

ORATORICAL CONTEST & JUNIOR SPEECH CONTEST

A high school student from your community could have up to \$25,000 provided for their college education by participating in the annual American Legion Oratorical Contest. Information on the 2024 – 2025 program will be mailed to all schools, District, and Area Commanders in August. All information for Posts to visit schools and run a local contest can be found at nebraskalegion.net/oratorical. Local contact is important if you plan to sponsor a contestant in the District and State contest. District contests will be held during November, and the four Area contests will be held in December. The state contest is held Saturday, January 18, 2025 in Norfolk. The winner of the state contest will compete at the National contest in May.

The Junior Speech contest, for students in 6th through 8th grades, requires a three to five minute speech on the following topic: “Amendment XXVI – The right of citizens of the United States, who are eighteen years of age or older, to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of age.” The contest will be conducted on the same date as the District Oratorical Contest.

MYLEGION FOR POST OFFICERS

MyLegion.org is setup for Post Officers to assist with membership. All Post Commanders and Adjutants are encouraged to register at mylegion.org for access. Contact Amanda at Department with any questions.

MID-YEAR CONFERENCE

This is a reminder that the 2025 Mid-Year Conference will be held January 17 – 19, 2025 at the Norfolk Lodge and Suites. Their phone number is 402-379-3833 and the room rates are \$109.00 nightly plus tax. Make your reservations today.

CEREMONIAL RIFLES

It is required that you do a serial number inventory of your TACOM issued military equipment each year. We are including a form to request ammunition. Contact Programs Director Eric Martin with questions.

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER AND FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR

Nominations are now being sought for both the Nebraska Law Enforcement and Firefighter of the Year. The application is available on the Department website and is due by December 1. Contact Programs Director Eric Martin with questions.

Enclosures:

