



**"For God and Country"**

## **January 2025 POST 3 NEWSLETTER**



### **Meetings For January 2025**

Organization	Location	Time	Date	
Legion Post 3	Elks Lodge, 5910 S 58 <sup>th</sup> St	7:00 PM	01/14/25	
Auxiliary Unit 3	Elks Lodge, 5910 S 58 <sup>th</sup> St	7:00 PM	None	
SAL Squadron 3	Post 3 Office, 123 S 84 <sup>th</sup> St	7:00 PM	01/09/25	
ALR Chapter 3	Denton Legion Club	6:00 PM	01/16/25	
40 & 8 Voiture 103	Elks Lodge, 5910 S 58 <sup>th</sup> St	6:30 PM	01/21/25	
8 & 40 Salon 832	Elks Lodge, 5910 s 58 <sup>th</sup> St	6:30 PM	01/21/25	
8 & 40 Salon 92	VFW 3606, 3340 West A St	1:00 PM	None	
Buddy Check	Enclosed Shelter, 1650 Antelope Park	6:00 PM	01/22/25	
CoffeeHaus	Auld Pavilion, Antelope Park	10:00 AM	01/17/25	

## **Commander's Call**



**Greetings Legionnaires and the entire Lincoln Legion Family,**

**I hope that everyone had a great holiday season, a very Merry Christmas, and a fantastic New Year. I think over the holiday season, Lori and I attended about a dozen events plus a number of family gatherings. While it was great to see, and have fun with, everyone, I think that I'm ready for some downtime in January.**

**I'd like to take some time this month to recognize a great group of individuals in our Post who provide an outstanding service to our Veteran community. The Post 3 Honor Guard:**

**Who are the Post 3 Honor Guard members and what do they do? The Honor Guard is made up of about 20 dedicated, patriotic, American Legion members who range in age from a 94-year-old Korean War Veteran to a 55-year-old veteran who served during the Panama invasion era who provide funeral "Honors" and participate in other civic functions.**

**The average age of our Honor Guard is somewhere in the upper-70s, perhaps approaching 80. I'm 69, and one of the "younger" members. While these members do an awesome job, the question remains about how much longer these members will be able to help with "Honors" is uncertain. We need to recruit some new, younger members.**

**It would be a shame if these "Oldtimers" were not replaced as they step down and the Honor Guard disappear? We need to make sure that never happens. I am using this forum to offer more men and women the opportunity to join our Honor Guard.**

**Guard is made up of about 20 dedicated, patriotic, American Legion members. Please note that we are not asking you to do every funeral or function – only those for which you are able or available. The Post provides the uniform (at a cost of around \$800), with the exception of the Legion cap.**

**The Honor Guard will teach you (or refresh your memory) on the most basic manual of arms (Attention, Port Arms, Present Arms, etc). We use the M1 Garand rifles for the 3 shot volley and Springfield '03 rifles for Flag guard rifles. The average funeral will take about 2 hours of your time and we will render "Honors" in all kinds of weather.**

## **(Commander's Call – Continued)**

**The Honor Guard's primary responsibility is to augment the Military Honors teams in rendering "Honors" to deceased military veterans. Under Federal law, the Department of Defense is responsible for providing military funeral "Honors" to eligible veterans when asked to do so. As a minimum, it requires an Honor Guard detail of at least two uniformed (currently serving) military persons (at least one from the veteran's parent service) and a bugler, if available. They will fold the burial flag, present the flag to the veteran's family, and play "Taps".**

**The military Honor Guard detail may be augmented with volunteers who are military veterans, including retirees; members of veterans' service organizations (i.e. the American Legion, VFW); or other approved organizations. For us, this augmentation (Post 3 Honor Guard) includes the 3 shot volley and the playing of "Taps" by a live bugler supplied by the Lincoln Symphony Orchestra.**

**The Honor Guard is also available to participate in patriotic civic functions, and as previously mentioned we do this about a couple dozen times a year. Patriotic functions could be a Flag raising, a school visit, talks to students or other organizations, or possibly a visit to a retirement home to honor veterans living there. It is at these civic functions that we have an opportunity to make a positive impression on not only the general public, but to other Veterans who might not already belong to the American Legion.**

