



NEBRASKA VFW NEWS



Department of Nebraska Newsletter

December 2015

Issue # 24

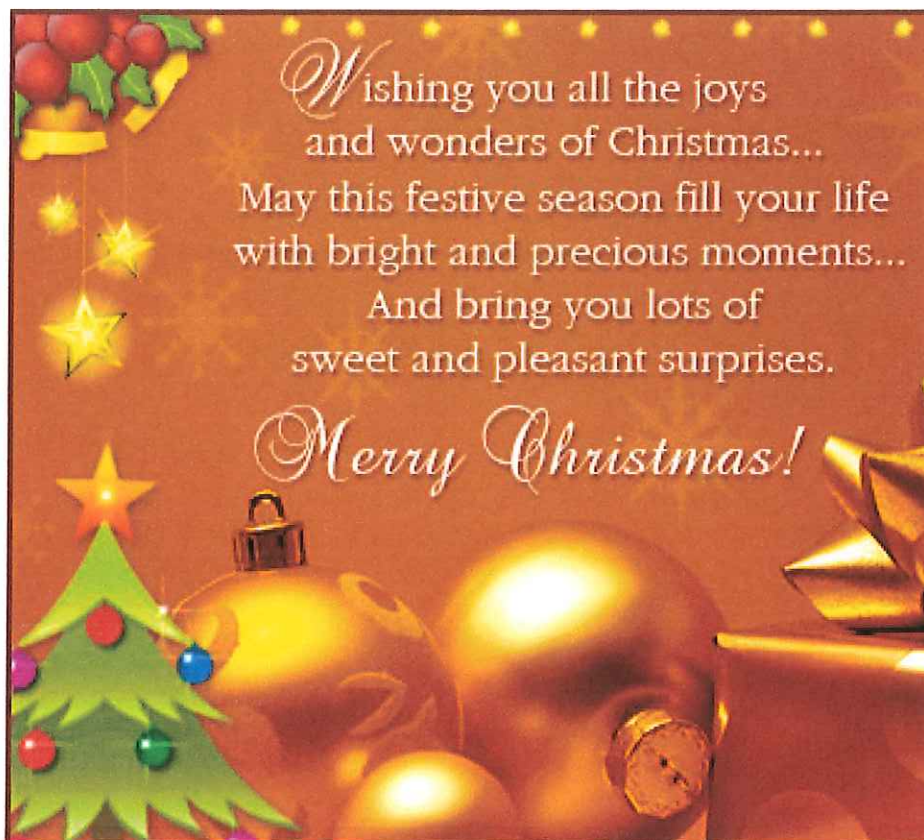
Keys to Progress Event

Progressive Insurance hosted their third annual Keys to Progress® event in partnership with the National Auto Body Council on Veterans Day, November 11th. The VFW Nebraska graciously supports the Keys to Progress event as part of its Recycled Rides program. Enterprise provides insurance written by Progressive for each donated vehicle for the first six months and also offers free car rentals to transport families to the Progressive Service Centers for the event as needed. VRC Investigations, a veteran-owned and operated organization, helps support the recipient selection process each year. The Original 1-800-Charity Cars, powered by AudaExplore, a Solera Company, donates resources to facilitate titling and registration of vehicles for recipients. Two national salvage partners, Copart and Insurance Auto Auctions, Inc., donate some of the vehicles for the program so that more than 130 of our nation's veterans and their families can drive away with a refurbished car.



VFW Post 1581 in Omaha partnered with Progressive Insurance to provide the automobile recipients items they needed and cash. They also received a \$500 Visa gift card, gas card, 6 months of insurance and other cash. VFW Post 1581 donated \$200.00 to Michael Ternell a VFW Post 1581 member. Pictured above left to right is VFW Post 1581 Senior Vice Commander Marty Riemenschneider, VFW Post 1581 service officer William Chamberlain, Adjutant/Quartermaster VFW Nebraska John Liebsack, VFW Post 1581 Adjutant/Quartermaster Dr. Steven Youngberg, car winner and VFW Post 1581 member Michael Ternell, Michael Ternell's father and VFW Post 1581 Commander C.L. Leighter.





Thank you and best wishes for the holidays!

