

State Oratorical Champions



Posing are the State Oratorical Champions. Pictured (l-r) 1st place, Joe Whitt; 2nd place Barbara Walkowiak; 3rd place Shelby Wade and; 4th place Murphy Lierley.

Veterans Legislative Day Is Well Attended

A large crowd was present in the Warner Memorial Chamber to hear a welcome by State Senators or their representatives. Governor Dave Heineman and State Senators who spoke on issues important to Nebraska's veteran population during the Feb. 12th Veterans' Legislative Day at the Capitol.

Sponsored by the Nebraska Veterans Council, veterans and family members participated in the morning program and visitation. Senators, who were in session in the Norris Legislative Chamber, came to the rotunda to meet with their constituents.

John Hilgert, Director, Nebraska Department of Veterans Affairs updated the group on the status of several issues of importance then he introduced Gov. Heineman who welcomed Nebraska's veterans to the Capitol and thanked them for their service to country and for their continued service to their communities and state as active members of veterans service organizations. Senator Gloor spoke to the group on LB488 and Retired General Roger Lempke addressed Senator Cornett's LB's 69 and 70 that deal with excluding Military Retirements from taxation.

Wayne Student Wins Legion State Oratorical Contest

Joe Whitt, a senior at Wayne High School, earned first-place at the 71st annual American Legion High School Oratorical Contest held January 10 at the Ramada Inn in Kearney.

Speech instructor Dwaine Stieker coached Whitt and he is the son of Ronald and Deb Whitt. He was the Area A representative and was sponsored by Post 43 of Wayne.

Whitt receives a \$1,000 check from the Department of Nebraska and now advances to the National Oratorical Finals at the Indiana University-Purdue University Conference Center and Hotel in Indianapolis, Indiana April 17-19, 2009. For competing in the National Finals, he will receive another \$1,500 and will be competing against other state champions from across the United States. If he advances to the second round, he will receive

another \$1,500 and would move closer to making the finals.

The final three contestants in the National Finals contest will receive scholarships valued at \$18,000, \$16,000 and \$14,000. In addition to the scholarships awarded by The American Legion, there are numerous other scholarships awarded at the discretion of intermediate organizations to participants at Post, District, Area and Department levels of competition.

Second Place in the Department contest and \$600 was awarded to Area C representative Barbara Walkowiak, Lincoln who was sponsored by Post 3 of Lincoln. Third Place and \$400 was awarded to Area B representative Shelby Wade, Prague, sponsored by Post 254 of Prague. Fourth Place and \$200 was awarded to Area D representative Murphy Lierley of Grant

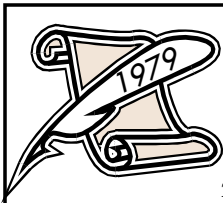
who was sponsored by Post 270 of Venango.

The contest requires participants to present an eight to ten minute prepared oration on the U.S. Constitution and a three to five minute assigned topic discourse on some phase of the Constitution. Information on The American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship Program, "A Constitutional Speech Contest," can be found on the Nebraska American Legion website at www.nebraskalegion.net.

Winners of the Rifle Raffle

- Dave Bruckner, Columbus, NE.-\$25.00**
donated \$25.00 back to the fund
- Delmer Gansbom, Osmond \$25.00**
- John Conroy, Oconto \$25.00**
- Ron Hervert, Ravenna \$25.00**
- Jeff Galley, Columbus \$50.00**
- Don Mayfield, Shelton \$50.00**
- Rollie Otte, Morse Bluff \$50.00**
donated \$50.00 back to the fund
- Ed Rose, Omaha \$50.00**
- Martin Sritek, Columbus \$250.00**
- Harold Jensen of Herman Post 274 was the winner of the rifle**

The Nebraska Legionnaire
P.O. Box 5205
Lincoln, NE 68505-0205



It's History

Thirty Years Ago

By Department Historian Debra Day

The following is from the March, 1979 issue of this newspaper.

Dividends of \$3.6 Million Go to Nebraska Veterans

A record \$3.6 million in dividends will be paid during 1979 to 29,759 veterans in Nebraska holding GI life insurance policies, the Veterans Administration said today.

James C. Smith, director of the V.A. Regional Office in Lincoln, emphasized that no application is needed. Individual policyholders who have kept their GI insurance in force from World War I, World War II or the Korean conflict will receive their payments automatically on the anniversary dates of their policies, he said.

The V.A. official said 24,757 state veterans holding current World War II GI insurance policies will receive dividends totaling \$3.2 mil-

lion, an average payment of \$128. A total \$222,000 in dividends will go to 842 World War I policyholders, an average of \$256. The 4,160 Korean conflict veterans in Nebraska who kept their GI insurance policies in force will receive dividends totaling \$191,000, an average payment of \$48.

The \$3.6 million dividend payout in Nebraska is part of a national record of \$485 million in 1979 dividends to over four million veterans whose policies are still in force. Individual amounts will vary from the average, Smith explained, depending on the type of policy, amount of insurance, age at issue or renewal, and the time the policy has been in force.

