



## “For God And Country” May 2022 POST 3 NEWSLETTER



### Meeting Schedule For May 2022 – June 2022

Organization	Location	Time	May	June
<b>Legion Post 3</b>	<b>Elks Lodge, 5910 S 58th</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>05/10/22</b>	<b>06/14/22</b>
<b>Auxiliary Unit 3</b>	<b>Elks Lodge, 5910 S 58<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>05/10/22</b>	<b>06/14/22</b>
<b>SAL Squadron 3</b>	<b>Post 3 Office, 123 S 84th</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>05/12/22</b>	<b>06/09/22</b>
<b>ALR Chapter 3</b>	<b>Denton Legion Club</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>05/19/22</b>	<b>06/16/22</b>
<b>40 &amp; 8 Voiture 103</b>	<b>Elks Lodge, 5910 S 58<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>05/17/22</b>	<b>06/21/22</b>
<b>8 &amp; 40 Salon 832</b>	<b>Elks Lodge, 5910 S 58<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>05/17/22</b>	<b>06/21/22</b>
<b>8 &amp; 40 Salon 92</b>	<b>Elks Lodge, 5910 S 58<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>3:15 PM</b>	<b>05/19/22</b>	<b>06/16/22</b>
<b>Buddy Check</b>	<b>The Foundry, 211 N 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>05/22/22</b>	<b>06/22/22</b>
<b>VA Coffeehaus</b>	<b>Auld Pavilion, Antelope Park</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>05/20/22</b>	<b>06/17/22</b>

# Commander's Call



Fellow Legionnaires,

While your Memorial Day weekend might be packed with family fun and summer activities - a trip to the lake, camping, or a backyard barbecue - we also think it's important to pause the festivities in remembrance of the real meaning and history of Memorial Day.

If you are one of those asking, "Is Memorial Day not for veterans?" It is time to learn the answer. Since a lot of us still confuse Veterans Day and Memorial Day, you should know the difference to avoid any misunderstanding.

These two holidays have different origins. The official observance of Memorial Day started in 1868 at Arlington National Cemetery where people decorated the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers with flowers. This tradition was later extended to commemorate all military men and women who died in all American wars.

Veterans Day dates back to the early 20th century when Armistice Day was declared after World War I to honor the heroism of the American soldiers and their contribution to the world peace. After World War II, the name of the holiday was changed to "Veterans". Ever since then, Veterans Day is observed on November 11 to celebrate the veterans of all American wars.

To express noble Memorial Day sentiments, you should remember that this is the time to commemorate those who gave their lives in service to our country.

That is why you should not thank the living veterans on Memorial Day but show respect to their fallen comrades in arms, friends, and family.

We honor veterans on Veterans Day to express our gratitude and reverence for their service. On Memorial Day, we remember those who died in wars. In such a way, we can deliberate on the price of war and pay tribute to those who paid in full.

So instead of looking for proper words to say to a veteran on Memorial Day, you should visit a Veterans memorial or a National Cemetery and place flags and flowers on the graves, buy a poppy, or attend a Memorial Day Parade.

Over time people have adopted different attitudes to using a Memorial Day saying, "Happy Memorial Day". However, it might seem inappropriate to wish a day of bitter and painful memories to be happy. Since those who lost their loved ones in the wars can get genuinely emotional on Memorial Day, you should rather avoid using the word "happy". There are a lot of ways to express your gratitude, and you will know what to say on Memorial Day if you understand its actual meaning and significance.

*"And I'm proud to be an American, where at least I know I'm free. And I won't forget the men who died, who gave that right to me."*

—Lee Greenwood

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 May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022. We will be nominating officers for the next Legion Year, 2022-2023. If you wish to become part of the Post 3 leadership, come and let us know. Election will take place during the June meeting.

A BIG THANK YOU to those who have renewed for 2022. We really need your help; renewals were again very slow during April. We had hope to have met our goal of 90% for April but fell short

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 missed directed, so please let us know if you do not receive a 2022 membership card.

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 of 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's 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.

**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.

**Resources:**

- 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](http://www.legion.org/NEF)

Why do I bring this up? Nebraska is currently having a major disaster in the southwest part of the state. Grass fires have burned across much of three counties just the past two weeks. It is declared a natural disaster. A Legion member could be able to file a claim. One important 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.

Remember to take time this Memorial Day to honor our fellow Veterans who have died in service to this Great Country

**Ed Schnabel  
Adjutant**

# LINCOLN CBOC/VA NEWS



On Wednesday April 27, the Nurses and Staff at the Lincoln Clinic celebrated Veterans Appreciation Day by writing notes with sidewalk chalk on the walks in front of the entrance to the clinic. There were some very nice drawings.

