



**“For God And Country”**  
**JANUARY 2023 POST 3 NEWSLETTER**



**Meeting Schedule For January 2023 – February 2023**

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>January</b>	<b>February</b>
<b>Legion Post 3</b>	<b>Elks Lodge, 5910 S 58<sup>th</sup> St</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>01/10/23</b>	<b>02/14/23</b>
<b>Auxiliary Unit 3</b>	<b>Elks Lodge, 5910 S 58<sup>th</sup> St</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>02/14/23</b>
<b>SAL Squadron 3</b>	<b>Post 3 Office, 123 S 84<sup>th</sup> St</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>02/09/23</b>
<b>ALR Chapter 3</b>	<b>Denton Legion Club</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>01/19/23</b>	<b>02/16/23</b>
<b>40 &amp; 8 Voiture 103</b>	<b>Elks Lodge, 5910 S 58<sup>th</sup> St</b>	<b>6:30 PM</b>	<b>01/17/23</b>	<b>02/21/23</b>
<b>8 &amp; 40 Salon 832</b>	<b>Elks Lodge, 5910 s 58<sup>th</sup> St</b>	<b>6:30 AM</b>	<b>01/17/23</b>	<b>02/21/23</b>
<b>8 &amp; 40 Salon 92</b>	<b>VFW 3606, 3340 West A St</b>	<b>1:00 PM</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>02/16/23</b>
<b>Buddy Check</b>	<b>The Foundry, 211 N 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>01/22/23</b>	<b>02/22/23</b>
<b>VA Coffeehaus</b>	<b>Auld Pavilion, Antelope Park</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>01/20/23</b>	<b>02/17/23</b>

## **Commander's Call**



**Who are the Post 3 Honor Guard members and what do they do?**

The Honor Guard is made up of 18 dedicated, patriotic, American Legion members who range in age from a 94-year-old Korean War Veteran to a 41-year-old veteran who served in the Global War on Terror. However, the average age of its members is approaching 80 years old.

How much longer these men will be able to help with “Honors” is uncertain. We need to recruit some new younger members. Wouldn't it be a shame if these “Oldtimers” were not replaced as they step down and the Honor Guard should disappear? We need to make sure that never happens.

I am using this forum to offer more men and women the opportunity to join our Honor Guard.

In an average year, we will perform 125-150 military funerals and attend 25-50 civic functions. Your uniform will be furnished with the exception of the Legion cap. We cover the most basic manual of arms. We use the M1 Garand rifles for the 3 shot volley and Springfield '03 rifles for Flag guard rifles. The average funeral will take 2 hours of your time and we will render “Honors” in all kinds of weather.

However, you would not be required to do every funeral – only those for which you are able or available.

The Honor Guard's primary responsibility is to augment the Military Honors teams in rendering “Honors” to deceased military veterans. Under Federal law, the Department of Defense is responsible for providing military funeral “Honors” to eligible veterans when asked to do so.

As a minimum, it requires an Honor Guard detail of at least two uniformed (currently serving) military persons (at least one from the veteran's parent service) and a bugler, if available. They must fold the burial flag, present the flag to the veteran's family, and play “Taps”.

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

The Honor Guard is also available to participate in patriotic civic functions. Patriotic functions could be a Flag raising, a school visit, talks to students or other organizations, or possibly a visit to a retirement home to honor veterans living there. Anytime we put on the American Legion uniform.

If you are interested in joining the Honor Guard, contact me, Gerry Wolf, @ 402-417-8230 or [Gerrywolf@aol.com](mailto:Gerrywolf@aol.com).

For God and Country,

Gerry Wolf  
Post 3 Commander

## Notes from the Adjutant's Desk



**Winter Office Hours:** 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, stay safe, stay home, and text me.

Came back from Christmas to a frozen water pipe in our building. A huge mess. I will be working from home for most of January. If you need some support from the Legion or Post 3, please text me at 402-480-8542. Photos will be attached.

Thanks again for renewing with POST 3 and THE American Legion. The latest renewal notices for 2022-2023 will mailed out by the American Legion National Headquarters during early January. Current membership stands at 987, 81% of our assigned goal for 2023.

