



“For God And Country”
March 2022 POST 3 NEWSLETTER



Meeting Schedule For March 2022 – April 2022

Organization	Location	Time	March	April
Legion Post 3	Elks Lodge, 5910 S 58th	7:00 PM	03/08/22	04/12/22
Auxiliary Unit 3	Elks Lodge, 5910 S 58th	7:00 PM	03/08/22	03/12/22
SAL Squadron 3	Post 3 Office, 123 S 84th	7:00 PM	03/10/22	04/14/22
ALR Chapter 3	Denton Legion Club	6:00 PM	03/17/22	04/21/22
40 & 8 Voiture 103	Elks Lodge, 5910 S 58th	7:00 PM	03/15/22	03/19/22
8 & 40 Salon 832	Elks Lodge, 5910 S 58th	7:00 PM	03/15/22	04/19/22
8 & 40 Salon 92	Elks Lodge, 5910 S 58th	3:15 PM	03/17/22	04/21/22
Buddy Check	The Foundry, 211 N 14th	7:00 PM	03/22/22	04/22/22
VA Coffeehaus	Auld Pavilion, Antelope Park	10:00 AM	03/18/22	04/15/22

Commander's Call



Fellow Legionnaires,

I am somewhat disappointed. I thought that there may be more members at last month's District 15 Convention, but I saw the same 25-30 members who are usually at our meetings. I saw no new faces.

I would very much like to see more members attend our meetings, but I am not sure how to accomplish this. I think some members are upset that we have no home post and they miss the camaraderie of fellow members.

To this, I would answer that attending meetings and getting involved in the activities would fill the void. On meeting nights, the Elks Lodge #80 offers a cash bar where you can purchase alcohol or a soft drink from 6:00 until the meeting starts at 7:00. They also offer a hamburger buffet for about \$7.00 – plenty of time to converse with your fellow legionnaires. Again, I'm asking for members to become more involved in this great organization. Great ideas can only become reality when there is participation.

Post 3 has several fine programs. Surely there is one to match up with your interests. If you attend meetings, you may find that there is something that you would like to help with, or maybe come up with a project or activity that you feel that Post 3 should be doing.

The American Legion is a veteran's organization – not a social club. "Our obligation to our country can be fulfilled only by the faithful performance of all duties of citizenship. Let service to community, state and nation be ever a main objective of the American Legion and its members." Those are the words that are recited at the end of every Post 3 meeting. Let's put meaning into those words.

A newsletter wouldn't be a newsletter if it did not contain something about membership. Post 3 is doing an average job with renewals. As of this writing, we have 1127 paid members or about 84% of our goal of 1344. The easy part is done. The hard part has just begun – renewing the other 16%. We have just over 200 members who have not renewed. If you still haven't paid your 2021-2022 dues yet, please do so soon.

Get those renewals in and recruit new members to replace those who have moved on to Post Everlasting (See TAPS). If you know of a veteran who served at least one day of active military duty since December 7, 1941, and was honorably discharged or are currently serving honorably, please encourage him/her to join our post.

For God and Country,

**Gerry Wolf
Post 3 Commander**

Notes from the Adjutant's Desk



We look forward seeing you at the Post 3 meeting March 8th, 2022. This will be our celebration of the 103rd birthday of The American Legion, as it was formed by the American Expeditionary Force, Paris France, March 15th, 1919.

A BIG THANK YOU to those who have renewed for 2022. We really need your help; renewals were again very slow during February. We had hope to have met our goal of 85% for February but fell short. I want to thank those who did respond to our mailing of those who had not renewed through January.

If you have sent in your 2022 dues payment and have not received your 2022 card, please call, and let us know. This is the only way we know that you have not received your 2022 card. Mail does get damaged or misdirected.

If you know you have paid your 2022 dues, just throw the notice away. We do our best to process dues received in the Post 3 office daily and get to Department to meet the cut off dates set by National.

