



THE AMERICAN LEGION

DEPARTMENT OF NEBRASKA
P.O. BOX 5205
LINCOLN, NEBRASKA 68505-0205
(402) 464-6338 – Fax (402) 464-6330
Email: Nebraska@legion.org
Web: www.nebraskalegion.net

DECEMBER 2011

Volume 89, Issue 10 - Published Monthly, except July

Mailed: 11/30/2011

MID-YEAR CONFERENCE PLANS MADE The program schedule for the annual Mid-Year Conference, January 13-15, 2012, at the Norfolk Lodge & Divots Conference Center, is nearing completion. The American Legion session on Saturday morning will begin at 8:00 a.m. with the Oratorical Contest State Finals. Educational sessions run through the day on Saturday and continue Sunday until noon. A patriotic non-denominational service will begin activities Sunday morning at 8:00 a.m.

Commander Cyboron and your program committees are planning an educational program for all members. Sunday morning will feature a joint Children & Youth and Rehabilitation program with the American Legion Auxiliary and Sons of The American Legion. Watch for the complete program schedule in your January issue of *The Nebraska Legionnaire*.

The Department Executive Committee will meet on Friday, January 13, starting at 10:00 a.m. in Room B & C of Norfolk Lodge & Divots Conference Center, Norfolk. For reservations please call the Norfolk Lodge at 402-371-4520. Also available for housing is the Hampton Inn ask for the Legion rate of \$69.95.

DEPARTMENT FUND RAISER The Department Executive Committee has authorized a fund raiser for the Department of Nebraska's third annual lottery with a top prize of \$2,500 cash and six other cash prizes. Remember if you are present for the drawing and your ticket is drawn you will receive a bonus of \$200. Drawing will be January 15, 2012, at our Mid-Year Conference in Norfolk. All proceeds go to the Permanent Membership Fund. For more information contact Adjutant Burkhart or email at nebraska@legion.org Additional tickets are available upon request.

GIFTS FOR YANKS WHO GAVE The generosity of American Legion Posts, Auxiliary Units, and Sons of The American Legion Squadrons, as well as individual donors, will again allow veterans in the VA Medical Centers and Veterans Homes to be remembered during the holidays this year. Donations for this program are still being accepted, and if your post has not already made a donation, there is still time to do so. Send your contributions to Department Headquarters, earmarked, "Gifts for Yanks." Thank you.

AMERICAN LEGION ADDRESS LABELS Response from The American Legion return address label program has been good and we anticipate donations will continue to arrive for some time. If you did not receive labels and would like to have some, please call **Adjutant Burkhart at 402-464-6338** with your request.

DIRECT RENEWAL RESPONSE Results from the last dues notice have been arriving at a steady pace, but your help is certainly needed to reach the goal for 2012. Commander Cyboron has established a very realistic goal and is counting on every officer to ASK every eligible veteran in your community to join THE AMERICAN LEGION. Remember if everyone does a little, then no one has to do a lot.

HOLIDAY BLOOD DONOR DRIVE December is traditionally The American Legion's observance of a special effort to promote blood donor participation. Please encourage your members to donate when the Bloodmobile is scheduled in your area.

NATIONAL COMMANDER'S CAP PIN As a reminder, National Commander Fang Wong cap pin will be awarded to any Legion Family member who obtains a combination from the following: sign up "New Members", transfer members from your department headquarters post or contact and renew current members. Must equal eight (8) members, a "New Member" is defined as any eligible person joining in 2012 membership year who was not a member of The American Legion during the 2011 membership year. The **deadline** for this program will be on June 30th 2012 or when supplies are exhausted.

NATIONAL TARGET The Pearl Harbor Day national target is our next major membership goal. Cards must reach Department Headquarters on or before 9:00 a.m., December 12th to meet the December 14th goal; this date is also a cutoff date for the next renewal notice.

The Department Membership Committee has created a "REVISED" Pearl Harbor Award. This is an Award of Merit to the Post's achieving the greatest percentage of its 2012 goal in excess of 75%. Postmark date was November 16th 2011.

DEPARTMENT COMMANDERS APPRECIATION AWARD A special citation from the Department Commander to each Post achieving 90% or more of assigned 2012 goal. Presentation to be made at the Mid-Winter Conference. **Postmark date December 8, 2011.**

TOURNAMENT HOSTS SOUGHT Bids are currently being accepted to host one of the 2012 Area or State **Baseball** Tournaments, and the 2012 State **Golf** Tournament. The Department Athletic Committee will be meeting at the Mid-Year Conference in Norfolk to select tournament sites. The official bid forms must be received at Department Headquarters no later than January 6, 2012. Bid forms on line at www.nelegionbaseball.net

BASEBALL UMPIRE CLINICS The Athletic Committee is in the process of setting up Umpire Clinics around the state. If your Post is interested in arranging an Umpire Clinic in your area, contact Department Headquarters or email: actdirlegion@windstream.net

CONSOLIDATED POST REPORT FORM Now is a good time to start recording the various activities in which your Post is involved and keeping track of donations and other expenses. You will then have the information readily available when you file the Consolidated Post Report form. The "CPR" form will be sent to Adjutants next spring. Commander Cyboron expects 100% participation from all the Posts.

WASHINGTON CONFERENCE The annual Washington Conference is scheduled for February 25-29, 2012, and is open to any Legionnaire wishing to attend. If you or someone you know is interested in attending and wish to receive information from Department Headquarters, contact the Department Adjutant. Housing reservation can be made at the Washington Hilton, 1919 Connecticut Ave, NW Washington D.C. at 202-483-3000.

VETERANS COUNCIL MEETS The Nebraska Veterans Council met on November 22nd and among topics that were discussed are priority issues to be considered in the 2012 Nebraska Legislature. Your officers will report on these topics at the Mid-Year Conference in Norfolk. Nebraska Veterans Council has designated Veterans' Legislative Day at the State Capital to be Friday, January 27, 2012, starting at 9:00 a.m.

INCREASE BENEFIT Beginning January 1, 2012 the **Legionnaire Insurance Trust Program** will increase accidental death benefit from **\$1,000 to \$5,000** at NO COST TO YOU. If you are currently enrolled in the program you are automatically covered. If you are unsure if you have the coverage contact the department for an application. This coverage ends on August 31, 2016.

NATIONAL EMERGENCY FUND GIFTS Commander Cyboron wishes to express his personal appreciation to all individuals, Posts, Counties and Districts which have donated to the National Emergency Fund to assist our members in national disaster areas. One hundred percent of every dollar donated goes to assist Legionnaires.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS Department Commander George Cyboron, the Department officers, and your Headquarters staff join in extending to you **Best Wishes for a Joyous Holiday Season!**