He said the 1979 GI insurance divi-

dends, like other insurance dividends, are higher in recent years because the funds on deposit have been earning higher interest. Dividends on V.A. insurance policies represent a return of funds not needed to pay the cost of the insurance.

Benefiting most from the higher interest rates are those veterans who converted their insurance plans to permanent type policies rather than continuing the original term policies, Smith said.

Alliance Post 7 was organized August 5, 1919 by William E. Edwards. The first commander was J.B. Miller, William E. Edwards was the adjutant.

Way To Go Legion

By John Smithberg, POW/MIA Liaison

I'm in shock—two nationally rated veteran publications coming out within a week of each other are fighting for my side. First our own "The American Legion" had a report on China and how it finally -after 50 years- has confessed to holding/imprisoning some of our missing. Then, the "Veteran", the Vietnam Veterans of America paper does a 7 page dissertation on the book "An Enormous Crime". Please read the article in the Feb. edition soon. The book, I've talked about before and suggested each post have in their library.

Back to our "The American Legion", thank you National. Let me summarize the writing briefly here for you. China has never admitted that it has ever held any of our soldiers going back 50 years. In 2003, it did share the story of a soldier captured during the Korean War to a group of visiting U.S. dignitaries.

This soldier was Army Sgt. Richard Desautels, a farm boy from Vermont. They reported Richard had been held in China and that he had died there. These officials notified DPMO {Defense Prisoners of War/Missing Personnel Office}. DPMO eventually released this information to Richard's family but, both the family and the office felt it was a fabrication and nothing more was made of it. It was

not 'till 2008 that Richard's older brother happened to mention this to a researcher from the American Legion. The American Legion's Office of Families and Friends of Missing Servicemen became public.

Here is the important part of the story. The Chinese agreed in a signed statement in 2008 that Chinese researchers approved by DPMO could begin going through thousand of reports to see what other lost soldiers can be found.

This is an historical break. Who knows what will be found? We need someone or some group at the Legion national level to follow up on this and keep us updated. The story talked of a money hitch that is unbelievable. Maybe our Nebraska boys at the national strata can also look into this. You know who you are.

Please keep us posted and Keep praying all of you.

Thank you



Straight Talk

Steve Burger
Department Service Officer

VA Data Theft Update

The Veterans Affairs Department agreed 27 JAN to pay \$20 million to veterans for exposing them to possible identity theft in 2006 by losing their sensitive personal information. In court filings, lawyers for the VA and the veterans said they had reached agreement to settle a class-action lawsuit originally filed by five veterans groups alleging invasion of privacy. The money, which will come from the U.S. Treasury, will be used to pay veterans who can show they suffered actual harm, such as physical symptoms of emotional distress or expenses incurred for credit monitoring. U.S. District Judge James Robertson in Washington must approve the terms of the settlement before it becomes final. "This settlement means the VA is finally accepting full responsibility for a huge problem that continues to worry millions of veterans, retirees, service members and families," said Joe Davis, spokesman for Veterans of Foreign Wars, which was not involved in the lawsuit. VA spokesman Phil Budahn said: "We want to assure veterans there is no evidence that the information involved in this incident was used to harm a single veteran."

The lawsuit came after a VA data analyst in 2006 admitted that he had lost a laptop and external drive containing the names, birth dates and Social Security numbers of up to 26.5 million veterans and active-duty troops. The laptop was later recovered intact, but a blistering report by the VA inspector general faulted both the data analyst and his supervisors for putting veterans at unreasonable risk. The data analyst had lost the information when his suburban Maryland home was burglarized on 3 MAY 06, after taking the data home without permission. The VA employee promptly notified his superiors, but due to a series of delays, veterans were not told of the theft until nearly three weeks later, on 22 MAY. Then-VA Secretary James Nicholson later said he was "mad as hell" that he wasn't immediately told about the burglary.

According to the proposed settlement, veterans who show harm from the data theft will be able to receive payments ranging from \$75 to \$1,500. If any of the \$20 million is left over after making payments, the remainder would be donated to veterans' charities agreed to by the parties, such as the Fisher House Foundation Inc. and The Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund. Attorneys for the veterans groups said notices about the proposed settlement will be published in magazines and newspapers around the country, with a toll-free number and other contact information for veterans. Five veterans groups filed a class-action lawsuit in JUN 06 in U.S. District Court in Washington on behalf of all veterans, seeking \$1,000 in damages for every veteran whose information was compromised in the computer theft. "This is a very positive result," said Douglas J. Rosinski, an attorney representing the veterans groups. "A lot of hard work went into finding a resolution that all the parties could be proud to say they were a part of bringing about. If Legionnaires have questions they can contact their Post Service Officer or this office at 402-420-4021."

Recognition Banquet for National Vice Commander Mike Landkamer

The American Legion, Department of Nebraska, is hosting a dinner at the Columbus New World Inn Saturday, June 27, 2009, to honor Michael Landkamer on his election to the office of National Vice Commander. The dinner is being held in conjunction with our 91st Annual Convention. The festivities will begin at 6:00 p.m., with a social hour (cash bar) followed by dinner at 7:00 p.m. and a short program. Tickets for the dinner are available at \$15.00 per person, and must be purchased in advance. They will be mailed to you at the address on the form.

