

ORATORICAL CONTEST & JUNIOR SPEECH CONTEST

A high school student from your community could have up to \$25,000 provided for their college education by participating in the annual American Legion Oratorical Contest. Information on the 2023 – 2024 program will be mailed to all schools, District, and Area Commanders in September. All information for Posts to visit schools and run a local contest can be found at nebraskalegion.net/oratorical. Local contact is important if you plan to sponsor a contestant in the District and State contest. District contests will be held during November, and the four Area contests will be held in December. The state contest is held Saturday, January 20, 2024 in Kearney. The winner of the state contest will compete at the National contest in April.

The Junior Speech contest, for students in 6th through 8th grades, requires a three to five minute speech on the following topic: “Amendment X – The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively.” The contest will be conducted on the same date as the District Oratorical Contest.

MYLEGION FOR POST OFFICERS

MyLegion.org is setup for Post Officers to assist with membership. All Post Commanders and Adjutants are encouraged to register at mylegion.org for access. Contact Amanda at department with any questions.

MID-YEAR CONFERENCE

This is a reminder that the 2024 Mid-Year Conference will be held January 19 – 21, 2024 at the Holiday Inn in Kearney. Their phone number is 308-237-5971 and the room rates are \$114.95 nightly plus tax. Make your reservations today.

CEREMONIAL RIFLES

It is recommended that you do a serial number inventory of your TACOM issued military equipment each year. Contact Programs Director Eric Martin with questions.

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER AND FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR

Nominations are now being sought for both the Nebraska Law Enforcement and Firefighter of the Year. The application is available on the department website and is due by December 1. Contact Programs Director Eric Martin with questions.

LEADERSHIP SCHOOL & HOMECOMING

The Leadership School will be held on Saturday, September 16 at the Wilber American Legion building. The training will start at 10:30 a.m. The joint Homecoming will be held at the DeWitt Community Center that same day. Social will begin at 5:00 p.m. and dinner at 6:00 p.m. More information will be sent out in the next few weeks.



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

NEWSLETTER

September 2023

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

Department Commander
John-Henry Pearcy

Department Adjutant
Dave Salak

“LEAD BY MENTORING”

2024 MEMBERSHIP GOAL: 23,418 AUGUST 15TH TOTAL: 7,835 – 33.46%

DISTRICT 15 - 54.20%	DISTRICT 8 - 42.97%	DISTRICT 7 - 34.19%	DISTRICT 2 - 33.14%
DISTRICT 12 - 32.61%	DISTRICT 9 - 31.12%	DISTRICT 10 - 30.81%	DISTRICT 6 - 30.19%
DISTRICT 3 - 26.66%	DISTRICT 1 - 25.57%	DISTRICT 4 - 25.22%	DISTRICT 11 - 24.81%
DISTRICT 5 - 22.72%	DISTRICT 13 - 19.05%		



CHANGE IN MAILING ADDRESS

This is a reminder that mail to Department HQ's need to be addressed properly.

Nebraska American Legion
150 NW 40th Street, Unit A
Lincoln, NE 68528

2024 DEPARTMENT GOAL

The Department membership goal for 2024 is 23,418. Commander Percy wants everyone to step up to the challenge. If you need assistance, please contact the Membership Committee and they will offer support. The most up to date report can be found on the Department website.

NATIONAL CONVENTION

Dozens of Nebraska American Legion Family members will be attending the 104th National Convention in Charlotte, NC August 26 – 31. You should expect to hear reports at your Fall Round-ups.

DISTRICT CONFERENCE AND CONVENTIONS

A spreadsheet of important District events is listed on our website at nebraskalegion.net/meetings/meetings.html If you wish to invite a Department Officer or committee chair/member to your Post meeting or District Convention, contact them directly. If you have any questions, please contact your District Commander.

ONLINE RENEWAL INFORMATION

All Nebraska Posts are participating in the online renewal program. Post Adjutants can easily get into MyLegion to see which of their members have renewed online. Checks for the Posts share of dues will be mailed in January and July to the Post Adjutant. Please issue members their 2024 card. Do not send the other two portions of the card into department. Contact Amanda at department with any questions.

MEMBERSHIP REMINDER

The Department will be awarding a \$200 Early Bird check to five Legion members that pay their dues on an annual basis and has their dues paid to National by Tuesday, September 5th.

MEMBERSHIP AWARDS & TARGETS

The first National Membership Target for 2024 is 50% by September 13th. Adjutants, please refer to the Post Adjutants Guide for target dates. There were also some changes made to the 2024 membership awards/incentives.

100% AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY RIBBONS

Any Post Family that reaches 100% membership by May 31, 2024 is eligible for the 100% ribbon. A family is the Post, Unit (if they have one), and Squadron (if they have one). All groups must be 100% to earn the ribbon.

COUNTY GOVERNMENT DAY

Letters and program brochures concerning the sponsorship of Cornhusker County Government Day during the 2023 – 2024 school year will be sent out to County Commanders, County VSOs, and American Legion Family representatives in early September. In addition to Post and Unit officers, schools, and county courthouse officials should become involved in the planning. County Commanders or Chairman should advise department of the date of your program.

2024 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL NOTICES

The second notice will be mailed out on October 7th to any member whose dues have not been paid to national by September 13th.

AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL

The Athletic Committee will meet in October to review the 2023 baseball season. Time and date will be listed on our website under announcements. Changes for the 2024 season will be announced during the Athletic Committee presentation at the Mid-Year Conference held January 19 – 21, 2024 at the Holiday Inn in Kearney. Site applications to host the 2024 Area and State tournaments must be returned to department by January 5, 2024. Tournament applications can be found at nelegionbaseball.net

GIFTS FOR YANKS WHO GAVE

In July, a bulletin explaining the Gifts for Yanks program was sent in the newsletter. Although donations are being received, we need more Posts, Units, Squadrons, and Chapters to support this program. Our veterans who are confined to the VA Medical Centers and who reside in the Veterans Homes will thank you for brightening their holiday season. Donations for this program are still being accepted. Send your donation to department and make it out to “Gifts for Yanks”.

JUNIOR SHOOTING SPORTS PROGRAM

This is a gun safety education and marksmanship program that provides the basic elements of safety, education, enjoyment, and competition. Participants may be of either gender, ages 14 through 20. Handicapped youth are encouraged to participate. Contact our Department Liaison, Doug Frahm, if your post is interested in pursuing this program.

POST OFFICERS REPORT FORM

Many Posts have not submitted their Post Officers Report Form for the 2023 – 2024 year. We ask that you submit this form even in the officers didn't change. A list of Posts who have not turned in their form and a report form are listed on our website at nebraskalegion.net/About/Forms.html