

Legion Family Celebrates Christmas Spirit

Many Americans spend at least part of the Christmas season devoting their time, talent and treasure to help those less fortunate than themselves. Your Ames Legion Family is no exception.

Three families in the Ames area had a chance to enjoy a better Christmas this year thanks to the generosity of the Legion family. To protect their privacy, we will not publish their names but we can tell you a little about them.

To begin with, all three families are struggling with financial difficulties, all have a veteran in the family and all have children.

The first family has five children. Mom and Dad are both working but the money just doesn't stretch to include Christmas.



The second family has three kids, all near teens or teenagers. One of the kids has health problems that has stretched the family finances.

The third family is a single mother with four kids aged 6 to 14. Because of the age of the youngest, she hasn't been able to work but the family lives on her VA compensation and Social Security bene-

fits for the kids.

Each house now has a Christmas tree with presents under it for those children. Each house now will have Christmas dinner on the table. Together the Post, Unit and Squadron donated over \$1,000 to help these families.

That money comes from fundraisers you helped support. Back in May, you should remember Poppy Days. That helped support these families. The SAL Breakfast and the Unit Cookie Fair helped as well as proceeds from those going to Shoes That Fit, Shop with a Cop and the Boys and Girls Club.

Look for a listing in the coming months of everything that we do but for now, know that you helped make Christmas joyful for the children of three families of veterans.

Membership Delinquent in January

Don't forget, for those who haven't renewed, your membership becomes delinquent in January. All three groups are working to contact everyone who was a member in 2017 but who has not renewed for 2018. If you are one of those, expect a call or a note or an e-mail in the near future asking you to renew.

Why should you renew? If reading the story above doesn't tell you why then maybe nothing will. We were formed in 1919 to help the wounded and disabled vets coming home and to support the children of those vets and those that were killed in WW I. A century later, that need still exists but we need you to stay with us and help.

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Post Commander Pat's Comments

Happy New Year!!! I hope that the holiday season was a blessed and happy time for each of you. We have been busy on this end with traveling and work, but always able to come home to the Post and find comfort in seeing so many of our good friends. It's truly home.

A little bittersweet for me is the fact that in 2018 my tenure as your Post Commander is coming to a close. It has been a wonderful 2 years and I've been blessed to see so many great things happen at the Post. It happened because of YOU, your time, your service and your membership. I am eternally grateful for the many great members of our Legion family that put Veterans first and dedicate their time, money and sweat to making our Post the best in Iowa! THANK YOU!! That being said, it's a good time to start



the recruiting process for the future of our Post. We are always on the lookout for members that wish to find a role in the leadership of our Post, District or Department. Nominations for the upcoming elections are always welcomed. If you have any interest in serving our

Post on the Executive Council or on a Committee, please let me know. I have great information to share and welcome anyone who would be interested.

Lastly, I want to thank everyone who has paid their 2018 dues already. We have had a great start, but are not near our goal yet. I hope that if you haven't paid your dues yet, that you stop by the post and we will take care of it immediately. This is possible during Club room hours since we can take your dues locally with a Credit or Debit card right at the Post. No need for a check or a

stamp, just call or stop by and let us do the rest. We WILL make goal again this year, with your help.

Here's to a GREAT 2018 wish for each of you.

For God and Country, Doc

Unit President Jammie's Comments

Happy New Year!!!

Have you made your New Year's resolution? What are you looking forward to the most in 2018? The New Year is always so full of promise and although I resolved a long time ago to forgo the resolutions, setting goals is never a bad thing....hmmm goals...I'm sure by now you see where I am going with this article.

Unit 37 has a membership goal of 320 and as of the end of 2017 we are a little more than half way there. Do you have any ideas to share that would increase membership? One thing I do know...it will take everyone's help if we plan to meet that goal. I look forward to work-

ing will all of you as we tackle the challenge of meeting this goal.

I would also like to say thank you to everyone that helped with this year's cookie fair. We had another successful event thanks to all of you!

