

To honor all
who stand up
and speak out
for freedom &
liberty!



Liberty Express

June 2022

Central Nebraska Veterans' Home, 4510 E. 56th St., Kearney, NE 68847 (308) 865-6000

June=Summertime Fun Activities!

-Jessica Modlin, Activity Manager

Page 2
National Veterans
Awareness Riders

Page 3
Member of the Month
& Memorial

Page 4
Fishing Fun

Page 5
Music

Page 6
The White Table
Display

Page 7
Memorial Day
Observances &
Poppy Day

Page 8
Member Council
Salute

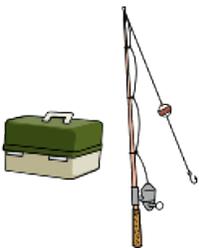
The month of June means outdoor fun for our members here at the Veterans' Home.

We have great outdoor areas around campus to utilize for outdoor activities with our members.

The neighborhood patios have raised garden tubs for members to use to plant flowers and vegetables in.

Our lake is another popular area that members enjoy spending time at.

Our lake is stocked with rainbow trout, large mouth bass, bluegill, and catfish. Members that would like to go fishing can contact their Recreation Specialist to see when the next **fishing time** is scheduled. Members that are able to independently fish can contact Recreation staff to **check out fishing poles and tackle to fish at their own leisure.**



We have many other outdoor fun opportunities for members besides fishing we croquet sets, football toss, ladder toss, bean bag (cornhole) toss, remote control cars, and kites that can be used for outdoor fun this summer!



A few summertime activities scheduled in June include:

- **Happy Hour—Tuesday, June 7th at 3:00—Freedom Hall—**Come down and enjoy a cold beverage!
- **Concert Featuring Rascal Martinez—Thursday, June 16th at 2 p.m.—Freedom Hall—**The



American Legion and Auxiliary are the sponsor for this special concert!

- **Hawaiian Luau Beach Party - Tuesday, June 21st at 2 p.m. - Freedom Hall—**District 6

American Legion Auxiliary has donated money towards bingo coupons, theme prizes, and refreshments for this annual event!



- **Patriot Celebration Week—**We are planning a variety of special activities during this week leading up to the 4th of July! Watch for announcements in your neighborhoods for the fun activities planned that week: banana splits, a cruise of participants around our campus drive, a fireworks display and more!



GOVERNOR
PETE RICKETTS

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS DIRECTOR
JOHN HILGERT

CENTRAL NEBRASKA VETERANS' HOME ADMINISTRATOR
DORIN C. VAIPAN

National Veterans Awareness Riders!

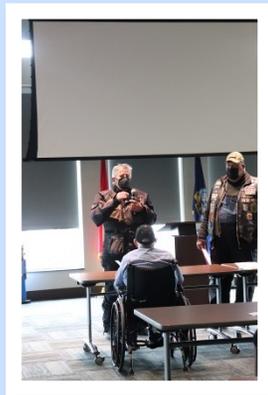
The National Veterans Awareness Organization began in 2005 as a not-for-profit organization dedicated to honoring all veterans.



Their Mission: is to remember, honor and support veterans and those currently serving in all branches of the military.



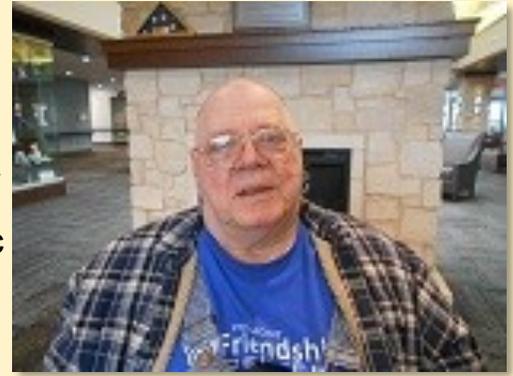
The Ride: is a 13-day event each May in which the riders ride from Auburn, California to Washington, DC. Each day they visit Veterans' Homes and Hospitals to let the vets know they are not forgotten!



Member of the Month:

Gary “Doc” Halbmaier

Gary “Doc” Halbmaier was selected as the “Member of the Month” by the C.N.V.H. Member Council. Doc was born in Hampshire Illinois and was also raised in this area, later living in Nebraska and also Texas.



