



“For God and Country”

MARCH 2025 POST 3 NEWSLETTER



Meetings For March 2025

Organization	Location	Time	Date
Legion Post 3	Elks Lodge, 5910 S 58 th St	7:00 PM	03/11/25
Auxiliary Unit 3	Elks Lodge, 5910 S 58 th St	7:00 PM	03/11/25
SAL Squadron 3	Post 3 Office, 123 S 84 th St	7:00 PM	03/13/25
ALR Chapter 3	Denton Legion Club	6:00 PM	03/20/25
40 & 8 Voiture 103	Elks Lodge, 5910 S 58 th St	6:30 PM	03/18/25
8 & 40 Salon 832	Elks Lodge, 5910 s 58 th St	6:30 PM	03/18;25
8 & 40 Salon 92	VFW 3606, 3340 West A St	1:00 PM	03/20/25
Buddy Check	Enclosed Shelter, 1650 Antelope Park	6:00 PM	03/22/25
CoffeeHaus	Auld Pavilion, Antelope Park	10:00 AM	03/21/25

Commander's Call



Fellow Legionnaire,

Let me ask you this... If a family member, friend, or even a stranger, asked you to describe The American Legion... How would you answer them? What's your "elevator speech"?

Now, you may be asking yourself, "What the heck is an elevator speech?" An elevator speech is a brief (think 30 seconds!) way of introducing yourself, getting across a key point or two, and making a connection with someone. It's called an elevator speech because it is roughly the amount of time you'd spend riding an elevator with someone. For example, if you happened to bump into someone

you'd been dying to meet in an elevator, how would you introduce yourself, get your point across, and ask to stay connected—all before that person gets off the elevator?

Here's an example of one that could be modified to better suit your own experiences. I've used it in the past, and modify it continually based upon the situation.

"Hi, I'm Bruce Gubser, and I'm a member of The American Legion Post 3 here in Lincoln. I'm an Army veteran and I continue to serve my community, state and nation by being a member of The American Legion. Have you ever served in the military? (wait for their answer, and depending on their answer I might respond in a couple of ways) If they have, then I might say something like, "Great! Thank you for your service! What branch? What did you do in (that branch)? What I've found in The American Legion is a way to stay connected with people who have also served, and together we support programs in The American Legion like Boys and Girls State, Junior Law Cadet, American Legion Baseball, the American Legion Oratorical scholarship program, and many other programs that support and enhance the lives of veterans and their families. Have you ever considered joining The American Legion?"

Or, when asked if they ever served in the military, and they say they never served, I might say something like, "Has anyone in your family ever served?" Many times, this answer will be yes... Oh, my dad was in Vietnam, or my grandmother was a nurse in World War 2, or something like that. Then, I might say something about The American Legion Auxiliary or The Sons of The American Legion.

Bottom line, I always keep this statement in mind... "If you don't ask, the answer is always NO."

Tell them what they are missing and how they will enjoy our Legion and our Legion Family. Not long ago I made a list of what Post 3 worked to support. The list included charitable events, higher education scholarships, civic events, Honor Guard, Boys & Girls State, Junior Law Cadet and other veterans' causes. That list was quite lengthy and when I took time to read and really absorb it, it made me feel great. Share that feeling with the people you meet.

(Commander's Call – Continued)

Our American Legion, The American Legion of Post 3, must keep on keeping on. We need to see not only the faces that have made our post great in previous years but also some new members. I am encouraged to see more and more new faces at our meetings. Thank you for showing up!! And thank you for getting involved! Our Legion Post needs you.

Thanks for your hard work on membership. We are closing in on our membership goal. We missed February's goal by only a small handful of members. I will ask you again... if you have not yet paid your 2025 dues, please do so at your earliest opportunity. In fact, stop reading this newsletter right now and pay them online at www.legion.org/renew. The sad news about membership is that we will not reach our membership goal for 2025, even if we renewed every LIVING member of Post 3. Each year, upwards of 50 to 60 members pass on, and are "transferred" to what we in the Legion call "Post Everlasting." What that means in practical terms is that we should always be recruiting new members.

Further to the discussion on membership, if we had an email address for you, and you paid your 2025 dues, you recently received an email from me letting you know about a membership deal we are currently running. Here's the short story on that deal: Recruit a new member, and two things happen... First, we will waive the Post 3 portion (\$11) of the dues for that new member and the new member can sign up for only \$45, AND; Second, you get a \$5 credit toward your own 2026 dues (or, if you have not yet paid for 2025, we'll give you \$5 credit on this year's dues)! Someone told me the other week that there are around 10,000 veterans in Lancaster County. It is a "target rich" environment! Let's find some new members!

I want to thank each one of you for being a member of Post 3. Just the fact that you send in your dues allows us to support the many causes of the Legion at the local, state, and national level. Remember, our membership year is the calendar year. Your 2024 dues expired on December 31, 2024. While true that the Legion sends out dues notices as early as August (for the upcoming year) and accepts previous year's dues just about any time (even up to a couple of years in the past), your timely payment of dues is what allows our organization at the local, state, and national level, to continue to provide the outstanding programs of The American Legion to our community, state and nation.

We all have time and talents we can give to this organization. If you are looking for something new to do, come to a meeting and join us on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at the Elks Lodge #80 at 7:00, except August.

