



MILLARD AMERICAN LEGION NEWS

PUBLISHED BY MILLARD AMERICAN LEGION POST 374
MILLARD, NEBRASKA
Second Largest Post in Nebraska



VOLUME: MAY 2015 TELEPHONE: 402-895-1324 EDITOR: LISA PETERSEN

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COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

Spring has sprung! Hope you're stopping to "smell the flowers".

Thank you for allowing me to be your Commander this past year. The elections are being held this month. Come in to vote! The following people are nominated: Commander - Greg Petersen; Adjutant - Scott Spicer; 1st Vice - Gary Sempek; 2nd Vice – nobody; 1st year E- board - Rod Mach, Randy Pfeiffer, and Becky Ries. If you would like to run for 2nd Vice please let a current officer know.

Join us at the Post for a Memorial Day service. The bus will leave at 9:00. We will go to the following cemeteries: Pleasant Hill, Voss-Mohr. Mt. Auburn then return to the Post home for a service and lunch. If you have a family member who's a veteran at one of these cemeteries and do not have a flag holder we have them available at the Post.

Thank you Jim & Sue, Vince, Gary, Jerry, Paul, Scott and Ron for helping with the kitchen cleaning on April 18. A big **THANK YOU** to Alicia, Colleen, Liz, Patti & Dave for working during the days while Kathy was on vacation. If they wouldn't have stepped up and **volunteered** we would have had to close the Post during the days she was gone.

Tuesday May 5 starting at 5:30 we will be serving food specials in honor of Cinco de Mayo. There will be a Mother's Day brunch May 10 with all of your favorites starting at 9AM. Broasted chicken will be served at 5:30 on May 16.

We have been asking for volunteers to help out in the kitchen. The warmer weather is here and some of the kitchen volunteers have trips planned so when you come in for a taco or a hamburger and there's a sign up saying "Closed due to no help" don't get angry at the bartender (or anyone else)

We held a Member appreciation dinner recognizing members who have over 50 years of service. We also presented a posthumous Post #374 Legionnaire of the Year to William "Bill" Wirges. During his 60 year membership Bill was a Commander, 1st Vice Commander, and Honor Guard member. He helped put flags on the veteran's graves for Memorial Day and did many many other things for the Post. He will be missed.

HOOAH! Greg Petersen, Commander

S.A.L. NEWS

We are well into spring and I hope you are enjoying it so far.

We are still needing those who have not renewed your membership to please get this done; some of you have a number of years vested in our squadron and we would hate to have you lose those years by forgetting to renew.

We held the 14th annual Elmer Nelson bowling outing and chili cook off on April 11th; we had a decent turnout and everyone had a good time. I want to thank everyone who took part in the day's activities, from the bowlers to the chili cook off contestants, and to those who volunteered their time to make this happen! I want to thank Craig Nelson for all of his work on this - he arranged with the bowling alley to get this event set up and he donated to the SAL to put this on. This year's chili cook off winner is Curt Jordan! I know – you think it's fixed, right? Nope! Eric Brink did a great job putting together this year's judging committee; great job Eric! Did I mention I won the chili cook off? Money raised from the event will go into our scholarship fund – speaking of those, the SAL scholarship winners are Matt Kienow, Pete Nelson and Peighten Thorpe; each will receive a \$500 donation to the college they will be attending. Congratulations!

Our next meeting will be Monday May 4th at 7pm. Please make the effort to attend this meeting since elections will be held and your newly elected officers will be sworn in at the end of the meeting. Come in to vote!

In closing I want to thank everyone in the Legion family for all of your support to our squadron and to me during my term as the squadron commander. I think we have once again have done a great job supporting our Veterans and our community during this term. It will be exciting to see what our new leadership will have to bring this coming year, it's been an honor to serve as your commander once again. Oh did I mention I won the chili cook off?

Memorial Day is on the 25th so please take time to honor those who have given the ultimate sacrifice to our country. Join us on this day at the Legion for the service that will be held when we return from our tour of honor at the cemeteries.

Thank you once again and may God Bless you all. Curt Jordan, Commander

AUXILIARY NEWS

Ladies,

As I am writing year end reports for Department, it is amazing to look back and see all of the wonderful things that you all have done to support the Post and veterans in our community. Way to go ladies!

Last month at our Auxiliary meeting, we held elections for officer positions within our Unit. I am pleased to announce that Karen Brink has been elected as our new Auxiliary President. We will be installing all officers at our May meeting. The entire list of officers will be posted in the June newsletter after they have been installed. Please join us to help install our officers!

