

Legion Family Advocates for Legislation

The Iowa Legion family spent January 23 at the Capitol in Des Moines discussing legislative priorities with our Senators and Representatives. The Department Executive Committee has set five priorities for the 2019 session of the Iowa Legislature.



Their full text can be downloaded at www.ialegion.org/2019-legislative-day/.

Proclamation for American Legion Centennial

The American Legion petitions the Legislature of the State of Iowa and the Governor of the State of Iowa to recognize the centennial of the six-month formation period of The American Legion in Iowa from March 15 through September 16.

Veterans' Treatment Courts

The American Legion urges the State of Iowa to establish and expand Veterans Treatment Courts.

Iowa Patriots Memorial Highway

The American Legion supports the recognition and designation of U.S. Highway 20 as the Iowa Patriots Memorial Highway and the placement of markers indicating same.

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.

Veterans Property Tax Exemption

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

Support Funding for Existing Veteran Benefits

The American Legion supports funding existing state veterans' benefits and programs to include; 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.

Adding your voice would help get these priorities passed into legislation. Contact your Senator and Representative and ask for their support.

Avon Celebrates His 100th



Avon Hall will be celebrating his 100th birthday at the post on February 23. The party will be from 1:30 to 3:30. The picture is from Avon's service in the US Navy from July of 1942 until

September 1945. Avon has been a loyal Legionnaire and is in his 74th year of membership. He still stops into the Post almost every day. The family has requested no gifts but for those who cannot attend the party on February 23, you can send a birthday greeting to him mailed to 628 7th Street, Ames, IA 50010. Avon is a great man, let's make his birthday special.

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MEMBERSHIP IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY

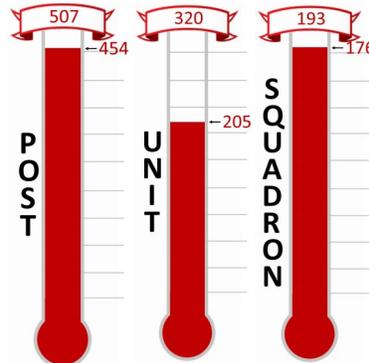


You have often heard us use that saying up above. Well now we need everyone to go to work to get our membership work finished this year. You can see from the membership thermometers in the center of this page where each member of the Legion family stands.

Some are close to their goal, others not so close. That doesn't mean that we can just turn away if their efforts have not been successful yet this year. The key there is that their efforts haven't been successful YET this year. It is starting to get late but it is not too late.

We wouldn't walk from a family member in trouble at home. We shouldn't walk away from a Legion family member that needs help either. The Post and the Squadron are getting close to their goals and will be working hard to get finished. The Unit has farther to go and could use everyone's help.

Legionnaires, do you have a spouse or descendant that was a member of the Unit or Squadron last year but has not renewed



for 2019. If that is the case, let's get it done. With the Unit needing another 115 to reach their goal, there are many of last year's Unit members that haven't renewed. Let's fix that. Unit dues are \$30 for senior members and \$5 for juniors. Squadron dues are \$45 for members 21 and over and \$10 for younger members and dual members (Post and Squadron). Post dues are \$45.

You may not get to the Post much but your membership still supports Legion family programs. Post dues support the Department Service Officers. They process more claims in a year than all the other veterans organizations put together. Unit dues send delegates to Girls State

while the Squadron and Post send delegates to Boys State. All three organizations go together to present Academic Letters at Ames High School.

That is just a few of the things we do. If the Legion family were not here, Ames would miss us. Make sure you renew and ensure we are here to support Ames.

Unit President Jammie's Comments

January was a productive month for Unit 37. We held our meeting a little later than normal due to the New Year holiday, but we were able to gear up for some important upcoming events.

I would like to invite all Legion Family Members and guests to attend the February Unit Meeting. We will be having a guest speaker Sen. Herman Quirnbach. Dr. Quirnbach serves as the State Senator for Iowa's 23rd District and is an active member of the Ames Patriotic Council. The February meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 5th at 6:30.

February will also house the Department of Iowa Mid-Winter Conference.

The conference will be held February 1st – 3rd at the Airport Holiday Inn in Des Moines. Unit 37 will be well represented at this conference, but there is always room for more! If you have an interest in learning more about the ALA programs and how other Iowa Units approach the programs. Mid-Winter Conference is a great place to learn.

Unit 37 will be hosting the 6th District Juniors on Sunday, February 10th from 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. The Juniors will be labeling books, collecting pop tabs and participating in a craft or two. This will be the last date to drop off books and pop tabs for the Junior President Project. If you have a Junior and they

would like to participate; please reach out to Junior Chairwoman Rachel Breyfogle.

Save the date!! The Juniors of Unit 37 have once again joined forces with the Girl Scouts to bring cookies to Veterans. There will be a table at the March Steak Dinner (Saturday, March 2nd) and everyone is invited to participate with this project. This year's cookie donation will go to the Iowa Veterans Home.

Again, the next Unit meeting is at 6:30 on Tuesday, February 5th. All members are welcome and encouraged to bring a guest or two. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Squadron Commander Mike's Comments

As February approaches it is going to be a busy time for the Sons at the Post. With the membership call on January 24, Mid-Winter Convention on February 2, and a Steak Dinner also on February 2, the next few weeks will be busy. Don't forget also about Bingo on Wednesday and Sunday, along with all of the regular events that goes on during the week at the Post.

I would like all who choose not to attend the Mid-Winter Convention, to come on down to the Post on February 2 to support the Son's Steak Dinner Fundraiser. I also want to thank the Sons and Legion Family members who stepped up to volunteer, while many of us will be in Des Moines at Convention.

