



“For God And Country”
JANUARY 2021 POST 3 NEWSLETTER



Meeting Schedule For January 2021 – February 2021

Organization	Location	Time	January	February
Legion Post 3	Elks Lodge, 5910 S 58th	7 PM	01/12/21	02/09/21
Auxiliary Unit 3	Elks Lodge, 5910 S 58 th	7 PM	Cancelled	02/09/21
SAL Squadron 3	Post 3 Office, 123 South 84th	7 PM	01/21/21	02/18/21
ALR Chapter 3	Denton Legion Club	6 PM	01/21/21	02/18/21
40 & 8 Voiture 103	Elks Lodge, 5910 S 58 th	7 PM	01/19/21	02/16/21
8 & 40 Salon 832	Elks Lodge, 5910 S 58 th	7 PM	01/19/21	02/16/21
Pitch Tournament	Risky's, 4648 Leighton	7 PM	Cancelled	Cancelled
Buddy Check	The Foundry, 211 N 14 th	7 PM	01/22/21	02/22/21
VA Coffeehaus	VA Clinic, 600 South 70 th	11 AM	Cancelled	Cancelled

COMMANDER'S CALL



Legion Family All.....

By the time you receive this Post 3 Newsletter it will be 2021. We're not sorry to bid good riddance to 2020. It has been a very tough year for us all for a number of reasons - so many of our fellow Nebraskans got sick from the Covid-19 virus and the resulting effects of death, job losses, quarantining, social distancing, wearing masks, favorite stores, churches and restaurants being closed, and on and on...

Post 3 has been very busy doing what we have determined is our mission. Doing veteran funerals, keeping in touch with our Post 3 members with in-person and Zoom meetings, sending Birthday cards to veterans in long term care facilities (we started with one and now a few months later we are handling 8), working in the office to update our membership roster renewals, processing new members and planning for the future. Speaking of the future, we would like to hear from all of you folks reading this Post 3 Newsletter with your ideas and suggestions to help make Post 3 more effective. A quick email or phone call is

the best way to let us know what you think. We welcome your input.

Fortunately, we are beginning to see a little light at the end of the tunnel. The number of us infected are beginning to go down, hospitalization counts are lessening and most importantly, several vaccines have been approved for use with a 90%+ effective rate. Nebraska has received our first shipment of the vaccine and more on the way. We are told that it will be available to all of us by spring 2021. Thank God.

With the welcome thoughts of getting back to some kind of normalcy, we are looking to add some committee assignments, office help and Honor Guard members. Please consider stepping up and help make Post 3 all that it should be. You can make a difference! As always, please ask a veteran to join Post 3, when you do, everyone wins!

For your information, the January Post 3 general membership monthly meeting will also be broadcast on ZOOM. To join us, click the following link and open the hyperlink on your computer at 7:00, January 12th:

<https://bit.ly/2L225g6>

Respectfully,

Wade Graft

Post 3 Commander

402-770-9126

wamar4801@gmail.com

ADJUTANT'S REPORT



Welcome to Winter, we have had our first snowfall of the winter. I want to wish all of you a Happy and Safe New

Year.

The Post 3 office will be closed through the 4th of January 2021. If you need anything in way of support from me, please text me at 402-480-8542.

We have passed the thousand mark with 1177 paid 2021 members. To reach our 2021 goal of 1427, we need another 250 renewals or new members.

Remember to do your Buddy Check for those who are out and about, be sure to say HI when you meet a fellow Veteran.

When we receive the COVID-19 vaccine, maybe we will be able to get back to a more normal lifestyle. For the time being be safe when you are out.

For those who still have not paid their 2021 Legion Dues, you should be receiving a third notice in the mail. If you have paid your dues, just throw the notices away. If you or someone that you know are not receiving the monthly newsletter and would like to receive a copy, drop us a note with your phone number and an email address and we would be glad to add you to our mailing list.

Ed Schnabel – Adjutant



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

Lincoln CBOC / VA News

Happy New Year, may it be a better year.

