



“For God And Country”

FEBRUARY 2023 POST 3 NEWSLETTER



Meeting Schedule For February 2023

Organization	Location	Time	Date
Legion Post 3	Elks Lodge, 5910 S 58th St	6:30 PM	02/14/23
Auxiliary Unit 3	Elks Lodge, 5910 S 58th St	6:30 PM	02/14/23
SAL Squadron 3	Post 3 Office, 123 S 84th St	7:00 PM	02/09/23
ALR Chapter 3	Denton Legion Club	6:00 PM	02/16/23
40 & 8 Voiture 103	Elks Lodge, 5910 S 58th St	6:30 PM	02/21/23
8 & 40 Salon 832	Elks Lodge, 5910 s 58th St	6:30 AM	02/21/23
8 & 40 Salon 92	VFW 3606, 3340 West A St	1:00 PM	02/16/23
Buddy Check	The Foundry, 211 N 14th	7:00 PM	02/22/23
VA CoffeeHaus	Auld Pavilion, Antelope Park	10:00 AM	02/17/23

Commander's Call



Fellow Legionnaire,

You may recall that last month's Commander's Call was devoted to the Post 3 Honor Guard. Since then, I have fielded more than a few questions about military funerals. I will devote most of this Commander's call trying to answer them.

The rendering of military funeral honors is one way we show the nation's gratitude to those who, in times of war and peace, have faithfully defended and served our country. It is the final tribute provided to the veteran.

By law, when requested, an honor guard detail for the burial of an eligible veteran consisting of at least two members of the armed forces will be dispatched to the funeral. One member of the detail will be a representative of the veteran's service branch.

The honor detail will, at a minimum, perform a ceremony that includes the playing of Taps and the folding and presenting of the burial American Flag to the next of kin or another designated individual. Taps will be played by a live bugler when available, or by a ceremonial electronic bugle.

A veteran's service organization, VSO, (The American Legion, VFW, DAV, etc.) may augment the military detail by providing additional elements, such as a rifle volley or pallbearers.

Families of eligible veterans may request military funeral honors through their funeral director. The funeral director will contact the appropriate military service to arrange for the funeral honors detail.

The service will request that the family provide a copy of the service member's DD Form 214 (Certificate of release or discharge from active duty) or other supporting discharge information to verify eligibility. A deceased veteran does not need to be a member of Post 3 or any VSO to receive a military funeral.

It is important if you desire a military funeral, you or your family will need to locate your DD214 or other documents verifying your eligibility. You also need to let the person who will plan your funeral the location of such documents. If you can't locate the appropriate documents, you may request a copy by contacting the Military National personal Record Center, (www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/standard-form-180.html), or your local VA office for assistance.

Who is eligible? Military members on active duty and military retirees, veterans who were separated under conditions other than dishonorable, and members and former members of the selected reserve.

If you have any more questions, you may contact me, Gerrywolf@aol.com, 402-417-8230, or call the Post 3 office, 402-466-3958. We will be glad to help.

Again, thank you for your service to our country. You have earned the respect and honor from your nation.

Changing the subject, our February 14th meeting will serve as our District 15 Convention. Several Department officers and candidates for office can be expected to attend. Not all Legionnaires attend state conventions, and fewer attend national conventions. The district meeting is the largest American Legion meeting the average member ever attends. That meeting will begin 30 minutes early at 6:30 PM. I hope to see you there.

As always, keep our veterans in your thoughts and prayers, particularly those who may be in need. Keep our active-duty service men and women in your thoughts and prayers as well.

For God and Country,

**Gerry Wolf
Post 3 Commander**

Notes from the Adjutant's Desk



Good News! Our office will be back in operation on February 7th as the water damage repairs will have been completed. Office Hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10:00-12:00. The office will be closed if Lincoln receives an ice or snowstorm. If you need my services, please text me, as I can do all services from the safety of my home.

Thanks again for renewing with POST 3 and The American Legion. The third mailing of dues notices for 2022-2023 were mailed out by the American Legion National Headquarters during the second week of November. Current membership stands at 1025. If you happen to be one of the few whose dues were received after the November cutoff date, you might receive a dues notice. If you know that you have paid your 2023 dues, just throw the notice away.

If you have not paid your 2023 dues, please pay them. Post 3 membership currently stands at 84% of our assigned goal of 1217 for 2023. We are down to under two hundred renewals to make 100%. To make 100% will require 192 members who have not yet renewed for 2023 to pay their 2023 dues. Then we need to replace the 55 members who have died this past year. If only one in five members would bring in a new or transferred member, we would make a 100% Post for 2023.

Time to hit the street and find those who earned the right to be a Legionnaire.

Those who have not paid your 2023 dues, please take the time to review the reverse side on the notice. These notices have been changed; they have added the basic information that they have on file for you: branch of service, war era, phone number and email address. If some of your information is not correct, please correct the information and mail the form with your 2023 dues payment to 123 South 84th Street, Suite L, Lincoln, NE, 68510, and I will see that it gets corrected. Thanks for your help.