State Commander Mike Medina, State Senior Vice Commander Doug Whitaker, State Junior Vice Commander Larry Gerlt, State Adjutant/Quartermaster John Liebsack, Assistant Adjutant Dave DuBois, State Judge Advocate, Gary E Bush Sr., State Surgeon Joe Smith, Chaplain Jerry Ludwig, Inspector Roger Broeker, Chief of Staff Sam DeJohn, Past State Commander Bernie Brosnihan and office staff Jody Sullivan and Trudie Hammers.

Joseph Smith Department Surgeon



Comrades,

I hope all of you had a good Thanksgiving and no one was run over in the stampede called black Friday. I do not go out and participate in that annual ritual, but it gets me to what I would like to remind you and that is please be safe this holiday season!

We want to be able to see all of you next year. I hope each and every one of you has a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

When you sit down to eat your holiday meal, remember that we still have troops in harm's way. Pray for them and their families. I did not realize how hard it was on the families of the troops while I was in the service. Now watching the struggles of friend's families while they are gone gives me a much better understanding of what my family went through while I was gone. If you know of a family who has a dad or a mom that is deployed, see if there is anything you can do for them. Sometimes it can be as simple as baby sitting for a couple of hours, or maybe shoveling the snow while they are at work. It is the little things that seem to be what they appreciate the most.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from my family to yours.



The year is passing by and now we have Christmas and New Years right around the corner. I would like to wish everyone a happy holiday. I hope everyone can enjoy time with your families and friends and be safe.



Gary E Bush Sr.
Nebraska VFW
State Judge Advocate

**HE'S ON WATCH.
SO ARE WE.**

We always watch out for our own. And right now, our fellow veterans need us. Membership dues alone cover only 15% of the cost of VFW programs. With two wars and an aging veterans' population, demand is unprecedented. Please donate to your Department mailings. They're counting on us.



Veterans Day at Memorial Gardens

The Lincoln VFW color guard posted the colors at the Veterans Day celebration at the Veterans Memorial Garden in Lincoln. Pictured above are (left to right) Larry Clymer, Matt Jones and Richard Maughan. Music was provided by Lincoln Ukulele Group.



Burger King Supports the VFW

Burger King restaurants in Lincoln raised \$15,699 by participating in the VFW Unmet Needs fundraiser throughout the month of November. Collectively the restaurants raised \$33,845 throughout Nebraska, Kansas and South Dakota. The money helps veterans and military families with their rent, mortgage, utilities and other basic necessities.

Unmet Needs is there to help America's service members who have been deployed in the last six years and have run into unexpected financial difficulties as a result of deployment or other military-related activity. The program provides financial aid of up to \$5,000 to assist with basic life needs in the form of a grant, not a loan, so no repayment is required. To further ease the burden, we pay the creditor directly.

Pictured below are, from left: Dennis Erickson, April Fisher, Calvin Ehlers, Missy Ferguson, CJ Miller and VFW Nebraska Parliamentarian Jim Pierce.





Soup Supper in Holbrook

The annual soup supper for VFW Post 9357 in Holbrook was held on November 15th. Below are all of the volunteers who helped out. Back row left to right, Lloyd Frandsen, Wren Troser, Dwight Parish, Duane Phillips, Glen Monter, Roger Houser, Deseree Wineland and Calvin Wineland. Front row left to right is Kathryn VanMeter, Lou Troser and Maxine Parish.



VETERANS DAY PROGRAM IN MAYWOOD

The Ogallala VFW Post #3755 Color Guard was at the Veterans Day program in Maywood on November 10th. It was the seventh year that the guard has participated in the program. The Ogallala Color Guard were back in Ogallala on Veterans Day for their annual bean and soup supper. It was at this event that they announced the post Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen winners.



Roundtable Event

December 1st was an opportunity for veteran's to discuss with Nebraska Governor Pete Ricketts about issues concerning veterans. The Governor hosted the Veteran's Roundtable event and several VFW members attended to sound off about veterans issues.



Veterans Serving The Community

Local veterans served breakfast to Lincoln's homeless on Saturday, November 21st. Matt Talbot kitchen had asked veteran organizations in Lincoln to help serve the community and lots of volunteers stepped forward. Matt Talbot Kitchen & Outreach serves the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of Lincoln's working poor and homeless through outreach, advocacy, education and the provision of food and shelter. Pictured above are the volunteers with the kitchen's coordinator. Pictured below are seven VFW members who participated.



