



# NEWSLETTER

THE AMERICAN LEGION  
DEPARTMENT OF NEBRASKA  
P.O. BOX 5205  
LINCOLN, NEBRASKA 68505-0205  
(402) 464-6338

*“Don’t Give Up – We’ve Got This”*

DEPARTMENT COMMANDER  
BETH L. LINN

MARCH 2017

DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT  
DAVID W. SALAK

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**DISTRICT CONVENTIONS** There are several Districts holding their convention this month. A representative from each Post within the District should be in attendance. Show your support!

**CORNHUSKER BOYS' STATE** The deadline for receiving Cornhusker Boys' State applications is March 15. If you have not selected your Boys' State representative(s), we would suggest that you do so very soon and get the application in the mail. The fee is \$350.00 per boy and must accompany the application. All Post Adjutants were sent the applications in January. Should your Post wish to send more boys than usual, contact Department Headquarters for additional applications or download applications at <http://www.nebraskalegion.net/Programs>. Remember: Posts are to refrain from informing any boy of his selection until official notification has been received from Department Headquarters. Confirmations will be mailed to the sponsor no later than March 24.

**LET'S PLAY BASEBALL!** Legion Baseball season has begun. Coaches and staff must complete a background check before the team's registration can be approved. Deadline changes – Registration NLT May 15; Fees and Insurance NLT May 15; Transfer forms sent to Department NLT May 31; Rosters by June 15. As always teams are encouraged to retain Insurance and Form 2s for 5 years. Class A Sr & Jr Area – July 14-18; Class A Sr & Jr State – July 22-26; Class A Sr Championship – July 29; Class B & C Jr Area – July 7-11; Class B & C Jr State – July 15-19; Class B & C Sr Area – July 21-25; Class B & C Sr State – July 29–Aug 2.

**BACKGROUND CHECKS** A reminder that the Boys' State volunteer staff and counselors who are 18 years of age and older must complete an online background check every year. This does not include the Sunday volunteers who hand out t-shirts. The non-reimbursable cost is \$12.00. Those selected as staff and/or counselors will inform the Department Adjutant once the background check has been submitted so Adjutant Salak can track accordingly. Submit your background check by going to <https://opportunities.averity.com/Application.aspx?oid=14260>.

**EAGLE SCOUT-OF-THE-YEAR** Post Commanders are reminded that all applications received for Scout-of-the-Year must be signed by the Unit Leader and forwarded directly to Programs Director Brent Hagel-Pitt at Department by March 1. All eligible applicants will be considered for state-level cash scholarships awards. The state winner will represent Nebraska in the national contest for additional scholarships valued up to \$10,000.

**JUNIOR LAW CADET APPLICATIONS** The entry deadline for Posts submitting their Junior Law Cadet applications to Department is March 15. Each Post is eligible to submit applications for one boy and all girls for each school in their community for consideration by the District selection committee. Please note that a commitment to a law enforcement career is NOT required of applicants. Two boys and all qualified girls will be selected and ranked from each of the 14 districts. Additionally, the following districts will be able to send their 1st alternate boys: Districts 15, 1 and 2 alternate girls: Districts 15, 1 and 2.

**MEMBERSHIP** The department membership is 1,548 members behind last year at this same time. We still have 3,262 members to sign up to reach our goal of 32,463. Let's get all renewals collected and transmitted NOW! Next target date is March 8 so cards must be in Department by 9:00 am, Monday, March 6. A reminder to Post Adjutants to remit \$29.75 per membership card.

**NATIONAL COMMANDER'S PIN** National Commander Charles Schmidt will award his National Commander pin to any American Legion Family member who obtains three new members into The American Legion. A new member is defined as any eligible person joining for the 2017 membership year who was not a member of The American Legion during the 2016 membership year. A certificate will also be awarded to anyone who signs up one new member for the 2017 year. Forms can be submitted until June 30 and pins will be awarded until supplies are exhausted. Forms are attached – copy as needed.

**TEACHER OF THE YEAR** The Department Americanism Committee sponsors a “Teacher of the Year Award.” This award honors an educator whose accomplishments and activities in the field of education are far in excess of what is normally expected, and who also promotes American Legion youth programs in their school. Nominees may be elementary, middle, or high school teachers. The nomination form can be downloaded from the Department website at <http://www.nebraskalegion.net/Programs/Teacher.html>. Forward completed forms to Programs Director Brent Hagel-Pitt by May 1.

**OPERATION SCHOOL TALK** The Department Americanism Committee sponsors “OPERATION SCHOOL TALK” to educate and inform the youth of our great state on the principles and programs of The American Legion and to share with our youth our proud military service. If a post member has made contact with their local school and has talked about their military experiences, please have them fill out the enclosed form and return it by May 1. All awards will be presented at Department Convention in Columbus.