The new Lincoln Community-Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) is nearing completion. The VA was hoping to take possession of the building by the end of December 2020. If you drive by at night you can see the lights are on. Gives you an idea as to what it looks like inside. It will take about 90 days for the clinic staff to outfit the new clinic and move into their new spaces. We are still looking for the new CBOC to open around April or May. Work on landscaping and lighting around the building and driveway / parking lots is still in progress. The city is still working on 70th street, installing right turn lanes and new signals at the 70th and L street entrance.

The VA is still in a locked down mode, they ask you to not to come to the Clinic unless you have an appointment, and not to come more than a half hour before your appointment.

Thanks for your support of the **VA Christmas Giving Tree**. I want to thank those who support the Giving Tree for our fellow Veterans who need support this Christmas.

Remember, the VA will only to be there for us if we use its services. If we do not use them, the government sees it as a service not needed here and will cut funding for the Lincoln CBOC. The government funds each CBOC / hospital based on the number of veterans signed up for services in its service area. They, the veterans, do not need to be using the VA for their medical needs, just need to be enrolled in the VA Health Care System. Funding is based on foreseen needs, not current need. There are many veterans who could receive medical service but have never signed up for this benefit of our service. Again, it is the old story, use them or lose them.

Thanks for your service.

Ed Schnabel

Lincoln VAG member (Veteran Advisory Group)
Lincoln VA American Legion Representative

POST 3 ALR DIRECTOR'S REMARKS



Greetings Riders and all!

By the time you read this, 2020 will be in the rear-view mirror. I say, good riddance!

We held our December meeting via Zoom, with election of 2021 officers the primary order of business. I am happy to report your ALR officers for 2021 are:

Commander - Bruce Gubser

Vice Commander - Ray Paulson

Secretary - Mike Streeter

Treasurer - Dave Dietz

Road Captain - William Smisek

Sergeant-at-Arms - Ron Bevard

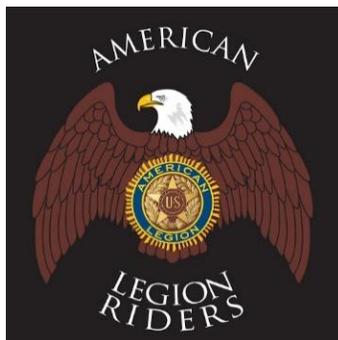
We are planning for an in-person meeting for our January 21st meeting at our usual Denton Legion Club venue. We also plan on simultaneously hosting the meeting on Zoom.

We hope to have a good turnout, either in-person or online for the installation of officers.

As for December activities, there wasn't much. Several riders teamed up with members from VFW Post 3606 for a Santa Parade event in the neighborhoods near West A Street and SW 30th Street. A fun time was had by all and the kids of the neighborhood appeared to enjoy Santa's appearance.

Here's hoping that 2021 will be a much better year for everyone!

**Until next time,
Ride (or Drive) Safe!
Bruce Gubser
ALR Director**



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAPLAIN



Yes, for those not asleep, or who just awakened from a weekend or week-long binge, it's Happy New Year for one and all...except for those...who may harbor a greater sense of things to come.

What I mean is: God, if you still believe in Him, has more things in store for you than what this past year has revealed. Like what, you smilingly ponder? Then I say, according to Holy Scripture, many of us are in store for more of the Lord's chastisement than you experienced already.

Take the current Covid-19 Pandemic. It started in China, spread to Eurasia, Africa, South America, the rest of the Far East, and of course, America. We did what we could, naturally, but think of this: is this contagion really a factor of mankind's evil intensions, or, as a better commentary, is it a measure of God's divine quest to once again bring the world to heal at His Word (i.e., the Bible) and His plan of salvation for all humankind?

In His *Protoevangelium* (Greek for first Gospel) during that Garden of Eden incident (Genesis 3:1-7; 15), God arranged for mankind's salvation through an otherwise, unheard of proposition; i.e., sending His son Jesus, a member of the *Elohime* (Hebrew for the Godhead or trinity)

found in Genesis 1:26, to redeem and reconcile us back to Him.