**If you are interested in joining the Honor Guard, please contact our Honor Guard Commander, Gerry Wolf (402-417-8230 or [Gerrywolf@aol.com](mailto:Gerrywolf@aol.com)). We would love to have you join us!**

**For God and Country,**

**Bruce Gubser,**

**Commander, Lincoln Post 3**

## **Notes from the Adjutant's Desk**



**Wishing all a very Happy New Year**

### **Office hours during the New Year Holiday:**

**Office staff will be taking a break to spend time with their families. Office will be closed from December 22<sup>nd</sup> to January 6<sup>th</sup>. If you need our services, please call 402-480-8542.**

### **2025 Renewals:**

**For those who have not yet renewed for 2025, your 2024 membership card expired as of 31 December 2024. As of January 1st, you will be classified as expired. You will stop receiving The Legion magazine, and you could be denied entry into a Legion Club. For those who are in the Legion Insurance program, your coverage also ended as of 31<sup>st</sup> of December 2024. You must be a member in good standing to be covered.**

**I want to thank those members who did renew during December 2024. We processed 29 renewals in the last week of December. National will mail renewal notices to current members who had not renewed. Renewal notices will be mailed out this January. If you happen to receive a 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.**

**I have received a few checks from those who have already paid their 2025 dues. I will try and contact those members and ask if they would like to use this extra payment to pay their 2026 dues. Otherwise, I will return the checks or destroy them. As reminder, membership for 2025 Post 3 is now \$56.00 dollars, as the National and Nebraska Department both increased their dues by five dollars. Post 3 did not increase its dues for 2025, remaining at eleven dollars.**

**The current 2025 membership stands at 814, just slightly over 76% of our 2025 goal of 1066. 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. Once there, you will be given the opportunity to renew for three years. 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 on any new dues increases for the next three years.**

### **Nebraska Department Life members:**

**2025 membership cards have been mailed to the address we had on file for you. If you have not received yours, or have moved during the past year, please let us know so we can get them to you.**

**(Adjutant's Notes – Continued)**

**Member Information:**

We would like to thank those who have provided the request for mailing addresses, phone numbers, and email information. We have many members who have moved and we do not have a correct mailing address, phone number or email address. The US Postal service returns mail that they do not have a forwarding address on. We try to track down those members who have moved.

The same for those members who have passed on to Post Ever Lasting. If you know of a member who has died, please let us know. This saves National and Post 3 postage on renewals that are returned to the Post.

This also goes for branch of service, or war era. National has been printing on the back of the 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.

**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. VA News <[veteransaffairs@messages.va.gov](mailto:veteransaffairs@messages.va.gov)>

The VFW, DAV, etc. do an excellent job of keeping track of Congressional activities that can or will affect veterans. 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 but may wish to in the future. They may 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.

Ed Schnabel,  
Adjutant



## **Lincoln CBOC/VA News**



**Wishing all a Very Happy New Year**

**VA clinics will be closed on Wednesday 1 January. If you have an appointment during the period of the first week of January, I would check to be sure your provider will be in their clinics. Flu shots and Covid shots: Shots are being given to only 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 when they check in and waiting for a nurse to be free.**

**VA clinics and hospitals no longer require the wearing of masks to enter clinics. As cases of covid rise masks might be required. Masks are available for those who still wish to wear them at the front doors of the clinics.**

### **Express Care, a walk-in service:**

**Express Care is 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.**

### **Want to serve your fellow Veterans?**

**The VA can use more volunteers at your local clinic or hospital. You can volunteer to help veterans in the clinic or hospital, or a veteran 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 activity 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 and magazines for patients. You would need to check with your local hospital and 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.**

## **(CBOC/VA News – Continued)**

Hours given by the volunteers are credited with saving the VA Health at Omaha, Lincoln, and GI 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.

### **DAV Van:**

DAV Transportation, is looking into acquiring a new VA van. VA will donate \$22,000.00 with the DAV covering the remainder of the cost.

### **Service Animals**

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

### **VA Claims**

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. This only takes a few minutes to see if you might qualify for an increase, or a new VA disability rating.

