



THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY



Post Commander: Doug MacCrea
Unit President: Sharon Bellinghausen
Squadron Commander: Keven Brace
Chapter President: Rick Hackett

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YOU ARE CHANGING THE VA

Ames Legion Family In Action

Events over the past few months have shown the absolute need for a strong active membership in The American Legion family.

Rumors and stories have circulated for months about problems in the VA Health Care and Benefits systems. Until the Spring 2014 National Executive Meeting, though, those rumors and stories received some attention from the media, the public and our political leaders but not enough to really bring the problems the attention that was needed.

National Commander Dellinger's press conference at the NEC meeting changed that and brought a much higher level of intensity to the investigations and stories about the problems.

That higher level of intensity happened for one simple reason. The American Legion family caused that. Our position as a nonpartisan organization removed the discussion from the political arena. That combined with our strong, active na-



tionwide membership and our history of actively working within the VAMCs with the System Worth Saving Task Force and the Regional Offices with our Assessment teams brought the problems to the level of national importance.

Underlying and enabling all that is the Legion family's strong membership. The SWS Task Force and the ROAR teams could not exist without that strong membership. The attention paid to our National Commander's call for the VA Secretary's resignation due to these problems would not have happened without our strong membership numbers.

That doesn't just apply to the Legion. Our National

Commander may draw the attention of the media and the Congress but the Auxiliary and SAL play an important part with their membership.

We talk every year about the need for a strong membership. Events from this spring and summer demonstrate why that membership work is necessary every year.

You play a part in that. By becoming and staying a Legion family member, you played a part in beginning to solve some long-standing problems in the VA. Your membership is important every year. Be proud you kept your membership. You are part of really helping our comrades that use the VA health and benefits systems.

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Post Commander Doug's Comments

September is here and it marks the start of lots of Legion activities in the coming months. I encourage you to look at the calendar and stop by the Post to enjoy these events that your fellow Legion Family Members put on for our Post Family and the public.

The front page of this newsletter discusses the importance of Legion Family membership and the impact that our collective voices can have in influencing critical issues that impact our veterans and their families. There is unquestionably more that needs to be done, at the local, state and national level and a collective voice such as the Legion's is far more effective than that of many, many other organizations.



This brings me to a brief, but fundamental discussion about the business operations of our Post. We, as a Post Family, need to understand that we are a business and like all businesses we need to make a profit to remain in business. Before we can donate money to worthy causes, we need to make

money to pay our operating expenses so we can have a Post Home to gather at to do the charitable, non-profit work of the Legion.

We generate the vast majority of our income from events such as dinners, free will donation breakfasts, bingo, clubroom beverage/food sales, semi-annual cookie sales, room rentals and other events. This is where you can help. If every Post 37 Family member attended at least one dinner, an evening of bingo, or

stopped in the clubroom and enjoyed a drink or snack once a month, we would generate more income, leading to more funds available for charitable causes. Bring your friends as guests.

I hope to see you all at the Post in the weeks ahead.

Unit President Sharon's Comments

Hi Everyone,

Well summer is almost over. I hope you had a good one. We are still taking clothes for Veterans. We need fall clothing for men in all sizes.

It was nice to see so many new faces at the last meeting. I hope to see you at the next meeting. After the meeting, we will be having a school of instruction for officers and chairwomen, please plan to attend. We still need chairwomen and committee volunteers, so please consider what you would like to do and come to the training.

We will have a Service Day on Satur-

day, September 18, for both Seniors and Juniors. So please bring scissors and sewing machines and come to the Post and enjoy the fellowship. It will run from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm and lunch will be served.

We need people to sign up to help at Bingo. The list is on the inside door of the Bingo cabinet. So please check it out and if you can fit it into your schedule, sign it. It can be enjoyable.

I was so happy to see so many of you at the Brunch. It is nice to see all the support for the Post. A very big thank you to all the people who worked.

