

Ames Legion Family In Action

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES IN IOWA

On January 22, Legionnaires from all over Iowa met at the Capitol to advocate for legislative issues to assist veterans and members of the military with education, jobs and tax benefits.



1. Retired Military Pay Income Tax Exemption: The American Legion requests the State of Iowa establish a state income tax exemption for all military retirement pay for retired military personnel with Iowa as their primary residence.

2. Veterans Property Tax Exemption: The American Legion requests the State of Iowa adjust the veterans property tax exemption to 10% of the average assessed value of a household in Iowa to restore its original financial benefit to the veterans of Iowa.

3. In-state Tuition Rates for Veterans: The American Legion requests the State of Iowa grant in-state tuition and fees for public colleges and universities to veterans.

4. Support Licensure and Certification of Active-Duty and Selected Reserve Personnel: The

American Legion supports efforts to eliminate employment barriers that impede the timely and successful transfer of military job skills to the civilian labor market and supports efforts to increase the civilian labor market's acceptance of the occupational training provided by the military.

5. Veterans Preference in Public Employment: The American Legion deplores each and every attempt to degrade, dilute or modify the historical precedence of giving job eligibility preference to those who are taken from their communities to serve their country in time of war. Officials at every level of government are urged to oppose any and all efforts to circumvent veterans' preference in government hiring practices and all executives at every level of government

are urged to enforce veterans' preference in their respective government agencies.

In addition to those specific issues, The American Legion continues a focus on the funding provided to operate the Iowa Veterans Home, the Department of Veterans Affairs and the programs administered through that Department and the Iowa Veterans Cemetery.

We believe that the services and programs provided through those Departments and agencies are of high importance and must be funded at levels sufficient to at the very least maintain those services and programs at the levels of FY2013.

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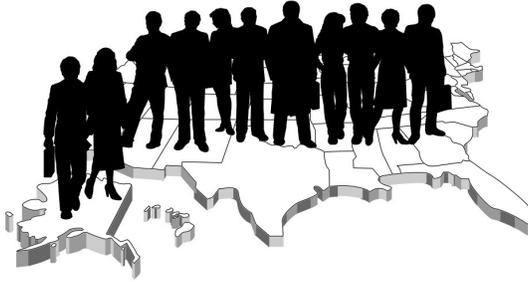
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Post Commander Doug's Comments

It is February and that means Mid-Winter Conference time. Because of the date of the Mid-Winter Conference, the monthly Legion Executive Board and Regular Legion Meetings will be held on February 6th instead of the 13th. Please mark the change of date on your calendar and plan on attending the meetings.

Mid-Winter Conference will be held in Des Moines the weekend of February 14-16. It is an excellent opportunity to learn about the different Legion Programs and truly understand the importance of your participation in the Legion and the issues facing us as veterans at the state and federal levels. If you have not been to a Mid-Winter Conference in the past, I encourage you to attend this year's conference.

The successes of our different Post events would not have been possible without your interest and participation. Thank you. I hope that you have enjoyed attending these events and will continue to do so in the future. However, these events do not just happen.



It takes volunteers to ensure that each of these events are successful, and to that end we can always use more volunteers for these events. If you are interested in helping, please let us know by leaving your name at the Post or sending an e-mail to

LegionPost37Newsletter@gmail.com.

Have you moved or changed your e-mail address? The Post is frequently overlooked and forgotten when you're mailing address or e-mail address changes. Please remember to let the Post know if you have changed your mailing address or your e-mail address so we can continue providing you information on Post activities.

I would also like to request your help and ask for your ideas and thoughts on how we can improve the Post, our programs, and our operations. If you have any ideas or thoughts on how we can continue to ensure our Post is the best in the state, please let us know what they are. If you can't come to a meeting, drop me a note at the Post or stop me when you see me. Post 37 is more than just a few people, it is the entire membership and we need your input and participation to continue to improve the Post and our activities.

I look forward to seeing you at the Post in the near future.

Unit President Sharon's Comments

Happy New Year Everyone, I hope everyone is keeping warm with the weather that we have been having.

I would like to thank everyone who stepped up and helped us with our Steak Dinner in January. I would also like to thank the members who showed up for our meeting. The speaker was great.

I hope more of you will come to our next meeting. We have some things to discuss and I would like more input from our members. It will be on the first Tuesday of the month.

I would like to thank everyone who helped at the Cookie Fair and all those who made the cookies that we sold. We had a very good turnout.

I would like to send my thoughts out to those who have lost loved ones or have been sick. May God speed your healing.

Don't forget to mark February 14 – 16 on your calendar for the Department of Iowa Mid Winter Conference in Des Moines.

I hope to see you all at the Post and remember we need people to work BINGO during February.

Squadron Commander Steve's Comments

It's February already and midwinter conference is coming up fast. We need 20 more memberships in to be at target when we go to midwinter. LETS get them in!

The Sons have the February dinner on the 1st. Come enjoy a good meal and friendship. Also the Sons will be having their spring breakfast on March 29th.

We are now receiving applications for our merit awards that we will award in March. If you know any student in Ames or Gilbert High Schools that is the son, daughter, grandchild or great grandchild of a veteran have them get an application from their school and complete it. Applications need to be at the post no later than March 15th.

Also don't forget about the brunch on February 9th to help the building fund.

That's all for this month. For God and Country

Junior Unit Report

Our Juniors were not able to meet this month, too much going on! We will meet the first Sunday of February at 2pm. We will be working on poppy corsages for the Junior District Conference on March 29 in Slater.

Poppy posters will also be due by March 29. If we have 2 in a class, then they will need to be judged at the Unit level. If you are not able to attend the conference but want to enter a poster or corsage, please have them at the post no later than March 15th and I will pick them up and take with me.