Let the ladies of the Auxiliary cook dinner for you on Tuesday, May 19th. Gourmet Burgers are back! Thanks to all of you who are supporting the Auxiliary on our night to take over the kitchen. Kim Rothgeb

Kim Rothgeb, President

RECENT WINNERS

**SATURDAY
'LONG SHOT'**

**Cy Young, Kathy Bartsch,
Rod Mach, and Swede**

SECOND VICE COMMANDER NEWS

In March we interviewed 11 outstanding young men (representing Millard North, Millard West, Skutt Catholic and Boys Town) for Boys State, and I am happy to report that all 11 will be attending. The Millard Legion family is sponsoring 7, and thanks to Omaha Post #1, SAL Squadron #331, and Legionnaire Gary Barrows of Papillion Post #32 (who is personally sponsoring 2), the other 4 young men will be able to participate in this highly sought after program. Their generosity demonstrates the true meaning of "devotion to mutual helpfulness."

I would also like to announce the recipients of the 2015 Millard American Legion Post 374 Scholarship Award. The three winners, each receiving \$500, are Sarah Holmes (granddaughter of 29-year member Roger Holmes), Anne Stratman (granddaughter of 27-year member Louis Buda), and Mary Schalm (granddaughter of 38-year member Lawrence Koneck). Congratulations to all three winners! We had close to a dozen applicants this year, and I would like to thank fellow Legionnaires Marty Timberlake, Don LaBrie and Tony Amaya for helping me carefully review and rank each application.

Over the past year, the Millard Post has done a lot of great things for the young people in our community, and I am confident that next year we will do even more. For questions about our Americanism and Children & Youth Programs or more information on how to get involved, please contact me at the email address below.

Respectfully, Jennifer Salak, Post 374 Second Vice Commander
secondvice@post374.org

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS NEWS

Riders,

It's hard to believe my time as Director is nearly over. It's been a tremendous honor to have had the opportunity and your trust to have served in this capacity. I can think of no other Chapter in the state of Nebraska that has a closer group of sincere Riders who would do just about anything for our organization.

There was no ALR article in the last newsletter. My bad. So let me fill you in on what happened since.

Six of our Riders earned the coveted "Blue Nose" certificates. Marty and Vince did their run last year and Jeff, Tony, John and myself earned ours on a balmy 19 degree morning riding down to Nebraska City to stand in a flag line for the 192 MP who were deploying overseas. All six riders were officially initiated at the March Chapter meeting. Maybe next year a few more of our Riders will venture out in the frigid cold to be introduced to the realm of the Blue Nose!

Our discussions at the Chapter meetings about the annual OCW run have been very positive and productive. The ride is set for Saturday August 15, 2015. Registration will be from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. The event committee (that's our girl Darlene) always does a great job finding door prizes and auction gifts. I know she would be grateful if others would look for donations too. If you are interested in helping – I can provide you a generic "tax exempt" letter to give to the donor. Let me know.

The weather is finally breaking and we are starting to see a lot more motorcycles on the roads. You should always drive defensively but be extraordinarily vigilant early on in the riding season as those 4-wheelers still aren't accustomed to watching for the two-wheelers on the roads. Cars and trucks will pull out in front of you so look well ahead of your projected travel.

Thanks again for all you do in our community to make the American Legion stand out as a proud, patriotic organization with a cast of top notch volunteers.

Ride with Pride, Dave Salak, Director, Millard ALR Chapter 374

COMPUTER VIRUS REMOVAL

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Huge Selection of Laptops
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POST #374 DUES

Legion.....	\$37.00
Auxiliary	\$25.00
Jr. Auxiliary (18 and under)	\$3.50
SAL	\$20.00
Jr. SAL	\$7.50

FORSBERG LAW PC, LLO

Grant Forsberg

Attorney at Law

444 Regency Parkway Dr # 203

Omaha NE 68114

(402) 216-0216

Email grant@grantforsberglaw.com

www.grantforsberglaw.com





**FUNERAL
HONOR DETAIL
Legion Post 374 /
VFW Post 8334**

4.12.15.....Ralph M. Black
4.16.15.....William "Bill" Wirges Jr.
4.16.15.....Floyd E. Hermanson

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There are currently three pots for the Legion drawing. **Two at \$500.00.**

Why haven't you stopped in? You might win.

The **SAL drawing is Sunday**, the **Auxiliary drawing is Tuesday** and the **Legion drawing is Wednesday**.

You must register to win. Congratulations to Michael Gallegos for winning the SAL drawing!

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**IS YOUR BIRTHDAY
IN MAY?**

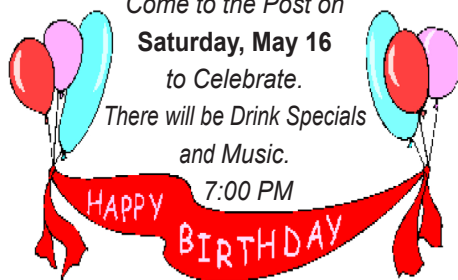
Come to the Post on

Saturday, May 16

to Celebrate.

