



THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY



Post Commander: Pat Phillips

Unit President:

Squadron Commander: Roger Elliott

Chapter President: Bruce Schuller

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www.ialegion.org
www.ialegion.org/ala
www.ialegion.org/riders

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

AMES POST EXCEEDS MEMBERSHIP GOAL

National Commander Schmidt recently published a message discussing the current membership situation in The American Legion. In that message he talks about the drop in membership from the 3.1 million members 25 years ago to this year when it appears that we will drop below 2 million.

We are proud to announce that while that may be the situation nationally, the opposite is happening here in Ames. As of today, Ames Post #37 is TWO members larger than at this time last year.

Why is that important? Because it sets the example and it means that we are not holding back the county and district and



department.

Commander Pat's article makes the point that we are the largest post in Iowa to make our goal, that we are half the membership of Story County and over 10% of the district.

If we don't get our work done and be successful, we are making life harder

for many of the other posts.

We wish that the entire Ames Legion family could celebrate membership success. It didn't work that way this year but there is no reason it can't work next year.

You will see us out in the community again next year. We have plans for the farmer's market again. We will make sure we are seen out around town.

You can help us with that. Show the emblem. Wear a hat or a sweater or a belt buckle or shirt with a Legion, Auxiliary or SAL emblem. Show your pride in membership in the Ames Legion family and others will want to join you.

MEMORIAL DAY 2017

The Ames Legion family will be busy on Memorial Day weekend. The Main Street area flags will go up at 7AM on Friday, May 26.



We will have a booth at Farmers Market on Saturday morning with Legion, Auxiliary, SAL and Riders material along with coloring books for the kids. We will march in the parade on Memorial Day morning from City Hall to the cemetery and

participate in the ceremony there.

Lunch will follow at the post and the Honor Guard will fire a tribute at Ontario cemetery

and Story Memorial Gardens. The weekend will close when the Main Street flags come down on Memorial Day at 5PM. We can use help with any and all of these activities. Let us know when you can help and come join us.

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Post Commander Pat's Comments

Greetings Legion Family!! April was a GREAT month for the Legion. We could not have done it without each and every one of you. I am speaking of membership. WE MADE GOAL!!! We were challenged to reach 519 Legionnaire members by District Conference and we did it. I believe at the time of this newsletter we are currently at 521.

A couple of interesting facts:

1. Post #37 is the 5th largest post in the Department of Iowa and we are the only one out of the top 5 that made goal!

2. Our post contains approximately 50 percent of the members in Story County and over 10 percent of the membership for the 6th District.

Why is this important, you may ask? The strength of our post is the ability to step up in the community of veterans and make a difference in helping those that need help. In order to fulfill this critically important mission, we need to

continue to grow. Let's keep it up. Vets helping Vets.

Speaking of the community, we have to continue to showcase our mission and our post right here at home in Ames. Historically, the ability to let the community know of the happenings and good work done at the post, we had to rely on work-of-mouth or the newspaper. Times are changing and we have the ability to reach out to many more citizens of Story County through digital media. We have a Facebook page (*American Legion Family of Ames, IA Post 37*) and have weekly updates and our newsletter sent out via the internet. If you currently get the hardcopy of the newsletter and wish to receive it via email, let us know.

Speaking of community efforts, I had the privilege to award plaques to two outstanding young men this month in recognition of their achievement of obtaining their Eagle Scout rank. Ethan

James Holtman and Jacob Bradley Peters, of Troop 196 both had their Eagle Scout Court of Honor on the 1st of April. Additionally, I was able to present the American Legion Award for Leadership to Cadet Scott Milcoch at the Air Force ROTC Dining Out. Great event. Dave Rehbein presented the American Legion Award at the Army ROTC banquet and Doug MacCrea presented this award at the Navy ROTC ceremony this month.

To wrap up this month's memo, I again want to invite everyone to the Club room to meet and greet other members. We continue to see an increase in use by the membership and hope to continue this trend with your help. We wrapped up our Pool League, which was an outstanding success. Thanks to Michelle Sime and Denny Krogh for handling the details. We also have a sign-up sheet for our upcoming Golf League. It's all for fun. Join us!

Comments from the Unit

May brings many opportunities for you to be part of activities in your American Legion Auxiliary Unit. Join us May 2nd for the joint memorial service to honor those members who have passed away in the prior year. The American Legion and SAL will also be a part of this memorial.

Mother's Day Brunch will be held on May 14th. Good food and fellowship and Mom doesn't have to cook! It is a free will offering, we hope to see you there.

