



NEWSLETTER

THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF NEBRASKA
P.O. BOX 5205
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“2019 and Beyond”

DEPARTMENT COMMANDER
GARY D. WOOTEN

MARCH 2020

DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT
DAVID W. SALAK

Published Monthly, except July

Mailed: 2/27/2020

DISTRICT CONVENTIONS Several Districts are holding their convention this month and a representative from each Post within the District should be in attendance to allow the District to have a quorum to complete the business at hand. Show your support!

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.

MEMBERSHIP We still have 3,332 members to renew and sign up to reach our goal of 28,236. Let's get all renewals collected and transmitted NOW! Next target date is March 11, so cards must be in Department by 9:00 am, Monday, March 9. A reminder to Post Adjutants to remit **\$35.00** per membership card.

MEMBERSHIP AWARDS There are still a few membership awards that Posts and individuals are eligible to receive this year. A Stoldorf new member recruiting form is enclosed. Send the completed form to Headquarters by June 1, 2020 to be counted towards the individual awards. Contact Amanda at Headquarters with questions.

DEPARTMENT COMMITTEE VACANCY Area D is still lacking a committee member on the Publications & PR Committee. If interested please contact Commander Wooten.

DEPARTMENT CONVENTION Legionnaires are encouraged to make reservations for the 2020 Department Convention June 25-28 in Kearney at the Ramada Inn (308-237-3141). Rooms are \$82.00 a night. We have a limited number of rooms so book early.

CORNHUSKER BOYS' STATE The deadline for receiving Cornhusker Boys' State applications is March 16. If you have not selected your Boys' State representative(s), we would suggest that you do so very soon and get the application and \$375 fee in the mail. Download applications at <http://nebraskalegion.net/Programs/BState.html>. Remember: Posts are to refrain from informing any boy of his selection until official notification has been received from Department Headquarters. Confirmations will be mailed to the sponsor no later than March 25.

Legionnaires who wish to volunteer as a staff member for the entire week of Cornhusker Boys' State (May 31- June 6) should contact Adjutant Salak by March 15. He will make selections by April 1 and notify those selected. DO NOT complete your background check until you have been notified of your selection. A background check is mandatory for those 18 years of age and older but does not include those volunteers who only hand out t-shirts on Sunday.

VETERANS CRISIS LINE There are far too many veterans in crisis; be it chronic pain, anxiety, depression, homelessness, etc. The Veterans Crisis Line is a tool that someone in crisis can use if/when life starts to feel overwhelming. See Nebraska Legion homepage for more information.

LET'S PLAY BASEBALL! Legion Baseball season has begun. Coaches and staff must complete a background check before the team's registration can be approved. Deadline changes – Registration, Fees and Insurance NLT May 15; Transfer forms sent to Department NLT May 31; Rosters by June 15. As always teams are encouraged to retain Insurance and Form 2s for 5 years. Class A Sr & Jr Area – July 17-21; Class A Sr & Jr State – July 25-29; Class A Sr Division Playoffs – July 31 – August 1; Class A Regional – August 5; Class B & C Jr Area – July 10-14; Class B & C Jr State – July 18-22; Class B & C Sr Area – July 24-28; Class B & C Sr State – August 1-5.

EAGLE SCOUT-OF-THE-YEAR Post Commanders are reminded that all applications received for Scout-of-the-Year must be signed by the Unit Leader and forwarded directly to Programs Director Brent Hagel-Pitt at Department by March 1. All eligible applicants will be considered for state-level cash scholarships awards. The state winner will represent Nebraska in the national contest for additional scholarships valued up to \$10,000.

JUNIOR LAW CADET Training of 30 boys and 30 girls will be held the week of June 22-25. The graduation ceremony is at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 25. The entry deadline for Posts submitting their Junior Law Cadet applications to Department is March 15. Department will forward the applications to the District Selection Committee for the interview process. Please note that a commitment to a law enforcement career is NOT required. Two boys and girls will be selected from each of the 14 districts. District 8 and 15 will be able to send their 1st alternate boy and girl. Contact Brent Hagel-Pitt for more information. The cost per cadet remains \$175.

OPERATION SCHOOL TALK Our Americanism Committee sponsors "OPERATION SCHOOL TALK" to educate and inform the youth on the principles and programs of The American Legion and our proud military service. Those that have gone to a school and talked to the students are encouraged to fill out the enclosed form and return it to the Department by May 1. The awards will be presented at Department Convention in Kearney.

NATIONAL COMMANDER'S PIN National Commander James "Bill" Oxford will award his National Commander pin to any American Legion Family member who obtains three new members into The American Legion. Please see the enclosed form for details.

