POST 500

Legionnaires who have signed up through National are placed in their respective Department's holding Post. In Nebraska, that Post is called Post 500. These new members are then available for transfer to a local Post, but it requires the Post to make phone calls, send letters, or make a personal visit to the prospective new member to tell them what the local Post does for the community and that you would like the Legionnaire to transfer into your Post. Posts can use MyLegion.org to find Post 500 members in their area or they can call HQ who will gladly provide a listing.

VIETNAM VETERANS' REUNION

Nebraska's 41st Annual Vietnam Veterans Reunion will be held August 21-23 in Kearney. Now is the time to inform interested members of your Post to make plans to attend. The event will be headquartered at the Holiday Inn. Visit vetsreunion.com for more information.

VETERN'S APPRECIATION DAY

Veteran's Appreciation Day at the State Fair will be Monday, September 7. There will be a program at 10:30 a.m. and the parade at 1:00 p.m. More information, including the parade, and color guard registration can be found at https://www.statefair.org/veterans-day-celebration/ or you ca call 308-382-1620 for more information.

Enclosures:

- Membership Target Dates and Membership Renewal Dates bulletin
- Gifts for Yanks Who Gave donation sheet
- Schedule of VA&R Events
- USA 250 Grant Information
- Wellcare Flyer

AMERICAN LEGION

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

NEWSLETTER

July 2026
Published in January, March, May, July, September & November

Department Commander
Doug Frahm

Department Adjutant
Eric Martin

"Compassion, Character, & Competence"

2026 Membership Goal: 20,388 June 30th Total: 19,599 – 96.13%

District 3 – 100.25%	District 7 – 97.70%	District 12 – 97.51%	District 8 – 96.90%
District 1 – 96.88%	District 6 – 96.74%	District 5 – 96.74%	District 4 – 96.40%
District 15 – 95.20	District 2 – 95.03%	District 9 – 94.53%	District 11 – 93.93%
District 10 – 93.09%	District 13 – 90.38%		



COMMANDER'S HOMECOMING

Commander Doug Frahm will be having his homecoming and leadership school later this fall. Watch the website and newspaper for more information.

COMMANDER'S PROJECT

Commander Frahm is asking all Posts to consider donating to his project this year. More information will be in his article in the August/September newspaper.

2027 MEMBERSHIP CARDS MAILED

The 2027 membership cards and Nebraska permanent membership cards with a computer printout were mailed out on July 10th to Post Adjutants. Post Adjutant names and addresses used are those on file at Department Headquarters, so new Adjutants who have not received these materials should check with their predecessor before contacting Amanda Washburn at Department. Reminder: The 2027 membership cards and checks mailed to Department HQs will not be processed until after August 1. National made an error on cards for members who did the 3-year renewal rate, and those cards do not have continuous years listed on them. Please update those cards for the members before you send them out.

2027 DUES RATE

A reminder that $45 must be remitted for each membership card that is sent to Headquarters.

POST OFFICER GUIDES

Post Officer Guides and Post Adjutant Guides will be mailed out after July 10th. If the new Post Commander or Adjutant did not receive the mailing, contact the previous officer to see if they received them from Headquarters.

MEMBERSHIP TARGET & AWARDS

The first National Membership Target for 2027 is September 10, which calls for 50% of the Department's goal. Adjutants, please refer to the 2027 Post Adjutant Guide for target dates. A few changes were made to the Department's membership awards/incentives.

ONLINE RENEWAL INFORMATION

The 2027 Adjutant Guide was sent to all Adjutants. Page 8 in that guide provides information on the process of those members that renew online. Page 9 in that guide explains the process of Post Adjutants being able to transmit their members online.

DISTRICT FALL CONFERENCE

The District meeting schedules are posted on our Department website at www.nebraskalegion.net/meetings/meetings. Questions should be directed to the District Commander. Remember, Fall Round-Ups are for informal meetings. Business is conducted at District Convention, not Fall Round-ups.

POST REBATE PROGRAM

A Post who signs up a new member for 2027 and transmits membership to Department Headquarters by November 15, 2026, shall receive a $5.00 rebate for that member from Headquarters.

NATIONAL EMERGENCY FUND

Natural disasters continue to plague the Midwest and other parts of the country. The NEF is a worthwhile fund. Can your Post donate 50 cents per member? Please send in all donations, regardless of the program, to HQ so we can keep track of what the Department has donated. HQ will forward all donations to National and give full credit to the donor.

POST GOALS

The Post membership goals for 2027 will be sent out in the August membership report. Membership goals will again be adjusted this year to match the National Membership goal.

2027 DUES NOTICES

The first dues notice from National Headquarters will be sent on October 3 – 9, November 7 – 13, January 2 – 8, March 2 – 9, and May 1 – 7. Send in renewals quickly to avoid costly delinquent notices. Review the enclosed bulletin on the membership target and renewal dates. The cutoff date for the October renewal notice is September 9.

