal mail. Thank you for allowing me to serve you.

Dr. William Jackson, Jr.
Department Chaplain

Can Spiritual Therapy Ease PTSD for Veterans?

How big a role might spirituality play in helping Veterans cope with the ravages of post-traumatic stress?

The whole would like to know. “Young people go into combat and see their friends getting killed.” Dr. Nagy Youssef, a psychiatrist with full clinical privileges at the Augusta VA in Georgia, and an associate pro- fessor of psychiatry at Augusta University. Youssef and several col- leagues recently touched on the complex subject of moral injury in a paper they published in The Journal of Nervous and Mental Disease (Volume 205, Number 2, February 2017). In it they note that many Veter- ans have deeply held spiritual or religious beliefs that could increase their vulnerability to moral injury.

“I’ve met a lot of Veterans with PTSD,” he said. “Often we treat our Veterans and Ser- vice Members with medica- tion to help reduce symptoms like flashbacks or nightmares. We have them prolonged ex- posure or cognitive processing therapy with or without medica- tion. These help a good por- tion of patients but not all.”

So far we’ve interviewed about 40 Veterans,” he said. “We’re hoping to interview at least 125. The results of the study will tell us whether or not we should proceed with a larger study concerning spiri- tual therapies and its value in the healing process.” Duke Uni- versity and the Durham VA are collaborating with Youssef on the project.

The psychiatrist said the larger study, should it proceed, would incorporate aspects of each pa- tient’s religion or spiritual be- liefs with a particular emphasis on faith groups.

“Some Veterans suffering from PTSD sincerely believe that God, or whomever they perceive to be their higher power, will never forgive them for what VA official said he said. “I doubt if these feelings of shame and guilt can ever be fully addressed with stan- dard therapy or medication. We need to give these patients evidence — from the Bible, the Torah, the Koran or whatever they believe in — that they can be forgiven, that there’s always a second chance.”

Many Veterans have deeply held spiritual or religious be- liefs that could increase their vulnerability to moral injury. He continued. “We hope this approach turns out to be highly motivating for the Veterans in our study. If they find this spiritual approach to be meaning- ful, and helpful, they’ll keep coming to therapy. That’s the key: showing up for treat- ment.” Youssef emphasized that intro- ducing a spiritual element into treatment is not meant to be a replacement for conventional therapies, but an enhancement for those Veterans who may find it beneficial. “We do not advocate at all quitting stan- dard therapy,” he said. “This is meant to be a holistic approach that simply works at a differ- ent level . . . a different dimen-

Sons of The American Legion Golf Tournament

CROOKED CREEK, CLAY CENTER NEBRASKA

• Two Person Scramble
• July 8th Shotgun Start at 1:00 p.m.
• Limited to first 36 Teams (72 total golfers)
• $60 Donation: per person (includes supper)
• Cash Payout for Top 3 Teams & Pin Prizes

Benefit for Danny Smith, SML member of 43 years & Leading Candidate for National Commander

*Limited Carts Available*

Call (719)-433-8935 to sign up!

An American Legion Salute to Nurses

U.S. Army veteran John Kellner Sr. was shot three times and seriously wounded while serving in the Vietnam War. Because of the wonderful care he received from nurses overseas and stateside, his motto has been “to be alive and appreciative of all my blessings.”

“The true heroes to me were those caring (nurses) who changed my dressings every day, took my pulse, temperature, changed my chest tubes and gave medications,” said Kellner of Alden, N.Y., who is a member of American Legion Post 362. “I’m to this day strongly endeared by the care of these wonder- ful nurses.” They also helped him write letters to his parents and girlfriend.

The American Legion wants you to join us as we salute mili- tary and VA nurses who have provided comfort, care and life-saving medical skills to help veterans and military personnel through their most difficult times.

Patients and witnesses to great care and compassion by nurses are invited to submit their stories and upload photos at www.legiontown.org.

Select “Salute to Nurses” as the category. Submissions will be reviewed and posted on the national website, www.legion.org. You can select your own submissions will be included in the September issue of The American Legion Magazine.

