



“For God and Country”

June 2025 Post 3 Newsletter



June Meeting Schedule

Organization	Location	Time	Date
Legion Post 3	Elks Lodge, 5910 S 58 th St	7:00 PM	06/10/25
Auxiliary Unit 3	Elks Lodge, 5910 S 58 th St	7:00 PM	06/10/25
SAL Squadron 3	Post 3 Office, 123 S 84 th St	7:00 PM	06/12/25
ALR Chapter 3	Denton Legion Club	6:00 PM	06/19/25
40 & 8 Voiture 103	Elks Lodge, 5910 S 58 th St	6:30 PM	06/17/25
8 & 40 Salon 832	Elks Lodge, 5910 s 58 th St	6:30 PM	06/17/25
8 & 40 Salon 92	VFW 3606, 3340 West A St	1:00 PM	06/19/25
Buddy Check	Enclosed Shelter, 1650 Antelope Park	6:00 PM	06/22/25
CoffeeHaus	Auld Pavilion, Antelope Park	10:00 AM	None

Special Commander's Message

Post 3 Legionnaires,

Attached to the email containing the newsletter is a document from Post 3 Legionnaire Wendy Gumb. Legionnaire Gumb has declared her candidacy for Area C Vice Commander, and she asked that the attached document be sent to Post 3 Legionnaires. We complied with her request.

You may recall that the membership present at the Post 3 monthly business meeting in April voted unanimously to endorse the other candidate, Legionnaire Martin Neal, for Area C Vice Commander. Legionnaire Neal has served numerous terms as Post Commander of his local post. He has also served for several years as the Lancaster County Commander. He is just finishing his two-year term as District 12 Commander.

Legionnaire Gumb has done none of those things at the Post, County, District or State level, either in Nebraska or in California, where she previously lived. While Legionnaire Gumb has highlighted, in the attached document, her work with American Legion Baseball in California, she did not mention that she is currently banned from Nebraska American Legion Baseball by the Department Athletic Committee, as is Post 3, as long as Legionnaire Gumb is a member of Post 3.

Commander's Call



Fellow Legionnaires,

This will be my final newsletter Commander's Call to you. As you know, we will be electing a new slate of officers at our June meeting, and they will be installed at the July meeting. Please continue to give your newly elected officers the support they need so that we can continue our service to Veterans and our community. It has been my honor and pleasure to have served you over the past two years as Commander of Lincoln Post 3, and I thank you for your support.

Saturday, June 14th, is designated as Flag Day in the United States. June 14th is also the US Army's birthday, 250 years young! Although Flag Day is a nationwide observance, it is not a legal holiday.

Here are some interesting tidbits about the American Flag:

The American Flag is not just a piece of fabric. The Flag of the United States represents freedom and has been an enduring symbol of the country's ideals since its early days. It is symbolic of the fabric of our society as a nation. It has been carried far and wide as a symbol of American pride, all the while serving as an emblem of the freedoms we hold dear.

There have been 27 versions of the American Flag. The 1777 original one had 13 stars and 13 stripes for the American colonies. Each time a state was added to the union, a star was added. We, of course, now stand with 50 stars and 13 stripes.

(Commander's Call – Continued)

The current Flag is the only one to have lasted more than 60 years. There have been many changes to the design of the American Flag. But the one we currently observe is the longest running symbol of our Nation, as no states have been added to the union since 1959.

The Flag can be displayed 24 hours a day. While it is Federal law that the Flag should be displayed from sunrise to sunset, unless there is inclement weather, there are measures that can be taken to show the Flag for all 24 hours. All that needs to be added is proper illumination of the Flag, so that it can be seen in the dark.

The colors were chosen carefully. The Red, White and Blue did not just happen by accident. The founding fathers wanted the colors to have meaning, not just look visually pleasing. Red symbolizes hardiness and valor, white symbolizes purity and innocence and blue represents vigilance, perseverance, and justice.

The Flag that flew at Ft. McHenry, immortalized by Francis Scott Key in our National Anthem, "Star Spangled Banner," is still around. A 2" x 5" swatch of that Flag was sold at an auction in 2011 for a whopping \$38,000. The rest of the Flag is on display at Smithsonian's National Museum of American History in Washington D.C.

Five American Flags have made it to the moon. You have probably seen Neil Armstrong on the moon with an American Flag, but he is not the only one to plant one on the surface of the moon. Apollo missions, 12, 14, 15, 16, and 17, ended with an astronaut placing a flag on the moon.

The Flag can touch the ground and still be used. There is a misconception that once a Flag touches the ground it needs to be burned or disposed of. That's not entirely true. If a Flag is soiled or touches the ground, it can be washed and cleaned and continue to be used. Flags should be disposed of in a "dignified manner." If an American Flag is damaged beyond repair and you need to dispose of it, you can burn it with dignity or give it to a local Veterans Service Organization (i.e., American Legion Post 3, DAV, VFW, etc.) for a dignified Flag disposal.

The President is requested to issue each year a proclamation to call on government officials in the USA to display the Flag of the United States on all government buildings on Flag Day and to urge US residents to observe Flag Day as the anniversary of the adoption of the Stars and Stripes as the official Flag of the United States. I hope you will join me in displaying "Old Glory" from your home or business on June 14th.

Elsewhere in the newsletter, please find a copy of the poem, "A Toast to the Flag." Penned in 1917 by journalist John Jay Daly, his poem has received many awards and has even been recited on the floor of Congress. Mr. Daley, a patriot, served in WWI. Many of you have heard me recite this poem at various events. The recitation of this fundamental tribute to the Stars & Stripes in the form of a poem is meant to awaken great feelings of patriotism in the hearts and minds of all who are within earshot.

As always, I ask you to keep our Veterans in your thoughts and prayers, particularly those who may be in need. Also, please keep our active-duty service men and women, wherever they may be dispersed, in your thoughts and prayers as well.

For God and Country,

Bruce Gubser
Post 3 Commander

Notes from the Adjutant's Desk



I hope that all American Legion members took time to remember our fellow comrades who served before us, with us, and those who will follow us. This year marks the end of WWII 80 years ago and 50 years for the end of the Vietnam War.

Members of Post 3 were busy over the Memorial Day weekend, providing Honor Guards at three events held in Lincoln. They began the day with wreath laying and firing a volley at Wyuka's Memorial Day program. Followed by providing a Flag detail and a firing a volley at Lincoln Memorial's cemetery program. Finished the day providing a Flag detail for the Lincoln's Veteran Memorial Garden program.

