

Ames Legion Family In Action

Legion Family Midwinter Conference

The annual Iowa American Legion Family Midwinter Conference will be held on February 13-15 at the Airport Holiday Inn on Fleur Drive in Des Moines. This meeting is the training session for each of our organizations as well as a time to get together with your friends from around the state, both those friends you have made in the past and those you will make this year.

The Friday session starts at 7PM and will be a joint session to hear from our National guests. Auxiliary National President Janet Jefford, Legion National Vice-Commander Paul Sanford and the Sons national guest will speak that evening as will our Department Commander,

Department President and Detachment Commander.

Saturday is a day devoted to training and exchanging ideas and lessons learned in operating our programs and the business affairs of our posts, units and squadrons. That day begins with a joint programs fair at 7:30AM for one-on-one discussions on individual programs.

The remainder of the day consist of training sessions on selected topics for each organization. A complete list of those topics is given on page 6 of the latest issue of the Iowa Legionnaire. A children's activity center is available for those with young children to allow them to attend the ses-

sions. A registration form from page 16 of the Iowa Legionnaire must be submitted in advance to use that service.

Sunday morning begins with the Department Oratorical finals at 8AM. Three Iowa young people will compete for that \$2,000 first place scholarship.

A joint session will close the weekend with an address from Candidate for National Commander Dale Barnett from Georgia and reports from our 2014 Boys and Girls Nation Senators.

The final item will be the drawing of the Sweepstakes winners. You don't need to be present to win but what a thrill if you were there.

Please attend if possible.

Special Midwinter Entertainment



Ray will perform Saturday at no

Saturday night of the Midwinter Conference will feature some special entertainment. Michigan, Miami and now Nashville recording celebrity David

charge to the attendees of Midwinter Conference. The only requirement for you to attend is to have paid the registration fee for the conference. That registration fee is only \$10. You won't find a better deal anywhere and it will be a great way to end a day of education about The American Legion family.

Inside this issue:

Post Commander	2
Unit President	2
Squadron Commander	2
Soup Dinner & Contest	3
Clubroom Events	3
Social Dinner Update	3
Boys and Girls State	3

Post Commander Doug's Comments

Well, after a brutally cold January, I hope that February will be much nicer and we will all want to get out and about a bit more.

It is February and that means it is time for the Department Mid-Winter Conference in Des Moines. This year's conference will be held at the Holiday Inn Conference Center across from the Des Moines Airport from Friday, February 13th to Sunday, February 15th. If you have never attended a Mid-Winter Conference, I strongly urge you to consider attending all or part of the meeting. We will be holding a Sixth District Caucus on Saturday afternoon that will be informative as well.

In a few of the Newsletters last year you heard about the importance of Legion membership, both to the Post and our efforts to support veterans on a state and national level. We will be finishing up the 2015 Membership Renewal Drive this month and I would like to thank everyone for renewing their membership. For our new members, thank you for joining the absolute best and most active veterans organization in the

country. I encourage you to attend the Mid-Winter Conference and one of our regular Post meetings if your schedule permits. Regardless of whether you can actively participate or not, know that your membership in this great organization does count, at the Post, Department and National Levels.

On January 21st, Legionnaires from across the state visited the State Capitol. They were met by Governor Branstad and Lieutenant Governor Reynolds and key members of the Legislature. During the visit with the Governor, Governor Branstad signed a proclamation declaring 2015 the "Year of the Veteran" in Iowa and said that while much has been accomplished with the Home Base Iowa initiatives in support of veterans across the state, there is still more that can and should be done and pledged his support in accomplishing those tasks. Our fellow Legion Family Members then had the chance to speak with their individual representatives about issues that affect our veterans and discussed the Legion priorities for this year: Veterans Preference in hiring, Licensure and Certification of Service-

members and Veterans, increasing the Veterans Property Tax Exemption to \$5,000 and amending State Code to enhance and improve the Disabled Veterans Property Tax Exemption – all critical priorities to help our veterans statewide. For more information on these legislative priorities, you can visit the department website at www.ialegion.org or contact me. I wholeheartedly encourage you to contact our area representatives and strongly urge them to support these measures. One of the American Legion's biggest strengths is our collective voice. Let's make sure that our state representatives in both the House and the Senate hear our thoughts and understand our position on these important issues.

