



Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

Department of Nebraska

Bill Montoya Post 1581, Omaha, Nebraska

Commander: Chris Leighter

Sr. Vice Commander: Tom Bizzarri

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: Lloyd Coates

Newsletter November 2014

Next regular meeting:

The next regular meeting will be December 3, 2014 - 7 PM, at Phoenix Food and Spirits-12015 Blondo, Omaha NE (120th and Blondo), private meeting room.

Future meetings: First Wednesday of every month. 7 PM

Visit our Post 1581 web site. Go to the following link: <http://vfwpost1581.org/>

You can click on the links if you are viewing this newsletter in a pdf document.

Post 1581 Newsletters: Did you know that you can view, download and print the VFW Post 1581 current and archived newsletters. Go to navigation "news and media" select the drop down menu item.

VFW Nebraska Network News: All of our events and Post 1581 veteran's information are on the new Post 1581 web site. To easily find an event, use the calendar and place cursor on event or click on the event for further information. Use the website navigation to look around. Use "VFW Nebraska Network News" on the home page, right side, and scroll down.

You can change your personal VFW membership information online: The home page, scroll down to this link, "Change your personal VFW membership information".

Voice of Democracy:

2014-2015 theme will be "'Why Veterans are Important to our Nation's History and Future", Program from March 2014 to November 1, 2014.

Patriots Pen:

2014-2015 theme will be "Why I Appreciate America's Veterans", Program from March 2014 to November 1, 2014.

Teacher of the Year:

Program from March 2014 to November 1, 2014.

On-Line Store for VFW Nebraska: We have an On-Line Store for VFW Nebraska and VFW National. Access the On-Line Store by going to our post 1581 website (www.vfwpost1518.org) place your cursor over the navigation, right side and select from the drop down window, On-Line Store for VFW Nebraska and VFW National.

"VFW Nebraska Forum / Discussion Group": You can access it by the VFW1581.org website home page, scroll down until you see the "VFW Nebraska Forum / Discussion Group" and select that icon to the right.



VFW Post 1581 Membership Only Area: Go to our post 1581 website (www.vfwpost1581.org) and select "VFW Post 1581 Membership Only Area". Use the password "militaryhelp". Keep the password confidential (for VFW Post 1581 Members Only).

Veteran's legislative action committee:

Our post is looking for members that would like to be active in our **Veteran's legislative action committee**. You would be active with Veteran's bills in the Nebraska legislature. Contact John Liebsack 402-210-5198.

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](#)



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Future Events

We have plans for future events for 2013/2014 FY. **If you can assist with upcoming projects or committees** contact Commander, C. L. Leighter 712-308-3184.

Committees:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership • Voice of Democracy • Patriots Pen • Teacher of the year • Boys Town • Buddy Poppy events • Awards Banquet • Boy Scouts • Partnership with a military unit | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law Enforcement of the year • Emergency Medical Technician of the year • Firefighter of the year • Women's Veterans Fair • Veterans Legislative action • Boys Town JROTC • Creighton University SROTC • and other projects |
|--|---|

See the vfwpost1581.org website calendar

2015 awards banquet set for 1-14-15 Wed night, 6-9 PM

Buddy Poppy Event , November 8, 2014 (Hy-Vee (132nd and Dodge and 156th and Maple) (8AM to 12 noon)

Veterans Day Event, November 11, 2014 Monday (Hy-Vee (132nd and Dodge and 156th and Maple) (Breakfast 7AM to 11 AM)

Voice of Democracy 2014-2015 theme will be "Why Veterans are Important to our Nation's History and Future" March to November 1, 2014

Patriots Pen 2014-2015 theme will be "Why I Appreciate America's Veterans" March to November 1, 2014

Teacher of the year 2014-2015 March to November 1, 2014

Boy Scout of the year 2014-2015 July 1, 2014 to March 1, 2015

Law Enforcement of the Year 2014-2015 March 2014 to November 1, 2014

EMT of the Year 2014-2015 March 2014 to November 1, 2014

Firefighter of the Year 2014-2015 March 2014 to November 1, 2014

Membership:

Approximately 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://vfwpost1581.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.

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 further steps in the process.

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.

