

"For God And Country" October 2021 POST 3 NEWSLETTER



Meeting Schedule For October 2021 – November 2021

Organization	Location	Time	October	November
Legion Post 3	Elks Lodge, 5910 S 58th	7:00 PM	10/12/2021	11/09/2021
Auxiliary Unit 3	Elks Lodge, 5910 S 58 th	7:00 PM	10/12/2021	11/09/2021
SAL Squadron 3	Post 3 Office, 123 South 84th	7:00 PM	10/14/2021	11/11/2021
ALR Chapter 3	Denton Legion Club	6:00 PM	10/21/2021	11/18/2021
40 & 8 Voiture 103	Elks Lodge, 5910 S 58 th	7:00 PM	10/19/2021	11/16/2021
8 & 40 Salon 832	Elks Lodge, 5910 S 58 th	7:00 PM	10/19/2021	11/16/2021
8 & 40 Salon 92	Elks Lodge, 5910 S 58 th	1:00 PM	10/21/2021	11/18/2021
Buddy Check	The Foundry, 211 North 14th	7:00 PM	10/22/2021	11/22/2021
VA Coffeehaus	Auld Pavilion, Antelope Park	10:00 AM	10/15/2021	11/19/2021

Commander's Call



Fellow Legionnaires:

I would like to devote this Commander's Call to volunteerism. As I look at Post 3, I see the need for more volunteers. I see the same handful of members doing all of the work of the post. Volunteers are what keeps the Post alive. Listed below are some of the areas where we need help and the person to contact if you are interested.

<u>Membership:</u> At the last Post 3 meeting, Bruce Gubser asked for one or two people to assist him in his Membership committee.

(Bruce Gubser, bruce.gubser@gmail.com, 402-470-1700)

<u>Bell Ringers:</u> Ron Hindmand asked for Volunteers to ring bells this Holiday season for the Salvation Army. (Ron Hindmand, <u>rhindmand@hotmail.com</u>, 254-291-1514)

<u>Pine Lake clean up:</u> Nathan Thedford asked for help in his new Post 3 project of cleaning up Pine Lake Park on 60th and Pine Lake Road. Clean up will take only 30-45 minutes of your time each cleanup day. (Nathan Thedford, <u>nash1@gmx.us</u>, 402-326-5466)

<u>POW/MIA Vice-Chair:</u> Wes Newton has done a terrific job as our POW/MIA Chairman. However, the Army National Guard has deployed him to our Southern border for a year. Wes will still serve as the Chairman and continue to supply his POW/MIA report for our meetings but will need a Vice-Chair to relay the report to the membership. (Gerry Wolf, Gerrywolf@aol.com, 402-417-8230)

<u>ROTC Liaison:</u> I have held this Chair since Lowell Vestil passed away. I admit that I have not given this job the time that I should have. I would like someone to take this position and report on the activity of our UNL ROTC Cadets. (Gerry Wolf, gerrywolf@aol.com, 402-417-8230)

<u>Sergeant-At-Arms:</u> We have not had a sergeant-at-arms for quite a while. I would like to have one to maintain order at meetings, escort visitors at meetings, and place and retrieve the POW/MIA chairback cover at all meetings. (Gerry Wolf, Gerrywolf@aol.com, 402-417-8230)

Honor Guard: Another pressing need is for some Post 3 members to step up and help us fill in the ranks of our Honor Guard. Our Honor Guard will typically render "Honors" at 150–175 funerals a year and be present at 25–40 civic functions a year. The average age of these members is between 75-80+ years old. If we don't find replacements for these people, it is only a matter of time before the Honor Guard will cease to exist. (Fred Chrastil, 2luckybucky@gmail.com, 402-217-1466)

I do hope that some of you will volunteer for one or more of these positions. It's easy to do and very rewarding. You will know that your efforts are appreciated.

Gerry Wolf
Post 3 Commander

Notes from the Adjutant's Desk.