*There will be Drink Specials
and Music.*

7:00 PM



**Professional Carpet &
Upholstery Cleaning**

Residential & Commercial

- Carpets & Rugs
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- Tile & Grout

11330 Q Street Omaha NE

402.895.6201

USPS News

If you move, let the Post know your new address.

USPS doesn't forward third class mail.

The Post Pays For Every Returned Newsletter.

Please Help The Post Save Money!!

Thank you.

VICKI KOVAR

Realtor

CBSHome Real Estate

402-660-9300

Vicki.Kovar@cbshome.com

It **PAY\$** to be Picky! Buy and sell with Vicki!

\$100 donated to Post 374 in your name

with every closing generated from the

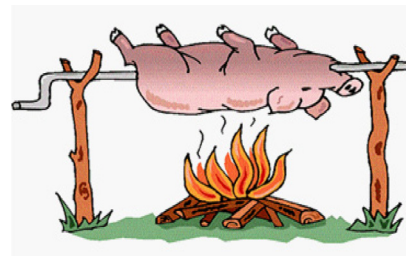
Millard American Legion Family.

FUNDRAISER

District 8 will be holding a Hog Roast on **June 6th "D"** day at our Post.

This is a fundraiser for the Eastern Nebraska Vets Home.

Advance tickets are Only \$7.00 at the Post. There will be food, raffles and other goodies too. *Come support our Veterans*



VOLUNTEERS

If you have volunteer hours please get them to the **Adjutant before May 15** so he can include them in the consolidated report.

POST 374 OFFICERS

Commander	Greg Petersen	630-2949
Email: cdr@post374.org		
First Vice Commander	Gary Sempek.....	630-6490
Second Vice Commander	Jen Salak	359-1063
Adjutant	Scott Spicer	660-5779
Finance Officer	Don Birkes	333-8625
Parliamentarian	Grant Forsberg	216-0216
Service Officer	Hugh Spellman	896-1897
Chaplain	Vince Mahoney	250-9831

Executive Board

First Year	Jim Holder.....	689-8788
	Eric Peterson	212-4283
	Warren Johns.....	960-3006
	Marty Timberlake	699-1216
	Rod Mach	397-0227
	Vince Mahoney	250-9831
	Lisa Petersen.....	250-7254

Second Year

Newsletter Editor		
Newsletter email: news@post374.org		
Color Guard	Hank Kirchoff	681.9740
Honor Detail	John Herrmann	895-0367
	Dale Van Gent	895-2216

S.A.L.

Commander	Curt Jordan	708-6901
Membership	Jim Wentz	895-7039

AUXILIARY

President	Kim Rothgeb	614-9459
Membership	Patty Polson.....	490-4545

Post Phone **402.895.1324** Web Site: www.post374.org



★★ **JUNE** ★★
NEWSLETTER
ARTICLES ARE DUE
(No Later Than)
MAY 23







Mondays - \$1.25 Taco Night 5:30 – 7:30
Tuesday - Hamburger Night - 5:30 -7:30
Thursday - Dinner 5:30 – 6:45 (menu varies)

American Legion Post 374
 PO Box 390698
 Omaha, NE 68139-0698

Address Service Requested

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 U.S. Postage
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 Permit No. 15
 Omaha, NE

MAY 2015 - Saturdays – Hotdogs served starting at Noon

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4 FOOD SAL Mtg 7:00 	5 FOOD Cinco De Mayo food specials 5:30	6	7 Summer cribbage 7:00	8	9
10 Mother's Day Brunch 9:00	11 FOOD 	12 FOOD Auxiliary Mtg 7:00 ----- Liver/Onions for lunch/dinner	13 E-Board meeting moved to third Wednesday	14 Summer cribbage 7:00 	15	16 FOOD Broasted Chicken 5:30 ----- Birthday Bash
17	18 FOOD 	19 FOOD ALR Mtg 7:30 ----- Auxiliary serving dinner 5:30	20 E-Board Mtg 6:30 ----- General Mtg 7:30	21 Summer cribbage 7:00 	22	23 News LTR Articles Due
24	25 Memorial Day Service ----- NO TACOS SERVED	26 FOOD Kitchen open ----- BUNCO 6:30	27	28 Summer cribbage 7:00 	29	30
31						

UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE POST

- Tuesday May 5 Enchiladas/Nachos 5:30
- Sunday May 10..... Mother's Day Brunch 9:00
- Tuesday May 12 Liver/onions & Salisbury steak lunch/dinner
- Saturday May 16 Broasted chicken/Birthday Bash
- Monday May 25..... Memorial Day service at Post
- Tuesday May 26 BUNCO
- Saturday June 6..... District Hog Roast at Post 374

ATTENTION:

Prior to ordering your food please tell the cashier if you are using cash, a credit/debit card or if you want to add it to your bar tab. *Thank you!*

Post Service Officer Info

As your Post Service Officer, I am your contact person regarding veteran issues and the VA. In handling various issues / questions, I have learned that the Douglas County Veterans Service Office plays a key role in resolving many questions that veterans have related to benefits and other programs.

