



NEBRASKA VFW NEWS



Department of Nebraska Newsletter

May 2016

Nebraska VFW Donates 2 New Vans to the Veterans Homes

The Norfolk and Western Nebraska Veterans Homes each were presented with a new 2016 Dodge Van at Department Headquarters on April 26th. The vans were paid for in part by the VFW and by a grant applied for through the Nebraska Department of Roads. The grants are designed to enhance mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities. The VFW Department of Nebraska has now provided a total of 11 vans and buses to the 4 Nebraska Veterans Homes. Volunteer donors have made this program possible. Thank you to everyone who has donated and volunteered their time to provide this valuable resource to our veterans. Pictured below from left to right are State Adjutant & Quartermaster John Liebsack, Norfolk Veterans Home Administrator Jerry Eisenhauer, Nebraska Department of Veterans Affairs Director John Hilgert, Western Nebraska Veterans Home Administrator Lonnie Starke and VFW Nebraska State Commander Mike Medina. Also on hand but not pictured were Past Commander Bernie Brosnihan, Chief of Staff Sam DeJohn, Jr. Vice Commander Larry Gerlt, State Photographer Dan Petersen and District 10 Quartermaster Mike Sweeney.





State Jr. Vice
Commander
Larry Gerlt
“Future of the
VFW”

How many times have you heard the expression, “The youth of today are our future.”? When I was an active BSA leader, my expression was, “The youth of today are tomorrow’s leaders.” Look around you at your next post meeting. Do you have any members present under the age of 30, 40, or even 50? If not, your post is already in a tail spin and headed for a crash! (Yeah – I served in the Air Force.) The newly retired military member (40’s), those who served but chose to pursue a civilian career (20’s – 30’s), and those still serving in the Guard and Reserve (20 – 60) or on active duty (20’s – 40’s), they are our future! If members of your post are not actively recruiting, beating the bushes for new members, it won’t be too many more years before your post folds. Nearly all of the posts here in Nebraska have 40, 50, even 60 or more years of history AND some of those charter members may still be holding leadership positions! Why? Because there is no one to take their place. It is sad to see posts fold, their history to be forgotten. Are you proud of your post and its history? Do you want to see it continue? Do you need some help getting more members? Contact me and together we can BE THE SOLUTION!

Thanks,
Larry



Gary E Bush Sr.
Nebraska VFW
State Judge
Advocate

As times are winding down on another year, membership is declining and somehow we need to build it back up. Most of the decline is due to losing a lot of our older members. Just last month on April 17th we lost Walt Witt of Kimball. He was the past District 1 Commander. Most of the younger generation are just not ready or willing to settle down and join. We need to keep trying to connect with them and convert them to members.

On a separate subject, when we are conducting our meetings, we need to remember there is a correct way to bring things to the floor. Our rules state that a member must stand, be recognized and state your name and post number. By doing this, it helps the meeting flow better and it gives other members a chance to be involved.

Don’t forget that State Convention is June 9th thru the 12th in Kearney. Make sure you pay for a delegate from your post and are registered.

See ya there!

Gary



Fort Riley Job Fair

Membership Chairman Jim Pierce and Adjutant and Quartermaster John Liebsack were in Ft. Riley Kansas on April 20th to recruit new members to join the VFW. The event was sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce to assist hundreds of men and women who will be seeking employment.



Members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars take donations for poppies in the days leading up to Memorial Day; the poppy's significance to Memorial Day is the result of the John McCrae poem "In Flanders Fields." Thank you for doing your part.



Volunteers Honored at Holmes Lake Manor

A breakfast was held on April 14th to honor those who volunteer at the home. Pictured above are VFW Auxiliary #131 in Lincoln members Ramona Riley, Terrie Hultquist, Sue Ann Busing and Wilomine Tomes. Below are Bernice Hoffart, Terry Hultquist and Sue Ann Busing.



REMEMBER:
 Show your *support*
any time of the year by
distributing **Buddy Poppies.**

"BUDDY" POPPY
 "WEAR IT PROUDLY"

The flower of remembrance
 They Gave, Will You?
 Honor the Dead by Helping the Living



Flag Raising at VFW Post 131

Post 131 in Lincoln had a flag raising ceremony on May 12th at the Post. Pictured above left to right is ABC Electric driver Frank, Richard Zierke, incoming Post Commander Pat Stanoscheck, Rich Hoffart, Bill Bechtolt and Normon Anton.



