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Chapter President: Rick Hackett

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 Ames, IA 50010

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Ames Legion Family In Action

COMMANDER'S UPDATE

I would like to start this month by recognizing five members of the Post for continuous Legion membership – Avon Hall 70 years, Marion Miller 60 years, Kenneth Ries 60 years, Rodger Van Voorhis 50 years and William Carter 50 years. We will be holding a short ceremony at the Regular Legion Meeting on May 14th to present them with Certificates of Continuous Membership and to thank them for their continued service to the American Legion, our Post and the community.

This month we are including the Building Fundraising thermometer so you can see where we stand in our efforts to raise funds to repay the loan taken to fund the Building Remodeling. We do this periodically to let you know where we are in reaching our fundraising goal of \$200,000. As you can see, we are over the halfway mark in our fundraising efforts. That does not change or diminish our need to continue to reach the \$200,000 mark, or even break it.

The Building Remodel was a long overdue and much needed renovation to our Post Home. Yes, it was contentious, and perhaps still is, but in the words of one Post member "we pay for it now, while we have some input over what we accomplish, or wait and then pay for it when it becomes an emergent necessity, having little or no control over what is accomplished and pay even more." Through the efforts of the members of the Building Remodeling Fund Committee these past three years and the generous donations of Post members and friends, we have repaid over half of the original loan amount, exceeding

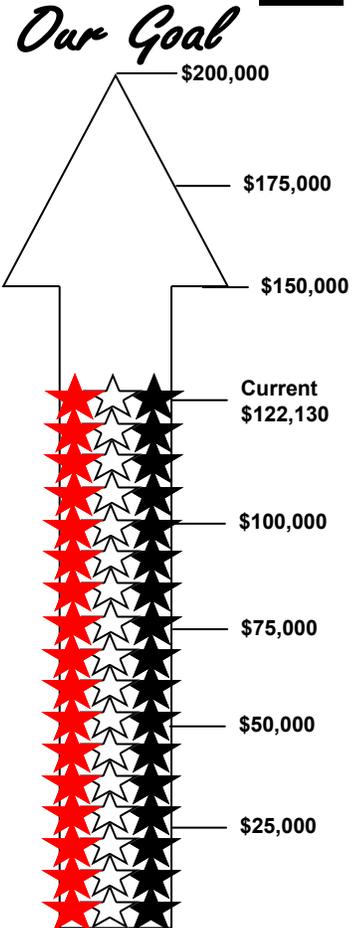
many expectations.

Our work is not done, and we continue to raise funds to pay off the loan as quickly as possible. You can continue to help by attending our various Building Remodeling Fund events like this month's Mother's Day Brunch. These events are open to the public so I encourage you to tell your family, friends and co-workers about them.

In May we also need to focus on two other projects – nominating Post members to fill leadership positions within the Post and preparing to submit our annual Consolidated Post Report.

The Legion, Auxiliary and Sons are all looking for Post 37 Family members to volunteer a few hours each month to help lead and organize the efforts of the Legion, Auxiliary and Sons in the upcoming year (July to June). As many of us know, periodic changes in leadership are good things in organizations – they bring in new ideas, a fresh look on existing operations and programs and help stimulate the organization to continue to grow and prosper. Every member of the Post has what it takes to assume a role within the Legion Family – it just takes a willingness on your part to make that commitment of a few hours a month. If you are interested in filling a position within the Post, please let me or another member of the Post Leadership Team know and we will get you in touch with the right person to discuss what position you might find interesting.

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*Honoring Tradition
 Investing in our Future*

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Commander's Update (continued)

This month we also start compiling information for the Post's Consolidated Report. This report is submitted to Department every year to document the efforts of the Post and its members in various areas that benefit the Legion, veterans and their families and the community. The information is consolidated again at National and is ultimately reported to Congress each year by the National Commander. The members of our Post do a lot of things that should be included in this report, yet are done without our knowledge. Here is where you can help. If you volunteered at a VA hospital, a veterans event, gave blood, helped out at community projects or events or school functions, helped with elections, or any other volunteer participation with any group, not just within the Legion, we would like to know about it. I would ask that you contact the Post with your name and a summary of your

volunteer activities this past year with an estimate of hours you gave to that activity. You can drop it off in person, or e-mail it to me at ames-legionpost37cdr@gmail.com or call me at 450-0773 (please leave a voice mail if I don't answer) or the Post at 232-9870.

Finally, on May 25th we celebrate Memorial Day, a day where we pay humble tribute to the men and women who served our country and their fellow citizens and have since passed on. I urge each and every member of the Post to attend a Memorial Day event to show our respect and thanks to those who served - protecting us and our freedoms both at home and abroad. We owe them nothing less than that moment of remembrance and thanks for their efforts in helping to keep us free and safe.

Post at Membership Target

On April 9, Ames Post #37 joined the list of those Iowa Posts who had achieved their membership target for the 2015 year. Within just a few days after that, enough more membership was obtained to raise our membership to one more than last year.

We now stand at 539 members and have the distinction of being the largest post in the Department to have achieved our membership goal.

