

Ames Legion Family In Action

Legion 2016 Iowa Legislative Priorities

Veterans Day at the Capitol was held January 20. Veterans from all over Iowa met there to discuss our legislative priorities with our elected representatives. Items discussed with the legislators were:



In addition to those discussions, attention was given to the budget for the coming year. The budget proposed by the Branstad administration veterans programs is mostly a status quo budget.

Director King and Commandant Tyme-

Veterans Preference—We request that the State of Iowa conduct a comprehensive review of veterans preference. The review should include a definition of who is eligible, where veterans preference applies and the agency responsible for enforcement.

We also request that veterans preference hiring practices be clearly communicated to all applicable gov-

ernment agencies and bodies from the state level down to cities and schools.

Licensing and Certification of Servicemembers and Veterans—We support efforts to eliminate barriers that impede the transfer of military job skills to the civilian job market.

Property Tax Exemption—We request that the State of Iowa raise the exemption to \$5,000.

son believe that the budget as submitted will allow them and their Departments to continue to provide the service that the veterans of Iowa have enjoyed in the past.

We will continue to observe the budget process to ensure that appropriated funds will be sufficient.

District Oratorical Contest

Josie Dubiel, shown at right in the picture, represented Ames in the Sixth District Oratorical contest on January 17.

She was chosen over Noah Brinkmeyer in the Post contest in December and went on to be Story County champion. The picture also shows Wyatt English representing Des



Moines Post #274 and Hailey Gross representing Redfield Post #261. Hailey was chosen as the District Champion with Josie finishing in third place.

We were happy to support Josie in the contest and proud to have her represent us.

Save The Date
Mother's Day
Brunch May 8

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Post Commander Stan's Comments

Please note our meeting date change. We will meet on February 4th which is the first Thursday of the month. Times will remain the same, 1830 for the executive board and 1930 for the regular meeting. This change is due to the number of members who will already be in Des Moines for Mid-Winter Conference on our regular meeting night. We will resume our regular schedule of the second Thursday in March.

At our January meeting the post endorsed James Demarest for the Sixth District Department Convention Commission representative.

Also at the January meeting the decision was made to donate our budgeted amounts to the Iowa Veterans Home, Department Commanders Project, Operation Comfort Warrior, the National Emergency Fund, Legacy Fund and

Child Welfare Foundation. We are also able to donate to the newly formed Story County American Legion Baseball team and the ISU Band.

For those not at the meeting the ISU Band is invited to participate at this years D-Day service in France. Our understanding is this is quite an honor for the band as very few get invited to participate. The University is not contributing any funding for this trip so the band is raising funds on their own. If anyone wants to make a private donation we can direct you to the right people.

I thank everyone that came to the post on a very cold January 15th and enjoyed a nice hot bowl of chicken and noodles. Along this same line don't forget we have a steak supper on the 6th, come to your post and have another great meal. The American Legion is

responsible for the dinner in March and as always we can use your help. If you want to get involved contact me at selliott478@gmail.com or call 515-382-5768. If you have never worked a dinner before that isn't a problem, we can help you learn.

Mid-Winter Conference is fast approaching. I encourage everyone that can to attend. You don't need to stay for the entire weekend but if you attend on Saturday there will be many things to do starting at 0730 with the Programs Fair and continuing through the day with classes covering a wide range of topics all geared toward helping us improve our posts.

Membership is at 461. We need 82 renewals and/or new members to be 100% target for the year!

Thanks for all you do to support our veterans and our Post.

Unit President Tammy's Comments

Last month I mentioned that we had three items to discuss at our January meeting: Legislative Day January 20th, changing our meeting start time from 7:00 pm to 6:30 pm, and using a greeting/welcome committee at our meetings.

Legislative Day: There was little enthusiasm for going, so we left it that if you wanted to attend, contact Kelli to arrange transportation.

Changing the start time of our meetings: It was a close vote! Starting with the February 2nd meeting, our start time will be **6:30 pm**.

