



NEWSLETTER

THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF NEBRASKA
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“2019 and Beyond”

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F E B R U A R Y 2 0 2 0

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MEMBERSHIP ACTION ENCOURAGING The Department of Nebraska is still in the running for several awards and is keying on the next challenge of the President’s Day goal on Wednesday, February 12. Please renew your delinquent members and transmit every possible card by February 10 so they can be included in the transmittal to National. February 12 is the cut-off date for the March renewal notices.

DISTRICT CONVENTIONS SCHEDULED Enclosed you will find the District Convention Call, along with the number of delegates each Post is entitled to seat at the convention, for voting purposes. The Convention Call should be read at your next meeting or made available to your members as soon as possible. District Conventions are for all Legionnaires - not just those selected as voting delegates. District Convention dates enclosed as well. A delegate from each Post should be present so that a quorum is present in order to conduct business.

DISTRICT CONVENTION AGENDA A reminder to all District Commanders to provide HQs with your convention agenda at least 10 working days in advance of your respective convention date.

MEMBERSHIP AWARDS Due to their efforts thus far in the 2020 membership campaign, many Posts will be receiving awards at District Conventions. Some awards to be presented will be for the membership contributions to the organization during 2019. We encourage someone from your Post to be at the convention to accept them.

CITIZENSHIP AWARDS If your Post has not already done so, there still may be time to submit a nomination on behalf of one of your Post members for the District Citizenship Citation. The forms were sent to all Posts last month. **Please mail the nomination form to your District Commander.** Make sure the completed application is sent well in advance of your District Convention.

MEMBERSHIP TRANSFER Before a membership transfer occurs there must be a Member Data Form 30-001 provided to Department Headquarters. The form should be signed by a member unless the member provided verbal consent for the Post Commander/Post Adjutant to sign the transfer form.

BOYS’ STATE PROGRAM Applications for the 2020 session of American Legion Cornhusker Boys’ State have been mailed by first class mail to all Post Adjutants and are available online at the Department website under the Boys State program tab. The deadline for returning applications is March 16. All high school principals were also sent a letter explaining the Boys’ State program and requesting their assistance in making recommendations of qualified candidates. Schools are NOT provided the application. It is the Posts responsibility to return applications to Department Headquarters. Please select a boy who will agree to participate in the program for the entire week.

Posts may now send as many young men as they wish to nominate. The fee will be \$375.00 per boy for 2020. Please send any alternates to Department Headquarters so we can try and find them a sponsor.

DONATIONS If your Post has not yet contributed to a National Program (NEF, OCW, TFA, etc.) please consider doing so. Department Commander Wooten has challenged each post to contribute to the different programs. Please send your donation to Headquarters before May 4 so results can be tallied up prior to Department Convention.

JUNIOR LAW CADET PROGRAM Applications for the 2020 session of American Legion Junior Law Cadet Program have been mailed to the schools and are available online at the Department website under the Junior Law Cadet tab and have been included in this newsletter. The dates for the combined Boys and Girls session will be held June 22-25, 2020. The deadline for return of the completed application is March 15. 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 14 districts, the fee per student is \$175.

SERVICE OFFICER AWARDS Posts are reminded that they may nominate a Post Service Officer or other member who is doing outstanding work in veterans rehabilitation work for a national citation. Please send your nomination letter to Department Headquarters Attn: Department Adjutant, PO Box 5205, Lincoln, NE 68505 no later than March 31. Your letter should include a resume of work this person has accomplished for our organization.

SCOUT-OF-THE-YEAR NOMINATIONS Post Commanders and local Scout leaders are reminded that completed nomination forms for the Eagle Scout-of-the-Year scholarship program are due at Department Headquarters no later than March 1. Additional information and forms are online at www.nebraskalegion.net and are available from the Activities Director at this office. Remember, there are three scholarship awards (\$500, \$300, \$200) at the state level and the state winner is entered in the national scholarship competition.

UMPIRE CLINICS SCHEDULED Umpire Clinics for the 2020 American Legion Baseball season are being planned and are available at www.nelegionbaseball.net. Every umpire is encouraged to attend. All tournament umpires (Area and State) are required to attend a NALB-sanctioned Umpire Clinic annually. Contact Activities Director Brent Hagel-Pitt for information if your Post is interested in hosting such a clinic.

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 as of January 1, 2020. 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 February 1 per National. Please notify Department Headquarters if you have problems in receiving certificates for your Post.

LEGION POSTS MUST FILE FORM 990-N Tax-exempt organizations must file a yearly return with the IRS. If your post does not file a required annual return in three consecutive years, the law provides that your post automatically loses its tax-exempt status. Please go the following web site at www.irs.gov/990n to complete the form, deadline to file is May 15, 2020. If you have questions, please call 1-877-829-5500.

FLAG RETIREMENT If your post is planning a Flag Retirement Ceremony in the near future and is in need of flags, please contact Department Headquarters, as we have many in need of proper disposal.

RESOLUTIONS The means by which changes are instituted within The American Legion start in the form of a resolution. Be sure to get your proposed resolutions approved through your Post and Squadron. Resolutions should be forwarded to your District Convention for endorsement/approval. Contact Adjutant Salak for a copy of the resolution template should you need one.

Enclosed:

District Convention Call/ District Convention Delegates
Approved District Convention Schedule
Junior Law Cadet Letter and Information