

Jan/Feb/Mar 2020

Membership Feb. 2020 1463 90% 2020 Goal

ADJUTANT: Ed Schnabel 402-480-8542 • Edschnabelasa@gmail.com COMMANDER: Rev. Dr. William Jackson 402-613-9774 wcjdoc@gmail.cc commander@lincolnpost3.org

American Legion Post 3 · 123 S. 84th St., Suite L · Lincoln, NE 68510

Freedom

Loyalty

"Pledged to serve the disabled, the distressed, the widowed, and the orphaned. Devoted to the cause of service to the community, state and nation."

## COMING EVENTS

Justice

#### March

- 8 Daylight Savings Time Begins
- 10 Post 3 / Unit 3 Meetings
- 17 St. Patrick's Day
- 17 Voiture 103 / Salon 832 Meetings
- 19 First Day of Spring
- 19 SAL / Salon 92 Meetings
- 19 Legion Riders Meetings
- 19 Pitch at Risky's

#### April

- 5 Palm Sunday
- 12 Easter
- 14 Post 3 / Unit 3 Meeting
- 16 SAL / Salon 892
- 16 Pitch at Risky's
- 26 Boys State / Girls State Orientation



#### May

- 10 Mother's Day
- 12 Post 3 / Unit 3 Meetings
- 19 Voiture 103 / Salon 832 Meetings
- 21 Legion Riders Meeting
- 25 Memorial Day Observed

## 21 Pitch at Risky's

## DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD PRESENTED

Each year at its annual Christmas Party, Voiture 103 of the 40 & 8 presents a Distinguished Service Award to one of its members. It is the voiture's most prestigious award.

Democracy

The recipient of the 2019 Distinguished Service Award was Art Jones. Art is a 50year member of the American Legion and a 25-year member of Voiture 103.

Voyageur Jones was born on October 31, 1928 in Cranston, Rhode Island and enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps in 1949 in Boston, Massachusetts. He survived the Battle of



the Chosin Reservoir and also served in Viet Nam 1969 -1974. He retired from the Marine Corps after 20 years.

Art was employed by Montgomery Ward for 12 years and Southeast Community College for 12 years. He has been a member of the Fleet Marine Corps Reserve continuously for over 40 years and, among many other awards, received the Presidential Lifetime Achievement Award for volunteering at the VA Hospital in Lincoln. Art has been very active with the Post 3 Honor Guard for over 28 years, participating in well over 170 funeral services.

In his spare time, Art volunteers with St. Mark's Lutheran Church and also is a member of the Elks and VFW --- sharing his time with these organizations on a regular basis.

Congratulations, Art!

#### COMMANDER'S CALL "The Challenge"



It's a wonder that there are any soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines, or coast guardsmen left after each and every one served their country to the best of their abilities. Why is that a problem, you might be pondering now? Quite simply: those who cared to offer their lives for their country continued that sacrifice by serving the community where they live, work, and play.

But, you come again asking, earnestly, what does that have to do with your life now? I served my country. I have a family to take care. I haven't ignored the call.

So, why pick on me?

OK. My apologies for putting you on edge. But wait. If you're on the razor's edge of concern for how others think of your continuing veteran experience, then you're right where I want you to be. For you are, my fellow veteran, the one I'm actually trying to reach with a sure-fire way to calm your feelings about not continuing to serve your community. I want to let you know there is



#### AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

The American Legion Auxiliary's 100th birthday was November 10, 2019. American Legion Post 3 surprised Unit 3 members at the November meeting with birthday cake and a rose bouquet to commemorate this special occasion.



The celebration kicked off at the 2019 National Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana and will conclude with the 2020 National Convention to be held in Louisville, Kentucky August 28-September 3, 2020. A recent issue of Auxiliary, the magazine published by the National organization, featured many highlights of the past as we look to the future. We've come a long way and continue to be a community of volunteers serving veterans, the military, and their families.