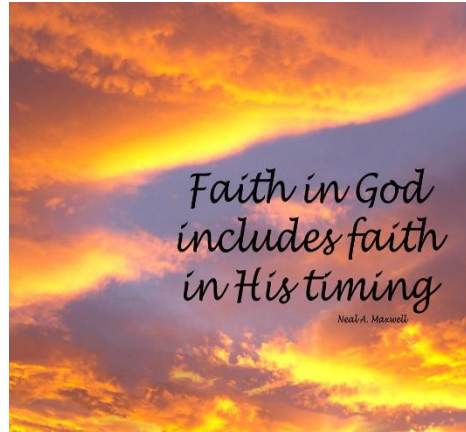
The Veteran Affairs web site is a great place to visit. You can find out the latest information affecting Veterans. You can track claim status, file for travel pay, view your VA account, payments received, or Co-pay owed. You can make the Co-pay payments online.

Thanks for your service to your fellow Veterans and thanks for your service to this great country. God Bless and Happy New Year

Ed Schnabel,

American Legion Representative to Lincoln CBOC

## **The Chaplain's Remarks**



### **GOD'S RIDE OF FAITH (JANUARY 2025)**

**It's not a roller coaster. It's not an airplane ride. Nor is it some kind of "new thing." So, what could a person wrap their minds around to sense something wonderful? How about God's Love up front and personal?**

**Yeah! That's right! God. Yes, the Good Ole G-0-D Himself. First thing to get from this treatise is that God IS NOT to be trifled with (Galatians 6:7). So, what I bring forth cannot but help you grab this obvious notion without worrying if I'm treading on sacred ground or trying to fool you as our disfavored Satan tries to lay on us (2 Corinthians 11:3).**

**Here's the deal. God loves you. God loves YOU. GOD LOVES YOU! Get the point? All of your hopefully full life loving the Lord should have garnered you some great insight into His unsearchable ways. If God is who He is—and He IS—then why cannot you take Him seriously when you need help? counsel, guidance, healing, or whatever concern you have that requires?**

**Do you think God feels less of Himself because of one whom He's empowered to do good things feels...God has abandoned him or her...since you haven't given Him a try (Proverb 3:5,6)?**

**It comes down to this: if you love the Lord, what's YOUR problem? If God is God, then the fault is with those who refuse to trust Him. But take heart:**

**Since God IS God, he's forgiving. Are you forgiving of your errors (1 Peter 5:7)?**

**Rev. Dr. William Jackson,  
Chaplain, Lincoln ALP 3**



## **Post 3 Honor Guard**



December was a very slow month for the Honor Guard. The Honor Guard assisted the Military Honors Team at only one funeral and was represented at 3 civic activities. Those activities included attending the Governor's Proclamation of Wreaths Across America at the State Capitol and the actual wreath laying ceremony the following Saturday at Wyuka Cemetery and an appreciation dinner for the Honor Guard to say thanks for another year of service.

In the Calendar year 2024, the Honor Guard assisted the Military Honors Teams at 81 funerals and have made appearances at 48 civic functions.

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

## **Post 3 TAPS – December 2024**



<b>LEGIONNAIRE</b>	<b>WAR ERA</b>	<b>BRANCH</b>	<b>YEARS</b>
Paul B. Forch	Korea	Army	57
Gary L. Geiser	Vietnam	Air Force	19
Tad D. Hammond	Korea	Air Force	50
Guy G. Miller, III	Vietnam	Navy	13
Walter H. Radcliffe	Vietnam	Army	5

**Regular Meeting of American Legion Post 3  
Lincoln Elks Lodge #80, December 10, 2024**

Prior to opening the December meeting of Post 3, Commander Gubser introduced two Marines from Omaha he had invited to attend to promote their Toys for Tots campaign. They spoke briefly and thanked the post for its support --- as evidenced by the tableful of toys at the back of the room. Commander Gubser then gave them a \$250 donation to Toys for Tots.

The Commander opened the December 10, 2024, meeting of American Legion Post 3 shortly after 7:00 PM at the Lincoln Elks Lodge 80 with 20-25 Legionnaires and guests present. He introduced a new member transferring into Post 3 from the Havelock post.

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

The minutes of the November meeting were read and approved.