As always, keep our veterans in your thoughts and prayers, particularly those who may be in need. Keep our active-duty service men and women in your thoughts and prayers as well.

For God and Country,

Bruce Gubser

Post 3 Commander

Dear Post 3 Legionnaire ---

Let me begin by thanking you for your service and your loyalty to Lincoln American Legion Post 3.

Our goal for the 2025 membership year was established last July by the Department Membership Chairman as 1066 members --- essentially just one more member than we had on or about June 30th. On February 15th, we had 902 members paid for 2025 --- about 84.60% of our goal. That may not sound too bad, but we have a significant --- even critical --- problem when it comes to maintaining our membership.

If we could renew every living member on February 15th who has not yet renewed, we could only reach 998 members --- a far cry from the 1066 goal (about 93.6%). Transfers in and out of Post 3 do occur, but they number only a few every year. However, we transferred 70 members to Post Everlasting between February 1, 2024, and February 15, 2025. Those deceased members are difficult to replace.

We need you to become a recruiter for Post 3. Do you know that with recent changes to the membership requirements any veteran with 1 day of active duty who served honorably since the start of WW II (or continues to serve today) is eligible to join the American Legion? Do you have a son, daughter, grandson, granddaughter, other relative, neighbor, or co-worker who is eligible to join? If so, we'd like you to be a recruiter and help us by signing them up to be a Legionnaire.

Sometimes recruiting seems like a daunting task, but it doesn't have to be. Perhaps you just need to mention to a prospective member how powerful and influential the American Legion is when it comes to creating and maintaining veterans' benefits. Many members consider their post dues an inexpensive insurance policy to maintain those veterans' benefits.

Perhaps you just need to mention to a prospective member the many programs supported by American Legion posts everywhere. Not every post participates in every program, but the overall result is amazing. Among others, Post 3 prides itself on our Honor Guard and the great number of funerals and other civic events at which it presents the colors or otherwise participates in numerous funerals each year.

We are trying something special. If you can recruit a new member (or more than one), we will waive the post's portion of 2025 dues and enroll that new member \$45 instead of \$56. Just use the application form below and send it to the address above, and we'll process the new membership promptly.

(Recruitment Project – Continued)

If you do recruit one (or more) members for Post 3 during this special campaign, we'll rebate \$5 of your dues when you renew for 2025 (if you haven't renewed yet) or renew for 2026 (if you have already renewed). Department Life and PUFL members are eligible for the \$5 rebate, too!!

We hope you can help us. We're counting on it.

For God and Country,

Bruce Gubser,

Commander, Lincoln Post 3

SPECIAL NEW MEMBER RECRUITMENT PROJECT

\$45 New Member Dues Rate

Complete the application below and send it with a check in the amount of \$45.00 to:

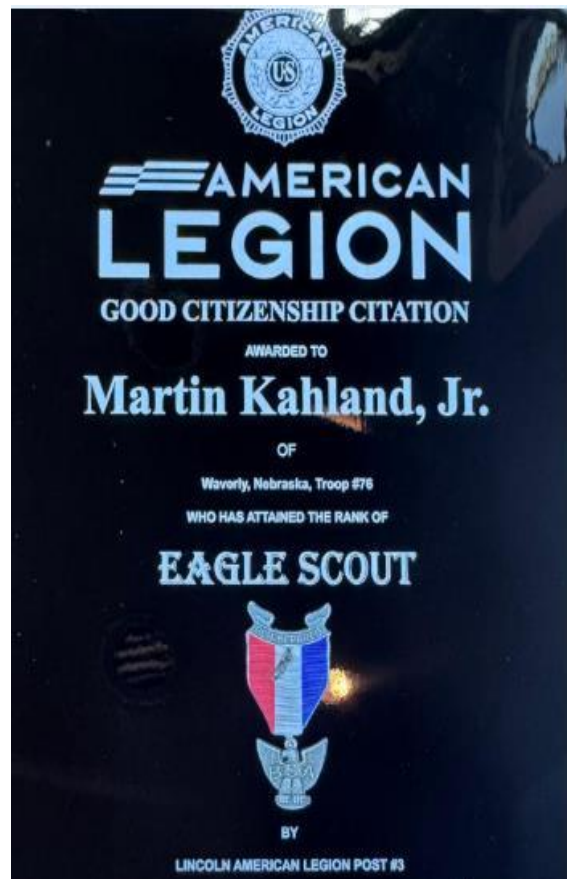
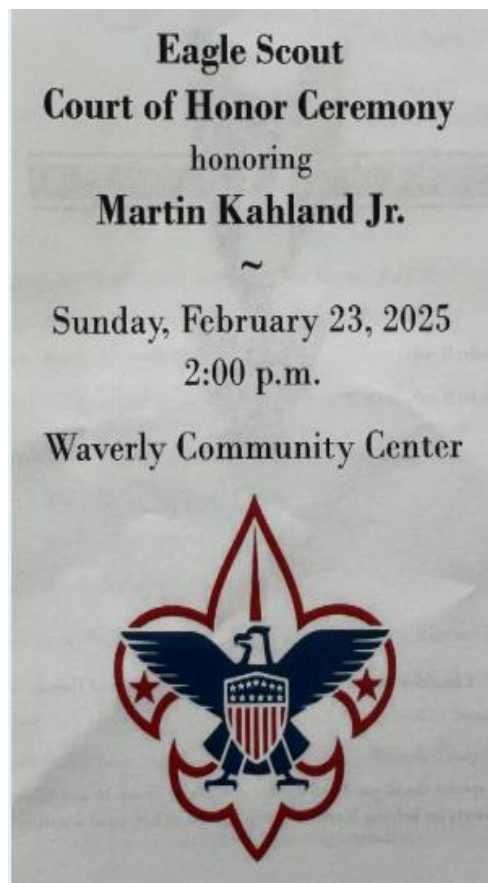
American Legion Post 3
123 South 84th Street, Suite L
Lincoln, Ne 68510