The latest issue of Auxiliary shared information about the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival held annually to provide veterans an opportunity to gain recognition for their many creative talents. Art categories include kits, creative writing, and applied art. Music and dance are also competitive areas, and the festival culminates with a live stage show.

This year, the Grand Island VA held a local creative arts competition in February. Entries were from artists enrolled at a VA medical facility or outpatient clinic. The first place winners in each category were announced February 22nd and will have the opportunity to complete in the 2020 National Veterans Creative Arts competition and festival that will be held in St. Petersburg, Florida November 28 to December 5.

The American Legion will be 101 years old in March, and we will again celebrate with them at our March 10th meeting. Come and share the evening with us.

At our April 14th meeting, we will recognize those members with 50, 55, 60, or 65 years of continuous membership. We appreciate their years of service as they continue to honor those family members who served in the military to protect the freedoms we enjoy daily.

Auxiliary membership eligibility has been extended to include male spouses of U.S. veterans and service members who served in either of the following periods: April 6, 1917 to November 11, 1918; and any time after December 7, 1941. Grandmothers, mothers, sisters, spouses, and direct and adopted female descendants of members of The American Legion or deceased veterans who served during the same dates are eligible. Female veterans are also eligible for American Legion Auxiliary, regardless of whether or not they belong to The American Legion. However, they would need to belong to the American Legion to establish eligibility for their female relatives. If you have questions regarding membership eligibility, please contact Lynne Wild, Membership Chairman, at 402-464-1191. Leave a message and she will get back to you.

#### PREAMBLE TO AMERICAN LEGION CONSTITUTION CHANGES

With the signing of the LEGION Act – Let Everyone Get Involved in Opportunities for National Service Act – into law last July 30 by President Trump, the U.S. government now acknowledges that the military has been involved in at least 12 additional military conflicts not previously recognized.

As a result of this, The American Legion National Executive Committee adopted to amend the organization's Preamble to the Constitution to recognize the millions of U.S. military veterans from all of these wars and conflicts that have occurred since World Wars I and II. Resolution 1 was adopted by the NEC during last year's Fall Meetings in Indianapolis to amend "the Great Wars" in the Preamble to "all wars."

#### SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION



Best wishes to the American Legion for celebrating its 101st birthday this month. So, HAPPY BIRTHDAY to THE AMERICAN LEGION and all its members. It's not just the service they provided while they were in military, but the continued service they've all provided to their community, state and nation for so many years after their military service. Since the founding of our parent organization 101 years ago, the American Legion --- and now the Sons of

the American Legion --- have been provided with four simple goals for the organizations. 1. Care for the veterans; 2. Stand for national security and a strong national defense; 3. Continue the support of our Americanism programs; and 4. Care for the children.

If you get an opportunity to thank a veteran for their service, do so. They have provided the security for us to continue the life style we all enjoy today and will enjoy tomorrow as well.

We will be selecting our choices for a candidate to attend Cornhusker Boys State and Cornhusker Girls State shortly. More on the subject later.

Please join us at our next meeting on the third Thursday of the month. We meet at 7:00 PM at the Lincoln Elks Lodge 80 located at 5910 S 58th St. in the Trade Center.

#### For God and Country,

*Fred Craigie, Commander* Squadron #3 The Sons of the American Legion

#### ... Continued from Page 1

still an opportunity for you --- right here --- right now!

Have you ever heard of any United States veterans service organizations like the like the **Veterans of Foreign Wars**, the **Disabled American Veterans** (I'm a U.S. Air Force, 100% service-connected, disabled veteran), or the **American Legion** --- to name a few? You have, huh? But you thought you wouldn't fit in because --- well --- some of us are old, some of us enjoy a libation at our meeting place, and, of course, quite frankly, you think that maybe we might be hard to approach because of our Korean War (i.e., Chosin Reservoir), Vietnam, or now Iraq and Afghanistan conflict terrors. So, you mean as a warrior overseas, YOU never indulged in some little "merry-making"?

