



Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Nebraska

150 NW 40th Street Unit A
LINCOLN, NE 68528

Office: 402-464-6338 - - Fax: 402-464-6330

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Detachment Commander – Larry Einspahr Jr. jmgertsch@rocketmail.com

Senior Vice Commander – Robert Lawrence robnjody2003@gmail.com

East Vice Commander – Gabriel Schmid gws05052003@gmail.com

West Vice Commander – Eldon Kramer erktrucking@yahoo.com

Detachment Adjutant – Harold Thompson Jr. sal.natasstadjne@gmail.com

Detachment Liaison – Bud Neel bagnlg2b@gmail.com

Detachment Advisor – Eric Martin (402) 464-6338 or emartin@nebraskalegion.net

COMMANDER'S HOMECOMING: Department Commander Doug Frahm will be having his homecoming celebration at Chambers Post 320 on Saturday, October 31, 2026. Registration begins at 12:30 pm, opening ceremony at 1:00 pm and training until 4:00 pm and followed by a banquet. See enclosed RSVP if interested in attending training, banquet, or both. RSVP to Doug Frahm by October 16, 2026. Information for Homecoming for Detachment Commander Larry Einspahr Jr. will be available in the September newsletter.

2027 MEMBERSHIP CARDS MAILED: The 2027 membership cards with rosters, and Squadron Adjutant Guides were mailed to Squadron Adjutants. Adjutant names and addresses used were those on file at Department Headquarters, so new Adjutants who have not received these materials should check with their predecessor before contacting the Department. Reminder: The 2027 membership cards and checks mailed to Department HQ's will not be processed until after August 1.

MEMBERSHIP AWARDS & TARGET: The next National Membership Target for 2027 (due to Department) is September 10th, which calls for 25% of the Detachment goal.

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 Doug Frahm if your Squadron is interested in pursuing this program.

2027 FALL ROUNDUPS: The District fall roundup schedules are posted on our department website at <http://www.nebraskalegion.net/Meetings/Meetings.html>. Mark your calendar now and attend to support the SAL leadership that will be there.

GIFTS FOR YANKS WHO GAVE: Enclosed is a bulletin concerning the Gifts for Yanks program. We ask for the support of your Post, Unit, Squadron, and Chapter to provide a gift to those veterans confined to the VA Medical Centers and those residing in Nebraska's Veterans Homes during the holiday season. Your early response will assist in planning for this large activity by our volunteer representatives. Make checks out to GFY and send them to Nebraska American Legion, 150 NW 40th Street, Unit A, Lincoln, NE 68528.

VETERAN'S APPRECIATION DAY AT THE STATE FAIR: Veteran's Appreciation Day at the State Fair will be Monday, September 7th at 10:30 a.m. More information, including the parade, and color guard registration can be found at <https://www.statefair.org/veterans-day-returns-to-monday-at-state-fair/>. Call 308-382-1620 for more information.

ALT. NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEMAN, WILLY FOSTER: Dear Members of the Sons of The American Legion in the Great State of Nebraska, I would like to take a moment in this newsletter to introduce myself and share an update on my activities since being elected as your Alternate National Executive Committeemen (NEC). My name is William (Willy) Foster, and I serve as the Squadron Commander for the William Wolfe Squadron 91 in Osceola, Nebraska. Our squadron is currently on summer break and will resume regular meetings in September. Regarding my role as your Alternate NEC, things have been quiet this past month. However, I am looking forward to attending the National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky, at the end of August. Let's work together to make this year memorable and make Commander Einspahr proud of our squadrons across Nebraska.

WEST ARER VICE COMMANDER, ELDON KRAMER: Greetings, Brothers, I would like to introduce myself as your newly elected **West Area Vice Commander** for the **Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Nebraska**. My name is **Eldon Kramer**, and I reside in **Gering, Nebraska**, on the western side of the Nebraska Panhandle. I am honored by the opportunity to serve you and look forward to working alongside each of you during the coming year.

As we begin our new fiscal year, from **August through July**, we have an important mission ahead of us. Together, we will continue building our membership while remaining committed to serving our veterans, their families, and our communities. Let us remain dedicated to upholding the **Four Pillars of The American Legion** through our service and leadership.

I encourage all Western Nebraska squadrons to begin planning your **Fall Roundups** and to share your "Save the Date" announcements as soon as possible. By working together and attending one another's events, we can strengthen participation, build fellowship, and continue growing our organization. Our current membership stands at **6,862 members**, placing the Detachment at **100.175%**. That is an outstanding accomplishment, gentlemen, and I am confident that together we can surpass that achievement during the upcoming membership year.

