

# "For God And Country" OCTOBER 2020 POST 3 NEWSLETTER



## **Meeting Schedule for October – November 2020**

Organization	Location	Time	October	November
Legion Post 3	Elks Lodge, 5910 S 58th	7 PM	10/13/15	11/10/20
Auxiliary Unit 3	Elks Lodge, 5910 S 58th	7 PM	10/13/20	11/10/20
SAL Squadron 3	Post 3 Office, 123 South 84th	7 PM	10/15/20	11/19/20
ALR Chapter 3	<b>Denton Legion Club</b>	6 PM	10/15/20	11/19/20
40 & 8 Voiture 103	Elks Lodge, 5910 S 58th	7 PM	10/20/20	11/17/20
8 & 40 Salon 832	Elks Lodge, 5910 S 58th	7 PM	10/20/20	11/17/20
Pitch Tournament	Risky's, 4648 Leighton	7 PM	NONE	TBD
<b>Buddy Check</b>	The Foundry, 211 N 14th	7 PM	NONE	TBD
VA Coffeehaus	Antelope Park Bandshell	11 AM	10/16/20	TBD

#### **COMMANDER'S CALL**



Legion Family All.....

October is upon us as the weather very slowly turns from very dry and hot to cooler temps and hopefully some rain. The latest word from Coach Frost is that the Huskers will play their first game of 2020 at Ohio State University. Nothing like starting out at the "top". Finally. Your Post 3 Leadership Team has been very active this past month with weekly Zoom meetings, where we keep defining the American Legion Mission "Veterans Helping Veterans).

Bruce Gubser (Post 3 2nd Vice Commander) has taken on the responsibility of making sure that veterans in Nursing Homes get a Birthday card from Post 3. Birthday cards, for some of these folks are pretty scarce and they deserve to be remembered. If you have a family member or friend that is a veteran and is in a care facility, please contact Bruce and he will make sure that veteran gets a card from us. When the Covid pandemic clears out we will be visiting the nursing homes in person and could use some volunteers to help.

Gerry Wolf (Post 3 1st Vice Commander) has volunteered to take the responsibility of heading up our R.O.T.C. mission at the University of Nebraska. Thanks Gerry.

Jack Siebert (Past Post 3 Commander) headed up the Post 3 project where we paid all the past due lunch money bills for a Lincoln elementary grade school. Those families will be starting the new school year debt free at their school thanks to Post 3. Thanks Jack.

As usual our Post Adjutant is busy running the day to day business of keeping Post 3 current and up to speed. Adolph Siegal answered the call and is now helping Ed Muggy process membership renewals in the office. Thanks Adolph and Ed.

We still have some Committees needing someone to head them up. POW/MIA comes to mind. Please contact me and we can discuss how you can help Post 3 and your fellow veterans. I promise it will be almost painless and you'll be glad you did.

We are making every effort to be responsive to your suggestions and ideas. If you have been wishing that Post 3 would do something, quit doing something, etc. Let's hear from you. One suggestion we are considering is devoting some space in the Post 3 monthly newsletter to selling items that are owned by Post 3 people and wanting to sell it to other Post 3 people. What do you think about trying that? (Veterans helping Veterans)

We have had several calls from Post 3 members concerned that campaign commercials have been running on local T.V. featuring a Nebraska farmer wearing his American Legion cap.

The American Legion is a nonpolitical organization and does not promote any political party or person. You, while identified as a Legionnaire, cannot promote any party or person for public office. This would be against American Legion official policy and not authorized by the Local or National American Legion organizations.

In other words, you can do what you want, just don't wear American Legion gear or say you speak on behalf of the Legion while promoting a party or person running for office.

The State and National American Legion
Commanders have spoken to the Nebraska
Legionnaire and the congressman's local and D.C.
office about this matter. The Nebraska
Legionnaire has said that he was unaware of
Legion policy and wouldn't do it again. No
response, to date, from the congressman's office.
Our efforts continue.

I hope this clears things up. Questions-call me.

Please keep in touch, stay safe and come to Post meetings. We need you all.