Soooooooo. The point is: we've NEVER given up on you --- the hope of our present and, especially, this great nation's future. Meet us half-way by stopping in, for example, at an **American Legion Post 3** meeting. Meetings are held every second Tuesday of the month at the Lincoln Elks Lodge 80 located at 5910 South 58th Street --- adjacent to and just east of Raising Cane's restaurant. Our membership meeting starts at 7:00 PM, but the Elks offer you a great burger, fries, and extras before the meeting. Bring the little lady and the younglings, too.

Give us a chance to show you that we're ALL veterans --- no matter when we served, what we did, or for how long. The American Legion's **Four Pillars** encompass a variety of programs that benefit our nation's veterans, its service members, their families, the youth of America, and ordinary citizens. They include: **Pillar 1** --- Veterans Rehabilitation and Support; **Pillar 2** --- National Security; **Pillar 3** --- Americanism; and **Pillar 4** --- Children & Youth.

OK, what's the beef, you're asking, about those libations? The meeting room is closed off from the bar during meetings, and there's plenty of room to mingle and sit near anyone. I may be a little prejudiced about this, but I believe you and your family will be pleasantly surprised at our **American Legion** decorum and orderliness.

We'll keep the light on for you.

#### LETTER FROM THE CHAPLAIN



"Focus on What Matters"

OCUS

Is there something you want to tell me? Oh, don't be shy. I'm sure it isn't THAT bad. After all, you've only been alive for say, less than 100 years.

So, what have you done --- or said --- That could be an anathema (i.e., abhorrent, hateful, odious, repugnant, repellent)? Still quiet, eh? Well...

Maybe it has to do with that --- you know --- little fib about where you were the other night. Naw, I'll never tell; but I'm sure you came up with a whopper to keep them satisfied --- for now. And hey, what about you? Don't look so sheepish and innocent. I'm sure your family knows about that supposed vacation with your best buds, but --- well --- let's not go any deeper than you are. And, don't forget that sin is sin, no matter how trivial (Genesis 4:7).

To most of us, these tales from anyone's life appear rather inconsequential. Nobody was hurt. No items stolen or destroyed. Seemingly, nothing evidential to reveal the truth of what you did. Even now, you probably maintain that sense of security from knowing that nobody knows. But God knows.

Did you reckon on the Lord being aware of what you do, even if no one else knew? OK, let's give you a "B" for effort --- somewhat. Now, let's examine God's parameters for being God so we may see how He just might outclass your pretenses to greatness. Is He Omniscient (i.e., all knowing)? Check. Is He Omnipotent (i.e., all powerful)? Check. Last, but not least, is He Omnipresent (i.e., everywhere)? Looks like your batting --- uh --- negative F Hhhhuuuummm...

Wait, there's still the issue of just exactly what you expect out of life where the Lord Jesus Christ is not involved? Sure, you may do whatever you like whenever you like; but your balance sheet may need a little redressing. Consider this: you're young, you're ambitious. No. Scratch that ambition and replace it with "concerned." And, you're ready to handle anything. Let's add to this mixture God's view: a sin is a sin, no matter the type or degree, since it falls under the category of disfellowshipping from Him (Romans 3:9).

So, what counts is your standing before God, not what you've done as a freelance individual. God loved you and you and you AND you enough to offer His life as a ransom for our sinfulness (1 Corinthians 5:7). The least any selfrespecting person might do is show the Lord the tiniest, little drivel of respect and honor due Him; since, by the way, He's God, and we're not. A little respect goes a long way, my fellow believer. Make the effort, through prayer, to let God know His sacrifice for you wasn't pointless (Philippians 3:3)

Rev. Dr. William Jackson Chaplain, American Legion Post 3

#### Ask the Chaplain

If any of you have a Biblical question or life issue concerning your walk with Jesus, call me confidentially at 402.613.9774, leaving a message so I may get back with you. You may also leave a text message or email me at wcjdoc@gmail.com

#### AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS



Your American Legion Riders Chapter met on January 16, 2020 and installed officers for the coming year. Nebraska State ALR Liaison Marty Timberlake served as installing officer.

