



NEBRASKA VFW NEWS



Department of Nebraska Newsletter

May 2018



ROTC AWARDS AT UNL

Each year the Veterans of Foreign Wars presents an award to a student in each department who demonstrates achievement and concentrated effort in military and academic subjects. Presenting the awards on April 26th at Cook Pavilions was Past State Commander Dan Petersen.



District 9 Swears Officers

District 9 elected officers at the District meeting on April 29th in Seward. State Commander Larry Gerlt swore in the officers. Pictured left to right are Mark Talbert, Hank Sauer, Ralph Sabatka, Pat Stanosheck, Merle Thompson, Dave Wieting, Jeff Baker and Dionne Gorji.





Larry Gerlt State Commander and Membership Chairman

MEMBERSHIP – The Life Blood of the VFW

Last year on April 26th, we needed 606 more members to reach 100%. This year as/of April 26th we only need 487! We have already collected dues from 2833 members plus recruited 704 new/reinstated members. If you, the post leadership and members are willing to continue to work membership, this **WILL** be the year we reach 100% in over a decade! I am working with you and for you in this endeavor - recruiting, training, and assisting - doing my best to set the example and lead the way. Many posts have been armed with a roster of prior members. If you need such a list or even just a list of your unpaid members, please contact me or Department Headquarters and we will get it emailed/mailed within one business day. We are close to our goal and WE CAN DO IT! Remember, the only thing we can't do is what we believe we can't do. BELIEVE and DO and we WILL REACH OUR GOAL !!!



Members joined together at the Department of Veterans Affairs to collect their thoughts before a meeting with the Governor to discuss veterans' affairs in Nebraska.



**Thank you for your
continued support!**
John Liebsack
State Quartermaster
2018-2019



**Past Veterans of
Foreign Wars
Commander-in-Chief
Thomas Tradewell Sr.
Assigned to Department
Convention**



Thomas Tradewell was elected Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars on August 20, 2009, at the VFW 110th national convention, held in Phoenix, Ariz.

Tradewell served in the U. S. Army from 1966-1968 and earned VFW eligibility while serving with B Company 26th Engineers 198th Light Infantry Brigade (Americal Division) in South Vietnam as a demolition specialist. His decorations include the Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Purple Heart and Good Conduct Medal.

Tradewell joined the VFW in 1968 at Post 6498 in Milwaukee where he is a Life Member. He has served in elected and appointed positions at the Post, District and Department (state) levels culminating with his election as Department Commander 1999-2000. He served as national inspector general in 2001-2002. He also served as the District 11 National Council representative for members from the Departments of Wisconsin and Iowa in 2003-2005.

Tradewell earned an associate's degree in industrial safety.

Tradewell retired from Briggs and Stratton in 1998 as a Metallurgy Laboratory Technician after 30 years of service.

He is a member of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, Military Order of the Cootie, American Legion, Disabled American Veterans, Vietnam Veterans of America and Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association.

Tradewell married Sharon in 1966 and they make their home in Sussex, Wis.

**Past National
President
Dixie Hild to
Represent the
Auxiliary in
Omaha**



Past National President Dixie Hild of Omaha, NE is a Life Member of Herman Godbersen Auxiliary 8334 in Millard. She is eligible through her husband, Rolland, who served in the U.S. Army in Vietnam and is a past VFW State Commander.

As National President in 2008-2009, she led 560,000 members under her theme, "Our Dreams Become Rainbows."

Dixie has served as Auxiliary and District President, and when she was 1994-1995 Department President, she was named Runner-Up President of the Year in her membership group.

She has served in numerous other capacities for the organization, including three terms as Department Chief of Staff. On the National level she has served as National Aide-de-Camp, Convention Page, Flag Bearer, Youth Activities and Voice of Democracy Director, "Buddy" Poppy Director and Big Ten Conference Chairman for the Safety, Legislative and Community Service programs.

Hild retired after spending 21 years in insurance and bonding management and five years in pharmaceutical sales. She is a Life Member of the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary and is also active in her community through the Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church.

The Hilds have been married for 51 years. They have one daughter Kim, a Life Member of Auxiliary 8334; two sons, Greg and Troy, Life Members of VFW 8334, seven grandchildren and one great-grandson.

Matt Cavanaugh Breaks Raffle Record

On behalf of Department Commander Larry Gerlt, District 13 Commander Jim Lutz presents a Nebraska Admiralship to Post 5537 Heartwell Commander Matt Cavanaugh at the District 13 meeting in Harvard on April 8th. The award was to recognize Matt for his exceptional effort in supporting the VFW Nebraska calendar program. He sold over 10% of all calendars sold in the entire state.