In closing, I want to thank you for your service to our country and to one another, and thank you for your continued support of the American Legion and our Post.

Squadron Commander Keven's Comments

We had our first shot of winter and it wasn't too bad. I expect we will get more, but a fair amount of it (winter) is already gone.

Speaking of which, Midwinter Conference is just around the corner. It is 13-15 Feb., at the Airport Holiday Inn. Saturday will be workshops and a Detachment meeting. National Officers and candidates from at least 3 or the 4 organizations will be there. It is a time to learn, have fun, meet old friends, and make new ones. Come for a day or for the weekend. Weather permitting; I hope to see you there.

The Squadron is in charge of the Steak Dinner in February. Some of the help is already online and I will be contacting others. There is a good menu and great prices, plus you get to see your friends. Don't forget it!

Membership is still not coming in as fast as it should be. We are still short approx. 20 members. If you have not renewed, please do so soon. Our members keep us strong and vital, so please do your part.

It's time to wind this up. Be careful, be safe, and I hope to see you soon.

Unit President Sharon's Comments

Well hope everyone is enjoying the nice weather

We did not have a meeting in January so not much to report. For membership we have 291. We need 45 more for goal. I would like to welcome new member Katherine Frozier. Ladies please get your dues in.

We need to get out there and invite ladies to join us in helping our Veterans.

Please plan on going to Midwinter Conference Feb. 13-15 in Des Moines.

We will be having a speaker for our February meeting. Please sign up to work Bingo for February.

A BIG THANK YOU to all of you who help at the Post.

Get Well wishes to all that are sick and prayers go out to anyone who has lost a loved one.

Don't forget to come to the Post for the meals and fun. Hope to see you there.

Remember to thank a Veteran!

Soup Dinner And Contest



Friday, February 20
6-7:30pm
Do you make an awesome soup? Enter it into our contest. We are asking that our members help with this fundraiser. All soups will

be entered into the contest for a chance to win one of three places. All winners will receive a prize plus bragging rights for the whole year. We ask that entrants have their soup at the post by 5:45pm on the 20th, and also ask that you bring whatever compliments your soup the best (i.e. crackers, cheese, bread). Everyone is welcome to enter!! Free will donation will entitle all members to enjoy all the many soups provided by contestants. All proceeds benefit the Building Remodel Campaign.

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-Terry Keigley
- 2nd Place-Bobby Myers
- 3rd Place-Keven Brace

Thanks to all who entered the contest!!!

Super Bowl Madness- Join us Sunday, February 1 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 13 is Tenderloin Basket Night. Tenderloins will be served from 5:30-7pm. This meal is an excellent value at just \$6.00, which includes all the fixins' and French fries.

Wednesday, February 18 is \$2 Burger Nite. Burgers will be served from 5-6:30pm. This meal is an excellent value at just \$2.00, Choose to add cheese or a side of fries for a small extra price.

Friday, February 27 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.

Stop in and see us, we have something for everyone!!

Monday- Weekly Drawing- Once a week, drop your dollar into the wishing well and enter for a chance to win up to \$500.

Toasted Cheese Tuesday- Enjoy a toasted cheese sandwich and a cup of soup for only \$3.00!! Add ham to your sandwich for \$1 more.

Wineday Wednesday- Stop in and check out our new selection of wines. We have red and whites varying from sweet to dry. Enjoy a glass for \$3 or bring in some friends and share a bottle of our new Carlet wine for \$12. Enjoy complimentary antipasto with your wine.

Thirsty Thursday- Featuring \$2 Chili Dogs all night and \$2 Bottles (Bud Family) from 6-9pm.

Friday- munchie night!! After a hard week, it's great to sit back with your friends and have a snack and beverage.

Social Dinner Update



As we all know, food costs have been on the rise for many months, especially beef, and are forecast to continue so in the foreseeable

future. The past two months, the Monthly Steak dinners have made little or no profit. Due to the increased costs of putting this dinner on, it has finally become necessary to raise our prices.