This past month we have been working on 50 plus years of continuous membership certificates. Awards were presented to those who were able to attend our April meeting. The certificates for those who could not attend have been mailed to them. Need to make a correction, Gerald Salber should have been listed for 50 years of continuous membership in the American Legion.

If you feel you should have received a continuous year certificate and did not receive one, please contact the Post 3 office. We worked off the certificates that we received for Legion National office. We failed to double check the list against our 2025 membership roster.

2025 Renewals: We are still running behind 2024. The current 2025 membership stands at 937 about 87 % of our 2025 goal. We should be at 95%. If you know a current or past member who has not yet renewed for 2025, their 2024 membership card expired as of 31 December 2024.

2026 Renewals: National began printing 2026 membership cards beginning May 1, 2025. They were based on the Post 3 roster of PAID members as of this date. If you had not paid your 2025 dues by 30 April 2025, your 2026 membership card will not show any years of continuous membership in the American Legion. As of January first, you were classified as expired, you will stop receiving The Legion magazine, and you could be denied entry into a Legion Club. Those who are in the Legion Insurance program, your coverage also ended as of 31st of December 2024. You must be a member in good standing to be covered. If you have not yet signed up for Legion Insurance, it is easy to do, just go to their website and enroll.

I want to thank those members who have renewed. If you happen to receive notice and you KNOW that you have received your 2025 membership card, please just throw the notice away. No need to let us know. If you have paid and have not received your 2025 membership card, then call or drop us a note.

Post 3 has 50 Department Life members and 122 PUFL members. 57 members have participated and paid their dues for 3 years. For those who would like to renew for three years, you can do so by logging onto Legion.Org and click the RENEWAL link. You will be given the opportunity to renew for three years.

(Adjutant's Notes – Continued)

The rate for renewing will be at the current rate of \$56.00 dollars. The advantage of renewing for three years is that you will save any new renewal increases for the next 3 years.

We still are trying to update our membership roster as to branch or service and the war era that you served. National has been printing on the back of renewal slips the data that is in the Legion database. Please check and add as needed so we can correct our database. Thanks, it makes it so much easier to reach out to you if needed.

Sorry to say we have lost another Veterans Club here in Lincoln, NE. DAV, Chapter 7, has closed its lounge on North 70th Street, as of the end of March 2025. Chapter 7 will still be holding monthly meetings there.

Department of Veterans Affairs, VFW, DAV, AMVETS web sites: These web sites are a great place to find current and helpful information on what Congress is currently working on and how it could affect you as a veteran. The VA website has many tips on filling claims and links to other VA services to which you are entitled. The VFW, DAV, etc. do an excellent job of keeping track of Congressional activities that can or will affect veterans.

VA News (veteransaffairs@messages.va.gov).

The Nebraska Department of Veterans Affairs and your local County Service Office are there to serve you. They can pull up your records of military service and help track your claims you may have filed.

The members of the most current conflicts are now the backbone of not only the American Legion, but also the VFW, DAV, AMV, etc. Without these younger veterans we will no longer have a strong voice in Congress. Without a strong voice in Congress, we will keep losing funding for the Department of Veterans Affairs and the VA Health Care System.

If you are a member of this group of veterans or know a veteran from these conflicts, please ask them if they are a member of a VSO (veteran service organization) and if not, ask them to please join. They may not be using VA service now, and may wish to in the future, then find that VA services have been cut back due to a lack of a strong voice in Congress.

Again, Thanks for your Service and Thanks for being a member of Post 3. Also remember to thank your fellow Veterans for their service.

Ed Schnabel

Adjutant

Lincoln CBOC/VA News



The quarterly VA Rep meeting was held on Wednesday, May 21, 2025.

The Lincoln CBOC: Food drive to collect food items for our homeless veterans in the Lincoln area is still ongoing. Items requested are shelf ready, power bars, easy to open items (pull tabs), etc.

The Health Information Fair held at the Lincoln CBOC clinic building, May 13th, was well attended, with an estimate of 225. A small snack lunch was served. The hope was to draw veterans in the Lincoln area who do not take advantage of the services available to them within the VA Health Care System. Lincoln CBOC clinic sees about 220 veterans a day.

It was brought up that the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association in Lincoln and the VA Homeless Clinic is in need of donations to help veterans furnish their apartments. See attached sheets for the needed items.

The Lincoln Clinic will be closed on the 4th of July. Volunteer Services is looking for VSOs to bring in treats on Thursday July 3rd to serve to veterans that day. The Lincoln Clinic will have a Garden Swap during the summer.

For those who use MyHealthy Vet, be sure you have set up Your ID.me account. The current sign-in will be going away soon.

Flu shots and Covid shots: Shots are only available for those enrolled in the VA Health system. Those who have an appointment can receive a shot during their visit with their provider. Walk-ins can request a shot by speaking to the staff at check-in and waiting for a nurse to be available to give you the shot. There are no mask requirements at VA clinics and hospitals. Masks are available for those who wish to wear them at the front doors of the clinics.

Express Care, a walk-in service, for those who wish to have a nurse check out minor items. Times might be different at your local clinic, so give them a call and see if they offer Express Care (walk-in) service. This care is available to those who might wish to see a VA nurse without an appointment during normal hours. The Lincoln Clinic treats 300 a month as walk-ins.

(CBOC/VA News -Continued)

Want to serve your fellow Veterans? The VA can use more volunteers at your local clinic or hospital. You volunteer to help veterans in the clinic or hospital, or a veteran's home. Or you can donate to your local clinic, hospital, or veteran's home. They can always use a monetary donation, or you can donate activities bags for younger kids to have when they come to the clinic or hospital with a parent for their appointments. There is always a need for the younger kids who come with parents or grandparents when they are too young to be left at home alone.

Clinics and hospitals can always use books, magazines, etc. for patients. You would need to check with your local hospital, clinic or veteran's home volunteer office to see what items they need or allow. This would be a great project for your church, school, or youth group.

Hours given by the volunteers are credited with saving the VA Health at Omaha, Lincoln, and Grand Island an equivalent of 25 full-time staff employees. This is based on an hour of service being credited at the rate of \$31.50 dollars per hour.

The only animals that should be brought into a VA Health clinic or hospital are trained service animals that qualify under DAV requirements. Other pets, comfort dogs or animals do not qualify and should be left at home.