Notes from the Adjutant's office.

A BIG THANK YOU to those who have renewed for 2022.

Renewals stand at 830, about 61% of our 2022 goal.

I thought I would review the current demographics of the post membership. These figures are based on the current renewals shown on the National data base. They do not include those who are Nebraska Life members, as Department has yet to pay their national dues, which account for seventy-one members.

Continuous years: Three members have seventy plus years [77, 76, 72], three members will join this group next year (2023), with 69 years. Another thirty-seven have sixty plus continuous years with three members who will join the sixty plus in 2023. 114 have fifty plus years, with three with 59 years. 132 have forty plus years with ten with 49 years. The largest group is thirty plus years with 159, 16 with 39 years.

War eras: World War Two-Our Grand Generation is down to just twenty-two members with three of them with the 77, 76, 72 years of continuous years. Korean War era vets account for 169 members. Our largest group is our Vietnam veterans, with five hundred members. Seventy-one members fall into war eras since 1975.

If you have sent in your 2022 dues 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.

Last item on 2022 renewals, those who have not been credited for paying their 2022, will be receiving a second dues notice during the second week of October.

Where is your DD214 or Discharge Papers? And does your family know where to find it?

Cannot over stress this, NOW is the time to be sure that your family knows your wishes. You can help your loved ones with your request for Military Honors by doing some simple things now. If you desire Military Honors during your memorial service, you need to talk with your family, so they know your wishes. Your DD214 or discharge papers, are the key piece in requesting Military Honors that are provided by DOD personal. You can find answers to many of your questions on the VA's web site.

The VA's site will help with requesting a VA grave head stone, how to request burial in a National Cemetery, etc. Feel free to call the office for assistance with this effort.

Thanks again for renewing with POST 3 and THE American Legion.

Ed Schnabel Adjutant

LINCOLN CBOC/VA NEWS



The VA is requiring the use of the blue paper masks. Cloth masks are <u>not</u> acceptable.

The VA Web Site said they are now giving shots to partners of veterans. If you get care from the VA Health Care System, then you are enrolled. For those who do not currently use NWI (Nebraska Western Iowa) Health Care System, Omaha VA Hospital or the local CBOC's, you can call 404-828-5257 to check if you are enrolled and enroll if you are not currently enrolled to receive VA Health services. They request that you use the VA Facebook or the VA web site to request an appointment. The VA will call you back to make the appointment with you. They are now taking walk ins, but it is best to call first for an appointment. Shots are only being given to the veteran and those who are enrolled as a Veteran Gare Giver with the VA.

FLU shots will begin soon. If you have a doctor appointment, you should be able to request during your visit. Walk Ins will begin later in the month once they receive their supply of the vaccines.

Remember your VA ID card. You are required to check in for your appointment on the Kiosk, you will need your VA ID card or your FULL SSA number. When checking in, the Kiosk will print off your appointments. Be sure to follow the prompts. Continue, to advance to the next screen, until you reach Exit. On the first print out is a number, disregard it, the second print out tells you your appointments and which waiting area to wait in. Staff will come out to the waiting areas and escort you to your appointments.

For those needing blood work, there is Kiosk just for lab check in. It is just to the right of the entrance to the lab. The lab is located to the right of main entrance in area B. Check in and take your number and have a seat, you will be called by Number

For those visiting the pharmacy, there two Kiosks for pharmacy, one to speak to the pharmacy clerk and one to pick up your prescriptions.

If by chance 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.

Try and be in the reception area about 15 minutes prior to your appointment time. The nurse/staff will come to the reception areas and call you by your name.

For those who are required to make a Copay. If you made a payment to the VA during the last 9 months of 2020, you should receive a refund. The VA send out notices of the refund and any amount due you. If you have not received a notice and made payments, I would call the VA to check the status of your account.

