

Commander Doug's Final Comments

I'M EXCITED, AND YOU SHOULD BE TOO!

Congratulations to your new Post Officers – they are a dedicated, enthusiastic group and are ready to lead the Post into our second century of service to our veterans and the Ames community.

We entered the 2018 -2019 year with several lofty goals and expectations. While we were successful in meeting some of our goals and expectations – such as celebrating the Legion's and our Post's Centennial, we fell a little short in achieving some others. Overall, I am pleased with what we were able to accomplish this year.

As we enter our second century of service, I ask that we continue to work together to provide the best possible support for our Ames area veterans, their families

and the community. Without your support – and participation – there can be no Ames American Legion Family. We have a moral obligation to ensure that our veterans, their families and our community continue to get the help and support they so richly deserve and in many cases need.

On July 8th we will hold a Joint Installation Ceremony at the Post to install all of the new officers of the Post, Auxiliary and Sons starting at 7:00 PM. I hope that you will be able to take the time to attend and join in congratulating and welcoming your new Post Family Leadership Team.

July also means Department Convention and the start of the 2020 Membership Renewal Drive. This year's Department Convention is in Des Moines and promises to be full of important information for our

Legion Family and provide the opportunity to discuss many of the issues that the Legion is facing or dealing with. With the department convention being in Des Moines, I encourage everyone to consider attending if possible.

THANK YOU POST 37 FAMILY! I would like to thank the entire Post 37 Family for their support over the past year and for electing me to serve as Post Commander during our Centennial. It has been a true honor.

In closing, Kathy and I, along with our entire family, hope that you have a great Fourth of July and a safe and relaxing summer. I hope to see you at the Post when you are able to attend a scheduled event, to watch a game, or to just stop by for a cool, welcoming place to take a break this summer.

Cpl. Ralph Bennett Coming Home



Corporal Ralph Bennett of Ames will return home from World War II on August 3. Corporal Bennett was reported killed on June 13, 1944 during the battle to liberate Myitkyina, Burma following the removal of the Japanese from the Myitkyina airfield. Cpl. Bennett's body was moved several times and eventually interred at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. At some point during that process, his identification became separated from his remains.

Cpl. Bennett's repatriation and interment will occur on August 3 at the Ames Municipal Cemetery. Full military honors will be rendered as befits those killed in action. More details will be available before then but August 3 should be circled on everyone's calendar as Ames welcomes Cpl. Bennett home.

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Supreme Court Affirms Bladensburg Cross



The Bladensburg Cross was erected in Prince George's County, Maryland after WW I as a memorial to the 49 men from Prince George's County that died in World War I.

It has stood at the intersection of Bladensburg Road, Baltimore Avenue and Annapolis Road since its dedication

in 1925. It was erected by the families of those 49 men and The American Legion of Prince George's County.

It was originally on private land but was turned over to the Maryland state government in 1961. The memorial is now on the median of a divided highway that runs through the heavily developed region.



The names of the 49 men for whom the cross is dedicated are listed on the bronze plate at the bottom. The cross is used as the central point for Memorial Day and Veterans Day ceremonies.

A lawsuit filed by the American Humanist Association took the position that the Cross was a religious symbol and therefore violated the establishment clause in the first amendment and should be removed. The initial court ruling was in favor of the Cross remaining due to its use as a secular veterans memorial. The American Legion entered the case on behalf of the Cross

and has represented the Cross through numerous appeals. Arguments before the Supreme Court were held with their ruling being announced on June 20. By a margin of 7-2, the Court ruled that the Cross while being a Christian symbol "that fact should not blind us to everything else that the Bladensburg Cross has come to represent". The Court ruled that the Cross will remain.

The 7-2 margin is significant since it delivers a much stronger message from the Court than would 5-4 or even 6-3. The seven justices gave varied reasons for their opinion but were united as to the outcome of the case.

That bears well for other veterans memorials like this one where a religious symbol may be the center point of a memorial. The Court is looking at the entire meaning of the memorial, not just the religious symbol and whether that original dedication as a veterans memorial is being continued by ceremonies for that original purpose.

Unit President Jammie's Comments

Greetings Ladies!