**Wade Graft** 

Post 3 Commander

402-770-9126

wamar4801@gmail.com

#### Fundraiser - Wooden Flag Up for Bid



Legionnaire and Post 3 member Rick McLaughlin made this flag and donated it to Post 3 to auction it off and the money raised used for a Post 3 project. If you have any suggestions on a project to support, please include it with your bid. Send your bid to:

Post 3 American Legion Suite L 123 S. 84th St. Lincoln, NE 68510

Or email your bid to <a href="mailto:post3legionlincoln@gmail.com">post3legionlincoln@gmail.com</a>,

The current bid will be posted daily on the Post 3 web site, <a href="https://lincolnpost3.org/">https://lincolnpost3.org/</a>.

The current bid as of this newsletter is \$155.00

The winning bid will be announced at the October 13th meeting and the Flag will be awarded at that time

Good Luck,

Wade Graft
Post 3 Commander

#### **ADJUTANT'S REPORT**



We are fast approaching our Oratorical contest. As of this writing, we have not been informed of any contestants. Sad to say that we have not had any contestants for the past three years. With this being an election year, it would be nice to have a number of students take part. Please keep Wednesday afternoon, November 3rd free, if you would want to help with this event.

Renewals have slowed down. Those who have not renewed should have received a second dues notice. If you are not sure if you have renewed already, call the office and we can tell you.

At last count, we had 936 renewals or about 66% of our 2021 goal.

Again, thanks for renewing with Post 3.

Remember to VOTE. All votes count!

Ed Schnabel Adjutant



Our new clinic is moving along. Parking lots are being poured; the curb lane is being added on 70th street.

Landscaping is being planted, so it won't be long now. VA should get the keys to the building sometime in late November or early December. They will then have about 90 days for the clinic to be moved into and set up. Presently, we are looking at a March date to have it open for veterans to receive care.

It has been a long five plus years, so let's enjoy having it. If you have never signed up for care through the VA, please do so.

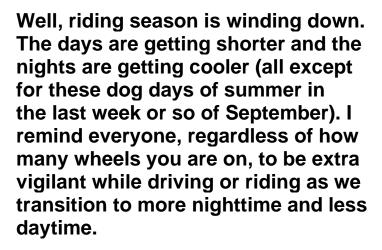
The Lincoln Clinic gets funding based on the number of veterans signed up for VA care, not on the number who use it. The more Lancaster County and SE Nebraska veterans that show a need for services here would result in more funding for staff etc. If you have not enrolled for services or know a veteran who might need services, get them signed up.

Thanks for your service!

Ed Schnabel American Legion VA Representative

#### **ALR COMMANDER'S REMARKS**





Your American Legion Riders have attended several funerals as we honor the service and sacrifice of America's heroes. Several Riders also stood the flag line for LPD Officer Herrera's funeral.

Also, as reported last month, our poker run fundraiser was successful and raised over \$770 for Operation Comfort Warrior.

As the weather changes, the farmers are beginning to gather their crops and that means farm implements are sharing the road. It behooves all



drivers, whether on two, three or four wheels, to be mindful and especially observant around farming vehicles traveling on the roads.

Our Chapter Commander's Ride for September took us to Christina's Restaurant, in Crete, on September 26th. Five Riders and four motorcycles (well, three motorcycles and a trike) enjoyed some great Mexican food and great company. More than a few stories were told. If the ears of some of you were burning around noon on the 26th... yup, we were talking about you! By the way, if you haven't been to Christina's, it is definitely worth the trip. If you like great Mexican food at a very reasonable price, it is well worth the trip to Crete.

Until next time, Ride Safe!

Bruce Gubser Commander Lincoln Chapter, ALR

#### **Message From The Chaplain**



**Good Timing** 

If the Lord is still God, inclusive of the Son and the Holy Spirit, in accordance with Holy Scripture (Genesis 1:26), despite our nation's preoccupation with following other gods (e.g., money, sex, apostacy, fame, etc.), then how does anyone expect to escape His Judgment (Matthew 12:36)?

