

VFW Nebraska Genmail

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

As of 12-06-2019

December 6, 2019
The VFW Nebraska
Genmail is published
monthly by VFW
Department of Nebraska
PO Box 4552
Lincoln, NE 68504

VFW WEB SITE: [//vfwne.com/](http://vfwne.com/) email: johnl@vfwne.org

December 2019

- 7 Eastern Nebraska Veterans Home Christmas Party 1:30 pm 12505 S 40th Bellevue, NE
- 8 Omaha VAMC Christmas Party 1:00 pm 4101 Woolworth Ave Omaha, NE
- 13 Lincoln Regional Center Christmas Party 10:00 am 801 Prospector Place Bldg 5 Lincoln, NE
- 14 Grand Island VAMC Christmas Party 2:00 pm 2201 N Broadwell Ave Grand Island, NE
- 15 Teacher VOD & PP entry to Department
- 24 Christmas Eve
- 25 Christmas Day

January 2020

- 1 (T-3) Trustee Quarterly report to Department (Oct 1 to Dec 31)
- 1 Cut off (Mid Winter Conference Feb 7-8, 2020)
- 1 Top Membership District Commander-Mid Winter
- 1 Inspection – 100% District
- 1 Public Servants Awards (EMT; FIRE; LAW) to Department
- 8 Calendar drawing
- 12 Dist 7 Mtg in West Point Post 4912 to host at the Neilsen Center at 12:00. Lunch at 12:00. Auxiliary same time and Place.
- 15 Patriot's Pen, VOD and Teacher summaries to Department
- 16 Final deadline 20 Questions Department
- 19 Dist 6 Mtg in Fairbury Post 3113 to host at the Post at 1:00 p.m. VOD & PP awards. Lunch to follow. Auxiliary same time and place.
- 19 Dist 4 Mtg in Ogallala Post 3755 to host at Front Street at 12:00, Lunch at 12:00. Auxiliary same time and place.
- 31 Veterans Legislative Day Warner Chambers at the State Capital Registration begins at 8:00 a.m.



February 2020

- 1 Norfolk Veterans Home Valentine's Day Party 2:00 pm 600 E Benjamin Ave Norfolk, NE
- 2 Central Nebraska Veterans Home Valentine's Day Party 2:00 pm 4510 E 56th St Kearney, NE
- 7-8 Mid Winter The Cornhusker 333 South 13th St Lincoln, NE

March 2020

- 1 Eagle Scout Entry to Post
- 31 Scholarship Student Applications to Department

Roster Changes:

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I want to say thanks for all of the awesome work done for the Big 10 that was held in Oct in Omaha. I was told over and over what a great job I had done for the event, I told them all that I had very little to do with it. Many thanks to Jody and Trudie in the office and Jane Petersen of the Auxiliary, you three rock!

Looking forward to the month of December, it will be a busy one. On the 1st, I'll be at Post 3606 to help celebrate their 50th anniversary. On the 7th is the Christmas Party at ENVH at 1:30pm, the Omaha VA is the 8th at 1pm, GI VA is on the 14th at 2pm. Come on out and help us celebrate with those who's sacrifice paid for our benefits.

I hope you all had a Happy Thanksgiving. The snow is falling outside and I for one am not ready for it. Please be safe out there in the winter weather.

I also want to wish each and every one of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Here is hoping that you have a great holiday season. I have talked to the jolly old fat man and some of you (the 2 evil sisters neither is on the nice list now) will be lucky to get lumps of coal in your stockings.

Please take a minute and remember those that are deployed and won't see their families this Holiday season. Also those who are even now being held as POW/MIA's, I can't imagine what their families go through.

If you know someone who has a POW/MIA in their family, make sure they have their DNA on file.

The Call

That's what Brothers are for



Joseph E Smith
Commander
Dept. of Nebraska

Dear Post Commander and QM

Sept 1, 2019

At the August National Council of Administration meeting, we voted to increase brand awareness (increased publicity/awareness of the VFW by non-members. This is generally accomplished by radio, TV, web advertising, public events, as well as increased wear of VFW apparel in public). We will now allowing nonmembers to wear the new VFW logo (does not the Cross of Malta). The QM General stated during our meeting that there are no safeguards in place or planned for our National Emblem (Cross of Malta) except for our cover (hat) to prevent non-members from ordering all other items in our store that bear it. This means that any "civilian" supporter of the VFW could order any item from the VFW Store from ball caps to coffee mugs with the Cross of Malta.