Thanks again for renewing with POST 3 and THE American Legion. It is the eleven dollars Post 3 dues that allows us to serve our fellow veterans at the local level. The remaining Thirty-Five Dollars goes to cover Department and National dues, which support Legion activities on the State and National level.

A benefit of your Legion membership is being able to file a claim through The American Legion Family Emergency Grants.

The National Emergency Fund (NEF) provides grants up to \$3,000 for eligible American Legion and Sons of The American Legion members, and up to \$10,000 for Legion posts affected by natural disasters such as hurricanes, flooding, tornadoes, and wildfires.

Eligibility: Membership in the Legion or Sons must be active when the disaster strikes and when the application is filed.

What's covered: An NEF grant may be considered when the applicant:

- Has been displaced from his or her primary residence due to damage sustained during a declared natural disaster.
- Provides copies of receipts of items required to meet immediate needs (such as temporary housing, food, water, clothing, diapers, etc.) during the period immediately following the disaster.

- For those recovering from a natural disaster, the application can be found at <https://www.legion.org/emergency/apply>
- For more information, please visit www.legion.org/NEF

Why do I bring this up? Nebraska, just the past week, met terms of these grants for the tornadoes that caused damage here in Nebraska this past fall. Now that it has been declared a natural disaster, a Legion member could be able to file a claim. One major point is that you must have been current on your dues as of the day of the event. Think of the floods we had two years ago. I know it is not much, but \$3,000.00 dollars would help some.

Thanks for your Service and Thanks for being a member of Post 3

Ed Schnabel Adjutant

LINCOLN CBOC/VA NEWS



March 1st marks the one-year anniversary of the new Lincoln VA clinic. Hard to believe it has been one year since we moved into the new building. There are still bugs that need to be worked out, but it is nice to have the new clinic.

if you have old meds you would like to get rid of, you can now drop them off in the Pharmacy waiting area. There is a locked BLUE drop box where you can deposit your old, out of date meds. Get them out of your homes and keep out of our kid's hands.

VA System ID Cards: If you do not have a current VA ID card you can request one while you are in the clinic. You will need to have some form of ID that will allow them to double check your identity. You can use a state issued driver's license and/or state issued ID card. The process is done by video computer link. Ask any VA clerk and they will show you where the room is for this video computer link. You can also get help to enroll in the VA system by using this link:

www.myhealth.va.gov.

Did you know you can request refills of your meds, check your upcoming appointments, or send a note to your provider online? The VA has a web site called, My Healthy Vet, that allows you to do this. If you are not currently using it, if you need help in using it or signing up for My Healthy Vet, stop by their education center on your next visit. The Lincoln education center is staffed on Tuesday – Friday, 0800-1400 hours.

To get the full use of the web site, you need to have a premium My Healthy Vet account. To upgrade your account, you need to be authenticated. This only takes a minute. Just stop and visit with the staff.

A word on VA events; Coffehaus, as there is no space for it in the new clinic, we are now meeting at the Auld Rec center in Antelope Park. Dates are the third Friday of the month, starting at 10:00 AM and going until noon. Come and join your fellow veterans for some great music, coffee and rolls.

The Auld Rec building is a terrific location. It is all on one floor, lots of space, and parking at the door. No stairs involved.

Buddy Check is on the 22nd of the month, 7:00 to 9:00 pm at the Foundry, 14th and P Street, downtown. Come and meet with your fellow veterans for free food and a drink.

If you would like to make calls to veterans, the VA has a new program, Compassionate Contact Care Volunteer Program. This Would involve calling or receiving calls to talk with veterans. Details are still being worked out. This is another way to volunteer, but without having to come to a clinic or hospital to do so.

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. The veterans do not need to be using the VA for their medical needs, they just need to be enrolled in the VA Health Care System.

Funding is based on foreseen needs, not current needs. We need to talk with our fellow veterans to be sure they are enrolled in the VA system. There are many veterans who could receive medical service but have never signed up for this benefit. Again, it is the old story, use them or lose them.