If you happen to be one of the few whose dues were received during December, 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 as soon as possible.

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 84<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite L, Lincoln, NE, 68510, and I will see that it gets corrected.

Does your 2023 membership show your correct years of service? The 2023 card that we are mailing out should be correct. If yours is not correct, please email or text me, and I can correct the years for you. I will mail out a new card with the correct years and have National update your membership record.  
edschnabelasa@gmail.com;  
402-480-8542

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

Hoping you all have a Happy and Safe New Year

Ed Schnabel  
Adjutant

## Veterans Advisory Group Report

It has been a very busy month for the members of the Lincoln VA Clinic's Veterans Advisory Group. Besides their normal monthly CoffeeHaus, held the third Friday of the month, and Buddy Check, held on the 22nd of the month, they had another mission. Members helped with a donation of Lincoln's Certified Piedmontese beef products. The donation was sent to members of the Army National Guard in Kuwait.

Another shipment was sent to members of the Nebraska National Guard on duty on the Southern border.

The donated products were broken down into smaller boxes for mailing by troops of the Nebraska National Guard's USPFO, Lincoln, NE. Thanks to CW2 Gabriel Conrad and LTC Dale Burrage and their troops in the office.

VAG members who helped with the shipment of the donated products to the 1057 MP Company currently in Kuwait were Bruce Trautwein, Ed Schnabel, and Janet Jeffries.



National Guard soldiers packing the donations



Ed Schnabel mailing 77 boxes of donated product



Nebraska National Guard soldiers surprised and smiling with their Christmas Care Packages



Submitted by Ed Schnabel, VAG member

## **Post 3 ALR Director's Remarks**



Greetings Riders and all,

This will be my final article as Director of Lincoln Chapter 3 American Legion Riders, as December marks the end of the ALR year and January brings with it the new corps of officers to lead our chapter in 2023.

We held our annual Christmas meeting and party on December 15th. The business meeting was short, as the only agenda item was election of officers for 2023 (more on that in a sec). We were treated to another fantastic meal by our hosts, Denton Legion Post 355. After dinner, many members participated in the gift exchange/theft. There were a few gifts that were stolen... and at least one stolen a couple of times. A fun time was had by all.

I am happy to announce the results of the election of chapter officers for 2023:

Director - Neil Larson  
Assistant Director - Ray Paulson  
Secretary - Mike Streeter  
Treasurer - Lori Gubser  
Ride Captain - Bruce Gubser  
Sergeant-At-Arms - Ron Bevard

Installation of the 2023 officers will occur at our meeting on January 19th.

I am looking forward to 2023 as the Ride Captain and have already begun planning for our parade schedule.

Until next time,  
Ride (and drive) Safe!

Bruce

## The Chaplain's Remarks



**LEGION GROWTH—It'll be another year for The American Legion (TAL); that is, 103 years of faithful service to American Armed Forces veterans and their families. But is there more that could be done.**

**Consider that there are several nonprofit organizations that have set themselves up as capable and willing to go where the TAL may have yet to go. Would that put more stress on the Four Pillars that have gotten us so far, and are still useful to help Legionnaires?**

**It's not so clear sometimes because those nonprofit organizations have gained a lot of ground over what TAL may have originated, especially with our direct experience with wartime complications for our nation's veterans.**

**It takes a vet to comprehend a vet, so we may have to up our game by going that extra mile to let vets who've recently separated from the military, and as well as those apparently still struggling to fit into civilian life after their often-harrowing experiences, see and hear us offer our regular aid, as our Four Pillars already suggest.**

**It's not difficult, but time may be against us. We must somehow redouble our efforts to meet our fellow veterans where they are, to get them where TAL is.**

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

## Post 3 Honor Guard



In December, the Honor Guard assisted the Military Honors Teams at 11 Legion funerals and was asked to help at 6 VFW funerals. Honor Guard personnel were also present at the Governor's proclamation for Wreaths Across America, the ceremony at Wyuka cemetery on December 17<sup>th</sup> and helped lay the wreaths on the graves on December 19<sup>th</sup>. In calendar year 2022, the Honor Guard was asked to assist the Military Honor Teams at 154 combined funerals and appeared at 44 civic functions. I want to thank everyone involved for their support.