With the signing of the PAC act, more veterans have become eligible for services, not only for those who served boots on the ground, but anyone who has served since the Gulf War. If you have any questions, call your local service officer, VSO, county, or state. It only takes a few minutes to see if you might qualify for an increase, or a new VA disability rating.

The Veteran Affairs web site is a great place to visit. You can find out the latest information affecting Veterans. You can track claim status, file for travel pay, view your VA account, payments received, or Copay owed. You can make the Copay payments online, etc.

Thanks for your service to your fellow Veterans and thanks for your service to this great country.

Ed Schnabel

American Legion Representative to Lincoln CBOC

ALR Riders, Chapter 3 Director's Remarks



Greetings Riders and Legion Family!

June means that riding season is now in full swing!

Your American Legion Riders have several events on our calendar.

Here is our “dance card” for the next month or so:

- **June 7, Shrine Bowl parade, Kearney.**
- **June 14th, Thank A Veteran Tour – North (visit Omaha-area retirement communities and connect with veterans).**
- **June 14, Wymore Days Parade.**
- **June 15, Milligan June Jubilee Parade.**
- **June 20-21, Nebraska ALR State Romp at Bayard. Email Streeter for details.**
- **June 21, Homestead Day Parade, Beatrice.**
- **June 21, Eagle Fun days parade / and Diller Parade and Picnic.**
- **June 26-29, Nebraska American Legion Department Convention, Columbus.**
- **June 26, Limestone Days Parade Weeping Water**
- **July 11-13, Legacy Run Across Nebraska**

As I am writing this article in mid-May, there are a few activities that will have already transpired before you are reading this article. Notably, the National American Legion Riders Romp, held this year in the Lake of the Ozarks area of Missouri, was on May 30th to June 1st. We had a couple of Riders make the trip there to participate. In short, your Riders will have lots of fun opportunities for spreading the word about The American Legion and the American Legion Riders over the coming weeks and months.

Remember that our Poker Run is coming up on Saturday, August 23rd. You do NOT have to ride a motorcycle in order to participate. Some great prize money, more than likely a very high 50/50 payout, some fantastic silent auction items, and a fun time guaranteed! We are still in search of sponsors, so if you know of any companies (or individuals) that would be interested in donating to our project, please let me know and I will follow up.

Until next time,

Ride (or Drive) Safe!

Bruce Gubser

Director, Lincoln Chapter 3 ALR



- SILENT AUCTION
- 50/50
- HIGH PRIZES
- RAFFLE
- GIVEAWAYS

\$10/HAND OR \$20 FOR 3



\$300/HIGH \$200 2ND HIGH
\$100 LOW

Lincoln (Nebraska)
Chapter 3

POKER RUN

REGISTRATION: 10AM-NOON
FIRST BIKE OUT AT: 10AM
LAST BIKE IN: 4PM
PRIZES/AWARDS: 4:15PM

**SATURDAY
AUG 23**

-STARTS AT FRONTIER
HARLEY-DAVIDSON,
205 NW 40TH ST, LINCOLN, NEBR
-WITH STOPS IN MALMO, DWIGHT
& DORCHESTER
-ENDS AT DENTON AMERICAN
LEGION



BRING NONPERISHABLE ITEMS FOR
THE FOOD BANK (OR DONATE \$5)
AND GET AN EXTRA CARD!

PROCEEDS WILL GO TO
CHARITABLE CAUSES
THAT SUPPORT
VETERANS



Lincoln Chapter 3
American Legion Riders

RAFFLE

HENRY GOLDEN BOY RIFLE, .22LR



TICKETS ARE \$5 EACH OR 5 FOR \$20

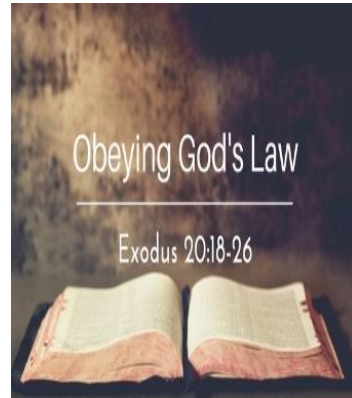
The drawing will be held in August at our poker run.

YOU DO NOT NEED TO BE PRESENT TO WIN

YOU MUST BE OLDER THAN 18 YEARS OF AGE TO PURCHASE A TICKET

PRIZE WILL BE TRANSFERED TO THE WINNER THROUGH A FEDERALLY LICENSED
FIREARM DEALER and ALL FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL FIREARM PURCHASE LAWS, RULES AND
REGULATIONS APPLY

The Chaplain's Remarks



WHO FIRST LOVED? Did God really make, form, and breath life into who and what today we call humanity? According to Holy Scripture—the Bible—God did just that (Genesis 1 – 3).

So, what's all this stuff about what YOU can do to better yourself? Take for instance that great buddy of yours, Frank. You told him, and showed him, that to fix his internet connection problems, he has to at least check with an internet dealer to completely resolve his on-going problem with today's technology. But you know Frank: in one ear and out the other. And whom do you think's going to be rapping at your door one fine afternoon while the finals are on?

If you think THAT'S crazy, try explaining to your Aunt Bessie, or your cousin Jeffery, for the umpteenth time, that you're NOT her or his banker. Yeah, they think you're a believing Christian, but how does that set with God if you fail to be obedient to His Word about priorities; i.e., your immediate family or your extended family (Luke 14:28; 1st Timothy 5:8)?

But what does the Word say about your potentially twisted view of Scripture regarding so-called fellowship with...you know the Word...fools (Proverbs 10:14)? And we're not talking about judging anyone. Do you find yourself just on the rim of being self-possessed by your own view of the world without giving a nod to the Lord (Proverbs 12:15)?

What it comes down to is this: God or Satan. Which shall be your present and future? Is it essential to get it straight in your mind who is Important in your life? Helping people is a great thing, but when it takes the rent/mortgage, food, savings, car payments, insurance, etc. out of your family's well-being, where's the love of God and obedience to His Word? To enjoy the good life in Jesus, do as the Word commands. What do you have to lose?

Post 3 Honor Guard



In May, The Honor Guard assisted the Military Honors Teams at 8 funerals. We also visited a retirement facility for a Flag raising and conducted a Memorial Day program for the residents. On Memorial Day, several Honor Guard members visited 5 local cemeteries, attended Memorial Day programs at Wyuka and Lincoln Memorial cemeteries and finished the evening posting and retiring the Colors at the reading of the deceased veterans' names from Lancaster County that had passed away in the past year. We also provided a Color Guard for a Legion Baseball tournament at Haymarket Park to finish the month.

