

# Ames Legion Family In Action



## THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY



**Post Commander: Pat Phillips**  
**Unit President: Jammie Phillips**  
**Squadron Commander: Mike Deacon**  
**Chapter President: Cliff Barker**

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

[www.ameslegionpost37.com](http://www.ameslegionpost37.com)  
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[www.ialegion.org/riders](http://www.ialegion.org/riders)

[www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org)  
[www.alaforveterans.org](http://www.alaforveterans.org)  
[www.sal.legion.org](http://www.sal.legion.org)



All members of The American Legion Family are invited to the Auxiliary's meeting on February 6 at 6:30 pm to learn more about the Puppy Jake Foundation and meet Benji and her trainer Larry.

Puppy Jake Foundation service dogs are trained to assist with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and mobility impairments. Service dogs can perform tasks, im-

prove mobility and provide unconditional love.

Raising and training dogs can be expensive, but those costs pale in comparison to what our Armed Forces members have given for this country. Help us improve our heroes' lives at home and in our communities.

Come to the meeting and learn more about how we can help with this important program.

### POST MEETING CHANGES

Circumstances have caused a number of changes in the Post meetings in January and February.

First the weather caused a cancellation of both the Executive Committee and General Membership meetings in January. That is unfortunate but we have the structures in place to ensure that we continue to get our bills paid and vital work accomplished.

Further complications arise in

February. A number of our leadership are required to be at the Midwinter conference beginning February 8. That is the 2nd Thursday, our normal meeting night.

You will see from the calendar that the February Executive Board and membership meetings are being moved to Thursday, February 1. Please mark that on your calendar and join us at the February 1 meetings.

### Have You Renewed?

The Post, Unit and Squadron are all working to finish their membership drives for the year. Anyone who was a member in 2017 but has not renewed for 2018 saw their membership become due on January 1 and will become delinquent on February 1.

You had a reason for joining when you first paid dues. Do you still have that reason? Is there something that you wanted to gain that you have not gotten? If those things are true, we want to know.

Commander Pat, President Jammie and Commander Mike want to hear from you. Call the post and leave your name, number and whether you are a member of the Post, Unit or Squadron. Someone will be in touch. We want to keep all our 2017 members. Renew now.

### Mother's Day Brunch May 8, 2018

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## Post Commander Pat's Comments

Greetings fellow Legionnaires! Hoping you all have survived the brutal cold that January decided to put us through. As you know, we had to cancel the January Meeting at the Post due to weather and will not be having a makeup general meeting in January. I do plan on having an Executive Board meeting this month and will put that out in a separate communique. Also be on the lookout for a change to the February Meeting date due to Mid-Winter Conference that runs from February 9-11. More details to come.

January, despite the cold, was a great time at the Post. Fish fries are back as well as Country Dance Night. Good attendance for both with great food and comradery. We have much more coming up in February, so keep an eye out for the events. Would love to see you at the Post.

Just a reminder that the Mid-Winter Conference is coming up on Feb 9-11

at the Airport Holiday Inn in Des Moines. It's close enough to drive down daily if you want. Great opportunity to see what is going on at other Posts, Districts and at the Department level. I encourage you to check the Department Website. [http://www.ialegion.org/MW\\_schedule.pdf](http://www.ialegion.org/MW_schedule.pdf) for information on the events and pick a day or two to attend.

Lastly, I want to encourage everyone who has not renewed their 2018 dues to get them in as soon as possible. We want to make goal again this year, and with your help we will. Also, a gentle reminder that if you have any interest in becoming a member of the Executive Board, our elections will be coming up in a few months and we would love to have your input. Let one of the Executive Board know if you have any questions or comments.

For God and Country, Commander Pat

## Unit President Jammie's Comments

Hello Ladies of Unit 37!

As of January 20<sup>th</sup> Unit 37 is at 214 members. This is 66.88 percent of our 320 membership goal. I believe we can do better. If you have any ideas on how to increase membership or renew membership please reach out to me or Membership Chairman Joyce Elliot.

A few things to mark on your calendar for February: The next Unit meeting will be Tuesday, February the 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30PM. We will have a special guest at this meeting and it is open to all Legion Family. I look forward to seeing you all there!

Mid-Winter Conference will be held at

the Airport Holiday Inn in Des Moines February 9-13. The Department membership team is encouraging everyone to wear a Kentucky Derby Hat to represent the membership theme "Race to the Triple Crown". Looking for updates on what is going on at the post? Keep an eye out for the weekly bulletin emailed each Sunday and check out (and Like) the Legion Family's Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/American-Legion-Family-of-Ames-IA-Post-37-217520681603812/> (American Legion Family of Ames IA Post 37).

Thanks! Jammie

## Squadron Commander Mike's Comments

Well we were a little shorthanded at our January meeting, it seems that the Flu Bug was going around. I do hope that everyone is starting to feel better, maybe the weather will cooperate and we will start seeing some Sunshine.

We made the final changes to this years Merit Award, Scholarship, so that it can be presented to both Ames and Gilbert. If you know of anyone that is interested in this award have them contact the offices at their school to see if they are eligible for this. We present Two \$500.00 or we may decide on One \$1000.00 Merit award.

The February Steak Dinner is the responsibility of The Sons, so remember that if you cannot help and we would welcome any member that wants to help, you can also help out by coming to the Dinner and supporting the Post. All these Social Dinners get divided among the organizations, which helps with our Programs.

A lot is happening around the Post and you should be a part of the progress. The Marketing Committee is working on ways to Promote The Legion Family to the Community to show our involvement since the Birth of The Post in 1919.