The Juniors will meet on the first Sunday in September at 2:00 pm at the Post and we will meet on the first Tuesday in September at 7:00 pm. I hope to see you there.

Legion/Flag Trivia

- 1) The American Legion Preamble has been changed how many times? a) 0 b) 1 c) 4 d) 8
- 2) The American Flag was last changed in what year? a) 1958 b) 1959 c) 1960 d) 1961
- 3) True or False. The American Legion logo is patented?

Squadron Commander Keven's Comments

We are into another year, and doing the things that entails. Most of the committee appointments have been made and approved. The several left to be made have people interested who have yet to be contacted.

A copy of the Constitution and By Laws will be made available to any member who requests one. After reading it over, it possibly will need to be amended. Call me if you want a copy.

We will again be offering our Merit Award applications to any interested AHS or GHS senior. It will be available in Dec. or Jan., online (AHS) or from Paul Jacobsen at GHS.

Sam Gordon, one of the 5 boys sent to Boy's State by the Post and Squadron, told us his experiences and impressions at Hawkeye Boy's State. This and its corresponding program Girl's State, teach the chosen High School Juniors how government works in the State of Iowa. Both are excellent programs.

These are but a few of the things we sponsor and do. Join us at your meetings which are held at 6:30P.M., on the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

Remember this! America is the Home of the Free, Because of the Brave. Have a good Labor Day. I look forward to seeing you.

Cally's Cause

The Post is currently helping to collect donations for Cally's Cause, a non-profit group that makes comfort bags filled with supplies to ease the challenges faced by individuals undergoing chemotherapy. Cally Niess, a Post 37 Auxiliary member, started this non-profit in 2010 and continues to run the effort while attending ISU. For a list of needed items, stop by the Post. We will also put the list on the Post webpage. Monetary donations are also being accepted. For more information, visit Cally's Cause – The Chemo Bag on Facebook.

Clubroom News

Fall is fast approaching and this is when it's really fun to stop into the Clubroom. With fall comes football, and of course, we will have all the top games on our jumbo 110" TV. The post is the best place to watch all the Cyclone games. It's time to sit back and relax after this crazy summer. We love to indoor tail-gate, so bring in a munchie to share and enjoy the drink specials that we offer on games days. The post is the best place to watch all the Cyclone games! Check out what we have planned for this month:

Thursday, August 11 is Music Walk. Visit the Main Street Cultural District for

an evening of great shopping set to the sounds of great music at businesses throughout the district. The vast variety of musical genres will please guests of all ages. The Post will be hosting the Onion Creek Band beginning at 5pm.

Wednesday, September 17 is Tenderloin Basket Night. Tenderloins are served from 5-6:30pm, and cost of the meal is \$6.00. Please remember that we are more than willing to fix them to go.

Friday, September 26 is Texas Hold-Em. Play begins at 7pm. Drop in a little early and grab a bite to eat.

American Legion Post 37 Banquet Hall

Do you have a special event coming up? The newly remodeled banquet hall at our post is the perfect venue for any birthday, anniversary, meeting or any reception. The Legion as added many amenities to help make the day extra special. Please call for pricing and availability



Unit Annual Nut Sale Beginning



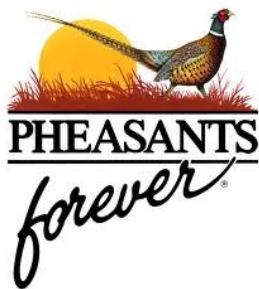
You will find the 2014 Nut Order form as an insert in this bulletin. Along with your old favorites there is a new "heart healthy" mix. Check it out on the order

form.

This sale has been very popular in past years and pre-ordering assures that you get what you want. This sale helps the Unit fund their programs. It is a win-win for you and them. If you have questions, contact information is on the order sheet.

Ask your friends and neighbors if they would like to place an order also.