The clinic is currently giving the second booster shots for Covid 19. You will need to call and schedule an appointment as they are not doing walk-ins at this time. Remember to bring your shot record.

If you have old meds that you would like to get rid of, you can now drop them off in the Pharmacy waiting room. There is a locked blue drop box where you can get rid of them. Get them out of your homes and keep them out of your kid's hands.

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, etc. by using this link, [www.myhealth.va.gov](http://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, or if you need help in using it, or signing up for it, stop by their education center on your next visit. In Lincoln, their info center is just to the right of the front entrance. 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 HealtheVet 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 VGA events: Coffeehaus, 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 a roll. The Auld Rec building is a terrific location, all on one floor, lots of space, and parking at the door, no stairs.

Buddy Check is on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of the month, 7:00 to 9:00 pm at the Foundry, 14<sup>th</sup> and P, downtown. Come and meet with your fellow veterans for free food and a drink. You can park in the garage just around the corner for free as we will give you a ticket to use to get out.

If you would like to give 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 without having to come to a clinic or hospital to do so.

Remember, the VA will only 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, just need to be enrolled in the VA Health Care System.

Funding is based on foreseen needs, not current need. 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 of our service. 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 use 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 Legion Family,**

May marks the traditional beginning of "riding season" in Nebraska. Oh, sure, we have had some nice riding weather since the beginning of the year, but because a huge majority of motorcycle riders are what one might call "fair weather riders," the warmer temps in May will be bringing more and more motorcycles on the road. Whether you are on two-, three- or four-wheels, keep your focus on the road and watch for other vehicles sharing the road. One tip I recently saw was to teach your children to watch for motorcycles by making it a game. I remember "Slug Bug"... whenever we saw a VW Bug on the road, we'd slap our sibling crazy. Well, not really, but it usually garnered a friendly (or not-so-friendly) tap on the shoulder. I think you get the idea. Anyway, motorcyclists, please watch for cars... car drivers, please watch for motorcyclists.

May is also the beginning of parade season. Your American Legion Riders will be participating in at least two parades during May. First up will be in Omaha on Saturday, May 28th, at the Patriotic Parade & Concert. We will be joining other Nebraska ALR chapters, the US Army Fife & Drum Corps, the Mounted Color Guard from Fort Riley (KS), and others to honor America's heroes. We will also be participating with the Lincoln Memorial Day Observance.

I guess that's about all for now.

**Ride (and Drive) Safe!**

Bruce Gubser

Director, Lincoln Chapter 3, ALR

# **Message From The Voiture 103 Chef de Gare**



**Voiture #103 continues to grow our membership numbers, conduct our business, pay our bills and have lots of fun doing it.**

**May promises to be an exciting month for us Voyagers as we are conducting the first Wreck that Voiture #103 has had in many, many years. All current members of Voiture #103 are encouraged to attend. I know you will be glad you did. So, mark your calendars so you won't forget - May 17th. Dinner is at 6:30PM and the Wreck will commence immediately thereafter. Fred Craigie has developed a Wreck program that is going to be entertaining, educational and lots of fun. I am really looking forward to it and I hope you are too. See you all there.**

**While I am thinking about May, don't forget about the Veterans Advisory Group having their 9th Annual Show and Shine on May 11th at the Star City Shores-27th and Highway 2. The hours are 5:00PM to 8:00PM. There will be food service available, information booths (learn more about your veteran's affairs healthcare system, etc) and lots of cars and motorcycles on display. No entry fee for the cars and motorcycles. No attendance fee- bring a non-perishable food item that will be donated to the People's City Mission. For questions check their website - [www.VAGLincoln.org](http://www.VAGLincoln.org) Look for me there, I'll be directing traffic and sweeping up after. 😊**

**Respectfully,**

**Wade Graft**

**Chef de Gare**

**Voiture #103**

**402-770-9126**

**wamar4801@gmail.com**

## The Chaplain's Remarks



**RISING TIDE**—It's coming, like the undertow or rip tide you forgot about after venturing into the surf., Then you wondered about how you got so disoriented amidst your excitement for exploring the deep.