EYEGLASSES: Those who require eyeglasses may want to check with the VA. When I had my new glasses adjusted the tech told me that there was a change in VA policy. That made almost all veterans eligible to receive glasses from the VA. It would be worth a look to see if you are eligible to get eyeglasses from the VA.

Do you need help traveling to your appointments? You can request rides to the Lincoln clinic or the Omaha VA hospital through the VA. For appointments at the Lincoln clinic, call the DAV travel number. They will pick up veterans in Lincoln.

Call VTS, Veterans Transportation Service, 402-995-4200, for travel to appointments at the VA hospital in Omaha. The earlier you call, the better chance of getting a ride. Travel to Omaha fills up quickly, best to request appointments on Tuesdays or Thursdays, as slots for travel on Monday, Wednesday and Friday are very limited. Morning appointments are best if you will be needing a return trip. VTS will pick you up at your home and return you to your home. You must call at least 7 to 10 days ahead of the day of your appointment.

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.

There are many veterans who could receive medical service but have never signed up for this benefit of our service. Again, it is the old story, use them or lose them.

Thanks for your service.

Ed Schnabel

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

Post 3 ALR Director's Remarks



Greetings fellow Riders and Legion Family members,

Your Lincoln Chapter 3, American Legion Riders, continued to represent the Legion Family during several activities in September. Sadly, most of that representation was at funeral services for Veterans who joined Post Everlasting.

We had a number of Riders participate in the homecoming of the remains of Marine Corporal Daegan Page in Omaha. We joined about 650 other motorcyclists who rode in silent tribute to Corporal Page and his 12 comrades killed in the suicide bombing at the Kabul, Afghanistan, airport in late-August, as his remains were transported from Eppley Airport to the funeral home in Omaha. Many of those same Riders returned to Omaha a week later to attend the funeral and escort Corporal Page on his final journey to the Omaha National Cemetery.

It was incredibly moving to see the outpouring of love and support by the greater Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, and South Dakota communities during both missions. Thousands of citizens lined the streets and bridges along both routes, standing in silent tribute to Corporal Page. It was truly a humbling experience to have participated in and observed those two missions.

Individual Riders also participated in a number of Patriot Guard missions honoring deceased Veterans during the month.

Riding season is winding down.
Temperatures are cooling. But our Riders will continue to ride whenever we are called to support our Community, State and Nation.

Bruce Gubser
Post 3 ALR Director





The Chaplain's Remarks





It happened one night in a distant land, far away even from the swirls of governing authorities or even the cries of misery and loss from lesser-owning peoples. It was cold, dark, and foreboding on the night that the world would be saved, finally, once and for all.

So, what happened that early morning surrounded by the sights-sounds-smells-taste-touch of a stable, with animals and their body processes, cool-to-cold breezes chilling their manger, and an empty sky too empty of promise (Genesis 3:15)? How would anyone consider drastic changes amid a Roman-controlled world where even death was not one's own choice, in consideration of the *Protoevangelium*, or first Gospel, inaugurated after Eve's & Adams' original sin (Genesis 3:22,23)?

Would you imagine that scene, in that smelly stable, with animals lulling and making little noises, where the Lord of Life, the Creator, and our earnest Provider, would one day arise in power and majesty, after a cruel and insulting kangaroo court execution (Matthew 26:65)?

Was there really snow and evergreen trees and mistletoe and yule logs a plenty in an arid environment?

It's now a measure of sociocultural, religious, socioeconomic, and psychosocial awareness that often guides persons to accept or reject the Lord's call to return to Him for reconciliation and salvation (Matthew 5:21-2).

With Jesus being the living tabernacle, He is THE temple wherein all of creation is to worship Him as the Second Person in the Trinity, or *Elohim* (i.e., Hebrew for the Holy Trinity). It was revealed in Genesis' creation revelation (Genesis 1:26). As the living temple, Jesus has the first and last words of the *Apocalypse* (i.e., dawning of prophesies) to come.

