



Post Commander: Stan Elliott
Unit President: Tammy Hyer
Squadron Commander: Roger Elliott
Chapter President: Stan Hyer

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225 Main Street
 Ames, IA 50010
 515-232-9870

www.ameslegionpost37.com
 www.ialegion.org
 www.ialegion.org/ala
 www.ialegion.org/riders

www.legion.org
 www.alaforveterans.org
 www.sal.legion.org

Ames Legion Family In Action

Building Remodeling Update

It has been a few months since the Post Family has been updated on the overall status of the post remodeling and associated fundraising efforts.

Since reopening in June 2012, the Post Family, working together, have been able to pay down more than half of the initial mortgage, well ahead of the projections made by the bank to finance our loan.

The terms of our initial mortgage were such that our payments would probably see significant increases to the interest rates later this year, so the Executive Board took action to refinance the remaining mortgage balance. This timely action allowed us to lock in a lower interest rate for the next five years, lowering our required monthly payments; a long term financial win for the Post.

Additionally, over the past three years, the Building Remodeling Fundraising Committee – Sandy Deacon, Kathy Link, Stan & Tammy Hyer, Ken Woodley, Michelle Sime and Sarah Schendel – have

worked diligently to plan events that also raised funds for items associated with the remodeling effort that were not funded via the mortgage.

Included in those items were an enhanced audio-visual system and better clubroom tables and chairs. Their work also helped pay down some of the principal on the mortgage. Through their efforts, by the end of May we will have completed the audio visual system upgrades, replaced all of the clubroom tables and chairs (and have a couple of spares), purchased additional tables and chairs for the Party Room (providing more flexibility in space usage to our renters and Post events) and funded some needed improvements to the second floor rental spaces.

We thank the Building Fundraising Committee for their herculean efforts to complete these major enhancements to our Post Home.

Their efforts alone are not enough and the responsibility is not the Building Fundraising

Committee's alone- it is the responsibility of every member of the Post Family. The work before us to ensure our Post Home remains a safe, functioning and viable asset is not done. We still need to plan and conduct events that will help us raise funds to continue to pay off the mortgage principal, make additional upgrades to kitchen equipment and some upgrades to parts of the building structure.

Everyone's assistance and support, from helping to plan and execute fundraising events in support of the overall building remodeling project, to actual participation in those events is needed.

A key point to remember is this – if we do not have a Post Home, and the remodeling efforts were an essential key in ensuring we are able to have a Post Home in the future, we cannot provide the support and assistance that is key to our Post Family's desires and efforts to help area veterans and their families.

National President to Visit



The American Legion Auxiliary's National President, Sharon Conatser will be our honored guest on April 11, 2016.

We will host President Sharon for a spaghetti dinner at 6:00 pm, with a short program following.

The entire Legion Family is invited to join us to welcome her, have a

bite to eat and visit with the Auxiliary's President.

Cost of the meal is \$7.00. Please RSVP with the number attending to jansch1@juno.com

While in Iowa, President Conatser will be visiting the Iowa City and Des Moines VA Medical Centers, the Iowa Veterans Home, the Iowa Veterans Cemetery, and our affiliate VA Medical Centers in Sioux Falls, SD and Omaha, NE.

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Post Commander Stan's Comments

Greetings, as another month has come and gone I find myself wondering where the days went.

April is a special time of year for the American Legion. In 1938, April was formally designated as Child Welfare Month (now called Children & Youth Month) and has continued on an annual basis. I ask each of you to think about ways we as a post can get involved in our community and promote projects pertaining to Children and Youth. Bring your ideas to our next post meeting on April 14 at 1930 hours.

At our March meeting the post nominating committee members were selected. They are James Demarest, Chairman, with Phil Harris and David Rehbein. If you are interested in serving the mem-

bers of our post in a leadership position or on the executive board please contact one of these members. I encourage all members to take a part in the leadership processes in our post.

We have several big events taking place at our post this month and I ask all of you to participate or help when you can.

April 2nd is the monthly Steak Dinner, hosted this month by our Auxiliary. Come on in and enjoy a fantastic meal.

April 9th is the SAL biscuits and gravy breakfast along with an Auxiliary bake sale.

April 11th the Auxiliary is hosting an event for the National President. I've heard there will be a supper and other

activities planned for her visit. I encourage everyone to plan on attending this event and showcase our American Legion Family.

April 19th the Auxiliary Past Presidents Parley is hosting residents of the Iowa Veterans Home to an afternoon of bingo.

The Consolidated report is due soon. We need assistance in filling out the form with hours of service in your community.

In closing, for those that do not already know, Sarah has accepted a position with another company here in Ames. On behalf of the post I thank her for the years of service and her devotion to our post. I wish her continued success in her new position.

Unit President Tammy's Comments

It has been another busy month! The joint Story County meeting was held on March 17th. We had 13 of our members attend. As part of our unit announcements, I had Sandy talk about our Holiday for Heroes recipient; a single father who served our Country and is now raising two young children. The family was very grateful for our gifts and we were able to put a smile on everyone's face! Since we hear about so many negative things in our world right now, I thought hearing something positive and relevant to our mission would do us all some good.