The effort the Honor Guard makes to honor our deceased veterans is greatly appreciated. I want to thank everyone involved for their continued support.

In the Calendar year 2025, the Honor Guard assisted the Military Honors Teams at 39 funerals and made appearances at 10 civic functions.

Post 3 TAPS – May 2024



LEGIONNAIRE	WAR ERA	BRANCH	YEARS
Kenneth E. Albers	Vietnam	Army	32
Kenneth W. Orr	WW II	Army	66
Harold E. Roper	Korea	Air Force	65
Adolf J. Siegl	Vietnam	Army	26
Warren H. Spencer	Vietnam	Army	50

Regular Meeting of American Legion Post 3
Lincoln Elks Lodge #80
May 13, 2025

Commander Bruce Gubser opened the May 13, 2025 meeting of American Legion Post 3 at 7:00 PM at the Lincoln Elks Lodge 80 with 17 Legionnaires present.

Veterans of the various war eras were asked to stand and be recognized.

The minutes of the April 8, 2025 meeting were read and approved.

Steve Bartos reported that we now have 20 boys from the Lincoln area scheduled to attend Cornhusker Boys State. He also indicated that he and Commander Gubser conducted a Boys State Orientation on May 4th for about a dozen boys from Lincoln and one from Waverly.

Ed Schnabel gave the financial report for the month ending April 30, 2025, showing a balance of \$43,915.25. It was approved and filed for review.

Adjutant Schnabel reported 2025 membership as 936. He indicated that the first dues notices for 2026 are scheduled to be mailed from Indianapolis the first week of July.

Dr. Jackson gave an Americanism report.

Gerry Wolf reported for the Memorial Squad and outlined some upcoming activities.

Gerry Wolf also reported that he, Ed Schnabel, Department Commander Boyd Yochum, and Fred Craigie (for the 40/8) had attended the Chancellor's Review at the University of Nebraska and passed out some ROTC awards.

Gerry also said that Post 3 had a presence at the Junior ROTC program at Lincoln Northeast High School.

Brendan Moore reported for the Sons of the American Legion. He indicated that Squadron 3 was 2 members short of reaching goal for 2025.

Brendan also reported on the 50-Year Continuous Membership Certificates that had been presented at last month's meeting of Post 3 or delivered personally by him or Fred Craigie to most of the remaining recipients from Lincoln.

(Meeting Minutes – Continued)

Commander Gubser reported for the American Legion Riders. Rifle Raffle tickets are still available. The Riders will meet this Thursday.

The Birthday Card Program continues.

Gerry Wolf reported for the nominating committee. He presented the following slate of candidates for office for the coming year.

Post Commander --- Ron Hindmand

First Vice Commander --- Rich Lemmerman

Second Vice Commander --- John Ottoson

Executive Committee Member (3-year term) --- Wade Graft

Commander Gubser then called for nominations from the floor for each position, and there were none. The election will be held at the June meeting. Installation of officers will be in July.

Adjutant Schnabel indicated that he was preparing to submit the CPR and asked that anybody with information to be included needed to get it to him pronto.

Commander Gubser pointed out some coming events --- Show and Shine and the Veterans Music Festival.

Commander Gubser read the call for the Department Convention.

Commander Gubser read the number and subject of 12 resolutions to be addressed at the department convention. There was a brief discussion on a few of them.

The Chaplain read TAPS, and the meeting was closed in proper form at 7:40 PM.

**Steve Bartos
Recorder**

An Editorial by Wendy Gumb

This weekend I attended my first National American Legion Meeting in Indianapolis, my primary purpose was to better understand the leadership direction, especially the programs under the Americanism Committee and American Legion Baseball.

Meeting alongside my fellow veterans was inspiring, particularly those who understand our dual mission as legionnaires, serving locally while supporting our National Organization's broader veteran initiatives. However, what I witnessed is what a lack of term limits at all levels, especially in our committees, creating stagnation in progress. When personal position takes precedence over organizational progress, it undermines our effectiveness as an organization.

Fresh leadership talent stands ready to serve yet face resistance when seeking transparency and questioning outdated practices. The refusal to embrace change in favor of preserving personal influence undermines our organization's vitality. Those who challenge the status quo often find themselves marginalized rather than welcomed as catalysts for necessary evolution. This systemic resistance to progress threatens the Legion's future relevance. The time has come to break through institutional stagnation and champion meaningful change.

Core Observations from the Spring Meetings in Indianapolis:

- The inspiring aspects of connecting with fellow veterans who understand the importance of local impact
- The concerning reality of entrenched leadership resistant to modern approaches
- The tension between preserving tradition and necessary evolution

Key Challenges:

- Leadership stagnation due to lack of term limits on Committees across the entire organization
- A 1955 mindset trying to solve 2025 problems
- The exhausting choice between fighting the status quo or waiting it out
- The disconnect between those who cling to "this is how it's always been" and those who see the need for change
- The "I am just going along to get along" to stay in leadership while remaining ineffective.

As a veteran-led organization, the American Legion must balance its proud heritage with modern business practices to remain effective and relevant. While our mission is service-focused, success requires implementing sound business principles, maintaining ethical leadership, and embracing progressive change. This approach ensures we honor our traditions while adapting to meet contemporary veterans' needs through transparent operations and strategic planning. Our commitment to service excellence demands both respect for our legacy and the courage to evolve.

The American Legion's Core Transformation Priorities:



Modernization Imperative: The critical need to align our organization with contemporary realities, shifting from outdated paradigms to forward-thinking approaches that ensure our relevance through 2045 and beyond. Our success depends on embracing current veteran needs while anticipating future challenges.

Generational Partnership Building: Collaborative bridges between experienced members and emerging leaders to create sustainable progress. This partnership must leverage diverse perspectives, fostering mutual respect while driving positive change through shared wisdom and fresh insights and actions.



Evolution with Honor Implementing: Strategic change while preserving our proud heritage. Progress doesn't mean abandoning our foundations but rather building upon them thoughtfully to create an organization that honors tradition while embracing innovation. This balanced approach ensures we remain both grounded in our values and responsive to evolving veteran needs.

By: Wendy Gumb, American Legion Member

*****The views expressed in this article are those of the author and do not reflect the official position of the Lincoln American Legion Post 3.*****

Memorial Day Activities

A couple of days before Memorial Day, the Honor Guard made a visit to a local retirement facility to conduct a Memorial Day program. It began with a Flag raising and while a bugle played "To the Colors". The program then went indoors for a formal Memorial Day program of speeches, patriotic songs and a recorded program concerning the 50th Anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War.