Veterans' Day Appreciation Day parade

Get your color guard involved in the celebration this year. The deadline for color guards to enter to participate is August 1st. You can participate any day from August 24th to Veterans Day. The form is available at Department Headquarters or at <https://www.statefair.org/p/getinvolved/379>.

Save the Date...

THE ANNUAL VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS GOLF TOURNAMENT WILL BE ON SEPTEMBER 7TH AT 1 PM. IT IS AGAIN A SHOTGUN START. SIGN UP NOW! MONEY RAISED GOES TOWARD THE VAN FUND FOR THE VETERANS HOMES AND VFW SCHOLARSHIPS.



REMEMBER:

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



The flower of remembrance
They Gave, Will You?

Honor the Dead by Helping the Living



NEBRASKA

VETERANS' AFFAIRS



**We're working to
better serve the men
and women who
bravely served us.**

**CNAs in our veterans'
homes now start at
\$14.04/hr,
with paid training and great
state benefits.**



**Vote For
Ron Sibal
2018-2019
State Surgeon**

US AIR FORCE VETERAN DESERT STORM
LEGACY LIFE MEMBER VFW POST 10727
LIFE MEMBER AMVET POST 727
MEMBER MILITARY ORDER OF THE COOTIES

CURRENT

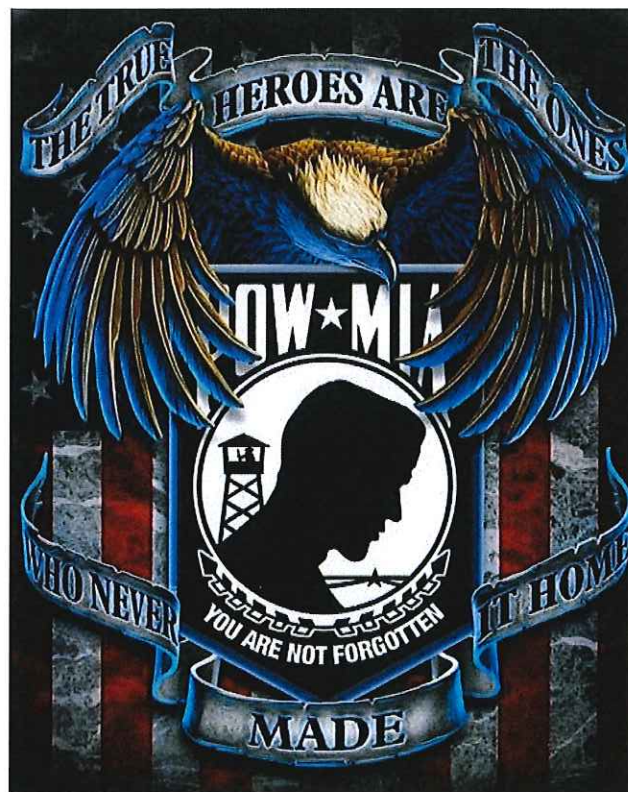
NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBER
DISTRICT 10 QUARTERMASTER
POST 10727 QUARTERMASTER
ALL-STATE QUARTERMASTER
DEPT OF DEFENSE 55TH LRS SENIOR CIVILIAN
OF THE YEAR OFFUTT AFB

PAST

NATIONAL AIDE-DE-CAMP
DISTRICT 10 COMMANDER
DISTRICT 8 QUARTERMASTER
ALL-STATE COMMANDER

COMMITTED

TO THE VFW AND VETERANS



Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Nebraska
97th Annual Department Convention
 June 8th thru the 10th, 2018 Comfort Inn & Suites in Omaha

Friday, June 8th

- 2:30 QM school: Trustees reports, Bonds, Online program reporting and Service Officer school (Ballroom A,B)
 3:00 pm Military Honors Program Presentation
 3:00 to 5:00 Delegate registration

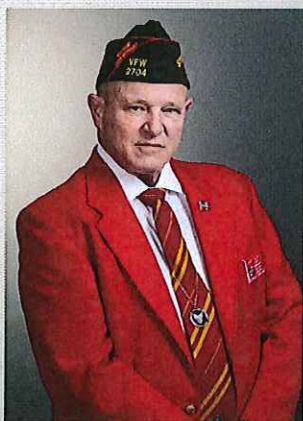
Saturday, June 9th

- 8:00 to 11:30 Delegate registration
 8:00 to 9:00 Council Meeting (Ballroom D)
 9:30 to 11:30 Convention opening session (Ballroom D)
 11:45 am All Past Commanders luncheon (Ballroom A)
 1:00 to 2:30 Joint session - Includes Guest Speakers and Volunteer Awards (Ballroom D)
 1:00 to 2:30 Delegate registration
 2:45 to 4:00 Reconvene VFW meeting - Nomination of Officers 1st call (Ballroom D)
 4:15 pm Poppy Display judging
 6:00 to 7:00 No host cocktail hour (Ballrooms A,B,C)
 7:00 pm Banquet (Ballrooms A,B,C)

