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 2026 – 2027 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 16, 2027, in Grand Island. 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: The Preamble to the Constitution. "We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America." The contest will be conducted on the same date as the District Oratorical Contest.

MID-YEAR CONFERENCE

This is a reminder that the 2027 Mid-Year Conference will be held January 15 – 17, 2027 at the Grand Island Ramada Mid-Town. Their phone number is 308-384-1330 and the room rates are $94.00 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. If you need the form to request ammunition please contact Adjutant 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 Adjutant Eric Martin with questions.

Enclosures:

- Department Commander Homecoming flyer
- Detachment Commander Homecoming flyer
- Sons Target Dates
- USA 250 Grant Information

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

NEWSLETTER

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

Department Commander
Douglas L. Frahm

Department Adjutant
Eric J. Martin

"Family Aiming High"

2027 Membership Goal: 19,840 August 15th Total: 8,066 – 40.66%

District 15– 55.21%	District 8 – 47.50%	District 12 – 44.98%	District 13 – 42.73%
District 6 – 42.66%	District 7 – 38.65%	District 5 – 38.24%	District 2 – 38.04%
District 1 – 35.29%	District 11 – 35.14%	District 10 – 35.10%	District 9 – 34.97%
District 4 – 33.64%	District 3 – 26.65%		



DEPARTMENT 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

2027 DEPARTMENT GOAL

The Department membership goal for 2027 is 19,840. Commander Frahm 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 107th National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky August 28 – September 3. You should expect to hear reports at your Fall Round-ups.

AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL

The Athletic Committee will meet on September 19th to review the 2026 baseball season. A Zoom invite will be listed on the Nebraska Legion Baseball Website. Changes for the 2027 season will be announced during the Athletic Committee presentation at the Mid-Year Conference in Grand Island. Site applications to host the 2027 Area and State tournaments must be returned to Department by January 8, 2027. Tournament applications can be found at nelegionbaseball.net

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 2027 card. Do not send the other two portions of the card into Department. Contact Amanda at Department with any questions.

MYLEGION FOR POST OFFICERS

MyLegion.org is set up 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.

MEMBERSHIP AWARDS & TARGETS

The first National Membership Target for 2027 is 50% by September 10th. Adjutants, please refer to the Post Adjutants Guide for target dates. There were also some changes made to the 2027 membership awards/incentives.

100% AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY RIBBONS

Any Post Family that reaches 100% membership by May 31, 2027, 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 brochures concerning Cornhusker County Government Day during the 2026 – 2027 school year will be sent out to County Commanders, CVSOs, and American Legion Family representatives in 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.

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 have their dues paid to National by September 8th.

2027 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL NOTICES

The second notice will be mailed out on October 3rd to any member whose dues have not been paid to National by September 9th.

DISTRICT CONFERENCE AND CONVENTIONS

A spreadsheet of important District events is listed on our website at https://nebraskalegion.net/events/ 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.

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 2026 – 2027 year. We ask that you submit this form even if the officers did not change. An Officers Report form is listed on our website at nebraskalegion.net/About/Forms.html

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: _____ _____

The American Legion

Homecoming

Commander Doug Frahm is celebrating his Homecoming in Chambers, NE.

Where: Chambers American Legion Post 320
103 N Norvell Street – Chambers, NE 68725

When: Saturday, October 31, 2026, following Leadership training.
Leadership training agenda provided below.

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

RSVP Requested by October 16 –$12.50

The American Legion Leadership School

LEGION AGENDA

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

Event	Start Time	End Time	Location
Registration	12:30 p.m.	1:00 p.m.	Chambers Post 320
Opening Ceremony	1:00 p.m.		
Training	1:00 p.m.	4:00 p.m.	

2026-2027
SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP
TARGET DATES

SEPTEMBER ~~9~~ 10, 2026	**25%**
OCTOBER 14, 2026	**35%**
NOVEMBER 12, 2026	**45%**
DECEMBER 9, 2026	**55%**
JANUARY 13, 2027	**65%**
FEBRUARY 10, 2027	**85%**
MARCH 10, 2027	**90%**
APRIL 14, 2027	**95%**
MAY 12, 2027	**100%**
**** JULY 29, 2027**	**105%**

DELEGATE STRENGTH TARGET DATE
[30 DAYS PRIOR TO NATIONAL CONVENTION]

** **Note**: Target dates and percentages were recently restructured by the Sons of The American Legion, National Membership & Squadron Activities Committee (M&SA)

REVISED: 5/11/2026

2026-2027
SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL
SCHEDULE

CUT-OFF DATE	RENEWAL MAIL DATE
1st NOTICE:	
SEPTEMBER ~~9~~ 10, 2026	SEPT 28 - OCT 2, 2026
2nd NOTICE:	
JANUARY 13, 2027	JAN 25 - 29, 2027
3rd NOTICE:	
APRIL 14, 2027	APRIL 26 - 30, 2027

REVISED: 5/11/2026

Celebrate America

with the

USA250 CHALLENGE!

What: The American Legion's USA 250 Challenge is a yearlong celebration of the nation's 250th birthday. It offers participants three challenge categories — community service, physical activities and mental health awareness — to pursue goals such as 250 hours, miles, Buddy Checks or other measurables.

When: Through July 4, 2026.

Who: American Legion Family members and anyone else. Participants may pursue their goals individually or as part of a team.

Why: In addition to celebrating America, proceeds from the $30 registration fee and all donations go to the Legion's Veterans & Children Foundation, which supports disabled veterans and military families in need.

How: Scan the QR code to learn more and register. Or visit **legion.org/usa250/challenge**

Scan to register

The Department of Nebraska has received a grant to be used to help our American Legion Family in celebrating the countries Semiquincentennial. 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!

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: _____