Considering the times, be diligent and persevering in listening to God's promptings. Know that the Lord Jesus Christ is ready, willing, and able to deliver you from your sins. No matter the doings of the little anti-Christs abounding in various levels of government, as members of a certain teachers' association negatively affecting our children's education, and reports of *Apostacy* (i.e., false Christian dogma) among this nations' many denominations, the Lord has/is/will see us through to our *Parousia* (i.e., Greek for the Rapture) noted in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18.

Rev. Dr. William Jackson Lincoln ALP 3 Chaplain

Post 3 Honor Guard





In the month of September, the Honor Guard rendered "Honors" at 9 Legion funerals and was asked to assist at 6 VFW funerals. They also furnished a Color Guard for 2 civic functions including the Patriot's Day ceremony on 9/11/21. In calendar year 2021, the Honor Guard has rendered "Honors" at 126 combined funerals and has appeared at 23 civic functions.

September 2021 TAPS



LEGIONNAIRE	WAR ERA	BRANCH	YEARS
Ivan D. Gross	Korea	Army	27
Gene R. Hume	Vietnam	USAF	43
Theodore M. Karre	Vietnam	Army	54
Jesse F. Neely	WW II	Navy	1
Homer E. Stephen	ww II	Army	38

MISCELLANOUS

POW/MIA Flag

I just wanted you to know in conjunction with POW/MIA Recognition Day September 17th, Governor Ricketts has signed an executive order declaring that the POW/MIA flag will be a permanent fixture at state properties. The POW/MIA flag will be displayed at all state-owned properties that display the flag of the United States of America.

I know that this is an important issue for Nebraska's veterans and wanted you to know that Governor Ricketts recognizes the sacrifice of our veterans, our service members and military families.

The Dillard Initiative

National Commander Dillard is hoping that the opportunity to retain "continuous" membership status for Legionnaires who last paid for the 2020 year without having to pay for 2021 will be an incentive to pay their 2022 dues. By paying their 2022 dues, their continuous years can be increased by "1." If the member wants his or her continuous years increased by "2," then they will have to pay the 2021 dues, also. Also, posts need to be aware that the national commander's initiative is ONLY available to members whose last year paid is 2020.

Pine Lake Park Cleanup



Post 3 has decided to adopt a park in Lincoln. The park is located at 60th Street and Pine Lake Road. Pine Lake Park is not a high priority for the city at the moment and is still in developmental stages. We are charged with litter control – Parking lot, bullpens, bleachers, infield, outfield, trail, ravines, sidewalk, and wood line. We are asked only to clean up trash and report vandalism and damage to park structures.

At the present time, we are cleaning the park on Tuesdays at 12:30. However, another time can be scheduled.

If interested, contact Nathan Thedford (402-326-5466 or <u>nash1@gmx.us).</u>

<u>Anyone at the Post can help.</u> Just make sure you let Nathan know when you worked.

SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGING



Christmas season is coming soon!

We are registered with the Lincoln Salvation Army as a group (AMERICAN LEGION POST 3 2021) Ron Hindmand is our Group Leader and has already reserved one day and location for our volunteers. Currently 1 December from 11am to 7pm at Hobby Lobby 100 South 66th (66th & O street) is our first date/time/location. As we get more volunteers other dates and locations can be

reserved. Bell Ringing at some locations begins on 13 November and all locations on 21 November. Ron will reserve locations giving us the option of one or two hour slots when we reserve an entire day at a location. Bell ringers can sign up single two hour slots for those that prefer at a variety of dates, times, and location. No Bell Ringing on Sundays. Please contact Ron to volunteer and he will coordinate for us depending on your availability.

Ron's contact information:

Phone (254) 291-1514

Email rhindmand@gmail.com

Signup sheets will also be at our October Legion meeting.