Sunday, June 10th

- 8:00 am Joint Memorial Service (Ballroom D)
 9:00 am Resume meeting (Ballroom D)
 Noon Lunch on your own
 1:15 pm Resume meeting - Election of Officers, Installation and New Council Meeting (Ballroom D)
 Reception to immediately follow (Ballroom A)

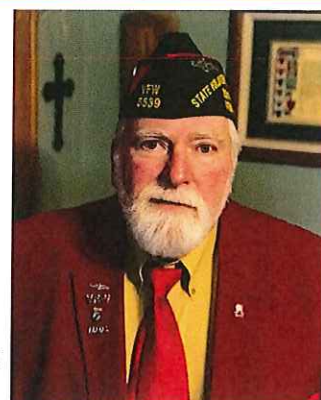
**LARRY GERLT FOR 1
 YEAR CONVENTION
 CORPORATION**



"WORKING FOR YOU!"

**VOTE FOR
 MIKE DUNN
 STATE SURGEON
 2018-2019**

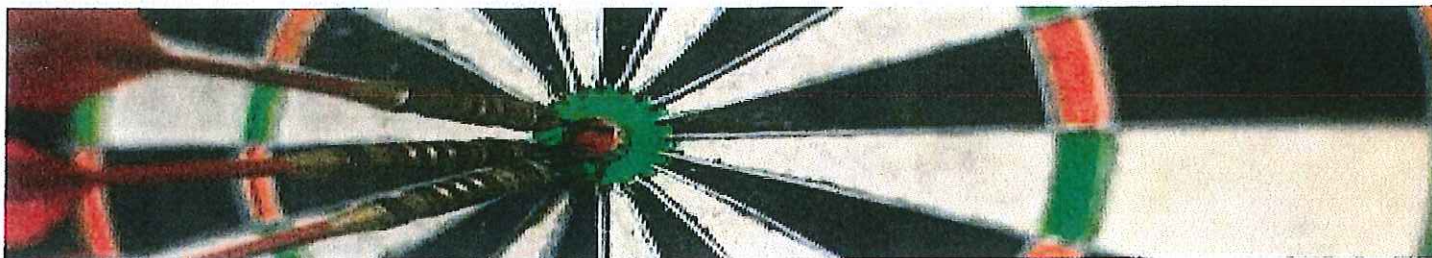
**Pride Runs Deep
 Committed to Veterans**



U.S. Navy Submarine Veteran 1970-1975
 Legacy Life Member of Post 5539 Harvard
 All State Team Captain 2012-2013
 Served as VFW District Commander 2010-2013
 District Sr. Vice, National Aide-de-Camp
 Life member Military Order of the Cooties, DAV,
 American Legion and U.S. Submarine Veterans
 Endorsed by 9 Past State Commanders and
 several past and present District Commanders
 Your Support and Vote is Appreciated!

**DEAR DEPARTMENT AND POST LEADERS,
 NATIONAL COMMANDER HARMAN WOULD
 LIKE TO ANNOUNCE THE VFW'S 2018
 #THANKBK APPRECIATION DAY.**

**COMMANDER HARMAN WILL ASK ALL
 VFW MEMBERS TO SHOW BURGER KING
 FRANCHISEES HOW GRATEFUL WE ARE
 FOR THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT OF THE
 UNMET NEEDS PROGRAM BY VISITING
 THEIR LOCAL BURGER KING RESTAURANT
 ON ARMED FORCES DAY, SATURDAY,
 MAY 19, 2018. BURGER KING FRAN-
 CHISEES HAVE RAISED MORE THAN \$5
 MILLION FOR THE PROGRAM TO DATE!**



1st Annual Nebraska VFW Charity Dart Tournament Hosted by VFW Post 759

2215 1st Avenue, Kearney Ne. 68847

308-234-9714

Special rates being offered for out of town participants at Midtown Western Inn 1401 2nd Avenue Kearney, Ne. 68847

for reservations call

1-800-333-1401

June 2nd 2018

LOD Format 50/50 - Proceeds will benefit the **VFW National Home for Children**. (Donations accepted)

This event is open to the public.

Sign up at event from 12:00 – 12:30 Start at 13:00 (pre-registration is encouraged)

Entry Fee \$10.00 per player.

Flip to pick the game or to see who goes first. Diddle for 3rd game (501 O/D) if necessary.