Please send the form below with your check for the number of tickets needed. Ticket orders must be received no later than 12:00 noon, June 24, 2009. The mailing address is:
Nebraska American Legion, P.O. Box 5205, Lincoln, NE 68505.

Please reserve _____ tickets @ \$15.00 each for National Vice Commander Landkamer's Recognition Dinner. Enclosed please find check in the amount of \$ _____ payable to:
Nebraska American Legion.

Name _____ Post# _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

In Memory of Edward M. Farr

It is with profound sadness and deep sense of loss that The American Legion family announces the death of Past Department Commander Ed M. Farr of Cedar Bluffs, Nebraska. Ed Farr joined the Post Everlasting on Friday, February 6, ending a life time of service to his country and his community.

Farr served Cedar Bluffs Post 158 as Commander, and as a member of various committees. Farr also held position of District 7 Vice Commander, Department Sergeant-at-Arms, Area B Commander, Department Commander 1980/81. Farr served on the Department Boys' State Committee, Boys' State President and was World War II Memorial Fund Liaison. A U.S. Navy Seabee veteran of



service during World War II. Farr was a lifelong farmer.

Funeral services were held at 10:30 a.m. CST, on Tuesday, February 10th, at Salem Lutheran Church (401 East Military) in Fremont, NE.

Interment and graveside military honors were conducted at Memorial Cemetery, (650 West Military) in Fremont.

Memorials may be directed to Cedar Bluff American Legion Post 158, Attention Post Commander Mylan Kruse, 2409 Country Road 19, Cedar Bluffs, NE 68015, or to Cornhusker Boys State, P.O. Box 5205, Lincoln, NE 68505. Condolences will reach the family at: Edie Kavan, 1984 County Road U, Cedar Bluffs, NE 68015 and Melody Fairbanks, 11556 Todd Drive, Blair, NE 68008.

Legion Extends Operation Comfort Warriors

The American Legion will continue its fundraising to purchase comfort items for hospitalized troops recovering in U.S. military hospitals around the world after doubling its \$50,000 goal for the holiday season.

"The American Legion family and its friends have raised more than \$115,000 that we have used to purchase sweatsuits, DVDs, puzzles, portable electronics and other gifts for the wounded heroes recovering at Walter Reed, Bethesda and numerous other military hospitals," said American Legion National Commander David K. Rehbein. "We delivered many of the items before Christmas. But even though the holiday season has long passed, the war continues".

Donors can make online contributions by visiting www.legion.org/ocw or by sending a check to Operation Comfort Warriors, PO Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206. Administrative and promotional costs for Operation Comfort Warriors are paid by The American Legion, allowing 100 percent of the donations to be spent directly on the troops.

In Memory of Hubert "Hugh" Short

It is with profound sadness and deep sense of loss that The American Legion family announces the death of Past Department Commander Hubert "Hugh" Short of Gretna, Nebraska. Hugh Short joined the Post Everlasting on Saturday, February 14, ending a life time of service to his country and his community.



Eastern Vice Commander.

Funeral service were held at 10:00 a.m. CST, on Tuesday, February 17th, at Resurrection Lutheran Church (153 South McKenna Ave) in Gretna, NE.

Interment and graveside military honors were conducted at Mt Auburn Cemetery in Omaha.

Memorials may be directed to Resurrection Lutheran Church or World War II Honor Flight. Visitation was held Monday, February 16, 2009 at Roeder Mortuary, Gretna Chapel, 11710 Standing Stone, Gretna.

Short served Gretna Post 216 as Commander, and as a member of various committees. Short also held position of District 8 Vice Commander, Alternate NEC and Department Commander 1986/87. Short served as the Sons of The

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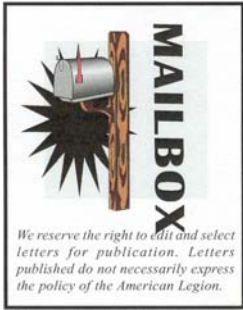
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Dear American Legion Family;
The family of Carl Leising would like to thank The American Legion Family for remembering Carl at the time of his death.

Sincerely
Alberta, Arlan, Michelle, Rick
Valerie, James Richele and Hanna

Thank you Legion Members;
I am writing this to thank each and everyone who was responsible in selecting me as the fireman of the

year and presenting me with the real nice plaque at your annual American Legion conference in Kearney. The four of us were treated so well by everyone we met. All we talked about on the way home is how great the American Legion is. The rewards that you give to me is very much appreciated. I will treasure mine. I have a few awards and they will be handed down to my family. On behalf of the Columbus Volunteer Fire Department and myself a very sincere

Thank you.
Sincerely
Frank Schwartzter

Dear Sirs,

It was an incredible opportunity to represent Area C in the American Legion Oratorical Contest. I would like to thank the all of the individuals who made this competition possible. In researching the Constitution and our American history, I learned so much and I have truly taken a lot away from the experiences which this program provided. In addition, the generous award will be useful in paying for college expenses. Thanks so much!

