



# NEWSLETTER

THE AMERICAN LEGION  
DEPARTMENT OF NEBRASKA  
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*"2019 and Beyond"*

DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT  
DAVID W. SALAK

DEPARTMENT COMMANDER  
GARY D. WOOTEN

**DECEMBER 2020**

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**MID-YEAR CONFERENCE** This year's Mid-Year Conference will remain focused on educational training. This event is being held January 15-17, 2021, at the Ramada Inn in Columbus. The Department Executive Committee will meet on Friday, January 15, starting at 10:00 a.m. The Joint Session on Saturday morning will begin at 8:00 a.m. and the Oratorical Contest will be held Saturday evening at 6:00 p.m. A patriotic non-denominational service will be Sunday morning at 8:00 a.m. and Joint Session will follow at 9:00 a.m.

The condensed agenda schedule will be in the December issue of The Nebraska Legionnaire. For reservations please call the Ramada Inn (402-564-1492) located at 265 33<sup>rd</sup> Ave, Columbus, Nebraska. Conference Registration fee is \$10.00.

**FUNDRAISER** **DEPARTMENT FUND RAISER** The Department Executive Committee has authorized a fund raiser for the Department of Nebraska's 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 held on Sunday morning, January 17, 2021, at our Mid-Year Conference in Columbus. Proceeds go to support the various programs supported by The American Legion. Additional tickets can be purchased from Headquarters.

**NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP TARGET** The next target date is "Pearl Harbor Day." Membership cards must reach Department Headquarters on or before 9:00 am, December 9th to meet that goal. This is also a cutoff date for renewal notices.

**WASHINGTON CONFERENCE** The Washington Conference is scheduled for February 28 - March 3, 2021 and is open to any Legionnaires wishing to attend. Housing can be made with the Washington Hilton, 1919 Connecticut Ave, NW Washington D.C. by calling 202-483-3000.

**VETERAN'S LEGISLATIVE DAY** The official date for the Veterans' Legislative Day at the State Capitol will be February 5, 2021 Expect more information in January.

**AFFILIATED BANK ACCOUNTS** Department would encourage all Posts with a Sons Squadron and/or Riders Chapter to have a designated Post signer (finance officer, commander, or adjutant) on all checks and accounts.

**DISTRICT CONVENTIONS (Post Everlasting Names)** Posts are requested to send the names of Legionnaires that entered Post Everlasting since the last District Convention to District Adjutants so that those names may be read and recorded during the Post Everlasting ceremony at upcoming District Conventions.



***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 2021. Commander Wooten 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.

***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 available when you file the Consolidated Post Report form. The CPR form will be sent to Adjutants next spring. Commander Wooten expects 100% participation from all the Posts. The CPR can be submitted electronically by using MyLegion.

***CONTINUOUS MEMBERSHIP 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 as of January 1, 2021. National sends the certificates directly to Post Commanders for distribution to honored members, often times at the Post Birthday event in March. Certificates will be mailed in February per National. Please notify Department Headquarters if you have problems in receiving certificates for your Post.

***HOLIDAY BLOOD DONOR DRIVE*** December is 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. Ask donors to let you know the amount they donated for use in the CPR.

***TOURNAMENT HOSTS*** The Department Athletic Committee will be honoring the host sites selected in 2020 for the 2021 season unless there is a vacancy caused by a Legion Baseball rule or the host turned it back in. Please check our website or call Headquarters to see if your Area has a vacancy and for the form. Be sure to read all the requirements before submitting the application. In order to be considered for a tournament, the bid form **MUST BE RECEIVED** by the Programs Director no later than January 8<sup>th</sup>. The Athletic Committee will participate in the Saturday program of Mid-Year Conference with a section on rules and requirements, to include the announcement of host sites. <https://www.nelegionbaseball.net/>

Bids for the Host site of the State Golf Tournament will also be reviewed and selected at the Mid-Year meeting. Interested Posts should contact Activities Director, Brent Hagel-Pitt, for details and bid form.

***BASEBALL UMPIRE CLINICS*** The Athletic Committee is in the process of setting up Umpire Clinics around the state. Contact Brent Hagel-Pitt if your Post is interested in arranging or hosting an Umpire Clinic for umpires in the area.

***PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE*** The Public Relations Committee is looking to recognize members who are the editor for their Post newsletter/newspaper or the administrator for their Post social media page to be recognized for their outstanding work. Contact Amanda Washburn for this form. All nominations must be received at Department Headquarters by December 31.

***MERRY CHRISTMAS*** Department Commander Gary Wooten, Department Officers, and the Headquarters staff join in extending to you best wishes for a joyous holiday season! ***Merry Christmas*** to all.