Does your 2023 membership show your correct years of service? The 2023 card that we are mailing out should be correct. If the years are not correct, please let us know and we can get it corrected for you. We have fielded many calls about total years of membership not being correct. Takes a lot of work to double check what is printed on the 2023 cards, so if yours is not correct, please email or text me, and I can correct the years for you.

You can double check your card from 2022 to see if the 2023 card has added one year for you. If not, let me know and I will mail out a new card with the correct years and have National update your membership record.

**edschnabelasa@gmail.com;
402-480-8542**

Thanks for your Service and Thanks for being a member of Post 3. Remember to thank your fellow Veterans for their service and thank you for your service.

**Ed Schnabel
Adjutant**

Lincoln CBOC/VA News



A note to my fellow Vietnam veterans who happen to serve in theater, but outside of South Vietnam. And to those who served in the Middle East Gulf Wars.

On August 10, 2022, President Biden signed the PACT Act into law, extending VA health to eligibility to many veterans and expanding benefits to eligible veterans. The PACT Act expanded benefits for exposures to toxic substances. This PACT Act now presumes that exposure to toxic substances caused many health problems to those who served in these theaters. If you have filed a claim for Agent Orange or other toxics and it was denied, you need to file a claim update and get a new review.

For me, my service in Thailand is now covered for toxics exposures. This allows me to file new claims for many of my health problems, without needing to prove my service caused them. This is a major change; the VA now presumes that service is a direct cause for many health problems.

The PACT Act and your VA benefits

The PACT Act is a new law that expands VA health care and benefits for Veterans exposed to burn pits, Agent Orange, and other toxic substances.

The PACT Act adds to the list of health conditions that we assume (or “presume”) are caused by exposure to these substances. This law helps us provide generations of Veterans—and their survivors—with the care and benefits they’ve earned and deserve.

You can call us at 800-698-2411 and file a claim for PACT Act-related disability compensation or apply for VA health care now.

If you had service in Vietnam or the Middle East, visit the VA web site and read the list of medical problems that are now presumed to have a link to service in these theaters. If you have any, contact your Service Office to file a new or updated claim. I was able to file claims for four medical problems that are now covered by this change.

**Ed Schnabel
Legion Rep. to Lincoln CBOC**

Post 3 ALR Director's Remarks



On January 19th, the 2023 officers of the Post 3 American Legion Riders were installed by Post 3 Commander, Gerry Wolf.

The new officers are:

Director: Neil Larson, Assistant Director: John Humphrey, Treasurer: Lori Gubser, Ride Captain: Bruce Gubser, Secretary: Mike Streeter, Sergeant-at-Arms: Ron Bevard, Chaplain: Glen Masek.

Our annual Poker Run is set for September 9th. A committee was formed for the logistics.

Other runs and events for 2023 were announced and discussed.

Submitted by Neil Larson



(L to R) Post 3 Commander, Gerry Wolf, ALR Director, Neil Larson, Assistant Director, John Humphrey. Treasurer, Lori Gubser, Ride Captain, Bruce Gubser, Secretary, Mike Streeter. Not pictured – Sergeant-At-Arms, Ron Bevard, and Chaplain, Glen Masek.

The Chaplain's Remarks



What Now?

Ever wonder what God is up to? No seriously: what could the self-proclaimed, preeminent deity in the known universe, with no apparent equal or greater entity to challenge Him, have in mind for you? Yes YOU!

The Lord Jesus incarnated to follow-up on His plan to save humanity from itself, after the Flood and Nimrod's Tower of Babel (Deuteronomy 32:8-9 & Genesis 11:1-9).

As *Jehovah* (Hebrew) of the Bible's Old Testament—meaning Jesus Saves—He orchestrated mankind's eventual salvation by sacrificing Himself on that tree outside Jerusalem's literal garbage dump for human refuse. The Lord also appeared before Abram in Ur of the Chaldees (Genesis 11:31) to start human's journey for His *Theocracy* (God ruling directly through His prophets, like Moses), and eventually, their salvation He accomplished in that Jerusalem incident (Matthew 27 & 28).

Ssssoooo...what's it going to take for you to realize that not only has Jesus saved you, among the rest of humanity in Jerusalem, and continues to be available to you? Indeed: what will it take?

Our nation is beset by evil, in the form of "well-meaning" anti-Christes destroying and devastating all that's near and dear to many of us Americans, especially U.S. Armed Forces veterans...like you and me. Who but Jesus could bring about our restoration through His current Judgment to help get us back on track with Him and each other? Pray for His comprehension of what your role in America's restoration should be.

Rev. Dr. William Jackson
Lincoln ALP 3 Chaplain

Post 3 Honor Guard



(L to R) Mike Thompson, Tom Kelly, Debbie Bouffard, and Jaime Tyser. The Post 3 Honor Guard would like to thank these talented buglers from the Lincoln Symphony Orchestra who have played “Taps” over the years at funerals honoring our veterans.