The American Legion Membership Application			
(Name)		(Date of Birth)	
(Mailing Address)		(Phone Number)	
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	(Post #)
(E-mail)		☐ Male ☐ Female (Gender)	(Dues)
☐ I certify that I served at least one day of active military duty since December 7, 1941 and was honorably discharged or am still serving honorably.			
Please check appropriate service era and branch of service below			
☐ Global War on Terror	☐ U.S. Army		
☐ Gulf War	☐ U.S. Navy		
☐ Panama	☐ U.S. Air Force		
☐ Lebanon/Grenada	☐ U.S. Marines		
☐ Vietnam	☐ U.S. Coast Guard		
☐ Korea	☐ Merchant Marines (WWII only)		
☐ WWII			
☐ Other Conflicts			
Signature of applicant		Date	Name of recruiter

30-009

Eagle Scout, Martin Kahland, Jr.

On Sunday, February 23rd, Post 3 Commander Bruce Gubser presented Nebraska's newest Eagle Scout, Martin Kahland, Jr, from Waverly Troop 76, with a certificate signed by National Commander James A. LaCoursiere Jr., and a plaque from Post 3 congratulating Martin at his Eagle Scout Court of Honor.



Notes from the Adjutant's Desk



We held a joint meeting for Post 3 and District 15 on Tuesday February 11th. 2025. From February first, 2024, to 30 January 2025, Post 3 {District 15} lost 64 members.

Having lost these 64 members means that we are already behind when working on our 2025 membership goal. Just to maintain our current membership we need to sign up 64 new or former members. A member who has not paid their dues for two years counts as a new member. Checking the files I found that we have 50 members or so who last renewed in 2022 and another 50 or so who last renewed in 2023.

For those who have yet renewed for 2025, your 2024 membership card expired as of 31 December 2024. As of January first, you were classified as expired, you will stop receiving The Legion magazine, and you could be denied entry into a Legion Club. Those who are in the Legion Insurance program, your coverage also ended as of 31st of December 2024. You must be a member in good standing to be covered. If you have not yet signed up for Legion Insurance, it is easy to do, just go to their website and enroll.

I want to thank those members who have renewed. If you happen to receive a notice and you KNOW that you have received your 2025 membership card, please just throw the notice away. No need to let us know. If you have paid and have not received your 2025 membership card, then call or drop us a note.

We are still receiving a few checks from those who have already paid their 2025 dues. I will try and contact those members and ask if they would like to apply this extra payment to pay their 2026 dues. If not, I will return the checks or destroy them. Thanks for renewing Post 3.

Post 3 membership for 2025 is now \$56.00 dollars, as the National and Nebraska Department both increased their dues by five dollars. Post 3 did not increase it's due for 2025, remaining at eleven dollars.

The current 2025 membership stands at 906, about 85 % of our 2025 goal.

Post 3 has 50 Department Life members and 122 PUFL members. 57 members have participated and paid their dues for 3 years.

For those who would like to renew for three years, you can do so by logging into Legion.Org and click the RENEWAL link. You will then be given the opportunity to renew for three years. The rate for renewing will be at the current rate of \$56.00 dollars. The advantage of renewing for three years is that you will save on any new dues increases for the next three years.

For Nebraska Department Life members, 2025 membership cards have been mailed to the address we had on file for you. If you have not received yours, or have moved during the past year, please let us know so we can get them to you.

We would like to thank those who have provided the request for mailing address, phone number and email information. We have many members who moved and we do not have a correct mailing address, phone number or an email address.

(Notes from the Adjutant's Desk – Continued)

The US Postal service returns mail that they do not have a forwarding address for. We try to track down those members who have moved, but many locations respond with, “no longer living here.”

This also goes for those members who have passed on to Post Ever Lasting. If you know a member has died, please let us know. This saves National and Post postage on renewals which are returned to the Post.

The same goes for branch of service, or war era. National has been printing on the back of the renewal slips the data that is in the Legion database. Please check and add as needed so we can correct our database. Thanks, it makes it so much easier to reach out to you if needed.

Department of Veterans Affairs, VFW, DAV, AMVETS web sites

These web sites are a great place to find current and helpful information on what Congress is currently working on and how it could affect you as a veteran. The VA website has many tips on filling claims and links to other VA services to which you are entitled.

VA News <veteransaffairs@messages.va.gov>

The VFW, DAV, etc. do an excellent job of keeping track of Congressional activities that can or will affect veterans.

The Nebraska Department of Veterans Affairs and your local County Service Office are there to serve you. They can pull up your records of military service and help track your claims you may have filed.