That Judgment is God's fulcrum for all activity of the universe put in disarray through Eve and Adam's sin in the Garden of Eden (Genesis 4:7). God CAN NOT be where there is sin, for light has no fellowship with darkness (1 John 1:5). Simply put: only God can put things right again on earth and throughout the universe through His Judgment, through eternal punishment in hell for sinners, and heaven's eternal glory for His obedient followers.



Ever wonder why the universe as we know it rages with meteor

crashes everywhere, black and white holes, quasars and pulsars, and a host of abnormal

scientific events following our first parents' disobedience? Mankind's sin is ever-present before us as we scan the universe for signs of God and other life forms. But, in the meantime, all we have for truth in His Word, the Bible, pastors not preaching apostacy, and believers following His Word's revelations for a peaceable life among sinners. Remember: we love the sinner but hate the sin they do. That means we accept them as fellow human beings, but politely refuse to go along with their sinful lifestyle (1 Thessalonians 5:14).

Perfection is of God, which means we as believers choose to live holy lives (i.e., separate from our world-minded fellow human beings), striving to be like Him, though we are only human. We avoid sin because God tells us that. We also confess our sins because He will forgive us as we live for Him.

Don't let the world (i.e., nonbelievers) distract you from God's Will noted in His Word and through Christ's life on earth. Think about it: when you live for God, all else seems trivial and rather unimportant. Being holy means that you and God are "tight"; i.e., all believers are kept within God's uplifting wings for true freedom and righteousness.

Rev. Dr. William Jackson

**ALP 3 Chap** 

## August 2020 Taps



During the month of September, the Honor Guard rendered "Honors" at 7 Legion funerals and was asked to assist at 7 VFW funerals.

#### **August 2020 Taps**

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	WAR ERA	BRANCH
BUSS	HERBERT	KOREA	ARMY
CASSEM	DUANE	VIETNAM	AIR FORCE
ROGERS	ROBERT	VIETNAM	ARMY
WALKENHORST	WAYNE	WWII	NAVY



#### Minutes of American Legion Post 3 Meeting, September 8, 2020

Regular Meeting of American Legion Post 3 Lincoln Elks Lodge #80 September 8, 2020

The colors being in place, Commander Wade Graft opened the September 8, 2020 meeting of American Legion Post 3 at 7:00 PM at the Lincoln Elks Lodge #80 with 18 Legionnaires present.

The minutes of the July meeting were read and approved.

Ed Schnabel gave the finance report for the month ending August 31, 2020, reporting a balance on hand of \$37,337.36. The report was accepted and filed for review.

New or members not recently at a meeting were introduced. Robert Enlow, Adolf Siezl, and Roy Valentine.

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

Adjutant Schnabel thanked those who have been helping process memberships in the office. He indicated about 900 memberships have been processed so far.

Bruce Gubser reported for the Legion Riders. He announced that the Riders would meet at the Denton American Legion next Thursday. He also reported that the Riders held their poker run with 38 participants playing 99 hands. \$778 was raised for Operation Comfort Warrior.

Dr. Jackson indicated he would be checking with the Lancaster County Commander about County Government Day. Ed Muggy commented briefly about the Oratorical Contest. It was mentioned that no one is currently in charge of ROTC activities.

Gerry Wolf reported for the Honor Guard. He indicated that while their activities had been diminished by the pandemic, the Honor Guard had served at 33 Legion funerals, assisted the VFW with 39 funerals, and participated in 11 other activities so far this year.

Gerry also went on to report that Post 3 had contacted the funeral directors in the area to remind them that Post 3 is ready and willing to provide honors at any veteran's funeral and certainly should be contacted if the deceased is a Legionnaire. He also indicated that the funeral directors were provided a copy of the protocol that should be followed when contacting Post 3 for assistance.

Minutes of American Legion Post 3 Meeting, September 8, 2020 (Continued)

Fred Craigie reported that because of the small numbers attending Sons of the American Legion squadron meetings and because of the Elks' current hours of operation, Squadron 3 is going to move their meetings to the Post 3 business office at 123 South 84<sup>th</sup>.