In January, the Honor Guard assisted the military honors teams at 8 Legion funerals and was asked to help at 2 VFW funerals. Members of the Honor Guard also participated in 2 civic functions. I want to thank everyone involved for their support.

Post 3 TAPS – January 2023



LEGIONNAIRE	WAR ERA	BRANCH	YRS
Leonard O. Beckenbach	Korea	USMC	64
Richard W. Cave	Korea	Unk	49
John Edelmaier	WW II	Army	46
Gerald R. Gabelman	Korea	Army	66
Arthur D. Hillman	WW II	Navy	40
Douglas W. Johnson	Vietnam	Air Force	15
Johnny S, Robinson	Korea	Navy	44
Roscoe L. Shields	WW II	Navy	39
John Wright	Vietnam	Navy	40

Regular Meeting of American Legion Post 3

Lincoln Elks Lodge #80

January 10, 2022

Post 3 Commander Gerry Wolf opened the January 10, 2023 meeting of American Legion Post 3 at 7:00 PM at the Lincoln Elks Lodge 80 with 18 Legionnaires present.

The minutes of the December 13, 2022 Post 3 meeting were read and approved.

Finance Officer Ed Schnabel gave the financial report for the month ending December 31, 2022 showing a balance on hand of \$42,862.27. The report was accepted and filed for review.

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

Bruce Gubser reported on the Birthday Card program (a few more than a dozen in the last month) and the Legion Riders (installation of officers on the 19th)

It was reported that the Mid-Year Conference will take place in Norfolk this coming weekend. The Department Executive Committee will meet on Friday, and the training portion of the conference will take place all day Saturday and Sunday morning. The state finals of the Oratorical contest will be held in conjunction with the conference on Saturday evening.

Bruce Gubser made mention of a resolution we probably will see at the department convention. It will change the number of issues of the Nebraska Legionnaire to 6 from 8.

William Jackson read an Americanism report.

Squadron Commander Brendan Moore reported for the Sons of the American Legion. He indicated that the squadron had passed out more cash donations for Christmas. He indicated Squadron 3 was 4 members short of goal.

Commander Wolf reported for the Honor Guard. He indicated that they had done 11 Legion funerals and helped the VFW with 6. 154 combined funerals for the year. Gerry also said that some Honor Guard members helped with Wreaths Across America.

Commander Wolf gave a short report on the water pipe that broke in the building where the Post 3 business office is located. Adjutant Schnabel is currently operating out of his home. It appears that it's going to be several weeks before there's a chance to get moved back in.

Commander Wolf reported on several upcoming events, including the February 14th meeting of Post 3 ---- which will serve as our District 15 Convention. A number of Department officers and candidates for office can be expected to attend. That meeting will begin 30 minutes early at 6:30 PM.

Post 3 membership was reported tonight to be 1001 ---- About 82% of our goal of 1217.

The Chaplain read TAPS and offered the closing prayer.

The meeting was closed in proper form at 7:20 P.M.

Steve Bartos, Recorder

SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGING

Legion Family Bellringers

Auxiliary



Legion Riders



Post 3 Members



Our Christmas Salvation Army Bell Ringing has come to an end for 2022. We raised a total of \$2,366.25 for good causes in our community!!! We rang at two locations for a total of 30 hours.

The Legion Riders led the way collecting \$716.09 in eight hours of ringing at Hobby Lobby. The Legion Riders team consisted of Mike Streeter, Dave Dietz, Jerry Hutchison, John Humphrey, John Brehm, Ed Muggy, Lori & Bruce Gubser with our youngest ringer, their grandson, Carter Morris.

Our Auxiliary Ladies consisting of Barb Skillman, Lori Gubser, and Barbara Michael collected \$487.04 in donations in six hours of ringing at the Williamsburg Mall Hy-Vee.

During 16 hours of ringing over two days at that same location \$1,163.12 was collected by Fred Chastil, Dave Timmerman, Nathan Thedford, Rich Lemmerman, Wade Graft, Steve Bartos, Ron Hindmand, Marshal Logan, John Ottoson, Rev Dr Jackson and Gerry & Nancy Wolf.

Thank you to all of our volunteers that stood out there in cold windy conditions donating their time to do good for others in this Christmas season.

Well done!

**Ron Hindmand
Bell Ringing Chairman**

State Oratorical Contest



(L to R) Department Commander, Don Suchy, Mary Worthing, Jack Watermolen, Reagan Choat, Joshua Mammen, and Oratorical Committee Chairman, Michael Landkamer.

Mary Worthing, a Senior at Arthur County High School, earned first place at the 84th annual American Legion Oratorical Contest held on January 14 at the Norfolk Lodge and Suits in Norfolk. She was awarded a check from the Nebraska American Legion for \$1,000.

Jack Watermolen, our District 15/Post 3 Oratorical and Area C Contest winner from Lincoln Southwest High School, placed second and was awarded \$600; Reagan Choat, Plainview High School, placed third and was awarded \$400; and Joshua Mammen, Creighton Prep High School, placed fourth and was awarded \$200.