As we move forward, please remember to:

- Conduct your **Buddy Checks**.
- Continue supporting the **Be the One** initiative.
- Strengthen your **Children & Youth** programs.
- Lead by example in your communities, state, and nation.

I am excited to work with each of you throughout the coming year. Please know that you are never alone. If your squadron has questions, needs assistance, or faces challenges, do not hesitate to contact me. We will work together to ensure that no squadron is left behind. Thank you for your continued dedication.

EAST ARER VICE COMMANDER, GABRIEL SCHMID: Greetings fellow Sons of The American Legion and American Legion, as East Area Vice Commander, I have attended Norfolk's 4th of July Parade to celebrate the 250th birthday of our great nation. The 2026 membership just hit 100%, and I want to congratulate our Squadrons who worked diligently to reach that goal! Our goal is to reach 100% again for 2027. Remember many Legion members have at least one or more eligible SAL members in their family, ask if they are SAL members and if not, sign them up. If you want to contact me for any questions or concerns, email me directly at gwstravelvlogs@gmail.com and I will try my best to respond in a timely manner.

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER, ROBERT LAWRENCE: Greetings from the Senior Vice Commander of the Detachment of Nebraska, I would like to begin by thanking each and every one of you for your support. This has been a great year, and I look forward to another successful year with our Legion Family.

We are part of a great organization that accomplishes amazing things when we work together. I also want to congratulate all of you on your outstanding efforts in membership. Because of your dedication and hard work, we reached 100% membership as a Detachment. This is a tremendous accomplishment and one that has not been achieved in over a decade. Let's make it our goal to do it again this year. I know we can accomplish it by working together, staying engaged, and supporting one another.

Let's also remember our Be the One mission. Our veterans are the reason we are here, and without their service, none of what we do would be possible. It is truly rewarding to be part of something bigger than ourselves, especially when our efforts make a positive difference in the lives of those who have served our nation.

As we move forward, let's keep in mind the meaning of TEAM: Together Everyone Achieves More. When we work together, we accomplish more, work more efficiently, and better serve our veterans and our communities. There is no "I" in TEAM—it takes all of us working together to achieve our mission.

Finally, let's remember why we joined this organization in the first place. By helping one another, supporting our veterans, and working together as one family, we strengthen our organization and ensure its continued success.

Thank you again for everything you do. I look forward to serving alongside each of you as we continue making a difference.

DETACHMENT COMMANDER, LARRY EINSPAHR JR.: Happy 250th Birthday America!

The 2026 American Legion Family Convention Nebraska was held in Columbus (June 27-28). New Detachment Officers were elected for the 2026-2027 and they are as follows:

Commander Larry Einspahr, Jr. (Squadron 35) (jmeinspahr@yahoo.com)

Senior Vice-Commander Robert Lawrence (Squadron 38)

West Area Vice-Commander Eldon Kramer (Squadron 36)

East Area Vice-Commander Gabriel Schmid (Squadron 273)

National Executive Committeeman David Rippe (Squadron 193)

Alternate National Executive Committeeman William Foster (Squadron 91)

Other Detachment positions appointed include:

Adjutant Harold Thompson, Jr. (Squadron 16) (SAL.natasstadjne@gmail.com)

Assistant Adjutant Landon Carlson (Squadron 374)

Chaplain Danny Stefka (Squadron 220)

Historian Adam Schmid (Squadron 273)

Sergeant-at-Arms Kolton Kramer (Squadron 36)

Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms Ayden Ballheim (Squadron 36)

Judge Advocate Ronald Albin (Squadron 16)

Finance Officer Mark Novak (Squadron 269)

Department Liaison Robert "Bud" Neel (Squadron 252)

Department Advisor Eric Martin

Take some time to check out the history of the organization on the American Legion Family website. A general internet search of "Sons of The American Legion" can take you to the website, or specifically type "legion.org", which will take you to The American Legion website. From there (near the top of the page) select the "About" tab, which will offer you selections in a drop-down list. Choose "American Legion Family" to move to a page where you can select "Sons of The American Legion". The website offers great information about the history of the organization, eligibility and membership application forms, numerous other publications and forms, as well as an FAQ section.

The Detachment of Nebraska is made stronger with every member's contribution. This year's team looks forward to working together with The American Legion Family in service to our Veterans and communities.



Homecoming Banquet

Department Commander
Douglas L. Frahm
Chambers Post 320 – Chambers, NE

Saturday, October 31, 2026
Chambers American Legion Post 320
103 N Norvell Street – Chambers, NE 68725

Come join Department Commander Doug Frahm for dinner.