Going deep is a matter of course for scuba divers and maybe some sailors, but for the average landlubber it may be a tragedy. Take, for example, your trust in the Lord, our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Comparably, putting all of your "eggs in one basket" by believing in a being you've never seen or heard, no matter that you're aware that our Lord has risen from the dead - remember Easter recently. With two natures as the *Theoanthropos* (Greek, Romans 1:4) or "God-Man." He is the only being in our vast cosmos who is absolutely *Omniscient*, *Omnipotent*, and *Omnipresent*. He's also the Third Person of the *Elohim* (Aramaic, Genesis 1:26) for the trinity, with God the Father and God the Holy Spirit.

So, when you're struggling – vainly - to gather your wits to overcome a trial, be it of your own making or part of the world's Satan-stirred evil (1 Peter 5:8), Jesus is ALWAYS there to pull you through.

He may allow you to suffer through it, but in the end, you will have learned something VERY valuable.: The Lord is looking after you. Watch your bubbles go upward as when you're scuba diving, like your prayers to Jesus do..

Rev. Dr. William Jackson  
Lincoln ALP 3 Chaplain

## **Miscellaneous News**

### **Teacher's 25 Year Anniversary Celebration**



In April, NEC Man, Fred Craigie and Commander Gerry Wolf attended Lincoln Public School's **25** Year Teacher's Recognition Ceremony at Lincoln Southwest High School. Because of Covid-19, the celebration had to be cancelled last year. This year, 2 sessions were held to accommodate all teachers who reached the milestone in the past 2 years.

It was noted that Fred had been in attendance off and on at the annual celebration since 1988 when he was Post 3 Commander. On that occasion, he gave a certificate to his sophomore history teacher. Commander Wolf thanked the teachers for their dedicated service to our young men and women and gave a brief talk about several American Legion programs that helps educate our youth to become productive members to our society.

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### **Chancellor's Review**



Recently, Adjutant Ed Schnabel and Commander Gerry Wolf attended the ROTC Chancellor's Review at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln. Post 3 awarded 12 Cadets with certificates and medals for Scholastic Excellence and another 12 cadets for Military Excellence. It was truly an awesome experience to see our future military officers in uniform. From what I saw, I know that we are leaving our nation in capable hands.

Later that day, similar certificates and medals were given to Air Force JROTC Cadets at Lincoln Northeast High School.

## **Post 3 Honor Guard**



In the month of April, the Honor Guard assisted the Military Honors Teams at 16 Legion funerals and was asked to assist at 3 VFW funerals. Post 3 was also represented at 5 civic functions. In calendar year 2022, the Honor Guard was asked to assist the Military Honor Teams at 68 combined funerals and appeared at 6 Civic functions. The warmer weather is greatly appreciated and the turnout for the services has been very good. The effort the Honor Guard makes to honor our deceased veterans is greatly appreciated.



## **Post 3 TAPS - April 2022**

<b>LEGIONNAIRE</b>	<b>WAR ERA</b>	<b>BRANCH</b>	<b>CONT YRS</b>
Lawrence E. Hanus	Korea	Navy	56
Walter Hupka	WW II	Army	46
Lowell L. Korber	Korea	Navy	42

## Continuous Membership

At the April Post 3 regular meeting, we had some very important members in attendance. Members with 50, 60, 70, & 75 years of continuous membership were honored and presented with a certificate of continuous membership for their years of dedicated support to the American Legion. In the past year, Post 3 had 39 people with 50 years, 7 with 60 years, 2 with 70 years and 1 with 75 years. Not all could be with us that evening. Those not present will be mailed their certificates. We thank all of our honorees for their continued support of the American Legion.

Members with continuous membership and number of years are listed below:

Last Name	First Name	Yrs	Last Name	First Name	Yrs	Last Name	First Name	Yrs
Belger	Mark	50	Lindeman	Guy	50	Simpson	John	50
Bergmeyer	Donald	50	Logan	Marshall	50	Stallings	Robert	50
Cather	James	50	Lonergan	James	50	Waller	Richard	50
Christen	Gerald	50	Miller	Donald	50	Wasserman	Ronnald	50
Dunning	David	50	Mills	Thomas	50	Williams	David	50
Foster	Lee	50	Morris	Jerry	50	Wooters	Eldon	50
Handeland	James	50	Novak	Dwayne	50	Dolezal	Albin	60
Hanneman	Darwin	50	Ojeda	Rene	50	Foss	Lavern	60
Hansen	James	50	Omeara	Dennis	50	Gess	Charles	60
Hauschild	Bruce	50	Page	Wayne	50	Miller	Richard	60
Hill	Harry	50	Paul	Lyle	50	Novak	Frederick	60
Jacobs	John	50	Powers	Michael	50	Ruyle	Robert	60
Johnsen	Richard	50	Ringenberg	Jay	50	Warren	Charles	60
Keller	Danny	50	Robinson	Richard	50	Burton	Robert	70
Laggett	William	50	Schroeder	Kay	50	Jacoby	Ronald	70
Liepins	Arijs	50	Scott	Kenneth	50	Chambers	Frank	75
Selk      Gene      50								