Ed Schnabel gave the financial report for the month ending November 30, 2024, showing a balance of about \$48,000. It was approved and filed for review.

Adjutant Schnabel reported 2025 membership as 749. He also indicated that the office would be open this Thursday, but then closed until after the first of the year.

Dr. Jackson gave an Americanism report.

Ron Hindmand reported on Salvation Army Bellringers and indicated that all the crews rang bells as scheduled and the weather cooperated. Ron also indicated that while the Salvation Army no longer keeps track of the money collected by individual organizations, the Post 3 buckets did well.

District 15 Commander reported that the Post 3 Oratorical contestant competed in Seward on December 1<sup>st</sup> and finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in Area C.

Gerry Wolf reported for the Memorial Squad. They had a busy November. Wreaths Across American will be held Saturday.

Brendan Moore reported for SAL. Their membership stands at 91%. Brendan also reported that they had given out some cash donations for Thanksgiving and will do so again at Christmas.

Commander Gubser reported briefly for the American Legion Riders. He indicated that they will elect officers for 2025 in December --- and that it appears he will be the new Director for 2025.

Upon proper motion and second, the post affirmed the \$250 donation to Toys for Tots.

The Chaplain read TAPS, and the meeting was closed in proper form at about 7:30 PM.

Steve Bartos,  
Recorder

## **Notes From Auxiliary President, Unit 3**



**Well, Christmas has passed, and we are starting 2025! I hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!**

**As I sit here, looking at my Christmas decorations which will be coming down in the next few days, I'm sad that the season is coming to a close, but I am looking forward to the new year.**

**As a reminder, the Auxiliary does NOT meet in January. Although we do not have a meeting in January, remember that the Mid-Year Conference is scheduled from January 17-19 at the Norfolk Lodge in Norfolk. If you intend on staying overnight, please make your reservations sooner rather than later. The meeting in February will be on February 11th, 7pm, at the Elks Club. I hope to see you there!**

**I am planning for our next luncheon later in the month, perhaps on the 25th. I'll send an email to everyone when I get a firm date and place.**

**Membership is moving along slowly. If you have not done so already, please pay your dues promptly. We are not able to do what we do without your support. We need your help so we can help our Veterans.**

**For God and Country,**

**Lori Gubser**

**President, Lincoln Unit 3**

## **District 15 Oratorical Contest**



District 15 winner, Tera Thoms and District 15 Commander, Ron Hindmand



(Area C winners, L to R) 3rd place, Tera Thoms, District 15, 2<sup>nd</sup> place, Melanie Brockman, District 11, 1<sup>st</sup> place, Frank Kovaks, District 10

As reported in last month's Newsletter, our District 15 Oratorical Contest was conducted on 15 November 2024 and our Post 3 sponsored winner was Ms. Tera Thoms a Home School sophomore from Lincoln. Her prepared oration was titled, "The Ratification of the 27th Amendment." The 27th Amendment states that no law varying the compensation for the services of Senators and Representatives shall take effect until an election of Representatives shall have intervened. Her presentation on this not very well-known amendment was very interesting and an example of an admirable study and knowledge of the U.S. Constitution.

As our District 15 winner Ms. Thoms competed in the Area C Contest on 1 December at the National Guard Museum in Seward. At that competition Ms. Thoms was awarded a trophy for finishing in third place. She will receive a check for \$100 with a gift from Post 3 of \$400 for school related costs upon acceptance into college and a \$100 check from the Nebraska American Legion Department.

This contest was part of the American Legion 87th annual Oratorical Constitutional Speech Competition. This Oratorical program was developed primarily to instill a deeper knowledge and appreciation of the U.S. Constitution in high school students. It also assists students in affording a college education, with the first place national winner receiving \$25,000 for college. The State Contest consisting of Area winners will be held on January 18th in Norfolk NE at the Department of Nebraska Mid-Year Convention and the National final will be held on May 16-18 in Hillsdale, MI for the winners of the State contests.

Essential in conduct of our District 15 contest were Ron Hindmand as Moderator; Rich Lemmerman, Gerry Wolf, and Wade Graft as Judges; John Ottoson as Tabulator and Fred Craigie as Timer. Ed Schnabel coordinated use and assisted in set up at Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church.

