# Sons of The American Legion
# Detachment of Nebraska

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***VETERANS DAY:*** Veterans Day will be observed on November 11, 2026, and we hope your squadron 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 Wednesday, November 11, 2026.

***NATIONAL REGIONAL INFORMATION CONFERENCES:*** Join us in Omaha on November 14, 2026 where attendees will gain valuable insights into Constitution & Bylaws, Post Operations, Be The One, and more with sessions designed to enhance member engagement and leadership. The conference will be at Hilton Omaha, 1001 Cass Street, Omaha, NE 68102. The conference is for Legion, Auxiliary and Sons members with unique training specific to each group. Cost is $70 and you may register for the conference at https://www.legion.org/information-center/training.

***MID-YEAR CONFERENCE:*** This year's Mid-Year Conference will remain focused on educational training. This event is being held January 15 – 17, 2027, at the Ramada Midtown located at 2503 S. Locust Street, Grand Island, NE. The Detachment Executive Committee will meet on Friday, January 15, 2027. Please note the maximum number of nights to be reimbursed by the Detachment for call-ins will be two nights at $75.00 per night. For reservations, please call the Ramada Midtown at 308-384-1330. Room rates are $94.00 per night.

***DEPARTMENT FUNDRAISER:*** The Department Executive Committee has authorized a fundraiser for a lottery drawing on Sunday January 17, 2027, at our Mid-Year Conference in Grand Island. The prizes will be 1st prize $2,500; 2nd prize, $1,000; 3rd prize $500; 4th-8th prize $200 each. Nebraska Legionnaires will receive tickets in the mail after November 1, 2026. 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.

***NATIONAL TARGET:*** Upcoming Veterans Day target date, November 12, 2026, (45%), is our next membership goal. Look at your rosters and call those members who have not renewed. The Pearl Harbor Day target date, December 9, 2026, (55%), is not far behind. Our next renewal postcard mail date is not until January 25-29, 2027, develop a plan to get in touch with your members to get their 2027 renewals completed.

***LIT ENROLLMENT:*** Encourage your members to activate their no-cost $1,000 accidental death and dismemberment policy by signing up on the website at www.theLIT.com. This is a FREE benefit and is open to SAL members!

***SAL SCHOLARSHIP:*** In 2020 the Detachment Executive Committee authorized a Nebraska Sons of the American Legion Scholarship. The qualifications and fillable application .pdf can be found at http://www.nebraskalegion.net/Programs/Scholarships.html. The deadline for submission is March 1, 2027.

***EAGLE SCOUT OF THE YEAR SCHOLARSHIP CONTEST:*** Nominations for the Eagle Scout of the Year scholarship program are available upon request from this office or on the national website. All nomination packets are to be submitted directly to Department Headquarters by March 1, 2026. 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 finalists in Nebraska receive a cash award of $500, $300, and $200. Contact Programs Director Eric Martin for more information.

***ORATORICAL CONTEST:*** District Oratorical Contests are currently being held. Area Oratorical Contests will be held as follows: Area A, December 6, 2026, at Post 307 in South Sioux City; Area B, December 6, 2026, at the Boone Court House in Albion; Area C, December 6, 2026, at the Civic Center in Seward; and Area D, December 19, 2026, at Post 161 in Rushville. Contact your Area Vice Commander for details. The four area winners will compete in the Department Oratorical Contest during the Mid-Year Conference at Ramada Midtown in Grand Island on Saturday, January 16, 2027.

***2027 WASHINGTON CONFERENCE:*** The Washington Conference is scheduled for February 27 – March 3, 2027, 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 Martin for more information.

***BIDS FOR BASEBALL & GOLF TOURNAMENTS:*** 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 8, 2027.

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.

***MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:*** The detachment is currently in 27th place nationally at 32.97% and 5th place in the Midwest Region. Let's continue working on getting renewals turned in. The remaining national target dates are November 12, 2026 (45%), December 9, 2026 (55%), January 13, 2027 (65%), February 10, 2027 (85%), March 10, 2027 (90%), April 14, 2027 (95%) and May 12, 2027 (100%).

