



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

AUGUST 2020

Published Monthly, except July

OFFICE REMAINS CLOSED The Department Headquarters building remains closed to public access due to an abundance of caution during the COVID-19 pandemic. Only full-time employees are permitted access to the building. Please phone, email, or leave your documents in the mailbox outside of the office.

2021 MEMBERSHIP CARDS MAILED The 2021 membership cards, Nebraska permanent membership cards with computer printout, and Post Adjutant Guides were mailed in June to Post Adjutants. Post Adjutant names and addresses used were those on file at Department Headquarters, so new Adjutants who have not received these materials should check with their predecessor before contacting Amanda Washburn at Department. Reminder: The 2021 membership cards and checks mailed to Department HQ's will not be processed until after August 1.

MEMBERSHIP AWARDS & TARGET The first National Membership Target for 2021 is September 10, which calls for 50% of the Department goal. Adjutants please refer to the 2021 Post Adjutant Guide for target dates. Several changes were made to the Department's membership awards/incentives.

STOLDORF TRUST MEMBERSHIP INCENTIVES There are both Post and individual awards available for signing up new members in The American Legion. Contact the Membership Committee for more information on the Stoldorf Trust Membership Incentives

POST REBATE PROGRAM A Post who signs up a new member for 2021 and transmits that membership to Department Headquarters by November 14, 2020, shall receive a \$5.00 rebate for that member from Department Headquarters.

ON-LINE RENEWAL INFORMATION The 2021 Adjutant Guide was sent to all adjutants. Page 8 in that guide provides information on the process of those members that renew online. Page 9 in that guide explains the new process of Post Adjutants being able to transmit their members online.

POST GOALS The Post membership goal for 2021 will be sent out in the September newsletter. Membership goals will be adjusted this year to match the National membership goal.

LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT LETTERS The Department Executive Committee voted unanimously during the June meeting to authorize Department Commander Wooten to draft letters of support for law enforcement and the rule of the law to be sent to the President, Nebraska Senators and Representatives, Nebraska Governor, and an open letter to all law enforcement agencies. Commander Wooten asks all Posts to share this with their local law enforcement to show The American Legion's support. He asks that Posts consider adding their own cover letter as well to share your Posts support of what the local law enforcement is doing. The letters have been enclosed.

2021 DUES NOTICES The first dues notice from National Headquarters was received by individual Legionnaires about July 3. Additional notices will be sent October 9, November 13, January 6, February 24, and April 30. Send in renewals quickly to avoid costly delinquent notices. Review the enclosed bulletin on the membership target and renewal dates. Cutoff date for October renewal notice is September 8.

DISTRICT FALL CONFERENCE The District meeting schedules are posted on our Department website at <http://www.nebraskalegion.net/Meetings/Meetings.html>. Questions should be directed first to the District Commander.

NATIONAL EMERGENCY FUND Natural disasters continue to plague the Midwest and other parts of the country. The NEF is a worthwhile fund. Can your post donate 50 cents per member? Please send in all donations, regardless of the program, to the Department so we can keep track of what the Department has donated. Department will forward all donations to National and give full credit to the donor.

GIFTS FOR YANKS WHO GAVE Enclosed is a bulletin concerning the 2020 Gifts for Yanks program. We ask for the support of your Post, Unit, Squadron, and Chapter in order to provide a gift to those veterans confined to the VA Medical Centers and those residing in Nebraska's Veterans Homes during the holiday season. Your early response will assist in planning for this large activity by our volunteer representatives. Make checks out to GFY and send them to Nebraska American Legion, PO Box 5205, Lincoln, NE 68505.

NEBRASKA PRESS ASSOCIATION The Nebraska American Legion Press Association (NE-ALPA) is looking to work to promote The American Legion Family. Any member in good standing of the Legion, Auxiliary, or Sons, is eligible to be a member of NE-ALPA. Our purpose is to share what the Nebraska American Legion Family is doing to help our veterans, children & youth, and our communities. Our paper, online publications, and social media are the best way to reach out to potential members and show them how The American Legion Family can be beneficial to them and their families. Information on upcoming events and ideas will be sent out to current members on September 1. Persons with questions or interested in joining should contact Amanda at Department Headquarters.

POST 500 Legionnaires who have signed up through National are placed in their respective Department's holding Post. In Nebraska, that post is called Post-500. These new Post-500 members are then available for transfer to a local Post but it requires the Post to make phone calls or send letters or better yet, make a personal visit to the prospective new member to tell them what the local Posts does for the community and that you would like the Legionnaire to transfer into your post. Posts can use MyLegion to find Post-500 members in their area or they can call Department HQ's who will gladly provide a listing. This is another membership tool available to all Posts.

CEREMONIAL RIFLES AND AMMO Enclosed is an updated request form from the Department of Defense for ceremonial rifles and ammo. The old form will no longer be accepted. Contact HP with questions.

Enclosed:

- 1) Membership Target Dates and Membership Renewal Dates bulletin
- 2) Law Enforcement Support Letter
- 3) Gifts for Yanks Who Gave donation sheet
- 4) Schedule of VA&R Events
- 5) Ceremonial Rifles and Ammo Request Form