Starting with the February Steak Dinner, the prices will be as follows:

Rib-eye Dinner	\$15.00
Rib-eye Combo Dinner	\$17.00
6 oz Sirloin Dinner	\$10.00
Sirloin Combo Dinner	\$12.00
Shrimp Dinner (6 pc)	\$12.00
Shrimp Dinner (4 pc)	\$10.00
Ham Steak Dinner	\$10.50
Ham Steak Combo Dinner	\$12.50
Soup & Salad	\$8.00

We are evaluating our pricing every month and will reduce prices when we can. We thank you for your continued patronage of our monthly Dinners.

- 1) The preamble to the Constitution of The American Legion has been changed how many times? a) never b) once c) twice d) four times
- 2) T/F Only US Presidents can declare the US Flag be flown at half-staff?
- 3) Who cut the US Flag into pieces and was honored for doing it a) Muhammad Ali, Admiral Richard Byrd, Robert E. Lee or Robert Peary

CLUBROOM COUPON

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

Boys and Girls State



Nomination of candidates for the 2015 Hawkeye Boys and Girls programs is beginning. To be eligible, a candidate must currently be a member of the junior class in high school and have at least one semester left prior to graduation when the program is held in June.

Candidates should have good scholastic ranking and be recommended by their high school faculty or another community figure or family member. Candidates should possess qualities of leadership, scholastic achievement, good citizenship, and a willingness to participate. All candidates must be citizens or lawful permanent residents of the United States.

Nominees for Boys and Girls State will be selected on the basis of interviews conducted by members of the Legion family. Dave and Ann Rehbein are chairing the Boys and Girls State selection committees, respectively. Names and contact information of prospective candidates should be forwarded to them at 232-9870 or can be left at the post. The candidate will be contacted to discuss an interview.

Kudo Korner



Well done to the following this month: Vallery Eisenmann, Mike & Sandy Deacon, Sharon & Bob Bellinghausen, Stan & Tammy Hyer, Jan Schmidt, Lois Poppe, Pat Kyle and Ann Rehbein for their efforts serving the January Steak Dinner; Kathy Link, Tom Hadaway, Sandy Deacon and Sarah Schendel for another great Burger Night.

AMERICAN LEGION POST NO. 37

225 Main Street
Ames, IA 50010

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON PROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID
Permit 147
Ames, IA

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>
1 SUPER BOWL PARTY BINGO	2 LEGION RIDERS 6:30	3 TOASTED CHEESE TUESDAY AUXILIARY REGULAR 7:00	4 WINEDAY WEDNESDAY BINGO	5 THIRSTY THURSDAY SOCIAL COMMITTEE 6:00	6 MUNCHIES NIGHT	7 STEAK DINNER 5:30—7:00
8 BINGO	9 BUILDING FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE	10 TOASTED CHEESE TUESDAY SAL REGULAR 6:30	11 WINEDAY WEDNESDAY BINGO	12 THIRSTY THURSDAY LEGION BOARD 6:30 REGULAR 7:30	13 MIDWINTER CONFERENCE TENDERLOIN NIGHT 5:30-7:00	14
15 MIDWINTER CONFERENCE BINGO	16	17 TOASTED CHEESE TUESDAY PAST PRESIDENT'S PARLEY 7:00	18 WINEDAY WEDNESDAY BURGER NIGHT 5:00-6:30 BINGO	19 THIRSTY THURSDAY	20 SOUP DINNER & CONTEST 6:00-7:30	21
22 BINGO	23	24 TOASTED CHEESE TUESDAY 40&8	25 WINEDAY WEDNESDAY BINGO	26 THIRSTY THURSDAY OPERATIONS COMMITTEE 6:00	27 TEXAS HOLD-EM 7:00 MUNCHIES NIGHT	28
	Find us on Facebook at American Legion Family of Ames, IA Post 37			Trivia Answers 1) b—in1942 2) False 3) c)-Robert Peary, he was honored for leaving pieces of the flag at the North Pole		