Our District President, Mary Jo McLaughlin, spoke at the meeting. Her message related to attracting and retaining membership in the Auxiliary. By the time you read this newsletter, the ALA Unit 37 Executive Board will have

met. One of the items on our agenda was to brainstorm how to tackle this issue. If any of you have thoughts/ideas, please let me know. I'm sure this topic will come up again at one of our meetings and it would be nice to have more suggestions.

In December, I mentioned the goals set forth in National's five year plan. Just as a reminder, they are as follows:

Goal 5: Build a brand loyalty with the American Legion

Goal 4: Strengthen Units in the Iowa Department

Goal 3: Develop Leadership at all levels

Goal 2: Create an internal culture of goodwill

Goal 1: By successfully implementing

the above goals, attain a Million members!

In association with the SAL breakfast being held on April 9th, the Auxiliary will be holding a bake sale. If you would like to provide some goodies to sell, please bring them to the Post between 3:00 pm and 9:00 pm on Friday April 8th. The bake sale will be held from 7:00 am to 11:00 am on the 9th.

As most of you have heard, Sarah Schendel is leaving her position at the American Legion. I would like to extend a heartfelt Thank You to Sarah for everything she has done for the American Legion, our members, the community and me. By being there to answer questions and to offer a helping hand, you made my first year as Auxiliary President much easier.

Squadron Commander Roger's Comments

Time stands still for no man. Ain't that the truth? It's already that time of year when committees start looking for names to nominate for various offices within each branch of the Legion. If you have ever thought about getting more involved in the conducting of affairs within the Legion, now is your opportunity. Most positions are not very demanding, take little time, and can influence the future direction of this Post. Plus, I have personally found that there are lots of others who have walked in those shoes in the past who want to see you succeed. So there are lots of helpful hands to guide you along the way if you ever need it. If you have ever thought about wanting to have

your voice heard and taking an active role in the business of this Post, now is your chance. Please come to a meeting to make your interest known or contact me at rogwell83@gmail.com.

On April 9th, the S.A.L. will be hosting the free-will breakfast. We can use a couple more volunteers to help serve so please let me know if you are interested. If your schedule won't allow you to help serve, why not stop in for some delicious food? Biscuits and sausage gravy are hard to beat for a relaxing breakfast on a crisp, Saturday morning. To further entice you to stop in, the Auxiliary will also have their baked goods sale going at the same time. At our last breakfast/bake sale, the ladies

literally wound up with empty tables a half-hour before the breakfast ended so come early if you want some treats to take home.

Then on May 7th, the S.A.L. will be hosting a supper. Again, I will be needing volunteers for the kitchen, for serving, and for clean-up.

On March 15th, the deadline passed for high school students to apply for our annual scholarship. This year, we had 9 applications. Keep an eye on the next newsletter to find out who the lucky recipient(s) will be.

Never forget...One of the greatest gifts you can ever give someone is some of your time.

Clubroom News

Spring is here and with it warm weather events. What better way to enjoy those events by stopping by the Post for a refreshing drink or a bite to eat – we are offering lots of options, both this month and throughout the spring and summer.

We start with **Tater Tot Tuesdays** from 5:00 – 9:00 PM, a huge favorite. Enjoy a mouthwatering pile of tater tots covered with tempting toppings.

Winesday Wednesday is your chance to enjoy a refreshing glass of wine from our great selection for just \$3.00 or you can share a bottle of our Carletto wines for \$12.

We follow that with **Dollar Dog Thursdays** with our gourmet hot dogs and sausage dogs from 4:00 PM to close. Wash those Dollar Dogs with \$2.00 Bud Family bottles from 6:00 – 9:00 PM. Bring your family, friends and co-workers to these two great weekday events and enjoy their company, a relaxing atmosphere and lots of games on the TV.

After almost 15 years as the Clubroom Manager, Sarah Schendel has left her position at the Post as Clubroom Manager for an exciting new position in Ames with wonderful professional and growth opportunities. We cannot be more thrilled for Sarah and offer our heartfelt thanks for all of her hard work managing day-to-day Post operations these past years.

Every member of the Post wishes you all the best in your new job!

It is the Operations Committee's inten-

Poppy Days Coming

The American Legion Auxiliary will hold Poppy Days on Friday, May 27 and Saturday, May 28, 2016, which is Memorial Day weekend. Volunteers will distribute poppies at various locations around Ames from 8:00 am until 4:00 pm on Friday, and from 8:00 am until 2:00 pm on Saturday. We are in need of volunteers to help with this. Any donations received will be used to help veterans and their families. If you can help, please sign up at the Legion or contact Jan Schmidt, Chairman at 215-1076 or cell phone 515-290-5444. My email address is jansch1@juno.com. Thank you!