TEACHER OF THE YEAR The Americanism Committee sponsors a "Teacher of the Year Award" for elementary, middle and/or high school teachers. This award honors an educator whose accomplishments in the field of education are in excess of what is normally expected, and also promotes American Legion youth programs in their school. Download the nomination at <http://www.nebraskalegion.net/Programs/Teacher.html>. Forward completed forms to Programs Director Brent Hagel-Pitt by May 1.

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. National sends the certificates directly to Post Commanders for distribution to honored members. Please notify Department Headquarters if you have problems in receiving certificates for your Post.

AMERICAN LEGION NIGHT W/ THE SALTDogs The American Legion Night at the Salt Dogs will be August 8, 2020. The game starts at 7:05 pm, and more information will be sent as the date gets closer. There will be \$2 on select tallboy beers and discounted hot dogs. More information will be sent as the date gets closer. If you are interested in being one of the Color Guards for that game, contact Brent Hagel-Pitt.

NATIONAL EMERGENCY FUND The National Emergency Fund was established to assist Legionnaires who were displaced from their home due to a natural disaster. These funds cover costs associated with food, clothing and shelter out-of-pocket expenses that were incurred due to the disaster. All posts are encouraged to send a generous donation.

Enclosed:

Operation School Talk Application

National Commander Oxford's membership incentive pin /incentive certificate form

Membership award information

OPERATION SCHOOL TALK PROGRAM

Legionnaire Information

Name: _____ Post: _____

Name of School: _____ Town: _____

Nebraska County: _____ Class attended: _____

Teacher's name: _____ Hours spent in class: _____

Topics discussed: _____

Other Legionnaires present: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Teacher or School Staff Member Verification

Teacher Name: _____

Teacher Comments: _____

Teacher Signature: _____ Date: _____



**NATIONAL COMMANDER JAMES W. "BILL" OXFORD
2020 MEMBERSHIP INCENTIVE PIN
CERTIFICATION FORM**



Please make sure that the address, phone number and email address provided is for the recruiter and not the post

Date: _____

Name: _____

Membership ID Number: _____

Street Address or PO Box: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

MAIL TO RECRUITER MAIL TO POST

TO QUALIFY YOU NEED TO RECRUIT (3) NEW MEMBERS INTO THE AMERICAN LEGION.

(A NEW MEMBER IS DEFINED AS ANY ELIGIBLE VETERAN JOINING FOR THE 2020 MEMBERSHIP YEAR WHO WAS NOT A MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN LEGION DURING THE 2019 MEMBERSHIP YEAR). TRANSFERS DO NOT COUNT AS NEW MEMBERS.)

PLEASE FORWARD THE NAMES OF NEW SAL MEMBERS OR AUXILIARY MEMBERS TO YOUR SQUADRON OR UNIT FOR USE IN THEIR RESPECTIVE INCENTIVE PROGRAMS. CONTACT YOUR STATE HEADQUARTERS FOR MORE INFORMATION.

PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT THE MEMBERS HAVE BEEN PROCESSED BEFORE SUBMISSION. PINS WILL NOT BE MAILED UNTIL THEY ARE VERIFIED ON THE NATIONAL DATABASE.

**(3) NEW MEMBERS:
(Include full name, ID number, department, post)**

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

**Return completed forms to:
The American Legion
National Internal Affairs & Membership Division
PO Box 1055
Indianapolis, IN 46206**

**Fax: 317-630-1413
Email: kadams@legion.org**

2020 STOLDORF INDIVIDUAL NEW MEMBER RECRUITING AWARD

This award does not apply to transfers from Post 500 or other posts. Only acquired new members reported on this form will be considered for the Stoldorf Award. This application is to be submitted along with the dues and membership application for the new member(s) to be received by Department no later than June 1, 2020 to count toward the award. The adjutant of the post receiving the new member must certify to the new member's eligibility below.

RECRUITER'S NAME: _____

POST (TOWN AND NUMBER): _____

RECRUITER'S DISTRICT: _____

STOLDORF CATEGORY: _____ (For Department Use)

NEW MEMBER'S NAME: _____ ID # (if known): _____

NEW MEMBER'S POST (IF DIFFERENT THAN ABOVE): _____

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / DUES ATTACHED?

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / DUES SUBMITTED ONLINE?

NEW MEMBER'S NAME: _____ ID # (if known): _____

NEW MEMBER'S POST (IF DIFFERENT THAN ABOVE): _____

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / DUES ATTACHED?

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / DUES SUBMITTED ONLINE?

NEW MEMBER'S NAME: _____ ID # (if known): _____

NEW MEMBER'S POST (IF DIFFERENT THAN ABOVE): _____

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / DUES ATTACHED?

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / DUES SUBMITTED ONLINE?

ADUJANT'S CERTIFICATION

I certify that the new member(s) identified above meet the eligibility requirements of the American Legion and have not been a member of this or any other American Legion post since the 2016 membership year.

_____ Adjutant, Post _____