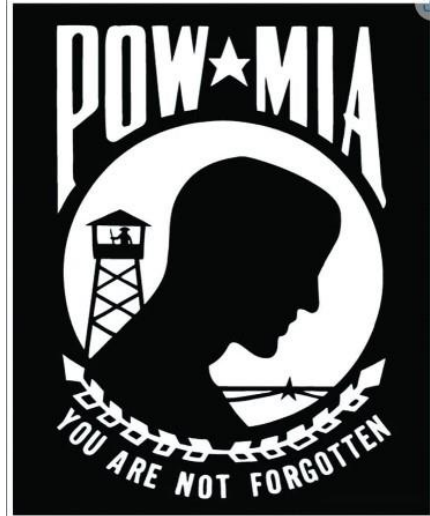
Jack is 16 years old and a Junior at Lincoln Southwest High School, where he is the Debate Team Captain. He aspires to study International Relations in college after graduation from high school. The title of his oration was "A More Perfect Union" and addressed the constitutional changes originating out of the American Civil War. Jack will be eligible in his senior year to compete again in the American Legion Oratorical Contest this coming year.

The purpose of the American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship program is to develop a deeper knowledge and appreciation for the United States Constitution. Contestants must present without notes an 8 to 10 minute oration on some aspect of the Constitution and then give a 3 to 5 minute speech on an assigned topic with only five minute preparation time. Winners of state competitions receive a \$1,000 scholarship and compete 21-23 April in Indianapolis, Indiana as part of the National Convention. They receive an additional \$2,000 scholarship for each time/round they compete in the national completion. The first place national winner will receive a scholarship of \$25,000, second place \$22,500 and third place \$20,000.

Congratulations to Jack and all our Nebraska orators. Best wishes for a promising future!

Ron Hindmand
Oratorical Contest Chairman

Vietnam MIA Accounted For



PRESS RELEASE | Oct. 27, 2022

WASHINGTON – The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) announced today that U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Sanford I. Finger, 29, of Miami Beach, Florida, killed during the Vietnam War, has been accounted for.

In October 1971, Finger was assigned to the U.S. Army Element Vietnam, Army Air Force Regional Exchange, Pacific Exchange (Manager of the An Son Post Exchange), U.S. Army Headquarters Area Command. On Oct. 26, Finger was lost when the CH-47B Chinook helicopter on which he was a passenger went down over water in bad weather while flying from Tuy Hoa to Cam Ranh Bay in Vietnam. Remains of four of the 10 Soldiers on board were recovered during search and rescue operations following the crash, but Finger was not accounted for.

An unsuccessful recovery attempt was made in 1974 when divers from the Joint Casualty Resolution Center dove on what was believed to be the crash site. A number of investigation and recovery efforts took place between 1994 and 2021 with a June 2021 recovery mission finding possible human remains and material evidence.

To identify Finger's remains, scientists from DPAA used anthropological analysis, as well as material and circumstantial evidence. Additionally, scientists from the Armed Forces Medical Examiner System used mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) and autosomal DNA (auSTR) analysis. Finger's name is recorded on the National Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., and the American Battle Monuments Commission's Courts of the Missing at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu, along with others who are unaccounted-for from the Vietnam War. A rosette will be placed next to his name to indicate he has been accounted for.

Finger's burial date and location is yet to be determined.

Source: Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA)

Unlikely Wingmen Became Two Of The Most Celebrated American Pilots Of The 20th Century

BY MICHAEL TIERNAN



Tom Hudner and Jesse Brown



The date is December 4, 1950, and a squadron of U.S. aircraft is flying over the Chosin Reservoir in the midst of the Korean War. The conditions are brutal, with temperatures in this area well below freezing. Among the Americans are two pilots: Tom Hudner and Jesse Brown. And what is about to unfold will immortalize these figures in American history. The two men were caught in the Battle of Chosin Reservoir that day, which was a fierce encounter between American and Chinese forces in North Korea. The battle was a consequential one, which ultimately led to U.S. forces and their United Nations allies retreating from the region. Many lives were lost along the way.

The outlook for the Americans before the Battle of Chosin Reservoir had seemed bright. General Douglas MacArthur was extremely optimistic that his forces had severely weakened the North Korean enemy to the extent that they'd be unable to recover. He even informed President Harry Truman that "organized resistance will be terminated by Thanksgiving." He went so far as to tell his soldiers they'd be back in America by the holidays.

MacArthur's confidence was hopelessly misplaced. As the end of November 1950 neared, the Americans and their allies from South Korea and the U.N. were pushing deeper into North Korean territory, with the ultimate goal of defeating enemy forces and uniting Korea under a single government. To that end, some forces ended up at the Yalu River, which served as a natural boundary between Korea and China.

Among the higher ranks of the American military command, the mood was good. But the reality on the ground was shifting rapidly. A terrible cold front swept over the region, plunging soldiers into freezing conditions. Temperatures as low as -37°C meant troops were now facing the reality of frostbite, broken or seized equipment, and much more besides.