**50-60-70-75-80-85 YEAR RECOGNITION** National Headquarters prepares certificates of recognition early each year for members credited on the data records with 50, 60, 70, 75, 80 and 85 years of continuous membership. National sends the certificates directly to Post Commanders for distribution to honored members. Please notify Department Headquarters if you have problems in receiving certificates for your Post.

**AMERICAN LEGION NIGHT W/ THE STORM CHASERS** The American Legion Night at the Storm Chasers will be August 6, 2017. The game starts at 2:05 pm. More information will be sent as the date gets closer.

**NATIONAL EMERGENCY FUND** The National Emergency Fund was established to assist Legionnaires who were displaced from their home due to a natural disaster. These funds cover costs associated with initial food, clothing and shelter out-of-pocket expenses that were incurred due to the disaster. All posts are encouraged to send a generous donation (\$.50 per member is the goal).

**DEPARTMENT CONVENTION** Legionnaires are encouraged to make reservations for 2017 Department Convention (22-25 June) in Columbus at the Ramada Inn (402-564-1492) at your earliest convenience. Rooms are \$89.95 a night. We have a limited number of rooms so book early. Additional information will be posted to the Department website as occurring.

**RESOLUTIONS** The means by which changes are instituted within The American Legion start in the form of a resolution. Be sure to get your proposed resolutions approved through your Post and Squadron. Resolutions should be forwarded to your District Convention for endorsement/approval. Contact Adjutant Salak for a copy of the resolution template should you need one.

**VETERANS CRISIS LINE** There are far too many veterans in crisis; be it chronic pain, anxiety, depression, homelessness, etc. The Veterans Crisis Line is a tool that someone in crisis can use if/when life starts to feel overwhelming. See Nebraska Legion homepage for more information.

Enclosed:

- (1) Operation School Talk Application
- (2) National Commander Barnett's membership incentive pin /incentive certificate form
- (3) District events calendar

**NATIONAL COMMANDER CHARLES E. SCHMIDT  
2017 MEMBERSHIP INCENTIVE PIN  
CERTIFICATION FORM  
THREE (3) NEW MEMBERS  
(Duplicate as needed)**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Recruiter's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address or PO Box: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Send to Post

Send to Recruiter

**TO QUALIFY YOU NEED TO RECRUIT (3) NEW MEMBERS INTO THE AMERICAN LEGION. (A NEW MEMBER IS DEFINED AS ANY ELIGIBLE PERSON JOINING FOR THE 2017 MEMBERSHIP YEAR WHO WAS NOT A MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN LEGION DURING THE 2016 MEMBERSHIP YEAR).**

**(3) NEW MEMBERS:  
(Include full name, department, post)**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

\*Please Note: Each member listed must be eligible for membership in The American Legion. Please forward names of SAL members or Auxiliary members to your detachment or unit for use in their respective incentive programs.

**\*All requested information is mandatory. Please ensure form is filled out completely before submission**

**Return completed forms to: The American Legion  
National Membership Division  
PO Box 1055  
Indianapolis, IN 46206**

**or by Fax: 317-630-1413  
Email: [ssparks@legion.org](mailto:ssparks@legion.org) or  
[rherron@legion.org](mailto:rherron@legion.org)**



**NATIONAL COMMANDER CHARLES E. SCHMIDT  
2017 MEMBERSHIP INCENTIVE CERTIFICATE  
CERTIFICATION FORM  
ONE (1) NEW MEMBER  
(Duplicate as needed)**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Recruiter's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address or PO Box: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Send to Post

Send to Recruiter

**TO QUALIFY YOU NEED TO RECRUIT (1) NEW MEMBER INTO THE AMERICAN LEGION. (A NEW MEMBER IS DEFINED AS ANY ELIGIBLE PERSON JOINING FOR THE 2017 MEMBERSHIP YEAR WHO WAS NOT A MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN LEGION DURING THE 2016 MEMBERSHIP YEAR).**

**(1) NEW MEMBER:**

**(Include full name, department, post)**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

\*Please Note: The member listed must be eligible for membership in The American Legion. Please forward names of SAL members or Auxiliary members to your detachment or unit for use in their respective incentive programs.