But what transpires over eons of human history, including the repeated rebellion of His chosen, the 12 tribes and descendants of Jacob, later called *Israel* (Hebrew, may God prevail), is noted in Genesis 32:28). *Us Gentiles* (Greek for non-Hebrews) come into God's world as noted in Acts 10:45.

What it comes down to is this: God wants you to look up and testify to His glory as He gives you edification to do His will. Global warming, earthquakes, lava flows, rising seas, forest fires, tsunamis, and other earth-centered disasters have and don't occur because a freak of nature. Strifes among humankind, too, should not be wholly laid to people's unwillingness to be cordial, and compassionate. The Word, God's Bible, says humankind IS basically evil from Eve and Adams' sin in the Garden (Romans 3:9).

Take it seriously that our Heavenly Father wants us ALL to be with Him in Heaven when He calls us (Hebrews 9:11). For now, let's resolve to resist Satan's temptation through other persons serving as his Anti-Christ followers. Who may be an Anti-Christ follower? Those persons who subscribe their loyalty and dedication to Satan by their conduct as found in 1 Corinthians 6:10 (...”nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God.”). “Be still and know that (He) is God” (Psalm 46:10) to complete the work He has for you (Romans 8:28).

Rev. Dr. William Jackson

ALP 3 Chaplain

Post 3 Honor Guard



In the month of December, the Honor Guard rendered Honors at 9 Legion funerals and was asked to assist at 8 VFW funerals. Since the first of the year, the Honor Guard rendered Honors at 63 Legion funerals and asked to assist at 71 VFW funerals. We have also appeared at various community activities 13 times in 2020. This is considerably less than in previous years, mainly because of COVID-19.

As 2020 comes to a close, I would like to thank some special people who helped the Honor Guard in our mission:

Lincoln Symphony Orchestra: Kaylene Beal, who schedules a live bugler for all Legion funerals; Mike Thompson, Tom Kelly, Deb Bouffard and others that have bugled for us in 2020. Many a tear has been shed by a family member or friend when they play “Taps”.

Service Branch Honor Guards: We have had the privilege and honor of assisting these fine young soldiers. A special thanks to SGT Raymond, SGT Siebrandt, SGT Hansen and their assistants. They truly are the most dedicated and professional Honor Guard members that I have been associated with.

Post 3 Honor Guard Members: This is a great group of dedicated volunteers who show up, rain or shine – in the heat or cold, to pay proper respect to our deceased veterans.

When the Honor Guard reports, they joke with one another and tell war stories until the hearse arrives with the Honored Guest. Then it’s all about honor and respect for the veteran.

However, we need help. We are looking for a “Few Good Men” to help us. Our ranks are getting older and we are looking for some younger blood. We presently have 17 members on our Honor Guard roster. The average age of these members is 78.

Of the 17, 7 are available only occasionally because of health problems, weather-related issues, or doing other administrative work for Post 3. To equip a proper Honor Guard, we should have a minimum of 7 riflemen and a Commander.

I don’t know how much longer these old troopers can continue to provide their services. Without new replacements, I fear that the Honor Guard will soon disappear.

The Honor Guard is a personal commitment, but If you are interested, contact the Post 3 Legion office at 402-466-3958 or email at: post3legionlincoln@gmail.com

Gerry Wolf
Post 3 Honor Guard Member

December 2020 TAPS



LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	WAR ERA	BRANCH	YEARS
ANDERSON	MARLAN	KOREA	USAF	39
CLARENCE	RICHARD	KOREA	NAVY	46
CLARY	CLAUD	WWII	UNK	64
HIATT	LELAND	WWII	ARMY	59
HOFFART	DWAIN	KOREA	NAVY	67
LOWERY	LOREN	KOREA	USAF	57
MARIENAU	DENNIS	WWII	ARMY	1
NOVICOFF	BEN	WWII	ARMY	66
SHARP	MILTON	KOREA	NAVY	30
SLAIGHT	HAROLD	KOREA	ARMY	35
SMITH	ALFRED	KOREA	UNK	16
WINTERS	ROLLIE	VIETNAM	NAVY	45



Minutes Of Post 3 Meeting, 11/10/20

**Regular Meeting of American Legion Post 3
Held Virtually via ZOOM
December 8, 2020**

Commander Wade Graft opened the December 8, 2020 meeting of American Legion Post 3 at 7:00 PM on ZOOM with 10 members eventually logged on.