Besides that, the military command had made a fatal error. Intelligence was beginning to suggest North Korea's ally, China, was building up its forces, ready to pass over the Yalu River to take on the U.N. coalition. MacArthur and Major General Edward Almond didn't take this threat as seriously as they should have.

(Friends – Continued)

It was just after the clock struck midnight on November 27 that things really started to go wrong for the Americans. Soldiers were holed up in the darkness, and then chaos erupted. The Chinese were on the move, making huge amounts of noise and wreaking havoc. They were about to attack.

The American troops were caught completely off-guard. They scrambled from their beds and snatched up their weapons, but the scene was one of total disarray. The sky lit up with shelling, as the Americans tried to push back the rushing Chinese troops. Things were not looking good at all.

Even MacArthur was forced to accept this grim situation for what it was. He could no longer deny the danger facing his forces, so he called for them to retreat from the area. This would be easier said than done, though, and the soldiers would need a lot of support if they were to get out of there alive.

Hudner and Brown were among those called upon to help the troops as they made their escape. These two men were pilots, part of a squadron sent to the skies above Chosin Reservoir to provide cover to their comrades on the ground. It was December 4 when their story took a turn for the worse.

As the squadron was looking at the ground for the enemy, a fellow pilot named Bill Koenig maneuvered his aircraft beneath Brown's plane. It was at that point he noticed something was wrong. Koenig had noticed liquid squirting out of Brown's aircraft, so he communicated to his comrade that he should check out the issue.

Brown was dismayed to realize his fuel levels were dropping extremely rapidly — and then his engine began to struggle. He was going down, and all his comrades could do was watch it all unfold. Brown prepared for impact, while his friend Hudner recoiled in horror. Inevitably, Brown's plane plowed into the ground.

Brown and Hudner had struck up the most unlikely of friendships by this point, even though their backgrounds couldn't have been more different. Hudner had come from a rich, white family, whereas Brown's family had been poor African-American farmers. The gulf in privilege was stark, but all the same they became good buddies while serving together.

Brown had grown up in Mississippi, around the time of the Great Depression. His family didn't have much money, but the young boy had harbored dreams of becoming a pilot. As he'd got older, he'd studied and obtained a good education, before eventually joining the Navy and starting a family. Upon finishing his training as a pilot in 1948 he became the first black naval aviator in American history.

Brown had a reputation for being fairly unflappable. To prove the point, there's a story about when he was trying to obtain certain flying credentials in 1950. Basically, this required him to land his aircraft onto a carrier. A necessary skill, no doubt, but not an easy one to perfect.

(Friends – Continued)

After all, it might be more accurate to suggest one virtually *crashes* an aircraft onto a carrier in as composed a manner as possible, rather than “landing” it in the strictest sense of the word.

In order to get the appropriate qualification, Brown was required to perform six landings onto the carrier. The problem was that his experience as a pilot up until this point mainly revolved around flying a different type of aircraft than the one he was now required to use. The different specifications of this particular plane threw him.

Brown pulled off the first five landings without a hitch. It was on the sixth and final one where things nearly went completely wrong. Rather than touching down gracefully, his plane actually hit the carrier’s landing deck and was flung right back into the air. It could have been a disaster, but he remained calm and dealt with the situation. He managed to land it, in the end, and he received the qualification he’d been seeking.

Brown’s achievements are all the more notable when we consider his disadvantaged background, which stood in complete contrast to Hudner’s experience. The son of a successful businessman, the latter was used to attending country clubs as a youngster. When he was older he rejected the opportunity to attend Harvard, opting instead to join the Navy and eventually train as a pilot.

Brown and Hudner wouldn’t necessarily have been expected to hit it off upon crossing paths, but that’s how things went. While they were both serving in a squadron known as Fighting 32, the two men struck up a firm friendship. The unit was aboard a carrier known as USS *Leyte*.

At the beginning of 1950 the Fighting 32 squadron was repurposed. The unit was now to offer “close air support,” which meant it would hit targets specifically to help troops on the ground. That was better than taking on enemy aircraft, as the particular planes the unit flew were becoming increasingly out-of-date.

Besides, close air support is an extremely important function in its own right. It can help forces on the ground to gain advantage over their enemies. This is why Fighting 32 was sent to Chosin Reservoir: to help the outnumbered American and U.N. forces on the ground deal with the Chinese attack.

At the start of the Korean War in the summer of 1950 the *Leyte* had been sailing through the Mediterranean. But it was soon diverted back to the U.S., before being dispatched to Japan and then on to Korea. These would be consequential moves for everyone on board, including Brown and Hudner.

The difficulty of the mission ahead must have been starkly evident on November 28, when the pilots awoke to find their aircraft carrier’s flight deck covered in snow. Not only that, but the conditions at sea were intense, with high winds. But they still had their duties to perform, which led them to the assignment on December 4.