Doc attended elementary and high school in Hampshire and he enjoyed playing basketball during his school years. Doc joined the Navy in 1959 and was in the service until 1962 and was on the USS Myles C Fox Ship. He was a cook and enjoyed cooking for everyone. He cooked roughly for 250 people. Breakfast was his favorite meal to cook.

Doc was a truck driver following the service for 30 plus years. When he lived in Hampshire he was a member of the VFW. Doc likes to spend his leisure time watching television and movies. His favorite color is red, favorite food is lobster and favorite type of music is any country western music.

Congratulations, Doc, on being selected “Member of the Month”!

In Memoriam

Norma Mckeehan

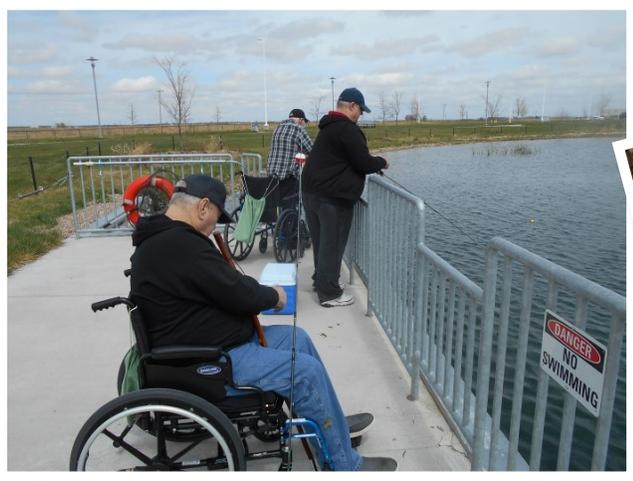
Paul Jacobsen

Robert Speicher

Victor Carpenter



Fishing Fun!



Members enjoy going out to the lake and fishing. Fishing is one of the members' favorite things to do during the beautiful weather!



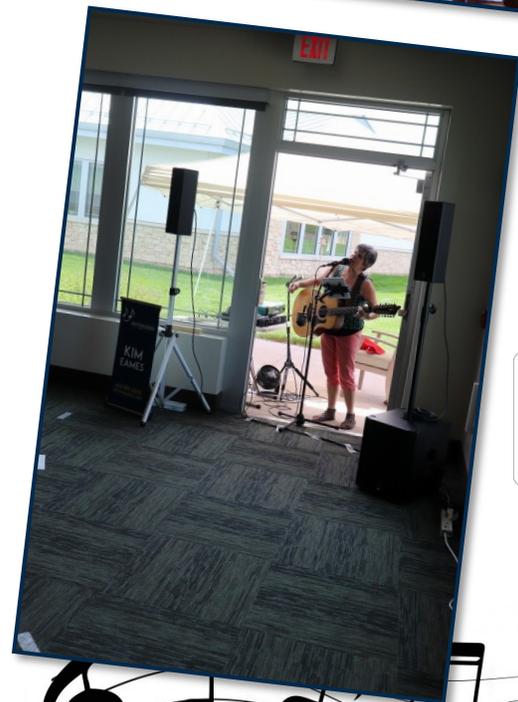
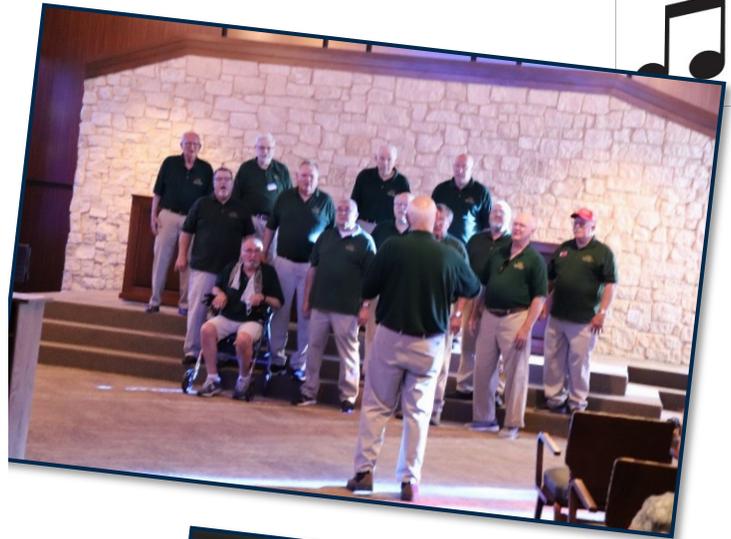
Our lake is stocked with rainbow trout, large mouth bass, bluegill, and catfish.