The 2020 officers are:

Bruce Gubser, Commander Ray Paulson, Vice Commander Mike Streeter, Secretary Dave Dietz, Treasurer Ray Gilbertson, Sergeant-at-Arms William Smisek, Ride Captain.

While there isn't much riding going on during these winter months, a few souls have braved the elements and cooler temperatures to "get their knees in the breeze." The chapter will use these cooler months to get some good plans in place for when the weather warms up. Some items on our tentative schedule include dinner/lunch rides, a couple of Poker Runs, and a potential raffle.

We meet on the third Thursday of every month at the Denton American Legion Club with dinner at 6:00 PM and the meeting at 7:00 PM. We welcome all motorcycle riders / owners of a motorcycle with an engine greater than 350cc ---regardless of make or model.

If you ride, please come on out and join us.

#### Bruce Gubser, Commander

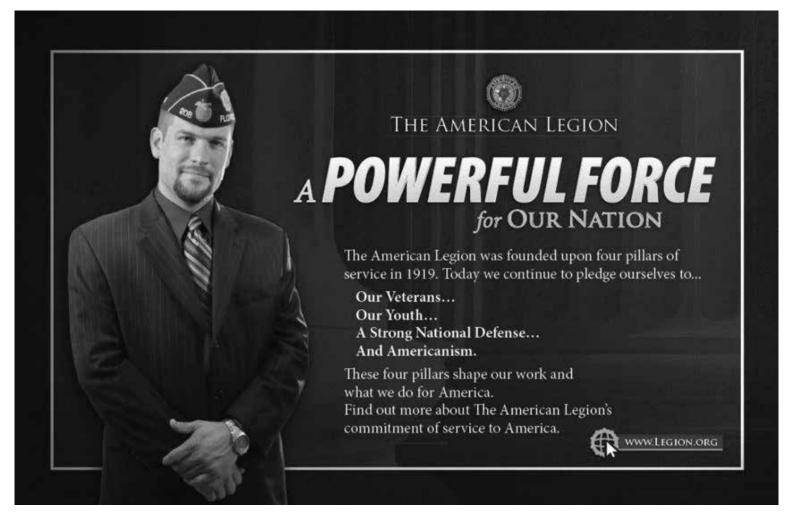
Post 3 American Legion Riders





Installed by State Liaison Marty Timberlake were (pictured L-R): Commander Bruce Gubser, Vice Commander Ray Paulson, Secretary Mike Streeter, Sgt-at-Arms Ray Gilbertson, and Road Captain William Smisek. Treasurer Dave Dietz was unable to attend the meeting.

## AMERICAN LEGION POST 3 LINCOLN, NEBRASKA FOUR PILLARS OF SERVICE --- 2020



Following are some of the projects that reflect American Legion Post 3's efforts to support our veterans and the Four Pillars of the American Legion. Some may support more than one Pillar.

#### 1 --- Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation

- Pay Final Respects and Provide Honor Guard for Military Honors --- 200+ per year
- Volunteer at VA Vet Centers
- Assist veterans seeking GI Bill Benefits
- Assist Homeless Veterans at Victory Apartments
- Present Retirement Home Programs to Honor Veterans
- Attend hearings and Support Legislative Bills at State and Federal Levels

#### 2 --- National Security

- Support all of our troops and VA programs
- Volunteer at the Lincoln VA Clinic
- Provide funds to Veterans and their families Emergencies
- Provide Funds to support Operation Comfort Warriors
- Provide Funds to support the American Legion National Emergency Fund
- Provide Funds to support the American Legion Legacy Fund

