



THE AMERICAN LEGION

DEPARTMENT OF NEBRASKA

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MID-YEAR CONFERENCE This annual educational event of The American Legion, Auxiliary, and S.A.L. will be held at the Divots Conference Center, 4200 West Norfolk Ave, Norfolk, January 13-15, 2012. A complete schedule of events for the Conference is printed in the January issue of *The Nebraska Legionnaire*. On Friday, January 13th at 7:00 p.m. Charlotte Endorf will present a historical presentation titled “*Fragile Excess Baggage*”. See enclosed bulletin.

Be sure to attend the drawing Sunday, January 15 for an opportunity to win \$2500 and other cash prizes from our third annual lottery. Tickets are still available by calling Department Headquarters.

HOMECOMING The Department of Nebraska will be hosting a reception on Friday, January 13th 2012 at the Divots Conference Center starting at 4:30 pm to honor Robert Craig on the occasion of his appointment to the office of National Historian. See enclosed bulletin.

ORATORICAL CONTEST The State Oratorical Contest will be held Saturday, January 14, 2012, at the Divots Conference Center in Norfolk, in conjunction with the annual Mid-Year Conference. The Conference will open at 8:00 a.m. and the Oratorical Contest will be held beginning at 8:15 a.m.

OUR TROOPS NEED YOUR HELP Even though Christmas is over, the Christmas spirit lasts all year long. The American Legion Family will have a donation box set up at the registration table during the Mid-Year Conference for items to be sent to soldiers, sailors and airmen in Afghanistan. “Adopt A Soldier” is a great way to let our troops know we care. See attachment for items that our soldiers need.

NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP TARGET MET Thanks to the many Posts that made membership transmittals, Nebraska attained the December National Membership Target. Total membership on the target date was 32,591. Our next National Target date is January 19 [80%] to be received at National by that date. (Must be at Department by 9 AM, January 16.) With EFFORT on the part of each Post officer, we know the Commander’s goal of 100% can be reached! New members may be signed up at any time. Commander Cyboron is counting on you to help him make his pledge to the National Commander!

THIRD RENEWAL NOTICE TO BE MAILED The third National dues reminder is scheduled to arrive in the mailboxes of your unpaid members by January 3rd. Members whose dues were not received at Department Headquarters by the December 12th target will receive the reminders.

DISTRICT CITIZENSHIP AWARD Enclosed please find a form for nominating a member of your Post for the District Citizenship Award. One Legionnaire will be selected in each District and will be honored with a Citizenship Citation, as well as receiving a special medal award at the Department Convention next June. Every Post should be able to find one Legionnaire who is qualified to nominate for the award.

Please send the nomination form to Department Headquarters at least two weeks prior to your District convention so that we can forward all applications to your District Commander who is responsible for appointing the committee to make the final decision. If you wish, you may send the form directly to your District Commander.

CORNHUSKER BOYS' STATE The 2012 Cornhusker Boys' State program will be held at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, June 3 - 9. Complete information will be sent to all Post Adjutants by 1st class mail on January 3rd.

JUNIOR LAW CADET PROGRAM Bulletins and application forms pertaining to the 2012 Junior Law Cadet program will be mailed to all Posts and to all high school principals before February 1. Please review the bulletins carefully for entry criteria and deadline dates.

EAGLE SCOUT-OF-THE-YEAR Time is running out to nominate a selected individual for Eagle Scout of the Year. All nomination forms must be endorsed by the Unit Leader and must be received at Department Headquarters no later than March 1. For information or forms, contact Activities Director Brent Hagel-Pitt.

JUNIOR SHOOTING SPORTS PROGRAM This program is picking up momentum throughout the state in the last few years. 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. If your Post is interested in pursuing this program as another outstanding Children and Youth opportunity, contact Activities Director Brent Hagel-Pitt at Department Headquarters for additional information.

NOTICE TO ADJUTANTS -- Please use only our post office box address for transmitting membership cards, and make sure your envelope is sturdy and is sealed. Too often we receive envelopes which have been broken open or torn. Please protect your cards and checks by mailing them in sturdy envelopes. Thank you.

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PAY YOUR N.A.L.P.A. DUES NOW To those members of the Nebraska American Legion Press Association who have not yet renewed their membership for the 2012 year, please do so as soon as possible. Send your \$5.00 to cover state dues (or \$15.00 if you also wish to join the National ALPA), or your name will be dropped from the NALPA roster and this mailing list. If you have never been a member and would like to join, send your check along with your name, address, and name of post publication, if the post has a publication, to: Nebraska ALPA, Attention: John Thompson, P.O. Box 5205, Lincoln, NE 68505-0205.

"AROUND THE STATE" INFORMATION Keep The Nebraska Legionnaire in mind whenever your Post participates in a worthy cause, sponsors contests or programs, or has a special event. Post Adjutants, Public Relations Officers or another member of the Post must be responsible to send in the information. Photographs are also welcome for publication in The Nebraska Legionnaire – remember, a good photo is worth a thousand words. Deadline for publication is the 10th of the month preceding date of issue. You may utilize e-mail to contact Communications Director John Thompson at comdirlegion@windstream.net

VETERANS' LEGISLATIVE DAY AT THE CAPITOL This important event to be held **Friday, January 27th, beginning at 9:00 a.m.** in the Warner Memorial Chamber (Old Senate Chamber) just off the Rotunda. Bring a car-load of veterans with you.