Mid-Winter Conference is coming up on the 9th, 10th, & 11th of February at the Airport Holiday Inn in Des Moines. If you can get there, you should do your best to go, there will be a lot of information being shared with the American Legion Family and a whole lot of Friendship. Our National Commander of The Sons of The American Legion, Danny Smith from Nebraska will be there, He will be The First National Commander of The S.A.L. to attend Our Mid-Winter since 2010. Please come to hear Commander Danny.

Lastly Gentlemen, Valentines Day is coming up so, Remember Your Favorite Valentine, and that Should be Your Mom.

Hoping to see you at Our Next meeting and that you will support the Post. Wishing You Good Health and Happiness.

Please Support OUR Troops, For God and Country

## Soup Contest—February 16

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 16th, 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 Repairs Fund.

## 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:

1<sup>st</sup> Place-Rodger VanVoorhis

2<sup>nd</sup> Place-Anthony Perdue

3<sup>rd</sup> Place-Jammie Phillips

Thanks to all who entered the contest!!!

**Super Bowl Madness-** Join us Sunday, February 4 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, trivia games and more!

**Friday, February 23 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.

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.

## American Legion Legislative Priorities

Iowa Legionnaires joined other veterans on January 17 at the Capitol to present our legislative priorities to our elected officials. The American Legion of Iowa presented the following four priorities.

1. Support Funding for Existing Veteran Benefits: The American Legion supports funding existing state veterans' benefits and programs to include, but not limited to the following:

Iowa Department of Veterans Affairs  
Iowa Veterans Cemetery  
Iowa Veterans Trust Fund  
Iowa Veterans Home  
Military Home Ownership Program  
Injured Veteran Grant Program  
County Veterans Affairs Allocation Funds

2. Veterans Property Tax Exemption The American Legion requests the State of Iowa adjust the veterans' property tax exemption to \$5,000.

3. Veterans' Treatment Courts The American Legion urges the State of Iowa to establish and expand Veterans Treatment Courts. Veteran Treatment Courts are hybrid Drug Courts and Mental Health Courts and have evolved out of the growing need for a treatment court model designed specifically for justice-involved veterans to maximize efficiency and economize resources. Many veterans that enter the veteran treatment courts are not aware of their

federal, state, county and a variety of additional benefit programs, in particular, Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) benefits for compensation, pension and health care. Grouping justice-involved veterans into a specific court docket significantly expedites access to veteran specific resources, including benefits and treatment earned through military service and provides options for treatment as opposed to incarceration.

4. Support Licensure and Certification of Servicemembers and Veterans. The American Legion supports efforts to eliminate employment barriers that impede the timely and successful transfer of military job skills to the civilian labor market. The American Legion requests that the Governor of Iowa, the Iowa Legislature and all Departments and branches of the Government of Iowa as well as all counties and municipalities take appropriate steps to ensure that servicemembers and veterans be trained, tested and evaluated and that they have the opportunity to obtain a credential (i.e., licensure, certification, certificate, degree, etc.) that may be required in the civilian workforce. The American Legion supports efforts to increase the civilian labor market's acceptance of the training, education and prior experience provided by the United States Military.

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

## Legion Riders

Your American Legion Riders are in the planning



stages for our seasonal Dinner Rides. We look forward to traveling throughout the area on Monday evenings during the upcoming riding season and would welcome any Legion members to join us. Also we are planning a once a month breakfast ride to take place during the week. Stay tuned for the upcoming schedule of not only these rides, but other opportunities to get out and feel the breeze with us.

This year at the American Legion of Iowa Mid-Winter Conference in Des Moines, I'm proud to say that American Legion Riders will be leading the presentation of the colors for the opening ceremony. If you'd like to attend, the dates are Feb 9-11 at the Airport Holiday Inn. More information can be found at [www.ialegion.org](http://www.ialegion.org).

That's about all for this month, it will be actual riding season soon enough. If you do get out on one of the early warm days though, be mindful that there is still a lot of road debris out there, have fun and above all, be safe.



AMERICAN LEGION POST NO. 37

225 Main Street  
Ames, IA 50010

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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>
	Find us on Facebook at <b>American Legion Family of Ames, IA Post 37</b>			1 THIRSTY THURSDAY  LEGION BOARD 6:30 REGULAR 7:30	2 FIREBALL FRIDAY  MUNCHIES NIGHT	3 STEAK DINNER 5:30—7:00
4 BINGO	5 LEGION RIDERS 6:30	6 TOASTED CHEESE TUESDAY\$2  AUXILIARY REGULAR 6:30	7 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY  BINGO	8 THIRSTY THURSDAY	9 FIREBALL FRIDAY  MUNCHIES NIGHT	10 MIDWINTER CONFERENCE
11 MIDWINTER CONFERENCE BINGO	12	13 TOASTED CHEESE TUESDAY\$2  SAL REGULAR 6:30	14 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY  VALENTINES DAY BINGO	15 THIRSTY THURSDAY  SOCIAL COMMITTEE 6:00	16 FIREBALL FRIDAY SOUP CONTEST COUNTRY DANCE NITE 9PM-1AM	17
18 BINGO	19	20 TOASTED CHEESE TUESDAY\$2  PAST PRESIDENT'S PARLEY 7:00	21 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY  BINGO	22 THIRSTY THURSDAY  OPERATIONS COMMITTEE 6:00	23 FIREBALL FRIDAY  TENDERLOIN BASKET 5:30-7	24
25 BINGO	26	27 TOASTED CHEESE TUESDAY\$2  40&8	28 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY  BINGO			