#### 3 --- Americanism

- Provide Flag Etiquette Education Programs
- Participate in Scheel's Sporting Goods annual Flag Replacement Program.
- Conduct an annual Flag Disposal Program and Burial of Ashes
- Work with Boy Scouts of America / Honor Eagle Scouts
- Provide funds and participate in Wreaths Across American Program
- Provide School Talks
- Fund and support Lincoln Special Olympics

- Ring Bells for Salvation Army
- Provided funds to Call-a-Vet program
- Maintain a Post Web Site(https://lincolnpost3.org/)
- Publish Lincoln Legionnaire newspaper quarterly
- Distribute a monthly Post 3 newsletter
- Host Coffeehaus / Quilts of Valor events at the Lincoln VA Clinic
- Purchase Coffee for the VA Clinic
- Support VA Food Pantry
- Donate to Soldiers Christmas Fund
- Support the University of Nebraska Lincoln ROTC program
- Sponsor and Support American Legion Auxiliary Unit 3
- Sponsor and Support Sons of the American Legion Squadron 3
- Sponsor and Support American Legion Riders Chapter 3
- Participate in Lincoln's Veterans Parade
- Participate in Governor's Welcome Home Picnic

#### 4 ---- Children and Youth

- Support and Sponsor delegates to American Legion Cornhusker Boys State
- Support and Fund American Legion Baseball
- Conduct District 15 American Legion Oratorical Contest annually
- Support and Sponsor participants to American Legion Jr. Law Cadet
  Program
- Support Boy Scouts / Eagle Scout Recognitions
- Provide up to 3 \$500 Scholarships annually
- Honor Lincoln Public School teachers and Staff with 25 Years-of-Service certificates
- Honor High School JROTC Cadets with certificates and medals
- Provide funds and support for the VA Little Pride Program

#### WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA



The Post 3 Honor Guard participated in Governor Pete Rickets' proclamation of "Wreaths Across America in the State of Nebraska" on December 9, 2019. Pictured, I-r, with Governor Rickets are: Fred Chrastil, Dale Nurnberg, Wade Graft, and Gerry Wolf. Present but not pictured are Ed Schnabel and Pam Umphenour.

#### SQUADRON 3 OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION IS LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS!!



Calling all sons of American Legion members! Calling all sons of American Legion members! The time has come to rally those interested in becoming a member of and serving Squadron 3 of the Sons of the American Legion. Please come for the first recruitment meeting this year on Thursday, March 19th.

I'm calling all of you sons of America Legion members to attend an official meeting at the

Lincoln Elks Lodge 80 located at 5910 South 58th Street --- adjacent to and just east of Raising Cane's restaurant. Squadron 3 meets on the third Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM.

And, just what should you expect from this calling of the sons of American Legion veterans? How about getting to know one another? Then, realize that you all have something in common: your love for America, as your fathers expressed by their military service.

As Commander of American Legion Post 3, and ultimately responsible for

your existence, like that of the American Legion Riders #3, I hold the Sons of the American Legion with just as great an esteem as I do for Post 3 and the American Legion Riders.

So, come join me, along with some other possibly familiar acquaintances, to rebuild the Sons of the American Squadron 3 so it may achieve its potential. With you sons of an American Legion member and me, the Sons of the American Squadron 3 will once again reap the benefits of comradeship, honor, and community service.

Thank you for joining us.

(Legionnaires ---- please share this with any sons or grandsons or anyone you know that might be eligible and interested in joining the Sons of the American Legion. And don't forget, there are "dual members." Eligible Legionnaires can also belong to the Sons of the American Legion.)

*Rev. Dr. William Jackson* Commander, Post 3

#### YELLOW RIBBON REINTEGRATION PROGRAM

The Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program is a congressionally mandated program that was established in 2008 under the National Defense Authorization Act. The mission of the program is to promote the well-being of National Guard and Reserve members, their families, and communities by connecting them with resources throughout the deployment cycle.

