



# Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

## Department of Nebraska

Bill Montoya Post 1581, Omaha, Nebraska

### Newsletter December 2017

**Commander:** Chris Leighter

**Sr. Vice Commander:** Lloyd Coates

**Jr. Vice Commander:** John Hilgert

**Quartermaster/Adjutant:** Dr. Steven Youngberg

**Chaplain:** Ann Thieman

**Service officer:** Bob Burns

**Surgeon:** Dr. Greg O'Leary

**Judge Advocate:** Dan Dawson

**Three year trustee:** John Liebsack

**Two year trustee:** Bob Burns

**One year trustee:** Marty Riemenschneider

### Future Events

- Creighton University SROTC Spring Awards Ceremony: April 22, 2018.
- Boys Town pass and review. May 4, 2018, 1415 - 1515 hrs. (2:15 PM to 3:15 PM) at Palrang Field House on campus
- Buddy Poppy Event - May 26, 2018 Saturday 9 AM to 12 noon—HyVee—156th and Maple and 132nd and Dodge locations, 9 AM to 12 noon.
- Award Breakfast December 1, 2018 Saturday. 8:30 AM
- Progressive Insurance Keys to Progress, 11-8-18 Thursday.

Visit our new VFW Post 1581 web site. Go to the following link: [CLICK HERE \(vfw1581.org\)](http://vfw1581.org)

Facebook Page: [CLICK HERE](#)

YouTube: [CLICK HERE](#)

### Future Events

- Texas Roadhouse (Giving Back to Veterans program, partnering with VFW Post 1581—ongoing
- Douglas County Veterans Service outreach to Veterans at Omaha Heritage Point for Retirement homes—ongoing
- Award Breakfast December 2, 2017 Saturday. 8:30 AM
- Eastern Nebraska Veterans Home Christmas donation for Veteran residents. 12-2-17, 1:30 PM

**Notice:** VFW Post 1581 monthly meeting Location has changed.

**Place:** Hampton Inn, 11201 Davenport Street, Omaha, NE 68154 (Old Mill – South of Dodge)

### Next regular meeting:

The next regular meeting will be Saturday January 6, 2018, 7 AM breakfast, **Hampton Inn, 11201 Davenport Street, Omaha, NE 68154 (Old Mill – South of Dodge)**, small meeting room.

Map [CLICK HERE](#)

*Future meetings:* First Saturday of every month. 7 AM (place and time, same as above)



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### Current Events

#### **Texas Roadhouse (Giving Back to Veterans program, partnering with VFW Post 1581 –ongoing project**

We ran the program from November to December 2016 at Texas Roadhouse, 156th and Dodge location.. We received \$2,907.00 in customer donations for Veterans.

#### **Douglas County Veterans Service outreach to Veterans at Omaha Heritage Point for Retirement homes—ongoing project**

The event would consist of a presentation of Veteran benefits by Douglas County Veterans Service officer representative to Retirement home Veterans. Veteran Widows. Presentation would include new Veterans cemetery on Omaha, Veteran and widow benefits, etc.

### Past Events

#### **Progressive's Keys to Progress**

A couple of area veterans got a chance to celebrate Veterans Day a little early this year.

Every year of the past five years Progressive Insurance has given away refurbished vehicles. Each car comes with a one-year warranty and six months of insurance. This year Progressive awarded two cars to two local veterans.

"So many veterans get overlooked and something like this it didn't happen to them it happened to me it's really for all of them. It shows America does care," said veteran Keith Edgington.

"My last car has more than 200 thousand miles on it, so having something I know is dependable is going to make everything just so much easier," said veteran Rachel Keller.

This year Progressive will give away 100 vehicles at its 71 locations across the country. Over the last five years Progressive has given away more than 500 vehicles. Source WOWT

### Past Events

When VFW Post 1581 members work on a project or provide help in the community, please fill out an online report.

- Go to VFW NE website [vfwne.com](http://vfwne.com)
- go to resources
- drop down window, go to program reporting

Check the calendar on the VFW Post 1581 website for any recent changes to information / events.

#### **Progressive's Keys to Progress**

VFW Post 1581 Participated in this event on 11-9-17. VFW Post 1581 members attending were Marty Riemenschneider-VFW Post 1581-Trustee and Dr. Steven Youngberg-VFW Post 1581 Adjutant/Quartermaster.





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### Current Events

Keith is originally from Louisiana and moved to Arizona as a young adult. He joined the Air Force and was stationed at Davis Air Force Base in Tucson. He moved to Denver for temporary duty and spent some time in Ohio as well.

Keith was a medic in the Air Force and worked in the Labor and Delivery Unit at the military hospitals. After leaving the Air Force, Keith continued to work in the medical field as a Licensed Practical Nurse for 33 years. He worked in hospitals, clinics and nursing homes.

Keith is retired now and spends several hours each week as a volunteer at the VA Hospital in Omaha. He relies on MOBY, a bus service for Omaha's ADA population, for transportation and uses a cane to assist him with walking. Keith is excited about the independence he will gain with owning a reliable vehicle. He plans to use his vehicle to get to doctor appointments, to get groceries and to spend more time volunteering.