(Friends – Continued)

Alongside four other pilots, Brown and Hudner were sent to the skies to help out their land-based comrades. It was a 100-mile journey, which took them about three hours. They were looking for enemy targets along the way, which meant flying at quite a low altitude: around 700 feet.

Eventually, the enemy was engaged was made — and that's when things went wrong for Brown. His plane was hit by an enemy round from a rifle, which was all it took to seal his aircraft's fate. A gas line on his aircraft was severed, which meant he was losing fuel at an unmanageable rate: he was going to crash.

Brown's fellow pilots could only watch on helplessly as Brown's aircraft began to fail him. The sight must have been an especially galling experience for Hudner, Brown's close friend. There was nothing to be done, though: disaster was completely unavoidable now.

There was a clearing along the side of a mountain below, and Brown aimed for the open ground. From the air, his comrades watched as his plane dramatically slammed into the open space. A big puff of snow exploded toward the sky upon impact. His aircraft slid for a while before finally grinding to a halt.

All the others could do was look on and try to pick out any indication that Brown had survived. Things didn't look good. According to website *The American*, Hudner later spoke publicly about this moment. He said, "Somebody was going to have to go down and help. Since nobody was volunteering, I decided it would have to be me."

Hudner changed course and began to rapidly descend towards the wreckage on the ground beneath him. It was an extremely dangerous idea, but one he was determined to pull off for his friend. As he approached the ground at speed, he later admitted thinking to himself, "This is really stupid, you know?"

The impact, unsurprisingly, was harsh. Hudner recalled, "The ground seemed to rush at me as I hit, and then I was out of control, snow-plowing across the field and hoping I was going to end up somewhere close to Jesse." Eventually, the aircraft stopped moving and Hudner realized Brown was only 80 yards away.

Hudner was extremely rattled by what he'd just experienced, but he managed to clamber out of his plane all the same. He recalled, "The snow was waist-deep, it was colder than I have ever experienced anywhere else, and at first I couldn't move. It took me over 30 minutes to get to Jesse's airplane, and I was damn near frozen stiff."

When Hudner got to Brown, the sheer severity of his colleague's crash became instantly apparent. Brown's legs were in a terrible state, mangled by the impact. On top of that, all the wreckage had left him trapped in the cockpit. He was barely even able to stay awake.

Temperature was plunging with nighttime setting in. Humans aren't built to endure such conditions: time was of the essence. A shred of hope came with the arrival of a rescue helicopter, but that wasn't to be enough.

(Friends – Continued)

As it got darker and darker, Hudner realized his own life was in the balance. Frostbite was a real threat, yet he was consumed by the need to get his friend onto the helicopter. But then came a terrible realization: Brown was dead. He'd succumbed to his injuries and the terrible cold. Hudner was forced to leave him behind, and he got on the helicopter.

As for the wider Battle of Chosin, that would rage on for a little while longer yet. It only came to an end on December 11 when the last of the U.N. soldiers managed to make it out of the region. To this day the operation remains the most extensive marine evacuation ever carried out by American forces.

The casualties by the end of the ordeal were huge. As a direct result of the fighting, the American and Korean forces reported 10,495 troops as killed or injured. But that wasn't all: the cold weather accounted for a further 7,388. The Chinese also sustained big losses, with an estimated 19,000 hurt in direct fighting and about 29,000 more away from combat.

One man who did survive was Hudner, who was one of several to be honored for their actions during the battle. For attempting to save the life of his pal Brown, the Medal of Honor was bestowed upon him. Thirteen other medals were awarded in the wake of Chosin: no other single battle has ever led to more Medals of Honor being handed out.

Hudner remained dedicated to the armed forces after that, making a career for himself in the Navy. He stayed on until the '70s, when he finally retired having obtained the rank of captain. He lived for many decades after that, eventually passing away, aged 93, in 2017. He was laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery.

Brown, who lost his life at the Chosin Reservoir, was honored in the wake of his death. He posthumously received the Distinguished Flying Cross, bestowed for his gallantry. And decades later, in the '70s, a warship was also named in his memory: the USS *Jesse L. Brown*.

The story of Brown and Hudner is set to reach even more people with the November 2022 release of the movie "Devotion". This film stars Jonathon Majors and Glen Powell as Brown and Hudner, respectively, and is directed by J. D. Dillard. It's a project that will truly immortalize the two unlikely friends' story.



DETAILS

- **RANK:** LIEUTENANT, J.G.
- **CONFLICT/ERA:** KOREAN WAR
- **UNIT/COMMAND:**
FIGHTER SQUADRON 32, AIR GROUP 3,
U.S.S. LEYTE
- **MILITARY SERVICE BRANCH:** U.S. NAVY
- **MEDAL OF HONOR ACTION DATE:** DECEMBER 4, 1950
- **MEDAL OF HONOR ACTION PLACE:** CHOSIN RESERVOIR, KOREA

CITATION

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty as a pilot in Fighter Squadron 32, while attempting to rescue a squadron mate whose plane, struck by antiaircraft fire and trailing smoke, was forced down behind enemy lines.