The members of the most current conflicts are now the backbone of not only the American Legion, but also the VFW, DAV, AMV, etc. Without these younger veterans we will no longer have a strong voice in Congress. Without a strong voice in Congress, we will keep losing funding for the Department of Veterans Affairs and the VA Health Care System.

If you are a member of this group of veterans or know a veteran from these conflicts, please ask them if they are a member of a VSO (veteran service organization) and if not, ask them to please join. They may not be using VA service now, and may wish to in the future, may find that VA services have been cut back due to a lack of a strong voice in Congress.

On Friday 31st of January, the Nebraska Veterans Council held its 2025 Veteran's Legislative Day. It was nice to see a great turnout. The Warner Chamber was filled with veterans. These Veteran's Legislative Days are a great way to learn about legislation that could affect you as a Veteran.

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

Remember to thank your fellow Veterans for their service,

Ed Schnabel

Adjutant

Lincoln CBOC/VA News



Flu shots and Covid shots: Shots are currently being given in a walk-in clinic. Shots will be given only to those enrolled in the VA Health system. For those with appointments, they will be asked if they wish to receive a shot if they have not received one for this winter. Those without an appointment can request shot(s) by seeing the MSA at their local clinics.

VA clinics and hospitals no longer require the wearing of masks to enter clinics. As cases of covid are rising, masks will be required if you feel you have or want to be treated for covid. Masks are available for those who still wish to wear them at the front doors of the clinics.

Express Care is a walk-in service available to those who might wish to see a VA nurse without an appointment during normal hours. Times might be different at your local clinic, so give them a call and see if they offer Express Care service. The Lincoln Clinic treats 300 patients a month as walk-ins.

The Lincoln Clinic will be taking part in a food drive during March, for our homeless veterans.

Want to serve your fellow Veterans? At the current time, the VA is not adding new volunteers at their hospitals or clinics. I will let you know when they again start bringing on new volunteers. You can donate to your local clinic, hospital, or veteran's home. They can always use a monetary donation, or you can donate activities bags for younger kids to have when they come to the clinic or hospital with a parent for their appointments.

Clinics and hospitals can always use books and magazines for patients. You would need to check with your local hospital, clinic, or veteran's home volunteer office to see what items they need or allow. This would be a great project for your church, school, or youth group.

Hours given by the volunteers are credited with saving the VA Health at Omaha, Lincoln, and Grand Island an equivalent of 25 full-time staff employees. This is based on an hour of service being credited at the rate of \$31.50 dollars per hour.

(Lincoln CBOC/VA Report – Continued)

Service animals: The only animals that should be brought into a VA Health clinic or hospital are trained service animals, that qualify under DAV requirements. Other pets or comfort dogs do not qualify and should be left at home.

VA Claims: With the signing of the PAC, more veterans have become eligible for services, not only for those who served boots on the ground, but anyone who has served since the Gulf War. If you have any questions, I would call your local service officer, VSO, county, or state. It only takes a few minutes to see if you might qualify for an increase, or a new VA disability rating.

The Veteran Affairs web site is a great place to visit. You can find out the latest information affecting Veterans. You can track claim status, file for travel pay, view your VA account, payments received, or Co-pay owed. You can make the Co-pay payments online.

Thanks for your service to your fellow Veterans and thanks for your service to this great country.

God Bless,

Ed Schnabel

American Legion Rep to the Nebraska VA system

Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service Meeting

Friday January 31, 2025

Lincoln VA CBOC

Those in attendance: Ed Schnabel-AL Rep: Ann Kirk-St Leger Cowley DAR: Duane Austria-American Red Cross: Tom Vodvarka-DAV: Jim Varejcka-MOPH: Linda Varejcka-MOPHA; Thomas Vonahlefeld-Lincoln Clinic: Ty Andrews-Lincoln CDCE...

Meeting opened with the “Pledge of Allegiance”

Ty reported that the VAs will be conducting food drives until the end of March.

It was discussed how the organizations could help. It was reported by Ann that the DAR is already planning a food drive for the VA at their March meeting. There will be a tote for donations in the lobby for food to be dropped off or organizations can plan their own collection sites and then bring them to the volunteer services. A suggestion sheet was made for the organizations to use and is attached to these minutes.

Tom reported that the Lincoln VA is planning a “Health Fair” for Tuesday May 13th with a rain day of Thursday May 15th. It will be in the front parking lot adjacent to 70th street. Bryan Gilbert at the Lincoln VA is the chairman of the event so if an organization has any questions they can contact him. In conjunction with the Health Fair, we will have a “Veterans Appreciation Picnic”. We are working on funding and donations will be accepted.

National Salute to Veteran Patient Week will be observed at the Lincoln VA February 10th – 14th. Organizations are encouraged to sponsor a day. ALA, MOPH/MOPHA and the Red Cross will be sponsoring a day. We will also be handing out donated Valentine goody sacks, Valentine cards and popcorn.

Ty asked if organizations wanted to report on activities they are doing at present. Duane reported that he is helping the Red Cross with “Skill Bridge” helping active duty transition by giving them info on agencies of interest to Veterans.

Next VAVS meeting will be in April 2025.

VA FOOD DRIVE
For VA Veterans in NEED
From now till the end of March

You can bring your donations to a designated area your organization selects or bring them to the Lincoln VA Clinic.

Items needed: nonperishable items. NO EXPIRED dated cans. Poptops are greatly appreciated.