Having a greeting/welcome committee at our meetings: The decision was left up to the Sgt-at-Arms and the Distinguished Guest committee. We'll see what they have to say in February!

Junior camp will be held June 5th through the 10th in Newton for our members ages 8 to 18. The registration deadline is quickly approaching. If you know of a Junior who is interested in attending, there is a camp registration form on the Department of Iowa American Legion Auxiliary website (<http://ialegion.org/ala/forms/forms.html>) that needs to be completed. Please have the form to Joyce Elliott by March 15, 2016. If you have questions, Joyce's phone number is 515-382-5768. Please leave a message if no one answers.

A Junior Conference will be held on March 5, 2016 at the New Testament Baptist Church at 3020 E. 38th Street in Des Moines. Junior President Crystal is asking members to bring pop tabs, school supplies and canned goods for

Camp Dodge. Please contact Joyce Elliott with any questions.

On January 2nd, the Auxiliary hosted steak night. With the date falling on a holiday weekend, many of our Auxiliary members were unavailable. This event turned out to be a great example of teamwork between the divisions of the Legion Family. There were members from the Legion, the Sons and the Riders assisting the Auxiliary. When we work together, we can accomplish anything! Thank You to everyone who helped. I was having a bad day so I also want to say Thank You to the workers and our guests for putting up with me!

Well, that's all for this month. Remember, thank a veteran every chance you get and visit your Legion Post often!

Legion Riders Year Begins

Greetings from the new President of the Post 37 Legion Riders!

Ames American Legion Riders started off with the intention of having our New Years Day ride. Unfortunately Mother Nature said different. The second choice was to enjoy the Chili Cook-off.

On January 4, 2016, we welcomed in our new officers: President Stan Hyer, Vice President John Valline, Secretary Jammie Phillips, Treasurer Steve VanKerckvoorde, Membership Chair-

man Rick Hackett, Sergeant-at-Arms Bruce Schuler, Chaplain Dennis Vincent, Historian Bonita Deaton, Road Captains Ken Wood, Jim Adams, and Pat Phillips.

Last year, our Legion Family was able to support the Nation of Patriots motorcycle tour. We are looking forward to having fundraisers to help again this year. The Nation of Patriots Tour will visit Ames on September 1, 2016 and depart on September 2, 2016 to Wau-

kon. Another event that has been talked about is helping with the Down Town bike nights while promoting our Post.

Nationally the American Legion Riders promote the honorable nature of military service, providing honor guards and flag lines to scores of military funerals, patriotic parades and other memorial events each year. Our plan is for Post 37 Legion Riders is to continue this tradition.

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 than to stop into the post and see friends and share a few stories.

Winners of this year's chili contest were:

- 1st Place-Stan Hyer
- 2nd Place-Terry Keigley
- 3rd Place-Galen Omvig

Thanks to all who entered the contest!!!

Super Bowl Madness- Join us Sunday, February 7 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 12 is Tenderloin Night. 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 this mega sized

sandwich. This meal is an excellent value at just \$6.00, which includes all the fixins' and French fries.

Wednesday, February 17 is Burger Basket Night . Burgers will be served from 5-6:30pm. You have to try the best burger in town!! Served with a side of fries and all your favorite toppings for only \$5.

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..

A very special thank you goes out to Terry and Lisa Keigley and Ken and Angie Markley for last month's chicken and noodle dinner. Not only did they prepare the meal from scratch but also donated all the ingredients. This was a great fundraiser for the post and was a sellout. Thanks to all who supported this event!!

Squadron Commander Roger's Comments

We have made it through another month of winter. Before we know it (hopefully) this cold will be a quickly melting memory. I hope that you and your loved ones have been keeping safe and warm while you have wiled away the winter blues in whatever recreational activities you enjoy.