Quickly maneuvering to circle the downed pilot and protect him from enemy troops infesting the area, Lt. (j.g.) Hudner risked his life to save the injured flier who was trapped alive in the burning wreckage. Fully aware of the extreme danger in landing on the rough mountainous terrain, and the scant hope of escape or survival in subzero temperature, he put his plane down skillfully in a deliberate wheels-up landing in the presence of enemy troops.

With his bare hands, he packed the fuselage with snow to keep the flames away from the pilot and struggled to pull him free. Unsuccessful in this he returned to his crashed aircraft and radioed other airborne planes, requesting that a helicopter be dispatched with an ax and fire extinguisher.

He then remained on the spot despite the continuing danger from enemy action and, with the assistance of the rescue pilot, renewed a desperate but unavailing battle against time, cold, and flames. Lt. (j.g.) Hudner's exceptionally valiant action and selfless devotion to a shipmate sustain and enhance the highest traditions of the U.S. Naval Service.

Veterans Legislative Day

- ⇒ Legislative Day is Friday, February 3, 2023, in Warner Chamber at the State Capitol.
 - ⇒ Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. and the event will begin at 8:30 a.m.
 - ⇒ Anticipated guest speakers include Governor Jim Pillen, Director John Hilgert, and Nebraska State Senators.
 - ⇒ The purpose is to discuss Nebraska Legislation pertaining to veterans and their families.
 - ⇒ Sponsored by the Nebraska Veterans Council, which is made up of The American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans, American Veterans, Paralyzed Veterans of America, Vietnam Veterans of America, Military Order of the Purple Heart, County Veteran Service Officers Association, and the Marine Corps League.
 - ⇒ Please contact your Veteran Service Organization for more information.
-



Veteran Employment Services

LOOKING FOR WORK? We can help! Our career centers offer the following services:

- Career assessment and counseling
- Assistance with resumes, cover letters, and interviewing skills
- Supportive Services Referrals
- Job placement assistance and referrals
- Information on careers, training, education, and financial aid
- Individualized services to assist with employment barriers

Equal Opportunity Program/Manager TDD: 402.498.7154

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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Attention Veterans and Eligible Spouses

We serve ALL veterans, but you may be eligible for additional programs and services if you are a veteran or eligible spouse who is:

- 18 to 24 years old
- A disabled veteran according to Veterans' Affairs or having a disability claim pending with the VA or were discharged or released from active duty because of a service-connected disability
- Homeless
- Vietnam Era Veteran
- Separated from the military in the last 36 months and unemployed for 27 or more weeks within the last year
- Criminal justice system involved
- Lacking a high school diploma or GED
- A public assistance recipient, or low income
- A transitioning service member in need of career services
- Member of the Armed Forces who is wounded, ill, or injured and receiving treatment in Military Treatment Facilities (MTFs) or Warrior Transition Units (WTUs)
- The spouse or other family caregiver of such wounded, ill, or injured member.

Total Annual Family Income Excluding Veteran Benefits*

Family Size	Nebraska	Omaha-Council Bluffs MSA**	Lincoln MSA	Sioux City MSA
1	\$13,590	\$13,590	\$13,590	\$13,590
2	\$18,310	\$18,310	\$18,310	\$18,310
3	\$23,030	\$23,787	\$23,787	\$23,787
4	\$28,105	\$29,365	\$29,365	\$29,365
5	\$33,174	\$34,652	\$34,652	\$34,652
6	\$38,794	\$40,532	\$40,532	\$40,532
7 or more	add \$5,620 for each additional person	add \$5,808 for each additional person	add \$5,808 for each additional person	add \$5,808 for each additional person

*Last updated: September 2022 **Metropolitan Statistical Area

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- Member of the Armed Forces who is wounded, ill, or injured and receiving treatment in Military Treatment Facilities (MTFs) or Warrior Transition Units (WTUs)
- The spouse or other family caregiver of such wounded, ill, or injured member.

If so, please ask to see a veteran staff member at one of the Nebraska Department of Labor job centers or American Job Centers to receive specialized services.

Beatrice **
American Job Center
2317 N. 6th, Ste. 3
(402) 223-6360
ndol.beatricewfd@nebraska.gov

Columbus **
3100 23rd St., Ste. 22
(402) 554-7160
ndol.columbuswfd@nebraska.gov

Fremont
827 North O Street
(402) 934-2392

Grand Island **
American Job Center
203 East Stolley Park Rd, Ste. A
(308) 385-6300
ndol.grandislandwfd@nebraska.gov

Hastings**
2727 W. 2nd St., Ste. 338
(402) 462-1867
ndol.hastingswfd@nebraska.gov

Kearney
16 West 17th Street
(402) 326-4885

Lexington
1501 Plum Creek Parkway, Ste. 3
(308) 324-2054
ndol.lexingtonwfd@nebraska.gov

Lincoln
American Job Center
1111 O Street, Ste. 205
(402) 441-1640
AJC@lincoln.ne.gov