Saturday, April 2nd is the Monthly Steak Dinner and is an mouth-watering event that should not be missed. Enjoy your choice of a ribeye or sirloin steak, ham or shrimp along with your choice of potato, soup du jour and salad bar.

Friday, April 8th is Tenderloin Basket Night. Tenderloins will be served from 5:30 -7:00 PM. Stop by and enjoy the largest tenderloin sandwich in Ames with fries and all of the fixings for just \$6.00. Make it a Family event! If you don't have time to stay, stop in anyway and let us make you one to go.

Wednesday, April 20th is Burger Basket Night. Great flame-broiled 1/3 lb burgers will be served from 5:00 – 6:30 PM. One of the best burgers in town, it comes with all of the fixings you like on a burger and a side of fries for just \$5.00. Don't miss out - bring your family, friends and co-workers and enjoy their company in a relaxing, fun-filled atmosphere. We can make these to go too if you don't have time to eat at the Post.

Sarah is Leaving

tion to continue the day-to-day operating schedule and other weekly events while we work on hiring a new Clubroom Manager. That having been said, until we do, many of the daily tasks that Sarah performed will be accomplished by volunteers from within the Post Family.

Please be patient with the members of the Operations Committee, the volunteers and the current staff during this transition period and understand that some scheduled events may need to be

Legion Baseball Returns

Legion Baseball is back in Story County! Our Post is one of several Story County Posts that are sponsoring a team this year. The effort to return Legion Baseball in the area has been spearheaded by Brett Fuller of Altoona, a Legion Baseball alum from Nevada. The team has a 22 game schedule, playing against teams from across the state. The Story County Home games will be played at the Collins Ballpark in Collins, with the home opener on April 3rd at 1:00 PM. The home games are on the calendar and the complete schedule is posted in the clubroom. All games are doubleheaders. We encourage you to come out and support the team!

CLUBROOM COUPON

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

Walk For Veterans

National Commander Dale Barnett and Department Commander Jim Peterson will lead American Legion family members and friends in an Awareness Walk for Veterans at the State Fair this summer. In addition to raising public attention on the important issues facing veterans and their families, the proceeds raised for The American Legion Walk for Veterans will be used for the National Emergency Fund, which has provided more than \$8 million of assistance to Legion Family members and American Legion posts that have been impacted by natural disasters. More information and registration are at <http://www.ialegion.org/walkforveterans.htm>. We need many of us to join them.

delayed or cancelled on short notice until we can hire a new Manager. Feel free to direct any concerns or inquiries to Doug MacCrea.

We appreciate your support, patience and understanding in this transition.

Kudo Korner



Well done and thank you to the following Post Family members this month for their volunteer efforts at the Post: Chris Duncan, Steve Jones, Jennifer & Mike Monserud, Stan & Joyce Elliott, Sandy Deacon, Dave Rehbein, Phil Harris, Kathy MacCrea, Roger Elliott, Randy Freel and Jim Demarest for the March Steak Dinner, Hank Goettsche for rapidly cleaning up the damage to the Flag Mural on the back of the Post after it was tagged; Tom Hadaway, Kathy Link, Sandy Deacon, Stan & Tammy Hyer, Ken Woodley and Kathy MacCrea for a near record setting Burger Night event, Hank Goettsche for helping with our beer deliveries and managing our bottle returns each week, and; Don Johnson and LeRoy Johnson for setting up for Bingo every Wednesday and Sunday.

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

APRIL

<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		American Legion Family of Ames, IA Post 37		1 MUNCHIES NIGHT	2 DISTRICT CONFERENCE STEAK DINNER 5:30—7:00
3 BASEBALL vs OTTUMWA 1:00 BINGO	4 LEGION RIDERS 6:30	5 TATER TOT TUESDAY AUXILIARY REGULAR 6:30	6 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY BINGO	7 DOLLAR DOG DAY	8 TENDERLOIN BASKET 5:30-7	9 BREAKFAST & BAKE SALE 7:00-11:00 AM
10 BASEBALL vs WOODBURY 1:00 BINGO	11	12 TATER TOT TUESDAY SAL REGULAR 6:30	13 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY BINGO	14 DOLLAR DOG DAY LEGION BOARD 6:30 REGULAR 7:30	15 MUNCHIES NIGHT	16 BASEBALL vs CEDAR RAPIDS 1:00
17 BASEBALL vs MARION 1:00 BINGO	18	19 TATER TOT TUESDAY VETERANS HOME BINGO & LUNCH 11AM—2PM	20 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY BURGER BASKET 5:00-6:30 BINGO	21 DOLLAR DOG DAY SOCIAL COMMITTEE 6:00	22 MUNCHIES NIGHT	23
24 BASEBALL vs CARROLL 1:00 BINGO	25	26 TATER TOT TUESDAY 40&8	27 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY BINGO	28 DOLLAR DOG DAY OPERATIONS COMMITTEE 6:00 CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE 7:00	29 MUNCHIES NIGHT	30 BASEBALL vs TRI COUNTY 10:30