I believe that it is my duty to find out your wishes on this matter and brief the national leadership (Council of Administration) at our upcoming March committee meeting. I am asking that you poll your membership at your next post meeting and let me know how the majority of your post voted on the following:

- a. Our post agrees with increasing brand awareness by allowing non-members to wear/possess items with the New Logo without reasonable safeguards in place to prevent the wear/possession of items with the Cross of Malta by non-members.
- b. Our post agrees with increasing brand awareness by allowing non-members to wear/possess items with the New Logo but only with reasonable safeguards in place to prevent the wear/possession of items with the Cross of Malta by non-members.
- c. Our post members agree with increasing brand awareness but not at the expense of allowing unauthorized non-member to wear/possess any logo item of the VFW.
- d. We do not want to increase brand awareness.
- e. Additional Comments: _____

All responses must be received by Mid-Winter Conference and should be emailed or mailed directly to me.

Larry M. Gerlt
Nebr. Rep. Nat. Council of Admin.
8510 Monroe St,
Ralston, NE 68127

Cell: 402.618.2731
Larry.gerlt@cox.net

Fall Council of Administration Meeting Divots Center Norfolk, NE October 12, 2019



October 12, 2019 Saturday 9:00 A.M.

Commander Smith introduced Supervisory Forensic Anthropologist and Laboratory Manager Carrie Brown PhD who addressed the VFW and Auxiliary.

Commander Smith opened the meeting in due form. Roll call of officers. Absent were State Jr. Vice Commander Jerry Chlopek and State Judge Advocate Mike Dunn. All others were present.

Commander Smith introduced National Representative Commander in Chief William "Doc" Schmitz and Nebraska National Council Member Larry Gerlt.

Commander Smith introduced John Liebsack who spoke about the Carillon at the Omaha National Cemetery.

Commander Smith introduced Andrea Baker who spoke about suicide prevention.

State Adjutant/Quartermaster John Liebsack reported on calendar sales and VOD and Patriot Pen awards sponsors.

Parliamentarian Jim Pierce handed out the rules of conduct for the meeting.

State Adjutant/Quartermaster John Liebsack to read minutes of the August Council. A motion by Sr. Vice Commander Dan Kramer to dispense with the reading of the minutes and to approve them, as all entitled received them in the mail. Motion seconded by District 6 Commander Steve Calkin, motion carried.

State Adjutant/Quartermaster John Liebsack to pass out the budget report. State Adjutant/Quartermaster John Liebsack read the budget. A motion by Sr. Vice Commander Dan Kramer to approve as read, seconded by Past State Commander Gary E Bush Sr. and motion approved.

State Adjutant/Quartermaster John Liebsack announced the resignation of State Judge Advocate Mike Dunn. Nominated to replace him were Ken Yount, Ed Raper and Dionne Gorgi. Ken Yount was elected State Judge Advocate after Council vote of 11 votes for Ken Yount and 5 votes for Dionne Gorgi.

Commander Smith called on Chairmen for their reports: Reports given: Americanism, Loyalty Day Chairman Dionne Gorji; Buddy Poppy Chairman Dale Wittrock; Editor John Liebsack; Homeless Veterans Chairman Jerry Ludwig; Legislative/ MAP/ Outreach Chairman Jeff Baker; Membership Gary Steckelberg and Jerry Ludwig; National Home Chairman Dan Kramer; Parliamentarian Jim Pierce; Photography Dan Petersen; POW/MIA and Scouts Chairman Gary E Bush Sr; Sgt-at-Arms Anne Ream; Sports and Riders Chairman Ron Packard;

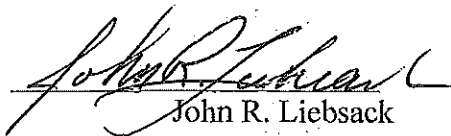
Veterans Home Board John Liebsack and Joe Smith; Womens Veterans Chairman Anne Ream and Youth Activities Chairman John Iossi.