Gerry Wolf offered prayer.

The minutes of the November meeting were read and accepted without objection.

Ed Schnabel gave the finance report for the month ending November 30, 2020, showing a balance on hand of \$45,551.63. The report was accepted and filed for review.

Veterans of the various war eras were asked to “wave” and be recognized.

Legionnaires John Trayer and Dennis Schmidt were recognized as attending their first Post 3 meeting.

Membership was reported to be 1120, about 78% of goal.

Bruce Gubser reported for the American Legion Riders. He said that the December Riders meeting would be held on ZOOM and that the Riders intended to ring bells for the Salvation Army at Hobby Lobby this coming Thursday.

William Jackson indicated that Post 3 was scheduled to ring bells for the Salvation Army this Thursday and that there were 4 locations yet to fill.

Gerry Wolf reported for the Memorial Squad. He indicated that the team continued to provide honors, but the number of ceremonies was significantly reduced due to the virus.

Fred Craigie reported that the Sons of the American Legion would not meet in December. He also reported that the squadron had donated \$500 to Gifts for Yanks.

Bartos reported that there had been some last-minute problems with the Lincoln Legionnaire because of some cancellations, but the paper went out as scheduled the first week of December.

It was reported that Voiture 103 of the 40/8 would not meet in December.

Commander Graft indicated that there were a few committee chairs to be appointed.

William Jackson reminded everyone that the Department’s Mid-Year Conference would be held in Columbus in January.

Bruce Gubser reported on the Post 3 project to send birthday cards to veterans in some of the senior living facilities. He said that there were now 6 facilities on board with the project --- and more than 200 veterans affected. Rev. Jackson read TAPS, and the meeting was closed in proper form at 7:25.

**Steve Bartos
Recorder**



A new camp commander was appointed and while inspecting the place, he saw 2 soldiers guarding a bench. He went over there and asked them why do they guard it.

"We don't know. The last commander told us to do so, and so we did. It is some sort of regimental tradition!"

He searched for last commander's phone number and called him to ask him why did he want guards in this particular bench.

"I don't know. The previous commander had guards, and I kept the tradition."

Going back another 3 commanders, he found a now 100-year old retired General.

"Excuse me sir. I'm now the CO of your camp you commanded 60 years ago. I've found 2 men assigned to guard a bench. Could you please tell me more about the bench?"

"What? Is the paint still wet?!?"

NAVY TRADITIONS



These are weird Navy traditions and their meanings:

A recent Navy Times article notes that the crew of the Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Ross (DDG 71) joined the “Order of the Blue Nose” — a distinction reserved for ships and crew that crossing the Arctic Circle.

Most people have not heard of such a mystical Navy order, and there are others that are equally shrouded in seafaring lore, according to a list maintained by the Naval History and Heritage Command.

That list includes both well-known orders and not-so-well-known orders. They are for notable feats — and in some cases, dubious ones.

Perhaps the most well-known is the “Order of the Shellback,” given to those sailors who have crossed the equator. The “Crossing the Line” ceremony has been portrayed both in the PBS documentary series “Carrier,” as well as being the plot point for an episode of “JAG” in the 1990s. But there is more than one kind of shellback.

If you cross the equator at the International Date Line (about 900 miles east of Nauru), you become a “Golden Shellback” (since those who cross the International Date Line are called Golden Dragons).

If you cross the equator at the Prime Meridian (a position about 460 miles to the west of Sao Tome and Principe), you become an “Emerald Shellback.”

Now, we can move to some lesser-known and even dubious orders.