Cricket 200

301 Stacked Open / Open

501 Open / Double

Best two out of three in winners and losers bracket.

There will be drink specials, prizes and other contests during the tournament!

➡ Pre-register: VFW759Darts@gmail.com

Post Web Site: <http://vfw759.org/>

VFW Darts on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/264234340405633/>



May 1st, 2018

Cut off For Election Reports!!!

- 1 Cut off for ads in the Convention Booklet
- 1 Americanism — Post Scrap Book to Department
- 1 Blood Report
- 1 Chaplain Memorial Record to Department
- 1 Community Service Record Book to Department
- 1 Loyalty Day (May 1, 2017 activity) – Record book to Dept.
- 1 Post Color Guard Report to Department
- 1 Youth Activities—Post Scrap Book to Department
- 1 Volunteer of the Year (Letter of Nomination)
- 1 6 Month Community Service Report (November to April)
- 15 Delegate Registration Due To Department

JUNE 2018

- 8-10 State Convention The Comfort Inn & Suites
7007 Grover St Omaha, NE. Deadline for
reservations May 18!!!!
- 30 Cut Off (For All Awards Fall Council Oct 5-6, 2018)
All State Commander & QM/ Top Dist Cmdr

Carrier Get Together

July 28th is the date to save. Anyone who served on an aircraft carrier is invited to North Bend for a get together. Contact Jerry Halladay at 402-719-1014 for details.

May Calendar Winners...

1	\$40.00	Art	Leetch	847
2	\$40.00	Al	Crook	793
3	\$40.00	Bob	Freudenbu	1131
4	\$40.00	Garrett	Hains	2786
5	\$40.00	Sarah	Simmons	3515
6	\$40.00	John	Hilgert	2512
7	\$40.00	Dan	Schaber	1865
8	\$40.00	Kevin	Krull	3922
9	\$40.00	Trudy	Clark	2789
10	\$40.00	Cindy	Weiss	1210
11	\$40.00	Galen	Johnson	1841
12	\$40.00	Wally	Swanson	2765
13	\$40.00	Karl	Fredericksc	967
14	\$40.00	Larry	Keim	199
15	\$40.00	Edward	Schoppert	970
16	\$40.00	Jacob	Alpaugh	216
17	\$40.00	Marilyn	Zimmer	2124
18	\$40.00	Bob	Thom	3173
19	\$40.00	Daryl	Holmberg	1394
20	\$100.00	Conrad	Saltzgaber	1647
21	\$40.00	Chris	Grant	1248
22	\$40.00	Don	Dragon	1826
23	\$40.00	Mary	Reeves	3650
24	\$40.00	Karen	Zoerb	5
25	\$40.00	Johnny	Halladay	2638
26	\$40.00	Joan	Waggmer	2632
27	\$40.00	Will	Engell	2493
28	\$100.00	Bill	Bechtolt	651
29	\$40.00	Paula	Ryley	88
30	\$40.00	Dell	Schultheiss	336
31	\$40.00	Joel	Reinke	215



Notice:

At State Convention next month, we will be electing 2 members to the Convention Corporation. A 1 - year member and a 3 - year member.

Share what is going on in your posts and communities. Please send news for the VFW Nebraska Newsletter to Department Headquarters at 2431 N. 48th Street in Lincoln, NE 68504 or better yet email to jodys@vfwne.org.



FREEDOMS' MEMORIAL

This day is set aside to honor those who took the chance to die. But they have died in vain if we ever forget the reason why. Freedom can be like time slipping away before we even know. But we all have the choice more, a duty to battle freedoms' foe. Let us give thanks this day to all those brave who paid the highest cost. Not take it for granted and realize it easily could be lost.

by Del "Abe" Jones

Reminder...

All posts and districts who are preparing resolutions for the State Convention must have them submitted by May 8th to Department Headquarters.

Nebraska membership as of April 30th

State	Post	Dst	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Adjusted Prior Year	Percent
District Totals		1	426	19	12	142	599	636	94.18%
District Totals		3	1040	4	12	224	1280	1324	96.67%
District Totals		4	804	8	13	201	1026	1058	96.97%
District Totals		6	899	14	14	241	1168	1172	99.65%
District Totals		7	770	20	4	241	1035	1077	96.10%
District Totals		9	1408	39	15	356	1818	1885	96.44%
District Totals		10	3304	123	90	749	4266	4311	98.95%
District Totals		11	816	16	16	206	1054	1055	99.90%
District Totals		13	889	14	2	168	1073	1119	95.88%
District Totals		15	685	8	2	132	827	838	98.68%
District Totals		99	645	37	119	173	974	1025	95.02%
State Totals			11686	302	299	2833	15120	15500	97.54%