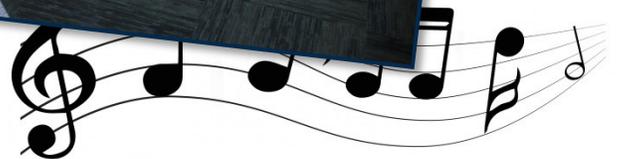
Music is good for our souls.....



Music is an important part of our activity programming here at the Veterans' Home. We have learned to use technology to stream music performers into Freedom Hall on our big screen for members to enjoy, as we still have some COVID restrictions in place.



Kearney Barbershop joined us and provided a concert for us in the month of May and Kim Eams was a Merrymakers performer that performed for us!





The “White Table” display was placed on exhibit in the Hearth Room for the week leading up to Memorial Day and through the holiday, to pay tribute to those who have given the ultimate sacrifice to our Nation and our freedom.



The table is small, symbolizing the frailty of one prisoner, alone against his or her suppressors, and to show our everlasting concern for our armed forces personnel still missing. It is also reserved in honor of our fallen comrades.

The tablecloth is white, symbolizing the purity of their motives when answering the call to duty.

The single rose in the vase, reminds of the lost or missing service members.

The red ribbon on the vase represents the blood of those that have died in service to our country and also our continued determination to account for our missing.

A slice of lemon on the plate reminds us of the bitter fate of those captured and missing in a foreign land or of the bitter news a family receives when a loved one has been killed in action.

The salt sprinkled on the plate reminds of the countless fallen tears of families who grieve the loss of their loved one Killed in Action or who’s loved one has been declared Missing in Action.

The Bible represents faith in a higher power and the pledge to our country, founded as one nation under God.

The glass is inverted to symbolize their inability to share this evening’s toast.

The black napkin stands for the emptiness these warriors have left in the hearts of their families and friends.

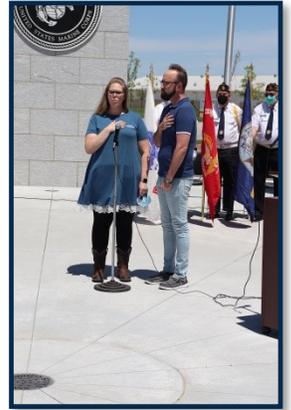
The candle is reminiscent of the light of hope, which lives in our hearts. It illuminates the path of the fallen soldier on his way to report to the Final Roll Call under the Supreme Commander. It also illuminates the way home for those that are missing.

The chair is empty to symbolize their absence and the empty place it has left in our hearts.

The American Flag reminds us that they have paid the supreme sacrifice to ensure our freedom.

Memorial Day Observance . . . To Honor & Remember

The Memorial Day Ceremony was held out at our Memorial here on Campus. The members enjoyed having this Ceremony outside this year! The Master of Ceremonies was Dorin Vaipan, Administrator, and the Posting of Colors and 21 Gun Salute by Kearney V.F.W. Post 759 and American Legion Post 52 Color Guard. We had special music provided by Jacki Connery and Brent Roemmich. The Invocation was provided by Chaplain Michael Koenig.



POPPY DAY

The American Legion Auxiliary provided poppies for the members and staff! American Legion Auxiliary CNVH Rep, Linda Garvel and American Legion Rep, Edith Deuel for Department of Nebraska were here for Poppy Day!



CNVH Member Council Honors:

Gary Halbmaier

Member of the Month



CNVH Member Council Honors:

Maggie Ewoldt

Employee of the Month



Mail To:



The Liberty Express is published monthly by Central Nebraska Veterans' Home,
4510 E. 56th Street, Kearney, NE 68847 (308) 865-6000
Administrator: Dorin C. Vaipan
Editor: Jessica Modlin, Public Information Officer
Printing: Reception
Newsletter on line: <https://veterans.nebraska.gov/cnvh>