## Post 3 TAPS – December 2022



LEGIONNAIRE	WAR ERA	BRANCH	YEARS
Charles Bolus	WW II	Navy	16
Ronald L. Burke	Vietnam	Army	28
Roger P. Frerichs	Vietnam	Navy	42
Floyd E. Wilkinson	Korea	Army	12
Virgil L. Wipf	Vietnam	Army	27
Frank Rall	WWII	USAAC	29

# **Regular Meeting of American Legion Post 3**

## **Lincoln Elks Lodge #80**

### **December 13, 2022**

**Post 3 Commander Gerry Wolf opened the December 13, 2022 meeting of American Legion Post 3 at 7:00 PM at the Lincoln Elks Lodge 80 with 17 Legionnaires present.**

**The minutes of the November 8, 2022 Post 3 meeting were read and approved.**

**Finance Officer Ed Schnabel gave the financial report for the month ending November 30, 2022 showing a balance on hand of \$47,595.33 The report was accepted and filed for review.**

**Introduced as transferring-in members were Joe Kelly and John Lamb.**

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

**Commander Wolf reported briefly for the Legion Riders in Bruce Gubser's absence.**

**Vice-Commander Ron Hindmand reported that District 15 Oratorical Contest winner gave his oration at the Area C Oratorical Contest in Seward on December 4<sup>th</sup> and that he is advancing to the state finals at the Mid-Year Conference in Norfolk to be held in January.**

**Vice-Commander Hindmand also reported on the Salvation Army Bellringers. He reported that American Legion Family members covered most of 4 days at a couple of locations and recognized those who participated.**

**William Jackson read an Americanism report.**

**Squadron Commander Brendan Moore reported for the Sons of the American Legion. He indicated that the squadron had changed their holiday giving a little this year and went to a grocery store prior to Thanksgiving.**

**They then selected some individual shoppers to whom they presented a cash donation. He said the recipients were very grateful --- and that the squadron may do the same thing before Christmas.**

**Commander Wolf reported for the Honor Guard.**

**Ed Schnabel reported that he had just recently spent time at the post office helping to pack and mail 77 packages to troops in Kuwait.**

**Ed also presented some information on the updates to the PACT act. He said in-country service in more locations and more specific conditions were now covered.**

**It was mentioned that the VA CoffeeHaus was going to be held this Friday at the Auld Pavilion and that attendance is encouraged.**

**Ed Schnabel reported that the post had received a \$500 donation in honor of a recently deceased Legionnaire. He indicated that, unless directed otherwise, he would put the money into the "Bunker Fund."**

**Commander Wolf reported on several upcoming events and announced that today's membership was 953 --- about 78% of goal.**

**The Chaplain read TAPS and offered the closing prayer. The meeting was closed in proper form at 7:30. P.M.**

**Following the meeting, Post 3 and Unit 3 gathered for refreshments and a few games of "playing card bingo."**

**Steve Bartos, Recorder**

## **Sons of The American Legion**



The sole purpose of the Sons of the American Legion is to support the ideals and programs of the American Legion. In the past, we received names from local service organizations of families in need of some help. It was usually a food basket at the holidays that we could help with. We were able to help with five to six families at Thanksgiving and at Christmas.

We tried something new this year of helping and supporting veterans and local families during the holidays. On November 21st and December 20<sup>th</sup>, we made up some cards to wish the family receiving it a happy holiday and a nominal cash donation. By doing this we were able to help fifteen families at Thanksgiving and thirty families at Christmas.

Our total donation was \$2,500.00. There were many hugs and sometimes tears and hugs as a thank you from the folks that received these cards. We even had folks ask the grocery checker if this was a scam and they grinned and said "No, this is the real deal".

There were even several that said to give it to someone that needs it more than I do. It gave the Sons members present a warm feeling the we were doing something good.