And if you are a military or VA nurse, share a meaningful mo- ment or patient from your experience as a care provider.

Legionnaire Clarence Day, a Vietnam War Marine veteran who spent 19 years as a nurse anesthetist at the Minneapolis VA Health Care System, said “those were the most rewarding years of my career. I met many veterans through the years and became longtime friends with some of them. I heard many stories and spent many hours just talking with them.”

Exeter Post Commander Alan Songster presented former Exeter resident Roy Stubbendick his 70 year membership pin for his continuous membership in the Legion.

Email: drwcjacksonjr@yahoo.com
Questions or concerns may be submitted via email, or by postal mail. Thank you for allowing me to serve you.

Dr. William Jackson, Jr.
Department Chaplain

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S.A.L. Notes

Bobby Baker
Detachment Commander

It is time to get all renewals in if you have not seen any mem- berships in it’s time to get it done. We have a few Squaddies that have not reported anything yet, let’s get this done. I would like to see us at 100% within the next two months, we are still in a challenge with South Dakota would like to beat them.

Commanders, if you have not received your blue workbooks contact HP or attend your District Convention to get them, all Officers should have theirs.

There is a Detachment Commanders belt buckle for the top recruiter we have individual that has 30 new members, Adjutants, send in the name of your top recruiter.

Marching forward
God and Country

Detachment Commander

Call (719)-433-8935 to sign up!
Hi all! Well, it’s time to start thinking about pulling the covers off your scooters to get ready to RIDE! Now I know that some of you have the covers off already or never covered your ride to begin with, and have already gotten a few winter rides in. To those that have not let Mother Nature stop you from riding, I SALUTE YOU! You are true warriors! For the rest of us (as included), our ritual of unplug- ing the trickle charger, pulling off the cover and giving the old girl a good look over will soon begin. And then, LOOK OUT…cause here we come! I’d like to address an important matter about respect and perception. Recently, a well known eating and entertainment business asked some American Legion Riders to remove their vests because of the US flag, POW/MIA and other war-time and military patches. The article included a quoted statement from a lady representing the business: “Theyough we understand that the American Legion promotes a positive mission, for consistency reasons we cannot allow motorcycle jackets displaying patches or rockers,” she said. I’m a pretty literal guy and, I don’t know about you, but in no way does that state quote “because your vests are sporting US flag, POW/MIA, etc. patches, you have to take them off.” We should not read into this what is not there, or jump to any conclusions. It doesn’t matter that we proudly display our country’s colors, POW/MIA patches, etc. The point is simple: we are not a motorcycle club, out of respect for those that we are too should remove our vests if asked to do so. By abiding by the proprietors rules does in no way diminish or hurt our cause, nor is it an insult. Beauty is in the eye of the beholder and perception is law. It’s not how we see ourselves that’s important, but rather the perspectives of others. And that includes how we behave and what we say when asked to remove our vests. I do not have a problem with this rule, and neither should the rest of my ALR brothers and sisters. Don’t let this be a distraction or an issue. If you want to see this as a problem, it will be. If you choose to not see it as a problem, it won’t be. Let’s make sure we are always portraying both a good image and attitude when we engage the public.

On Saturday, February 25th, the Western Sandhills ALR chapter formed a flag line in honor of Mr. Lyle Sones of Rushville, NE. Lyle was 95 years of age and enlisted in the US Navy in October 1942. Lyle served aboard the USS William F. Hepburn for the next 4 years and was present for the raising of the American flag on Iwo Jima Island. Lyle was a member of the USS William F. Hepburn Alumni Association in Washington, DC where he was listed in the USS William F. Hepburn TAPS.

Mr. Lyle Sones served in the US Navy as a Radiation Technician from 1942 to 1946. He was a decorated veteran with 5 Purple Heart Medals and a Bronze Star.

Lyle was a member of the American Legion Riders and served as a Nebraska State Liaison. He was also a member of the American Legion Post 34 in Rushville, NE.

Lyle was a lifelong member of the American Legion and served his country during World War II. He will be missed by all who knew him.

Rest in Peace, Mr. Lyle Sones.