Protein: tuna (pouches or cans) canned chicken, beef, spam, vienna sausage, spaghetti o's, beef stew, chili, chef boy r dee, jerky, mac and cheese (microwave cups preferred) peanut butter.

Soup, fruit ind. serving cups, peanut butter and crackers, cheese and crackers, jelly, ind. Breakfast cereal, protein bars.

These are just some ideas of items needed and distributed. If you were hungry what would you want??

Your donation is GREATLY appreciated!

Thanking you in advance!

Lincoln Volunteer Services

ALR Riders, Chapter 3 Director's Remarks



Greetings Legion Riders and Legion Family,

With these warm temperatures over these last few days of February, the thoughts of motorcyclists start turning toward getting our "Knees in the Breeze!" Please be on the lookout for motorcyclists. I apologize up front for the knucklehead motorcyclists who flaunt traffic laws (and good old common sense) by acting the fool on two wheels. The vast majority of us are NOT like that.

On to more pleasant stuff... Our gun raffle fundraiser is going exceedingly well. We sold about 3/4 of the available tickets at a recent gun show and the ABATE Bike Show. As of this writing, near the end of February, we have less than 200 tickets (of 1,000) available. If you'd like a chance to win a great looking Henry Golden Boy "American Farmer" edition in .22 LR caliber, along with a fantastic hand-made display rack, please contact any Chapter 3 ALR member (or me). The drawing will be held at our August 23rd Poker Run.

Speaking of the August 23rd Poker Run, I hope that everyone will come out and support our chapter as we raise funds to support our Veterans. It doesn't matter if you are on two-, three-, or 4-wheels, we would love to see everyone participate! Registration is from 10am to Noon at Frontier Harley-Davidson on West O Street on August 23rd. It will be a great time!

Your American Legion Riders continue to support Veterans in the southeast Nebraska area by participating in flag lines with the Patriot Guard Riders at funerals of fallen heroes.

Springtime also brings the beginning of various parade activities in the region, and we will be participating in a number of parades during the Spring and Summer.

Until next time, Ride (and Drive) Safe!

Bruce Gubser

Director



- SILENT AUCTION
- 50/50
- HIGH PRIZES
- RAFFLE
- GIVEAWAYS

\$10/HAND OR \$20 FOR 3



\$300/HIGH \$200 2ND HIGH
\$100 LOW

Lincoln (Nebraska)
Chapter 3

POKER RUN

REGISTRATION: 10AM-NOON
FIRST BIKE OUT AT: 10AM
LAST BIKE IN: 4PM
PRIZES/AWARDS: 4:15PM

**SATURDAY
AUG 23**

-STARTS AT FRONTIER
HARLEY-DAVIDSON,
205 NW 40TH ST, LINCOLN, NEBR
-WITH STOPS IN MALMO, DWIGHT
& DORCHESTER
-ENDS AT DENTON AMERICAN
LEGION



BRING NONPERISHABLE ITEMS FOR
THE FOOD BANK (OR DONATE \$5)
AND GET AN EXTRA CARD!

PROCEEDS WILL GO TO
CHARITABLE CAUSES
THAT SUPPORT
VETERANS



Lincoln Chapter 3
American Legion Riders



RAFFLE

HENRY GOLDEN BOY RIFLE, .22LR



TICKETS ARE \$5 EACH OR 5 FOR \$20

The drawing will be held in August at our poker run.

YOU DO NOT NEED TO BE PRESENT TO WIN

YOU MUST BE OLDER THAN 18 YEARS OF AGE TO PURCHASE A TICKET

PRIZE WILL BE TRANSFERED TO THE WINNER THROUGH A FEDERALLY LICENSED
FIREARM DEALER and ALL FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL FIREARM PURCHASE LAWS, RULES AND
REGULATIONS APPLY

Post 3 Honor Guard



In February, The Honor Guard assisted the Military Honors Teams at 6 funerals. Some of those funerals were during some very cold and windy days. The effort the Honor Guard makes to honor our deceased veterans is greatly appreciated. I want to thank everyone involved for their continued support. We were not present at any civic functions in February.

In the Calendar year 2025, the Honor Guard assisted the Military Honors Teams at 12 funerals and made 2 appearances at civic functions.

Post 3 TAPS – February 2025



LEGIONNAIRE	WAR ERA	BRANCH	YEARS
Greg Armstrong	Panama	Army	22
Gary Burchfield	Vietnam	USMC	36
Frederick J. Novak	Korea	Navy	64
Larry L. Oestman	Vietnam	Army	41
Wayne L. Stephens	Korea	Navy	47
Jack L. Wyant	Vietnam	Navy	41

**Regular Meeting of American Legion Post 3 / District 15 Convention
Lincoln Elks Lodge #80
February 11, 2025**

Post 3 Commander Bruce Gubser opened the February 11, 2025 meeting of American Legion Post 3 / District 15 Convention at 6:30 PM at the Lincoln Elks Lodge 80 with 25-30 Legionnaires and guests present.

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

Introduced as a newly transferred-in member to Post 3 was Tom Kennedy.

Commander Gubser introduced the Post 3 officers and recognized the Past District 15 commanders present. Others present and introduced were NEC-man Jim Costello, ANEC-man John Henry Percy, District 12 Commander Martin Neal, Department Adjutant Dave Salak, and Public Relations Officer Megan Kalina. Commander Gubser also indicated that Doug Frahm, a candidate for Department Senior Vice Commander was logged onto the meeting on Zoom.

