



# NEWSLETTER

THE AMERICAN LEGION  
DEPARTMENT OF NEBRASKA  
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*“2019 and Beyond”*

DEPARTMENT COMMANDER  
GARY D. WOOTEN

**MAY 2020**

DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT  
DAVID W. SALAK

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Published Monthly, except July

**DEPARTMENT CONVENTION** Nebraska American Legion Family members: The Nebraska DEC met on Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m., via ZOOM, and passed a Resolution cancelling the 2020 Department Convention. All Department Officers, Committee Chair/members, and Liaisons will stay in place for another year.

**DISTRICT CONVENTIONS** District Conventions for District 1, 2, 5, 9, and 10 have been rescheduled. Districts who should have held an election this year will be conducting one via alternate means. Your District Commander will be sending out information to each Post on how the meeting will be held.

**MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN NOT COMPLETE** A review of the membership analysis indicates many posts need fewer than half a dozen to equal or exceed last year's total and to meet their assigned goal. Time is short to complete our 2020 campaign. Please review your delinquent list and make personal contact where necessary. There are eligible veterans in every community who have never been invited into membership.

**AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL ENTRY DEADLINE** The post season Area and State playoff system has been canceled. It is the intention of the Athletic Committee to provide as much playing time as possible no matter when the restrictions are lifted. Teams have the option to not participate in Legion baseball and request a refund, or to wait and see if there will be a season. This request must be made by June 15<sup>th</sup>. If the team wants to continue, insurance must be purchased no later than June 25<sup>th</sup>.

**JUNIOR LAW CADET PARTICIPANTS** District Commanders will be notified on May 2<sup>nd</sup> about the fate of the Jr Law Cadet program. Please keep in touch with your candidates for the Junior Law Cadet programs from your Post.

**DIRECT DUES BILLING** Information on the National direct billing program was sent to all Post Adjutants in March. Post Data Forms were to be returned to Department Headquarters by April 15. If you have not yet returned your form, do so immediately. If no changes are made, or the form not be returned, direct dues responses will be sent to the same individual, at the same address, at the same dues rate. Please be certain your dues amount is correct.

**AMERICAN LEGION BASIC TRAINING** With almost everyone being quarantined during this COVID-19 outbreak, now would be a great time for Legionnaires to take the American Legion Basic Training Course. Our very own Constitution directs officers to have completed this course within the last five years prior to assuming office. This isn't meant to be a barrier to high office but rather to ensure our officers are current on Legion activities and programs. The course can be found at <https://www.legion.org/alei>

**LEGION INSURANCE TRUST** Want to sign up for Free LIT AD&D coverage? That's a \$1,000.00 (or \$5,000.00 if death occurred while on official Legion business) that will go to your beneficiary to help with those final expenses. Check out [www.thelit.com](http://www.thelit.com) for more information.



**CONSOLIDATED POST REPORT** The Consolidated Post Report (CPR) form for the 2019-20 American Legion year was mailed to the Post Adjutant with the April newsletter. Please complete the CPR and return it to Headquarters absolutely **no later than June 1**. The CPR can be found on MyLegion and our website at [www.nebraskalegion.net](http://www.nebraskalegion.net). Complete the form online and email it to [dwsalak@windstream.net](mailto:dwsalak@windstream.net).

**MEMBERSHIP AWARDS MAY STILL BE EARNED** There are various membership awards that are available through National and Department. May 10 is the receipt date in this office for the Silver Brigade, Gold Brigade and Recruiter of the Year awards. Certification forms are available from Department HQs. You are encouraged to review the many awards that are available for 2020 membership efforts. The Post Membership Achievement Award is based on the post membership as of May 31, 2020 compared to the membership of July 31, 2019.

**POST PUBLICATIONS CONTEST** The Nebraska American Legion Press Association asks those interested in the Post Publications Contest to contact Amanda at Headquarters for more information.

**CODY KERR AWARD** This prestigious award is the highest award given by the Nebraska American Legion and will be presented to a deserving individual at a time and place yet to be determined. Applications are now being accepted so send your nomination to Headquarters and we will get it to the nomination committee. This award is based on service to the community, state and nation; not just American Legion involvement. No specific form is provided.

**ELECTION OF POST OFFICERS** Enclosed is the 2020-21 Post Officer report form (Adjutants only). The Department Constitution and Bylaws calls for the election of officers at the Post meeting prior to the Department Convention and the installation following the convention. We request the names of the 2020-21 officers be sent to us immediately following their election. This allows HQ's to maintain a current list of post officers so that official correspondence gets to the right person. **Even if your officers did not change, please send in this form.**

**VETERANS FREEDOM MUSIC FESTIVAL** Saturday, June 13 at the VA Outpatient Clinic located at 600 S 70<sup>th</sup> Street, Lincoln. The festival starts at 12:00 p.m. In addition to music this is an Information Fair with VA health care and other informational booths. Visit [www.vfmf.net](http://www.vfmf.net) for more information.

**VETERAN'S APPRECIATION DAY AT THE STATE FAIR** Veterans' Appreciation Day at the State Fair will be Monday, September 7 at 10:30 a.m. More information, including parade and color guard registration can be found at <https://www.statefair.org/form/color-guard-registration> Call 308-382-1620 for information.

**Attachments:**

2020-21 Post Officer report form (Adjutants only)