The “Order of the Caterpillar” is awarded to anyone who has to leave a plane on the spur of the moment due to the plane being unable to continue flying. You even get a golden caterpillar pin.

The eyes of the caterpillar will then explain the circumstances of said departure. The Naval History and Heritage Command, for instance, notes that ruby red eyes denote a mid-air collision.

Then, there is becoming a member of the “Goldfish Club.” That involves spending time on a life raft. If you’re on the raft for more than 24 hours, you become a “Sea Squatter.

”Using the Panama Canal makes you a member of the “Order of the Ditch.” Oh, and in case you are wondering, crossing the Antarctic Circle makes you a “Red Nose.”

High Schooler Helped Reunite Twins 74 Years After Their World War II Deaths



Sometimes a high school history project ends up making history. That's what happened when a 16-year-old Nebraska student decided to participate in the National History Day project in 2015. Partly due to her research, the bodies of two American twin brothers, separated at death during World War II, were finally reunited.

On June 19, 2018 — 74 years to the day after they were killed off the coast of Normandy, France — Ludwig Julius Wilhelm "Louie" Pieper and Julius Heinrich Otto "Henry" Pieper were laid to rest side by side in the Normandy American Cemetery, high on a bluff overlooking Omaha Beach.

The twins were born in Esmond, South Dakota, and grew up in Creston, Neb. They enlisted in the Navy together and took part in the 1944 D-Day Normandy invasion as radiomen 2nd class on the same landing ship.

Nearly two weeks after D-Day, Landing Ship Tank 523 was crossing the Channel from England, trying to reach France's

Utah Beach. It was loaded with men, vehicles, equipment and explosives. The ship hit an underwater German magnetic mine, exploded and sank within minutes, according to the American Battle Monuments Commission. The Pieper twins were 19 years old.

Rescuers found Louie's body after the explosion. But Henry's wasn't immediately found and identified. He became one of World War II's tens of thousands of missing in action. His name was inscribed on the Walls of the Missing at the American military cemetery in Normandy, where Louie was buried.

Henry's remains were eventually discovered, but remained unidentified. For decades, the body was labeled "Unknown X-9352" and was buried at another military cemetery in Belgium — until now.

Tim Nosal, who heads external affairs at the American Battle Monuments Commission in Virginia, says they are always looking for America's missing soldiers, but this time there was an incredible coincidence that helped them find one.

(Twins – Continued)

"We were looking at all the information we have on the unknowns in our cemeteries when, at the same time, a high school student in Nebraska was doing research," says Nosal. "And it's almost like a new piece of the puzzle came across the table."

It was 2015, and Vanessa Taylor was a student at Ainsworth High School in Ainsworth, Neb., and was looking for a topic for a class project.

"We were supposed to select a silent hero from our state," says Taylor, now a student at the University of Nebraska.

She began her research by looking at websites listing soldiers killed from her state.

"I just happened to notice there were two people killed who had the same exact last name," she says. "So I thought it was kind of interesting and wondered if there was a connection or if it was just a coincidence."

Taylor says she found out they were twin brothers who served in the same branch of the military. "And they were on the same ship when they died," she adds.

Taylor's requests to the U.S. government for personnel files on the sailors caught the attention of officials at the Defense POW-MIA Accounting Agency, which tracks soldiers who have been prisoners of war or missing in action. They drew a possible link between the missing twin and the remains of six unidentified sailors found by French divers who were

dismantling a sunken American ship off Omaha Beach in 1961. Those unidentified remains were buried at the Ardennes American Cemetery in Belgium.

"It was fresh [information] to them and it helped them put the pieces together to identify a sailor that was missing from this particular vessel," says Nosal.

The remains were positively identified as Henry's in November 2017, using DNA and dental records.

The twins had four other siblings. Their last living sister, MaryAnn Pieper Lawrence, died in May. At the June ceremony in Normandy, her daughter Susan Lawrence said her mother got the news of the positive identification last Thanksgiving.