Creighton Receives ROTC Awards

VFW Post 1581 delivered Creighton University SROTC framed certificate and medals to NSI CDT Cecelia Kimes and MSII CDT Mikaela Harvey. The awards ceremony was held on Saturday April 23rd at Creighton University. Pictured below left to right is Marty Riemenschneider, VFW Post 1581 Sr. Vice Commander, Creighton University SROTC Exec. Office Major Wolf, Dr. Steven Youngberg, VFW Post 1581 Quartermaster/Adjutant and Capt. Fritz, Creighton University SROTC command officer.



Celebrating Loyalty Day in Bellevue

Members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary #854 in Fremont delivered Loyalty Day Appreciation cards with \$15.00 cash to 108 veterans at the Eastern Nebraska Veterans Home. This has become an annual appreciation event for the Auxiliary and for the residents in Bellevue. Members passing out cards are Donna Fenske, Ellen Karlin and Shirley Torgerson.

**LEAVE A
LASTING
LEGACY
FOR VETERANS.**



Where Do Those Pop Tops Go?

Jim Rall, Sr. Vice Commander VFW Post 3606 in Lincoln and his granddaughter Kayla Drapal (above) deliver 3 big boxes of pop tops to the Ronald McDonald House in Omaha (below). The tops help pay the light bills and other expenses for families of children in the hospital for extended stays.



VFW Post 3755 Celebrates Anniversaries

A 60 year badge was presented to the late Walter "Bud" Sauer (top photo). A 70 year badge was presented to Bernard Reisman. Bernard is a WWII veteran. Presenting the life member anniversary badges is Post 3755 Commander Gary E Bush Sr.



State convention comes to the Holiday Inn Hotel and Convention Center in Kearney on June 9th thru the 12th. Don't miss out on the VFW awards, networking and information. It will be beneficial to all levels to be better equipped to lead your posts. Information is on the Department's website, www.vfwne.org. An agenda is included. Please be sure and fill out the room registration below if you haven't already and get it sent in. Banquet tickets and luncheon tickets can be purchased at the event from the Convention Corporation or in advance by sending payment to Department Headquarters. Delegate registration forms and fees are due to the Department by May 15th.

VFW Nebraska State Convention

June 9-12, 2016

Holiday Inn Hotel and Convention Center

110 S 2nd Kearney, NE

308-237-5971

Room Rates: \$99.95 + Tax

VFW Department of Nebraska 2431 N. 48th St. Lincoln, NE 68504

Travel Request Form for State Convention

email to: trudie@vfwne.org

Deadline for Reservations is May 20, 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 Hotel and Convention Center
Check in date?	
Check out date?	
Cost per night	\$99.95 plus tax
Number of people	
Room preference (e.g., king, double, single)	
Special requests?	

95th Annual Department Convention

Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Nebraska

JUNE 9TH THRU THE 12TH, 2016 HOLIDAY INN IN KEARNEY

Thursday, June 9th (Training meetings are open to the Auxiliary)

2:30 to 4:00 pm QM school: Trustees reports, Bonds, Online program reporting, Service Officer school (Room E)

Friday, June 10th

8:00 to 5:00 Registration (including Poppy Displays)

8:00 to 11:30 Delegate registration (Pre Function Area)

8:00 to 9:00 Council Meeting (Ballroom 1)

9:30 to 11:30 Convention opening session (Ballroom 1)

11:45 All Past Commanders luncheon (Room E)

1:00 to 2:30 Joint session (Ballroom 1)

1:00 to 5:00 Delegate registration (Pre Function Area)

2:45 to 4:45 Reconvene VFW meeting (Ballroom 1)

Nomination of Officers-1st call

5:30 Joint Memorial Service (Ballroom 1)

7:30 Poppy Display judging (Pre Function Area)

Saturday, June 11th

8:00 to noon Registration and Delegate registration (Pre Function Area)

8:00 Resume meeting (Ballroom 1)

10:00 Guest speakers (Ballroom 1)

12:00 Lunch on your own

1:15 to 4:30 Resume meeting (Ballroom 1)

Election of Officers

6:00 to 7:00 No host cocktail hour (Ballroom 1)

7:00 pm Banquet (Ballroom 1)

Sunday, June 12th

9:00 Joint installation (Ballroom 1)

Immediately following New Council Meeting (Ballroom 1)

Reception to follow (Room C)



