



For God and Country

Legionnaire

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF COUNCIL BLUFFS POST NO. 2



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April/May 2026 Calendar of Events

APRIL 2026 National Child Abuse Prevention Month and Month of the Military Child

Tuesday	7th	6:00p-7:30p	1st Legionnaire Exec Board Meeting
Wednesday	8th	6:00p-9:00p	Auxiliary Meeting
Monday	13th	5:30p-6:30p	2nd Legionnaire Exec Board Meeting
		6:30p-7:30p	Legionnaire General Meeting
Tuesday	14th	4:00p-8:00p	Post 2 Fundraiser @ Lansky's. 10% of sales. Leave your receipt!
Wednesday	15th	6:00p-7:00p	Son's Meeting
		7:00p-8:00p	Rider's Meeting
Saturday	25th	10:00a-3:00p	4th annual Legion Family Day and Veteran's Resource Festival

April Military Observances

- April 5th – Gold Star Spouses Day – A Day dedicated to those whose spouses gave their lives while serving in the U.S. military or as a result of service-connected injuries or illness.
- April 14th – Air Force Reserve Birthday
- April 23rd – Army Reserve Birthday

MAY 2026 National Military Appreciation and Mental Health Awareness Month

Tuesday	5th	6:00p-7:30p	1st Legionnaire Exec Board Meeting
Monday	11th	5:30p-6:30p	2nd Legionnaire Exec Board Meeting
		6:30p-7:30p	Legionnaire General Meeting
Wednesday	13th	6:00p-9:00p	Auxiliary Meeting
Tuesday	12th	4:00p-8:00p	Post 2 Fundraiser @ Lansky's. 10% of sales. Leave your receipt!
Wednesday	20th	6:00p-7:00p	Son's Meeting
		7:00p-8:00p	Rider's Meeting
Monday	25th	8:00a-9:30p	Honor Guard and Auxiliary presentation at Walnut Hill, Fairview cemeteries and Thomas Jefferson High School
		11:00a-12:00p	2nd Annual Memorial Day Ceremony at Bayliss Park

March Military Observances

- May 1 – Silver Star Banner Day – Per Congressional resolution, it is an "Official Day to honor wounded, ill, and injured Veterans".
- May 8 – Military Spouse Appreciation Day
- May 13 – Children of Fallen Patriots Day
- May 16 – Armed Forces Day Armed Forces.
- May 25 – Memorial Day

*Additional VSO meetings: VVA 3rd Thu @ 6:30, DAV 4th Tue @ 6:30 and VFW last Wed @ 6:00

Message from the Commander

It has been very busy two months at the Post planning for the summer events. We have decided not to lease the bar and are planning for a major clean-up of the facility to be used for meetings, fundraisers, and other events as well as hall rental.

ELECTIONS ARE COMING IN JUNE - the positions up for election this year are Commander, First Vice Commander, Treasurer and Member at Large - they are currently being filled by Patty Holeton (Commander), Rex Croson (First Vice Commander), Vern Knop (Treasurer) and Chuck Chambers (Member at Large). Current candidates, nominated by the nominating committee for the coming terms are Patty Holeton (Commander), Rex Croson (First Vice Commander), Jon Coover (Treasurer) and Brad Powell (Member at Large). Candidate names need to be available by the May Legion meeting, May 11. Voting will take place three hours before the June Legion meeting, June 8. If anyone else would like to submit their name as a candidate for one of these positions, or have questions please contact Marti Nerenstone, Judge Advocate and member of the nominating committee, by email at nerenstonelaw@qwestoffice.net.

The change to the Bylaws allowing for electronic Executive Meetings went into effect March 7th. I'd like to give a huge thank you to the VSO's for donating to the parking lot fund. We will continue to take donations and are actively looking for grants. We hope to get this done late spring/early summer.

Jon Coover is offering a basic computer class on April 3rd at 9:30 am. Call the post if you are interested.

Semper Fi, Patty Holeton, Commander

Message from Vice Commander/Memberships

February and March are gone and I am happy to report that we have had some good donations from Lansky's fundraiser and recruitment nights. Thanks to all of you who chose to eat there on our nights.