Kind regards,

[Signature]

[Date]

---

**Kind regards, Brian Mann**

**Nebraska State Liaison**

**American Legion Riders**
Department Commander Beth Linn holds the wreath she laid at President Lincoln’s tomb.

Prague Post 254 Adjutant Larry Johnson presented a Ruger 10/22 rifle celebrating Nebraska’s 150 years of Statehood to Ryan Dauel of Malmo. The rifle is 1 of 150 rifles made.

Nebraska Czechs of Wilber, ‘WE WELCOME YOU’
56th Czech Festival
August 4, 5, 6 2017
Wilber, Nebraska
Continuous Family Fun
Accordian Jamborees
Art Show,
Quilt Show,
Heritage Demonstrations
Legion Bingo,
3 Parades,
Car Show,
Kids Rides, Vendors,
Czech Pageant, Alumni Band
and Camping
For MORE INFO
Call: 1 888 494 5237

One for the books- American Legion Post 3 Honor Guard provided Military Honors for a Veteran. Nothing unusual here we do it all the time, over 150 times last year. When the request for our services came in we thought someone was playing a joke. We all assembled at the appointed place. We did our part- 3 shot volley, folded and presented the Flag and played taps. The funeral and burial was at Rolling Hills Pet Cemetery here in Lincoln. This Marine said before he died that he wanted to be buried where there were no hypocrites and he would be surrounded by unconditional love.

St. Paul Carl Mogensen Post 119 of observed the American Legion 98th Birthday. Honored (l-r) Lonnie Vincik, accepting the certificate for his late father, John Vincik (70) years; Roger Ogard (50); Milton Nesiba (55) and Tom Mrkvicka (50). Unable to attend were Ray Chelewski, Raymond Vang and Kenneth Ziomke all (50); Donald Deininger (60) and Wayne Springer (65).

Larry Weinandt Jr. is a lifetime, 53 year member of Fremont Post 20. Larry has guided our baseball program since 1964 and He has served on the state athletic committee for 32 years. In the past Larry has been a Co-director of Area B with Jim Clark of Wakefield. Charlie Smith also helped Larry and was a Co-director for over 40 years. Larry still handles the finances for the program, lines up their birth certificates and schedules their tournaments. In the early days, it was a family affair. Larry’s wife ran the concession, his sons and daughters helped and his mother-in-law worked the ticket booth.

Wauneta Post 304 awarded Bob Walgren a certificate for his 60 years of continuous membership in The American Legion.

Dodge Post 122 at their March meeting was presented a MIA/POW flag. Pictured (L-R) Doc Wieberg, Lenny Kempf and Cathy Roeber representing Woodman Life out of West Point. Cathy presented Post with an American, Nebraska and MIA/POW flag which will fly over the Veterans Memorial in Dodge.

Larry Johnson Post 330 Commander Loyal Eitzmann presented a 50 year certificate to Mike Casey for his continuous membership.

In March a Quilt of Valor was presented to Cliff Stalling of Floyd Gleason Post 131 of Allen following worship service at his church. His family provided treats and birthday cake in honor of his 90th birthday. Pictured Front row: presenters Mary Rastede and Delores Koch, in back row- Gordon Hansen, Allan Rastede, Leroy Koch, Richard Puckett, Scott Morgan, Lyle Carlson, Dean Chase, Kenneth Anderson.

Legion Post 81 in Wakefield held a Quilts of Valor presentation in March. Front row: (l-r) Eugene Swanson and Bricie Nicholson. Back row (l-r): Densil Moseman, Eileen Krumbach, North Central Nebraska State Coordinator for the National QOV Foundation; and Calvin Swagerty.

Fairfield Post 256 and the community provided an “Avenue of Flags” at their cemetery for patriotic holidays and special occasions.
WHAT’S YOUR WHY?

A membership chairman expressed to me that she was asked, “what’s in it for me?” by a potential member when asked to join the ALA. The answer to this question seemed so transparent to me. Is it obvious to you? Last year, I wrote an article encouraging members to get their “Elevator Speeches” ready. We all need to be ready with the answers to this question.

