

**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, 2022. National sends the certificates directly to Post Commanders for distribution to honored members, oftentimes 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.

POSTS MUST FILE FORM 990-N

Tax-exempt organizations must file a yearly return with the IRS. Please go to the following website, www.irs.gov/990n to complete the form or use the following enclosure, deadline to file is May 16, 2022. Enclosed is a flyer on the difference between the form 990 and incorporation and why it is important to your Post. Contact Adjutant Dave Salak with questions.

**2022 RENEWAL MEMBERSHIP
CARDS**

The Department has 2022 renewal membership postcards. If your Post would like some of these cards – contact Amanda Washburn at 402-464-6338.

DONATIONS

If your Post has not yet contributed to a National Program, please consider doing so. Commander Benes has challenged each post to contribute to the programs. Please send your donation to Headquarters before May 4 so results can be tallied up prior to Department Convention.

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 any questions.

UMPIRE CLINICS SCHEDULED

Umpire Clinics for the 2022 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 a clinic.

Enclosed:

- 1) District Convention Call/ District. Convention Delegates
- 2) Approved District Convention Schedule
- 3) Junior Law Cadet Letter and Information
- 4) 990 and Incorporation Flyer



The American Legion Department of Nebraska
P.O. Box 5205
Lincoln, NE, 68505-0205
402-464-6338

NEWSLETTER

February 2022

Published monthly, except July

Department Commander
Dan Benes

Department Adjutant
David W. Salak

100% FOR TARGET

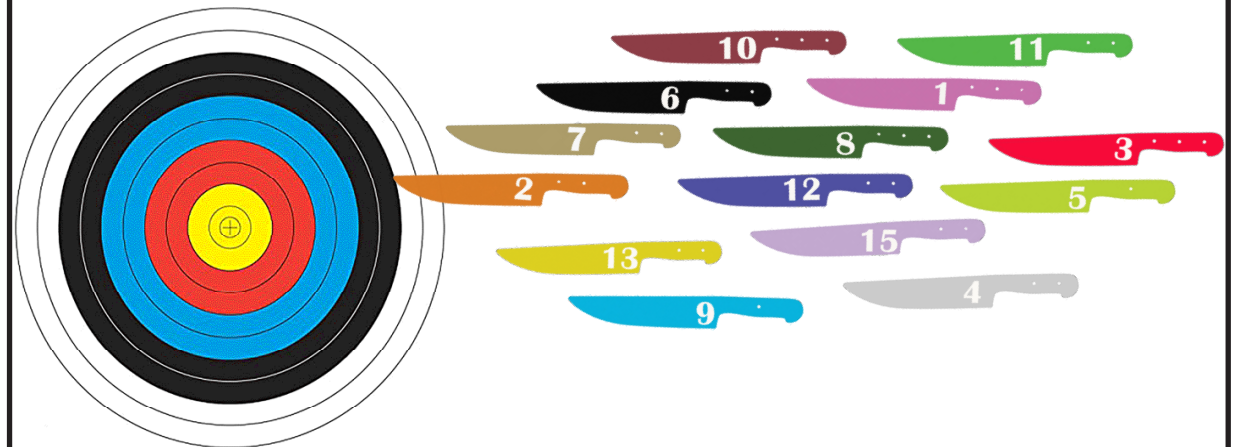
2022 MEMBERSHIP GOAL: 26,097 JANUARY 14TH TOTAL: 21,286 – 81.56%

DISTRICT 2 - 84.38%
DISTRICT 9 - 81.75%
DISTRICT 15 - 80.73%
DISTRICT 5 - 77.05%

DISTRICT 7 - 84.15%
DISTRICT 10 - 81.59%
DISTRICT 1 - 80.53%
DISTRICT 3 - 75.51%

DISTRICT 13 - 84.08%
DISTRICT 12 - 81.29%
DISTRICT 4 - 80.29%

DISTRICT 6 - 83.50%
DISTRICT 8 - 80.96%
DISTRICT 11 - 80.07%



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 9. Please renew your delinquent members and transmit every possible card by February 7 so they can be included in the transmittal to National. February 9 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 are enclosed as well. A delegate from each Post should be present so that a quorum is present 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 2022 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 2021. 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 transfer occurs, there must be a Member Data Form 30-001 provided to 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 2022 session of American Legion Cornhusker Boys' State have been mailed 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 15. All high school principals were also sent a letter explaining the Boys' State program and requesting their assistance in making recommendations of qualified candidates. It is the Post's responsibility to return applications to Headquarters. Please select a boy who will agree to participate in the program for the entire week.