I plan to pass the information for this and other programs to as many high school and middle school students in Lincoln as I can.

Sincerely,
Barb Walkowiak

**ASK A
DELINQUENT
MEMBER TO
RENEW THEIR
MEMBERSHIP OR
ASK A NEW
MEMBER TO JOIN
THE AMERICAN
LEGION OR THE
SONS OF THE
AMERICAN
LEGION.**

Nebraska Legion Honors Firefighter/EMS of the Year



The American Legion, Department of Nebraska, honored Firefighter Frank Schwartzter of the Columbus Volunteer Fire Department as their "2009 Firefighter/EMS of the Year" during its 76th annual Mid-Year Conference held January 9-11 at the Ramada Inn in Kearney.

Frank Schwartzter from the Columbus Fire Department has served

the community of Columbus for 46 years. Frank is a family man raising three boys, two girls and thirteen grandchildren and seven great grandchildren. Frank is retired from 42 years of working for Minnegasco as a welder leaving him time to help at his Church where he is on the Parish Council, he even helps serve the children noon lunches at the school, and is a 50 year member of the Knights of Columbus.

By thorough review of his credentials, the Department of Nebraska American Legion Americanism Committee selected Firefighter Thomas on documentation highlighting his professional career, community service, and letters of recognition and other documentation. Department Commander Bill Crosier presented Firefighter Schwartzter with a plaque and saluted him for his dedication to duty. Four members of the Columbus Fire Department were present for the presentation.



Harold Jensen of Herman Post 274 is presented the rifle he won at the drawing at the Mid Winter Conference in Kearney by State Commander Bill Crosier. The presentation was made a later date.

THE AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

From the "American Legion Riders" to all Legion Members of Nebraska we want to say "THANKS" for endorsing us as "THE AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS" for your Posts. Without your help we would never have been born. I hope we make you all proud.

At the Mid-Year Conference it was a great honor for me to present (4) Chapters a plaque from the National Commander. The award was presented because of the amount of money that we raised for the "American Legion Legacy Fund".

The four Chapters honored were Norfolk, Columbus,

Omaha and Lincoln. I would like to say "THANKS" to these four Chapter's and thanks to the other (9) Chapters that gave money for this fund. Remember we are our

BROTHERS working for the same purpose.

To let you all know I am going to Broken Bow on February 10th to start a new Legion Riders group. They will do a great job, we need help in Western Nebr.

Also I have been invited to another post and hope it works out.

**Thanks for your help
Ron Behnke
Nebraska American Legion
Riders Liaison**



Events Calendar

March

- 1 Maynard Jensen Scholarship Applications Due
- 1 Eagle Scout of Year Applications Due
- 15 American Legion's 90th Birthday
- 15 Boys State, Junior Law Cadet Applications Due
- 17 Saint Patrick's Day
- April (Children and Youth Month)**
- 12 Easter
- 17-19 72nd Annual National Oratorical Contest
- 5-11 American Legion Child Welfare Foundation Week
- May**
- 1 Baseball Entry Deadline
- 10 Mother's Day
- 15 Peace Officers Memorial Day
- 16 Armed Forces Day
- 25 Memorial Day

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The Grande Voiture du Nebraska

La Societe des 40 Hommes et 8 Chebeux
Virgil Strecker, Grand Chef de Gare
Jess Johnson, Grand Aumonier
John Dickinson, L'Editeur



TAPS



Grande Voiture du Nebraska

Thursday, Jan 08th, we traveled to Herman, NE for Voiture 1018 and had a great Prime Rib dinner. They had 53 voyagers present! I wish Voiture 206 could have that many voyagers present at a Promenade. Guess I should start a calling committee. Accompanying me were Ray Tillwick, John Dickinson and Marion Charron. On Jan 19th, I was going to the VA Hospital in Omaha to help distribute treat to the patients with Jim Rush, Jerry Hodakowski and Ralph Achatz who represented American Legion Post 112. Jim, Jerry and I represented the 40&8. Anyway, I never made it to the VA as I was struck by a 2 1/2 ton Tow Truck at the intersection of 40th & Harney on the right side. My van was a total loss but fortunately I was not injured, only disgusted. On Jan 27th, John Dickinson, Ray Tillwick and Marion Charron accompanied me to Nebraska City to visit Voiture 1015. We enjoyed a nice meal at Mary's Cafe followed by the Promenade. Voiture 1015 is already at 115% for membership for 2009. On the evening of Jan 26th, the LaFemmes de Cabane 206 in Omaha held a Memorial Service for Dame Ellen Vitale who left this earth on Jan 23rd. Several voyagers from Voiture 206 attended this memorial also. Seventeen dames were in attendance. Again on Feb 5th, LaFemmes of Cabane 206 held a Memorial Service for Dame Delores "Tootie" Vasina who passed away on Feb 2nd in Colon, NE at St. Joseph's Catholic Church. Twelve dames made the journey to Colon for the service and again several voyagers from Voiture 206 attended this memorial also. Let's all work on membership. I hope to see a lot of you at the Grand Cheminot in Fremont on the 13th, 14th and 15th of Feb.