Members in attendance are pictured below:



(L to R) Robert Ruyle, Marshall Logan, Lee Foster, Mark Belger, John Simpson, Robert Stallings, Commander Gerry Wolf

**Regular Meeting of American Legion Post 3  
Lincoln Elks Lodge #80 and also on ZOOM  
April 12, 2022**

**Post 3 Commander Gerry Wolf opened the April 12, 2022 meeting of American Legion Post 3 at 7:00 PM at the Lincoln Elks Lodge 80 with about 35 Legionnaires and guests present. The meeting was also being made available on Zoom. A tornado warning was issued during the course of the meeting, but little more than a thunderstorm and brief, heavy rain occurred.**

**The minutes of the March 8<sup>th</sup> Post 3 meeting were read and approved.**

**Bartos reported that the list of 21 Lincoln-area boys being endorsed for Boys State by Post 3 had dropped to 19.**

**Commander Wolf expressed his thanks to Angela Hutchings and her team of nurses who provided blood pressure checks prior to tonight's meeting.**

**Adjutant / Finance Office Ed Schnabel gave the finance report for the month ending March 31, 2022 showing a balance on hand of \$42,690.12. The report was accepted and filed for review.**

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

**Assisted by Jack Sibert, Commander Wolf presented Continuous Membership Certificates to six Post 3 Legionnaires. Lee Foster, Mark Belger, John Simpson, Robert Stallings, and Marshall Logan received certificates for being 50-year members. Robert Ruyle received a certificate recognizing him for 60 continuous years. Commander Wolf thanked them all for their many years of supporting Post 3.**

**Post 3 Legion Riders Director Brude Gubser reminded everyone that a poker run is schedule for Saturday, September 24<sup>th</sup> to benefit the JAVALAN Service Dog Training Program.**

**Bruce also reported on the post's birthday card program in some of Lincoln's senior living facilities. It continues to be a well-received and appreciated effort.**

**Americanism Chairman William Jackson spoke about the Four Pillars of the American Legion.**

**Voiture 103 Chef de Gare Wade Graft reported for the 40/8. He asked members of Voiture 103 to stand and invited non-members to talk to them to see if they were interested in being asked to join.**

**(Minutes – Continued)**

**Ed Schnabel** reported that we had selected one student to attend the Jr. Law Cadet program in Grand Island and that there may be one more in the works.

**Gerry Wolf** reported on the Honor Guard.

**District 15 Commander Ed Muggy** made a few comments about the Nebraska American Legion being involved with the College World Series. He also asked for information about the number of pints of blood donated by members in the last year.

**Commander Wolf** brought up the subject of a resolution pertaining to a change in the United State Flag Code that was mentioned at the District 15 meeting but not formally read or acted upon. The resolution suggested that the policy for Memorial Day be changed to indicate the flag being flown at half-staff all day instead of in the morning only and then full staff the rest of the day.

**Brendan Moore** read the resolution as written for February 8<sup>th</sup>, and the commander called for discussion. **Steve Bartos** suggested that in regard to how the change might affect businesses over the Memorial Day weekend, the proposed change might just move the day of non-compliance from Sunday to Saturday because businesses not intending to tend the flag over the weekend might just lower them to half-staff on Friday afternoon and leave them until Monday.

Upon inquiry by the Commander, there was no motion to adopt the resolution; and no further action was taken.

The Commander indicated that so far there has not been much interest expressed in having Ken Colson do an expanded program on suicide prevention.

Having been granted a point of personal privilege, **William Jackson** made a few comments regarding an upcoming wedding.

**Commander Wolf** read through a list of upcoming events.

Paid membership for 2022 was reported at 1156 members.

The Chaplain read TAPS, and the meeting was closed in proper form at 7:50 PM.

**Steve Bartos, Recorder**

## Resolutions for Consideration

These resolutions have been adopted in District Conventions that took place Feb - Apr 2022. Some affect the Constitution & By-Laws while others do not. You can find the complete resolution by going to the American Legion Department of Nebraska ([www.nebraskalegion.net](http://www.nebraskalegion.net)). The resolutions appear on the front page. Click on the resolution number to view and then print as a PDF.

