

**CONSTITUTION  
OF  
LEONARD E. CONLEY POST NO. 216  
THE AMERICAN LEGION  
GRETNA, NEBRASKA**

**PREAMBLE**

For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes:

To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism, to preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in the Great Wars, to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the Community, State and Nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make the master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice; freedom and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

**ARTICLE I**

Section 1: The name of this organization shall be the LEONARD E. CONLEY POST NO. 216, The American Legion, Department of Nebraska, as incorporated on December 29, 1992. The location of the principal place of business and the location of its Registered Office is 11690 South 216th Street, Gretna, Nebraska 68028.

**ARTICLE II**

Section 1: The purpose and objective of this organization shall be as set forth in the preamble to this constitution and shall include support of the four pillars of the American Legion, Veteran's Affairs and Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children and Youth.

Section 2: The American Legion is a civilian organization; membership therein does not affect nor increase liability for military or police service. Rank does not exist in the American Legion; no member shall be addressed by their military or naval title in any convention or meeting of the American Legion.

Section 3: The American Legion shall be nonpolitical and shall not be used for the dissemination of partisan principles nor for the promotion of the candidacy of any person seeking public office or preferment.

**ARTICLE III**

Section 1: The organization of this post shall be in conformity with the provisions of the Constitution of the American Legion, Department of Nebraska, and the National Constitution of the American Legion.

Section 2: This post may be divided into branches but said branches shall have standing and be recognized only within this post.



Section 3: This post shall never be named after any living person.

Section 4: The Legislative power of this organization shall be vested in the membership thereof, each member in good standing shall be entitled to one vote.

Section 5: Robert's Rules of Order shall govern all meetings of the post, unless specific rules in conflict therewith shall be adopted by the vote of two-thirds of the members present.

#### **ARTICLE IV**

Section 1: Any person shall be eligible for membership in this post of the American Legion only if the individual:

(1) has served in the Armed Forces of

(A) the United States at any time during the period of April 6, 1917, through November 11, 1918, or any time after December 7, 1941; or

(B) a government associated with the United States Government during a period or time referred to in (A) above and was a citizen of the United States when the individual entered that service; and

(2) was honorably discharged or separated from that service (after completing at least one day of Active-Duty service) or continues to serve honorably during or after that period of time; or

(3) served in the Maritime Services;

provided however, that such service shall have been terminated by an honorable discharge or honorable separation or continued honorably during or after any of said periods.

Provided, further, that no such person shall be entitled to membership who, being in such service, refused on conscientious, political, or other grounds to subject themselves to military discipline or unqualified service.

Section 2: There shall be no form or class of membership except an active member and dues shall be paid annually or for life.

Section 3: No person may be a member at any one time of more than one post. Non-residents otherwise eligible shall be admitted for membership on the same basis as residents.

Section 4: No person who has been expelled by a post shall be admitted to membership in this post, without the consent of the expelling post, except that where such consent has been asked for and denied by such post, he may then appeal to the Executive Committee of the Department of expelling post for permission to be admitted to membership in another post and shall be ineligible for membership until such permission is granted.

#### **ARTICLE V**

Section 1: The first regular meeting in June of each year shall be the annual meeting of this post.



## **ARTICLE VI**

Section 1: The post shall, at its annual meeting, elect a Post Commander, a Vice-Commander, a Finance Officer, and an Adjutant. The Post Commander may put in for election or appoint a Chaplain, a Sergeant-at-Arms, and a Post Service Officer, to serve for the term of one year.

Section 2: The Post Commander, shall, on or before the regular meeting in March of each year, appoint a Nominating Committee consisting of three eligible members of the post, for the purpose of selecting one or more candidates for each elective office of the post as provided in Section 1 of this article. The recommendations of the Nominating Committee shall be reported to the membership of the post at the regular meeting in April. Nomination of candidates for the elected officers may be made from the floor, until a call for balloting for that office is made. Nominations need not be seconded. Election of the nominated candidates will be held at the regular meeting in May. Anyone voted into an elected position in the Post may be required to furnish a copy of an Honorable Separation from their last military service before being sworn into office.

Section 3: The elected officers of the post shall be installed in and take office at the regular meeting of the post in June of each year and shall serve one year, unless elected for a longer term or until their successors are elected and installed.

Section 4: Vacancies in any office of the post shall be filled by election at the next regular meeting of the post. In the event of a vacancy in the office of Post Commander, the Vice-Commander shall succeed to that office.

Section 5: The Post Adjutant shall act as secretary of the post.

Section 6: All appointed officers shall hold office at the pleasure of the appointing power.

Section 7: All persons having custody of post funds shall be bonded at the determination of the Post Executive Committee. The premium on said bonds shall be paid by the post.

## **ARTICLE VII**

Section 1: The Post Executive Committee shall consist of the regularly elected officers of the post and five members at large elected from the membership of the post at the annual election. The administrative power and authority of all post assets and resources shall be vested in the Post Executive Committee. Six members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum.

Section 2: The Executive Committee shall meet at a time and place to be fixed by the committee, not less than quarterly. Special meetings may be called at any time by the Post Commander upon notice to all members of the committee. The Post Commander shall call a special meeting at any time upon written request of three members of the committee. Special meetings shall be called not less than two days nor more than five days following the filing of the request with the Adjutant. All meetings of the committee shall be open to any member of the post and any member shall upon request, be heard on any matter before the committee.