JROTC/SROTC:

We are working with Boys Town in regards to their JROTC program. We are also working with Creighton University in regards to their SROTC program. Contact Post 1581 Quartermaster, Dr. Steven Youngberg if you are interested in helping or attending events 402-715-4469

Ordering VFW items

- VFW NE on-line store at this link: [Click Here](#)
- If you need a VFW military style hat, use this link: [Click Here](#) You can contact John Liebsack at 402-210-5198 and he will place the order for your hat.
- The general VFW online catalog, use this link: [Click Here](#)
- You can call the VFW Store at 1-800-821-2606 (you can order a catalog)
- VFW National online Store: [Click Here](#)



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Past Events

Past Events

NET is commemorating veterans & their military service at premiere screenings of: Homecoming: The Impact on Nebraska Veterans. Part of it is about the final Korean War Honor Flight and the Remembering Our Fallen exhibits. day, October 26, 2pm-3pm (Doors open at 1:30pm) Gretna High School Auditorium, 11335 S 204th St., Gretna. Open to the public; no admission charge. The Omaha Symphonic Chorus will entertained. Tom Bizzarri, VFW Post 1581 Sr. Vice Commander, (left) Lee Terry & his wife (center and right) attended.

Buddy Poppy event 11-8-14 at HyVee stores.

HyVee Store 156th and Maple. Picture below left, left John Liebsack, VFW Sate Quartermaster/Adjutant-VFW Post 1581 member and right—John Hilgert, Nebraska Director of Veteran's Affairs—VFW Post 1581 Jr. Vice Commander.



There is another performance scheduled at North Platte High School, 1220 W 2nd St., North Platte, North Platte High School, 1220 W 2nd St., North Platte

HyVee Store 156th and Maple. Picture below left, left to right, Boy Scout Troop 408-Scouts and Scout leader and Ivan Weaver—VFW Post 1581 member.





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Past Events

Progressive Insurance Keys to Progress® vehicle giveaway event

Progressive Insurance Keys to Progress® vehicle giveaway event is taking place in 58 Progressive Service Centers across the country 11-11-14. Today 114 of our country's Veteran's will be driving away with a refurbished vehicle. Progressive has partnered with the VFW to recognize their great service.

This is Omaha's first Progressive Insurance Keys to Progress® vehicle giveaway event.

Jennifer Loosvelt – Progressive Insurance. Picture below.



Other partners in this program include the VFW, helping to identify the recipients of the vehicles, National Auto Body Council, 1800-Charity Cars and VRC Investigations.

Past Events

VFW members that participated in this event below left to right are Sam DeJohn-State chief of staff, Bernard Brosnihan-state Commander, John Liebsack-State Adjutant/Quartermaster, Ann Thieman-Chaplain-Post 1581, Arlan Stratman-Post 1581 member, C.L. Leighter-Commander Post 1581, Dr. Steven Youngberg-Adjutant/Quartermaster Post 1581. Picture below.



Vehicle Recipient:

Ann Thieman – Ann served in the Army for 17 years. Ann served as an escort for the chaplain, because he couldn't carry a weapon. Ann traveled to war zone locations. Ann plays piano for a church and also at VFW conventions. Ann has four children Rochelle, Sara, Josiah attending at this event. Ann received a 2005 Chrysler 300. Picture below.





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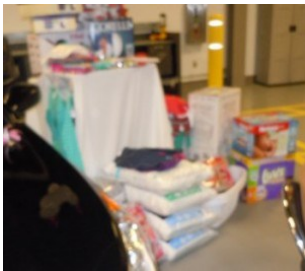
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Past Events

Vehicle Recipient: Continued



Progressive employees worked together from North Dakota, South Dakota and Nebraska raised \$3,000.00 in donations for extras that these Veteran families needed (picture below).



VFW Post 1581 donated \$200.00 to help one of the families receiving a vehicle. **Michael and Melissa Adams** – Michael was a Marine stationed at Twentynine Pines, CA for 4 years. They have 2 girls, Ophelia and Piper. Michael is working 2 jobs to provide a home for his family. They received a 2011 Mitsubishi Outlander.

Past Events

Michael and Melissa Adams family below front with VFW Post 1581 members back left to right Ann Thieman, Dr. Steven Youngberg, C.L. Leighter



Full Story <http://vfwne.com/vfw-nebraska-news/progressive-insurance-keys-to-progress-vehicle-giveaway-event/>

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We need your ideas and participation, please plan to attend upcoming monthly meetings.

If you are able to participate in VFW post 1581 events or projects contact Chris Leighter, Commander 712-308-3184 or email vfw-post1581@cox.net.

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

Email: vfwpost1581@cox.net

Web site: <http://vfwpost1581.org/ne/>

VFW Bill Montoya Post 1581

C. L. Leighter

Commander