Dr. Jackson indicated that Voiture 103 would meet next Tuesday at 7:00 PM --- and that no meal will be served. It will be a meeting-only promenade.

Adjutant Schnabel presented a pin and plaque to Dr. Jackson in recognition of his service as the Post 3 Commander. A similar pin and plaque was presented to Gerry Wolf in recognition of his completion of a 2-year term as District 15 Commander. Incoming Post 3 Commander Wade Graft received his commander's pin, and Ed Muggy received his district commander's pin.

Bruce Gubser reported on a potential project to provide some Post 3 outreach to veterans in some of Lincoln's retirement or assisted living facilities. Consideration is being given to making some kind of contact with the veterans on their birthdays. Cindy Wamsley suggested that monthly visits to a facility might be more manageable than trying to visit each individual veteran on his or her actual birthday. Jack Sibert suggested that providing a card from Post 3 would be appropriate. Details need to be investigated and studied.

Commander Graft announced that Rick McLaughlin had constructed and donated a 3dimensional wooden flag the post could auction off as a fundraiser. Jack Sibert indicated that details of how to submit a bid can be found on the Post 3 website. Bids will be accepted until the day of the October meeting.

Upon motion by Fred Craigie and a proper second, Steve Bartos was recommended for a 4-year term on the Legionnaire Club, Inc. Board of Directors.

Upon motion by Schnabel --- and subsequently amended by Sibert --- the post agreed to send a sympathy card and donate \$250 to the family of slain police officer Mario Herrera.

Chaplain Jackson read taps, and the meeting was closed in proper form at 7:40 PM.

Steve Bartos Recorder

#### **Korean War Accounting**



The Korean War accounting effort remains a priority for the U.S. government. The Department of Defense (DoD) pursues opportunities to gain access to loss sites within North Korea and South Korea. Additionally, identifications continue to be made from remains that were returned to the U.S. using forensic and DNA technology.

More than 7,800 Americans remain unaccounted for from the Korean War.

During Operation Glory in 1954, North Korea returned the remains of more than 3,000 Americans. Concurrently, U.S. Graves Registration teams recovered remains from South Korean battlefields. The U.S. identified thousands of these remains. In 1956, a total of 848 that could not be identified were buried in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, known as the Punchbowl. Others were added later as unknowns. One of the unknowns was interred in the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery near Washington, D.C.

The Army Graves Registrations teams searched the battlefields in the Republic of Korea (ROK) from 1951 to 1956. Today, DoD investigates losses in South Korea with the assistance of U.S. forces in Korea and the ROK government.

From 1990 to 1994, North Korea exhumed and returned 208 boxes of remains. However, DoD scientists estimate that as many as 400 individuals could be represented in these 208 boxes.

Between July 1996, and May 2005, the Central Identification Laboratory Hawaii (CILHI) and JPAC, which is now part of Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, conducted 33 Joint Field Activities (JFAs) in North Korea, which recovered more than 220 sets of remains, which are currently being processed for identification at JPAC in Hawaii. On May 25,

2005, the U.S. temporarily suspended JFAs in North Korea due to security concerns.

In October 1950, a North Korean Army major referred to as "The Tiger" took command of more than 700 American servicemen who had been captured and interned as POWs. In August 1953, following the signing of the armistice, only 262 of these men returned alive. One of the survivors, Army Pfc. Wayne A. "Johnnie" Johnson, risked his life during his imprisonment by secretly recording the names of 496 fellow prisoners who had died during their captivity.

DoD debriefed all returning American POWs concerning their knowledge of those who did not return from the Communist prison system. Johnson's painstakingly written record was a major contribution to this effort and helped to determine or confirm the fate of many POWs.

In 1995, a Defense Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel Office (DPMO) analyst learned about Johnson's Tiger Survivors List while attending a Korean War Ex-POW reunion in Sacramento, California. DPMO analysts then located intelligence archives which contained Johnson's original debriefing report as well as other POW reports corroborating his information. Among these records a debriefer's handwritten memorandum recommending that Private Johnson be recognized for his bravery. This information was forwarded to the Department of the Army, and in 1996, Johnson was awarded the Silver Star, the nation's third highest military combat decoration for valor.