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.

GIFTS FOR YANKS WHO GAVE

Enclosed is a bulletin concerning the 2026 Gift 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.

2026-27 MEMBERSHIP TARGET DATES

Nebraska American Legion

	Received at Department [Monday]	*To Be Rec'd at National [Wednesday]*	*Percent of Goal*
EARLY BIRD/NEF KICKOFF	SEP 8, 2026	SEP 10, 2026	50%
FALL MEETINGS	OCT 12, 2026	OCT 14, 2026	55%
VETERANS DAY	NOV 10, 2026	NOV 12, 2026	65%
PEARL HARBOR DAY	DEC 7, 2026	DEC 9, 2026	75%
MID-WINTER	JAN 11, 2027	JAN 13, 2027	80%
PRESIDENT'S DAY	FEB 8, 2027	FEB 10, 2027	85%
LEGION BIRTHDAY	MAR 8, 2027	MAR 10, 2027	90%
CHILDREN & YOUTH	APR 12, 2027	APR 14, 2027	95%
ARMED FORCES DAY	MAY 10, 2027	MAY 12, 2027	100%
DELEGATE STRENGTH		30 DAYS PRIOR TO NATIONAL CONVENTION	

CUTOFF DATES FOR RENEWAL NOTICES

CUTOFF DATES FOR RENEWAL NOTICES	**RENEWAL NOTICES MAILED OUT**
(1) September 9, 2026	October 3-9, 2026
(2) October 14, 2026	November 7-13, 2026
(3) December 9, 2026	January 2-8, 2027
(4) February 10, 2027	March 2-9, 2027
(5) April 14, 2027	May 1-7, 2027

Membership cards need to be at Dept. Headquarters by this cutoff date for members not to receive the next renewal notice.

"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
DEPARMENT 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	Grand Island VA Medical Center – 2nd Floor Rec
	2:00 PM	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	Omaha VA Medical Center
	1:00 PM	Eastern NE Veterans Home, Bellevue
	2:30 PM	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	Grand Island VA Medical Center – 2nd Floor Rec
	2:00 PM	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	Omaha VA Medical Center
	1:00 PM	Eastern Nebraska Veterans Home
	2:30 PM	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

The Department of Nebraska has received a grant to be used to help our American Legion Family in celebrating the countries Semi quincentennial. To be eligible to receive money from this grant to help with costs of your community celebration, please complete the grant application and send it back to the Department Headquarters to be processed.

When these funds run out, they are gone so get your grant application submitted now!

Contact Department Adjutant Eric Martin at emartin@nebraskalegion.net or 402-464-6338 with any questions.

USA 250 GRANT APPLICATION

The American Legion Department of Nebraska

Post/Unit/Squadron/Chapter: _____

Description of event: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Grant Request Amount:_____

Name of Requestor: _____

Post Position: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Applications can be sent to emartin@nebraskalegion.net; by fax at 402-464-6330 or mailed to:

Nebraska American Legion

150 NW 40th Street, Unit A

Lincoln, NE 68528

Department Headquarters Use Only

Grant Request Amount Approved: _____

Date: _____

AMERICAN LEGION | wellcare

THE OFFICIAL MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PROVIDER OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Hello Post Commanders,

I'm honored to talk about a partnership between Wellcare and The American Legion for Medicare-eligible veterans. We announced this partnership in August 2023, and Wellcare is proud to be your exclusive Medicare Advantage provider.

As a veteran myself, I understand it's sometimes confusing to know when a Medicare Advantage plan can work alongside existing Veterans Affairs (VA) healthcare benefits. That's why our Wellcare professionals are sponsoring and attending Legion Post events across the country – so we can explain the options when it comes to supplementing any coverage your post members may already have through the VA.

Whether it's CHAMPVA, Tricare for Life, or VA benefits, our dedicated team can provide the answers Legionnaires need to make the right decisions about their healthcare coverage. Our innovative products and solutions truly complement any coverage veterans already receive, and we are excited to explain everything we have to offer.

We have dedicated Community Relations teams in 32 states, ready to come out to your posts, bases, and stations to educate Legionnaires on Medicare Advantage and ensure they are getting the most out of their coverage. We can do this in a formal, educational setting, or host interactive events like Bingo, cornhole tournaments, and more. These types of events are intended to help bring people together – something Wellcare and The American Legion both feel strongly about. Aligned with the goals of the Be the One campaign, Wellcare is working to get veterans out of social isolation and into their communities – we'd be thrilled to bring these opportunities to them.

If you are interested in partnering with Wellcare at the local level and further enhancing our national partnership, please reach out to NationalEvents@centene.com. Our team of partnership experts will get you in touch with your local representative.

Sincerely,

Michael Carson

U.S Air Force Veteran, Wellcare President & CEO, Wellcare

Want more information that fits your needs? Scan the QR code to view helpful materials and resources for your veterans.