Buddy check Saturday was on 03/14/2026. And I wish to thank each of you who helped with making calls. We still have some more Legion Members to try to contact. And if we did not speak to you yet or could not reach you this is your check in. If you need something that the Post can help you with please call 712-796-4470.

Again, thanks to Patty, Lori, Brad, and Larry for your assistance in making calls for Buddy check Saturday

Rex Croson - This We Will Defend

Adjutant

It's been a great year at Post 2. Post 2 has 261 members that renewed in 2026! 86.6% of our goal. Thank you everyone that has renewed their dues. Several legionnaires renewed theirs after they were expired, so plenty of time. Our membership dues support all Veterans. From Washington DC to the great state of Iowa, even our neighborhood in Council Bluffs! A few of our members and I spent some time reviewing our members address, email and phone numbers with buddy checks. We need your help! Several were incorrect. If you move, change phone numbers or added an email, please contact me and I will make sure it's updated. Post 2 spends a lot of money for newsletter mailing. If you have e-mail, it will put more money to help Veterans that need our help. Thank you. - Scott A Kvammen Post 2 Adjutant

Program Committee Update

No update.

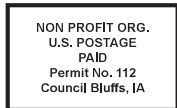
American Legion Auxiliary

Spring is in the air! April and May will be full of events and ceremonies for all to attend. A previous Quilts of Valor ceremony was held on March 22nd for David Haines. On May 3rd, there will be a Quilts of Valor ceremony for Mike Franks, 2:00 PM at Post 2 for those who wish to attend. April 8th is our next Auxiliary meeting at 6:00 PM. We would like to see more attendance, and all interested are welcome to join us. Let's get ready for the Legion Family Day, April 25th, that will be held at the Veterans Affairs location this year, along with their Veterans Resource Festival. Please see the attached flyer and we hope to see you all there! The American Legion Family will participate in the annual CB Clean Sweep on May 5th, volunteering to keep our city clean! May 9th will be the Celebrate CB Parade at 10:30 AM that will run on Pearl and Main Streets. The traveling Vietnam Veteran Memorial, "The Wall That Heals," is scheduled arrive in Council Bluffs, IA at Lewis Central School May 22-25, 2026. It's an honor to have the traveling memorial come to our town. It's a, "must see!" Please see the attached Wall That Heals flyer for more information. On May 25th, there will be a Memorial Day Ceremony held at Bayliss Park at 11:00 AM. Please bring a lawn chair. Just a friendly reminder, memberships for 2026 are due! Our fiscal year is July to June, and your 2026 membership started July 2025 and goes to June 2026. Please get your membership renewals in before April 2026 so you stay current with your years of membership. Any questions or know of anyone who would like to be a member, call Beth 402-253-7684. We appreciate all your support. The Legion Family would like to see you, come enjoy yourself at our upcoming events!

Beth Holeyton – Auxiliary President

**American Legion Post No. 2
716 South 4th Street
Council Bluffs, IA 51503**

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Sons of the American Legion (SAL)

No update.

American Legion Post #2 Riders

The Annual Legion Riders Golf Tournament is Friday June 26th at 11:00am. This event helps the Riders fund Boys State and Baseball. Your participation and anyone wanting to volunteer to help please contact Phill Sollars at 402-709-2296.

The Dept of Iowa riders is planning an Iowa Legacy Ride in July. The 10th to the 12th of July starting Cummings IA, ending in Newton, IA

The secret is out National Legion Riders Legacy Run is starting in Lincoln, NE. Aug. 27th and going across Iowa end in Louisville, KY.

Flags for Vets is coming out of hibernation working on starting with 3 retirement homes in the middle of April.

And the last thing to be ready for the June 2026 elections. Director, Vice Director, Treasurer, Secretary, Ride Capt., Sgt. at Arms, Chaplin. Are all open positions please put your name on the slate if you wish to be part of the Riders leadership to bring us together for new and exciting roads.

Rex Croson Riders Acting Secretary.

TAPS

We have done funerals for 2 members in February and March, Arthur Bandomer and Charles Watson. We have done 15 funerals so far in 2026.

We have 4 events on Memorial Day; 8:30 Walnut Hill, 9:00 Fairview Cemetery, 9:30 TJ, 11:00 Bayliss Park.

Brad