



THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY



Post Commander: Doug MacCrea
Unit President: Jammie Phillips
Squadron Commander: Mike Monserud
Chapter President: Cliff Barker

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

Thanks to All Who Have Renewed, Are You One of Them?

January 1 will bring a new year in The American Legion. We want to thank all the members of the Legion family that have decided to renew their membership for 2019. We aren't just going to say THANK YOU, we are going to show you that we are thankful for your renewed membership.



January 5 is the first steak dinner night in 2019. For each of you that has a 2019 membership card you will receive \$2 off your choice

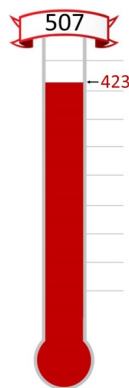
of meal at that steak dinner.

That is any member of the Legion family of Ames, whether that 2019 membership card is for the Post, Unit or Squadron. Every one of you is important to us. All that is necessary to receive the \$2 discount is to show your 2019 membership card.

It doesn't matter whether you renewed in July or you pay your dues on January 5, that \$2 discount is yours for showing your membership card.

Don't forget that your fob will stop working on January 1 if you have not renewed. State law requires us to limit service to members and guests. Having that fob active means

you don't have to get out your membership card when you come into the clubroom.



You can see from the membership thermometer that the Post is moving toward our goal. In order to make that goal, not only do we need to renew every member possible but we need to enroll new members to replace those we have lost this year.

That is where you can play a double role. First, make sure you have renewed and then ask someone new to join.

Too often, we lose members that say they can't get to the clubroom much and don't see the benefit to membership. That happens with prospective new members too.

A big reason for membership is supporting the service officers that our comrades need for help with the VA. Those service officers this year have helped over 1,000 of our comrades get claims approved.

That is help that you provide just by being a member. Is it important? Just remember that The American Legion in Iowa helps more veterans with VA claims than all the other Iowa organizations put together. Would that help be possible without you? Maybe, but with you we know it will be there. Be sure you have a 2019 card.



Happy New Year From Korea 1952
 We Have Troops All Over the World
 This New Years. Take A Moment to
 Lift a Toast To Them

Midwinter Conference

The Department Midwinter Conference will be held February 1-3 at the Airport Holiday Inn in Des Moines. This conference is a great time to learn more about Legion family programs..

We will have National guests present all weekend and have the Department Oratorical contest on Sunday morning. Call 515-287-2400 for hotel reservations. Saturday will be the main training day.

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MEMBERSHIP IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY



Post Commander Doug's Comments

Happy New Year! I hope that everyone had a wonderful holiday with family and friends.

It is hard to believe that it is 2019! The arrival of the New Year brings new resolutions and promises to make 2019 better than 2018. I hope that all of you are successful in making those resolutions a reality.

I would also ask that you consider making, as one of your New Year's resolutions, a renewed effort to increase your participation at the Post. If you only have the time to stop in once or twice a month, it helps ensure the vitality of the Post and gives you the opportunity to renew acquaintances with old friends, meet new friends, and continue to support your fellow veterans and their families, The American Legion in general and our own Post in particular.

As the new year begins, we should re-

joice and be proud of the fact that The American Legion is celebrating our 100th year as an organization and that the Ames Post is also celebrating 100 years of service to the community, our veterans and their families. There are not many organizations or groups that can proudly proclaim or achieve that milestone. Be proud of your membership in this amazing organization and the impact that we have had over the past century in improving our community and helping make life better for our fellow veterans and their families.

The strength of our organization and Post lies, without question, in our membership. Without you, our valued members, we lose the strong voice that we have that enables our position as veteran's advocates to be heard and to generate the funds necessary to help those in need. There are still a fair number of you whom have not yet renewed your

membership for 2019. I ask that you do so as soon as possible.

To say thanks to those whom have already paid their dues, or pay them on Saturday, January 5th, we are going to offer a \$2 discount to those who attend the January Steak Dinner – a new and slightly different approach to an Early Bird Recognition Dinner. We hope that you will attend.

The January calendar is full of events for our members and their guests to enjoy, to participate in, and to help make successful. I encourage you to join us at any one of these events and enjoy the camaraderie of your fellow Post members and relax in the Post Home. Your support volunteering at one of these events would also be greatly appreciated.

In closing, it is my wish that each of you have a joyous and prosperous 2019.

Unit President Jammie's Comments

Happy New Year!! I hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas and I hope you are all as excited about what 2019 has to offer as I am. We have a lot of great things to look forward to this year. One very important item we need to address is Membership: Auxiliary renewals have been emailed to all of those who have their email addresses at National. As of December 31st 2018 memberships have expired. Please be

sure you have renewed your membership for 2019.

Your 2019 membership card will entitle you to a \$2 discount on the meal of your choice at the January 5 steak dinner. If you renew that night, you will receive the discount so be sure to come in. It is a great meal at the normal price, \$2 off makes it even better.

Mid-Winter Conference will be the first Weekend in February at the Airport Holiday Inn in Des Moines this

year. Mid-Winter is a great opportunity to learn more about our Auxiliary Programs and what other Units are doing in their programs. If you are interested in attending Mid-Winter Conference talk with me or any of the Unit Officers. We would be happy to share all of the details.