Posts may now send as many delegates as they wish to nominate. The fee will be \$375 per boy for 2022. Please send alternates to Headquarters so we can find them a sponsor.

Cornhusker Boys' State is looking for a new medic to replace outgoing (retiring) medic; Bill Montz. Anyone interested should have formal training as a nurse, EMT, doctor, etc. The medic must be available 24/7 the week of Boys State the medic must remain with the group for the entire week on UNL campus. Room and meals are provided throughout the week plus a small stipend. The typical duty includes checking in all boys at registration, first-line triage of injuries, administering medications, and transporting sick and injured to Urgent Care and/or hospitals (vehicle provided).

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.



JUNIOR LAW CADET PROGRAM

Applications for the 2022 session of the American Legion Junior Law Cadet Program has been mailed to the schools and is available online at the Department website under the Junior Law Cadet tab and has been included in this newsletter. The dates for the combined Boys and Girls session will be held June 21-24, 2022. The deadline for the 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 \$275. The increase of cost is due to rising insurance costs.

**THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF NEBRASKA
PO BOX 5205
LINCOLN, NEBRASKA 68505-0205**

2022 DISTRICT CONVENTION CALL

In conformity with the Department Constitution and Bylaws, the annual District Conventions for 2022 are hereby called and will be as follows:

District 1	Saturday, April 9	Ainsworth Post 79 Home
District 2	Sunday, March 13	Atkinson Post 86 Home
District 3	Saturday, March 19	Pender Community Center
District 4	Saturday, April 2	Morrill Post 10 Home
District 5	Saturday, March 12	Arthur Post 207 Home
District 6	Saturday, March 5	Grand Island Post 53 Home
District 7	Saturday, March 12	Howells Post 155 Home
District 8	Saturday, February 12	Papillion Post 32 Home
District 9	Saturday, March 19	McCook Community Center
District 10	Saturday, February 26	Edgar Post 248 Home
District 11	Saturday, March 26	Crete Post 147 Home
District 12	Saturday, March 12	Hickman Community Center
District 13	Saturday, February 19	Sterling Post 140 Home
District 15	Tuesday, February 8	Lincoln Elks Lodge

PURPOSE

These conventions are called for the purpose of electing District Commanders and other District officers where there are vacancies, selecting the place of the next District Convention, and for the transaction of such other business as may be brought before this meeting. Election of District officers this year is scheduled for the 2nd, 4th, 5th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 13th, & 15th Districts.

Article VI, Section 3, of the Department Bylaws stipulates that Department delegates to National Convention shall be chosen at the District Convention or at a District Caucus to be held at the Department Convention. The election process, as adopted by the Department Executive Committee, is as follows: Any member seeking election as an accredited delegate of his or her District shall file for election as a delegate. The persons receiving the most votes will be elected delegates in descending order, as will the designated number of alternates.

REPRESENTATION

Representation in the Conventions shall be by Posts. Each Post shall be entitled to two delegates plus one delegate for each 100 members or major portion thereof based on the total previous year's (2021) membership of that Post, and in addition thereto, the Post Commander and Post Adjutant shall be delegates at large. Delegates shall be chosen by the various Posts in the same manner as they were chosen for the State Convention. Each delegate shall be entitled to one vote.

The vote of any delegate absent and not represented by an alternate shall be cast by a majority of the delegates present from the Post. No credential cards for delegates will be furnished from Department Headquarters. County Commanders do not have an automatic vote in District Conventions as they do in Department Conventions.

