



THE AMERICAN LEGION

DEPARTMENT OF NEBRASKA

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EAGLE SCOUT-OF-THE-YEAR Post Commanders are reminded that **ALL** applications received for Scout-of-the-Year must be signed by the Unit Leader and forwarded directly to Brent Hagel-Pitt at Department Headquarters by **March 1, 2010**. All eligible applicants will be considered for state awards of cash scholarships, and the state winner will represent Nebraska in the national contest for scholarships valued up to \$10,000.

CORNHUSKER BOYS' STATE The deadline for receiving American Legion Cornhusker Boys' State applications is **March 15, 2010**. If you have not selected your Boys' State representative(s), we would suggest that you do so very soon and get the application in the mail. The fee remains at **\$300.00** per boy, and must accompany the application. All Post Adjutants were sent the applications by first class mail on January 4. Should your Post wish to send more boys than usual, please contact Department Headquarters for additional applications? You, and the members of your Post, are cautioned to refrain from informing any boy of his selection until confirmation of his acceptance has been received from Department Headquarters. Confirmations will be mailed to the sponsor on March 19.

JUNIOR LAW CADET APPLICATIONS The entry deadline for submitting Junior Law Cadet Applications to Department Headquarters is **March 15, 2010**. Each Post is eligible to submit applications for one boy and one girl for each school in their community for consideration by the District selection committee. Please note that a commitment to a law enforcement career is **NOT** required of applicants. Two boys and two girls will be selected from each of the 15 districts. Additionally, the following districts will be able to send their 1st alternate boys: Districts 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 1, and their 1st alternate girls: Districts 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12.

LET'S PLAY BASEBALL! Your team application has been approved!! That's the email your team gets when it has completed the new On-Line Legion Baseball registration implemented by Nationals this year. As usual Nebraska has stepped up to the plate and hit a home run but there are still a few things to remember about this new registration process. Once your Team Administrator receives the user id and password from the National American Legion Baseball Registration System, they will be able to log into the National On-Line Registration System and continue with obtaining SA Vandyke Insurance, payment of all fees - **requiring a credit card**, and the team roster process (all on-line now). Team Administrators will have **up to May 31, 2010** to submit Teams Registrations and will have **up to June 21, 2010** to do final team rosters. Attempts to access to the National On-line System after the above cut off dates will be denied. Teams will need to contact Department Nebraska. Department Nebraska will review each late entry on a case by case basis for approval. If approved, a \$300.00 late fee will be assessed, payable to Department Nebraska. Once post season tournaments begin, Teams not showing up for Area or State tournaments will be assessed a \$300.00 no show fee. Fees not paid will eliminate teams from competing the following season or seasons. We wish you and your players the best, in competing in the 2010 Nebraska American Legion Baseball Program.

MEMBERSHIP: The department membership is **1855** members behind last year at this same time. We still have 4,294 members to sign up to reach our goal of 43,098. Next goal date is March 10. Let's get all

renewals collected and transmitted NOW ! Those cards must be in Department Headquarters **by 9:00 am, Monday, March 8.**

NATIONAL COMMANDER'S CAP PIN AWARDED FOR MEMBERSHIP As a reminder, National Commander Clarence Hill "T.H.E. Job Challenge" pin is available to those who recruit FIVE NEW MEMBERS for a National Commanders pin. The form should be copied locally as necessary. Deadline for submission for the pin is June 30, 2010 to the Indianapolis address on the form. Be sure to claim your pin and promote the award to your Post members. Application is enclosed.

TEACHER OF THE YEAR The Department Americanism Committee sponsors a "Teacher of the Year Award." This award honors an educator whose accomplishments and activities in the field of education are far in excess of what is normally expected, and who also promotes American Legion youth programs in their school. Nominees may be elementary, middle, or high school teachers. Enclosed please find a nomination form for American Legion Posts to endorse teachers for the award. Nomination forms should be forwarded to Activities Director Brent Hagel-Pitt by **May 1, 2010.**

OPERATION SCHOOL TALK The Department Americanism Committee also sponsors "**Operation School Talk**" to educate and inform the youth of our great state on the principles and programs of The American Legion, to share with our youth the events of our generations. If you have made contact with your local school and have talked about your military experiences please fill out the enclosed application and return to this office by May 1st for judging. All awards will be presented at Department Convention in Columbus. Application is enclosed.

50-60-70-75-80-85 YEAR RECOGNITION National Headquarters prepares certificates of recognition early each year for members credited on the data records with 50, 60, 70, 75, 80 and 85 years of continuous membership. National sends the certificates directly to **Post Commanders** for distribution to honored members. We understand the certificates were mailed on February 2. Please notify Department Headquarters if you have problems in receiving certificates for your Post.

FUTURE PLANNING The Lincoln Saltdogs and The American Legion Family are teaming up to present the **Sixth Annual American Legion Night at Haymarket Park** on Tuesday, August 17th. If your Legion Color Guard would be interested in posting the Colors before the game, please contact Brent Hagel-Pitt.

NATIONAL EMERGENCY FUND Disaster, it strike anytime, anywhere like it did in Hallam, Oconto and Virginia. The National Emergency Funds are issued to current members in the form of a grant and provide emergency assistance devastated by natural disaster. Nebraska American Legion Posts please donate \$1.00 per member in your post to the fund.

U.S. MARINE VETERANS The Lincoln Chapter of the Marine Corp League has initiated efforts to commemorate Marine veterans with an organizational type license plate, if interested in purchasing a Nebraska Marine plate contact John Faz at jfaz@neb.rr.com or 402-429-9536 for more information.

DEPARTMENT CONVENTION Department Headquarters encourage Legionnaires to make your reservation for Department Convention at the New World Inn (402-564-1492) in Columbus at your earliest convenience.