REMINDER!!! Our next Unit meeting will be held Tuesday, January 15th at 6:30 p.m. As always I look forward to seeing you all there!

Squadron Commander Mike's Comments

As the month of December comes to a close, we have the winter stretch to look forward to. We had the December Breakfast in conjunction with the Cookie Bake Sale. It was a good day, and we were able to raise money that we use to support The American Legion programs.

We are responsible for the February Streak Dinner on February 2. We are still looking for volunteers to help serve upstairs. It is also the weekend of the Mid-Winter Conference in Des Moines at the Holiday Inn by the Airport. If you can help serve or are interested in attending the Mid-Winter Conference, please contact me at amessquadron37@gmail.com. This year we will have National Vice Commander Matt

Christie from the Central Region attending our conference.

On January 5 at the Streak Dinner, if you have paid your dues for the 2019 year, you will receive a \$2 discount on your meal. If you want to pay your 2019 dues that night, you will also receive the discount. You will help support the programs by attending the Steak Dinner, and also when you are renewing your dues, you are honoring that veteran that you signed up under.

Membership is starting to come in pretty regularly, and I want to thank you for that. We still have more to go, so stop by the post or mail it to the post. As of January 1, if you have not paid your dues, you are delinquent, and you are not eligible to apply for assistance from

The American Legion. Your membership helps support these programs, and you may need them someday.

I was talking to someone about joining the Sons, and he said that the reason he has not joined is because he does not have time to come to meetings. This is a myth that you have to attend meetings and come to every function the Son's host. We are a volunteer organization and when you join, I want you to support the Son's any way you can. If that means you can only help by paying dues and stopping in once in a while, then I am fine with that. So please do what you are able to do, and let's honor the veterans, and assist the Legion any way we can.

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 Dec 31st or the morning of Jan 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 11am for the Hawkeye game. Please have your chili here by 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 9 is Burger Basket Night. Burgers are served for 5 -6:30pm and as usual only \$5 served with all your favorite toppings and French fries. Stop in and enjoy one or get it to go!!!

Friday, January 25-Fish Fry 5-7pm. It's time for another fish fry! Stop down to the post to share a great meal with friends.

THANK YOU



Thanks to all that made the events happen this month and helped decorate the clubroom for the holidays. Ken Wood-

ley, Andrea Gronau, Mike Deacon, Sandy Deacon, Jason Neutzling, Denny Krogh, Tom Fowler, Michelle McEnany, Melissa McEnany, Megan McEnany, Maria McEnany, Joyce and Stanley Elliott, Bill Donovan, Doug MacCrea, Kathy MacCrea, John Schomaker, and Paul Madson.

Candidates Needed for Boys and Girls State



The selection process for 2019 Boys and Girls State candidates is beginning. Nominations will be received from Ames and Gilbert High Schools but we are also looking for nominations from our members.



Candidates must be currently in their Junior year in high school. Delegates will be selected through personal interviews. Academics, school and community activities and leadership potential will be considered in selecting delegates. Boys State will be held June 9 -14 and Girls State June 16-21.

Last year two of the Boys Staters and one Girls State delegate came from personal recommendations not from the schools.. If you have a family member or neighbor you would like to nominate, please get their name and contact information to Dave Rehbein at davidrehbein@msn.com for Boys State and Ann Rehbein, at amrehbein@msn.com for Girls State.

Law Officer of the Year Presented

Story County Sheriff's Deputy Jason Grubbs was present at the December meeting as Ames Post #37 choice for Law Officer of the Year. Deputy Grubbs was presented a plaque and certificate to commemorate his selection. His nomination was forwarded to Department Headquarters for consideration as Department Law Officer of the Year.

Deputy Grubbs is shown receiving a check from Post Commander MacCrea. The check is a \$250 donation to the First Responders Peer Support Foun-



ation. Also in the picture are Lt. Leanna Ellis of the Sheriff's Department and Post National Security Chairman Mike

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

Rose Bowl Float



The American Legion will sponsor a float in the Rose Bowl parade in honor of our centennial. The float will be the third float in the parade, right behind the Marine Corps band.

Among the riders on the float will be National Vice-President Nicole Clapp of Gladbrook, IA. The parade begins at 10AM CST and is scheduled to be broadcast on ABC, NBC, the Hallmark Channel and HGTV.

Commander Reistad, President Dungan and SAL Commander Gibbs will be on the float with our Boys and Girls Nation Presidents, five Medal of Honor Recipients and other Legion family dignitaries.

The picture of the float may not be the best quality for those who receive their newsletter by mail since we can't do color copies. Make sure you don't miss the parade.



Monserud.

The First Responder Peer Support Foundation is a new organization in Iowa to provide training, support and counseling to the First Responders suffering from the stresses they undergo on their job.

First Responders include police, fire personnel, and emergency medical personnel. In many cases, they experience the same PTSD observed in our troops due to the situations they encounter on the job. We are proud to support their Foundation in honor of Deputy Grubbs.

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