Section 3: The Post Commander shall be the chairman of the Executive Committee.

Section 4: Except as provided in Article VI, no decision requiring membership approval shall be advanced to the membership without review and consent by the executive committee.

Section 5: Vacancies in the Executive Committee shall be filled by election at the next regular meeting of the Post after the vacancy occurs.

Section 6: All Past Post Commanders shall be ex-officio members of the Executive Committee, with the power to vote.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

Section 1: Such committees as may be appropriate for the proper conduct of the affairs of the post shall be appointed by the Post Commander, with approval of the Executive Committee. The Commander, in an emergency, shall have authority to appoint such special committees as, in his or her judgment, the circumstances require. The acts of all committees shall be subject to the approval of the Executive Committee. Such committees shall serve for the term for which they are appointed. At the Commander's discretion, a committee chairman for each of the Four Pillars of the American Legion (*Veteran's Affairs and Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children and Youth*) shall be assigned. The appointed chairman will have the ability to form a committee to plan and execute those programs and events that support the pillar and shall report to the membership the results of that committee's actions.

## **ARTICLE IX**

Section 1: Delegates and alternates to the annual convention of the American Legion, Department of Nebraska, shall be elected by the post at least two weeks prior of the date of such Department Convention. The number of said delegates and alternatives and their powers shall be as provided by the Constitution and By-Laws of the American Legion, Department of Nebraska.

## **ARTICLE X**

Section 1: Any member is subject to discipline as prescribed by the Constitution and By-Laws of the National Organization of the American Legion and of the American Legion, Department of Nebraska.

## **ARTICLE XI**

Section 1: The revenue of this post shall be derived from annual membership dues and from other sources as may be approved by the Executive Committee or voted by the membership.

Section 2: The annual dues shall set by the membership, excluding the Department and National Dues, until changed by vote of the members at an annual meeting of this post, or by action of the Department of National Conventions.



## ARTICLE XII

Section 1: American Legion Post 216 recognizes an association with the following:

- Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 10725
- Douglas Zoerb Marine Corp League Post 1466
- American Legion Auxiliary Unit 216
- Sons of American Legion Squadron 216
- Gretna Nebraska Boy Scouts of America Troop 363
- American Legion Riders Chapter 216

## ARTICLE XIII

Section 1: All acts performed, officers elected, and other business transacted by the organization of LEONARD E. CONLEY POST No. 216 of the American Legion, Department of Nebraska, are hereby ratified and confirmed.

## ARTICLE XIV

Section: This Constitution may be amended at any regular meeting of the post by a two-thirds vote of the members present, providing notice of the proposed amendment shall have been given at the preceding meeting or in writing in the call of the meeting 14 days in advance of the meeting.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF,

We have hereunto subscribed our names this 17<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2024.

Cindy Mefford Cindy Mefford  
Post Commander

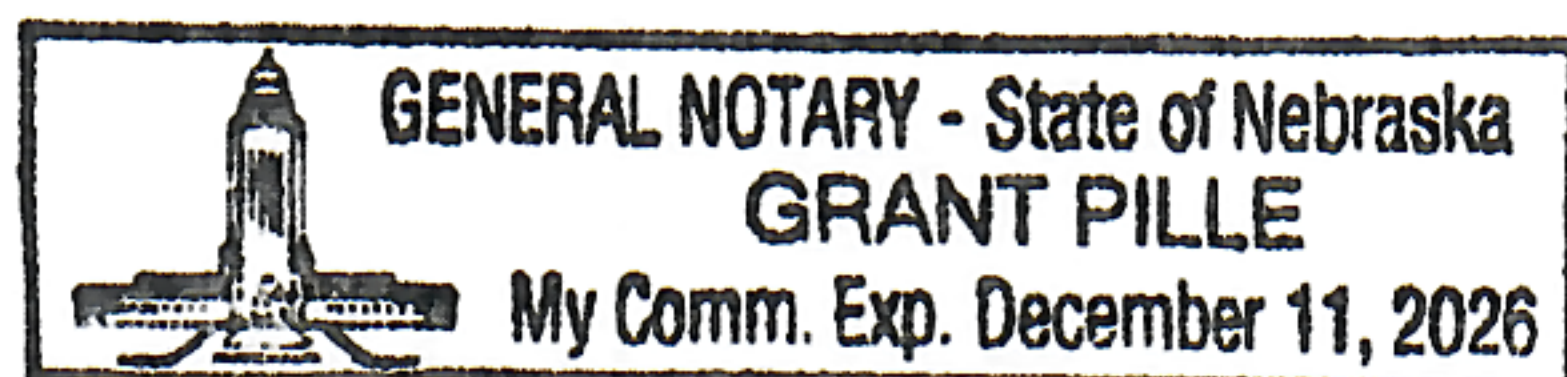
JOEL ROSSMAN Joel Rossman  
Vice Commander

Jason Johnson [Signature]  
Post Finance Officer

Jeff Johnson [Signature]  
Post Adjutant

STATE OF NEBRASKA  
COUNTY OF SARPY

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 17<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2024.



[Signature]  
Notary Public