Poppies are so important because all proceeds from distribution are used for veterans welfare or for the well being of their needy dependents and the orphans of veterans.



Thank You!

I would like to thank all of the sponsors of the 2015 State Golf Scramble:

Jeff Henry Motors

Catfish Lake Restaurant & Lounge

Eric Otten RBC Wealth Management

DJ's Dugout

Brian Winge Calloway Golf

Cutco Mike

AFSA 984

VFW Posts 2280, 7722 and 10727

Blue Knights International MC

Bellevue Keno

Department of NE Amvets

Amvets Posts 4 and 727

Joseph Smith

Golf Tournament Chairman



**Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Nebraska
(Tentative) Schedule of Events Midwinter Conference
Holiday Inn, 141 N 9th St. , Lincoln, NE (402) 475-4011**

Thursday, February 4th, 2016

- 3:00—5:00 pm Registration at the hotel and check in
3:00— 4:00 pm Recruiter Training (Arbor Room)

Friday, February 5th, 2016

- 6:30—9:30 am Ticketed breakfast for registered hotel guests
7:30 am— Registration at the hotel and check in
8:00 am and 8:30 am Bus leaves hotel for Legislative meeting at the Capital
9:00 am Legislative Meeting at the Capital
10:00 am Bus leaves hotel for State Capitol Tour & Governor's Residence
11:00 and 11:15 am Bus leaves Capitol from Legislative meeting for the hotel
Noon Lunch on your own
Noon Students and families luncheon at Governor's Residence
1:00 pm Students and families bus leaves for the hotel
1:15 pm—3:00 pm Open information session: (Arbor Room)
1:15 pm—2:00 pm Cindy Van Bibber (Omaha National Cemetery Director)
2:00 om—2:45 pm Becca Henry (Provider Relations Coordinator HoriSun Hospice)
 Quartermaster question and answer session (Arbor Room)
3:15 pm Students, Parents and District Commanders and Presidents meet downstairs
 to line up. (Nebraska Ballroom)
3:30 pm VOD and Patriot Pen "Parade of Winners" (Open Attendance)
6:30 pm VOD and Patriot Pen Banquet



Saturday, February 6th, 2016

- 6:30—9:30 am Ticketed breakfast for registered hotel guests
9:00 am Joint Meeting (Salons A,B and C)
9:45 am VFW Council of Administration and Auxiliary Meetings
Noon Lunch on your own / Past Commanders and Presidents luncheon
 (Arbor Room)
1:00 pm Resume Council of Administration and Auxiliary Meetings

Eastern Nebraska Veterans Home Thanksgiving

VFW Post and Auxiliary 10727 hosted a Thanksgiving meal for 30 residents, staff and volunteers of the home in Bellevue. All the trimmings were enjoyed on Monday, November 23rd. Below, five generations of veterans enjoyed in the festivities together.



VFW Nebraska Mid-Winter Conference

February 4th thru the 6th, 2016
 Holiday Inn
 141 N. 9th St.
 402-475-4011
 Room Rates: \$90.00 + Tax

VFW Department of Nebraska 2431 N. 48th St. Lincoln, NE 68504
Travel Request Form for Mid-Winter email to: trudie@vfwne.org

Deadline for Reservations is January 20th, 2016

Personal and Billing Information	
Traveler name	
E-mail	
Post	
Phone	
Billing address	
Badge name(s)	
Credit card number	
Credit card expiration date	
Lodging Information	
Destination	Holiday Inn
Check in date?	
Check out date?	
Cost per night	\$90.00, plus tax
Number of people	
Room preference (e.g., king, double, single)	
Special requests?	