Department Adjutant Salak addressed the group and discussed a number of topics, including his retirement as adjutant on June 30th. Eric Martin has been selected to be his replacement, and the department is currently seeking his replacement.

Adjutant Salak reported that the flagpoles and flags are now in place at Department Headquarters --- and that there may be an upcoming project to provide other than solar powered illumination.

NEC-man Costello addressed the group and reported on a number of issues --- including the importance of the National Emergency Fund and the Temporary Financial Assistance Fund. Recent storms and the fires in California are examples of the need.

Commander Gubser opened the floor to anyone campaigning for office for the 2026 year.

Judy Walters, a candidate for Department president was unable to attend because of the impending snow storm, but Dave Salak spoke on her behalf,

Doug Frahm, a candidate for Department Senior Vice Commander, addressed the group over the computer.

(Post 3 / District 15 Convention Minutes – Continued)

District 12 Commander Martin Neal spoke on his own behalf as a candidate for Area C Vice Commander.

Commander Gubser announced that the meeting would be moving into the business of the District 15 Convention and told the visitors that they were welcome to stay but were excused.

District 15 Commander Ron Hindmand read the Convention Call.

As the first order of business, Fred Cragie was selected to be the District 15 delegate to the national convention in Tampa. Steve Bartos was selected to be the alternate.

The dates and locations for several upcoming events were confirmed.

Steve Bartos introduced and read a resolution titled Minimum Post Dues that was created to amend Article XII of the Department Constitution (Finances) to include:

Section 3. The total post dues of any post in the Department of Nebraska must be no less than the sum of the current national per capita dues and the current department per capita dues.

Bartos explained that the primary benefit of the change would be to make sure all Legionnaires could renew their annual memberships online. The resolution was adopted.

District 15 Vice Commander Rich Lemmerman announced that Bruce Gubser had been selected to be the 2025 recipient of the District Citizenship Award. Rich pointed out Bruce's active participation in a number of groups in Lincoln --- all the while "working on Legion Baseball, IRS Tax Codes, and Post 3 Financial Accountability." Bruce has spent countless hours working on correspondence, attending meetings, and updating records and documentation to greatly improve the three previously mentioned areas of activity. The 2025 Citizenship Award Medal will be presented at the department convention.

The District 15 Convention having been concluded and there being no further business, Post 3 Commander called for the reading of TAPS and closed the meeting in proper form at 7:25 PM.

Steve Bartos, Recorder

Soldier Accounted For From Korean War



The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) announced that U.S. Army Sgt. David Eugene Hardy, 20, of Cascade, Virginia, who died while a prisoner of war during the Korean War, was accounted for Sept. 27, 2024.

In late 1950, Hardy was assigned to Headquarters Battery, 82nd Anti-Aircraft Artillery – Automatic Weapons Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division, Eighth U.S. Army. He was reported missing in action on Dec. 1, 1950, after the 2nd Infantry Division's withdrawal from Kunu-ri to Suncheon, North Korea, on Nov. 30, following the Battle of Ch'ongch'on.

1953, a POW from Sgt. Hardy's unit was returned during Operation Big Switch, and reported that Hardy died on Feb. 28, 1951, while a prisoner at POW Camp #5, Pyoktong, North Korea.

In the late summer and fall of 1954, during Operation Glory, Chinese Communist Forces returned remains reportedly recovered from Pyoktong to the United Nations Command. None were associated with Hardy.

One set of remains returned from Camp #5 during Operation Glory, which could not be identified, were designated Unknown X-14527 and buried at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, also known as the Punchbowl, in Honolulu.

In July 2018, the DPAA proposed a plan to disinter 652 Korean War Unknowns from the Punchbowl. On Dec. 9, 2019, DPAA personnel disinterred Unknown X-14527 as part of Phase Two of the Korean War Disinterment Plan and sent the remains to the DPAA laboratory for analysis.

To identify Hardy's remains, scientists from DPAA used dental and anthropological analysis. Additionally, scientists from the Armed Forces Medical Examiner System used mitochondrial DNA and mitochondrial genome sequencing analysis.

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

Hardy will be buried in Eden, North Carolina, in March 2025.

Admiral James Stockdale Awarded the Medal Of Honor



On September 9, 1965, Captain James Stockdale's A-4 Skyhawk was shot down over North Vietnam. He ejected, breaking his back and badly dislocating his knee when he fell to earth. Soon captured, he was beaten severely then sent to the now-infamous "Hanoi Hilton" prison. Over the next seven years he was subjected to brutal torture 15 times. Malnourished and denied medical attention, for four years he was kept in solitary confinement, and for two years in leg irons.

When Stockdale learned in the spring of 1969 that the North Vietnamese were going to display him and other POWs to a selected group of foreign journalists, presumably as evidence of the good treatment they were receiving, he cut his scalp with a razor and beat himself in the face with a wooden stool so that he couldn't be used for their propaganda. Denied the opportunity to parade him before the press, his captors punished him with more brutal and agonizing torture.