Ron Hindmand  
Oratorical Contest Chairman



## **Salvation Army Bell Ringing**



**Again, this year Post 3 was well represented by volunteers ringing bells to collect money for the Salvation Army as they support people in need in Lincoln.**

**At Williamsburg Hy-Vee on 4 and 5 December our volunteers were:**

- **Ladies Auxiliary members Lynne Wild and Barb Michael**
- **From Post 3 members Wade Graft, Gerry Wolf, Brendan Moore, Phil Hutchings, Wendy Gumb, Ron Hindmand, Fred and Helen Chrastil, John Ottoson, Rev Dr Jackson, Rich Lemmerman and Steve Devore**

**Legion Riders rang bells on 6 December at Hobby Lobby represented by Jerry Hutchison, Dave Dietz, Neil Larson, Bill Beede, Ed Muggy, Mike Streeter, Eric Miksch and John Humphrey.**

**Thank you to all the above folks for volunteering out in the cold to support our community contributing to a Merrier Christmas for many in need!**

**Ron Hindmand  
Bell Ringing Chairman**

## **Wreaths Across America 2024**



Each December, on National Wreaths Across America Day, we decorate our deceased soldiers' graves with a fresh evergreen wreath with a traditional hand tied red bow placed on their headstones.

The Nebraska Capitol Wreath ceremony was held on Monday, December 9, 2024, in the State Capitol Rotunda. The Colors were posted by the Lincoln AFJROTC Color Guard, The National Anthem and several other songs were sung by Lincoln Lutheran High School Choir, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Lieutenant Governor Joe Kelly read Governor Jim Pillen's Proclamation of Wreaths Across America. Greg Osborn, WAA Planning Committee Chairman, presented the Capitol Wreath to the Lieutenant Governor.

The wreath laying ceremony was held at Wyuka Cemetery on December 14, 2024. The public was invited to join us for a short program. The Colors were posted by the VFW Honor Guard, The National Anthem was sung and the Pledge of Allegiance recited. The Keynote speaker was Nebraska National Guard Adjutant, Major General Craig Strong. Wreaths were presented honoring veterans of the seven Military branches and the Merchant Marines.

After the opening ceremony, over 2,000 wreaths were placed by volunteers on Veterans graves in the three soldier's circles of the Nebraska State cemetery. Today, there are over 4,000 locations in all 50 States, 24 Countries and on the Seven Seas where Wreaths Across America is observed.





## **40&8 Christmas Party**



**La Société des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux, (The Society of Forty Men and Eight Horses), is an independent, honor society of American veterans and service members --- more commonly known as the “40&8”.**

**Originally considered the “Honor Society” of American Legionnaires, the 40&8 was founded in 1920 by American veterans returning from France. Originally an arm of The American Legion which only included members of the American Legion, the 40&8 became an independent and separately incorporated veteran's organization in 1960 and has evolved into a veterans’ service organization whose membership is by invitation of all honorably discharged veterans and honorably serving members of the United States Armed Forces --- regardless of membership in the American Legion.**

**While membership in the 40&8 is still by invitation, you are encouraged to talk to any local voyageur (member of the 40&8) and express your interest in becoming a member. You do need to be a veteran or active-duty serviceperson with a good reputation, and you will need a current member to vouch for you and submit a nomination for you.**

**Our local group, Voiture 103, supports a variety of causes, but our primary project each year is to raise money for two Nurse’s Training Scholarship Funds maintained by the Bryan School of Health Sciences and the Southeast Community College Nursing Program. We conduct a raffle each year to raise money for these donations, and the raffle drawing is held at our annual Christmas Party.**

**Each year at our annual Christmas party we take time to honor an outstanding member of the American Legion and the 40&8. This award is the highest honor that the 40&8 can award to one of its own for his or her outstanding contributions to the betterment of the American Legion and the 40&8. This year’s awardee was not present at the Christmas Party, so I will not name him/her until the award can be given at a suitable time and place.**

## **Honor Guard Appreciation Dinner**



The Honor Guard is made up of 20 dedicated American Legion members. The Honor Guard's main function is to assist the Military Honors Teams during a Military funeral. The Honor Guard is present at approximately 75-100 funerals each year and the average funeral will take about 2 hours of their time. They will render "Honors" in all kinds of weather. The Honor Guard is also available to participate in patriotic civic functions. They do this approximately 40-50 times a year.

