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

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www.ialegion.org
www.ialegion.org/ala
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www.legion.org
www.alaforveterans.org
www.sal.legion.org

Ames Legion Family In Action

National Commander Schmidt Christmas Message

To My Fellow American Legion Family Members:

While I often ask Legionnaires to “carry the legacy forward,” it is especially important to reflect over the holiday season on some of the great legacies that our American Legion continue to build for veterans and communities across our country.

Through townhalls and System Worth Saving visits, we remind the public that the VA health care system is a needed lifeline for veterans and must be maintained to serve those who have preserved our freedom. In Washington, our American Legion has worked with Congress to modernize the appeals process

and will continue to fight for this needed legislation until it is passed by both houses and signed by the president. Our Legion career fairs not only help veterans obtain employment, they also help prepare entrepreneurs for the competitive world of business.

National revitalization teams continue to hit the road and assist posts in need. Our American Legion charities benefit our nation’s wounded warriors, children in need and families impacted by natural disasters.

But it is what you are doing in your local communities which has the most impact. You are the people that veterans and

their families see firsthand and it is all of you who provide the examples and inspiration needed to encourage eligible veterans to join our organization. Holidays are about family and I hope that you will help The American Legion Family grow!

To you and your families, Linda and I wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy Hanukkah. May you have a prosperous, happy, healthy and successful New Year.

For God and Country



Have You Renewed?

Right now, our Post membership is 462. Are you one of them? Data from National shows that we have 73 of our 2016 members that have not renewed for 2017. Those 73 added on to the 462 would put us well over our goal of 519.

We will make that goal. If you haven’t renewed, plan on hearing from us often, by mail, by phone and probably in person. Renew now and you can make everyone’s life easier. Mail your dues (\$45) to the post or go online at www.legion.org.

Dinners at the Post

So what should we have for dinner, steak or fish? Gee, why not both.

Our steak dinner this month will be on Saturday, January 7. The menu includes steak, shrimp and ham and we will serve from 5:30-7:00. Good meal, good prices, come join us.

The fish fry will be Friday January 20 with serving from 5:30-7:00. The price will be \$8 and will include coleslaw and hush puppies.

We hope to see you at both.

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Commander Pat

Greetings Legion Family! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. You have to love this time of year. Spending time with our friends and family, as well as our Legion family makes this season especially special for Jammie and I.

Right now, I am sitting in Lincoln, Nebraska (Home Sweet Home) working at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln. I only mention this because tonight I went to Pinnacle Arena to watch my Huskers beat Southern University in NCAA Basketball. The only people in our Legion family that care about this are Dave Rehbein and me. Sorry, but I had to boast a little.

If you haven't been to the Post lately you should definitely stop by and meet our new Club Manager, Jodi Looft. She has been with us for a month now and has done a great job helping to revitalize our Club and its patronage. Stop by and introduce yourself. December was a very good month at the Post with the Sons Breakfast and the Auxiliary's Cookie Sale on the 10th. Burger night was on the 9th and Santa was in the house. We had a Great turnout for this event and the kids loved it. I even saw a few post members getting their picture with Santa and Mrs. Claus.

January is shaping up with our normal Steak night and Burger night. In addition, we are going to have our 2nd Fish Fry night on the 20th of January. Our first one was excellent and I expect the turnout to be even greater. Mark your calendar.

I am excited about the future of our Post and the positive moves we are making for 2017. Be a part of the movement and help our membership out by paying your 2017 dues before the end of the year. Stop by and say hi as well. Have a Merry, Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year. Remember the Reason of the Season!!

Thank you for your service.



President Tammy

Happy New Year everyone! I hope you all had a terrific holiday season! The month of December tends to be a busy one for most so I want to send a big THANK YOU to our Auxiliary members who donated their time, money and cookies to the cookie fair. Also, a big THANK YOU to everyone who bought our cookies and/or made a donation to the Auxiliary. We collected over \$1000 to put towards our programs and charities that help veterans, their families, our youth and our community.

As most of you know, we are continually working on membership for the Legion family. Membership helps keep the Post running. One of the suggestions for increasing participation at the Auxiliary meetings is to have an activity of some sort before, during or after the meeting. If you have an idea for an activity, please let myself or Sharon Bellinghausen know so we can add it to our list of options.

January 7th is the Auxiliary's steak night. Please come down and enjoy a steak, shrimp or ham dinner prepared just for you!

Our next Auxiliary meeting is Tuesday January 3rd at 6:30 pm. All Auxiliary members and their guests are welcome!

In closing, remember to thank a veteran every chance you get, visit your post often and be kind to each other!



Commander Roger

As I write this, I'm sipping on a hot cup of coffee and the temperature is minus 12 degrees. Brrrr! I hope that this is not a sign of what we can expect more of this winter.

Another year is almost behind us now and we will soon be celebrating the beginning of a new year. I sincerely hope that you can look back on 2016 and find lots of good memories. I also hope that you will be blessed with more good things in the New Year.

As one might expect, the S.A.L. has had some good and some not-so-good highlights this past year. Our suppers and breakfasts have been well attended and S.A.L. members have been supportive of the events hosted by the Legion, Auxiliary, and Riders. Thank you for your involvement.

For me, the biggest disappointment has been the attendance at our monthly meetings. When we have over 170 members, one would expect to see more than the 8 or 9 who faithfully show up for the meetings where we decide what to do to support our veterans and their families. Even if you cannot attend every meeting, I would encourage you to make a genuine effort to come occasionally. We need your ideas and help in determining how, as an organization, we can best serve the goals of this Post. We meet at 6:30 on the second Tuesday of every month.