TACOM Form



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

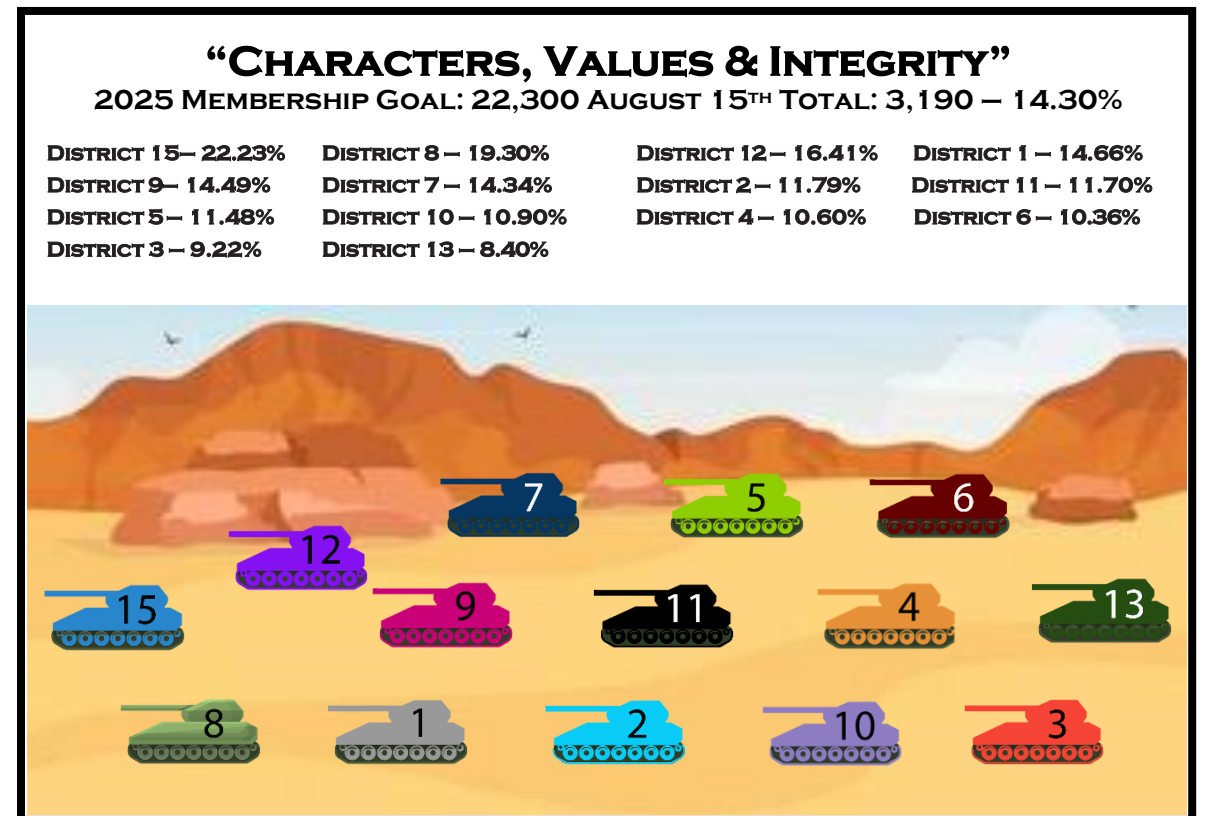
NEWSLETTER

September 2024

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

Department Commander
Boyd Yochum

Department Adjutant
Dave Salak



CHANGE IN MAILING ADDRESS

This is a reminder that mail to Department HQ's need to be addressed properly.

Nebraska American Legion
150 NW 40th Street, Unit A
Lincoln, NE 68528

2025 DEPARTMENT GOAL

The Department membership goal for 2025 is 22,300. Commander Yochum wants everyone to step up to the challenge. If you need assistance, please contact the Membership Committee and they will offer support. The most up to date report can be found on the Department website.

NATIONAL CONVENTION

Dozens of Nebraska American Legion Family members will be attending the 105th National Convention in New Orleans, LA August 24 - 29. You should expect to hear reports at your Fall Round-ups.

DISTRICT CONFERENCE AND CONVENTIONS

A spreadsheet of important District events is listed on our website at nebraskalegion.net/meetings/meetings.html If you wish to invite a Department Officer or committee chair/member to your Post meeting or District Convention, contact them directly. If you have any questions, please contact your District Commander.

ONLINE RENEWAL INFORMATION

All Nebraska Posts are participating in the online renewal program. Post Adjutants can easily get into MyLegion to see which of their members have renewed online. Checks for the Posts share of dues will be mailed in January and July to the Post Adjutant. Please issue members their 2025 card. Do not send the other two portions of the card into Department. Contact Amanda at Department with any questions.

MEMBERSHIP REMINDER

The Department will be awarding a \$200 Early Bird check to five Legion members that pay their dues on an annual basis and has their dues paid to National by Thursday, November 14th.

MEMBERSHIP AWARDS & TARGETS

The first National Membership Target for 2025 is 50% by September 11th. Adjutants, please refer to the Post Adjutants Guide for target dates. There were also some changes made to the 2025 membership awards/incentives.

100% AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY RIBBONS

Any Post Family that reaches 100% membership by May 31, 2025, is eligible for the 100% ribbon. A family is the Post, Unit (if they have one), and Squadron (if they have one). All groups must be 100% to earn the ribbon.

COUNTY GOVERNMENT DAY

Letters and program brochures concerning the sponsorship of Cornhusker County Government Day during the 2024 – 2025 school year will be sent out to County Commanders, County VSOs, and American Legion Family representatives in early September. In addition to Post and Unit officers, schools, and county courthouse officials should become involved in the planning. County Commanders or Chairman should advise Department of the date of your program.

2025 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL NOTICES

The second notice will be mailed out on October 5th to any member whose dues have not been paid to national by September 11th. *A reminder that due to dues increase, the first notice was not sent out.

AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL

The Athletic Committee will meet in September to review the 2024 baseball season. Time and date will be listed on our website under announcements. Changes for the 2025 season will be announced during the Athletic Committee presentation at the Mid-Year Conference held January 17 – 19, 2025 at the Norfolk Lodge & Suites, Norfolk. Site applications to host the 2025 Area and State tournaments must be returned to Department by January 10, 2025. Tournament applications can be found at nelegionbaseball.net

GIFTS FOR YANKS WHO GAVE

In July, a bulletin explaining the Gifts for Yanks program was sent in the newsletter. Although donations are being received, we need more Posts, Units, Squadrons, and Chapters to support this program. Our veterans who are confined to the VA Medical Centers and who reside in the Veterans Homes will thank you for brightening their holiday season. Donations for this program are still being accepted. Send your donation to Department and make it out to “Gifts for Yanks”.

JUNIOR SHOOTING SPORTS PROGRAM

This is a gun safety education and marksmanship program that provides the basic elements of safety, education, enjoyment, and competition. Participants may be of either gender, ages 14 through 20. Handicapped youth are encouraged to participate. Contact our Department Liaison, Doug Frahm, if your post is interested in pursuing this program.

POST OFFICERS REPORT FORM

Many Posts have not submitted their Post Officers Report Form for the 2024 – 2025 year. We ask that you submit this form even in the officers didn't change. A list of Posts who have not turned in their form and a report form are listed on our website at nebraskalegion.net/About/Forms.html

REQUEST FOR CEREMONIAL RIFLE(S), AMMUNITION OR EQUIPMENT

In order to request ceremonial Post rifle(s), ammunition or surplus military equipment complete this form and forward to your Department Headquarters, Attn: Department Adjutant. Your Department Headquarters will forward the completed and approved form to the National Security Division Director at the Washington DC American Legion office. Please note that only a Post Commander or Post Adjutant may request ceremonial rifle(s), ammunition or surplus military equipment.

Any request granted will be granted on a one-time basis for a given quantity. Additional orders will require a new authority and a new authorization. Request will be given with the caveat that all items requested will be used specifically for Post activities.

FILL OUT FORM COMPLETELY AND FAX OR MAIL TO YOUR DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS

Post Information

Post Number _____ Post Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Contact Person _____

Member ID# _____ Email _____

Telephone # _____ Evening # _____

Rifle/Equipment Requested _____
Quantity _____

Ammunition/Clips Requested _____
Quantity _____

Storage Procedures _____

Signature _____

Personal Shipping Information – NO POST OR P.O. BOX ADDRESSES

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

<u>DEPARTMENT USE</u>	<u>NATIONAL USE</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Approval <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Denial	<input type="checkbox"/> Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Denied
_____ Department Adjutant Signature	_____ Director, National Security Division

THIS FORM MAY BE DUPLICATED

Sent to Eric at emartin@nebraskalegion.net

Subject: Military Surplus

Good morning Adjutants,

Happy Happy Friday! 😊

I wanted to send this email to virtually introduce myself if I haven't already. My name is Courtney, and I am the Programs Coordinator for the National Security Division here at the National Headquarters in Washington, DC.

I understand there has been some confusion regarding whom to contact for TACOM/JMC requests for ammunition, clips, static displays, and rifles. I would like to clarify the process to ensure smooth and efficient handling of these requests.

Attached, you will find the request form. Please follow these steps for submission:

1. Complete the attached request form.
2. Local posts will send to Dept Adjutant for approval – *emartin@nebraskalegion.net*
3. Send the completed form by mail to the National HQ, or via email to ccash@legion.org or NS@legion.org.

Once I receive the form, I will forward the necessary documents to TACOM/JMC for their review. Please note that this process can take up to 8 weeks.

Please disperse to your local posts to ensure communication throughout The American Legion.

Thank you,

-Courtney



Courtney Cash | National Security Programs Coordinator
a: 1608 K St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20006
e: ccash@legion.org | w: www.legion.org
o: 202-263-5763 |