You may not know that the Lincoln CBOC receives \$4,000.00 dollars for each veteran registered as living in our service area. This area takes in most of southeast Nebraska and a few of the counties in northern Kansas. Even if you do not wish to us the VA services, we need you to be registered, these funds are based on those registered not those receiving services.

Thanks for your service.

Ed Schnabel

Lincoln VAG member (Veteran Advisory Group)

Lincoln VA American Legion Representative for Nebraska

Post 3 ALR Director's Remarks



Greetings Fellow Riders and all,

Mother Nature was good to everyone, especially motorcycle riders, in February. Many of our Riders enjoyed the warm temperatures by getting their knees in the breeze.

At our February meeting, we had a guest speaker from the First Responders Foundation's JAVELAN Service Dog program, Mr. Bob Evans. Bob spoke to us about their service dog program, which supports veterans and first responders in the eastern Nebraska and western Iowa who are suffering from PTSD, Traumatic Brain Injury, or many other affiliated physical and emotional disabilities. Bob's own service dog helps him with his own medical issues. The Chapter voted to donate the proceeds from our Poker Run in September to the JAVELAN program.

Until next time,
Ride (and Drive) Safe!

Bruce Gubser
Director, Lincoln Chapter 3
American Legion Riders



American Legion Chapter 3 Riders and Patriot Guard Riders set up a Flag Line at a veteran's funeral

Message From The Voiture 103 Chef de Gare



Since we started our column in the Post 3 Newsletter and the Lincoln Legionnaire, I have been asked about what the 40/8 does? What are your core programs? What do you stand for? How can I help? So, here, are the main programs that we work on an annual basis nationally and locally here in Lincoln:

Child Welfare -- This was our first program, established in 1923. Today our efforts touch over 1,300,000 children annually., with an annual investment of over \$8,000,000.

Nurses Training -- Voyageurs have granted in excess of \$20,000,000 and graduated over 23,000 Registered Nurses since the inception of this program in 1955.

Carville Star -- This magazine, published by patients in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, communicates research dealing with Hansen's disease also known as Leprosy. It has a circulation of more than 60,000 and is translated and forwarded to 128 countries around the world. Voyageurs provide over 90% of its funding.

Americanism-- Voyageurs sponsor various Americanism projects including Flags for First Graders, Respect for the Flag, Annual Law Officer of the Year Awards and Hero of the Year Awards.

VAVS (Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service) -- Voyageurs called Deputy Representatives visit the Veterans Administration Hospitals on a regular basis where they give comfort and assistance to or just visit with the hospitalized veterans.

National Box Car Association -- The NBCA raises funds by selling Crew and Associate Membership Cards. These funds are used at Promenade Nationale to treat special children and their escorts to lunch, train rides, and entertainment by our Hobo Clowns and bands. An additional donation is made to the VAVS office at local V.A. Hospitals and Clinics. Any excess funds are distributed to other programs. All funds collected are completely expended in the year they were raised.

So, there you have some of the reasons we exist and deserve your support. You can be a part of this great organization by becoming a member of Lincoln Voiture #103. It's so easy, just ask a current member for their sponsorship and we will take care of the rest. You will be glad you did. We meet at the Lincoln Elks Lodge #80 on the third Tuesday of the month. A delicious dinner will be served at 6:30 PM including dessert for \$6.00 currently. The bar opens for us at 5:00 PM so that we can meet new friends and catch up with old ones before the meeting set for approximately 7:00 PM.

Respectively,
Wade Graft
Chef de Gare
Voiture 103

The Chaplain's Remarks

(Escape to...where?)



Where does one go when there's nowhere to go? Take for instance, Abram, from the Ur of the Chaldees (Genesis 15:7). He was asked by his father, "Who is this god, and where are you to go? Have you seen him? How do you know him?"

One might say the "...and the rest is history..." through many a circumstance of human situations. But where does that leave persons in the here-and-now of our 21st century. Think of this: if YOU said you had an invisible...something...direct you to go to Katmandu, would YOU up and leave? Do YOU know where Katmandu is? I don't.