A few other things to mark on your calendar: The next Unit meeting will be Tuesday, January the 2nd at 6:30 p.m. I look forward to seeing you all there!

January 6th is the Steak Dinner and this month the Auxiliary is in charge. If you are interested in helping with this event or any of our many events please feel free to reach out to me, or any of the Unit 37 officers.

Veterans Day on the Hill

Iowa's Legion Family will gather on Capitol Hill in Des Moines on January 17



to meet with our legislators and talk with them about the Legislative priorities for this session of the Iowa legislature.

There will be an orientation session at Headquarters, 720 Lyon in Des Moines beginning at 9. We will move to Capitol at 10 for a program and meet with our legislators. All members of the Iowa Legion Family are welcome. We need everyone's voice that day.

Squadron Commander Mike's Comments

HAPPY NEW YEAR, I hope that everyone had a Very Merry Christmas, a special time to be with Family and Friends.

I would like to thank all those members that helped to put on our Annual Biscuits and Gravy Breakfast. This really helps with our Santa's helper and Scholarship programs. I should also like to Thank those Great People that came and supported that Breakfast, without you we would not be able to achieve Our Goal.

We are currently working on some changes to the Constitution and By-Laws of The Squadron. It is important that we keep these current so that we

are prepared for any changes in the upcoming future. We are also looking for ways to update what we call our Standing Rules, so that we can make changes to Things that are not in Our Constitution or in Our By-Laws. An example of that would be what the Squadron will pay for if a Member goes to Midwinter Conference or Detachment Convention. Things like this do not belong in Our Constitution and By-Laws.

We will be in charge of the February Steak Dinner, so I hope that you will come to the January meeting to let us know if you can lend us a hand. We would also like to know if you have any ideas about new projects or help with

our Standing rules.

Remember, Dues are Due and you can stop in the Post and pay then by Cash, Check or Credit Card. Again, if your dues are not paid then your fob will not work after the New Year. I would also ask you to check out the American Legion Family of Ames Facebook Page. It is filled with information about upcoming events and History of the Post.

Looking forward to Seeing You around the Post and Hopefully at Our Meetings.

Yours for God and Country

Michael J. Deacon, Squadron Commander

Clubroom News

Happy New Year to all!! We hope that everyone had a joyous Holiday season. December was very busy in the Clubroom and we want to thank everyone for your continued support. Thanks to everyone who volunteered, we can't do it without you!!

Bring it on!!! We want you to bring down your very best chili for our **Annual Chili Cook-off**. You may drop off your chili on the 31st or the morning of the 1st. We also encourage those not competing to bring a snack to share. There are prizes for first, second, and third place. As a bonus, the winner has bragging rights all year long. Of course, all are welcome to come in and sample

all the delicious entries and watch some football. Clubroom opens at noon.

Don't forget that the post is the ultimate place to enjoy all the bowl game action. We encourage you to stop down and enjoy all the football games with us on our enormous TV.

Drop by and check out our Happenings! Find out about new drinks, appetizer specials and a whole lot more! Don't forget that the clubroom serves a great home-made meal every Wednesday; eat in or take it to go.

Wednesday, January 24 is Burger Basket Night. Burgers are served from 5-6:30pm and as usual only \$5 served

CLUBROOM COUPON

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

with all your favorite toppings and French fries. Stop in and enjoy one or get it to go!!!

Friday, January 12-Fish Fry 5:30-7. It's time for another fish fry! Stop down to the post to share a great meal with friends.

Legion Riders



As the incoming president of the Ames Legion Riders, and as we begin putting a successful 2017 behind us and planning for a prosperous 2018, I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce myself, and wish you all a very Happy New Year.

Thank you to Bruce Schuller for serving as our latest president and for taking over as a Road Captain for this year, thank you to Pat (Doc) Phillips, both for nominating me and serving as my Vice, and thank you to our membership for entrusting me with this position. Great things are in store for us this year and I for one can't wait for warmer weather.