Summer is now in full blast and so far, we have had an awesome June. The June meeting was quite eventful, we presented the American Legion Auxiliary National Good Deed Award to Sadie Breyfogle, we had several guest speakers, elections and we nominated the delegates to the Department Convention. Installation of the new officers will be Monday, July 8th. Speaking of officers, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to the incoming officers for Unit 37:

President: Sandy Deacon

1st Vice President: Rachel Breyfogle

2nd Vice President: Kelli Hitsman

Secretary: Ann Rehbein

Treasurer: Marilyn Nervig

Chaplain: Dee Ball

Sergeant at Arms: Jamie Barker

Historian: Open

Executive Board: Jan Schmidt, Joyce Elliott, Ruthann Wrobel, Sharon Mott, and Judy Demarest

I would also like to take a moment and say thank you to all the officers, committee chair's and members of Unit 37 that have served with me over the last two years. It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve as your President. Our next Unit meeting will be Tuesday July 2nd and I look forward to seeing everyone. Jammie

I will leave you with a message from

your new incoming President, Mrs. Sandy Deacon:

As we celebrate our 100th Anniversary in 2019-2020, I encourage you to think back on the veteran whose service gave you the opportunity to join our great organization. With that in mind, we are looking for individuals to step up and chair one of our many committees. If you would like to lead or be a member of a committee, please contact me at sdeacon818@msn.com. If we all work together, we can make this the best year yet for our American Legion Auxiliary and our Unit.

Sandy Deacon, 2019-2020 President.

Squadron Commander Mike's Comments

Well this is to be my last news article of my tenure as Squadron Commander. It has been a great year in so many aspects. Fundraisers were well attended, and I want to thank all of the new members who stepped up this year to help out with our fundraisers.

One of the biggest accomplishments that we had as an organization was that we surpassed the all-time high in membership. We had a goal of 193 members, the Squadron all-time high was 197 members, and we finished at 202 members, which is 104.66%, and our

renewal rate for membership is 92%. These are both outstanding accomplishments and could have not been done without all of the hard work of the Sons.

Elections have been held and the installation will be on July 8th at the Post. Your Officers for the following year are to be as follows:

Commander- Bob Bellinghausen

1st Vice Commander- Mike Deacon

2nd Vice Commander- Doug MacCrea

Adjutant- Keven Brace

Finance Officer- Randy Freel

Sgt-At-Arms- Russ Belz

Historian- Doug MacCrea

Chaplain- Roger Elliott

Executive Board- Cort Paul, Pat Phillips, Mike Monserud

I want to thank everyone for the support this past year, and I could not be more proud of all the great things that we did this year, and look forward to what the next year brings.

Commander Mike

Clubroom News

Clubroom News

Happy Independence Day to all!! We hope that everyone is well and having a fabulous summer. We invite all of our members to join us for the 4th of July parade beginning at 11am. The Clubroom will open at 10am. We will also be grilling hamburgers and hot dogs out front. There will be plenty of activities downtown July 4, come and join in the fun!! We have a couple new employees in the clubroom so stop by and welcome Lily and Lisa!

Fri July 19-Tenderloin Basket Night 5:00-7:00pm-Enjoy an Iowa favorite Breaded tenderloin will all your favorite toppings and fries for just \$6.

Wed July 31-Burger Basket Night 5:00-7:00pm-Enjoy a Burger and fries for just \$5.

Check out our awesome daily specials

Taco Tuesday- Choose between a walking or a soft shell and top it with all your favorite toppings for just \$2.

Winesday Wednesday-try one of our

many fine wines, whether you like a dry red or a sweet white or your tastes are in between, we have a wine for you. \$3 a glass.

Thursday Dynamic Duo Day- Offering Dollar Dogs all day, your choice of Plain, Jalapeno & Cheddar, or Cheddar. Wash them down with \$2 Domestic Bottles

Sunday Funday- Every Sunday the clubroom offers a \$4 Bloody Mary loaded with all the goodies, \$5 Moscow Mules all day long, and \$3 Mimosas, join us for a fun day.



Deacon, Mike Deacon, Ken Woodley, Bill Donovan, Melissa McEnany, Michelle McEnany, and Megan McEnany.

Kudos-Thanks to all who helped out over the last month. It is greatly appreciated. Tom Fowler, Michelle Sime, Paul Madsen, Sandy

Renewal Time —What Does Your Membership Do?

Soon after July 1, an American Legion membership renewal notice will appear in your mailbox. For many renewal is almost automatic, but for others the question of "What Does My American Legion Membership Accomplish?" needs to be answered.

We try to do a good job of telling you the effect of your membership here in Ames and the good things that you help achieve by being a member. Now we have a way to help you know what your American Legion membership achieves

nationally.