Lincoln **
1111 O Street, Ste. 222
(402) 471-2275
ndol.lincolnwfd@nebraska.gov

Nebraska City *
917 Wildwood Lane, Room 104
(402) 873-3384
ndol.nebraskacitywfd@nebraska.gov

Norfolk **
105 E. Norfolk Ave., Ste. 120
(402) 370-8430
ndol.norfolkwfd@nebraska.gov

North Platte **
600 E. Francis, Ste. 9
(308) 635-8820
ndol.northplattewfd@nebraska.gov

Omaha **
American Job Center
Heartland Workforce Solutions
5752 Ames Ave.
(402) 444-4700
admin@hws-ne.org
ndol.omahawfd@nebraska.gov

Scottsbluff **
505A Broadway, Ste. 300
(308) 682-1420
ndol.scottsbluffwfd@nebraska.gov

Sidney
371 S College Drive Room #148
(308) 254-4429
ndol.sidneywfd@nebraska.gov

* Limited office hours. Call ahead for availability.

** Have veteran representatives available



Veterans' Employment Services Guide

Leah Anderson

Veteran Reemployment Coordinator

MOBILE 402-970-4446 FAX 402-970-4431
leahanderson@nebraska.gov

Department of Labor
105 E. Norfolk Avenue, Suite 120
Norfolk, Nebraska 68701

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Updated: 7/11/2022

What kind of services are available to veterans?

The Nebraska Department of Labor is dedicated to providing employment and training services to all Veterans as we extend our gratitude for your service to the United States of America.

American Job Centers provide job seekers with a full range of assistance at one location. Many of our locations include specialized staff who serve eligible Veterans and eligible spouses exclusively.

Veterans and eligible spouses receive access, on a priority of service basis, to the full range of public employment and training services, including:

- Career assessment and counseling
- Assistance with résumés, cover letters, and interviewing skills
- Support services referrals
- Job placement assistance and referrals
- Information on careers, training, education, and financial aid
- Job search workshops
- Labor market information
- Computers with internet access
- Assistance with navigating computer programs
- Help with the online job application process
- Assistive technology hardware and software for special needs

What does priority of service mean?

Priority of service means Veterans and eligible spouses who meet the eligibility requirements for a program or service are to receive access to that program or service either earlier in time or instead of persons who are not eligible for priority of service.

Federal law and regulations require all workforce programs funded by the Department of Labor to provide priority of service to:

1. Veterans who served in the active military, naval, or air service and who were discharged under conditions other than dishonorable; and,
2. Eligible spouses of veterans who have total service-connected disabilities or who died as a result of service-connected disabilities.

Workforce Programs Funded by the U.S. Department of Labor

Wagner-Peyser Employment Services

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Services

Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) Services

Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC)

Jobs for Veterans State Grant

Career Information Websites

- **NETWORKS**
Find and apply for jobs, post your resume, research labor market information
networks.nebraska.gov
- **CAREER ONE-STOP**
Career resources, wages, and employment trends
www.careeronestop.org
- **FEDS HIRE VETS**
Federal employment information for veterans, transitioning service members, and human resource professionals
www.fedshirevets.gov
- **O-NET ONLINE**
Defines and describes occupations in detail. Contains helpful information for resume creation
www.onetonline.org
- **O-NET MILITARY TO CIVILIAN CAREERS CROSSWALK**
Translates military job descriptions into civilian job descriptions
www.onetonline.org/crosswalk/MOC
- **VETERANS EMPLOYMENT CENTER**
Job seeker resources for veterans
www.va.gov/careers-employment

Equal Opportunity Program/Employer TDD/TTY: 800-839-7382
Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.



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!

LINCOLN

Buddy Check

TOGETHER ENDING VETERAN SUICIDE™

MONTHLY ON THE 22ND

FOUNDRY

211 N. 14TH ST.

7PM TO 9PM

Buddy Check

A social gathering of Veterans dedicated to reducing and eliminating Veteran suicide. We continue our service by gathering with fellow Veterans. We call and reach out to those who served at our side. We stood together then, and we stand together now.

Lincoln Buddy Check is a casual gathering of Veterans at the Foundry Coffee Shop. This joining together of Veterans is hopefully a way to help reduce veteran suicide and help with mental health thru comradeship. The Veterans Advisory Group will supply soft drinks, coffee, and snacks. This endeavor is supported by an Open-Door Grant from Lincoln Community Foundation

Sons Of The American Legion Application



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


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

Sons of The American Legion
ATTN: Brendan Moore
123 South 84th Street, Suite L
Lincoln, Ne. 68510

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

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

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 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)		<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.			
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 2023, and want to transfer to Post 3, only sign below and return the bottom portion to us.

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

Signature

Membership Number

Email address



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

Email: Post3legionlincoln@gmail.com

Web Site: lincolnpost3.org

2021 - 2022 Post 3 Officers

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

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

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

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 Commander for approval. All requests must be received one week before the 1st of the month.