May Calendar Winners

1	\$40.00	Chris	Borreson	1534
2	\$40.00	Sue Ann	Busing	2612
3	\$40.00	Todd	Koozer	311
4	\$40.00	Heidi	Layton	4992
5	\$40.00	Allen	Steinmeyer	4166
6	\$40.00	Darlene	Waters	3058
7	\$40.00	Stan	Gottschall	675
8	\$40.00	Fr. Paul	Ortmeier	4167
9	\$40.00	Daniel	Tschantre JR	648
10	\$40.00	Robert	Jensen	1322
11	\$40.00	Bruce	Domeier	4064
12	\$40.00	Tyson	Bauer	4071
13	\$40.00	Marvin	Peter	3354
14	\$40.00	Nelson	Proger	3173
15	\$40.00	Bruce	Pontow	379
16	\$40.00	Denise	Webbert	3931
17	\$40.00	Bryce	Cockson	757
18	\$40.00	James	Dasovic	3102
19	\$40.00	Don	Norman	4347
20	\$40.00	Don	Norman	4346
21	\$100.00	Sandy	Krudsen	3012
22	\$40.00	Kimberly	Kunkee	3541
23	\$40.00	George	Snell Jr	17
24	\$40.00	Robin	Widhelm	3699
25	\$40.00	Brenda	Brethouwer	2728
26	\$40.00	John	Liesack	3134
27	\$40.00	Sandy	Krudsen	3012
28	\$40.00	Jim	Buck	4153
29	\$40.00	Gwen	Wonch	4925
30	\$100.00	Northeast Auto	Jeremy Swartz	4994
31	\$40.00	Frank	Bruning	4083

Upcoming Events.....

May 2016

30 Memorial Day

June 2016

9-12 State Convention Holiday Inn Hotel and Convention Center 110 S 2nd Kearney, NE. Reservation form enclosed.
14 Flag Day

July 2016

(T-1) Trustee Quarterly Report To Department (April 1 to June 30)

4 Independence Day

10 Dist 10 mtg in Omaha at American legion Post 331 4830 S 21st at 2:00

23-27 VFW 117th National Convention Charlotte, North Carolina

August 2016

6 Council Meeting and August Training. Saturday 9:00 to 4:00.

Vote

Dan Kramer

For NE State VFW Surgeon 2016-2017

He served 11 years as Post #8258
Commander in Stapleton

One year as District #4 Commander

Three years on the NE State VFW
Convention Corporation

He is dedicated to serving.

Ad and endorsement by Gary E Bush
Sr. and others.

VOTE



J. Douglas Whitaker
State Commander
2016-2017

LTC, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD
OVER 28 YEARS OF MILITARY SERVICE
OPERATION DESERT STORM, 1990-1991
OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM, 2005 AND 2010
LIFE MEMBER, POST 9675
STATE SR. VICE 2015-2016
STATE JR. VICE 2014-2015
STATE JUDGE ADVOCATE, 2013-2014
STATE SURGEON, 2012-2013
POST 2503 COMMANDER, 2012-2014
STATE LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN, 2011-2013
NATIONAL BY-LAWS STUDY GROUP 2015-2016
NATIONAL OIF/OEF COMMITTEE CO-CHAIR, 2011
STUDENT VETERAN ORGANIZATION REP. 2013-2014
MARRIED AND THE PROUD FATHER OF 2 YOUNG BOYS!
"I WANT TO EARN YOUR VOTE!"

Vote Gary E Bush Sr.

**VFW Nebraska Jr. Vice
Commander 2016-2017**

I will serve with Honor and Pride.

Vietnam Veteran

U.S. Navy 1965-1968

Life Member VFW Post 3755

Legacy Life Member

Life Member VFW National Home

Elect representation to the Council from the western part of the state.

Your Support and Your Vote is Appreciated!



Vote for me! Dan Kramer



**Department of
Nebraska State Surgeon**

Nebraska as of Monday, May 16, 2016

State	Post	Dst	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Adjusted Prior Year	Percent
District Totals		1	485	5	2	140	632	688	91.86%
District Totals		3	1188	5	1	285	1479	1587	93.19%
District Totals		4	906	8	6	236	1156	1220	94.75%
District Totals		6	1057	17	12	304	1390	1464	94.94%
District Totals		7	816	15	5	293	1129	1169	96.57%
District Totals		9	1477	31	10	422	1940	2063	94.03%
District Totals		10	3405	104	81	873	4463	4584	97.36%
District Totals		11	891	14	1	251	1157	1203	96.17%
District Totals		13	1003	5	1	180	1189	1241	95.80%
District Totals		15	754	5	0	156	915	1009	90.68%
District Totals		99	730	40	36	244	1050	1089	96.41%
State Totals			12712	249	155	3384	16500	17317	95.28%

**The verdict is in on the 2017 calendars.
We are going to try a full sized calendar
again. Send pictures so we can have a
nice looking calendar.**

We would love to hear
what is going on at your posts as
well as communities.....

Send articles to
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Vote
Jerry Chlopek
Nebraska State Surgeon
2016-2017