Veteran's Hunt Scheduled



The Story County Chapter of Pheasants Forever (PF) in partnership with the Story County Conservation Board and Story County

Office of Veterans Affairs is sponsoring its annual pheasant hunt for Veterans and active duty personel. The hunt will be on Sept 20, 2014 at Jim Ketelsen Green Wing Marsh, a Story County Conservation Board property and public

hunting area located north east of Ames.

Farm raised pheasants will be released on the property to ensure ample supply of game.

Story County PF/Qf will provide ammunition for participants use if needed.

The event will include a simple meal after the hunt. This event is free but preregistration is required .

Veterans interested in hunting should contact Don Berning (515-290-6578, arasadon@aol.com), Hank Zaletel at 515--290-7247 or Dan Barnard at 515-231-1579.

CLUBROOM COUPON
Any Tuesday in September
Present Coupon to get
2 drinks for the price of 1.
Cash Purchase Only

New Members

Welcome to the following new Post Members: Marvin Holmgren, Larry Watts, Shaun Robinson, Terry Negri , John Paschen and Robert C. Metzger

And new Unit members: Helen Cady, Cynthia Paschen and Tammy Nerness.

Steak Dinners to Begin

The first Steak Dinner of the season will be held on September 6th. As you are painfully aware, the cost of living, especially the cost of food is on the increase. As mentioned in previous newsletters, the Post is doing everything it can to keep costs down, but some price increases may be inevitable, especially for the monthly steak dinners. Please understand that prices will be increased only when necessary to cover our cost increases and every effort will be made to keep those increases to the absolute minimum possible.

Kudo Korner



Well done to the following this month:

Everett and Marilyn Freel on celebrating their 60th Anniver-

sary; Everett Freel on his election as State Director for the Legion Riders; Don Johnson for his work setting up for Bingo each night and helping clean-up; Rick Hackett, Robert Metzger Jr, Melissa and Michelle McEnany, Sandy Deacon and Sarah Schendel for another great Burger Night; Sandy Deacon & Jathan Chicoine for helping with the Story County Veterans Standdown; Lyman & Luana Stoneking, Jan Hansen, Michelle Sime, Kathy Link, Sandy & Mike Deacon, Phil & Barb Schendel, Sharon Bellinghausen, Dave & Ann Rehbein, and everyone who brought/contributed baked goods and entrees for another successful Building Fundraising Brunch; and finally well done to Sarah for organizing the annual golf outing – no easy task.

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

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LOOK INSIDE FOR COUPON **SEPTEMBER**

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
	1	2 AUXILIARY REGULAR 7:00	3 BINGO	4 DOLLAR DOG NIGHT LEGION BOARD 6:30 REGULAR 7:30	5 MUNCHIES NIGHT	6 STEAK DINNER 5:30—7:00
7 BINGO	8 LEGION RIDERS 6:30 BLDG. FUND. COMMITTEE PATRIOTIC COUNCIL	9 SAL REGULAR 6:30	10 BINGO	11 DOLLAR DOG NIGHT MUSIC WALK	12 MUNCHIES NIGHT	13 UNIT DAY OF SERVICE 10AM-2PM
14 BINGO	15	16 PAST PRESIDENT'S PARLEY 7:00	17 TENDERLOIN 5:00-6:30 BINGO	18 DOLLAR DOG NIGHT STORY COUNTY JOINT MTG @ NEVADA POST	19 OKTOBERFEST MUNCHIES NIGHT	20
21 BINGO	22	23 40&8	24 BINGO	25 DOLLAR DOG NIGHT OPERATIONS SOCIAL & CENTENNIAL COMMITTEES	26 TEXAS HOLD-EM 7:00 MUNCHIES NIGHT	27 6TH DISTRICT CONFERENCE PLEASANTVILLE
28 BINGO	29	30	 Find us on Facebook at American Legion Family of Ames, IA Post 37	American Legion Family of Ames, IA Post 37	Trivia Answers 1. b 2. b 3. True	