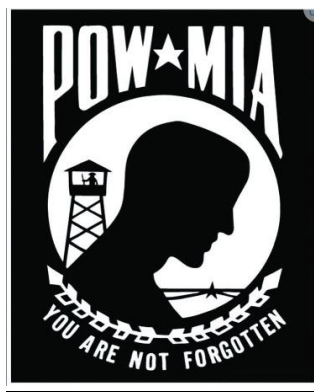
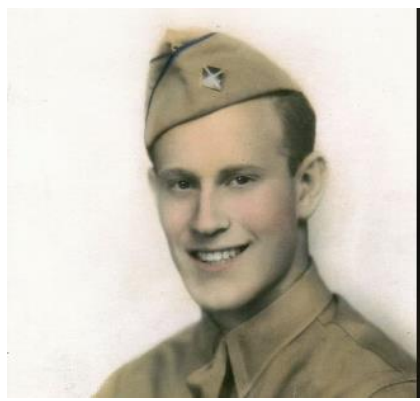
The Honor Guard's uniform is provided, and they provide their own transportation to and from these engagements. They receive no other compensation

As the year comes to an end, we normally hold an Honor Guard Appreciation dinner for the Honor Guard members and their better half's. This year we held the dinner at the Elks #80 Lodge and had the catered dinner delivered.

After dinner, Dale Nurnberg was our stand-up comedian. Later, CarJack the Magnificent, "A Mystic from the East" who could psychically "divine" unknown answers to unseen questions joined our group. His assistant, Fast Freddy told the audience "I hold in my hand the envelopes. As a child of four can plainly see, these envelopes have been hermetically sealed. They've been kept in a mayonnaise jar on Funk and Wagnalls' porch since noon today. NO ONE knows the contents of these envelopes – but you, CarJack, in your mystical and borderline divine way, will ascertain the answers having never before heard the questions."

CarJack delivered!

## **Airman Accounted For From World War II**



On December 18, 2024, the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency announced that U.S. Army Air Force Tech 4 Lloyd R. Bruntmyer, 22, of Des Moines, Iowa, who was captured and died as a prisoner of war during World War II, was accounted for Aug. 23, 2024.

In late 1941, Bruntmyer was a member of 7th Materiel Squadron, 5th Air Base Group, when Japanese forces invaded the Philippine Islands in December. Intense fighting continued until the surrender of the Bataan peninsula on April 9, 1942, and of Corregidor Island on May 6, 1942.

Thousands of U.S. and Filipino service members were captured and interned at POW camps. Bruntmyer was among those reported captured when U.S. forces in Bataan surrendered to the Japanese. They were subjected to the 65-mile Bataan Death March and then held at the Cabanatuan POW Camp #1. More than 2,500 POWs perished in this camp during the war.

According to prison camp and other historical records, Bruntmyer died Nov. 1, 1942, and was buried along with other deceased prisoners in the local Cabanatuan Camp Cemetery in Common Grave 704.

Following the war, American Graves Registration Service personnel exhumed those buried at the Cabanatuan cemetery and relocated the remains to a temporary U.S. military mausoleum near Manila. In 1947, the AGRS examined the remains in an attempt to identify them. Two of the sets of remains from Common Grave 704 were identified, while the remaining 8 were declared unidentifiable. The unidentified remains were buried at the Manila American Cemetery and Memorial as Unknowns.

In 2018, as part of the Cabanatuan Project, DPAA exhumed the remains associated with Common Grave 704 and sent them to the DPAA laboratory for analysis.

To identify Bruntmyer's remains, scientists from DPAA used dental and anthropological analysis, as well as circumstantial evidence. Additionally, scientists from the Armed Forces Medical Examiner System used mitochondrial DNA, mitochondrial genome sequence, and Y chromosome DNA analysis.

