#### **MEMBERSHIP**

We still have 3,782 members to renew and sign up to reach our goal of 22,300. Let's get all renewals collected and transmitted NOW! Next target date is March 12, so cards must be to Department by Monday, March 10. A reminder to Post Adjutants to remit \$45.00 per membership card.

#### DISTRICT CITIZENSHIP AWARD

Contact your District Commander or look under the forms section on the website to find the District Citizenship nominee form. One Legionnaire will be selected by each District Commander and will be honored at Department Convention in June. Please mail the nomination form to your District Commander at least three weeks before your District Convention.

#### OPERATION SCHOOL TALK

Our Americanism Committee sponsors "OPERATION SCHOOL TALK" to educate and inform the youth on the principles and programs of The American Legion and our proud military service. Those that have gone to a school and talked to the students are encouraged to fill out the form and return it to the Department by May 1. The awards will be presented a Department Convention in Columbus. Please contact Eric Martin at Department Headquarters for more information.

# APRIL IS CHILDREN & YOUTH MONTH

"Children...Our Most Precious Natural Resource" is the national theme for Children & Youth month. Use this theme in the promotion of all our Children & Youth programs.

#### 50-60-70-75 YEAR RECOGNITION

National Headquarters prepares certificates of continuous membership each year for members with 50, 60, 70, and 75 years of membership as of January 1, 2025.

National sends the certificates directly to Post Commanders for distribution at the Post Birthday or other event. Notify Department Headquarters if you did not receive them by March 1.

#### TEACHER-OF-THE-YEAR

The Americanism Committee sponsors a "Teacher-of-the-Year Award" for elementary, middle, and high school teachers. This award honors an educator whose accomplishments in education are more than what is normally expected and promotes American Legion youth programs in the school. Download the nomination at www.nebraskalegion.net/Programs/Teache r.html. Forward completed forms to Eric Martin by May 1.

#### FLAG RETIREMENT

If you're planning a Flag Retirement Ceremony in the future and need flags, please contact Department Headquarters, as we have many in need of proper retirement.

# DEPARTMENT CONVENTION PROGRAM

The Department is offering the opportunity for individuals and businesses to advertise in the 2025 Department Convention program. Contact Megan Kallina at Headquarters for more information.



The American Legion Department of Nebraska 150 NW 40<sup>th</sup> Street, Unit A Lincoln, NE 68528 402-464-6338

# **NEWSLETTER**

March 2025
Published in January, March, May, July, September & November

Department Commander Boyd Yochum Department Adjutant
Dave Salak

### "CHARACTERS, VALUES & INTEGRITY"

2025 Membership Goal: 22.300 Feb 15<sup>TH</sup> Total: 18.518 – 83.04%

 DISTRICT
 1 - 86.64%
 DISTRICT 11 - 85.77%
 DISTRICT 2 - 85.66%
 DISTRICT 10 - 84.93%

 DISTRICT
 7 - 84.76%
 DISTRICT 15 - 84.62%
 DISTRICT 9 - 84.57%
 DISTRICT 12 - 83.40%

 DISTRICT
 4 - 82.88%
 DISTRICT 8 - 82.35%
 DISTRICT 5 - 82.05%
 DISTRICT 6 - 81.94%

 DISTRICT
 13 - 80.92%
 DISTRICT 3 - 74.29%

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#### **DEPARTMENT CONVENTION**

The 2025 Department Convention will be held June 26 - 29 at the Quality Inn in Columbus. The DEC will meet at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 26 and at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, June 27. The Joint Session will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, June 27 and the Legion Convention will begin at 3:00 p.m. and go through Sunday, June 29. Business sessions of The American Legion, Auxiliary, Sons, and Riders will all be held in the Quality Inn. Reach out to the respective organization for an agenda for the Convention.

The hotel is located at 265 33rd Avenue, Columbus. Rooms are \$109.95 a night plus tax. The last date to get reservations at the Legion rate is June 1 or when the reservation block is full. Call Parris at 402-562-9502 to make your reservation. The Convention Registration fee is \$10. For more information, please contact Adjutant Dave Salak.

