



NEWSLETTER

THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF NEBRASKA
P.O. BOX 5205
LINCOLN, NEBRASKA 68505-0205
(402) 464-6338

“2019 and Beyond”

DEPARTMENT COMMANDER
GARY D. WOOTEN

DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT
DAVID W. SALAK

SEPTEMBER 2019

Published Monthly, except July

Mailed: 8/21/2019

NEW MEMBERSHIP & FINANCE PERSON We wish Sandy Steinkamp a well-deserved retirement after 46-years in the Nebraska American Legion office. Her replacement, Amanda Washburn, is quickly getting up to speed on all the nuances associated with her new position. Request you use afwashburn@windstream.net to contact her via email for all matters regarding membership, transmittals, finances, etc. Sandy's old email address adminastlegion@windstream.net will be deleted in November so any email sent to that address after November will not be read.

“CENTENNIAL COINS” The 100th Anniversary of The American Legion is rapidly ending and soon the sales of the Centennial Coins will cease. This is a once in a lifetime occasion so go online and order your set today at <https://www.usmint.gov/learn/coin-and-medal-programs/commemorative-coins/american-legion-100th-anniversary>

LEGION ACT The LEGION Act was signed into law by President Trump which opens membership into The American Legion. Instead of seven eligibility periods, at present there are just two. They are April 6, 1917 – November 11, 1918 and December 7, 1941 to present (or whenever Congress declares we are no longer at war). All other requirements remain same for membership. The only thing that changed were eligibility dates.

NATIONAL CONVENTION Dozens of Nebraska American Legion Family members attended the 101st Annual National Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana, the last week of August. You can expect to receive reports on the convention at many of the District Fall Round-ups and County Conventions.

GIFTS FOR YANKS WHO GAVE In August, a bulletin explaining the Gifts for Yanks program was sent with the newsletter and although donations are being received on a regular basis, we certainly need many more Posts, Units, Squadrons, and Chapters to support this program. Our veterans who are confined to the VA Medical Centers and who reside at the Veterans Homes will thank you for brightening their holiday season. Donations for this program are still being accepted, so 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.” Please see attached schedule for dates and times.

ONLINE RENEWALS Nebraska is once again participating in the online renewal program (see the Post Adjutant guide). Checks for the post share of dues and a list of those members who have renewed online will be mailed to the Post Adjutant in January and July. Please issue the 2020 membership card to those members who paid online and destroy the state and national portion of the card. **DO NOT pay department for the members who have renewed online or mail their cards back to Department Headquarters.** You can view the members in your post who have paid their dues online on MyLegion.org. If you have any questions, please email Amanda at Department HQ's.

MEMBERSHIP REMINDER The Department will be awarding an **EARLY BIRD AWARD** to a Legionnaire that pays their dues on an annual basis and has their dues at Department Headquarters by Wednesday, September 11. The winner receives \$150.00.



AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL The Department Athletic Committee will meet on October 19th tentatively scheduled to be in Gibbon, to review the 2019 Baseball season. Changes for 2020 will be announced during the Athletic Committee presentation at the Mid-Year Conference in Kearney in January. Applications to host the 2020 Area and State Baseball Tournaments must be returned to Department Headquarters by January 6, 2020.

MYLEGION FOR POST OFFICERS The American Legion National Headquarters has designed a secure internet site to assist Post Officers in the day-to-day membership processing duties. All post commanders or post adjutants are encouraged to complete the authorization form located on the National website to sign up for MyLegion access. Remember all of the online features to post officers are free. <https://www.mylegion.org/>

2020 DEPARTMENT GOAL Based on the "one more member than last year" system, the Department membership goal is 27,689. Commander Wooten wants everyone to step up to the challenge. If you need help, please contact the Membership Committee and they will offer support.

DISTRICT CONFERENCES AND CONVENTIONS A spreadsheet of important District and Area events is enclosed with this newsletter. If you have any questions, please contact your District and Area Commander.

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

DIRECT BILLING RENEWAL All members whose 2020 card has been received at National Headquarters by Wednesday, September 11 will be deleted from the second renewal notice to be sent about October 7. Getting those cards to Department Headquarters before 9:00 a.m. on Monday, September 9 is important.

COUNTY GOVERNMENT DAY Letters and program brochures concerning sponsorship of Cornhusker Boys & Girls County Government Day programs during the 2019-20 school years have been sent to County Commanders, County Veterans Service Officers, and American Legion Auxiliary representatives. In addition to Post and Unit officers, schools and county courthouse officials should become involved in the planning. County Commanders or Chairmen should advise Department Headquarters (on the form provided in a separate mailing) of the date of your program. Supplies may be ordered on the same form.