Submitted by

Fred Craigie, Adjutant

Lincoln Squadron #3 Sons of the American Legion

# **SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGING**

## **Some American Legion Family Bell Ringers**

### **Auxiliary**



**Babara Michael**

### **Legion Riders**



**Lori Gubser & Grandson,  
Carter Morris**

### **Post 3 Members**



**Gerry Wolf & Wade Graft**

**Our Christmas Salvation Army Bell Ringing has come to an end for this year. Post 3 contributed four days of bell ringing for donations to good causes in our area. We rang at two locations for a total of 30 hours.**

**Eight hours of ringing at Hobby Lobby by the Legion Riders. Congratulations to Legion Riders: Mike Streeter, Dave Dietz, John Brehm, Ed Muggy, Lori & Bruce Gubser (and grandson Carter Morris) Jerry Hutchison and John Humphrey for ringing.**

**Congratulations to our Auxiliary Ladies Barb Skillman, Lori Gubser, and Barbara Michael for six hours ringing at the Williamsburg Mall Hy-Vee collecting a total of \$416.**

**Congratulations to 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 who rang for a total of 16 hours also at the Williamsburg Mall Hy-Vee. Total funds collected by all should be available from the Salvation Army soon.**

**Those red buckets at each location were stuffed full by generous donations. Thank you to all of our volunteers that stood out there in very cold windy conditions donating their time to do good for others in this Christmas season.**

**Ron Hindmand  
Bell Ringing Chairman**

# **AMERICAN LEGION ORATORICAL CONTEST**

Our District 15/Post 3 Oratorical Contest winner Jack Watermelon was again a winner at the 4 December Area C Contest held in Seward. Post 3 was represented in Seward by Fred Craigie, Gerry & Nancy Wolf and Ron & Paula Hindmand. Jack expressed appreciation for seeing our support for him there in Seward. 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” discussing the constitutional changes originating out of the American Civil War.

In addition to receiving the Area Trophy in Seward Jack received \$100 from Post 3 for competing as our representative. Our Post 3 Commander, Gerry Wolf presented that monetary award to him. Jack will compete again in the Nebraska Department Mid-Year Conference in Norfolk on 14 January. Jack will compete against other area winners for the Nebraska Department award and the opportunity to compete at the National finals.

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 will receive a \$2,000 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.

Best wishes to Jack Watermolen as he represents us!

Ron Hindmand  
Oratorican Chairman



Post 3 Commander Wolf And Jack Watermolen



Jack and the support group at the Oratorical Contest

## Wreaths Across America 2022



**Governor's proclamation at the State Capitol**



**Post 3 members at the Governor's proclamation**



**Wyuka Cemetery - New Soldiers' Circle**



**Wyuka Cemetery - Old Soldiers' Circle**

**The tradition of laying wreaths on veteran's graves to honor the veterans began in 1992, when Morrill Worchester Wreath Company, Harrington, Maine, donated 5,000 wreaths to be placed on the headstones of an older section of Arlington Cemetery.**

**Today, there are over 3,400 locations in all 50 states where this tradition continues. Lincoln has been a location for Wreaths Across America for twelve years. As part of the program, Wreaths Across America sends a large ceremonial wreath to each state capitol to honor and remember our veterans. This wreath was presented to the state of Nebraska on December 12<sup>th</sup> and was on display at the Capitol until the first of the year.**

**On Saturday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, over 2,000 evergreen wreaths were to be placed by family members and volunteers on veteran's graves in the Old and New Soldiers' Circle sections of Wyuka Cemetery. However, a snowstorm made the roads impassable and the truck carrying the wreaths was detained in Mandan, North Dakota. On Monday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, the truck arrived at Wyuka and a group of over 100 volunteers laid the wreaths on the graves in the cemetery.**

**Thanks to all who were able to help with this important tribute to our veterans.**

## Water Damage At Post 3 Office

For your information, a water line at the American Legion Post 3 office broke over the Christmas weekend and flooded the building. The water damage caused quite a mess. It is quite likely that the office will be closed for the next 30 days. Repairs are being covered by the building's insurance. For the next month or so, Post 3 business will be conducted from our homes. If you need any assistance in the meantime, please contact:

Adjutant, Ed Schnabel (402-480-8542, [edschnabelasa@gmail.com](mailto:edschnabelasa@gmail.com))