#### NATIONAL DUES INCREASE

During the 2023 National Convention in Charlotte, NC, the dues increase of \$5.00 was passed for the 2025 membership year and \$5.00 for the state. This took effect on July 1, 2024. If your post has not updated its dues in compliance with the national and state increase minimum of \$45 dollars per member, your members will not be able to pay online even if your post has elected to subsidize that increased amount. Several posts have not updated their dues to reflect this increase. If your post would like to update their dues, please contact the Department Headquarters and make note of it in your 2026 Annual Post Data Report.

#### **DISTRICT CONVENTIONS**

Several Districts are holding conventions this month. A representative from each Post within the District should be in attendance. This allows the Districts to have a quorum to complete the business at hand. Post leadership and members, support your District. Department officers and committee members who have already traveled to District Conventions, thank you for the hospitality.

#### RESOLUTIONS

Changes within the American Legion begin in the form of a resolution. Resolutions are approved through your Post/Squadron and then sent to District Convention for endorsement. All resolutions adopted at District Conventions will be sent to all Post Commanders/Adjutants in May. It is imperative these be read at your post meetings prior to Department Convention. Contact Adjutant Salak for resolution template or with questions.

#### LET'S PLAY BASEBALL!

Coaches and staff must complete a background check before the team's registration can be approved.

Registration, Fees, and Insurance NLT May 15; Transfer forms sent to Department NLT May 31; Rosters by June 15. Teams are encouraged to retain Insurance and Form 2s for 5 years. Class A Sr & Jr Area: July 18 – 22; Class A Sr & Jr State: July 26 – 30; Class A Sr Division Playoff: August 2; Class A Regional: August 6 – 10; Class B & C Jr Area: July 11 – 15; Class B & C Jr State: July 19 – 23; Class B & C Sr Area: July 25-29; Class B & C Sr State: August 2 – 6; Class B Sr Division Playoff: August 9.

#### 2026 ANNUAL POST DATA REPORT

Post Adjutants will receive the 2026 Annual Post Data Report in March. Read the information carefully before completing the form. Double check the mailing address to which the membership returns are to be mailed – including the three-line address and correct ZIP code. Above all, make sure dues are correct (\$45 per member to the Department).

#### CONSOLIDATED POST REPORT

The Consolidated Post Report (CPR) form for the 2024 – 25 year will be sent out in March. Please complete this form and return it to Department Headquarters ABSOLUTELY NO LATER THAN JUNE 1, 2025. The CPR is located on our website and MyLegion.org.

Use this QR code for links to the Consolidated
Post Report and
Post Data Report
forms



#### **NOTICE TO ADJUTANTS**

Use our new address for transmitting membership cards. Be sure your envelope is sturdy and sealed. Too often we receive envelopes that have been broken or torn. Nebraska American Legion 150 NW 40th Street, Unit A Lincoln, NE 68528

#### CORNHUSKER BOYS' STATE

The 2025 Cornhusker Boys' State program will be held at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, June 1-7, 2025. Applications and brochures were sent to all Post Adjutants in January. The Boys' State sponsor fee will be \$425 this year. There will also be a \$25 registration fee due at the time of arrival for each delegate. It is the Post's responsibility to return applications to HQs by the March 15th deadline. Please select a boy who agrees to participate for the entire week. Post's may send as many boys as they wish to nominate. Please send any alternates in as well, so we can try to find them a sponsor.

## PREPRINTED 2026 MEMBERSHIP CARDS

For new members to have a pre-printed 2026 membership card and be listed on the Post Roster, their 2025 dues must be received at Department by April 1, 2025. Additionally, any current member not paid by April 1, 2025, will not have their continuous years pre-printed on their 2026 membership card.

# NATIONAL COMMANDER'S INCENTIVE PROGRAM

National Commander James A. LaCoursiere Jr. will award his national commander "Be the One" dog tag coin to any Legionnaire who obtains three new members into The American Legion. Forms and more information on the program can be downloaded from National's website at https://www.legion.org/about/leadership/national-commander/national-commanders-incentive-program.