Although interred as an Unknown in MACM, Bruntmyer's grave was meticulously cared for over the past 70 years by the American Battle Monuments Commission. Today, Bruntmyer is memorialized on the Walls of the Missing at the Manila American Cemetery and Memorial in the Philippines. A rosette will be placed next to his name to indicate he has been accounted for.

Bruntmyer will be buried in San Diego, California, in Nov. 2025.

## **Medal Of Honor Recipient, Baldomero Lopez**



### **Citation:**

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty as a rifle platoon commander of Company A, in action against enemy aggressor forces. With his platoon 1st Lt. Lopez was engaged in the reduction of immediate enemy beach defenses after landing with the assault waves.

Exposing himself to hostile fire, he moved forward alongside a bunker and prepared to throw a hand grenade into the next pillbox whose fire was pinning down that sector of the beach. Taken under fire by an enemy automatic weapon and hit in the right shoulder and chest as he lifted his arm to throw, he fell backward and dropped the deadly missile.

After a moment, he turned and dragged his body forward in an effort to retrieve the grenade and throw it. In critical condition from pain and loss of blood, and unable to grasp the hand grenade firmly enough to hurl it, he chose to sacrifice himself rather than endanger the lives of his men and, with a sweeping motion of his wounded right arm, cradled the grenade under him and absorbed the full impact of the explosion.

His exceptional courage, fortitude, and devotion to duty reflect the highest credit upon 1st Lt. Lopez and the U.S. Naval Service. He gallantly gave his life for his country.

### **Details:**

- Rank: First Lieutenant
- Conflict/Era: Korean War
- Unit/Command: Company A, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines, 1st Marine Division
- Military Service Branch: U.S. Marine Corps
- Medal of Honor Action Place: Inchon, Korea
- Medal of Honor Action Date: September 15, 1950
- Presented by Sec. of the Navy Dan A. Kimball to his parents, August 30, 1951
- Buried: Centro Asturiana Memorial Park, Tampa, FL, United States



## Buddy Check



# 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.*



# Lincoln VAG eAlert

A Message from Your Veterans Advisory Group!

## VAG Lincoln Coffeehaus!



**JOIN US ON  
FRIDAY!**

A CoffeeHaus Event has been scheduled for the third Friday each month from 10:00 AM to Noon, at Auld Pavilion in Antelope Park

In addition, Quilts of Valor Ladies will be awarding quilts to Veterans touched by war, and the presentation begins at Noon.

**CoffeeHaus** is a monthly gathering to honor our Veterans, with **FREE** Coffee, Beverages, Snacks, Fellowship, and Entertainment.

**Join us - reach out and bring a guest too!**

### OUR SPONSOR

The Sponsor for  
CoffeeHaus is the Elks  
Lodge #80.



### MORE INFORMATION!

For a Calendar of Upcoming VAG Events, visit our Website, at [www.VAGLincoln.org](http://www.VAGLincoln.org)!



# 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 84<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite

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 _____	

*For God and Country*

## **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 84<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite L**  
**Lincoln, Ne 68510**

<b>The American Legion Membership Application</b>			
(Name)		(Date of Birth)	
(Mailing Address)		(Phone Number)	
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	(Post #)
(E-mail)	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female (Gender)	(Dues)	
<input type="checkbox"/> 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.			
<b>Please check appropriate service era and branch of service below</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Global War on Terror	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Army		
<input type="checkbox"/> Gulf War	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Navy		
<input type="checkbox"/> Panama	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Air Force		
<input type="checkbox"/> Lebanon/Grenada	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Marines		
<input type="checkbox"/> Vietnam	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Coast Guard		
<input type="checkbox"/> Korea	<input type="checkbox"/> Merchant Marines (WWII only)		
<input type="checkbox"/> WWII			
<input type="checkbox"/> 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 and a check for \$56.00 made out to "American Legion Post 3" to the address listed above. If you have already renewed for 2024, 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 84<sup>th</sup> St. Suite L  
Lincoln, NE 68510  
(402) 466-3958**

**Email: [Post3legionlincoln@gmail.com](mailto:Post3legionlincoln@gmail.com)**

**[Web Site: lincolnpost3.org](http://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](mailto:Gerrywolf@aol.com), or 402-417-8230). All requests must be received one week before the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month.**