ORATORICAL CONTEST REQUIRES SCHOOL CONTACT A high school student from your community could have up to \$18,000 provided for their college education by next April. How? By becoming a participant in the annual American Legion Oratorical Contest scholarship program. Information on the 2019-20 program was mailed to all schools in August. All information for Post's to visit schools and run a local contest can be found at <https://www.legion.org/oratorical> with the local dates at <http://www.nebraskalegion.net/Programs/Programs.html>. Local contact is important if you plan to sponsor a contestant into the district and state contests. DISTRICT contests will be held during November. The four Department AREA contests will be held in December. The STATE contest is held on Saturday, January 11, 2020, during the annual Mid-Year Conference in Kearney. The winner of the State-level will compete at the National level in Indianapolis April 17-19, 2020.

Enclosed:

1. Gifts for Yanks Activities Schedule
2. District/Area Important Dates
3. Oratorical Letter to Posts

NEBRASKA AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY VA&R 2019 SCHEDULE

DOLLAR DAYS GIFT SHOP AND GIFTS FOR YANKS EVENTS

Please plan to arrive at all events one-half hour before the event time

VETERANS DOLLAR DAY DISTRIBUTIONS

Tuesday, November 5, 2019	10:00 a.m. 2:30 p.m.	Grand Island NE VAMC Central NE VA Home, Kearney
Wednesday, November 6, 2019	10:00 a.m.	Lincoln NE Regional Center
Thursday, November 7, 2019	2:00 p.m.	Norfolk NE Veterans Home
Thursday, November 14, 2019	10:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m.	Omaha VA Medical Center Eastern NE VA Home, Bellevue
Sunday November 17 2019	2:00 p.m.	Western NE VA Home, Scottsbluff

VETERANS MEDICAL CENTER GIFT SHOPS

Set up, on December 1, 2019 Gift Shop dates: December 2, 3, 4, 5	10-3	Omaha VA Medical Center
Set up, on December 10, 2019 Gift Shop dates: December 10 th	10:00 a.m.	Grand Island Medical Center

GIFT FOR YANKS WHO GAVE

Sunday, December 1, 2019	2:00 p.m.	Wester NE VA Home, Scottsbluff
Tuesday, December 3, 2019	10:00 a.m. 2:30 p.m.	Grand Island VA Medical Center Central NE VA Home, Kearney
Wednesday, December 4, 2019	10:00 a.m.	Lincoln NE Regional Center
Friday, December 6, 2019	2:00 p.m.	Norfolk NE Veterans Home Norfolk NE Regional Center
Saturday, December 7, 2019	1:30 p.m.	Hot Springs, SD, VA Medical Center
Monday, December 9, 2019	10:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m.	Omaha VA Medical Center Eastern NE VA Home, Bellevue