Calendar of Events

December 2015

- 8 Grand Island Veterans Home Christmas Party.**
Serving residents at 5:00, the party to begin at 7:00 pm
2300 West Capital Ave Grand Island NE 68803
- 10 Lincoln Regional Center Christmas Party 10:00 am**
801 W Prospector Pl Building 5 Lincoln NE 68522
- 13 Patriots Pen and VOD Entry to Department**
- 15 Patriots Pen and VOD Summaries to Department**
- 24 Christmas Eve**
- 25 Christmas Day**

January 2016

- (T-3) Trustee Quarterly Report to Department (Oct 1 to Dec 31)**
- 1 Cut off (Mid Winter Conference Feb 4-6, 2016)**
- 1 Top Membership District Commander – Mid Winter**
- 1 Inspection 100% District**
- 1 Public Servants Awards (EMT;FIRE;LAW) to Department**
- 10 Dist 9 mtg in Seward at Post 4755 at 2:00 pm.**
Lunch to follow Auxiliary same time and place.
- 16 Final deadline 20 Questions Department**
- 17 Dist 4 mtg in North Platte at Post 1504 at 12:00 pm CDT.** Registration \$7.50 lunch to be served.
Auxiliary same time and place.
- 17 Dist 11 mtg in Broken Bow at Post 3576 at 2:00 pm.** Registration \$1.00. Evening lunch to follow.
Auxiliary same time and place.

February 2016

- 4-6 Mid Winter Conference Holiday Inn 141 N 9th Lincoln NE.** (information included in Genmail)
- 15 Teacher entry to Post Level (form in next genmail)**
- 21 Dist 6 mtg in Pawnee City Post 5289 to host at the American Legion 512 6th St. Lunch to follow.**
Auxiliary to meet
Same time at 849 F st. Church. VOD & PP Award Ceremony to follow.

December Raffle Calendar Winners

1	\$40.00	Victor	Ferguson
2	\$40.00	Denise	Webbert
3	\$40.00	Carl	Rundback
4	\$40.00	Carol	Goodman
5	\$40.00	Julie	Phaneuf
6	\$40.00	Jack	Taylor
7	\$100.00	Randy	Heiman
8	\$40.00	Bart	Rath
9	\$40.00	JR & Kayla	Kelly
10	\$40.00	Darrell	Heuertz
11	\$40.00	Kirk	Kennel
12	\$40.00	James	Bauer
13	\$40.00	Benjamin	Beans
14	\$40.00	Berdon	Pederson
15	\$40.00	Brad	Morris
16	\$40.00	Robert	Nickels
17	\$40.00	Doris	Nelson
18	\$40.00	Cathy	Badura
19	\$40.00	Stefanie	Osterhaus
20	\$40.00	Maureen	Coin
21	\$40.00	Fr Bryan	Ernest
22	\$40.00	Melanie	Fenske
23	\$40.00	Shawn	Madden
24	\$40.00	Dave	Ruddick
25	\$40.00	Kurt	Davidson
26	\$40.00	Anne	Ream
27	\$40.00	Julie	Phaneuf
28	\$40.00	Timothy	Dixon
29	\$40.00	Sheila	Arends
30	\$40.00	Cathy	Badura
31	\$40.00	Mary	Bodell

Take a photo!

Send it in!

WE WANT TO KNOW WHAT IS GOING ON AT YOUR POSTS AND IN YOUR COMMUNITIES!

Send them to:

Department of NE VFW

John Liebsack

PO Box 4552

Lincoln, NE 68504

Or Email them:

johnl@vfwne.org

Reminder....

We are always looking for photos for the upcoming calendar. We would really like photos of all seasons so start taking pictures.

I would appreciate your VOTE for State Surgeon 2016-2017!

VOTE DAN KRAMER



Nebraska as of Monday, December 07, 2015

State	Post	Dst	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Adjusted Prior Year	Percent
District Totals		1	483	2	1	93	579	688	84.15%
District Totals		3	1179	4	0	212	1395	1587	87.90%
District Totals		4	904	1	3	158	1066	1220	87.37%
District Totals		6	1051	11	6	220	1288	1464	87.97%
District Totals		7	812	5	2	214	1033	1169	88.36%
District Totals		9	1469	15	4	312	1800	2063	87.25%
District Totals		10	3359	55	18	564	3996	4584	87.17%
District Totals		11	888	5	0	184	1077	1203	89.52%
District Totals		13	999	1	1	147	1148	1241	92.50%
District Totals		15	753	4	0	118	875	1009	86.71%
District Totals		99	718	20	31	169	938	1089	86.13%
State Totals			12615	123	66	2391	15195	17317	87.74%