Virgil Strecker, Grand Chef de Gare du Nebraska

Columbus 841 Promenade was held in David City, Ne. at the D&C Bar and Grill. We all enjoyed steaks for the most part, the service was great and the food was out standing. Wrecked, Billy Scribner, Alvin Semin, John Lavicky, and Kenneth Kotera in David City, Ne. We wish who a really welcome aboard. The next promenade will be in Columbus, NE. at the Country Shadows golf course club house. Attitude Adjustment Hour. (aka Social Hour) 6 PM, Supper at 7 PM, and Promenade at 8 PM. At least we try to start with these times. This is our annual Christmas party so bring your mates along and come and enjoy, we will be ordering off the menu. I think those of us who have been there before will remember that the fair was plentiful and delicious. This will be our 3rd out of 4 Christmas's at a Country Shadows. Fines: Mohlman, Lindahl, Sabata, and Adams \$1.00.

North Platte 1068 Saying Good Bye to a 40/8er While a southerly breeze 8-15mph tossed around tiny bits of snow that mingled with a Rifle Squad waiting for the appropriate moment to fire a salute to a departed 40 at 8, a member of Voiture 1068 Nebraska, the pall bearers joined the Honor Guard in the final salute to Gene Anderson, a good man. All pall bearers were members of V1068, and included Paul Cooper, Ken Erickson, Ken George, Kenny McKean, "Whitney" Shirley and Harry Spohn. The temperature was 9 above and the sky was the color of lead. At the appropriate time the Honor Guard fired their salute to Gene Anderson. Some 15-20 family members and friends beside the Honor Guard and the Pallbearers listened as the Pastor said his final words, then it was over. A good man given a good send off full of warm memories of the past on a bitercold, snowy morning, on a hillside that silently watches the South Platte River flow by and the I-80 traffic speed by.

Lincoln 103 Chef de Gare Mark Novak opened promenade at the Elks Lodge with 25 voyagers present. Dick Clarence announced that Dennis Weixelman has been under the weather. Correspondence received during the past month consisted of "thank you" notes from Doreen Samuelson and Ray Hickerson, the Official Call for the Grand Cheminot, and requests from Cornhusker Boys State and from Cornhusker Girls State to sponsor citizens to this year's activities. The voiture agreed to sponsorship one Girls State citizen and one Boys State citizen. Commissaire Intendant Craigie gave the financial report for the month. He pointed out that the Nurses Training raffle had generated sufficient revenue to pay all raffle expenses and provide for our normal donation. G. E. (Dave) Fuller, a reinstated transferee, was introduced and welcomed into Voiture 103. In the way of Americanism, Jerry Salber offered some appropriate comments about this year's inauguration of a new President it was a peaceful transition of power within our government. The Chef commented that Al Wasenishush announced his retirement as Nurses Training Director and invited volunteers to visit with him or Al to discuss taking over those duties. Bill Bowman reported that he still had a few box car pairs for sale. A resolution was read on the passing of Donald M. Sundberg. The rifle raffle was apparently successful. Registration numbered just under 150. Lincoln will be hosting both Class A and Class C baseball tournaments this summer. Brendan Moore offered his monthly tidbit of humor by relating a variety of "militarisms." Don Falos also related the tale of a poem written by one of his relatives to describe her Hawaiian impression of North Dakota winters. Lorene Bartos, Denny Mundi, and Jerry Salber were thanked for preparing the soup, Chile, and stew for tonight's promenade. Dave Fuller drew Larry Sorge's name for the Pot-of-Gold (\$10), but Larry was not present. The jackpot increases to \$15 for February.

Nebraska City 1015 Correspondent Florian Brown opened up the Feb. Promenade in the absence of Chef Jim Pierce. The Promenade was held at Mary's Cafe. There were 11 members present. Four from V-206 and one from V-1018. Grand Chef de Gare Virgil Strecker thanked the Voiture for being 100%. He also invited the voyagers to attend the Grand Cheminot that is being held in Fremont.

Kearney 1279 The Voiture has changed its monthly Promenade to the second Thursday of each month at 7 PM, preceded by a social hour at 6 PM. The January promenade was held on 8 January. Four \$400 scholarships for the spring semester have been disbursed to our nurses-in-training. The Central States Promenade is set for April 30th through May 3rd in Wichita, Kansas. Membership of the local voiture is currently at 20. No local voyagers are known to be isackness or distress. Nebraska's mid-winter Promenade will be held on in Fremont, Nebraska. The nurses scholarship pancake breakfast will be held in March, with the date yet to be set. The Goodfellows program delivered Christmas gifts to 326 families, which included 925 children. Voyageur Steve Beadle thanked all who helped with the activities of the Goodfellows Drive. In the future, the Goodfellows will coordinate their gift distribution with the "Toys for Tots" program of the USMC.
Omaha 206 Renewal notices have been mailed to 29 Voyagers, who have not sent in their dues, for this year. Hopefully this effort will result in maintaining our last years membership. Visitation committee reported that Aumonier Norm Rhoten is rehabilitating at the Montclair Nursing Home. Norm slipped on the ice and broke his leg. A visit was also made to Passe Chef de Gare Lew Klanderud on his current illness. A large number of Voyagers paid their respects on the passing of Ellen Vitale wife of Sil Vitale, former Manager of the Chateau, and part time bartender at the club.