On Memorial Day, several Honor Guard members visited 5 local cemeteries, attended Memorial Day programs at Wyuka and Lincoln Memorial cemeteries and finished the evening posting and retiring the Colors at the reading of the deceased veterans' names from Lancaster County that had passed away in the past year.

Some pictures of these events follow:



(Memorial Day Pictures – Continued)



Learn what's changing, how to get started, and how to get support.



My HealtheVet Is Moving on June 4, 2025

What to know about this change

My HealtheVet on VA.gov is our new health portal for managing your health care online. After June 4, 2025, you'll need to use this new experience instead of the previous My HealtheVet experience. We want you to know what's changing from the previous My HealtheVet experience, how to get started, and how to get support if you need it.

What to expect: After June 4, when you sign in to the current My HealtheVet, you'll notice that we've moved over to the new experience on VA.gov. You'll need to go to My HealtheVet on VA.gov to access appointments, medical records, medications, and messages. We encourage you to start using the new My HealtheVet experience today.

Important note: Veterans who receive care from a VA health facility that uses the My VA Health portal will still need to go to that portal to manage their health care needs for now.

What's new: You can now manage your VA health care in the same place where you manage your other VA benefits and services. And our new mobile-first design and accessibility improvements make it easier to use on any device. We've also added these features and more:

- Track messages more easily with threaded conversations and faster autosave
- Review, print, and download specific parts of your medical records
- Add VA health appointments to your personal digital calendar
- Review your submitted travel pay reimbursement claims and file simple mileage claims
- Review your after-visit summaries
- Order certain medical supplies and equipment online

Other important changes to note:

You can use our Share My Health Data app to track your vitals and share them with your provider.

You can no longer use My HealtheVet as a personal health record to enter and store your own health information outside of your electronic health record. This change helps us make sure that all your important information is in the record your care team has access to. Tell your team about new information you would like added to your record.

To access your previously self-entered information, go to the medical records section of the new My HealtheVet experience on VA.gov. Then select the self-entered health information report. This report includes historical data entered in these My HealtheVet features:

- Caregivers
- Health History
- Journals
- My Coverage
- Self-Entered Medications and Supplements
- Self-Entered Tests
- Self-Entered Vitals
- Treatment Facilities

Shared Vitals:

We're replacing the Shared Vitals feature with the web version of Share My Health Data. After June 4, you'll be able to launch Share My Health Data from the medical records section of the new My HealtheVet experience on VA.gov. There you can securely add health details from your device and share them with your VA care team.

VA Blue Button report:

After June 4, the VA Blue Button report will no longer include My Goals, Wellness Reminders, or VA Electrocardiogram (EKG) information. If you want to save your historical information for your records, download a VA Blue Button report before this date.

How to get started:

Sign in to My HealtheVet on VA.gov with your identity-verified Login.gov or ID.me account. There, you'll find links to the new versions of your trusted health tools.

After you use the new versions of these tools, select Feedback from any page within the portal. Then answer the 3 questions to tell us what you think. We use your feedback to keep improving our tools for you and all Veterans.

How to get support

- For My HealtheVet: Call us at [877-327-0022](tel:877-327-0022) (TTY: [800-877-8339](tel:800-877-8339)). We're here Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. ET. [Or contact our My HealtheVet help desk staff online.](#)
- For other questions about VA online services: Call us at [800-698-2411](tel:800-698-2411) (TTY: 711). We're here 24/7.

[Sign in or create an account](#) to manage your VA health care and benefits online.

WWII Army MIA Identified



The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency announced that U.S. Army CWO Charles G. Benthien, 46, of Denver, Colorado, killed during World War II, was accounted for Feb. 25, 2025.

Benthien's family recently received their full briefing on his identification, therefore, additional details on his identification can be shared.

In April 1942, Benthien was assigned to the Headquarters, Philippine Department on the Bataan Peninsula, in the Philippines. He was held as a prisoner of war by the Empire of Japan in the Philippines until 1944 when the Japanese military moved POWs to Manila for transport to Japan aboard the transport ship *Oryoku Maru*. Unaware the allied POWs were on board, a U.S. carrier-borne aircraft attacked the *Oryoku Maru*, which eventually sank in Subic Bay. Benthien was then transported to Takao, Formosa, known today as Taiwan, aboard the *Enoura Maru*. On Jan. 9, 1945, the Japanese reported that Benthien was killed when U.S. forces attacked and sank the *Enoura Maru*.

Following the end of the war, the [American Graves Registration Command \(AGRC\)](#) was tasked with investigating and recovering missing American personnel. In May 1946, AGRC Search and Recovery Team #9 exhumed a mass grave on a beach at Takao, Formosa, recovering 311 bodies, including those designated as designated X-530 Schofield Mausoleum #2. Following unsuccessful attempts to identify the remains, they were declared unidentifiable. They were buried in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (NMCP), Honolulu.

Between October 2022 and July 2023, DPAA disinterred Unknowns from the NMCP linked to the *Enoura Maru*, including X-530. The remains were accessioned into the DPAA Laboratory for further analysis.

To identify Benthien's remains, scientists from DPAA used dental and anthropological analysis. Additionally, scientists from the Armed Forces Medical Examiner System used mitochondrial, Y-chromosome, and autosomal DNA analysis.

Benthien's name is recorded on the Walls of the Missing at the Manila American Cemetery and Memorial in the Philippines, along with the others still missing from World War II. A rosette will be placed next to his name to indicate he has been accounted for.

Benthien will be buried in San Diego, California, in June 2025.

Vietnam Army Soldier Awarded The Medal Of Honor



Army Sgt. William David Port took his oath to protect his fellow soldiers seriously. In Vietnam, when a grenade landed among his platoon mates, he didn't hesitate to give his life to save them. Port never made it home from war, but for his sacrifice, he posthumously received the Medal of Honor.

Port was drafted into the Army in March 1967 at the height of the Vietnam War. Five months later, he was shipped to the Southeast Asian country to serve as a rifleman with Company C of the 5th Battalion, 7th Cavalry, 1st Air Cavalry Division.

On Jan. 12, 1968, then-Pfc. Port's platoon was on its way to cut off a group of enemy soldiers in the Que Son Valley when they came under heavy fire from an entrenched enemy force. The intensity of the gunfire required them to quickly withdraw.