If going out for a great meal and socializing is your thing, then I want to encourage you to come to the Post on the evening of Feb 6th for the S.A.L. supper. There you will find good food, good people, and the proceeds go for a good cause (supporting the activities of this Post). I hope to see many of you there.

The S.A.L. membership last year was 191. We currently have 163 for this year so we are behind where we want to be. Unfortunately, it sounds like we have lost around 10 members who have decided to move their memberships to a new S.A.L. squadron so we have some ground to make up. If you would like to help make up for the loss, please talk to your co-workers and friends and encourage them to join. Family? If you have not considered it before, why not do it now? Do you have sons or grandsons who are not members yet? This would be a nice gift to give to your descendants.

Speaking of descendants, the S.A.L. recently approved a change to the requirements of who may apply for the scholarship(s) that we award. Every year, we hold an essay contest with the prize being one \$1000 or two \$500 scholarships, depending upon the quality of the essays that are submitted. In the past, an applicant had to be a student at Ames High School or Gilbert High School. That has changed. Now, if a student is a descendant of a current Ames Post 37 American Legion Family member (The American Legion, The American Legion Auxiliary, or The Sons of the American Legion Squadron), they may also participate in the contest, regardless of where they attend school. If you would like to learn more, please contact me at rogwell83@gmail.com or come to one of our monthly meetings to get the details. The essays must be submitted to me by March 15th for the selection committee to consider.

Lastly, if you are like me, you have already grown sick and tired of the presidential ads. But I encourage you to go out and get involved in the election process. As a free nation, "We the people" need to make our voices heard by the politicians so that those programs and freedoms we treasure are not forgot-

CLUBROOM COUPON

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

Soup Contest



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 19th, 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 Fund.

Kudo Korner



Well done and thanks to the following this month for their volunteer efforts at the Post:
Paul Madsen, Megan McEnany, Hank Goettsche and the Bar Staff for a great Tenderloin Dinner Night in December; Stan Hyer and Ken Woodley for repairing & organizing the kitchen equipment storage area in the basement; Stan & Joyce Elliott, Kathy MacCrea, Ann Rehbein, Tammy & Stan Hyer, Ken Woodley, Andrea Groneau, Kelli Hitsman, Sharon Bellinghausen, Sandy & Mike Deacon and Hank Goettsche for the January Steak Dinner; Hank Goettsche for managing our bottle returns each month, and; Tom Hadaway, Junior Metzger, Kathy Link, Diego Munoz, Stan Hyer and Sarah Schendel for another great Burger Night.



ten. Apathy is a silent monster that will slowly eat away those things that we often take for granted in this country. Get involved, listen to the campaigners, research their records (don't rely upon TV commercials), and vote.

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 LEGION RIDERS 6:30	2 TOASTED CHEESE TUESDAY AUXILIARY REGULAR 6:30	3 WINEDAY WEDNESDAY BINGO	4 THIRSTY THURSDAY LEGION BOARD 6:30 REGULAR 7:30	5 MUNCHIES NIGHT	6 STEAK DINNER 5:30—7:00	
7 BINGO	8 BUILDING FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE	9 TOASTED CHEESE TUESDAY SAL REGULAR 6:30	10 WINEDAY WEDNESDAY BINGO	11 THIRSTY THURSDAY	12 TENDERLOIN BASKET 5:00-6:30	13	
14 BINGO	15	16 TOASTED CHEESE TUESDAY PAST PRESIDENT'S PARLEY 7:00	17 WINEDAY WEDNESDAY BURGER NIGHT 5:00-6:30 BINGO	18 THIRSTY THURSDAY SOCIAL COMMITTEE 6:00	19 SOUP CONTEST	20	
21 BINGO	22	23 TOASTED CHEESE TUESDAY 40&8	24 WINEDAY WEDNESDAY BINGO	25 THIRSTY THURSDAY OPERATIONS COMMITTEE 6:00	26 MUNCHIES NIGHT	27	
28 BINGO	29	 Find us on Facebook at American Legion Family of Ames, IA Post 37					