"For her, it was like the biggest burden lifted off her shoulders. She was just carrying it all this time," says Lawrence. "What happened to the brother — and to have him identified and know he was found, it was the biggest blessing for Thanksgiving we could have possibly had."

The family asked the monuments commission if they could bury the twins side by side in the verdant, pine tree-lined cemetery above Omaha Beach. Louie's body was moved to a space where it could be reburied next to Henry.

"The American Battle Monuments Commission went out of its way to make it happen," says Lawrence.

(Twins – Continued)

At the end of World War II, about 79,000 Americans were unaccounted for, according to the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency. Today, the agency's website says, more than 72,000 remain unaccounted for from the war.

Many bodies have been identified, says Nosal. But once they are, their families usually repatriate them to the United States.

He says this is the first missing soldier to be identified and buried in this Normandy cemetery of more than 9,300 graves.

"People will be talking about the Pieper twins and visiting their graves for as long as this cemetery exists," he says. "Five million visitors come through this cemetery each year. If you were to rebury your loved one in a private cemetery back home, he would never receive so many visitors. There's a strong message here for the world, of what these men sacrificed their lives for."

As the June ceremony got underway, taps was played as six midshipmen carried Henry's flag-draped coffin between the rows of white marble crosses and Stars of David. The twins' family members sat in a row of chairs on the green lawn. Six nieces and nephews of the twins traveled from the U.S. to witness the burial of uncles they never met.

"He knew that one of his brothers was buried in Normandy and the other one was unknown," said Pieper. "It was always a wound in his heart not knowing where his brother was, so he never talked about it."

As eldest niece and next of kin, Linda Pieper Suitor, was presented with the flag from Henry's coffin after the ceremony. She said this event has changed her life.

"I think I've found a new purpose for my life," Suitor said. "I'm going home and I'm going to visit high schools and share this story and make sure students know about this history project. I'm going to tell them what it's meant to me and my family."

A newspaper clipping from the summer of 1944 in student Vanessa Taylor's online project says 300 people turned out for a memorial ceremony for the twins in their little Nebraska town. Henry and Louie were the first sons of Creston to die in the war, according to the old newspaper article.

The twins were first-generation Americans. Both their parents had emigrated from Germany. Niece Susan Lawrence says the family was proud to be American and knew Hitler had to be stopped.

Initially, Henry and Louie were separated in the Navy. But their father wrote a letter asking that they be able to serve together.

And Lawrence recalls that the twins wrote to their parents just before they died.

"Do not worry about us," she remembers it saying. "We are together."

Eleanor Beardsley – Paris

NAVY VIETNAM MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENT



- **RANK: HOSPITAL CORPSMAN SECOND CLASS (HIGHEST RANK: COLONEL (ARNG))**
- **CONFLICT/ERA: VIETNAM WAR**
- **UNIT/COMMAND:
COMPANY M, 3D BATTALION, 4TH MARINES,
3D MARINE DIVISION**

- **MILITARY SERVICE BRANCH: U.S. NAVY**
- **MEDAL OF HONOR ACTION DATE: MAY 16, 1968**
- **MEDAL OF HONOR ACTION PLACE: QUANG TRI PROVINCE, REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM**

CITATION:

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as a HC2c. with Company M, in connection with operations against enemy aggressor forces. During the afternoon hours, Company M was moving to join the remainder of the 3d Battalion in Quang Tri province.

After treating and evacuating two heat casualties, HC2c. Ballard was returning to his platoon from the evacuation landing zone when the company was ambushed by a North Vietnamese Army unit employing automatic weapons and mortars, and sustained numerous casualties. Observing a wounded marine, HC2c. Ballard unhesitatingly moved across the fire-swept terrain to the injured man and swiftly rendered medical assistance to his comrade.

HC2c. Ballard then directed four marines to carry the casualty to a position of relative safety. As the four men prepared to move the wounded marine, an enemy soldier suddenly left his concealed position and, after hurling a

hand grenade which landed near the casualty, commenced firing upon the small group of men. Instantly shouting a warning to the marines, HC2c.