Commander Smith called for any other business. There being none, the meeting was closed in due form.

Chaplain delivered closing prayer.

Commander Smith announced the next Council of Administration meeting will be Mid-Winter at Lincoln, NE; February 6-8, 2020, Cornhusker Marriott Downtown Lincoln, 333 S 13th St.

Attest to:


John R. Liebsack

Date: October 12, 2019

State Adjutant / Quartermaster Department of Nebraska, VFW

All American Dashboard

Team; we have moved into the District level for judging our programs for VOD/PP & Teacher. Please encourage your posts to get their reports into the Dashboard as soon as possible. This will enable our districts to conduct their judging and approve the posts entries simultaneously and then enter their district entries into the dashboard. I know not every post will get theirs into the system. The system will allow you at Department HQs and district level to enter on their behalf. There will no longer be a requirement to send National HQs a roll up as long as your posts and districts knock out this critical piece. If you need any help direct your posts and districts to the link below for training videos and a training guide.

<https://www.vfw.org/my-vfw/all-american-dashboard>

Lynn W. Rolf III

Programs Director

Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

406 W 34th Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64111

o:816.968.1116 C: 913.290.1754





HAPPY HOLIDAYS
FROM THE
DEPARTMENT OF NEBRASKA
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARs

Joe Smith, *State Commander*
Dan Kramer, *Senior Vice Commander*
Jerry Chlopek, *Junior Vice Commander*
John R. Liebsack, *Adjutant/Quartermaster*
Ken Yount, *State Judge Advocate*
Dionne Gorji, *State Surgeon*
Jerry Ludwig, *State Chaplain*
Roger Broeker, *State Inspector*
Bernie Brosnihan, *State Chief of Staff*
Gary E. Bush Sr., *Past State Commander*
Jody Sullivan & Trudie Hammers, *Office Staff*

Have Yourself A
Merry Little
Christmas!!!

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES®

Top 10 Reasons for Your Post to Have an Auxiliary

10. Offers valuable assistance with event preparation.
9. Assists with "Buddy"® Poppy drives.
8. Opens the door to potential members.
7. Assists in recruiting and retaining members to strengthen the Veterans of Foreign Wars.
6. Provides events and volunteer opportunities for veterans' family members.
5. Boosts the Post's visibility in the community by being involved in more local activities and events.
4. Increases Program participation and helps spread the word on scholarship and youth programs.
3. Presents an opportunity to serve more veterans, active-duty military and their families.
2. Increases the number of advocates to fight for veterans' rights and benefits.
1. Positively reinforces the values and beliefs of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Frequently Asked Questions

- **Does it cost the Post anything?**
The VFW Auxiliary Charter Kit fee is \$100.00. The Post and/or Department and/or the interested, eligible applicants may pay the Charter fee. The Charter fee accompanies the completed Charter application.
- **How long does it take to start?**
From the time your Post votes to have an Auxiliary, it could take from two (2) to four (4) months to get an Auxiliary up and running.

Ready to Add an Auxiliary to your Post?

- In accordance with the VFW Bylaws, a notice is to be mailed or emailed to each Post member advising them that members will be voting on having an Auxiliary and that the vote will take place at a specific meeting.
- In accordance with the VFW Bylaws, a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Post members present is required to set into action the formation of a new Auxiliary to that Post.
- Inform the Department President of the approval and the Department President will then assign an Auxiliary Organizer who will work on obtaining the required number of charter members (15) and filling out necessary paperwork.

Still have questions?

Contact VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters at 816.561.8655 or info@vfwauxiliary.org.

Hello,

Last year we introduced LB279 in an attempt to exempt Veteran Organizations and Clubs from having to pay sales tax on their food and beverage sales. We wanted to do this because we think this money would be better spent in the community and to lower the burden on the good work that your clubs provide. The problem, was that last year the fiscal note for our bill to remove this sales tax was incredibly high, and frankly, too high for it to pass which kept it in committee. The way that we can lower this fiscal note is to get information from the VFW, American Legion, and DAV regarding how much they are paying in food sales tax each year, and show that it would not be as high as the fiscal note claims it would be.