Abuhul, Jack, Palisade, Omaha
Addison, Keith W., Ponca, WWII
Albrandt, Fred, Denton
Althouse, Jerry A., Lincoln, Korea
Andreasen, Kenneth W., Fremont, WWII
Anderson, Stanley G., Sutherland, Korea
Badman, Glen, Plymouth, WWII
Bailey, Dennis E., Schuyler, Korea
Bailey, William J., Jr., Lincoln, WWII
Bartak, David R., Madison, Vietnam
Bates, Marshall, Nebraska City, Vietnam
Beccard, Floyd G., Nebraska City, WWII
Belitz, Ronald, Central City, Korea
Bell, Max A., Windsde, WWII
Bieak, Laddie J., Dodge, WWII
Boden, Morris, Stromburg, Korea
Bohak, Dewayne A., Valparaiso
Boham, Charles E., Omaha Benson, Korea
Brandvik, Larry H., Creston, Korea
Breunig, Jerome, Wahoo, WWII
Brinkman, Lyle H., Lincoln, WWII
Bushnell, Donald K., Plattsmouth, WWII
Carpenter, Robert C., Omaha, Korea
Crammel, Gordon Jr., Western, S.A.L
Christiansen, John D., Millard, Korea
Christopherson, Odean F., Gordon, WWII
Clark, Orvar D., Talmag, WWII
Cochran, Thomas K., Blair, Vietnam
Collins, Elmer L., Broken Bow, WWII
Con, Fletcher F. Dr., Bancroft, WWII
Cordis, Chester A., Theford, WWII
Corner, James M., Blue Hill
Couchman, Forrest L., Plainview, WWII
Cullotta, Anthony J., South Omaha, WWII
Cunningham, Richard L., Page, Korea
Dahms, Robert F., Millard, WWII
Daily, Jack V.X., Lincoln, Vietnam
Debolt, Jerald L., Loup City, WWII
Derking, Clarence L., Grand Island, WWII
Billon, James E., Jackson, Vietnam
Dowling, Frank, Weeping Water, Vietnam
Dowling, Glenn, Randolph, WWII
Duncan, Harry, Ravenna
Eckhardt, Walter J., Holstein
Eich, Eugene R., Randolph, WWII
Eichmeier, Roger, Malmo
Erickson, William S., Omaha, WWII
Euteneuer, John W., Monroe, Korea
Fausch, Jerry, Cowles, Vietnam
Feenstermaker, Robert C., Lincoln, WWII
Feyerherm, Carl A., Norfolk, WWII
Ficken, Leonard A., Euford, WWII
Fields, James R., Millard, WWII
Focht, Morris D., Lincoln, WWII
Folkerts, Clarence C., Davenport, Korea
Folkner, Dwayne S., Dorchester, S.A.L.
Forsch, Earl H., Norfolk, WWII
Forst, Robert W., Millard, Korea
Fowler, Wilber W., Fairfield
Frazier, T.J., Ted, Lincoln, WWII
Freese, Richard, Plymouth, WWII
Friedman, Howard B., Lincoln, Korea
Gadenken, Arnold, Talmage, WWII
Galloway, Marvin J., Loup City, Korea
Galvin, Clifford, Randolph
Gard, Joseph Robert, Lincoln, Vietnam
Gaskins, Eugene B., Springfield, WWII
Geier, Kenneth M., Jr., Humboldt, S.A.L.
Gelster, Kenneth I., West Point, Korea
Geschke, Maynard, Weeping Water, Korea
Giese, Le Roy, Beemer, Korea
Gillingham, Dale, Crawford, WWII
Glaser, Francis L., Spalding, WWII
Hasse, Lennard V., Norfolk, WWII
Haack, Gilbert, Madison, WWII
Hall, Isaac C., Omaha, S.A.L.
Ham, Arthur L., Omaha, WWII
Hannerman, Chet, Norfolk, WWII
Hamouz, Edward L., Milligan, WWII
Hansen, John, Carroll, WWII
Hansen, Loyd B. Sr., Omaha, WWII
Hansen, Melvin, Lincoln, WWII
Hansen, Willis C., Springfield
Harnagel, Alvin L., Miller, WWII
Hartin, Albert E., Lincoln, WWII
Harvey, Floyd E., O'Neill, Vietnam
Hass, Edward, Verdigr, WWII
Hassler, Leroy, Sutton, Korea