**\*All requested information is mandatory. Please ensure form is filled out completely before submission**

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**or by Fax: 317-630-1413  
Email: [ssparks@legion.org](mailto:ssparks@legion.org) or  
[rherron@legion.org](mailto:rherron@legion.org)**

# OPERATION SCHOOL TALK PROGRAM

## Legionnaire Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Post: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of School: \_\_\_\_\_ Town: \_\_\_\_\_

Nebraska County: \_\_\_\_\_ Class attended: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Hours spent in class: \_\_\_\_\_

Topics discussed: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Other Legionnaires present: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Teacher or School Staff Member Verification

Teacher Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Teacher Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

	2017 Junior Law Cadet	2017 Boys/Girls State Orientation	2017 District Convention	2017 District Tour	Attendee
District 1	Sunday, April 09, 2017 1:00 p.m. MST Rushville Post # 161	Sunday, April 23, 2017 1:00 p.m. Valentine Post # 90	Saturday, April 01, 2017 8:00 a.m. Arnsworth Post # 79	December 1-3, 2016 7:00 a.m.	CDR/ADJ/ANEC
District 2	Sunday, April 23, 2017 2:00 p.m. Neigh Post #172	Sunday, April 23, 2017 2:00 p.m. Neigh Post #172	Sunday, March 12, 2017 8:00 a.m. Brunswick Post #357	N/A	SVC/AAO/ANEC
District 3	Sunday, April 23, 2017 1:30 p.m. Emerson Hubbard High School	Sunday, April 23, 2017 1:30 p.m. Emerson Hubbard High School	Saturday, March 11, 2017 9:00 a.m. Chart Center	N/A	CDR/PAO/NEC
District 4	Sunday, April 02, 2017 1:30 p.m. Slidery Post #17	Sunday, May 07, 2017 1:00 p.m. Gering Post #36	Saturday, March 04, 2017 9:30 a.m. Alliance VFW	N/A	CDR/ADJ/ANEC
District 5	Sunday, April 02, 2017 2:00 p.m. CT Hershey High School	Sunday, April 02, 2017 2:00 p.m. CT Hershey High School	Saturday, March 04, 2017 9:00 a.m. Triyon Post #189	N/A	SVC/AAO/NEC
District 6	Sunday, April 02, 2017 1:00 p.m. Centura High School	Sunday, April 02, 2017 1:00 p.m. Centura High School	Sunday, March 05, 2017 9:30 a.m. Bremer Center	N/A	CDR/ADJ/NEC
District 7	Sunday, April 02, 2017 2:00 p.m. Dwight Post #110	Sunday, April 23, 2017 2:00 p.m. Columbus Post #84	Sunday, March 12, 2017 10:00 a.m. Valparaiso Post #371	N/A	CDR/PAO/ANEC
District 8	Saturday, April 08, 2017 11:00 a.m. Millard Post #374	Sunday, April 09, 2017 2:00 p.m. Valley Post #38	Saturday, February 11, 2017 9:00 a.m. Ortina Post #1	March 24-25, 2017 Friday - 3:30 p.m. Saturday - 8:45 a.m.	SVC/ADJ/NEC
District 9	Sunday, April 30, 2017 2:00 p.m. McCook Jr. High School Boardroom	Sunday, April 23, 2017 2:00 p.m. Evangelical Free Church, McCook	Saturday, February 25, 2017 9:00 a.m. Curtis Post #95	N/A	AREA D/PAO
District 10	Sunday, April 23, 2017 1:00 p.m. Campbell Post #169	Sunday, April 23, 2017 3:00 p.m. Campbell Post #169	Saturday, March 25, 2017 9:00 a.m. Turnball Post #11 (Community Center)	N/A	CDR/PAO/NEC
District 11	Sunday, April 02, 2017 2:00 p.m. Cortland Post #233	Sunday, April 23, 2017 2:00 p.m. Wilber Legion Park	Sunday, February 26, 2017 9:30 a.m. Elieter Post #218	N/A	AREA C/ADJ/ANEC
District 12	Sunday, April 02, 2017 2:00 p.m. Hosanna Lutheran Church	Sunday, April 09, 2017 2:00 p.m. Utka Auditorium	Saturday, March 11, 2017 9:00 a.m. Denton Post #355	N/A	SVC/AAO/ANEC
District 13	Sunday, April 9, 2017 2:00 p.m. Tecumseh Post #2	Sunday, April 30, 2017 2:00 p.m. Auburn Post #23	Saturday, February 25, 2017 9:30 a.m. Auburn Post #23	N/A	AREA C/ADJ
District 15	Tuesday, April 4, 2017 3:00 p.m. American Legion Headquarters	Sunday, May 7, 2017 2:00 p.m. Lancaster County Ext. Learning Center	Tuesday, February 14, 2017 6:30 p.m. Lincoln Elks Lodge #80	N/A	CDR/ADJ/ANEC

CDR - Department Commander  
SVC - Senior Vice Commander  
ADJ - Department Adjutant  
PAO - Public Affairs Officer  
AAO - Department Assistant Adjutant  
ANEC - National Executive Committeeman  
ANEC - Alt National Executive Committeeman

REMINDER: Provide the Department with PHYSICAL address of your district convention and Convention progra.m. NI.T 10 days prior to start date.  
Washington Conference is February 25 - March 2