What would be great is if you could collect is how much money your post made in food and beverage sales last year, and how much you had to pay in sales tax from that. If it wouldn't be too much trouble, it'd even be great if we could get maybe the last three years information, but if nothing else, last years would be very helpful.

Thank you!

Noah Borgmann

Senator Bostelman Legislative Aide

Join Us in Our Mission to

REMEMBER ★ HONOR ★ TEACH



★ **December 14, 2019** ★

NATIONAL WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA DAY



PLEASE MAIL DONATIONS TO:

VFW POST 1504, PO BOX 772

NORTH PLATTE, NEBRASKA 69103

OR CONTACT DAVID BERAN 3086509203



wreathscrossamerica.org

#EveryonePlaysAPart



REMEMBER Our Veterans **HONOR** Their Families **TEACH** Our Children



The Veterans of Foreign Wars, Noel C. Donegan Post 1504, of North Platte, is seeking your help in sponsoring wreaths that will be placed on veterans graves during a nationwide remembrance ceremony at Ft McPherson National Cemetery at 1100 December 14th, 2019.

We strive to honor all Veterans at this time of year, not specific ones. However you may request a wreath that you or your representative may pick up and place on a specific grave yourselves.

WREATH SPONSORSHIP FORM

NAME: _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 CITY: _____
 STATE: _____ ZIP: _____
 PHONE: _____
 Email: _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

MAIL TO:

VFW POST 1504

P.O. BOX 772

NORTH PLATTE, NE 69101

<i>Sponsorship Levels</i>	<i>Price</i>	<i>Qty</i>	<i>Total</i>
Individual= 1 Wreath	\$15.00		
Family= 4 Wreaths	\$60.00		
Small Business= 10 Wreaths	\$150.00		
Corporate= 100 Wreaths	\$1500.00		
Wreaths Across America (A Non Profit Corp.)		Grand Total	

_____ I would like my wreaths to be placed on any Veterans grave site at Ft McPherson National Cemetery.

_____ My self or a family representative will be at the ceremony at 11:00am December 17th to pick up our wreaths and place them on specific grave sites.

_____ My self or a family representative will pick up our wreaths at VFW Post 1504 on Sunday December 18th between 4pm and 6pm to place ourselves at a different cemetery.

WE ALSO ACCEPT GRAVE SPECIFIC REQUESTS

**Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Nebraska
Tentative Schedule of Events Midwinter Conference
The Lincoln Marriott Cornhusker Hotel**

Friday, February 7th, 2020

- 6:00-9:00 am Ticketed breakfast for registered hotel guests (Hawthorne)
- 12:45 pm Students and families bus leaves for the Capitol
- 1:00 pm All American dashboard training (Hawthorne)
- 2:00 pm Students and families bus returns to the hotel
- 3:15 pm Students, Parents and District Commanders and Presidents
meet to line up. (Grand Ballroom D,E,F)
- 3:30 pm VOD & Patriot Pen "Parade of Winners"
- 6:00 pm VOD & Patriot Pen banquet (Grand ballroom A,B,C)

Saturday, February 8th, 2020

- 6:00-9:00 am Ticketed breakfast for registered hotel guests (Hawthorne)
- 8:30 am Council meeting
- 9:00 am Joint meeting (Lancaster ballroom 4,5,6)
- 9:45 am Resume Council meeting
- Noon Past State Commanders & State Presidents lunch (Arbor 1)
- 1:00 pm Resume VFW Council of Administration

VFW Nebraska Mid-Winter Conference

February 7th and 8th, 2020

The Cornhusker Marriott

333 South 13th

Lincoln, NE 68508

Room Rates: \$112.00 + taxes

Mail in form for reservations to: VFW Nebraska

PO Box 4552

Lincoln, NE 68504

Deadline for reservations is January 13th

Names: _____

Check in date? _____

Check out date? _____

Room preference? _____

Banquet tickets need to be purchased in advance!

Please send in \$35.00 per ticket with the names of the dinner guests.