ALTERNATES

Each Post is entitled to send and to seat in the Convention a number of alternates equal to the number of delegates to which each Post is entitled. Alternates will have the power to vote only in the absence of regular delegates.

GUESTS

Each delegation may have as guests such members of The American Legion as they see fit to invite. All business sessions of all conventions are open to the public.

REGISTRATION

All delegates will be required to register at a place to be designated by the Post hosting the Convention.

By Authority of:

Judy Walters
District 1 Commander

ATTEST:

Dave Salak
Department Adjutant

Dan Benes
Department Commander

MISCELLANEOUS

Post Adjutants are requested to read this Call at the earliest possible meeting of their Post. Commanders shall call a special meeting if necessary. In the event a meeting cannot be arranged, Post officers should appoint delegates and alternates.

A list of the number of delegates to which each Post is entitled accompanies this Convention Call. All Posts are urged to send full delegations to the District Conventions and to urge as many additional Legion members to attend as possible. Inasmuch as all business sessions are open to the public, friends and nonmembers of The American Legion are urged and invited to attend the Convention in order that the programs and purposes of The American Legion may be better understood.

Publicity regarding the convention program, date and place should be provided to the local news media.

2022 District Convention

District 1	Saturday, April 9, 2022	District 8	Saturday, February 12, 2022
	9:00 a.m.		9:00 a.m.
	Ainsworth Post 79		Papillion Post 32
	235 N. Woodward, Ainsworth, NE		230 W Lincoln St, Papillion, NE
District 2	Sunday, March 13, 2022	District 9	Saturday, March 19, 2022
	9:00 a.m.		9:30 a.m.
	Atkinson Post 86		McCook Community Center
	W. Hwy 20, Atkinson, NE		1412 W. 5th St, McCook, NE
District 3	Saturday, March 19, 2022	District 10	Saturday, February 26, 2022
	9:00 a.m.		10:00 a.m.
	Pender Community Center		Edgar Post 248
	614 Main St, Pender, NE		505 4th St, Edgar, NE
District 4	Saturday, April 2, 2022	District 11	Saturday, March 26, 2022
	10:00 a.m.		10:00 a.m.
	Morrill Post 10		Crete Post 147
	117 Center Ave, Morrill, NE		4959 E. 13th St, Crete, NE
District 5	Saturday, March 12, 2022	District 12	Saturday, March 12, 2022
	10:00 a.m.		9:00 a.m.
	Arthur Post 207		Hickman Community Center
	302 E. Marshall St, Arthur, NE		115 Locust St, Hickman, NE
District 6	Saturday, March 5, 2022	District 13	Saturday, February 19, 2022
	9:30 a.m.		9:30 a.m.
	Grand Island Post 53		Sterling Post 140
	1914 W Capital Ave, Grand Island, NE		160 Broadway, Sterling, NE
District 7	Saturday, March 12, 2022	District 15	Tuesday, February 8, 2022
	10:00 a.m.		6:30 p.m.
	Howells Post 155		Lincoln Elks Lodge 80
	122 S. 2nd St. Howells, NE		5910 S. 58th St, Lincoln, NE

February 1, 2022

Dear Commander:

We are pleased to announce the schedule for the 2022 Junior Law Cadet Program cosponsored by the Nebraska American Legion and the Nebraska State Patrol. As with last year, the sessions will be combined, boy's and girl's sessions will be June 21-24 at the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center, in Grand Island.

We are extremely proud of this program initiated in Nebraska in 1968. The greatest potential for good can be achieved by encouraging all interested and qualified students to submit applications for competitive evaluation, and then later providing opportunities for graduate Cadets to report their experiences to students, Legionnaires, and members of civic and service organizations in your area.

Please study the enclosed information carefully with special reference to the qualifications and timetable for evaluating the applicants. Please have the students fill out the application at our website www.nebraskalegion.net. This is a fillable form, handwritten applications have to be legible.