In addition to attending our monthly meetings, here are some other ways in which you can support our programs: (1) Become involved in the activities of the squadron. (2) Serve on a sub-committee. (3) Help at one of our functions (or through your financial support by attending the functions as a guest). (4) Promote the programs of the Post to encourage new memberships. Whatever you can do, in a small or great way, will be appreciated.

I am always open to new ideas and feedback. If you wish to contact me, here is my e-mail address: rogwell83@gmail.com.

May 2017 be a fantastic year for all of us,

Thanks Again Country Dancers

Our first two Country Dance nights were a success. Thanks to all of the Legion Family members who came in to dance and enjoy the music. The next dance night will be **January 13th from 9:00 pm until 1:00 am**. If you would like to learn, come down at 8:00 for dance lessons. Spread the word! Mike and Jerry from Smitty's Karaoke and DJ will play all of your favorites for your dancing and listening pleasure.

Clubroom News

Happy New Year!! We hope everyone had a safe and happy holiday season. We had a great turnout at the Post for Santa and Burger night. Thanks to everyone who helped make this event a great one. Congrats to Megan McEnany on her graduation. We want to thank you again for everything you have done for the Post.

Stop in and see us. Come watch your favorite team on our big screen tv.

Monday-Weekly Drawing—Once a week, drop a 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!! Add ham to your sandwich for \$1 more.

Winesday 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.

Thirsty Thursday—Featuring \$2 Chili dogs all night and \$2 Bottles (Bud family) from 7-9pm.

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

Check out the activities in January-

Sunday Jan 1—Chili Cook-off—Starting at noon, show off your culinary talents and bring in your best chili. Let's see who gets the bragging rights for the next year. Not a cook? Come in and help us judge.

Wed Jan 11—Burger Night 5:30-7

Friday Jan 13—Country Music Dance—Come swing around the dance floor from 9pm-1am DJ and dancing.

CLUBROOM COUPON

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

Legion Riders

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the American Legion Riders! It may be cold and a little snow on the ground, but still looking forward to a New Year's Day ride to start off the new riding season – roads and weather permitting. This ride has been happening from the beginning of Post 37 Legion Riders existence, fueled by Everett Freel.

The newly elected officers for the Legion Riders will be inducted at the January 2nd meeting. Looking in the left rearview mirror at 2016, the Riders have had a very busy year including funeral flag lines, rides for people in retirement homes, two motorcycle poker run fund raisers, parades, dinner rides, Ames bike nights, breakfast rides to name a few activities. With the new officers coming on board, I predict the riders will be busier than ever next year.

FYI: In 2005, the Molvene, Kansas ALR founded the Patriot Guard, a national movement which for 11 years has honored families, veterans, and fallen warriors at military funerals.

With a new President coming aboard, this will be my last article for the Legion Riders of Post 37.

Hope to see you at the Post,
President Stan

Post Centennial Webpage Updated



Three new additions have been made to the Ames Post Centennial Webpage. That is the place where events from our Legion family's

history are being recorded so that they don't become forgotten.

The events recorded there range from 1919 in a discussion of when our Post first had a name but no longer carries that name to 1992 and a history of the Pure Heaven Color Guard and their domination of the National Competition.

That history of Pure Heaven is one of the new entries. The other new entries are pictures of a new member initiation after WW II and an account of the impact that the Post's Highway Safety committee had on the development of driver's license tests and lights on police cars in 1931-1932.

The address for the webpage is:

Centennial.legion.org/iowa/post37.

As we have researched the history of The American Legion family in Ames, we are finding that our Post has been one of the leaders in Iowa throughout our history.

Legion Riders & Family Partner with Nation of Patriots

On December 22 at Zylstra Harley Davidson, the Nation of Patriots—Ames presented Christmas checks to two combat injured Iraq and Afghanistan veterans from the Nation of Patriots. This year the Nation of Patriots – Ames raised over \$5,000 to give to veterans in need in Story County.

The Legion Riders were the muscle behind this year's event. The entire Legion family helped tremendously through financial support from the Post, Auxiliary and the Sons.

The riders hosted rides, retrieving



the flag from Minnesota and passing it on to Waukon. Randy Johns (Legion member) and Vice-President of Zylstra HD was our corporate sponsor this year and went above and beyond the call of

duty. They held two separate feeds and donated the proceeds to the NOP.

Each veteran received \$3,250.00. Job well done!



AMERICAN LEGION POST NO. 37

225 Main Street
Ames, IA 50010

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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US POSTAGE PAID Permit 147 Ames, IA

LOOK INSIDE FOR COUPON

JANUARY

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
1 CHILI COOK-OFF BINGO	2 LEGION RIDERS 6:30	3 TOASTED CHEESE TUESDAY AUXILIARY REGULAR 6:30	4 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY BINGO	5 \$2 CHILI DOGS	6 FIREBALL FRIDAY MUNCHIES NIGHT	7 STEAK DINNER 5:30—7:00
8 BINGO	9	10 TOASTED CHEESE TUESDAY SAL REGULAR 6:30	11 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY BURGER NIGHT 5:30-7:00 BINGO	12 \$2 CHILI DOGS LEGION BOARD 6:30 REGULAR 7:30	13 FIREBALL FRIDAY COUNTRY DANCE NIGHT	14
15 BINGO	16	17 TOASTED CHEESE TUESDAY	18 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY BINGO	19 \$2 CHILI DOGS SOCIAL COMMITTEE 6:00	20 FIREBALL FRIDAY FISH FRY 5:30-7:00	21
22 BINGO	23	24 TOASTED CHEESE TUESDAY 40&8	25 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY BINGO	26 \$2 CHILI DOGS OPERATIONS COMMITTEE 6:00	27 FIREBALL FRIDAY MUNCHIES NIGHT	28
29 BINGO	30	31 TOASTED CHEESE TUESDAY		Find us on Facebook at American Legion Family of Ames, IA Post 37		