Scholarship applications have been sent to Ames, and Gilbert High School. If you have a senior or know of one at either school, notify them that the Squadron does offer a Scholarship for college. The winner will be chosen in the spring.

The Honor Guard continues to look for volunteers to provide services at funerals. As a Sons member you are eligible to be part of this. It is a great opportunity to give back, and help honor our veterans who have passed. You can help out when you have, there is no mandatory meetings or a certain number you have to attend.

We are able to offer these scholarships, Honor Guard Services, and do-

nations to the National Emergency Fund, and the Child Welfare Foundation, and we also donated to the Adopt a Veteran Family at Christmas, where the Legion Family provided presents to the Veteran Family in need. We are able to do this because of your continued efforts to renew your membership dues. This is what it is about. We are able to help veterans and their families with your help. Currently the Squadron is at 176 of 193 needed members. That gives us a percentage of 92%. We need 17 more members to renew, so we can meet our goal and keep providing the services that these Veterans need so much.

Thank you for your continued support, and I will see you at the Post.

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

Super Bowl Madness- Join us Sunday, February 3 for the ultimate place to watch the Super Bowl. Enjoy the big game on our jumbo 110" TV. Please bring a munchie to share. Come watch the game with us!

Friday, February 22 is Tenderloin Night. Dinner will be served from 5:00-7pm. 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.

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 15th, 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.

Help for Our Coast Guard Comrades

Earlier this month, 41,000 members of the U.S. Coast Guard woke up without paychecks in their bank accounts. Since that time, The American Legion Temporary Financial Assistance program has received more than 1,000 requests, and additional funds are needed now to continue providing help.



children in the home, to help to meet the cost of shelter, food, utilities and health expenses to keep their children in a stable environment during a time of hardship.

"We are asking all Americans and businesses that are not financially impacted by this government furlough to make a donation to The American Legion so we can help as many U.S. Coast Guard and veteran families as possible during this crisis and the next," Reistad added. "Please donate at www.legion.org because no one deserves our help more than our nation's heroes."

A goal of \$250,000 has been set in order to ensure that our funds are sufficient to help all of our Coast Guard comrades with minor children that are in need.

The American Legion is also urging all Americans to contact their elected officials in the House of Representatives to demand immediate passage of H.R. 367, the Pay Our Coast Guard Act, so it can quickly be passed by the Senate and sent to President Trump to be signed into law. To speak to your member of Congress and support getting the U.S. Coast Guard paid, call 202-224-3121.

"We are responding as quickly as possible to the outpouring of requests," American Legion National Commander Brett P. Reistad said. "The brave members of our Coast Guard risk their lives defending us daily, just like branches of service in the Department of Defense. They should not have to worry about bills and living expenses just because Congress and the White House cannot agree on a budget."

The American Legion Temporary Financial Assistance program is funded through generous donations made by American Legion members and the public to [The American Legion Veterans and Children Foundation](http://www.legion.org). All donations are tax deductible and can be made online at legion.org.

These one-time grants of up to \$1,500 are made available to eligible active-duty military and American Legion members in need, who have minor chil-

CLUBROOM COUPON

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



Thanks again to all who make everything possible for clubroom events. Your help is very much appreciated.

John and Lynn Sellmeyer, Chris Duncan, Sandy and Mike Deacon, John Schomaker, Tom Fowler, Ken Woodley, Bill Donovan, Roger Lawrence, Randy Freel, Rodger VanVoorhis.

Valentine Treats



Sweet treats for your honey!
Stop in the club room and pick up a sweet treat for your Valentine!
Chocolate and/or nut gifts available.
Proceeds go to ALA programs.

Junior ALA Events for Iowa Vets Home

The Ames American Legion Auxiliary Junior Unit will host the Sixth District Juniors on February 10th at 2PM for an event to benefit the Iowa Veterans Home. They will be labeling donated books that will go to the Veterans Home, collecting pop tabs and doing a craft project.



In addition, the Ames Juniors will be working with the Girl Scouts to sell cookies at the March steak dinner. The cookies sold that night will be donated to the residents of the Iowa Veterans Home.

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

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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>
	 Find us on Facebook at American Legion Family of Ames, IA Post 37				1 MUNCHIES NIGHT	2 STEAK DINNER 5:00—7:00
3 SUPER BOWL PARTY BINGO	4 LEGION RIDERS 6:30	5 TOASTED CHEESE & SOUP AUXILIARY REGULAR 6:30	6 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY BINGO	7 THIRSTY THURSDAY	8 MUNCHIES NIGHT	9
10 DISTRICT ALA JUNIORS 2-4 BINGO	11	12 TOASTED CHEESE & SOUP SAL REGULAR 6:30	13 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY BURGER NIGHT 5:00-6:30 BINGO	14 THIRSTY THURSDAY LEGION BOARD 6:30 REGULAR 7:30	15 SOUP CONTEST COUNTRY DANCE NITE 9PM—1AM	16
17 BINGO	18 VFW POST MEETING 7:00	19 TOASTED CHEESE & SOUP PAST PRESIDENT'S PARLEY 7:00	20 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY BINGO	21 THIRSTY THURSDAY SOCIAL COMMITTEE 6:30	22 TENDERLOIN BASKET 5-7	23
24 BINGO	25	26 TOASTED CHEESE & SOUP 40&8	27 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY BINGO	28 THIRSTY THURSDAY OPERATIONS COMMITTEE 6:00		