Then, following an objective evaluation of all applications submitted, and in consultation with, and endorsement by local law enforcement officers at the Post level, endorse the "best male" and "best female" candidate from each school sponsored/represented by your Post. The endorsed applications must be forwarded to Department Headquarters to arrive no later than **March 15**. Payment is not required before district selection.

Make certain applicants are aware of the driver's license requirement and that they will be required to fire a weapon on the range. Also, note that tobacco use is not authorized. The District Commander is responsible for your District selection session and will notify you of the date and time of this meeting. Your applicant(s) will be notified directly by the District Commander or their designee. each session of the program.

The cost of the training, **\$275.00** per student, is to be provided by the sponsoring Post (unless your District has another payment plan) to cover the cost of food, T-shirts, classroom materials, and administrative expenses. The Nebraska State Patrol training counselors, facilities, and equipment are provided as a public service.

Sincerely,

Dan Benes, Commander
Nebraska American Legion

cc: Post Adjutant / Dist Cdr / Dist Vice Cdr

Notice: The Application is available on our website www.nebraskalegion.net, but will still need all signatures and endorsements.

2022 JUNIOR LAW CADET PROGRAM

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

The law-and-order subcommittee of the Nebraska American Legion has developed the following guidelines for the evaluation and selection of applicants for the Junior Law Cadet program. The 2022 program will be held **June 21-24** at the Nebraska law enforcement training center at Grand Island.

Basic Requirements:

- (1) A student **completing 11th grade** and in good health to permit active participation in daily calisthenics and a full schedule of activities.
- (2) A constructive attitude toward “Law and Order” evidenced by a personal history of respectable citizenship and a good driving record.
- (3) Admirable personal appearance to include good grooming.
- (4) An average or better scholastic record and the aptitude and ability to share the knowledge gained through formal and informal reports to fellow students and local civic and service organizations.

NOTE (5) **Possess a valid Nebraska operator’s license or learner’s permit prior to attending. Not having either the student will not be considered.**

- (6) Cadets **will not** possess or use alcohol, drugs, or tobacco, in violation of state statutes.
- (7) Commitment to a law enforcement career **is not** required.
- (8) Student will reside and attend school in Nebraska.
- (9) Applicants selected to represent the local American Legion Post will be requested to appear for a District selection interview at a date, time and location to be announced. Interview will probably be scheduled during April.

Timetable for Application:

- FEB 1 Post Commander consults with high school officials, and through local publicity, encourages eligible students to make formal application at the department website <http://www.nebraskalegion.net/Programs/Programs.html>.
- MAR 1 Completed applications with endorsement of the high school superintendent or principal must be submitted to the Post Commander.
- MAR 15 Post Commander must have selected the “best male” and “best female” applicants from among all those submitted from the schools, have added official endorsement signature and have forwarded those applications to Department Headquarters (for each school).
- APR 1 Department Headquarters will have registered all applicants and forwarded the applications and ranking sheets to the appropriate District Commander or designee for the selection interviews. District Commander or designee will notify all applicants by mail or phone of the location, date and time of District selection interview. It is expected that a member of the Nebraska Law Enforcement Officer be involved in the final selection of the district’s representatives.
- MAY 1 District Commander must have forwarded to Department Headquarters the **two** most highly endorsed applicants for **2 ea boy’s and 2 ea girl’s** and the designated alternates in descending order, after objective review of qualifications and interest as determined by personal interview. Payment of **\$275 per principal cadet** must accompany endorsed applications. In the event that any principal selectee is unable to attend, and there is no designated alternate from that District, Department Headquarters reserves the right to select an alternate.

Any questions contact Brent Hagel-Pitt, Law and Order Coordinator at
Nebraska American Legion Headquarters 402-464-6338 or actdirlegion@windstream.net

The American Legion Junior Law Cadet Program provides young adults the chance to:

- Drive a State Patrol car.
- Learn to fire a service weapon under expert guidance.
- Learn self-defense, pressure point control tactics and assault prevention measures.



