

**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:** Lloyd Coates  
**Two year trustee:** John Liebsack  
**One year trustee:** Bob Burns



## Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

Bill Montoya Post 1581, Omaha, Nebraska

Newsletter

April 2013

**Next regular meeting:** The next regular meeting will be May 1, 2013 - 7 PM, at Phoenix Food and Spirits-12015 Blondo, Omaha NE (120<sup>th</sup> and Blondo), private meeting room.

**Future meetings: First Wednesday of every month. 7 PM,** at Phoenix Food and Spirits-12015 Blondo, Omaha NE (120<sup>th</sup> and Blondo) private room. Mark your calendars, "plan to attend".

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

**You can change your personal VFW membership information on-line:** go the [www.vfwpost1581.org](http://www.vfwpost1581.org) home page, scroll down to this link, Change your personal VFW membership information

**You can change the items below:**

- Pay your dues
  - Sign up for autopay, ensuring your membership always stays current
  - Update payment and billing information
  - Become a Life Member or Legacy Life Member
  - Access prepared patriotic holiday speeches
  - And much more!
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- **Latest news for post 1581** - Our post website [www.vfwpost1581.org](http://www.vfwpost1581.org) , has stories created with valuable information. Scroll down the home page, on the right side, see VFW Nebraska Network News.

## Future Events

We have plans for future events for 2011/2012 FY. **If you can assist with upcoming projects or committees** contact Commander, Chris Leichter 712-308-3184.

- **Committees:**

- Membership, Voice of Democracy, Patriots Pen, Boys Town, Awards Banquet, Buddy Poppy events, Boy Scouts, Partnership with military unit, Law Enforcement of the year, Emergency Medical Technician of the year, Firefighter of the year, Voice of Democracy, Patriots Pen, Teacher of the year, Women's Veterans Fair, Veterans Legislative action, Boys Town JROTC, Creighton SROTC and other projects.
- **Membership:** If you are an annual member and you have not renewed by 12-31-12, your membership is not valid. When you receive your annual membership dues notice for 2012/2013, please remit your dues right away. We have attained 100% membership from last year's membership number. 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.
- We have a program of "legacy life" membership (Gold, Silver or Bronze) which is a step above a life member. 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.
- **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.
- 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. Paste this link into your computer browser to see the article <http://www.nebraska.va.gov/TheLink/2012/04AprilTheLink2012.pdf>
- **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 ROTC program. Contact Post 1581 Quartermaster, Dr. Steven Youngberg if you are interested in helping 402-715-4469.
- **VFW Post 1581 Web Site:** We have an **On-Line Store for VFW Nebraska** and VFW National on-line store. Access the On-Line Store by going to our post 1581 website ([vfwpost1518.org](http://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 Post 1581 Web Site:** We have a "**VFW Nebraska Forum / Discussion Group**". You can access it by the [VFW1581.org](http://VFW1581.org) website home page, scroll down until you see the "VFW Nebraska Forum / Discussion Group" and select that icon below.



- **Voice of Democracy:** 2013/2014 theme will be “ Why I’m Optimistic About our Nation’s Future”.
- **Patriots Pen:** 2013/2014 theme will be “What Patriotism Means to Me”.
- **Boys Town:** pass and review is scheduled for Friday May 3, 2013. VFW Post 1581 will also present JROTC awards to selected cadets. Contact Post 1581 Quartermaster, Dr. Steven Youngberg if you are interested in attending 402-715-4469.
- **Creighton ROTC Awards banquet:** VFW Post 1581 will participate in this event April 5, 2013 (Friday), Contact Post 1581 Quartermaster, Dr. Steven Youngberg if you are interested in attending 402-715-4469.
- **Creighton ROTC graduation ceremonies:** ROTC cadets will receive their officer commissions. May 17, 2013 (Friday) Contact Post 1581 Quartermaster, Dr. Steven Youngberg if you are interested in attending 402-715-4469.

#### **Past Events**

- Elected VFW Post 1581 officers for 2013/2014
  - **Commander:** Chris Leighter
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**Email:** [vfwpost1581@cox.net](mailto:vfwpost1581@cox.net)

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

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.

**Ordering VFW items**

VFW NE on-line store at this link: <http://www.vfwdepartmentstores.org/nebraska/>

If you need a VFW military style hat, use this link: <http://www.vfwstore.org/detail.aspx?ID=25525>

The general VFW online catalog, use this link: <http://www.vfwstore.org/>

You can call the VFW Store at 1-800-821-2606 (you can order a catalog)

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 [vfwpost1581@cox.net](mailto:vfwpost1581@cox.net).

***VFW Bill Montoya Post 1581***

*Chris Leighter*    **Commander**