Wreaths will be laid at Ames Municipal Cemetery during the Memorial Service

at 11 a.m. on May 29th. Please join us to honor those veterans who are laid to rest there. The firing squad will also conduct services at the Ontario Cemetery and Story Memorial Gardens.

It's time to think about election of new officers for the 2017-2018 Auxiliary year which starts in July. The nominating committee is Ann Rehbein, Jan Schmidt and Kathy MacCrea. Contact Chairman Ann at amrehbein@msn.com for more information or if you are interested in running for any of the officer positions.

Poppy Days: The American Legion Auxiliary will hold Poppy Days on Me-

morial Day weekend. The dates are Friday, May 26th and Saturday, May 27th. 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. Work shifts are two hours long.

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 450-5058 or cell phone 515-290-5444 or by email at jansch1@juno.com.

Squadron Commander Roger's Comments

It has been a struggle this year but I am happy to report that we are very close now to meeting our goal of 180 S.A.L. members. Thank you to all of you who have renewed your membership or encouraged family, friends, and co-workers to join. Without a strong membership, we cannot support some of our programs.

Speaking of support, you may recall that last year I challenged each of you to attend at least one of our monthly squadron meetings. By doing so, you have an excellent opportunity to voice any concerns or ideas you have on how to make our organization better. Unfortunately, only a couple of you answered that challenge. So, I am putting it out there again. We have the opportunity to improve the lives of our veterans and to be a positive influence for the future of the next generation. But it takes volunteers to make any of it happen. Volunteers with new ideas and helping hands are always needed. We each have our own personal reasons for being members of Post 37, but when we step outside of our own little boxes to work side-by-side with other members of this family, we have the chance to really make a difference.

Right now, we are in the process of nominating candidates to fill the various duties within our squadron. If you have an interest in volunteering for one of the vacancies or if you know of someone you think would do an outstanding job, please let me know. As I keep stressing, we can always use new blood and fresh ideas.

On April 15th, we hosted our last S.A.L. breakfast until next winter. I don't have all of the final figures but it looks like we served around 110 guests. A hearty "Thank you" to those who volunteered to help and a big "Thank you" to those of you who came and allowed us to serve you.

Speaking of programs, it is with pleasure that I can announce the winner of this year's S.A.L. Scholarship Award. Joshua Rathbun will be receiving a certificate and a check for \$1000 will be sent to the university of his choice to help with his expenses. Congratulations, Joshua!

Please see the article on the next page about dinner help needed. We really need you on May 6.

Clubroom News

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

A huge congratulation goes out to Cally Neiss. Cally has worked at the Post for 4 years and has been a wonderful employee and member. She will be graduating in May so make sure you stop in and wish her the best. Thanks for everything you have done for the Post Cally!

The summer golf league has begun, if you'd like to get involved there is still time to join. Just stop in and get signed up.

Join us for **Cinco de Mayo**, we will be having drink specials and munchies! The clubroom will be hosting a small fiesta and having lots of fun.

Wednesday, May 24 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'. Don't have time to eat here? You can always get them to go.

Check out our awesome daily specials:

Taco Tuesday's-Enjoy a walking or soft shell taco for just \$2 with all your favorite toppings.

Winesday Wednesday-try one of our many fine wines, whether you like a dry red or a sweet white or somewhere in between we have a wine for you. Just \$3 a glass!

Thursday's-Enjoy Dollar hotdogs, your choice of plain, Jalapeno or Cheddar sausage. Wash them down with \$2 Bud family bottles.

Post Nominating Committee Set

The nominating committee for the 2017-2018 year was appointed at the April Post Meeting. Their charge is to identify candidates for the various post offices for the next year. They are Doug MacCrea, chairman, Keith Harvey and Anthony Purdue. This is a great time to get involved. If you would like to be part of something successful, now is the time and the Ames Post is the place. Get your name to Doug in care of the Post.

Boys and Girls Staters Chosen

The Post and Unit selection committees have announced the names of the delegates that will be attending American Legion Boys State and American Legion Auxiliary Girls State in June.

Those chosen are: Boys State - Seth Breyfogle, Joel Stahr, Jason Taylor and John Howell and Girls State - Sidney Ayers and Elena Andrews. All of the selectees except for Elena attend Gilbert High School. Elena attends Ames High.

We have had some problems the last two years identifying and contacting nominees from Ames High. Thanks to the cooperation of School Board Vice-President Alisa Frandsen, a solution has been found to our problem. We want to thank her for helping.