Primary thanks for that goes to our membership chairman, Marion Eacret. He is the one that goes out at the end of the year and finds those last few that we need. Of course he works throughout the year but it is that effort at the end of the year that makes him stand out and makes us successful.

Of course everyone who joined or renewed and everyone who recruited even one member also get our thanks.

Unit President Sharon's Comments

I hope you kept dry on the 18th and 19th of April. It was quite a wet weekend. Our Bake Sale on the 18th was a great success. Thank all of you who brought baked goods and/or worked the sale. During the May meeting we will be holding the yearly Memorial Service for members of the Legion Family who have passed on during the last year.

We will be meeting on May 7th to cut up fruit for the Vietnam Veterans Appreciation Day to be held at Bandshell Park on May 8th. If you can help that day please call Sandy Deacon.

The Post will be having a Mother's Day Brunch on May 10th. Come celebrate that day with the Legion Family.

We had a good District Meeting at the Van Meter Post and the new officers were elected for the next year. Jan Schmidt, Bob and I went to the Van Meter State Veterans Cemetery after the meeting. If you haven't been there, you should go see the monuments, they are beautiful.

Ladies, we still need you to pay your dues if you haven't yet done so and please remember to invite your family and friends to join us.

We would like to thank the following members for your years of service

70 Years: JoAnne Presley and A. Gaynell Clark. **65 Years:** Dorothy Ochanpaugh. **50 Years:** Sandra Rolling. **45 Years:** Evelyn Kinstle. **40**

Years: Shirley Valentine, Karen Pack. **35 Years:** Pat Bywaters, Anna Christoferson, Sue Clatt, Lois Kyle, Linda Olson, Julie Sutherland. **30 Years:** Kelly Jo Hiatt, Shirley Killian (not paid, Masha Osting (not paid). **25 Years:** Sandra McAlister, Tana Parish, Mary Sievers, **20 Years:** Bevin Griffen **15 Years:** Roma Sills. **10 Years:** Sharon Bellinghausen, Kathy MacCrea, Beth Mackey, Ann Rohovit. **10 Year Junior:** Lauren Wingert.

I would like to thank all the Ladies and Gentlemen who helped with the ALA Steak Dinner in April.

Ladies remember that Bingo needs you to help so please sign up at the Post. See you at the Post

Squadron Commander Keven's Comments

We had a great turnout for the Biscuits and Gravy Breakfast. The profits will be used to further The Squadron's commitment to help Veterans and Children and Youth. Thanks to everyone (workers and patrons) who helped to make it a success. Thanks also to Hy-Vee and Adams Funeral Home for their assistance with advertising and materials.

Our Squadron Adviser and membership guy, Marion Eacret, fell and severely damaged his kneecap. Keep him in your thoughts as he recovers. Through

his hard work, The Squadron has current membership of 193.

The last Steak Dinner of the season is our responsibility. Most of the help has committed but I still have a few slots to fill. Come join us on 2 May for an excellent meal and maybe a libation or two.

Congratulations to Serena Paulson and Evan Culver, both students at Ames High School. Each has been selected to receive a \$500.00 Award of Merit. They

submitted the most thoughtful and well reasoned responses to the question that was asked.

We still need candidates for the offices of 2nd Vice Commander, Sgt at Arms, Historian, and Exec. Committee (2). If you would be interested, please contact me. Being an officer and attending our once a month meetings are a way for you to have in put into the Squadron activities. If you do not run for an office, you can still attend, and make your views known and help us.

Clubroom News

Clubroom News

Winter is finally behind us and gorgeous days are here to stay, hopefully.

A huge congratulation goes out to Emily Fairfield and Nicole Putz. Emily and Nicole will be graduating from ISU and have been a great addition to our staff. We wish them all the best!!

Join us for **Cinco de Mayo**, that's the fifth of May for those not well versed in Spanish. The clubroom will be hosting a small fiesta and having lots of fun. As in years past, we will have plenty of fun and games. We will feature fiesta themed toppings for Tater-Tot Tuesday, and have some great drink specials.

Wednesday, May 20 is Burger Basket Night. Burgers will be served from 5-6:30pm. Cost of the meal is \$5.00 served with French fries and all the fixins'. Remember we are always more than happy to make them to-go.

Mothers Day Brunch



Sunday, May 10, the Post would like to invite you to our fabulous Mother's Day Sunday brunch. Brunch will be served from 11am-1pm, with a special surprise

for mom! Brunch will include roast beef, ham, Turkey, scrambled eggs, fresh baked goodies, just to mention a few items. Bloody Mary's and Mimosas will be available in the Clubroom. This event is a free will donation to benefit the building remodel fund.

Welcome New Members

As part of our membership success, this month we welcome new members Norman Burns, Terry Montang, Andrew Rathbun, Paul Janssen, Jr and Milo Nelson. Welcome to the best post in Iowa. We are glad you have are joining with us to support veterans programs, advocate for veterans programs and serve our youth and our community.