### Past Events

Rachel started her military career in the Army National Guard in Lincoln repairing helicopters. She went active duty and served as a Crew Chief at Ft Irwin, CA. As the Huey helicopters phased out, Rachel left the military after nearly 8 years of service. Rachel's proudest moment in the military was flying the UH1 helicopter which is also known as a "Huey."

Rachel currently resides in Bellevue with her 16 year old son, Alex. Rachel is studying Aviation Administration at UNO and plans to get certification in Airframe and Powerplant Maintenance in order to pursue a career in Maintenance Management. Rachel works full-time as an assistant manager for Fed Ex. Rachel's oldest son is also in the military and resides in Oregon.

Rachel has had a challenging year with losing her father and some major health issues of her own. This reliable vehicle will allow her to feel safe traveling longer distances. In fact, the first trip Rachel wants to take with her new vehicle is to Crete, NE to visit her mother.





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### Current Events

### Past Events

#### Progressive's Keys to Progress



Buddy Poppy Event 11-11-17 at HyVee stores 132nd and Dodge, 9 AM to 11 AM.





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### Current Events

Buddy Poppy Event 11-11-7 at HyVee stores **132nd and Dodge** 9 AM to 11 AM. We also conducted the Veterans Day free breakfast from 7 AM to 11 AM.



### Past Events

Buddy Poppy Event 11-11-7 at HyVee stores **156th and Maple**, 7AM to 11 AM. We also conducted the Veterans Day free breakfast from 7 AM to 11 AM.





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### Past Events

Buddy Poppy Event 11-11-7 at HyVee stores **156th and Maple**, 7AM to 11 AM. We also conducted the Veterans Day free breakfast from 7 AM to 11 AM.

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### Past Events

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Cake



Cake



Cake





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#### Texas Roadhouse (Giving Back to Veterans program, partnering with VFW Post 1581 –ongoing project

We ran the program from November to December 2016 at Texas Roadhouse, 156th and Dodge location.. We received \$2,907.00 in customer donations for Veterans. This year 2017 Texas Roadhouse have moved our banner from the front to the side sitting area for people waiting to be seated.

### Past Events

New banner Location

Old banner Location



New gift card artwork for VFW Post 1581 and Texas Roadhouse 2018 program below.



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Past Events

Past Events



520 N. 155TH PLAZA  
OMAHA, NE 68154-3774



**Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S.**

VFW Post 1581

Texas Roadhouse is planning to create a Veterans room and hang our VFW Post 1581 framed pictures in that room.

### WWII soldier's remains arrive in Omaha to be identified

There was a somber welcome Monday for a soldier who never made it home. Members of the VFW saluted as remains of a service member, killed in World War II, arrived at Eppley Airfield. VFW Post 1581 members attending were Dr. Steven Youngberg, Tom Bizzarri and John Liebsack.



The soldier has been in a cemetery in Germany for decades. Scientists at Offutt will work to identify the remains and return that fallen soldier to family.

Full Story [CLICK HERE](#)



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### VFW Post 1581 Members Only Area

Go to our post 1581 website ([www1581.org](http://www1581.org)), scroll down the home page to the bottom black area, click on "members only", enter your VFW member number in login, enter your last name in the password. (meeting minutes, member information, contacts, etc.)

### Military Sexual Trauma:

Ann Thieman member of VFW Post 1581 has first-hand experience with military sexual trauma and has provided an interview with the VA. You can access this article in the VA Link magazine, April 2012, page 9 and page 13. [Click Here](#)

**Control your VFW Membership at VFW National HQ [CLICK HERE](#)**

**VFW National Online store [CLICK HERE](#)**

**VFW Post 1581 Newsletters: [CLICK HERE](#)**

**VFW National Discussion Group: [CLICK HERE](#)**

Our current members have signed up several new VFW members to our post. If you have a potential VFW membership candidate, please **Contact John Liebsack 402-210-5198** for assistance for further steps in the process.

**VFW Post 1581 Annual Members: Check your membership status on your card. Your membership may have expired. You can renew online—see the [vfw1581.org](http://vfw1581.org) website. Select navigation-resources, See "Current Members Membership Control" to set-up your VFW member account. OR call John Liebsack 402-210-5198.**

Over one half of our post members are **life members**. Why not consider turning your **annual membership into a life membership** so that you do not need to renew your membership every year. As a life member, your membership continues on. **Life membership has a one-time pay or a monthly payment plan over 12 months.** To consider your options of overall cost, paying annual membership versus becoming and life membership go to our Post 1581 web site for this analysis, <http://vfw1581.org/>, place your cursor over the navigation "Join VFW", drop down selections, choose "Life Membership Analysis", enter your current age and life expectancy age, you can see the saving of "Life Membership" over the long term versus annual membership. There is an Excel file "link" you can also download. **Contact John Liebsack 402-210-5198.**

If you or someone you know wishes to continue their VFW membership but are having a difficult time financially, Post 1581 has a program to help financially with the annual membership. Contact **John Liebsack 402-210-5198** for assistance for further steps in the process.

Check out the **VFW Nebraska HQ Website** at ([www.vfwne.com](http://www.vfwne.com)) There are many resources for you to use.

Email: [vfwpost1581@gmail.com](mailto:vfwpost1581@gmail.com)

Web site: [vfw1581.org](http://vfw1581.org)

**VFW Bill Montoya Post 1581**

C. Lee Leighter

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Lee Leighter".

Commander