I started in the American Legion at Post 1271, in Sugar Grove, Illinois in 2003. In the ten years that I was part of that post I, and many others did everything we could to keep a small and struggling post active and alive. In time I became a charter member of a new SAL squad-

ron, and I'm proud to know that today Post 1271 is seeing a huge influx of new membership and is prospering once again.

In 2013 a career change brought me back to Iowa, near where I grew up. It didn't take long to pick up where I left off with the American Legion, eventually becoming a member of the Ames SAL and ALR. I'm proud to have been elected as President for 2018, and I'm looking forward to enjoying many miles with such an outstanding membership.

Yes, winter has set in, but it will be riding weather again soon and I openly welcome anyone wanting to ride along with us this year to reach out to one of our members for details and the next outing date.

Legion Riders Officers for 2018

Cliff Barker.- President

Pat Phillips - Vice President

Bob Wrobel - Secretary

Rick Hackett - Membership

Rich Archer -. Treasurer

Doug Sargent - Head Road Captain

Bruce Schuller -. Road Captain

Bonita Deaton - Historian

Bill Couser - Sgt. Of Arms

Leonard Springer - Chaplain

Remember that the Legion Riders meeting is moved to January 8 due to the first Monday being New Year's Day.

Boys and Girls State Nominees Needed



The Ames Legion family is looking for outstanding young men and women currently in the junior class at their high school to attend American Legion Boys State and American Legion Auxiliary Girls State.



The guidance counselors at Ames and Gilbert High Schools will suggest names but our members can also make nominations. We are looking for young people of good character with leadership ability and a good academic record. They should have participated in other activities either in or outside of school.

Selections will be based on personal interviews with the Boys or Girls State committees from the Post, Unit and Squadron. Names should be submitted to the committee chairs, Dave Rehbein at davidrehbein@msn.com and Ann Rehbein at amrehbein@msn.com or may be left at the post in care of them.

Boys State will be held on June 10-15 at Camp Dodge and Girls State will be held on June 17-22 at Drake University. Costs are paid by the Post, Unit and Squadron.

Kudo Korner



Thanks to all that made the events happen this month and helped decorate the clubroom for the holidays. Ken Woodley, Sandi Lawrence, Mike Deacon, Sandy Deacon, Michelle Sime, Scott Schoba, Eric Pflieger, Michelle McEnany, Melissa McEnany, Megan McEnany, Maria McEnany, Joyce and Stan Elliott, Bill Donovan, Doug MacCrea, John Schomaker, and Paul Madison.

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

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PAID
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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 CLUBROOM OPEN @ 12	2 TOASTED CHEESE & SOUP AUXILIARY REGULAR 6:30	3 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY BINGO	4 DOLLAR DOG DAY	5 FIREBALL FRIDAY MUNCHIES NIGHT	6 STEAK DINNER 5:30—7:00
7 BINGO	8 LEGION RIDERS 6:30	9 TOASTED CHEESE & SOUP SAL REGULAR 6:30	10 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY BINGO	11 DOLLAR DOG DAY LEGION BOARD 6:30 REGULAR 7:30	12 FIREBALL FRIDAY FISH FRY 5:30-7:00	13
14 BINGO	15	16 TOASTED CHEESE & SOUP	17 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY BINGO	18 DOLLAR DOG DAY SOCIAL COMMITTEE 6:00	19 FIREBALL FRIDAY COUNTRY DANCE NIGHT 9PM-1AM	20
21 BINGO	22	23 TOASTED CHEESE & SOUP 40&8	24 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY BURGER NIGHT 5:00-6:30 BINGO	25 DOLLAR DOG DAY OPERATIONS COMMITTEE 6:00	26 FIREBALL FRIDAY MUNCHIES NIGHT	27
28 BINGO	29	30 TOASTED CHEESE & SOUP	31 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY BINGO	 Find us on Facebook at American Legion Family of Ames, IA Post 37		American Legion Family of Ames, IA Post 37