The winner of the Membership Reward Program Drawing of $1,000 was Richard Aden from Squadron 3 (Lincoln) and the $250 prize went to Ivan Bruss from Squadron.280 (Bennet). Congratulations to these members and let's keep up the good work on getting memberships.

***EAST AREA VICE COMMANDER, GABRIEL SCHMID:*** Greetings, fellow Sons and members of the American Legion Family! October has been a wonderful month of fellowship, learning, and service. On October 11, I had the pleasure of attending the District 7 Fall Roundup. It was a great opportunity to meet with fellow members, learn more about our organization, and hear valuable information from our Legion Family. I would especially like to thank **Howell for hosting the meeting** and everyone who helped to make it a success. I also had the honor of attending **Detachment Commander Larry Einspahr Jr.'s Homecoming on September 3**. It was a wonderful occasion to recognize his leadership and dedication to the Sons of The American Legion. I wish Commander Einspahr a successful year ahead.

As for membership, according to the October 14, 2026, national report, Nebraska stands at **2,165 members, or 31.08% of our 6,967-membership goal**. We are making progress, but we still have work ahead of us. I encourage every squadron to continue renewing members and welcoming new Sons into our organization.

As we approach Veterans Day and Thanksgiving, let us remember the veterans whose sacrifices allow us to proudly serve as Sons. I encourage everyone to participate in local Veterans Day ceremonies and continue supporting our veterans and their families. Thank you all for your dedication, friendship, and continued service. I wish everyone a blessed and happy Thanksgiving!

***DETACHMENT SENIOR VICE COMMANDER, ROBERT LAWRENCE:*** We ended up at 31% membership, which is not bad, but we fell a little short of our 35% goal. Let's work a little harder to reach our next target of 45% by November 12th. We can do this! We just need to put in a little extra effort and continue encouraging our members to renew their membership. Together, we can reach this goal! Thank you all for your efforts and dedication. Let's continue to stay engaged in the American Legion Family. There are many things we can do in our communities, across our state, and throughout our nation to make a difference. By working together as a family, supporting one another, and staying involved, we can accomplish great things. Let's keep moving forward, stay focused on our goals, and continue making a difference for our veterans, our communities, and the American Legion Family. **Together, we can achieve 100% membership and make this a successful year! Let's also remember our Be the One mission. Our Veterans are the reason we are here, and without their service and sacrifice, none of what we do would be possible. It is truly rewarding to be part of something bigger than ourselves, especially when our efforts can make a positive difference in the lives of those who have served our nation. A phone call, a conversation, or simply letting a Veteran know that someone cares can make a difference.**

AMERICAN LEGION

ABOUT ADVOCACY MEMBERSHIP & SERVICES GET INVOLVED INFORMATION CENTER

## FEATURED TRAINING EVENT



### National Regional Information Conferences

**Join us in Omaha, Nebraska on November 14, 2026, in Albany, New York on January 30, 2027, and in Las Vegas, Nevada on February 6th, 2027.**

Attendees will gain valuable insights into Constitution & Bylaws, Post Operations, Be The One, and more, with sessions designed to enhance member engagement and leadership.

LEARN MORE & REGISTER NOW

American Legion Auxiliary Mission Training and National Junior Meetings | The American Legion Regional Information Conference | Sons of the American Legion Conference

**Legion Family Conference** Mission Training Fees Mission Training Agenda Housing Contact Us

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**Omaha, Nebraska:**

Saturday, November 14, 2026

**Hilton Omaha**

1001 Cass Street, Omaha, NE 68102

**Albany, New York:**

Saturday, January 30, 2027

**Marriott Albany**

189 Wolf Road, Albany, NY 12205

**Las Vegas, Nevada:**

Saturday, February 6, 2027

**Tuscany Hotel**

255 E. Flamingo Road, Las Vegas, NV 89169