These resolutions will be acted on at Department Convention in June, so please plan on attending if you want your voice to be heard on these. If you feel the resolution should be referred to additional committee(s), please contact [Department Adjutant Dave Salak](#).

<b>Resolution Number</b>	<b>Submitted District(s)</b>	<b>Subject</b>
122	D3, D9, D11	Bequests
222	D6, D7, D9, D11	NEC/ANEC on DEC
322	D3, D6, D9, D11	Virtual Department Meetings
422	D1, D3, D9, D12	Veteran Suicide Awareness
422a	D11	Veteran Suicide Awareness
522	D3, D9, D12	WWII Resolution
522a	D11	WWII Resolution
622	D9	Parliamentary Procedures
722	D1, D3, D7, D9	Hot Springs VA Hospital
822	D1, D3	Medal of Honor Highway
922	D7	Department Officer Succession
1022	D7	Delegates to National Convention
1122	D7	Change Quorum
1222	D1	NEC Voice & Vote
1322	D1	Rooms & Mileage

# DPAA Remembers Vietnam Veterans, their families

By Ashley M. Wright Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency Public Affairs



**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – On March 29, National Vietnam War Veterans Day, in sub-freezing temperatures, Defense Department leaders paused at the iconic Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. along with Gold Star family members to remember those who served.

“It was a highly emotional experience,” said retired U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Pete Aylward, director of the Vietnam War Commemoration. “Watching our senior uniformed leaders stand with Vietnam War Gold Star family members – those who have borne unimaginable sorrow – to offer the Nation’s profound respect and humble solace was powerful.”

Ms. Fern Sumpter Winbush, Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency Principal Deputy Director, participated in the event with retired U.S. Army Col. Al Shine, a Vietnam veteran and Gold Star brother of two Vietnam veterans lost in the war. One of the brothers, Lieutenant Colonel Anthony Cameron Shine, was unaccounted for until August 2, 1996, when the Joint Task Force-Full Accounting (JTF-FA, now DPAA) identified and returned his remains to the Shine family for a full military honors funeral.

“To lay a memorial wreath for all who served in the Vietnam War was an awe-inspiring moment,” said Ms. Sumpter Winbush. “While we pause in our nation’s capital, I’m also thinking about our teams conducting operations in Vietnam and Laos, who are working to hopefully locate and return those missing from this conflict to the families who still wait.”

Today’s ceremony was truly a humbling reminder of just how much we owe these heroes and their families.”

Since 1973, the remains of more than 1,000 Americans killed during the Vietnam War have been identified and returned to their families for burial with full military honors. The Agency vigorously pursues the fullest possible accounting for 1,584 missing American personnel from the war to include civilians.

“We were thankful the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency was able to participate,” continued Aylward, “especially since two of the Gold Star daughters, Ms. Cindy Stonebraker and Ms. Maureen Hickman Caparaso, still await the return of their respective fathers. These two U.S. Air Force warriors, Lt. Col. Kenneth Arnol Stonebraker and Capt. Vincent Joseph Hickman, are among the 1,556 service members who remain missing and unaccounted for from the Vietnam War, and for whom DPAA is relentlessly searching.”

The Department of Veterans Affairs estimates that today there are more than six million U.S. Vietnam veterans living in America and abroad, along with nine million families of those who served during this timeframe.

Only in its fifth year, the recognition day falls on a significant date as March 29, 1973 was the day the last U.S. combat troops departed Vietnam. In addition, the date honors the steady flow of flights through late March 1973 under terms set through the Paris Peace Accords, where 591 POWs returned to American soil as part of OPERATION HOMECOMING 49 years ago.

## SFC Payne's Medal Of Honor



The mission on that October 22 was urgent. Hostages were being held by ISIS, and then-SFC Payne's special operations task force was working

with Kurdish Special Forces to attempt a rescue. Time was of the essence: Freshly dug graves had been spotted outside the prison compound where the hostages were being held. It appeared that executions were imminent.

"It's a complete brown out," Payne described. "Part of the compound was already in a pretty intense fire fight." The forces separated, with half of the team moving toward one building and the other half moving toward another. The first building held 38 hostages, and Payne's team worked quickly to get them out.

"You see their faces light up and they're being liberated," Payne later said, "and some are crying, some are excited, and while that's going on there's still an intense fire fight going on in another building. You can see the flames. You hear all the explosions going on and hear on the radio an urgent call for assistance and that's when I looked at a teammate. I told him, 'Hey, let's get in the fight.' He said, 'Let's go.'"