If you able to join us in February we would be happy to have you.

THE CLOCK IS TICKING

If you have not yet renewed your membership in the Legion family, remember your dues were due on January 1 and your membership will become delinquent on February 1. It is never too late to pay dues but better sooner than later. The Post, the Unit and the Squadron all need you. While you are at it, remember the Chapter dues for the Legion Riders.

Clubroom News

Happy Valentine's to all!! We are officially through the busy holidays so take a break because there are plenty of fun activities here in the Clubroom. What a better way to beat the winter blahs then to stop into the post and see friends and share a few stories.

Winners of this years' chili contest were:

- 1st Place-Sandi Lawrence
- 2nd Place-Joan Schoenbaum
- 3rd Place-Paul Madsen

Thanks to all who entered the contest!!!

Super Bowl Madness- Join us Sunday, February 2 for the ultimate place to watch the Super Bowl. Enjoy the big game on our jumbo 110" TV. Please bring a munchie to share. We will have drink specials, pools, and trivia games, and more!

Friday, February 7 is \$2 Burger Nite. Dinner will be served from 5:30-7pm. This is a fun and informal meal that can be enjoyed right in the clubroom. Stop

in for the **best burger** in town. Add a side order of fries or try one of our delicious appetizers.

Wednesday, February 19 is Tenderloin Basket Night. Tenderloins will be served from 5-6:30pm. This meal is an excellent value at just \$6.00, which includes all the fixins' and French fries.

Friday, February 21 is Texas Hold-Em. Play begins at 7pm

Be sure to stop into the clubroom to check out the happenings. It is full of great information including: birthdays, appetizer and drink specials, events at the post and more.



Building Fundraising Committee Notes



Soup Contest Results

Thanks to all those who entered our soup contest, it was a great turnout. The winners of the

soup contest were:

- 1st Sandi Lawrence-Bacon Cheeseburger Soup
- 2nd Karen Goodman-Baked Potato Soup
- 3rd Barb Schendel-Corn Chowder

This was a really fun event and also helped raise money for the building fund. Thanks again to those who entered and those who enjoyed!!



Sunday Brunch

February 9, 2014

Brunch will be served from 11am- 1pm.

Stop in and enjoy this very popular post event. Brunch is a free will donation to benefit the Building Remodel Fund. Finish off the weekend

on a high note when you indulge in our fabulous buffet. All of your favorites will be included including a few new items.



Bouquet Card Last Chance

It's your last chance to get your flower cards!!!

Now only \$10. Drop by the Clubroom and pick yours up today!!!

Consider Paid-Up-For-Life Membership



The American Legion's Paid-Up-For-Life program has 200,000 members that have chosen to

enroll, pay one fee and remain a member for life.

There are a number of benefits in this program. Among them is that you will never again have to go through a dues increase and that you will have a lifetime subscription to The American Legion magazine.

Most importantly though, by joining this program you will be saying to the world

that you believe in The American Legion and what we do and that you want to be part of that forever.

A PUFL member receives a permanent plastic membership card and an annual membership card. You can join with those 200,000 members, some of them from Ames, by going to <http://www.legion.org/join/pufl>. At that page there is a Click Here to Start button that will give you a personalized offer. You will need your membership number for that offer. Consider joining the program. You will do both the Legion and our Post a service

CLUBROOM COUPON

Any Tuesday in February

Present Coupon to get

2 drinks for the price of 1.

Cash Purchase Only

COLA Payments Fight

The American Legion continues to fight the reduction in COLA payments. That reduction originally targeted all retired and disabled veterans. It has since been modified to grant the full COLA payment to disabled veterans but not to retirees.

Commander Dellinger stated, "Senate leaders are using medically discharged veterans to try and convince the American people that they really have not broken faith with our veterans. Congress needs to restore COLA benefits to all military retirees, not just some of them."

Please contact your Senators and Representative to express your agreement with Commander Dellinger.

Kudo Korner



Well done to the following Post members this month:

Matt Allen for stepping in at the last

minute as chef for the January Steak Dinner; Sarah Schendel, Sandy Deacon and Michelle Sime for coordinating the Soup Dinner Fundraiser, and; Sandy Lawrence for the winning soup at the Building Fundraiser.

AMERICAN LEGION POST NO. 37
 225 Main Street
 Ames, IA 50010

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LOOK INSIDE FOR COUPON **FEBRUARY**

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
	Find us on Facebook at American Legion Family of Ames, IA Post 37					1 STEAK DINNER 5:30—7:00
2 JR. AUX. 2PM SUPER BOWL PARTY BINGO	3 LEGION RIDERS 6:30	4 TOASTED CHEESE TUESDAY AUXILIARY REGULAR 7:00	5 BINGO	6 SOCIAL COMM. 6:00 LEGION BOARD 6:30 REGULAR 7:30	7 \$2 BURGER NIGHT 5:30-7:00	8
9 BRUNCH 11AM—1PM BINGO	10 BUILDING FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE	11 TOASTED CHEESE TUESDAY SAL REGULAR 6:30	12 BINGO	13	14 MIDWINTER CONFERENCE MUNCHIES NIGHT	15
16 MIDWINTER CONFERENCE BINGO	17	18 TOASTED CHEESE TUESDAY PAST PRESIDENT'S PARLEY 7:00	19 TENDERLOIN 5:00-6:30 BINGO	20 OPERATIONS COMMITTEE 6:00	21 TEXAS HOLD-EM 7:00 MUNCHIES NIGHT	22
23 BINGO	24	25 TOASTED CHEESE TUESDAY 40&8	26 BINGO	27	28 MUNCHIES NIGHT	