But the reality is, ALL of us are being directed to do something, and go somewhere. Those messages will come from Jesus, mankind's Lord and Saviour (1 Timothy 1:1), or from Satan, humankind's Adversary (1 Peter 5:8). If you have faith in the Lord, you'll get clear, unadulterated directions to live a decent life for Him and others. Yet, there are those who choose to follow the Devil because their flesh "tingles" with the craving for unending, physical indulgence.

Why, one might ask, is there a choice at all? Dating back to the dawn of life on this planet called Earth, in a garden called Eden, the *Elohim* (Aramaic), or the trinity (Genesis 1:26), God set humanity with the choice to be obedient to Him or follow their fleshly desires. The Preincarnate Jesus, known as Jehovah God, set a plan in motion to save His greatest creation from themselves, called the *Protoevangelium* (Greek) in Genesis 3:15. Thus, anyone who desires God more than his or her fleshly pursuits will gain the eternity of Heaven.

I know, I know, how's it that simple? I'd say because God says so, not me. Life may be a gamble for some, but for others, it's a gift. Choose wisely what's good for you: Jesus or Satan. You've only one life to keep or lose...yours.

Rev. Dr. William Jackson

Lincoln ALP 3 Chaplain

Artwork courtesy of bing.com

Post 3 Honor Guard



In the month of February, the Honor Guard assisted the Military Honors Teams at 6 Legion funerals and was asked to assist at 4 VFW funerals. In calendar year 2022, the Honor Guard was asked to assist the Military Honor Teams at 34 combined funerals and appeared at one Civic function. Spring should be around the corner, and warmer weather should follow. Funerals held in bad weather are not easy, but the veterans deserve our recognition. The turnout for the services has been very good, considering our age and health. The effort the Honor Guard makes to honor our deceased veterans is greatly appreciated.



Post 3 TAPS - February 2022

LEGIONNAIRE	WAR ERA	BRANCH	CONT YRS
Frank E. Bomberger	Korea	Army	47
Larry M. Brainard	Korea	Army	7
Lawrence P. Hernandez	Vietnam	Air Force	36
Stanley R. Hilgenkamp	Vietnam	Navy	44
Hugh D. Hosack	Vietnam	Army	11
Marlin C. Snyder	Korea	Army	40

**Regular Meeting of American Legion Post 3 (District 15 Convention)
Lincoln Elks Lodge #80 and also on ZOOM - February 8, 2022**

District 15 Commander Ed Muggy opened the February 8, 2022 meeting of American Legion Post 3 / District 15 at 6:30 PM at the Lincoln Elks Lodge 80 with about 30 Legionnaires present. The meeting was also being made available on Zoom.

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

The following individuals were recognized: Department Commander Dan Benes. National Executive Committeeman Fred Craigie, Alternate National Executive Committeeman Jim Costello, Sons of the American Legion Alternate National Executive Committeeman Bud Neal, Department Senior Vice Commander Don Suchy, candidate for department commander John Henry Percy, Assistant Adjutant Brent Hagel-Pitt, and District 15 Vice Commander Bruce Gubser.

District Commander Muggy read the convention call.

Commander Benes was introduced, and he made remarks on membership, department finances, the ongoing search for a new home for department headquarters, his travels as department commander, the Washington Conference, and several veteran-related bills currently in the Legislature.

Steve Bartos was thanked for his efforts as Department Membership Chairman.

NEC-man Fred Craigie brought greetings from the national organization and mentioned several items of legislation being discussed at the national level.

ANEC-man Jim Costello, SAL ANEC-man Bud Neal, and Vice Commander Suchy also made brief remarks.

Assistant Adjutant Hagel-Pit was introduced, and he made comments on several available scholarships from the Nebraska American Legion. He also presented an Americanism Citation and a 2021 Post Membership Retention Award Citation to Post 3.