Regular Meeting of American Legion Post 3 Lincoln Elks Lodge #80 and also on ZOOM September 14, 2021

Commander Gerry Wolf opened the September 14, 2021 meeting of American Legion Post 3 at 7:00 PM at the Lincoln Elks Lodge 80 with about 20 Legionnaires present. The meeting was also being made available on Zoom.

Steve Bartos read the minutes of the July 13, 2021 meeting; and they were approved without correction.

Ed Schnabel gave the financial report for the month ending August 31, 2021 showing a balance on hand of \$44,610.42. The report was filed for review.

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

Vice-Commander Bruce Gubser reported for the Legion Riders. He indicated that he had been among a large number of Riders who had participated in Omaha at ceremonies associated with the return of Marine Corporal Daegan Page's body. He indicated that there were thousands of folks lining the route from the airport to the funeral home.

Bruce also reported on the post's birthday card project and said he would be looking for some help on the membership committee.

Commander Wolf read an Americanism report prepared by William Jackson.

Vice-Commander Ron Hindmand gave a preliminary report on Salvation Army Bellringing activities and said he would have more information at the next meeting.

Ed Schnabel reported on the Oratorical Contest scheduled for November 3rd. He indicated that he had made some contacts with the parochial schools and the home school folks.

Brendan Moore reported for the SAL. He said that their meetings have moved to the 2nd Thursday in hopes of drawing a few more members to the meetings.

Wade Graft reported that Voiture 103 would be meeting next Tuesday at the Elks.

Having been presented at the July meeting and published in the email newsletter and posted on the website, Steve Bartos made a few comments regarding some minor changes to the proposed re-write of the Constitution and Bylaws and then moved their adoption. Following a proper second, the documents were approved.

Commander Wolf made comments about Nathan Thedford's recent activities regarding Post 3 providing care for a small city park at about 60th and Pine Lake Road. Nathan provided a little background on the city program, and there was brief discussion about getting volunteers to do a little litter pickup, etc. now and then.

It was announced that the VA Coffehaus would be held this Friday at the Auld Pavilion with several Quilt of Valor presentations at noon.

It was announced that the city was still planning a Veterans Parade for November 7th.

Wade Graft read TAPS and the meeting was closed about 7:50 PM.

Steve Bartos, Recorder





Father Emil Kapaun begins journey home

HONOLULU, HAWAII -

Emil Kapaun was a priest from Pilsen, Kansas who became a war hero for his actions during the Korean War. He was awarded the Medal of Honor in 2013. None of his family or his closest Korean War compatriots thought Tuesday's events were possible, not in 70 years. But the day has come. And Father Emil Kapaun can come home to Kansas now. Farm boy. Catholic priest. U.S. Army chaplain. Defiant prisoner of war who stole food and medicine right under the noses of camp guards. Medal of Honor recipient, possible Roman Catholic saint — and now, finally, a long-lost son of Kansas returning to a family that can lay him to rest.

On Tuesday, 70 years after he died in a North Korean prisoner of war camp, U.S. Defense Department searchers for missing soldiers gave the hero's remains to his family in a ceremony at Pearl Harbor. Father Kapaun's funeral was held Wednesday, Sept. 29, 2021 in Wichita, Kansas.

An honor guard made up of men and women from all branches of the military escorted Kapaun's flag-draped remains outside past more than 50 saluting soldiers on one side and white coated lab anthropologists and lab technicians on the other. Ray and Lee Kapaun walked a few steps behind, with Johnie Webb beside them: Johnie is a deputy director of the Hawaii based search teams and a legend among former POWs and fellow MIA searchers. For Ray, this day was the latest tribute in a wild six months since his phone rang at his home on Whidbey Island in Washington State in March; a U.S. Army soldier told him the Defense Department had found his uncle, who starved to death in 1951 after saving many fellow starving prisoners of war in North Korea.

In the weeks after his uncle's identification Ray traveled; he talked many times to the few surviving POWs who revered their chaplain friend.