Port was wounded in the hand during the initial firefight. Despite the continuing gunfire, he ran through the area to help a wounded soldier get back to the safety of the platoon's perimeter.

As the assault continued, Port and three other soldiers were taking cover behind an embankment when an enemy grenade landed in their midst. Without any concern for himself, Port shouted "grenade!" to warn his fellow soldiers of the danger before hurling himself on top of the device as it exploded.

According to newspaper reports, a medic worked on Port's injuries for more than two hours as the fight continued, but eventually heavier enemy fire forced the unit to withdraw, and since Port appeared to be gravely injured, they were forced to leave him behind. His sacrifice, however, saved the lives of at least three men.

Port was initially listed by the Army as missing in action. The service later learned that the North Vietnamese had taken him as a prisoner and that he had died on Nov. 27, 1968, and was buried in a jungle grave with eight other men.

Port's courage and devotion to duty were not overlooked. He was posthumously promoted to sergeant. On Aug. 6, 1970, his widow and two of his children, Nevin and Kimberly, received the Medal of Honor on his behalf from President Richard M. Nixon during a White House ceremony. In 1975, the children also received a Bronze Star in his name at a ceremony at Fort Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania.

Port's remains were eventually repatriated to the United States. On Oct. 18, 1985, he was buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

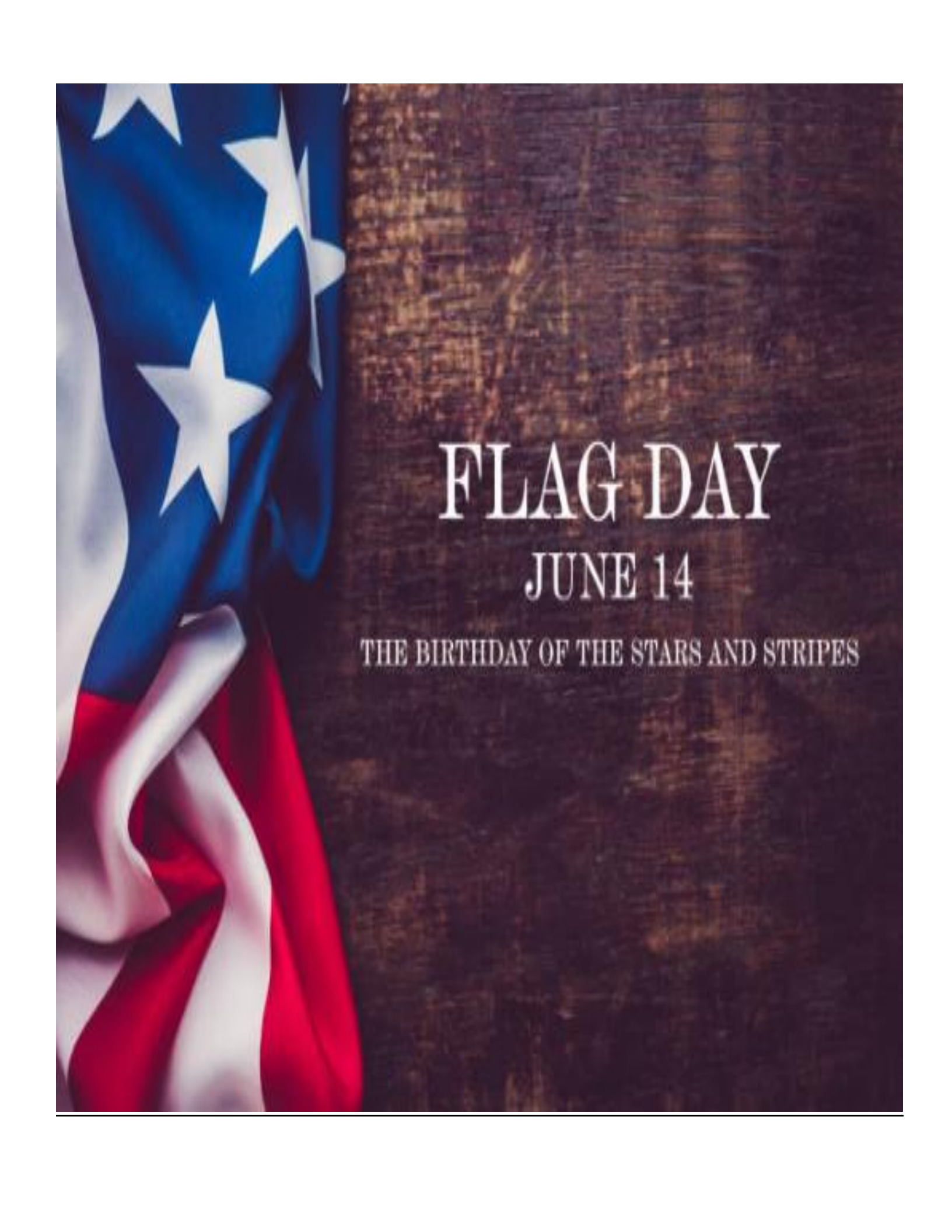
Port is remembered near his hometown in Huntingdon, Pennsylvania, where a bridge crossing the Juniata River was named in his honor.

6th of June 1944



Upon the 6th of June
Remember them with pride
Men from many nations
Fighting together side by side
Let us never forget
Their bravery and sacrifice
We may have our freedom
But they paid the price

By John F Connor

A close-up photograph of the American flag, showing the blue field with white stars and the red and white stripes. The flag is draped over a dark, textured wooden surface. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the folds of the fabric and the grain of the wood.

FLAG DAY

JUNE 14

THE BIRTHDAY OF THE STARS AND STRIPES



A Toast to the Flag

By John J. Daly - 1917

Here's to the red of it--
There's not a thread of it,
No, nor a shred of it
In all the spread of it
From foot to head.
But heroes bled for it,
Faced steel and lead for it,
Precious blood shed for it,
Bathing it Red!

Here's to the white of it--
Thrilled by the sight of it,
Who knows the right of it,
But feels the might of it
Through day and night?
Womanhood's care for it
Made manhood dare for it,
Purity's prayer for it
Keeps it so white!

Here's to the blue of it--
Beauteous view of it,
Heavenly hue of it,
Star-spangled dew of it
Constant and true;
Diadems gleam for it,
States stand supreme for it,
Liberty's beam for it
Brightens the blue!

Here's to the whole of it--
Stars, stripes and pole of it,
Body and soul of it,
O, and the roll of it,
Sun shinning through;
Hearts in accord for it,
Swear by the sword for it,
Thanking the Lord for it,
Red White and Blue!