The Boys State and Girls State delegates will be invited to our meetings later this summer after they return. Watch for that announcement and come hear about their experiences.

Baseball Update

We have been working around the weather to get our Legion baseball games played. The March 26 and April 15 games were cancelled. Scores for the others games were:

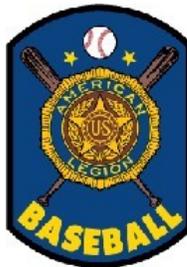
April 1—Ottumwa: Won:3-1 & Lost 13-3

April 2—Woodbury County: Lost 12-6 & 3-1

April 9—Iowa Lakes: Won 11-1 & 14-1

Future home games will be April 23 and April 29. All homes games begin at 1PM.

The Department tournament will be held May 6 & 7 in Cascade and Dyers-



ville. Ames is scheduled to open the tournament On Saturday, May 6 at 1:30PM at the Cascade field. We will be playing Ottumwa. We split with them in our first double-header so it should be a good game.

We are encouraging the Ames Legion family to follow the team to the tournament if possible. Hotel accommodations are available at the Comfort Inn, 527 SE 16th in Dyersville. Call 563-875-8885 for reservations and ask for the American Legion rate.

The address for the Cascade baseball diamond is 301 Jackson St in Cascade. See you at the games.

CLUBROOM COUPON

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

Legion Riders

The Legion riders heard that the Veterans home at Marshalltown was in need of some new TV's. So we sent them \$1500.00 to help them buy some more.

The Nation of Patriots Flag will be coming to town on the 28th of May, We will have a short program at the Post for that, then will take it to Mason City on May 30. Activities are also planned at Zylstra's HD on Memorial Day.

Our fund raising for the event will be later this summer, along other events we will be scheduling during the riding season for the Veterans Home and local nursing homes.

We are planning on a breakfast ride Thursday 4/20, KSU @8 AM. Theisen's parking lot.

SAL Needs Help

On Saturday, May 6th, the S.A.L. will be hosting its last supper until next fall. Due to various conflicts, we are having difficulty in finding enough help to staff the various tasks that need to take place. None of the work is difficult.

We are in dire need of volunteers to take orders, serve beverages, and bus tables. If you are able to help out, please call Commander Roger at (515) 290-5737 or e-mail me at rogwell83@gmail.com.

Kudo Korner

THANK YOU



Thanks to all that volunteered to help make our Burger, Fish Fry and Burger night's a great success!! We could not do them without

all the help. John Schomaker, Phil Harris, Lynn Sellmeyer, John Sellmeyer, Sandy and Roger Lawrence, Bill Donovan, Addison Donovan, Ken Woodley, Jamie Kluesner, Aimee McCauley, Sandy Deacon, Paul Madsen, Megan McEnany, Michelle McEnany, Melissa McEnany, Darlene Madsen, Tom Hada-way, and Russ and Vicki Belz.

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

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US POSTAGE PAID Permit 147 Ames, IA

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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>
	1 LEGION RIDERS 6:30	2 TACO TUESDAY AUXILIARY REGULAR 6:30	3 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY BINGO	4 DOLLAR DOG DAY	5 FIREBALL FRIDAY CINCO DE MAYO	6 DEPARTMENT BASEBALL CASCADE 1:30 STEAK DINNER 5:30—7:00
7 BINGO	8 BUILDING FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE	9 TACO TUESDAY SAL REGULAR 6:30	10 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY BINGO	11 DOLLAR DOG DAY LEGION BOARD 6:30 REGULAR 7:30	12 FIREBALL FRIDAY MUNCHIES NIGHT	13
14 MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH 11-1 BINGO	15	16 TACO TUESDAY PAST PRESIDENT'S PARLEY 7:00	17 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY BINGO	18 DOLLAR DOG DAY	19 FIREBALL FRIDAY MUNCHIES NIGHT	20
21 BINGO	22	23 TACO TUESDAY 40&8	24 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY BURGER BASKET 5-6:30 BINGO	25 DOLLAR DOG DAY OPERATIONS COMMITTEE 6:00	26 FIREBALL FRIDAY MAIN STREET FLAGS 7AM MUNCHIES NIGHT	27 FARMERS MARKET
28 BINGO	29 MAIN STR. FLAGS 5PM MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY AT 11 LUNCH AT POST	30 TACO TUESDAY	31 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY BINGO	 Find us on Facebook at Legion Family of Ames, IA Post 37		American Legion Post 37