# AFFILIATED BANK ACCOUNTS

Department encourages all Posts with a Sons Squadron and/or a Riders Chapter to have a designated Post signer (Finance Officer, Commander, or Adjutant) on all checks and accounts.

# DIRECT RENEWAL RESPONSE

Results from the last dues notice have been arriving at a steady pace but your help is needed to reach the 2024 membership goal. Commander Pearcy has established a very realistic goal and is counting on every legionnaire to ask every eligible veteran in your community to join The American Legion.

#### LIT ENROLLMENT

Encourage your members to activate their no cost \$1,000 accidental death and dismemberment policy by signing up at

www.thelit.com. This is a free benefit and is open to the entire Legion family.

#### EMPLOYMENT SERVICE AWARD

The National Veterans Employment and Education Commission Annually presents several awards at The American Legions National Convention to honor employers that hire veterans, disabled veterans, and older workers. Contact Programs Director Eric Martin for more information.

# 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.

# <u>AMERICAN LEGION LABEL</u> <u>PROGRAM</u>

Nebraska Legionnaires should have received a set of American Legion return address labels with a request for donation to Department. This helps with the costs of our many programs and projects we sponsor. Any donation will be appreciated.

# <u>NATIONAL COMMANDER</u> SEEHAFER'S INCENTIVE

<u>**PROGRAM</u>** During the 2023 - 2024</u>

membership year, National Commander Daniel Seehafer will award his National Commanders "Be The One" dog tag pin to any

Legion member who recruits two new American Legion members. The certification form for this program is located at legion.org and can be submitted at any time.



The American Legion Department of Nebraska 150 NW 40<sup>th</sup> Street, Unit A Lincoln, NE 68528 402-464-6338

# NEWSLETTER

November 2023 Published in January, March, May, July, September & November

Department Commander John-Henry Pearcy Department Adjutant Dave Salak

# "LEAD BY MENTORING"

2024 MEMBERSHIP GOAL: 23.418 OCTOBER 15TH TOTAL: 14.810 - 63.24%

DISTRICT 7-68.71% DISTRICT 10-66.02% DISTRICT 8-60.91% DISTRICT 9-56.58% DISTRICT 1 - 68.14% DISTRICT 12 - 63.67% DISTRICT 6 - 60.59% DISTRICT 13 - 54.67% 
 DISTRICT 15- 67.66%
 DISTRICT 2- 67.39%

 DISTRICT 11- 62.98%
 DISTRICT 4- 60.98%

 DISTRICT 3- 60.15%
 DISTRICT 5- 58.51%



#### MEDIA SPECIALIST CAROL FOUTZ

Carol will be taking over as the Media Specialist and is excited to get started. She is working to become familiar with the Newspaper, Newsletter, and other aspects of her role with The American Legion. Carol lives in Lincoln and has two grandchildren. She enjoys outdoor activities and community events.

#### MID-YEAR CONFERENCE

This year's Mid-Year Conference will remain focused on educational training. This event is being held January 19 - 21, 2024, at the Holiday Inn in Kearney. The Department Executive Committee and Department Committees will meet on Friday, January 19. Please note the maximum number of nights to be reimbursed by Department to call-ins will be two nights at \$75.00 per night. For reservations, please call the Holiday Inn (308-237-5971) located at 110 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue - Kearney, NE. Room rates are \$114.95 per night. Conference Registration fee is \$10.00.

The condensed agenda schedule will be in the December issue of The Nebraska Legionnaire. Information can be found at www.nebraskalegion.net/meetings/departm ent\_midyear.html

#### MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

This is a reminder of the various awards that our department membership committee has authorized this year. Please consult your 2024 Post Adjutant Guide.

# DEPARTMENT FUNDRAISER

The Department Executive Committee has authorized a fundraiser for a lottery drawing on Sunday January 21, 2024, at our Mid-Year Conference in Kearney. The prizes will be 1<sup>st</sup> prize \$2,500; 2<sup>nd</sup> prize, \$1,000; 3<sup>rd</sup> prize \$500; 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> prize \$200 each. Nebraska Legionnaires will receive tickets in the mail after November 1. Tickets will be 1 ticket for \$5 or 6 tickets for \$25. All proceeds go towards many of the important Americanism Programs that are carried out throughout the year.

# VETERANS DAY

Veteran Day will be observed on November 11, 2023, and we hope your post and community have made plans for the observance. This is a great opportunity to meet with and provide an informative program for your local school. Department Headquarters will be closed on Friday November 10.

#### **MEMBERSHIP TARGETS**

Upcoming Veterans Day target date, November 15 (65%), is our next membership goal. Look at your rosters and call those members who have not renewed. The Pearl Harbor Day target date, December 13 (75%), is not far behind. Any member who is not renewed by October 18 will receive dues notice. Please consult your 2024 Post Adjutant guide for other dates.

# STATE ORATORICAL CONTEST

District Oratorical Contests are currently being held. The Area Contest will be held as follows: Area A, December 3rd at South Sioux City Post 307; Area B, December 2nd at Albion Court House; Area C, December 3rd at the Seward Civic Center; and Area D, December 9<sup>th</sup> at Rushville Post 161. Contact your Area Vice Commander for details. The four Area winners will compete in the State Contest at Mid-Year Conference.

#### EAGLE SCOUT-OF-THE-YEAR

Nominations for the Eagle Scout-of-the-Year scholarship program are available upon request from this office. All nomination packets are to be submitted directly to Department Headquarters by March 1. The winner of the National Competition will receive a \$10,000 scholarship and the three runners-up are each awarded \$2,500 scholarships. The top three finalist in Nebraska receive a cash award of \$500, \$300, and \$200. Contact Programs Director Eric Martin for more information.

#### EARLY BIRD AWARD

This year five Early Bird Awards in the amount of \$200 were chosen. Commander Pearcy drew the names of Jack Gomez, York Post 19; Don Hull, Wahoo Post 82; Dennis Tomka, Howells Post 155; Dan Edmonson, Kearney Post 52; and Kasey Ord, Red Cloud Post 23. Congrats and thanks for getting your membership renewed early.

#### TOURNAMENT HOSTS SOUGHT

The Department Athletic Committee will be holding its meeting for selection of tournament sites for the Area and State Baseball Tournaments during the Mid-Year Conference. The official bid form is located on our website at www.nelegionbaseball.net or by calling Programs Director Eric Martin. Be sure to read all the requirements before submitting the application. The form must be received no later than January 5.

Bids for the host site of the State Golf Tournament will be reviewed and selected at the Mid-Year meeting. Interested Posts should contact Programs Director Eric Martin for more information.

#### 2024 WASHINGTON CONFERENCE

The Washington Conference is scheduled for February 24 - 28 and is open to any Legion family member wishing to attend. Housing can be made with the Washington Hilton located at 1919 Connecticut Ave NW by calling 202-483-3000. Contact Adjutant Salak for more information.

#### **MEMBERSHIP NOTES**

As of October 15, there are 16 posts that have not transmitted a single 2024 member. They are Springview, Lynch, Brunswick, Macy, Belden, Wisner, Walthill, Craig, Kennard, Wilsonville, Guide Rock, Hildreth, Shickley, Western, Eagle and Tecumseh. Do your part and transmit membership cards twice a month.