CELEBRATING 250 YEARS

JUNE 14, 2025

Save the date for the U.S. Army's
Birthday Celebration.



U.S. ARMY



Poster Art Contest



*2025 Lincoln
Veterans Parade*

★ **SHOW OFF YOUR ARTISTIC
SKILLS FOR A CHANCE TO
WIN A CASH PRIZE!** ★

*Deadline to Submit Art:
Friday, June 6th
Winner Announced:
Saturday, June 14th*

*2025 Theme:
250th Birthday for
Army, Navy, and
Marines*



SCAN QR
CODE FOR
CONTEST
DETAILS.



For more information, visit lincolnveteransparade.org

Seize this golden chance, whether you're a novice in the creative field or an established artist seeking to expand your fan base. This opportunity embraces all forms of artistic expression. Hurry, the submission deadline is June 6th! The top 3 talents being revealed at the Veterans Freedom Music Festival on June 14th, each receiving a cash reward and name recognition. Don't miss out, visit our website for more information.



15th Annual VETERANS FREEDOM MUSIC FESTIVAL

Sat • June 14 • 2025

11^{AM} — 7^{pm}

Antelope Park, Lincoln
7 LOCAL BANDS • ANTELOPE BANDSHELL

11:00 AM - Opening Ceremonies

featuring The Lincoln Christian School Singers

11:30 AM - Bill Chrastil

12:45 PM - Three Chords and a Cloud of Dust

2:00 PM - Shucks Brothers

3:15 PM - Pinkertones

4:30 PM - Cole Younger and The Renegades

5:45 PM - Howling Coyotes

6:45 PM - Closing Ceremonies and Taps

This schedule is approximate and may vary based on weather or other factors associated with a live event.

OTHER ATTRACTIONS

Food service by Knights of Columbus* Free Small Flags*
UNL Dairy Store Ice Cream Flag Parade by Elks & Scouts
Remembering Our Fallen Exhibit Quilts of Valor Presentations
Kids Crafts*, QOV Quilting Demo & Veteran Art Show – Auld Pavilion

PUBLIC WELCOME - FREE PARKING & ADMISSION

- Free will donation to Peoples City Mission is requested
- Bring Lawn Chairs, Coolers (subject to inspection)
- Sorry, NO alcohol or pets (service animals only)
- RAIN DATE: June 15, 2025

The Veterans Freedom Music Festival
is produced by the
Lincoln Veterans Advisory Group
VAGLincoln.org



PRESENTING SPONSORS:



*while supplies last



BUDDY CHECK

Working together to end veteran suicide.

MONTHLY ON THE 22ND

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Antelope Park Enclosed Shelter

1650 Memorial Dr., Lincoln, NE 68508

Next to The Veterans Memorial Garden

OPEN TO ALL VETERANS

Coffee, refreshments, and snacks are provided.

SCHEELS®

FLAG EXCHANGE



FRIDAY, JULY 11
1-4pm

LINCOLN SCHEELS

FREE FLAG EXCHANGE
WHILE SUPPLIES LAST



UNLIMITED DROP OFFS ACCEPTED
LIMIT ONE NEW FLAG PER CUSTOMER EXCHANGING

Bring your faded or frayed American Flags to
SCHEELS for a dignified disposal. We will
replace your retired flag with a new
3'x5' nylon flag for free,
while supplies last!





We are an Association of Combat Veterans from all branches of the United States Armed Forces who ride motorcycles as a hobby. As a registered 501(c)(19) veterans' charity, our mission is to support and protect those who have defended our country and our freedoms.

Our focus is to provide assistance and help to individual veterans, veteran care facilities, other veteran organizations and registered charities. We sponsor and participate in many veteran-related motorcycle (and other) charity events each year, and as a non-profit organization, donate to various veteran causes.

Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association in Lincoln works with the VA Homeless Clinic to assist homeless Veterans furnish their new apartments. They are currently low on inventory and in need of donations.

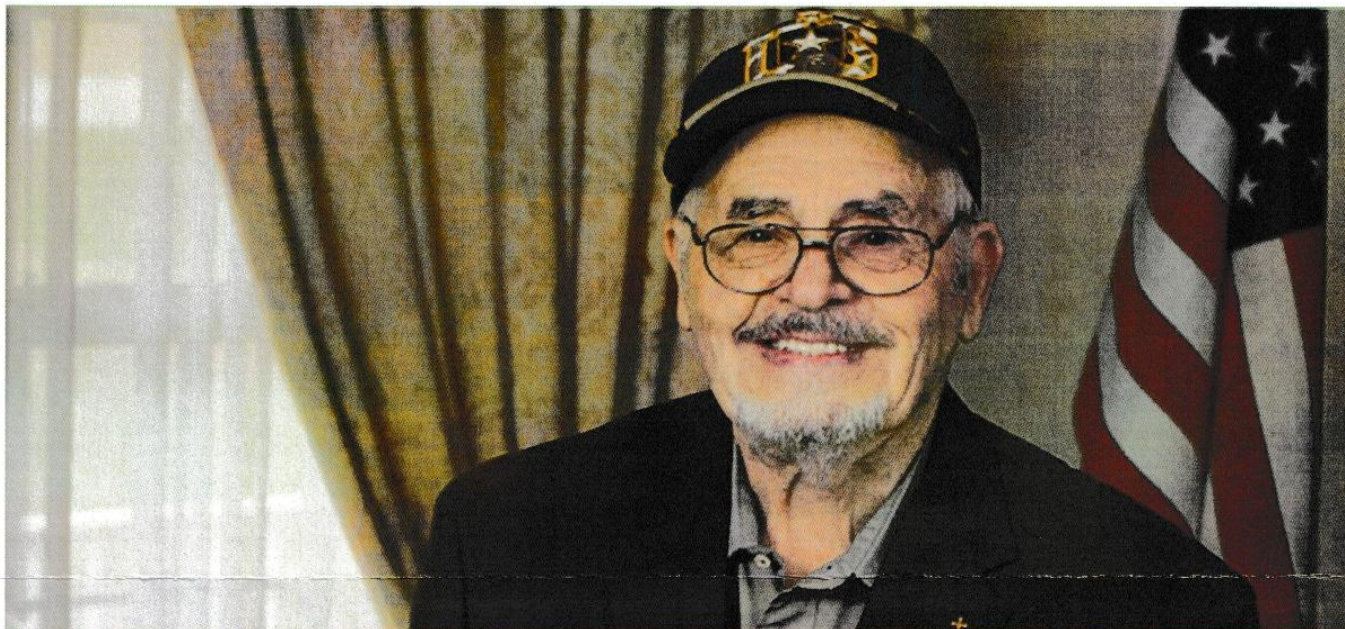
Appropriate donations include couches, chairs, dining tables, beds, dressers etc. Donations need to be in good condition.