A document examiner was able to recover almost all the names from Johnson's original wartime list. Some entries, however, could not be saved. Thus, there are fewer than 496 names on the typed listing, which is available on the Johnson List page.

**Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency** 

#### **Eleanor Grace Alexander**



She enlisted in the Army, volunteered to serve in Vietnam, and died on November 30, 1967, at the age of 27.

'It was five days before they found the bodies - five days of agony."

- Susanne Alexander, sister-in-law of US Army Nurse Eleanor Alexander

Born on September 18, 1940, Eleanor G. Alexander grew up in New York, graduated from nursing school, and began working at Madison Hospital in NYC. By 1967, however, feeling restless and wanting to serve her country in Vietnam, she enlisted in the US Army Nurse Corps and was soon on her way to Southeast Asia.

Assigned to the 85th Evacuation Hospital, 55th Medical Group, Captain Alexander, or "Rocky" as she was called by her colleagues, worked around the clock at the 250-bed field hospital in Qui Nhon, South Vietnam.

"She was top notch and never got rattled," recalled a nurse who had worked with her on surgical teams. "How did you keep it together," a colleague wrote in an online tribute. "You and I triaged, organized . . . and prayed. I really admired your strength and envied it."

But Alexander was always looking for a new challenge.

In early November 1967, after her fifth month in Vietnam, she volunteered for an assignment in Dak To, where a massive battle against North Vietnamese forces was taking place. With American casualties mounting by the day, the 85th had been called up to provide medical support. Throughout November Alexander and the hard-

working doctors and nurses of the 85th rarely rested. "The troops are getting hit quite hard," the dedicated nurse wrote her mother. "For the past

three days, I've been running on about four hours sleep. Funny thing is, I love it."

On November 30th, with the battle of Tok Do over, Alexander and 26 other service members took off in a US Air Force C-7 Caribou transport plane for the journey back to Qui Nhon. They never made it. Hit by bad weather, the plane slammed into a mountain three miles from the base, killing all on board.

"We heard about it on the radio," Susanne Alexander, the wife of Eleanor's brother, told the NY Times. "There was this plane crash, and I just knew." It took search and rescue teams five days to find the bullet-riddled plane and retrieve the bodies. The 27-year-old nurse, who had planned on getting married when she returned from Vietnam, was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star and buried at Saint Andrews Cemetery in River Vale, New Jersey, with full military honors.

#### **Postscript:**

Eleanor Alexander, known for her warm smile, bright eyes, and dedication to her patients, was the only woman from New Jersey killed in the Vietnam War. Her name is engraved on the Vietnam War Memorial Wall, along with her friend and fellow nurse Lt. Hedwig D. Orlowski, who was also killed in the crash. Today we pay tribute to Eleanor Alexander, Hedwig Orlowski, their families, and all those who served, sacrificed, and died during the Vietnam War. We will never forget you!

**Ned Forney, Writer, Saluting America's Veterans** 

#### Medal Of Honor Recipiend, Van T. Barfoot



Remember the Guy who wouldn't take The Flag pole down on his Virginia property awhile back?

You might remember the news story several months ago about a crotchety old man in Virginia who defied his local Homeowners Association, And refused to take down the Flag pole on his property along with the large American flag he flew on it.

Now we learn who that old man was. On June 15, 1919, Van T. Barfoot was born in Edinburg, Texas . That probably didn't make News back then.

But twenty-five years later, on May 23, 1944, Near Carano, Italy, that same Van T. Barfoot, who had in 1940 enlisted in the U.S. Army, set out alone to flank German machine gun positions from which gunfire was raining down on his fellow soldiers. His advance took him through a minefield but having done so, he proceeded to single-handedly take out three enemy machine gun positions, returning with 17 prisoners of war.

And if that weren't enough for a day's work, he later took on and destroyed three German tanks sent to retake the machine gun positions.

That probably didn't make much news either, given the scope of the war, but it did earn Van T. Barfoot, who retired as a Colonel after also serving In Korea and Vietnam, a well deserved Congressional Medal of Honor.