Their Mission Statement states that their staff provides assistance to Veterans and their families who are applying for Federal, State and County Veterans programs and benefits. Federal benefits include the Education benefits, vocational rehabilitation, service connected benefits, non-service disability pension, healthcare and burial benefits.

Nebraska Veterans programs include waiver of tuition, admittance to a Ne. Veterans home, and emergency financial assistance from the state Veterans Aid Fund. Eligibility for state financial assistance requires Honorable or General (under Honorable Conditions) discharge from active duty. Note that this requirement is not met by active duty for training only. Specific residency and service dates are required for some state benefits.

As you can see, our Douglas County Service Office plays an important role in handling any questions that you may have regarding benefits and Veterans programs.

For more information, please see their web site at

<http://.douglascounty-ne.gov/veterans/home>

Their office is at 1111 S 41st St, Suite 110. Their phone number is (402) 444-7180.

Do let me know if you have additional questions regarding this information.

Thanks for your Service – Hugh Spellman, Post Service Officer

Nebraska Veterans Coalition Meeting

The Nebraska Veterans Coalition is having a meeting on Tuesday, May 5th at 7 p.m. in the Post meeting room and All Nebraska veterans are considered members of this Coalition and are invited to attend.

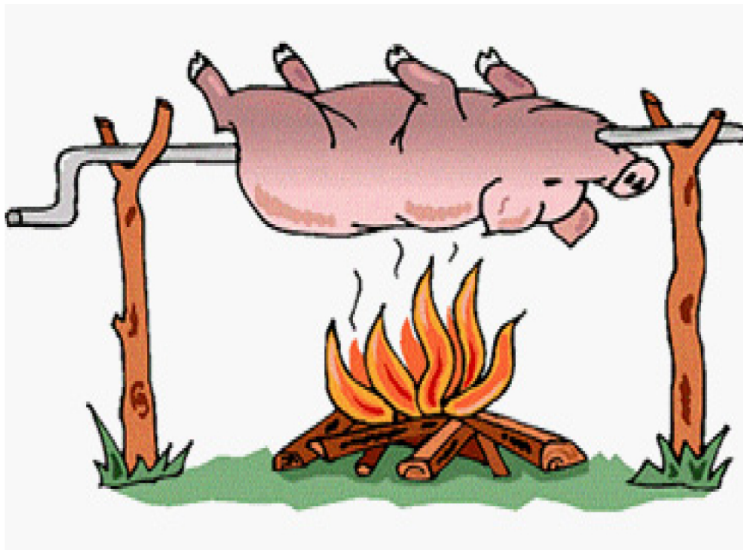
The Coalition was formed to improve the Economic Development capability by retaining the military that separate from Offutt AFB and recruit the military to move to Nebraska.

There are currently 140,000+ Veterans in Nebraska. This Coalition is to get those individual Veterans to take action at the State level and is working with all the other Veteran organizations.

Nebraska has the least amount of Veteran benefits of all its surrounding states. Iowa give 100% exemption from state income tax of the military retirement income and has a state sponsored program to recruit them while Nebraska provides \$0 exemption and the current Legislature provide 0 benefits to its Veterans that would cost any revenue.

The Coalition website is <http://nevetscoalition.org/>

***Food specials on May 5 (since its Cinco de Mayo)
are Enchiladas and Nachos from 5:30-7:30.***



Pulled Pork Dinner

Saturday - June 6th

3:00 - 7:00 P.M.

**Millard American Legion Post #374
13913 S Plaza**

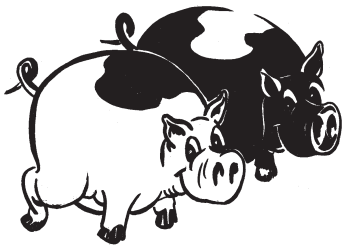
(just down from the Amazing Pizza Machine)

\$7.00 Advance Tickets

\$8.00 Day of Event at Door

**Tickets can be purchased
at the Millard Post #374**

“Auction & Raffles during Dinner”



Sponsored by American Legion District 8 Family

**Proceeds to American Legion-Eastern
Nebraska Veterans Home for outdoor awnings.**