Social Hour is 5:30 p.m. and Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

Price: \$12.50 per plate

Contact Doug Frahm for more details at 402-336-6088 or mail checks to:

Doug Frahm
85627 Iris Street
Amelia, NE 68711

Make checks out to “Doug Frahm” and indicate how many tickets are desired and all the names of those attending. Please RSVP by October 16.

Reminder: There will be a cash bar for all to enjoy during dinner.

Dress is Business Casual

Number of tickets: _____

“GIFTS FOR YANKS WHO GAVE”

This year The American Legion Family are asked to sponsor the “Gift for Yanks Who Gave” program. Your contribution will make it possible for every veteran confined to a VA Medical Center or residing in a Veterans Home in Nebraska to be remembered at Christmas.

A monetary contribution has been recommended according to the membership of your Post, Unit, Squadron, and Chapter.

Please give what you think you can, but for the veteran’s sake, please give something.

We would ask that each Post:

- a. Contact its Auxiliary, Sons, and Riders to support this important program.**
- b. Make a donation based on the total membership of your Post, Unit, Squadron, and Chapter as follows:**

Up to 100 combined membership	—	\$25.00
100 to 199 combined membership	—	\$50.00
200 to 299 combined membership	—	\$75.00
300 to 399 combined membership	—	\$100.00
400 to 499 combined membership	—	\$125.00
500 to 749 combined membership	—	\$175.00
Over 750 combined membership	—	\$200.00

Please make checks payable to “Gifts for Yanks Who Gave” and send your donation before December 1, 2026, to:

**THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF NEBRASKA
150 NW 40th Street, Unit A
LINCOLN, NE 68528**

NEBRASKA AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY VA & R 2026 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

DOLLAR DAYS – GIFT SHOPS – GIFTS FOR YANKS

STAND DOWNS – CREATIVE ARTS

STAND DOWN: Lincoln – Linda Varejcka – TBD
Omaha – Paula Pillen – TBD

CREATIVE ARTS: Omaha – Paula Pillen – TBD
Grand Island – TBD Items will be displayed at the State Fair. Event

Please plan to arrive at all events one-half hour before the event time.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY (ALA) VETERANS DOLLAR DAY DISTRIBUTIONS

Tuesday, November 3, 2026	10:00 AM 2:00 PM	Grand Island VA Medical Center – 2 nd Floor Rec Central NE Veterans Home, Kearney
Wednesday, November 4, 2026	10:00 AM	Lincoln Regional Center – Building 5
Thursday, November 5, 2026	2:00 PM	Norfolk Veterans Home, Norfolk Norfolk Regional Center
Tuesday, November 10, 2026	10:00 AM 1:00 PM 2:30 PM	Omaha VA Medical Center Eastern NE Veterans Home, Bellevue Papillion Community Living Center
Sunday, November 15, 2026	2:00 PM MT	Western NE Veterans Home, Scottsbluff

ALA VETERANS MEDICAL CENTER GIFT SHOPS

Shopping/setup - Monday, December 7, 2026	9:30 AM at Walmart setup follows	Grand Island VA Medical Center
Gift Shop date: Tuesday, December 8, 2026	9:00 AM prep	10:00 AM open for Veterans
Gift Shop - Thursday, December 17, 2026	10:00 AM	Papillion Community Living Center (PCLC)
Set up – Monday, December 14, 2026	10:00 AM	Omaha VA Medical Center
Delivery - December 15 and 16, 2026	10:00 AM	Omaha VA Medical Center

AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY GIFT FOR YANKS WHO GAVE

Tuesday, December 1, 2026	10:00 AM 2:00 PM	Grand Island VA Medical Center – 2 nd Floor Rec Central NE Veterans Home, Kearney
Wednesday, December 2, 2026	10:00 AM	Lincoln Regional Center – Building 5
Sunday, December 6, 2026	2:00 PM MT	Western NE Veterans Home, Scottsbluff
Tuesday, December 8, 2026	10:00 AM 1:00 PM 2:30 PM	Omaha VA Medical Center Eastern Nebraska Veterans Home Papillion Community Living Center
Friday, December 11, 2026	2:00 PM	Norfolk Veterans Home, Norfolk Norfolk Regional Center
Saturday, December 12, 2026	2:00 PM MT	Hot Springs SD VAMC

Gift cards for Cheyenne WY VAMC sent to Bonita Dickinson to deliver to the facility at convenience

Updated 6/10/2026 - AW