Combat Vets are also low on manpower and need volunteers to help load furniture items from their storage unit into their trailer and move the items into the Veteran's apartment.

You DO NOT need to be a Combat Veteran to donate your time for this cause. They typically schedule move-ins on Tuesday evenings as needed. Move-ins are only located in Lincoln.

Please contact Mike Bestwick at 402 306-7020 if interested in volunteering to have items to donate.

Please note, this resource is only available to Veteran's participating in the Homeless program at the VA.



JOIN OUR TEAM OF VETERAN-TO-VETERAN VOLUNTEERS

A FELLOW VETERAN NEEDS YOU!

VETERAN VOLUNTEERS CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN
THE LIVES OF OUR VETERAN HOSPICE PATIENTS BY

- ♦ PROVIDING COMPANIONSHIP
- ♦ RECORDING A LIFE STORY
- ♦ CALLING OR VISITING ON A SPECIAL DAY
- ♦ PINNING A VETERAN PATIENT
- ♦ EDUCATING PATIENTS ON RECEIVING VETERAN BENEFITS
- ♦ PARTICIPATING IN VETERANS DAY CEREMONIES

To learn more about becoming a volunteer, please contact
Jen Vogt, Regional Volunteer Coordinator at (402) 943-6871 or jen.vogt@amedisys.com

Ready to apply?

Visit <http://bttr.im/1fnah>

or scan the QR code with your smart phone!

Contact Jen if you would like a paper application.

AseraCare
HOSPICE®
an Amedisys company



Sons Of The American Legion Application



To be eligible for membership in the Sons of the American Legion, you must be a male descendant (son, grandson, stepson, or adopted son) of:

- A member of The American Legion, or
- A veteran who died in service during World War I or since December 7, 1941, or
- A veteran who died after their honorable discharge from such service, and
- Return the application below along with \$35.00 to:

Sons of The American Legion

ATTN: Brendan Moore

123 South 84th Street, Suite L

Lincoln, Ne 68510

Sons of The American Legion Membership Application			
Detachment of _____ Squadron No. _____		Birth Date _____ Date _____	
Name _____ (First) (Initial) (Last)		Recruited by _____ (Initial) (Last)	
Address _____ (Street) (City) (State) (Zip)			
E-mail Address _____		Telephone _____	
Veteran through whom eligibility is established _____			
(a) Above is a member in good standing of Post No _____, Dept. of _____			
OR (b) Above is a deceased veteran who served honorably from _____ to _____			
(c) Relationship of Applicant to Veteran _____			
I hereby subscribe to the Constitution of the Sons of The American Legion, apply for membership, and transmit \$ _____ as annual membership dues.			
		Signed _____ (By Applicant or Parent)	
Eligibility certified by _____ (Post Adjutant)		00-001 (2014)	

RECEIPT	
Date _____	Received of _____
\$ _____ in payment of dues for 20 _____ in _____	
Squadron _____ Detachment of _____	
By _____	

Become a Member of The American Legion

Do you want to help your community and fellow Veterans by becoming a member of the American Legion? Would you want to help recruit a new member? If you can certify you, or do you know someone, who served at least one day of active military duty since December 7, 1941, and was honorably discharged or are currently serving honorably? Then they are eligible. Complete the application below and send it with a check in the amount of \$56.00 to:

American Legion Post 3
123 South 84th Street, Suite L
Lincoln, Ne 68510

The American Legion Membership Application																			
(Name)		(Date of Birth)																	
(Mailing Address)		(Phone Number)																	
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	(Post #)																
(E-mail)		☐ Male ☐ Female (Gender)	(Dues)																
☐ I certify that I served at least one day of active military duty since December 7, 1941 and was honorably discharged or am still serving honorably. Please check appropriate service era and branch of service below <table><tbody><tr><td>☐ Global War on Terror</td><td>☐ U.S. Army</td></tr><tr><td>☐ Gulf War</td><td>☐ U.S. Navy</td></tr><tr><td>☐ Panama</td><td>☐ U.S. Air Force</td></tr><tr><td>☐ Lebanon/Grenada</td><td>☐ U.S. Marines</td></tr><tr><td>☐ Vietnam</td><td>☐ U.S. Coast Guard</td></tr><tr><td>☐ Korea</td><td>☐ Merchant Marines (WWII only)</td></tr><tr><td>☐ WWII</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>☐ Other Conflicts</td><td></td></tr></tbody></table>				☐ Global War on Terror	☐ U.S. Army	☐ Gulf War	☐ U.S. Navy	☐ Panama	☐ U.S. Air Force	☐ Lebanon/Grenada	☐ U.S. Marines	☐ Vietnam	☐ U.S. Coast Guard	☐ Korea	☐ Merchant Marines (WWII only)	☐ WWII		☐ Other Conflicts	
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☐ Korea	☐ Merchant Marines (WWII only)																		
☐ WWII																			
☐ Other Conflicts																			
30-009 Signature of applicant		Date																	
		Name of recruiter																	

To renew or transfer to Post 3, you only need to sign below and mail this application and a check for \$56.00 made out to "American Legion Post 3" to the address listed above. If you have already renewed for 2025, and want to transfer to Post 3, only sign below and return the bottom portion to us.

YES! Please transfer my membership to Lincoln American Legion Post 3

	Signature
	Membership Number
	Email address



**American Legion Post 3
123 South 84th St. Suite L
Lincoln, NE 68510
(402) 466-3958**

Email: Post3legionlincoln@gmail.com

Web Site: lincolnpost3.org

2023 - 2024 Post 3 Officers

Commander – Bruce Gubser – Cell: 402-470-1700

First Vice Commander – Ron Hindmand – Cell: 254-291-1514

Second Vice Commander – Rich Lemmerman – Cell: 402-694-9834

Adjutant & Post Service Officer – Ed Schnabel – Cell: 402-480-8542

Chaplain – William Jackson – Cell: 402-613-9774

Please submit any announcements or items for the monthly newsletter to the editor for approval, (Gerrywolf@aol.com or 402-417-8230). All requests must be received one week before the 1st of the month.