	2019 Oratorical Contest	2019 Fall Roundups	2020 Junior Law Contest	2020 Boy's/Girl's State Orientation	2020 District Convention	2020 District Tour	Attendee	
District 1	Friday, November 1, 2019 1:30 p.m. MST Hutchville Post 161	Sunday, October 13, 2019 1:00 p.m. MST Cody Post 319	Sunday, April 12, 2020 1:00 p.m. MST Rushville Post 161	Sunday, April 26, 2020 1:00 p.m. MST Valentine Post 90	Saturday, April 4, 2020 9:00 a.m. MST Childron Post 12		TBD	
District 2	Sunday, November 10, 2019 1:00 p.m. Nichra Elementary School 247 NE 12, Nichra, NE	Sunday, October 13, 2019 2:00 p.m. Spencer Post 78 116 Thayer St, Spencer, NE	Sunday, April 26, 2020 12:00 p.m. Neligh Post 172 115 W 3rd St, Neligh, NE	Sunday, April 26, 2020 1:00 p.m. Neligh Post 172 115 W 3rd St, Neligh, NE	Sunday, March 8, 2020 9:00 a.m. Crofton Post 128 1008 W 2nd St, Crofton, NE	Sunday, March 1, 2020 9:30 a.m. Jackson Post 175 115 E Elk St, Jackson, NE	TBD	
District 3	Sunday, November 3, 2019 1:30 p.m. South Sioux City Post 307 109 E 19th St, South Sioux City, NE	Saturday, November 2, 2019 10:00 a.m. Sidney Post 17 922 Illinois St, Sidney, NE	Saturday, November 14, 2019 1:00 p.m. Emerson High School 109 3rd St, Emerson, NE	Saturday, May 2, 2020 1:00 p.m. Emerson High School 109 3rd St, Emerson, NE	Saturday, March 7, 2020 9:30 a.m. Gering Post 36 1425 9th St, Gering, NE	Saturday, March 22, 2020 9:30 a.m. 1425 9th St, Gering, NE	N/A	
District 4	Saturday, November 16, 2019 3:00 p.m. Museum of Military Vehicles 180 Interchange Sunday, November 3, 2019 1:00 p.m.	Saturday, November 16, 2019 1:00 p.m. Callaway Post 59 406 E Kimball St, Callaway, NE	Sunday, October 19, 2020 1:00 p.m. Broken Bow Post 126 416 S 1st St, Broken Bow, NE	Sunday, April 19, 2020 2:00 p.m. Hershey High School 301 Lincoln Ave, Hershey, NE	Sunday, April 5, 2020 1:00 p.m. Centura HS 201 N State Hwy 11, Centura, NE	Sunday, March 1, 2020 9:30 a.m. Kearney Post 52 1223 Central Ave, Kearney, NE	Saturday, March 14, 2020 10:00 a.m. North Platte Post 169 2020 W 4th St, North Platte, NE	N/A
District 5	Saturday, November 16, 2019 3:00 p.m. Museum of Military Vehicles 180 Interchange Sunday, November 3, 2019 1:00 p.m.	Saturday, November 16, 2019 1:00 p.m. Callaway Post 59 406 E Kimball St, Callaway, NE	Sunday, October 19, 2020 1:00 p.m. Broken Bow Post 126 416 S 1st St, Broken Bow, NE	Sunday, April 19, 2020 2:00 p.m. Hershey High School 301 Lincoln Ave, Hershey, NE	Sunday, April 5, 2020 1:00 p.m. Centura HS 201 N State Hwy 11, Centura, NE	Sunday, March 1, 2020 9:30 a.m. Kearney Post 52 1223 Central Ave, Kearney, NE	Saturday, March 14, 2020 10:00 a.m. North Platte Post 169 2020 W 4th St, North Platte, NE	N/A
District 6	Saturday, November 16, 2019 3:00 p.m. Museum of Military Vehicles 180 Interchange Sunday, November 3, 2019 1:00 p.m.	Saturday, November 16, 2019 1:00 p.m. Callaway Post 59 406 E Kimball St, Callaway, NE	Sunday, October 19, 2020 1:00 p.m. Broken Bow Post 126 416 S 1st St, Broken Bow, NE	Sunday, April 19, 2020 2:00 p.m. Hershey High School 301 Lincoln Ave, Hershey, NE	Sunday, April 5, 2020 1:00 p.m. Centura HS 201 N State Hwy 11, Centura, NE	Sunday, March 1, 2020 9:30 a.m. Kearney Post 52 1223 Central Ave, Kearney, NE	Saturday, March 14, 2020 10:00 a.m. North Platte Post 169 2020 W 4th St, North Platte, NE	N/A
District 7	Saturday, November 16, 2019 3:00 p.m. Museum of Military Vehicles 180 Interchange Sunday, November 3, 2019 1:00 p.m.	Saturday, November 16, 2019 1:00 p.m. Callaway Post 59 406 E Kimball St, Callaway, NE	Sunday, October 19, 2020 1:00 p.m. Broken Bow Post 126 416 S 1st St, Broken Bow, NE	Sunday, April 19, 2020 2:00 p.m. Hershey High School 301 Lincoln Ave, Hershey, NE	Sunday, April 5, 2020 1:00 p.m. Centura HS 201 N State Hwy 11, Centura, NE	Sunday, March 1, 2020 9:30 a.m. Kearney Post 52 1223 Central Ave, Kearney, NE	Saturday, March 14, 2020 10:00 a.m. North Platte Post 169 2020 W 4th St, North Platte, NE	N/A