District Commander Muggy announced that Art Jones, a 53-year member of Post 3, had been selected as the 2022 recipient of the District 15 Citizenship Award. At age 93, Art continues to help on the Honor Guard. Unfortunately, Art was unable to attend tonight's meeting.

Commander Muggy announced the election of officers for the coming two years. Following the lone nomination by Gerry Wolf, Ron Hindmand was elected by acclamation to be the next District 15 Vice Commander.

(Minutes – Continued)

Following the lone nomination by Wade Graft, Bruce Gubser was elected by acclamation to be the next District 15 Commander. Both will be installed at the upcoming Department Convention.

District Commander Muggy announced the election of delegates to the National Convention. It was reported that --- based on our membership of a little more than 1000 and the allocation of delegates as 1 for each 1000 members (or major fraction) --- District 15 is entitled to elect 1 delegate to the National Convention. It was also announced that by virtue of office, NEC-man Fred Craigie will automatically be a delegate to the convention in his own right. Following the lone nomination by Fred Craigie, Steve Bartos was elected by acclamation to serve as a delegate to the 2022 National Convention.

Commander Muggy read a list of tentative dates and locations for a number of upcoming American Legion activities.

John Henry Percy, Don Suchy, Jim Costello, and Fred Craigie ---- all candidates for offices to be elected at the upcoming department convention --- spoke briefly on their candidacies.

For the benefit of this evening's visitors to the district convention (and because a number of cards were being passed around for signature),

Vice Commander Gubser explained the ongoing Post 3 project of getting birthday cards to several hundred veterans currently living in a number of Lincoln senior living facilities.

Brendan Moore was introduced, and he made comments about a possible resolution to be put forth to amend the United State Flag Code as it pertains to Memorial Day. He discussed the fact that because of the activities that normally occur on Memorial Day and because businesses are generally closed, the rules about flying the flag at half-staff only until noon are commonly difficult to follow.

Post 3 member Angela Hutchings explained that she was a nurse and that an organization with which she works was looking for a project that could be of service to veterans. She proposed having a nurse or two offer blood pressure checks at Post 3 meetings a few times a year. It was generally agreed that the idea was good and that she and the commander could work out a schedule.

Commander Muggy reported that Post 3 / District 15 membership stood at 1117, which is about 83% of our goal.

The Chaplain read TAPS, and the meeting was closed in proper form at about 7:45 PM.

Steve Bartos, Recorder

MISCELLANEOUS



Recently, Jack Sibert presented Mary Spencer with a \$250.00 check to support Mary's work of placing headstones on unmarked graves of "Littlest Angels" in Wyuka cemetery.

Wyuka cemetery was established in 1869 as both a cemetery and park by state legislation. That legislation provided free burial for state wards, indigents, and orphans from birth to the age of 18. Those individuals were buried in a plot and only marked by a numbered cement cone. Today there are 2,800 children buried at Wyuka that don't have headstones

We purchase one headstone each year and place this on our yearly budget to purchase more. If you are able and want to help, please contact Post 3. We will make sure all funds go to Mary.



Unmarked grave



"Littlest Angel" headstone



At the District 15 Convention, Assistant Adjutant Hagel-Pit presented an Americanism Citation and a 2021 Post Membership Retention Award Citation to Post 3.

Pictured is Post 3 Commander Gerry Wolf accepting the awards for Post 3 and being congratulated by Department Commander, Dan Benes.

Update - Legion Baseball & Legion Post 3 - 2022

This article is late in coming. Many have wondered about the involvement of Legion Baseball and Post 3, for the past 2 years and the future. 2019 was the last year we were lessee of Sherman Field from the city, and fully involved in financially supporting Legion Baseball through Legion Post 3. Today the Post supports the program in name only.

So what happened?