- Interact with law enforcement officers and other young adults while learning the different roles agencies play in the criminal justice system, both here in Nebraska and across the United States.
- Study drug enforcement, proper methods of patrolling, K-9 handling, gangs and many issues facing law enforcement today.



- Have fun while working as a team, carrying out responsibilities, and achieving individual goals in a para-military setting.



*The American
Legion
2022 Junior
Law Cadet
Program*



The American Legion Junior Law Cadet Program

Who:

Each year, 2 girl and 2 boy high school juniors from each of the Nebraska American Legion's 14 districts are chosen to participate in the Junior Law Cadet Program.

When:

June 21-24, 2022

Where:

Participants will stay at the Nebraska State Patrol Training Academy in Grand Island.

What You Do:

Explore and experience the various aspects of law enforcement and receive training from representatives of city, county, state, and federal law enforcement officers. Participate in daily calisthenics, firearms training, and self defense tactics. Learn the latest in law enforcement technology, including fingerprinting, K-9 handling, accident and criminal investigation. If you are considering a career in law enforcement, the Junior Law Cadet Program is for you! It will offer you an opportunity to gain valuable experience in a paramilitary setting, complete with making beds and cleaning.

How to Become a Junior Law Cadet:

Fillable application forms are available at <http://www.nebraskalegion.net/Programs/JRLaw.html>. The form must be signed by your local Legion Post. You may also contact the American Legion Assistant Adjutant, Brent Hagel-Pitt at his e-mail address:

actdirlegion@windstream.net. His office number is (402) 464-6338.

Jr. Law Participants will be selected by competitive evaluation based on interest, citizenship, evidence of self-discipline, and the ability to share their knowledge with others. Completed applications and an endorsement from your school principal or superintendent must be submitted to your local Post Commander before March 1, 2022.

Your local Post Commander will select a male and female applicant from each school and forward his selections to Department Headquarters for review. All eligible applicants will be notified, by mail of the location, date, and time of their District selection interview.

Costs:

Each cadet chosen will be sponsored by the local American Legion Post/District, which will cover the costs. Cost per cadet is \$275, which covers insurance, food, T-shirts, caps, classroom materials and administrative expenses. The Nebraska State Patrol provides training, counselors, facilities and equipment as a public service.

Basic Requirements To Become A Junior Law Cadet:

1. High School Junior in good health and able to participate in physical activities.
2. Must possess a positive attitude and display respect for law enforcement.
3. Good grooming, average or above scholastic record, and be able to share the knowledge gained through the program with others.
4. Must possess a valid Nebraska operator's license or learners permit.
5. Must reside in the State of Nebraska.
6. Must have attended an accredited Nebraska High School or home school equivalent for the 2021-2022 school year.

Other Activities and Areas of Learning:

- Fingerprinting
- Accident Investigation
- Physical Fitness
- Lie Detector
- Crime and Drug Investigation



What's the difference between the 990 and incorporation?

The 990 is the tax document filed by Posts to the IRS. If the Post fails to file a 990 form to the IRS within a three-year period, the IRS will automatically revoke the Post's tax-exempt status. It is then up to the Post to work with the IRS to regain that tax-exempt status which can be expensive and time consuming. The drawback here is that the Post puts donors in jeopardy with the IRS because the donor is under the belief that the Post is tax-exempt when it is not.

The form can be filed on the IRS website at <https://www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits/annual-electronic-filing-requirement-for-small-exempt-organizations-form-990-n-e-postcard>

How to search if your Posts EIN is active and in good standing.

<https://www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits/tax-exempt-organization-search>

Incorporation is another important function of each Post. Being incorporated is a means of protecting your membership in lawsuits. A person could sue a Post for everything it has AND....that person could go after each member of the Post if the Post wasn't properly incorporated. Not sure if your Post is incorporated? Search the Nebraska Secretary of State's website at

<https://www.nebraska.gov/sos/corp/corpsearch.cgi?nav=search>

Do yourself a favor and get incorporated. Take it a step further and submit your 990's every year to save yourself a headache.