District 8	Saturday, November 16, 2019 3:00 p.m. Museum of Military Vehicles 180 Interchange Sunday, November 3, 2019 1:00 p.m.	Saturday, November 16, 2019 1:00 p.m. Callaway Post 59 406 E Kimball St, Callaway, NE	Sunday, October 19, 2020 1:00 p.m. Broken Bow Post 126 416 S 1st St, Broken Bow, NE	Sunday, April 19, 2020 2:00 p.m. Hershey High School 301 Lincoln Ave, Hershey, NE	Sunday, April 5, 2020 1:00 p.m. Centura HS 201 N State Hwy 11, Centura, NE	Sunday, March 1, 2020 9:30 a.m. Kearney Post 52 1223 Central Ave, Kearney, NE	Saturday, March 14, 2020 10:00 a.m. North Platte Post 169 2020 W 4th St, North Platte, NE	N/A
District 9	Saturday, November 16, 2019 3:00 p.m. Museum of Military Vehicles 180 Interchange Sunday, November 3, 2019 1:00 p.m.	Saturday, November 16, 2019 1:00 p.m. Callaway Post 59 406 E Kimball St, Callaway, NE	Sunday, October 19, 2020 1:00 p.m. Broken Bow Post 126 416 S 1st St, Broken Bow, NE	Sunday, April 19, 2020 2:00 p.m. Hershey High School 301 Lincoln Ave, Hershey, NE	Sunday, April 5, 2020 1:00 p.m. Centura HS 201 N State Hwy 11, Centura, NE	Sunday, March 1, 2020 9:30 a.m. Kearney Post 52 1223 Central Ave, Kearney, NE	Saturday, March 14, 2020 10:00 a.m. North Platte Post 169 2020 W 4th St, North Platte, NE	N/A
District 10	Saturday, November 16, 2019 3:00 p.m. Museum of Military Vehicles 180 Interchange Sunday, November 3, 2019 1:00 p.m.	Saturday, November 16, 2019 1:00 p.m. Callaway Post 59 406 E Kimball St, Callaway, NE	Sunday, October 19, 2020 1:00 p.m. Broken Bow Post 126 416 S 1st St, Broken Bow, NE	Sunday, April 19, 2020 2:00 p.m. Hershey High School 301 Lincoln Ave, Hershey, NE	Sunday, April 5, 2020 1:00 p.m. Centura HS 201 N State Hwy 11, Centura, NE	Sunday, March 1, 2020 9:30 a.m. Kearney Post 52 1223 Central Ave, Kearney, NE	Saturday, March 14, 2020 10:00 a.m. North Platte Post 169 2020 W 4th St, North Platte, NE	N/A
District 11	Saturday, November 16, 2019 3:00 p.m. Museum of Military Vehicles 180 Interchange Sunday, November 3, 2019 1:00 p.m.	Saturday, November 16, 2019 1:00 p.m. Callaway Post 59 406 E Kimball St, Callaway, NE	Sunday, October 19, 2020 1:00 p.m. Broken Bow Post 126 416 S 1st St, Broken Bow, NE	Sunday, April 19, 2020 2:00 p.m. Hershey High School 301 Lincoln Ave, Hershey, NE	Sunday, April 5, 2020 1:00 p.m. Centura HS 201 N State Hwy 11, Centura, NE	Sunday, March 1, 2020 9:30 a.m. Kearney Post 52 1223 Central Ave, Kearney, NE	Saturday, March 14, 2020 10:00 a.m. North Platte Post 169 2020 W 4th St, North Platte, NE	N/A
District 12	Saturday, November 16, 2019 3:00 p.m. Museum of Military Vehicles 180 Interchange Sunday, November 3, 2019 1:00 p.m.	Saturday, November 16, 2019 1:00 p.m. Callaway Post 59 406 E Kimball St, Callaway, NE	Sunday, October 19, 2020 1:00 p.m. Broken Bow Post 126 416 S 1st St, Broken Bow, NE	Sunday, April 19, 2020 2:00 p.m. Hershey High School 301 Lincoln Ave, Hershey, NE	Sunday, April 5, 2020 1:00 p.m. Centura HS 201 N State Hwy 11, Centura, NE	Sunday, March 1, 2020 9:30 a.m. Kearney Post 52 1223 Central Ave, Kearney, NE	Saturday, March 14, 2020 10:00 a.m. North Platte Post 169 2020 W 4th St, North Platte, NE	N/A
District 13	Saturday, November 16, 2019 3:00 p.m. Museum of Military Vehicles 180 Interchange Sunday, November 3, 2019 1:00 p.m.	Saturday, November 16, 2019 1:00 p.m. Callaway Post 59 406 E Kimball St, Callaway, NE	Sunday, October 19, 2020 1:00 p.m. Broken Bow Post 126 416 S 1st St, Broken Bow, NE	Sunday, April 19, 2020 2:00 p.m. Hershey High School 301 Lincoln Ave, Hershey, NE	Sunday, April 5, 2020 1:00 p.m. Centura HS 201 N State Hwy 11, Centura, NE	Sunday, March 1, 2020 9:30 a.m. Kearney Post 52 1223 Central Ave, Kearney, NE	Saturday, March 14, 2020 10:00 a.m. North Platte Post 169 2020 W 4th St, North Platte, NE	N/A
District 15	Saturday, November 16, 2019 3:00 p.m. Museum of Military Vehicles 180 Interchange Sunday, November 3, 2019 1:00 p.m.	Saturday, November 16, 2019 1:00 p.m. Callaway Post 59 406 E Kimball St, Callaway, NE	Sunday, October 19, 2020 1:00 p.m. Broken Bow Post 126 416 S 1st St, Broken Bow, NE	Sunday, April 19, 2020 2:00 p.m. Hershey High School 301 Lincoln Ave, Hershey, NE	Sunday, April 5, 2020 1:00 p.m. Centura HS 201 N State Hwy 11, Centura, NE	Sunday, March 1, 2020 9:30 a.m. Kearney Post 52 1223 Central Ave, Kearney, NE	Saturday, March 14, 2020 10:00 a.m. North Platte Post 169 2020 W 4th St, North Platte, NE	N/A

A copy of this can be found at nebraskalegion.net under the meetings tab.