1. Prior to the 2020 season we assumed the position that for various reasons, Post 3 could no longer maintain the help required to operate and maintain the field. Several baseball committee members moved and Chair, Dick Clarence passed away. We could find no one who would step up and assume these positions,
2. The increasing and exorbitant rent from the City of Lincoln for Sherman Field and LPS placed a huge financial strain on the post. Revenue from the gate and tournaments did not make up for the thousands, of dollars needed to rent those fields.
3. Covid, as we all know, caused the cancellation of many sporting events including Legion Baseball.
4. Withdrawal of national sponsorship and support from the national organization.
5. Department of Nebraska's decision to eliminate area tournaments during the Covid era, which was a major income for the Baseball budget.

For these reasons the decision was made and declared that we would provide administrative sponsorship to American Legion Baseball in Lincoln, Nebraska. We also agreed to provide minimal financial support, as we were able, but not enter into a lease for Sherman Field, LPS field or have any direct control of the summer program.

We apologize for the late report on Legion Baseball. We would like to thank the sponsors who helped fund the program in the previous years. Thank You plaques were given individually to sponsors in 2020. The following deserve gratitude of thanks for their sponsorship to help continue Legion Baseball.

JC Brager

Lincoln Orthopedics

Nemaha Sports Construction

Sandhills Global

Schwisow Construction

Stonebrook Exterior

Union Bank

Vermeer High Plains

Anderson Ford

Ayars & Ayars

Carpet Land

Judds Brothers

Lincoln Hotel Group

OnTo College

Pinnacle Bank

Sampson Construction

Surface Sealers

We especially want to thank Kyle Sitzman, Jon Sterns and those involved for taking the lead for Legion Post 3. Their help is greatly appreciated. If further info is need refer to Lincoln Legionnaire, January-March 2018, Volume 65 number 1, or call our office, 402-466-3958.

Soldier Accounted For From Korean War



WASHINGTON – The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) announced today that Army Pfc. Kenneth L. Bridger, 17, of Colville, Washington, killed during the Korean War, was accounted for Jan. 26, 2022.

In late 1950, Bridger was a member of Company K, 3rd Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division. He was reported missing in action on Nov. 30, 1950, on the last night of his unit's stand at the defensive perimeter south of the Pungnyuri Inlet on the east side of the Chosin Reservoir, North Korea. Following the battle, his remains could not be recovered.

On July 27, 2018, following the summit between President Donald Trump and North Korean Supreme Leader Kim Jong-un in June 2018, North Korea turned over 55 boxes, purported to contain the remains of American service members killed during the Korean War. The remains arrived at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii on Aug. 1, 2018, and were subsequently accessioned into the DPAA laboratory for identification.

To identify Bridger's remains, scientists from DPAA used anthropological analysis, as well as circumstantial evidence. Additionally, scientists from the Armed Forces Medical Examiner System used mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA), Y chromosome DNA (Y-STR), and autosomal DNA (auSTR) analysis.

Bridger's name is recorded on the American Battle Monuments Commission's Courts of the Missing at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu, along with the others who are still missing from the Korean War. A rosette will be placed next to his name to indicate he has been accounted for.

Bridger will be buried in Twin Falls, Idaho, on May 21, 2022.

Don McPherson: Congressional Medal Recipient And Lucky Man



U.S. Navy aviator Don McPherson hold a replica of an F6F Hellcat fighter at his home in Adams.

ADAMS -- One of two living Nebraskans designated as an ace pilot, Don McPherson considers himself a lucky man. He shot down a pair of kamikazes from his F6F Hellcat fighter because, according to him, he was "at the right place at the right time."

McPherson, 93, has spent most of his life in Adams. He enlisted in the Navy in 1942, thinking he might as well pick the branch of service he wanted to join instead of letting Uncle Sam decide for him.

He patrolled the skies and flew missions in the Pacific Theater. He served until 1945.

McPherson recalls watching a movie aboard a ship near the Caroline Islands in the Western Pacific while waiting to be assigned to a crew. Sirens sounded and confused sailors scrambled to their positions.