Hawk, Allen W., Blair, Korea
Hawks, Richard B., Broken Bow, WWII
Healey, Jimmie D., Hardy, Korea
Hendrickson, Henry Gaylord, Havelock, WWII
Heng, Stanley M., Lincoln, Korea
Henning, Kenneth L., Hallam
Hilbers, Edward J., Stanton, Vietnam
Hill, Dale W., Millard, WWII
Hill, James R., North Omaha, Korea
Hittner, Leland F., Lincoln, Korea
Holz, Donald Lee, Central City, Korea
Hoover, Gary M., Lincoln, Vietnam
Houdersheldt, John M., Saint Edward, Vietnam
Honsel, Stanley, Winsde, Korea
Hruska, George S., Omaha, WWII
Hughes, Paul E., Wymore, WWII
Hughes, Volmer H. Jr., Jackson, Korea
Hunter, Wilmer E., Lincoln, WWII
Jacobeime, Vern V., Lincoln, Korea
Jacobs, Greg D., Loup City, S.A.L.
Jaeger, Bernard E., York, WWII
Jensen, Roy A., North Omaha, WWII
Johnson, Bobby D., Kearney, WWII
Jorgensen, Calvin, Blair, WWII
Kaiser, James P., Randolph, Korea
Kauffman, E.H., Lincoln, WWII
Kegley, Merle J. Sr., Kearney, Korea
Kimberly, John W., Faxon, WWII
Kingelohf, Conrad, Miller, WWII
Kirchoff, Glenn H., Weeping Water, WWII
Kraus, David, Morrill, S.A.L.
Krohn, Richard L., Albion, Vietnam
Kruza, Marvin E., Johnston
Kucera, Robert H., Ashland, WWII
Kunes, David E., South Omaha, Vietnam
Lammel, Gary, Plymouth, Vietnam
Landon, George H. Jr., Seward, WWII
Larsen, John E., Omaha, Korea
Larsen, Marion L., Norfolk, Korea
Larsen, Warren L., Kennard
Lechner, Robert M., Nebraska City
Lemmerman, William H., Palmer, WWII
Lempko, Eugene, Lincoln, Korea
Leppold, Wilbur W., Faxon, WWII
Levermann, Bernad, South Omaha, Korea
Levi, Larry, Rushville
Leitman, Paul G., Millard, Vietnam
Lugin, Alvin L. Jr., Lincoln, WWII
Luzum, James, Milligan Jr., Korea
Lydie, Wray, Fairburn, WWII
Lyon, Harold J., Norfolk, WWII
Macholan, William E., Schuyler, Vietnam
Mahanke, Orland W., Omaha, WWII
Majorek, Casimir J., Omaha, WWII
Marquardt, Dean B., North Omaha, WWII
Martin, Kent, Wymore, Vietnam
Martin, Kent, Wymore, Vietnam
Matthews, Gerald L., Hastings, Korea
McBride, Charles F., Grand Island, WWII
McCloney, Donald E., Lincoln, WWII
McCoy, Wayne H., Arapahoe, Korea
McGill, Timothy R., Lincoln, Vietnam
Meisner, Wilfred W., South Sioux City, WWII
Merrick, Clay C., Alliance
Merriman, Glenn A., Millard, WWII
Miesner, Donald E., Des Moines, WWII
Mihm, Harold, Palisade, WWII
Miles, Pat, Hooper, Vietnam
Miller, Kenneth H., Norfolk, Korea
Miller, Ronald D., Fremont
Mitera, Leo J., Millard, Korea
Mohr, Hugo, Palisade, WWII
Moody, G.K., Crawford, Vietnam
Muller, Dwaun H., Howells, WWII
Myers, Merle D., York, Vietnam
Nelson, Glen D., Sutton, WWII
Nelson, Milford R., Grand Island, WWII
Neu, Gerald P., Valley
Noller, Pat, Kearney, S.A.L.
O'Brien, Donald J., Millard, WWII
Oliver, Michael L., Lincoln, Vietnam
Olson, Howard, Nelson, Korea
Panz, Francis R., Omaha, WWII
Parker, F. M., Kearney, WWII
Paulman, Floyd, Sutherland, WWII
Payne, Joe R., Steele City, WWII