I had the honor of attending the Washington Conference at the end of February. On Monday of the conference, we heard a series of presentations on “Ways to Engage Veteran Women;” “Hidden Heroes - Caregivers;” “Employing the Arts;” and “Working Together to Serve the Families of Veterans.” All the topics of the day dealt with ways we as members serve our Veterans and one of the presentations was entitled “What’s Your Why?” On Tuesday, the day was spent advocating for our Veterans with our Senators and Congressmen. Does this sound like anyone asked the question, “what’s in it for me?”

You can use the put answers of discounts to save money, insurance, publications, and other sales incentives to answer the question “what’s in it for me?”

WASHINGTON CONFERENCE

It was my privilege to attend the Washington, D.C. Conference as Nebraska’s National Executive Committeewoman and National Security Chairman. The Spring NEC meeting was held on February 25th & 26th, and we reluctantly accepted cancellation of 43 unit charters. We reviewed and amended the audit, budget, and finance reports for the national organization. Discussion continued on mailing out all 1st dues notices by USPS, and a resolution on the same did not pass. Additional follow-up is expected on this topic at the National Convention in Reno.

Many attended a tour to the Vietnam War Memorial and the placing of a wreath by National President Mary. On February 27th, we were asked, “What’s Your Why?” - Why do you volunteer for the ALA? Several panel discussions were held covering: “Engaging Women veterans in the ALA;” “Caring for our Caregivers;” and “Working to honor veterans’ families.” Updates were given on several PBS documentaries expected to air in 2017 and 2018: The Vietnam Vet: Letters Home and Women of the Holocaust.

The Parade of Checks netted $30,297 for Education and Scholarship projects. The Bob Woodruff Foundation was the recipient of the 2017 Public Spirit award for its work to support programs for veterans, military personnel, and their families.

The Nebraska delegation traveled to Capitol Hill on Tuesday to share the American Legion’s legislative priorities with our members of Congress. Members were generally supportive of these priorities with the exception of Senator Sasse’s opposition of the Flag Amendment. I encourage everyone to become familiar with the American Legion’s legislative priorities and contact your Senators and Representatives to let your voice be heard.

In Service to God and Country,
Barbara Washburn
National Executive Committeewoman

The American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Nebraska
MEMORIAL WALL. A special honors those who died as a result who served during the Vietnam during the Washington, DC those killed during the Vietnam containing inscribed names of Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall.

APIRS IS AUGUST TO VETERANS HELD ON VETERAN'S DAY

Post 30 and Unit 30 held their annual Veteran’s Day Celebration and Membership Drive on November 11th. The Post and Auxiliary honored veterans and families with an annual event that began with a morning “Coffee and Rolls Hour” followed by a program at noon that featured a vocalist, speakers from District 8, a presentation of awards by Post Commander Freeman Marion, and a dinner.

We served 200 veterans, families, and friends thanks to donations from the Auxiliary, Legionnaires, the S.A.L., and Gift Cards from four (4) local stores and a bakery. There was DJ for Old School Dance.

Additionally, the Post honored the Birthday of the Marines with a Salute and cake and ice cream.

Beverly Johnson, Auxiliary Unit #30

VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION (VA&R)

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you — to all of you hard working doctors, nurses, and support staff who are doing or have done so much for many of our veterans both in their communities and in the VA facilities across the state this year.

Now it is time for you to toot your horn for your story. I would like to be able to acknowledge and report to National to tell the complete story of what we are doing or have done so much for veterans. For the veteran or service person in your home or community? If so, YOU are one of the many “Hidden Heroes” who devote time and energy to taking care of our nation’s service personnel and veterans. Caregivers like you encounter special challenges unlike other caregivers: PTSD, TBI, and physical disabilities to name just a few.

Take comfort that there are resources available to help when YOU need someone to talk to. These resources are free and provide guidance for dealing with your unique situation as well as offering direct lines to counselors, individual or group online “chat” rooms, webinars, and other support avenues. Please take time to visit these websites to learn more about these programs — and the services they offer to caregivers.