What did make news was his Neighborhood Association's quibble with how the 90-year-old Veteran chose to fly the American flag outside his suburban Virginia home. Seems the HOA rules said it was OK to fly a flag on a house-mounted bracket, but, For decorum, items such as Barfoot's 21-foot Flagpole were "unsuitable".

Van Barfoot had been denied a permit for the pole, but erected it anyway and was facing court action unless he agreed to take it down. Then the HOA story made national TV, And the Neighborhood Association rethought Its position and agreed to indulge this aging hero who dwelt among them.

"In the time I have left", he said to the Associated Press, "I plan to continue to fly the American flag without interference." As well he should. And if any of his neighbors had taken a notion to contest him further, they might have done well to read his Medal of Honor citation first.

Seems it Indicates Mr. Van Barfoot wasn't particularly good at backing down.

#### The Four-Legged Marine Who Became a Korean War Hero

The United States Marine Corps has endured few firefights as savage as the Battle for Outpost Vegas in the waning months of the Korean War. With a roar that sounded like "twenty tornadoes tearing at a countryside," according to one serviceman, more than 500 mortar and artillery rounds per minute deluged the mountaintop ridge where the Recoilless Rifle Platoon of the 5th Marines attempted to repel a Chinese assault on March 27, 1953.

As the sky fell on the Marines defending Outpost Vegas—so named because it would be a gamble to hold—they rejoiced as the silhouette of their beloved comrade emerged once again from the shroud of smoke that cloaked their position. All day long, their fellow Marine had traversed the "smoking, death-pocked rubble" to deliver fresh ammunition along with a badly needed boost of morale.

Traveling alone on 51 rounds trips through a noman's land of rice paddies and scaling a 45-degree incline with bowed head and quivering legs, the solitary figure fought the natural instinct to flee and relied on training and fortitude to deliver nearly 9,000 back-breaking pounds of ammunition from the supply point to the gun teams.

The platoon knew their heroic compatriot was no ordinary Marine—and it wasn't just because she was a horse.

A calming presence amid the chaos erupting around Outpost Vegas, the mighty mare named "Reckless" lugged six rounds, then eight, at a time up the mountain and evacuated wounded Marines back down the slope for medical treatment—even after sustaining two shrapnel wounds that would earn her a pair of Purple Hearts. On one trip, Reckless even donned flak jackets and shielded four Marines up the mountain.

Although she excelled at the job, Reckless was not bred to be a beast of burden. Born at a Seoul racetrack, the chestnut brown filly originally named "Ah Chim Hai" (meaning "Flame of the Morning") was destined for a racing career until the outbreak of the Korean War in 1950. In need of money to pay for a prosthesis for his sister who

lost a leg in a land mind explosion, the horse's owner reluctantly sold his filly for \$250 to Lieutenant Eric Pedersen of the Recoilless Rifle Platoon in October 1952.

For weeks after the horse's purchase, Technical Sergeant Joe Latham put Reckless through an equine version of boot camp that he dubbed "hoof camp." Latham acclimated the horse to the extreme noise of battle and led her up and down hills to get used to the weight of the ammunition on her back.

He taught her to step over communication lines and barbed wire. He yelled, 'Incoming!' and she would run to a bunker and get down. She learned how to lay down in a trench for cover. The horse could find her way to her fellow Marines all by herself and even understand hand signals. Reckless slept in the Marines' tents and dined with them in the mess hall. Proving that she had an iron stomach that matched her steely determination, Reckless ate bacon, scrambled eggs and coffee for breakfast, and liked to snack on candy bars and Coca-Cola—not to mention hats, blankets and poker chips.

Reckless wasn't against downing a couple of cold ones with her fellow Marines, either. In fact, on the day after an armistice silenced the guns over Korea, the horse was seen staggering around camp after perhaps having one too many the night before when celebrating with the platoon.

So beloved was Reckless that she was promoted to sergeant on April 10, 1954, becoming the only animal ever awarded an official rank in the Marine Corps

Sgt. Reckless arrived in the United States in November 1954 and was stationed at California's Camp Pendleton where she was twice promoted to staff sergeant and bore three colts and a filly. Her death in 1968 was front-page news, and, befitting her rank, Sgt. Reckless was buried with full military honors.