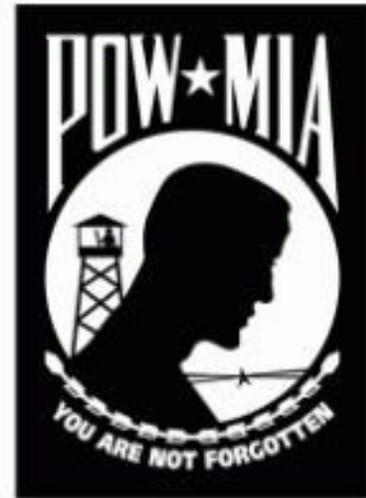
or

Commander, Gerry Wolf (402-417-8230, [gerrywolf@aol.com](mailto:gerrywolf@aol.com))



# Agency Accounts For Last WWII POWs From Lithuania

By Sgt Guerra Chugg - DEFENSE POW/MIA ACCOUNTING AGENCY PUBLIC AFFAIRS



**ARLINGTON, VA, ARLINGTON, VA – As 2022 comes to a close, three families are ending the year knowing that after decades of waiting a loved one has been brought home and laid to rest. A promise fulfilled. The three Airmen were German prisoners of war in World War II in what is now the nation of Lithuania. With these heroes accounted for and the families receiving answers, all missing Americans from that country have been recovered and returned to their families.**

**The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) partnered with the Ohio Valley Archeology, Inc. (OVAI) in 2019, they investigated a sight in current day Lithuania finding possible gravesites for three missing Americans. A Lithuanian archeological group called Kulturos Vertybiu Globa (Guardianship of Cultural Values) was also active in the area and was planning an excavation of Polish and Lithuanian remains near Stagag Luft 6. DPAA partnered with them to excavate the possible gravesites. In September 2021, remains were recovered and transferred to the DPAA Laboratory at Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska for analysis.“ Stalag Luft 6 was a prison camp during World War II. In 1955 the Soviet Union destroyed the prison camp and reverted the area back to farmland.**

**The last three missing Americans from the camp were:**

**U.S. Army Air Forces Tech. Sgt. William F. Teaff, 26, of Steubenville, Ohio, accounted for April 20, 2022. In the spring of 1944, Teaff was assigned to the 351st Bombardment Squadron, 100th Bombardment Group (Heavy), 8th Air Force. On March 6, he was the radio operator aboard a B-17 Flying Fortress bomber that was part of a larger mission to bomb targets in Berlin. German fighters attacked the B-17's formation while it flew over The Netherlands, and Teaff's plane was destroyed.**

**(POW/MIA – Continued)**

The entire crew except for the navigator, who was killed when the plane was hit, was able to bail out before the B-17 blew up in the sky. The crew was captured by the Germans and several of them, including Teaff, were sent to Stalag Luft 6, a prisoner of war camp in Heydekrug, Germany. He died July 10 in the nearby village of Matzicken, Lithuania, where he was receiving medical treatment for diphtheria.

U.S Army Air Force Staff Sgt. George B. Walker, 25, of Spartanburg, South Carolina, accounted for June 21, 2022. In the winter of 1944, Walker was assigned to the 369th Bombardment Squadron, 306th Bombardment Group (Heavy), 8th Air Force. On Feb. 3, he was the engineer and turret gunner aboard a B-17G Flying Fortress bomber that was part of a large bombing mission against the Wilhelmshaven Naval Shipyard in Wilhelmshaven, Germany. When the formation was flying near Oldenburg, it came under anti-aircraft fire. Even though there was no obvious damage, Walker's bomber began to lag behind the formation as it experienced general mechanical failure. The pilot flew the B-17 over the water and the crew bailed out. Germans captured several of the crew, including Walker, who was sent to Stalag Luft 6, a prisoner of war camp in Heydekrug, Germany. He died April 28 when he was shot while trying to escape.

U.S. Army Air Force Staff Sgt. Walter Nies, 23, of Eureka, South Dakota, accounted for August 2, 2022. In the winter of 1944, Nies was assigned to the 96th Bombardment Squadron, 2nd Bombardment Group (Heavy), 15th Air Force. On January 24, he was the tail gunner aboard a B-17F Flying Fortress bomber that was part bombardment mission to Sofia, Bulgaria. German fighters attacked the B-17's formation over Yugoslavia while it was attempting to return to its home base in Italy. The attack was largely ineffectual, but Nies' aircraft began having engine trouble shortly after and was forced to crash land on a beach near Ulcinj, Montenegro. The crew was captured by the Germans and all of the enlisted men, including Nies, were sent to Stalag Luft 6, a prisoner of war camp in Heydekrug, Germany. Nies was one of only three Americans who died in that POW camp. He died May 28 after being shot. German reports said he was trying to escape, but U.S. prisoner testimony following the war claimed he had been shot while on his way to the latrine in the early morning before the prisoners' nightly lockdown had been lifted.