(Kapaum – Continued)

Ray made many calls after March. He

talked with the POW William Funchess, who in 1951 hugged Father Kapaun night after night trying to warm the dying man's body. Funches died only weeks after Ray called him. Ray talked many times with the former POW Mike Dowe, who wrote Father Kapaun's first Medal of Honor recommendation in 1954. He visited and hugged—the POW Robert McGreevy in Maryland, who struggles now to stand. At the battle of Unsan, where they were both captured in 1950, McGreevy had been a 19-year-old soldier who saw Kapaun repeatedly ignore officers' orders to evacuate; Dowe has said the POWs who revere Kapaun all thought his body would never be found, they thought the Chinese guards in North Korea had rolled his body into one of the many mass graves that were dug in Camp Five, where they were imprisoned. More than 1,400 of the 3,000 American and Allied prisoners in Camp Five starved or froze to death in the first winter of the war.

But the Chinese in 1954 had sent 4,200 sets of remains south after the war. The odds were long that one set might be those of Father Kapaun.

Not only was 4,200 only a fraction of those killed in North Korea, but the Army had found it impossible in the mid-1950s to identify more than 850 of those Korean War remains.

They buried them as "unknowns" in the Punchbowl, an ancient volcanic crater now called the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, on the Hawaiian island of Oahu. In August 2019, as part of a concerted effort to finally identify the Korean War unknowns, soldiers dug up hundreds of sets of remains and sent them to the Pearl Harbor laboratories for analysis.

In March, to the surprise of his friends and family, scientists using DNA and other investigative methods identified Kapaun's remains.

For Dowe it was a gathering of brothers. In May 1951, while Kapaun lay sick and starved, Dowe and other POWS got into a shoving match with camp guards when the guards came to take Kapaun away to what they called a hospital and what the POWS called "The Death House." "They got aggressive with their bayonets," Dowe said. The enfeebled and sick Americans relented only when Kapaun himself told them to stop fighting.

Those men can rest easy now. He's coming home.

The Man Who Saved The World 59 years ago - (1962)

Jeannette de Beauvoir

The man who saved the world... 59 years ago, at the height of the Cuban Missile Crisis, second-in-command Vasilli Arkhipov of the Soviet submarine B-59 refused to agree with his Captain's order to launch nuclear torpedos against US warships and setting off what might well have been a terminal superpower nuclear war.

The US had been dropping depth charges near the submarine in an attempt to force it to surface, unaware it was carrying nuclear arms. The Soviet officers, who had lost radio contact with Moscow, concluded that World War 3 had begun, and two of the officers agreed to 'blast the warships out of the water'. Arkhipov refused to agree - unanimous consent of three officers was required - and thanks to him, we are here to talk about it.

His story is finally being told - the BBC is airing a documentary on it. Raise a glass to Vasilli Arkhipov - the Man Who Saved the World.





Julie Stebbins Hope

My son went to the Great Lakes Cemetery yesterday. He took some pictures and asked me to write something about them reflecting what's going on today, so I wrote this poem last night:

I don't see any color here,
The headstones look the same,
No black no brown no white skin tone,
There's no one here to blame.
These soldiers fought and died for you,
Their color you can't see,
Your rights are still protected,
Here's the place to take a knee.

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

(Name)			(Date of Birth)	
	(Mailing Address)		Phone Number)	
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	(Post #)	
		☐ Male ☐ Female		
(1	E-mail)	(Gender)	(Dues)	
Panama Lebanon/Grenada	□ U.S. Air Force□ U.S. Marines□ U.S. Coast Guard		COST	
Vietnam			EGIO	
Uietnam Korea WWII Other Conflicts	☐ Merchant Marines (\	WWII only)	EGIO N	

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! Ple	ease transfer my membership to Lincoln American Legion Post 3
	Signature
	Membership Number



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

Post3legionlincoln@gmail.com

https://lincolnpost3.org

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 – Ed Schnabel – Cell: 402-480-8542

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

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

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