It's an honor well-deserved. She wasn't a horse. She was a marine.

TWS - September 2, 2020

## The Greatest Beer Run In History

It was November 1967, and a 26-year-old former Marine named John "Chick" Donohue was hanging out at Doc Fiddler's — one of the many bars and pubs that dotted the neighborhood of Inwood, then an Irish-American enclave near Manhattan's northern tip. The bartender, George Lynch, began complaining about the anti-war movement that had taken flight across the country. For a lot of vets like Donohue, the marches and picket signs must have felt like a snub. So when Lynch suggested that someone go out there — to Vietnam — and bring those boys some beers to let them know they're not forgotten, Donohue volunteered to go. And he went.

What followed was an 8,000 mile, four-month odyssey. Donohue trekked across a war-torn country, talked his way onto transport trucks and military aircraft, all so he could meet up with local guys from his neighborhood and bring them a cold — okay, lukewarm — brew.

Donohue took a job on the next ship headed to the war, the *Drake Victory*, a merchant vessel transporting ammo to the 'nam from New York. He got the names and units of a half-dozen guys in the neighborhood, grabbed a seabag, stuffed it full of PBR, threw on a pair of light blue jeans, a plaid shirt, and headed out. Two months later, in early 1968, he arrived in Vietnam — just in time for the start of the Tet Offensive against U.S. and South Vietnamese troops.

Donohue ran through his beer supply in transit, but stocked up when they hit port in Qui Nhon harbor. "It took two months to get there, so I drank all the beer".

Shortly after pulling in, Donohue noticed the unit insignia on a group of military police officers who were inspecting the *Drake Victory*. They were from the 127th Military Police Company, the same unit as one of the names on his list: Tom Collins. Donohue, known as a smooth and quick talker, pulled one of the MPs aside and spun a sob story about looking for his brother-in-law, gave the man Collins' name, and then waited. Not long after that, Collins arrived.

After sharing a few drinks with Collins, Donohue set off to find the other names on his list. Donohue went from Qui Nhon, to Khe Sahn, then to Saigon, striking off names and handing out beers, then restocking.

Donohue talked his way onto convoys, military mail planes, and transport helicopters. He even got caught in the Tet Offensive and was briefly stranded when his ship left port without him. So he hung around, caught up with his buddies on the front lines for a bit longer, and by March 1968, made his way back to Inwood where his beer run quickly became a local legend.

The beer was hardly the point, though. For guys like Bobby Pappas who had been having a tough deployment, after learning several old friends had died in combat. Seeing Donohue, brews in hand, "gave me a lot of encouragement that I was going to make it back," he told the Times. But even skeptics of Donohue's story were happy to reward him for the deeper truth it contained. Back home in Inwood, he said, "I didn't have to buy a beer for a long time."

#### **JAMES CLARK**



I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE
TO THE FLAG OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AND TO THE REPUBLIC
FOR WHICH IT STANDS,
ONE NATION UNDER GOD,
INDIVISIBLE,
WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL.

#### **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

(Name)			(Date of Birth)	
	(Mailing Address)	(Pi	hone Number)	
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	(Post #)	
		☐ Male ☐ Female		
(	E-mail)	(Gender)	(Dues)	
□ Gulf War □ Panama □ Lebanon/Grenada □ Vietnam	☐ U.S. Navy ☐ U.S. Air Force ☐ U.S. Marines ☐ U.S. Coast Guard			
□ Korea □ WWII □ Other Conflicts	☐ Merchant Marines	(WWII only)	Manual	
	Date	Name of ro		

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 2021, 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 84<sup>th</sup> St. Suite L Lincoln, NE 68510 (402) 466-3958

## Post3legionlincoln@gmail.com

https://lincolnpost3.org

## 2020 - 2021 Post 3 Officers

Commander - Wade Graft - Cell: 402-770-9126

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

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

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 two weeks before the monthly meeting.