The rescue operation was in some trouble at the second building. Payne and his teammates quickly scrambled up a ladder to the roof, engaging the enemy with grenades and small arms fire from above. Unfortunately, it wouldn't be that easy. The enemy countered with suicide bombers, who detonated their vests in the building and tried to collapse the entire structure.

Payne was forced to the ground, looking for another way into the building.

As Payne searched near the building's main entryway, he could see the prison door. It had the same types of locks that he'd just cut through in the first building. He was exposing himself to enemy fire, smoke, and a possible building collapse, but he knew what he had to do.

He ran in through the smoke and enemy fire, finding and cutting the top lock with bolt cutters. It was difficult to breathe in the dense smoke, though, and he was forced back outside to catch his breath. He stayed outside for just a moment before rushing back through the enemy fire and smoke to cut off the second, bottom lock.

"That's when we hear that the building is starting to collapse," he said. "So the building's starting to collapse, we're getting shot at. It's on fire, and we have hostages inside. It was a mandatory evacuation call, so my sergeant major is pulling the guys from one of the rooms, and I'm like a third base coach, waving them, waving through the initial breach point."

In the end, Payne went back into the building three times to make sure that all the hostages had been located and evacuated. Thirty-seven hostages were saved from that building, in addition to the 38 from the first building. The mission would prove to be one of the largest hostage rescues in special operations history.

Payne received a Medal for his part in the rescue just last year, but he would tell a room full of reporters that "I don't consider myself a recipient, I certainly consider myself a guardian" of the Medal. "It's an amazing responsibility that is going to be bestowed upon me tomorrow by the President," he concluded, "and I look forward to serving you as a guardian of the Medal of Honor and I just want to be a man that wears it well for you."

Humble and gracious, as so many Medal recipients are.

# VETERANS ADVISORY GROUP

## 9th ANNUAL Show & Shine!



Sponsored By Your Veterans Advisory Group

*Wednesday May 11,  
2022 from  
5:00 PM to 8:00 PM  
at Star City Shores  
27 & Highway 2*



*Food Service by  
K. of C. with Brats,  
Dogs, Chips &  
Shredded Beef  
Sandwiches*

## AT STAR CITY SHORES!

4375 S 33rd Ct, Lincoln, Nebraska 68516

- No Entry Fees - Just bring your ride*
- No Attendance Fees - Just bring a non-perishable food item donation for the Peoples City Mission*
- Plus! Learn More about your Veterans Affairs Health Care System*

Contact Bruce Trautwein, (402) 560-7304, or Email to: bruceon11@zitomedia.net,

Visit Us On the Web at: [www.VAGLincoln.com](http://www.VAGLincoln.com)

*12th Annual*



VETERANS FREEDOM  
**MUSIC  
FESTIVAL**

SAT • JUNE 11 • 2022

11AM TO 5PM  
**ANTELOPE PARK**

**5 LOCAL BANDS – ANTELOPE BANDSHELL**

- 11:30A – OPENING CEREMONY – BILL CHRASTIL
- 12P – BILL CHRASTIL (ELVIS)
- 1P – PINKERTONES
- 2P – COLE YOUNGER AND THE RENEGATES
- 3P – McGOVERN STRING BAND
- 4P – 3 CHORDS AND A CLOUD OF DUST
- 5P – CLOSING CEREMONY WITH TAPS  
BY KEVIN MURRAY

**ON DISPLAY**

**UH-60 BLACKHAWK HELICOPTER**

Remembering Our Fallen Exhibit  
Veteran Artists - Auld Pavilion

**PUBLIC WELCOME  
FREE PARKING & ADMISSION**

(Free will donation to Peoples City Mission)

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 _____ (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 _____	
Detachment of _____	
For God and Country _____	
\$ _____	Squadron _____
By _____	

## **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)	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female		(Dues) (Gender)
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.			
<b>Please check appropriate service era and branch of service below</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Global War on Terror <input type="checkbox"/> Gulf War <input type="checkbox"/> Panama <input type="checkbox"/> Lebanon/Grenada <input type="checkbox"/> Vietnam <input type="checkbox"/> Korea <input type="checkbox"/> WWII <input type="checkbox"/> Other Conflicts	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Army <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Navy <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Air Force <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Marines <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Coast Guard <input type="checkbox"/> Merchant Marines (WWII only)		
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: [lincolnpot3.org](http://lincolnpot3.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 1<sup>st</sup> of the month.**