Despite being prisoners of war each one of them was given a military burial, Dr. Burton mentioned. "I went through the war crime files; I found negatives, the original German negatives from the original funeral. It shows a handmade fence around it and a real grove of trees, so someone was at least trying to make an effort to make it look nice."

**(POW/MIA – Continued)**

**Walker was one of the most talked about incidents from Stalage Luft 6. It is reported that from the day he arrived he was asking questions like do you think we can break out; do you think we can get away, said Dr. Burton. He and another American snuck out of their barracks, late at night, with a homemade map with some provisional wire cutters.**

**They were surrounded by German guards that came running when the alarm was sounded. Unfortunately, they were caught. Despite warnings from his fellow prisoner not to move, Walker, while surrendering, tried to stand up and was shot and killed, Dr. Burton continued.**

**Walker's Grandson, Bobby B. Walker Jr., talks about learning about his Grandfather's military service.**

**"We bout gave up on him, he was interred once at the prison camp that he was killed at, said Bobby. "They knew about where he was buried but when the Soviets came through there, what is now Lithuania, they killed so many people around the surrounding area there, the cemetery filled up.**

**"I've heard of veterans that are recovered and sent home after years but we never thought, we had no idea till they out of the blue contacted us wanting to know if we would be willing to take a DNA test just in case and it wound up being him," Bobby said. He went on to say he and his sister have been able to find closure in the recovery and being able to bring home their grandfather.**

**"I'm just proud of him, I've been in contact with different Veterans groups," Bobby said. "I tell everyone now that if they know anybody that has family members there is someone out there looking for them right now, that's what they told me, and I believe it."**

## Nebraska Marine Awarded The Medal Of Honor



**AWARDED  
POSTHUMOUSLY: YES**

**BORN:** AUG. 9, 1947, ALLIANCE,  
BOX BUTTE COUNTY, NE,  
UNITED STATES

**DIED:** MARCH 24, 1969,  
REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

**BURIED:** FAIRVIEW CEMETERY  
(MH), ALLIANCE, NE, UNITED  
STATES

### CITATION

While serving as point man for the 2d Platoon, Pfc. Coker was leading his patrol when he encountered five enemy soldiers on a narrow jungle trail. Pfc. Coker's squad aggressively pursued them to a cave. As the squad neared the cave, it came under intense hostile fire, seriously wounding one marine and forcing the others to take cover.

Observing the wounded man lying exposed to continuous enemy fire, Pfc. Coker disregarded his safety and moved across the fire-swept terrain toward his companion. Although wounded by enemy small-arms fire, he continued to crawl across the hazardous area and skillfully threw a hand grenade into the enemy positions, suppressing the hostile fire sufficiently to enable him to reach the wounded man.

As he began to drag his injured comrade toward safety, a grenade landed on the wounded marine. Unhesitatingly, Pfc. Coker grasped it with both hands and turned away from his wounded companion, but before he could dispose of the grenade it exploded. Severely wounded, but undaunted, he refused to abandon his comrade. As he moved toward friendly lines, two more enemy grenades exploded near him, inflicting still further injuries.

Concerned only for the safety of his comrade, Pfc. Coker, with supreme effort, continued to crawl and pull the wounded marine with him. His heroic deeds inspired his fellow marines to such aggressive action that the enemy fire was suppressed sufficiently to enable others to reach him and carry him to a relatively safe area where he succumbed to his extensive wounds.

Pfc. Coker's indomitable courage, inspiring initiative, and selfless devotion to duty upheld the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and of the U.S. Naval Service. He gallantly gave his life for his country.