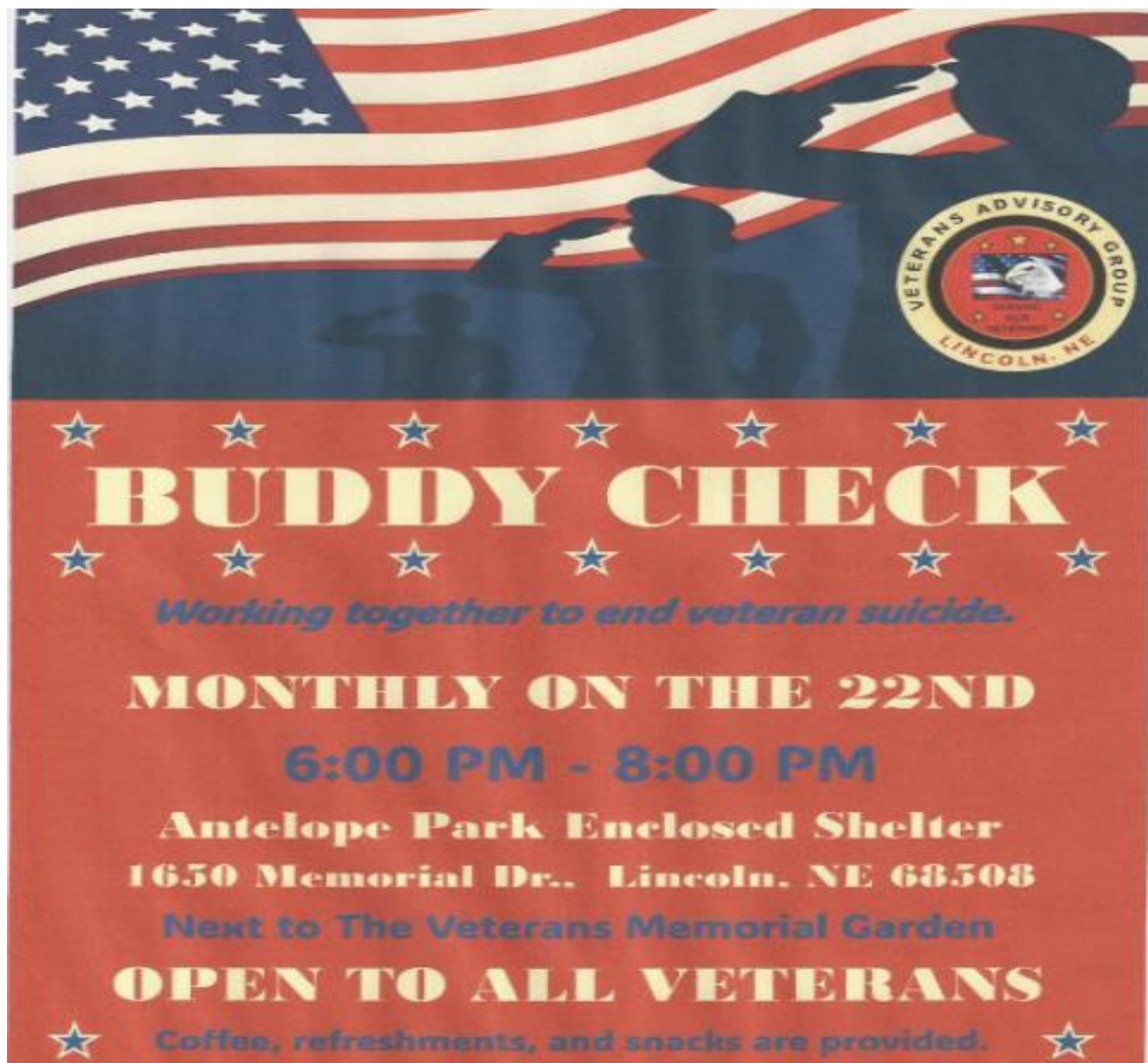
Later, when his covert intra-POW communication network was discovered, Stockdale was singled out for another round of torture. To prove to them that he would never submit, Stockdale slashed his wrists. As his Medal of Honor citation reads: "He deliberately inflicted a near-mortal wound to his person to convince his captors of his willingness to give up his life rather than capitulate. He was subsequently discovered and revived by the North Vietnamese who, convinced of his indomitable spirit, abated in their employment of excessive harassment and torture toward all the Prisoners of War. By his heroic action, at great peril to himself, he earned the everlasting gratitude of his fellow prisoners and of his country."

In February 1973 Stockdale was released as part of Operation Homecoming. He returned to the United States; the torture having left him barely able to walk.

Already one of the most highly decorated officers in Navy history, in 1975 Stockdale was awarded the Medal of Honor. In 1979, with the rank of Vice Admiral, he retired from active duty.

Buddy Check

February's Buddy Check is scheduled for Saturday March 22nd. Time: 1800 Hours (6:00 PM) until 2000 Hours (8:00 PM). Location Antelope Park, Enclosed Shelter 1650 Memorial Drive. We are meeting at the Enclosed Shelter near the entrance to the Veterans Memorial Garden. Come and join us in Remembrance of our Brothers and Sisters that have gone too early. Buddy Check is a social gathering of Veterans dedicated to reducing and eliminating Veteran Suicide. We gather with veterans and their SO's to continue our service to each other. We supply beverages and snacks in a casual gathering, for support and fellowship. Come join us and relax.



CoffeeHaus

The Ray Guns will entertain at CoffeeHaus on 21 March, from 10:00 until noon.