Peitsch, C.L., Columbus
Peterson, Alan F., Lincoln, Vietnam
Peterson, Peter, Oakland 46
Pettil, Neal W., Lincoln, WWII
Petzloff, William D., Palmer
Plucknett, Albert J., Lincoln, Korea
Poon, Tobias, Elkhorn, WWII
Popish, Raymond D. Sr., Ashland, Korea
Poppen, Max E., Havelock, Korea
Propp, Richard F., Omaha, WWII
Rachets, Raymond L., Alliance
Rhoods, John, Syracuse, WWII
Rosenkalt, Henry C. Jr., Omaha, Korea
Ridlen, Roy J., Palisade
Ritter, Verle L., Lincoln, Korea
Ritterbush, Harry, Chadron
Ritterling, Raymond, Byron, Korea
Robertson, Jimmie Joe, Lincoln, Korea
Rosenkalt, Henry C. Jr., Omaha, Korea
Rusell, Ronald A., Hildreth, Korea
Ryan, John R., Jackson, WWII
Rychner, Edwin T., Fremont
Saathoff, Robert L., Sterling
Sandell, Kent, Lincoln, Vietnam
Sanders, Henry C., Lincoln, WWII
Schannaman, Jack, Gering, S.A.L.
Schultz, Troy D., Loup City, S.A.L.
Scoggins, William D., Millard, Korea
Sears, Charles E., Cook, WWII
Seebahn, Albert F., Alliance
Shabram, Leroy J., Neligh, Vietnam
Shear, Elmer, Nebraska City
Simonsen, Allen, Palmer
Sirek, Bernie, Pierce, WWII
Sivossid, Joe, O'Neill, WWII
Stoboth, Daniel J., Omaha, WWII
Smith, Bob R., Tilden, WWII
Smith, Russell D., Primrose, WWII
Smith, Tom A., Rushville
Spencer, Arnold E., Lincoln, WWII
Spurling, Roy W., Lewellen, WWII
Stephens, William L., Auburn, Korea
Stevens, Robert, Eustis, WWII
Stivers, John J., Callaway, Korea
Stoddard, Paul M., Blair, Vietnam
Stonethell, L., Lincoln, WWII
Stoural, W.A., Norfolk, Korea
Strawn, Clarence F., Millard, WWII
Sudbeck, Dean L., Auburn, WWII
Sudbeck, Marvin J., Wynot, WWII
Suh, Herbert C., Norfolk, WWII
Sundburg, Donald D., Lincoln, WWII
Swan, Richard, Millard, WWII
Taylor, Howard, Paxton, Vietnam
Thiessen, Leslie, Ralston
Turner, Kermit G., Wakefield, WWII
Turner, Tony S., Falls City, Vietnam
Urwiler, Donald J., Hastings, WWII
Vail, John E., Millard, WWII
Vernon, John, Dorchester, Vietnam
Vieth, William H., North Omaha, WWII
Vogel, Morris D., Stanton, WWII
Voguer, Lorin C., Gothenburg, Vietnam
Wallis, Harvey D., Superior, WWII
Wald, Gerald C., Cercer, Vietnam
Warthen, Harold M., Alliance, WWII
Washtak, Robert L., Springfield, WWII
Watson, Harry A., Wymore, Vietnam
Watts, Frank D. Jr., Beaver Crossing, WWII
Wedde, Walter, Nebraska City, WWII
Wied, Alvin F., Columbus
Wietzman, Ray E., Norfolk, WWII
Wigg, Hilmer, Bancroft, WWII
Wilber, Lawrence M., Valparaiso, Vietnam
Wilken, Lester D., Alliance, Korea
Woitazewski, Richard, Loup City, WWII
Wundercheck, Donald R., David City, WWII
Woods, Donovan D., Norfolk, Korea
Wolf, Lester E., Blair, WWII
Zastera, Marvin, Columbus, WWII
Zweiner, Richard A., Spalding, Korea

The following name were listed incorrectly in last months TAPS' Listed as Daczosa should have been Anthony Pazzoza of Silver Creek Post 263. Also Ronald M. Harns of Wilcox Post 377 was listed as Korea and should have been Vietnam.

Around the State in Pictures



Commander Virgil Kleve of Jackson Post 175 presented a quilt to a guests at the Norfolk Veterans Home. It was at was the post's annual Fall Dinner for veterans and widows.



Tyler Sherman (l.) and Brittany Dietrich, who were sponsored by the Laurel American Legion Family to attend Boys and Girls State last summer, recently shared their experiences with their sponsors.

Morse Bluff Post 340 Commander G a l e n Johnson presented Leon Semrad with his 50 year certificate of continuous membership.



Malmö Post 232 held their annual Pearl Harbor soup supper and served 210 people. Proceeds are used for their youth projects. Pictured (l-r) Don Proett, John S. Vanek, Ken Haufek, Gayle Vermeline and Ruben Caha. Ruben is 86 and always helps.

Your support of the American Legion Label Program is greatly appreciated.



Gene Thomsen, right, receives the Legionnaire of the Year award from Plainview's Post 148 Commander, Lee Warneke. Thomsen was cited for his many years of service on the Legion's firing squad. He presently serves as the assistant sergeant at arms.



Pictured (l-r) are Hank Boer, Madison SD; Allen Boes Atkinson and Bob Colligan, Pender. All three entered the Army the same day, roomed together at Fort Bliss, all sailed to Germany and were truck drivers. For 50 years Henry and Bob did not see each other, but all kept in touch. They had a reunion and it is a annual get together in Yankton.



1st LT Andrew P. Schaaf presented to the people of Rock County and Post 123 an American Flag that was flown on a C-130 Hercules while on a combat mission over Baghdad, Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Accepting the Flag is Post Commander Reno D. Gordon and holding the certificate is Bruce C. Wiebe, Rock Co. Commander



This photo is of the Syracuse Parks Department congratulating Post 100, VFW 5547 and their Auxiliaries for raising \$25,000 dollars for the new sports complex, which is under construction. It is expected that it will be used to purchase a score board and other needs for the Veterans Field portion.

**GOD
PLEASE WATCH OVER AND
PROTECT OUR TROOPS**