American Legion Post 3 was one of about a dozen agencies and organizations that set up information tables at The Graduate Hotel in Lincoln on Saturday, February 8th, as the Nebraska National Guard held a Yellow Ribbon Reintegration program for Nebraska Guard members who either recently redeployed or were about to deploy. Most of the program attendees were from the Grand Island area.

Bruce Gubser represented Post 3 at the event.



TAPS American Legion Post 3			
LEGION	NAIRE	SERVICE E	RA DATE
Harry J. A	Amen	Korea	
Albert E.	Baker	Vietnam	
Larry G. 1	Behm	Vietnam	
Alvin H.	Czeschin	WWII	
Richard T	Delorm	Korea	
John G. E	Desmond	Korea	
Marvin A	. Erickson	WWII	
Melvin R	. Faas	WWII	
Verdon C	. Jobst	Korea	
Eugene R	Jochim	Korea	
Vincent A	. Kamrath	WWII	
Kenneth	C. Kasparek	WWII	
John K. N	Aorton, Jr	Vietnam	
Paul W. R	Reinsch	Korea	
Wayne F.	Rowe	WWII	
Theodore	D. Svoboda	WWII	
William J	. Tussey	Vietnam	
Allan K.	Warner	Korea	
William J	. Wayne	WWII	
Rodney [	) Way	Vietnam	

## **POST 3 MEETING**

American Legion Post 3 meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month ---- except August --- at the Lincoln Elks Lodge 80. The Elks Lodge is located in the Trade Center at 5910 South 58th Street. Meetings begin at 7:00 P.M.

## Please visit the Post 3 website! www.legionpost3.org

# **1** million

Minimum number of holiday wreaths placed at the grave markers of veterans throughout the nation by Dec. 14, 2019. American Legion posts throughout the nation participated in numerous Wreaths Across America remembrance activities, including more than 7,200 in one effort led by The American Legion Riders of District 8 in Wisconsin.

## EDITOR'S NOTE:

Please send articles and pictures for the next issue of the *Lincoln Legionnaire* to Steve Bartos, Editor. 7441 San Mateo Lane, Lincoln, NE 68516 or email them to LB32906@windstream.net. Electronic submittals are preferred and should include reference to *"Lincoln Legionnaire"* in the subject line of your email. Materials for the next issue need to be submitted by May 10, 2020.

#### **CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION**



At the District 15 Convention held in February in conjunction with the regular Post 3 meeting, Commander Gerry Wolf --- on behalf of the Department Publications Committee --- presented Jack Sibert with a Certificate of Appreciation for his work maintaining the Post 3 website.



Number of minor children who were helped through American Legion Temporary Financial Assistance grants in January. The \$15,501 in emergency funding helped families of military personnel and veterans pay for shelter, utilities, food and clothing.



#### accident.

### Legionnaire Insurance Trust - LIT

#### LegionCare - \$5,000 Accidental Death No Cost Benefit

Legionnaires in good standing are eligible for LegionCare, a \$5,000 NO COST Accidental Death Benefit through Legionnaire Insurance Trust (LIT). Legionnaires cannot be turned down for this important, no cost coverage; however, activation is required.

LegionCare provides the following:

- \$5,000 No Cost Accident Benefit: This benefit provides a Legionnaire's family members with a check for \$5,000 should the Legionnaire fall victim to a fatal accident while traveling on official American Legion business.

- **\$1,000 No Cost Accident Benefit**: This benefit provides a Legionnaire's family members with a check for **\$1,000** should the Legionnaire fall victim to any other covered

LIT was formed in 1966 and has been so successful in its more than 40 years that today some 2 million Legionnaires in 48 participating Departments are enrolled in this unique program.

To learn more and to activate this important benefit visit https://www.thelit.com/no-cost-legioncare.