# UNIQUE SOLEMN HONOR CEREMONY IN THE U. S. ARMY

2nd ENGINEER BATTALION, 2nd Infantry Division – Burns its Colors November 30th



**This solemn night time ceremony commemorates the event in November 1950 Korean War when Chinese forces overran U.S./UN troops. 2nd Engineer Battalion was ordered to hold Kunu-Ri protecting the rear and right flank of U.S. 8th Army.**

**On November 30, 1950, when the Battalion Commander (COL Alarich Zacherle) realized the unit was going to be overrun he ordered all equipment destroyed. He then ordered the Battalion Colors and 25 Combat Streamers to be soaked in gasoline and set on fire to prevent them from being captured and becoming a war trophy. The Battalion troops attempted to escape...very few were successful...regrouped after battle...266 of the original 977 remained. All others were killed or captured.**

**The burning of the colors is a unique event that is known throughout the U.S. Army, especially to those who have served in Korea or the 2nd Infantry Division. At one of the ceremonies, LTC Christopher Benson, 2nd Engineer Battalion Commander said: "We do it to honor the courage and sacrifice of our veterans, to commemorate their actions, and acknowledge the role they played in shaping the history of the 2nd Infantry Division and of Korea. We must never forget our history, or the legacy our veterans left for us to maintain."**

**Every year since the mid-1990s, the battalion has held a solemn nighttime ceremony where those actions are remembered and the unit's colors burned. During the re-enactment, a roll call is taken for the soldiers who endured the battle. Soldiers of the current 2nd Engineer Battalion answer by calling out the status of each, most often "Killed in action, sir." Retired Major Arden A. Rowley, one of many soldiers captured during the battle by the Chinese, answered for himself during the roll call of 22 November 2013.**

**The 2nd Engineer Battalion is currently part of the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, Ft. Bliss, Texas**

**AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND (AEF)**  
**American Legion Auxiliary – Department of Nebraska**  
**and**

**NATIONAL EMERGENCY FUND (NEF)**  
**The American Legion – Department of Nebraska**

***Joining forces to raise funds***

**MID-YEAR CONFERENCE**  
**Norfolk Lodge & Suites at Divots**  
**4200 West Norfolk Avenue**  
**Norfolk NE**

**SATURDAY – JANUARY 14, 2023**  
**FOLLOWING ORATORICAL CONTEST**

**LIVE AUCTION**  
**EVERYONE IS INVITED**

**MEMBERS – UNITS – POSTS – SQUADRONS – CHAPTERS**

***Bring an item to donate for the auction***  
***Proceeds will be divided between AEF and NEF***

***Your continued dedication and support of our***  
***members are greatly appreciated***

***Get involved – Get invested – Reap the Rewards***  
***We can all make the difference***

## Free Lincoln Stars Hockey Tickets For You And Your Family

We are reaching out regarding military/hero honors continuing in 2023. We are still looking for many volunteers to be a part of our James Enterprises hero of the game. We are currently looking for: current/former military members, current/former police officers, or current/former firefighter members. We honor one service member and their family a game.

The service member and his/her family are honored during our first media timeout by coming out on the ice for a brief ceremony. This is usually about 40 seconds. The service member and family will also get complimentary tickets to the game!

If you or someone you know is interested in this opportunity, please reach back out.

Looking forward to a great 2023 and rest of season!



**Devon Buckland**

*Director of Gameday Operations*

(607)-765-6758

[devon@lincolnstars.com](mailto:devon@lincolnstars.com)



# Lincoln VAG eAlert

A Message from Your Veterans Advisory Group!

## VAG Lincoln Coffeehaus!



**JOIN US ON  
FRIDAY!**

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

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

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

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

### OUR SPONSOR

The Sponsor for CoffeeHaus is the Elks Lodge #80.



### MORE INFORMATION!

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

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

**Sons of The American Legion Membership Application**

Detachment of \_\_\_\_\_ Squadron No. \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Recruited by \_\_\_\_\_  
(First) (Initial) (Last) (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 84<sup>th</sup> 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 2022, and want to transfer to Post 3, only sign below and return the bottom portion to us.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Membership Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email address



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

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

**Web Site: [lincolnpost3.org](http://lincolnpost3.org)**

**[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 1<sup>st</sup> of the month.**