• Operation Family Caregiver: www.operationfamilycaregiver.org  (229)-928-1234
• Caregiver Action Network: caregiveraction.org
• Hidden Heroes: www.hiddenheroes.org  (202) 249-7172
• Operation Family Caregiver: www.operationfamilycaregiver.org  (229)-928-1234

What is an oath?

Webster’s definition is “a solemn usually formal calling upon God to witness the truth of what one says or to witness that one sincerely intends to do what one says. All government employees take an oath when they take office. Our military oath is “I (name) do solemnly promise to renew my oath to the American Legion and Armed Forces Day, May 20, or Independence Day, July 4. Conducting Americanism projects can span a 365-day part of the United States. Americanism projects can span the entire year. Here are some possibilities:

• Present a “thank you” card to veterans and individuals who fly our American flag every day.
• Present the folding of the American flag and what each fold represents at your Memorial Day program.
• Assist The American Legion Auxiliary with American Legion Baseball program. Sell tickets, work the concession booth, donate funds.
• Distribute small flags on Armed Forces Day, May 20, or Independence Day, July 4. Conducting Americanism projects can span a 365-day part of the United States. Americanism projects can span the entire year. Here are some possibilities:
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In January 2017, women from all around the world came together to get their voices heard. For many women, this was a call to action - a time to look at what we are doing and how we can make an impact.

For the women from the ALA, for almost 100 years we have belonged to a sisterhood no matter where you are. This is the time to show our pride in being an ALA member. The work that we do is felt in our local communities and around the world. While a single member's voice may be small, when we come together, we can make our political leaders listen.

So, in keeping in mind that global spirit of the ALA sisterhood, we want you to show your ALA pride. Take your individual, unit, or district pictures with this ALA pride banner and SHARE IT! Share it in your post, community newsletter or newspaper, or on your social media accounts.

Let's start the conversation on why YOU are proud to be an ALA member!

NEBRASKA JUNIORS ARE THE BEST!

Across Nebraska, Juniors are busy “Spinning Their Wheels for Veterans!” Keep your Juniors involved with events and celebrations. Here are some fun ideas for Memorial Day services programs in your community. Keep them motivated to earn patches in the Auxiliary’s Patch Program. The Patch program is a great way to keep Juniors active and educated.

Department Junior President Daisha Hoffman’s project is to get a three-wheeled bike for the Eastern Nebraska Veterans Home. Daisha has chosen an image of a wheel to go along with her theme. The wheel displays eight different projects for veterans, of which you can choose one or two projects to work on together with your Juniors.

The Department Junior Meeting will be held on May 6, 2017 in Dorchester. Daisha is planning a day full of fun! So, bring you Juniors, active or not. If you have questions or concerns, please contact me at 402.450.3009 or at judyboris@gmail.com.

Respectfully,
Judy Boris
Junior Activities Chairman

MEMBERSHIP

Where does help for our veterans come from?

We, as members of the Legion family, clearly know the answer to that. Veterans and their families are the ones who are consistently there for that task. And that promise should never be broken.

Membership is a vital part of our good membership, and paying dues are the most important elements to keeping that promise. If you were to ask any member of the Legion family why they belong, the response is usually, “for the Veterans!” We can’t put membership on the back burner and get to it when we can. It is Step 1. No members. No help.

No voice. If your dues are still unpaid, you are responsible to get them current now. It is every member’s job to do that. How, when, and who are you secondaries. Dues are to be paid now. Veterans are needing our consistent help. Show us there are them with new members and prompt payment of dues!

QUESTION?

When your unit meets a battlefied or an oasis? Make them NO CRAB ZONE! It’s much more productive and a lot more fun.

Don’t wait for April showers to Make it Rain Members. We are getting so close to goal so let’s show the nation that NEBRASKANS cares the most for their veterans and youth!

Barbie Meyer
Department Membership Chairman

TAKING PRIDE IN POST HERITAGE

There is a very talented and busy couple at work for the American Legion Family Post 301 of Dalton, Nebraska. Melody and John Sanna have worked side-by-side to bring their American Legion Post a place where you would be proud to hang your hat or shawl.