Ballard fearlessly threw himself upon the lethal explosive device to protect his comrades from the deadly blast. When the grenade failed to detonate, he calmly arose from his dangerous position and resolutely continued his determined efforts in treating other marine casualties.

HC2c. Ballard's heroic actions and selfless concern for the welfare of his companions served to inspire all who observed him and prevented possible injury or death to his fellow marines. His courage, daring initiative, and unwavering devotion to duty in the face of extreme personal danger, sustain and enhance the finest traditions of the U.S. Naval Service.

USED WITH PERMISSION, NICK DELCALZO

Half Boy – Half Man



The average age of the military man is 19 years. He is a short haired, tight-muscled kid who, under normal circumstances is considered by society as half man, half boy. Not yet dry behind the ears, not old enough to buy a beer, but old enough to die for his country.

He never really cared much for work and he would rather wax his own car than wash his father's, but he has never collected unemployment either.

He's a recent High School graduate; he was probably an average student, pursued some form of sport activities, drives a ten year old jalopy, and has a steady girlfriend that either broke up with him when he left, or swears to be waiting when he returns from half a world away. He listens to rock and roll or hip-hop or rap or jazz or swing and a 155mm howitzer.

He is 10 or 15 pounds lighter now than when he was at home because he is working or fighting from before dawn to well after dusk. He has trouble spelling, thus letter writing is a pain for him, but he can field strip a rifle in 30 seconds and reassemble it in less time in the dark.

He can recite to you the nomenclature of a machine gun or grenade launcher and use either one effectively if he must.

He digs foxholes and latrines and can apply first aid like a professional.

He can march until he is told to stop or stop until he is told to march.

He obeys orders instantly and without hesitation, but he is not without spirit or individual dignity. He is self-sufficient.

He has two sets of fatigues: he washes one and wears the other.

He keeps his canteens full and his feet dry.

He sometimes forgets to brush his teeth, but never to clean his rifle. He can cook his own meals, mend his own clothes, and fix his own hurts.

If you're thirsty, he'll share his water with you; if you are hungry, his food. He'll even split his ammunition with you in the midst of battle when you run low.

He has learned to use his hands like weapons and weapons like they were his hands. He can save your life - or take it, because that is his job.

He will often do twice the work of a civilian, draw half the pay, and still find ironic humor in it all.

He has seen more suffering and death than he should have in his short lifetime.

He has wept in public and in private, for friends who have fallen in combat and is unashamed.

He feels every note of the National Anthem vibrate through his body while at rigid attention, while tempering the burning desire to 'square-away' those around him who haven't bothered to stand, remove their hat, or even stop talking.

In an odd twist, day in and day out, far from home, he defends their right to be disrespectful.

Just as did his Father, Grandfather, and Great-grandfather, he is paying the price for our freedom. Beardless or not, he is not a boy. He is the American Fighting Man that has kept this country free for over 200 years.

He has asked nothing in return, except our friendship and understanding. Remember him, always, for he has earned our respect and admiration with his blood.

And now we even have women over there in danger, doing their part in this tradition of going to War when our nation calls us to do so.

As you go to bed tonight, remember this shot. . .

A short lull, a little shade and a picture of loved ones in their helmets.

Nick Contompasis

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 that you served at least one day of active military duty since December 7, 1941 and were honorably discharged or are currently serving honorably, you are eligible. Complete the application below and send it with a check in the amount of \$46.00 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

<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 \$46 made out to "American Legion Post 3" to the address listed above. If you have already renewed for 2021, 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



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

Post3legionlincoln@gmail.com

<https://lincolnpost3.org>

2020 - 2021 Post 3 Officers

Commander - Wade Graft – Cell: 402-770-9126

First Vice Commander – Gerry Wolf – Cell: 402-417-8230

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

Adjutant – Ed Schnabel – Cell: 402-480-8542

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

Post Service Officer – Ed Schnabel – Cell 402-480-8542

**Please submit any announcements or items for the monthly newsletter to the Adjutant for approval.
All requests must be received one week before the 1st of the month.**