To Honor Memorial Day, the Downtown Area Flags will be posted at 7AM on Friday, May 22 and will be recovered at 5PM, Monday, May 25. Please join us as we honor those veterans who have died in the past year at services at the cemetery and then come to the Post for lunch following.

Check out our awesome daily specials

Tater-Tot Tuesday- Featuring a tower of tots with tempting toppings to transform them into a tantalizing tasty tidbit. \$3.50.

Winesday Wednesday- try one of our many fine wines, whether you like a dry red or a sweet white or your tastes are in between, we have a wine for you. \$3 a glass or share a bottle of one of our Carletto Wines for only \$12.

Thursday Dynamic Duo Day- Offering Dollar Dogs all day, your choice of Plain, Jalapeno & Cheddar, or Cheddar. 6-Close we have \$2 Bud Brotherhood Bottles. It's a great time to bring in some friends and enjoy a baseball game!!

Remember, every Wednesday the Clubroom serves a home cooked meal, and every day the Clubroom offers a wide variety of appetizers and meals.

Iowa Legislature Report

We have seen mixed success in the Legislature so far this year.

A measure clarifying eligibility for the 100% disabled property tax credit passed the legislature easily and has been signed by Governor Branstad.

Legislation to increase the veterans property tax credit to \$5,000 received no support.

Legislation to authorize a comprehensive review of veterans preference in hiring in Iowa failed to pass the second funnel date.

Identification of needs in the area of licensing and certification had been ongoing with the coordinator of the Home Base Iowa program. Legislation will be prepared for the next session.

Budget appropriations have not yet been approved in either House as yet. We anticipate that sufficient funding for the Iowa Veterans Home, Department of Veterans Affairs programs and the Iowa Veterans Cemetery will be approved. The end of the session can be chaotic however so strict attention will be paid to those measures.

CLUBROOM COUPON

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

Tree-Town Ticket Raffle



The Post is raffling two tickets to the Tree Town Music Festival held on May 21-24 of Memorial Day weekend.

This year's headliners are Dierks Bentley, Blake Shelton and Rascal Flatts with many other performers scheduled to appear. The complete line-up can be found at treetown-festival.com.

The Tree Town tickets are a \$360 value. Raffle tickets will be available at the Post beginning April 22 at \$5/ticket or 5 tickets for \$20. The drawing will be held at the Post meeting on May 14. You need not be present to win. Parking and room accommodations are not included. Proceeds will benefit the remodeling fund.



**Remember Poppy Days
are May 22-23. Make a donation
and wear a Poppy.**

Kudo Korner



Well done to the following this month for their volunteer efforts at the Post: Jim Mott, John Shoemaker, Hank Goettsche, Sarah Schendel & Sandy Deacon for the March Fish & Chips Dinner Basket; Dave Rehbein & Keven Brace for their efforts on installing a means to safely hang pictures at the Post; Kathy MacCrea, Ann Rehbein, Mike & Sandy Deacon, DeAnn Freel, Stan & Tammy Hyer, Sharon & Bob Bellinghausen, Pat Kyle, and Hank Goettsche for the great monthly Steak Dinner; Kathy Link, Junior Metzger, Sandy Deacon and Sarah Schendel for another super Burger Night; Paul Madsen, Megan McEnany, Sarah Schendel & Sandy Deacon for another superb Tenderloin Dinner Basket Night; the Auxiliary for a great Bake Sale and the Sons for another fantastic Biscuits and Gravy Breakfast.

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

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US POSTAGE PAID Permit 147 Ames, IA

LOOK INSIDE FOR COUPON

MAY

<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 MUNCHIES NIGHT	2 STEAK DINNER 5:30-7:00
3 BINGO	4 LEGION RIDERS	5 TATER-TOT TUESDAY CINCO DE MAYO PARTY AUXILIARY REGULAR 7:00	6 WINEDAY WEDNESDAY BINGO	7 DYNAMIC DUO DAY SOCIAL COMMITTEE 6:00	8 MUNCHIES NIGHT	9
10 MOTHERS DAY BRUNCH 11-1 BINGO	11 BUILDING FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE 6:00	12 TATER-TOT TUESDAY SAL REGULAR 6:30	13 WINEDAY WEDNESDAY BINGO	14 DYNAMIC DUO DAY LEGION BOARD 6:30 REGULAR 7:30	15 MUNCHIES NIGHT	16
17 BINGO	18	19 TATER-TOT TUESDAY PAST PRESIDENT'S PARLEY 7:00	20 WINEDAY WEDNESDAY BURGER BASKET 5:00-6:30 BINGO	21 DYNAMIC DUO DAY	22 POPPY DAYS MUNCHIES NIGHT TEXAS HOLD-EM 7:00	23 POPPY DAYS
24 BINGO 31 BINGO	25 MEMORIAL DAY LUNCH AT POST	26 TATER-TOT TUESDAY 40&8	27 WINEDAY WEDNESDAY BINGO	28 DYNAMIC DUO DAY OPERATIONS COMMITTEE 6:00	29 MUNCHIES NIGHT	30