Melody repaired the post’s national flag (circa 1947-48). It was made of two-sided fabric with the emblem stamped on both sides. The emblem over the years had cracked and torn the fabric below. Hours were spent whipping all the tears to keep them from more tearing, and she repaired the gold fringe in places where it had torn loose.

Flag carriers, as well as sleeves for the poles and shoulder strap (for ease of carrying), were designed for both the Post Flag and “Old Glory” to protect them when being transported to parades and events.

Not that this was not enough to keep Melody busy throughout the year, she also volunteered to create 8.5" x 11" flyers of each American Legion member on American Flag copy paper to include in November, Branch of Service, Conflict/War, and the year they joined the American Legion. Then, she adorned each flyer with a Memorial Poppy in the left corner and placed each member’s flyer in a sheet protector. John helped Melody run a string wire across a wall from the ceiling, and they stapled the flyers to the wire for display.

To top off the renovation project, frames were purchased for the SAL Charter and Charter members, the Legion charter members, and the National Commander’s photograph and letter to the Post. Additionally, they purchased a larger poster size Constitution and poster frame; developed on American Flag copy paper the lyrics to “America the Beautiful” with all emblems of the branches of the service along the bottom of the repeated process with the poem “Old Glory.”

And, as a final project, they found and displayed under glass all of the important documents: outframed and framed including the Auxiliary’s Charter and Charter Members.

When hanging the newly framed items, it was discovered that Mintken-Davison Post 301 had been operating under a “Temporary Charter” since 1947. After contacting Department Headquarters and doing a little investigating, an officer charter was granted in November of the same year. Nine years later, it is now framed and hangs beside the temporary charter.

Melody serves as the Department Service to Veterans Chairman in Nebraska.

AMERICAN LEGION BIRTHDAY PARTY

National President Mary Davis attended the American Legion Birthday Party held at Beatrice Post 27 on March 12. Pictured are Unit 27 President Loree Dienstiber, Dist. 11 Vice-President Vicki Ozenbaugh, NECwoman Barb Washburn, Mary Davis, Department President Deb Albers, and Department Vice President Kathy Mazur.

Cornhusker Girls State 2017 Election Volunteers Needed We Want You!

Plans are underway for Girls State 2017 and we need your help. Election volunteers are needed to help ensure that the election process runs smoothly and efficiently.

Volunteers are needed on the following dates and times:

Monday, June 5, 2017 - Filing for Office - 8:00AM to 10:00AM.
Tuesday, June 6, 2017 - Primary Election - 7:30AM to 9:30AM
Wednesday, June 7, 2017 - General Election - 9:15AM to 11:15 AM

All times are approximate.

Location is University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Kristi Nohave at kristi.nohave@gmail.com or 402-416-9380.

Those who volunteer will receive more information in mid-May.
THE CHAPLAIN’S CORNER

In 1974, President Richard Nixon established National Volunteer Week. This week is meant to bring awareness to volunteers and their families. We volunteers. The week is also used for someone. Maybe it’s a card for a VA facility, or a phone call to a VA facility, or a phone call to the sacrifice of Lieutenant Harold Buckland. William “Bill” and Patricia Wise of Homer were the brains and elbow grease behind this project. In late October 2016, A SPECIAL AWARD FROM FRANCE to the dedication and support of the dedication and support of the dedication and support of the American Legion Auxiliary. Flamingo Barney’s, a local business, offers a plaque of deceased members of the Danbury McDonald Ryan Post 276 to the High Plains Historical Society in McCook, Nebraska. 1. The work of the Legion Auxiliary is carried out by our local auxiliary units. Each Auxiliary has its own special programs. At the Midyear Conference, many wonderful Fundraisers were shared. What a great way to involve the community and veterans in The American Legion and Auxiliary programs. The list included soup suppers, Indian taco supper, bake sales, egg raffle, spaghetti feed, bakeless bake sale, breakfast meal, garage sale. The American Legion Auxiliary unit at 212 of Scribner (in Dodge County, Nebraska) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Our mission is to locate Gold Star Mothers’ graves and honor them with a Gold Star grave marker. Anyone wishing to submit names and locations of a Gold Star Mother or wishing to help with the project should contact CAROL VERBEEK at 402-380-6859.