Lincoln VAG eAlert

A Message from Your Veterans Advisory Group!

VAG Lincoln Coffeehaus!



**JOIN US ON
FRIDAY!**

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

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

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

Join us - reach out and bring a guest too!

OUR SPONSOR

The Sponsor for
CoffeeHaus is the Elks
Lodge #80.



MORE INFORMATION!

For a Calendar of Upcoming VAG Events, visit our Website, at www.VAGLincoln.org!

2025 Veterans Legislation

LB#	Sponsor	Description	Committee	Status
35	Brandt	Change provisions relating to the requirements for certain exemptions for privately developed renewable energy generation facilities Natural Resources AM48 adopted 1/29/25	Natural Resources	Final Reading
43	DeKay	Change provisions relating to notice and certification requirements for electric generation facilities, transmission lines, and privately developed renewable energy generation facilities located near military installations Natural Resources AM43 adopted 1/30/25, DeKay AM215 adopted 2/13/25	Natural Resources	E&R Engrss
143	Rountree, Conrad, et al.	Change provisions relating to student enrollment	Education	General File
209	von Gillern	Change provisions relating to homestead exemptions for certain veterans and a property tax exemption for certain facilities	Revenue	Final Reading
248	Sanders	Exempt certain programs from child care licensing requirements	HHS	General File
Veteran Related Bills				
134	Holdcroft, DeKay, et al.	Change provisions relating to certain license plates issued to persons with military affiliation	T&T	Hearing 2/4/25
144	Rountree, Holdcroft, et al.	Change provisions relating to veterans preferences for employment Rountree AM103 filed 1/31/25, Business and Labor AM175 filed 2/12/25	Bus & Labor	Hearing 1/27/2025
223	Guereca	Prohibit discrimination based on lawful source of income under the Nebraska Fair Housing Act	Judiciary	Hearing 1/30/25
272	Dungan, Conrad, et al.	Change provisions relating to homestead exemptions for certain disabled veterans and surviving spouses	Revenue	Hearing 1/29/25
414	Dungan	Establish a suicide mortality review team for the Department of Veterans' Affairs	GMVA	Referred to Committee
419	Lonowski	Change provisions relating to admission to veterans homes and veterans aid	GMVA	Referred to Committee
425	Andersen, Conrad, et al.	Change provisions relating to homestead exemptions for certain disabled veterans and surviving spouses	Revenue	Hearing 1/29/25
547	Rountree	Redefine disabled veteran for purposes of motor vehicle and property tax exemptions	Revenue	Referred to Committee
683	McKeon, Lonowski, et al.	Prohibit as a deceptive trade practice certain conduct relating to assistance or referrals in veterans benefits matters	GMVA	Referred to Committee
694	Guereca, DeKay	Prohibit discrimination based on military or veteran status	Judiciary	Hearing 3/13/25
Military Related Bills				
82	Rountree	Adopt the Cosmetology Licensure Compact	HHS	Hearing 1/31/25
83	Rountree	Adopt the Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact	HHS	Hearing 1/30/25
84	Rountree	Adopt the School Psychologist Interstate Licensure Compact	HHS	Hearing 1/30/25
141	Rountree, Raybould	Require reporting of child abuse and neglect involving military families to military authorities and military family advocacy programs	Judiciary	Hearing 2/7/25
152	Cavanaugh, J., Conrad, et al.	Create a homestead exemption	Revenue	Referred to Committee
249	Sanders	Provide for military impact funding and change provisions relating to local formula resources under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act	Education	Hearing 1/28/25
307	Ibach	State intent regarding appropriations for tuition waivers	Appropriations	Hearing 2/25/25
374	Hansen	Adopt the Licensed Midwives Practice Act	HHS	Hearing 2/5/2025
426	Andersen	Authorize an American flag education program and change provisions relating to the distribution of lottery funds used for education	Education	Hearing 2/24/25
508	Hunt	Change provisions relating to the deployment of the Nebraska National Guard and require the Governor to review current deployments	GMVA	Referred to Committee
509	Sorrentino	Adopt the Opportunity Scholarships Act and provide for income tax credits FA14, FA15 filed 1/23/25	Revenue	Hearing 2/6/25
583	Spivey	Change provisions relating to the rate and disbursement of the documentary stamp tax, the Child Care Grant Fund, child care grants, the Military Installation Development and Support Fund, the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, the Innovation Hub Cash Fund, the Economic Recovery Contingency Fund, and the Health Care Homes for the Medically Underserved Fund	Revenue	Hearing 2/21/25
660	Andersen, DeKay	Adopt the Secure Drone Purchasing Act	GMVA	Hearing 2/19/25

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 84th Street, Suite

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 _____	
Squadron _____ Detachment of _____	
By _____	
For God and Country	



American Legion Post 3

123 South 84th St. Suite L

Lincoln, NE 68510

(402) 466-3958

Email: Post3legionlincoln@gmail.com

[Web Site: lincolnpst3.org](http://lincolnpst3.org)

2023 - 2024 Post 3 Officers

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

First Vice Commander – Ron Hindmand – Cell: 254-291-1514

Second Vice Commander – Rich Lemmerman – Cell: 402-694-9834

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 Editor for approval, (Gerrywolf@aol.com, or 402-417-8230). All requests must be received one week before the 1st of the month.