Two kamikazes -- twin-engine bombers -- overshot the carrier, one clipping the radar, then crashing on an island, the other bouncing a glancing blow on an adjacent carrier.

"So we found out right away what the kamikaze suicide thing was all about," McPherson said.

He got the call to join the Wonder Five crew and flew his first mission over the Japanese island of Kyushu, where he blew up a grounded Japanese bomber. And then his engine quit. The propeller was still turning, but he was quickly losing speed.

He tried to pump gas to his tank, and the engine revved but the surging engine pulled McPherson into enemy fire. As he turned, he saw a 20-millimeter shell cut a hole through his fuselage and the cable that worked the tail rudder. "I was probably the luckiest guy in the world," McPherson recalled.

He was also good. The holes he picked up in Kyushu were his last, he said. McPherson shot down five planes, earning him his ace designation. And in May, he received the Congressional Gold Medal.

Two of his five "kills" came on a mission to a suspected kamikaze base in Kikaijima on Japan's southern frontier.

On the way back from destroying the base, he saw two Japanese dive bombers flying close to the water.

McPherson, who has a baseball field named after him in Adams, leaned the plane's nose down and fired, hitting the first plane. He chased down the second and eventually shot it as well, setting it on fire.

He said he was lucky he hadn't put the safety on the plane's machine guns. Otherwise, he wouldn't have been able to fire.

After gunning down the second plane, McPherson escaped from anti-aircraft fire thanks to what he called evasive maneuvers.

Lucky, and skilled.

FRANCIS GARDLER/Lincoln Journal Star

“Candy Bomber” From Berlin Airlift Dies

U.S. military pilot Gail S. Halvorsen — known as the “Candy Bomber” for his candy airdrops during the Berlin Airlift after World War II ended — has died.

Halvorsen was 101 when he died Wednesday, February 16, 2022, following a brief illness in his home in Utah, surrounded by most of his children, James Stewart, the director of the Gail S. Halvorsen Aviation Education Foundation, said Thursday.



Halvorsen was beloved and venerated in Berlin, which he last visited in 2019 when the city celebrated the 70th anniversary

of the day the Soviets lifted their post-War World II blockade cutting off supplies to West Berlin with a big party at the former Tempelhof airport in the German capital.

“Halvorsen’s deeply human act has never been forgotten,” Berlin Mayor Franziska Giffey said in a statement.

After the United States entered World War II following the attack on Pearl Harbor, Halvorsen trained as a fighter pilot and served as a transport pilot in the south Atlantic during World War II.

He later began flying food and other supplies to West Berlin as part of the airlift.

According to his account on the foundation’s website, Halvorsen had mixed feelings about the mission to help the United States’ former enemy after losing friends during the war.

But his attitude changed, and his new mission was launched, after meeting a group of children behind a fence at Templehof airport. He offered them the two pieces of gum that he had, broken in half, and was touched to see those who got the gum sharing pieces of the wrapper with the other children, who smelled the paper. He promised to drop enough for all of them the following day as he flew, wiggling the wings of his plane as he flew over the airport, Halvorsen recalled.

He started doing so regularly, using his own candy ration, with handkerchiefs as parachutes to carry them to the ground. Soon other pilots and crews joined in what would be dubbed “Operation Little Vittles.”

The airlift began on June 26, 1948, in an ambitious plan to feed and supply West Berlin after the Soviets — one of the four occupying powers of a divided Berlin after World War II — blockaded the city in an attempt to squeeze the U.S., Britain and France out of the enclave within Soviet-occupied eastern Germany.

Hickman American Legion Post 105

Fish Fry

Dates:

Friday 3/11/22, 3/25/22, and 4/08/22

Time:

5 to 8 each night

Both take out and limited seating indoors

Menu:

Fish, ham, baked potato, beans, and Cole slaw

Price \$15.00 donation ½ price for kids under 12

This is a fund raiser for the Post

And the food is very good

**Submitted by Ed Muggy
District 15 Commander**

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

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 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



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