In January, publication of monthly Membership Impact Reports began. Those reports provide a summary of how membership, participation and volunteerism are making an impact in America.

Those reports are available at <https://www.legion.org/membership/impact>.

We don't have room to publish them here but copies will be available at the Post. Your membership makes a difference. Don't wait to renew, do it now.

Poppy Days A Success



Thank you to the twenty-three volunteers from the Legion family who distributed poppies on Memorial Day weekend – May 24 and 25. Thanks to their dedication and hard work, along with the cans placed in locations around Ames, we raised \$5000. This money will be used to help veterans and their families. THANK YOU ALL!!!

Janet Schmidt, Chairman & Kathy MacCrea, Co-Chairman

Installation of Legion Family Officers

Installation of the 2019-2020 officers of the Ames Legion Family will be held on Monday July 8 at 7:00. This ceremony has been held jointly for several years and has become one of the year's highlights. The new officers for the Unit and Squadron are listed in the President's and Commander's columns. New Officers for the Post are:

Commander: Jennifer Monserud

Second Vice-Commander: Mike Monserud

Finance Officer: Randy Freele

Sergeant-at-Arms: Derek Kraayenbrink

Executive Board: Phil Harris, Chris McClure, Randy Breyfogle, Keven Brace, John Schomaker

First Vice-Commander: Anthony Perdue

Adjutant: Dave Rehbein

Chaplain: Ricky Thompson

Historian: Stan Elliott

CLUBROOM COUPON

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

Legion Riders

On August 11th the Legion Riders will be hosting the "1st Annual Show and Shine" at the Iowa Veterans Home in Marshalltown. All proceeds will go to the facility to assist in their efforts with our Veterans. The Veterans home is looking forward to having us there, so the more participants the better.

Registration will be available on site and is open to any vehicle not just bikes, for only \$5. There will be a ballot vote at 2pm and a drawing at 3pm for the top three places in the Peoples Choice Award.

For more information email us at ALR.Ames37@yahoo.com

The Legion Riders will gather at 10:15 am for the Ames 4th of July parade at the intersection of Clark and Main.

The Legion Rider dinner rides leave from the Post parking lot, kickstands up at 4:30pm.

7/14/19 - Zeno's Pizza Marshalltown

7/28/19 - 209 Main St-Patton

The Legion Rider breakfast ride will leave the Ames Theisen's parking lot, Kickstands up at 8:00am

7/20/19 - Ja-Mar Drive-In - Ft Dodge

Flags Fly Downtown Will You Help?



You have seen the flags on the light poles downtown on patriotic holidays. That is a great sight and really adds to the atmosphere in that area.

Those flags fly for Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day and Veterans Day. They only fly, though because members of the Ames Legion family turn out to put them up and take them down.

Unfortunately on Flag Day, we only had five people to put them up and four to take them down. We need more help!!!

The flags will go up on July 1 at 7AM for Independence Day and come down at 5PM on July 7. Will you come help one of both of those times? Many hands make light work. We need your hands helping make downtown beautiful.

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON PROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID
Permit 147
Ames, IA

LOOK INSIDE FOR COUPON

JULY

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
	1 MAIN ST. FLAGS UP AT 7AM LEGION RIDERS 6:30	2 TOASTED CHEESE & SOUP AUXILIARY REGULAR 6:30	3 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY BINGO	4 DOLLAR DOG DAY PARADE & GRILLING	5 FIREBALL FRIDAY MUNCHIES NIGHT	6
7 MAIN ST. FLAGS DOWN AT 5PM BINGO	8 JOINT INSTALLATION 7:00	9 TACO TUESDAY SAL REGULAR 6:30	10 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY BINGO	11 DOLLAR DOG DAY LEGION BOARD 6:30	12 FIREBALL FRIDAY MUNCHIES NIGHT	13
14 BINGO	15 VFW POST MEETING 7:00	16 TACO TUESDAY	17 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY BINGO	18 DOLLAR DOG DAY	19 FIREBALL FRIDAY TENDERLOIN BASKET 5-7	20
21 BINGO	22	23 TACO TUESDAY 40&8	24 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY BINGO	25 DOLLAR DOG DAY OPERATIONS COMMITTEE 6:00	26 FIREBALL FRIDAY MUNCHIES NIGHT	27
28 BINGO	29	30 TACO TUESDAY	31 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY BURGER NIGHT 5:00-7:00 BINGO	 Find us on Facebook at Legion Family of Ames, IA Post 37	American Legion Family of Ames, IA Post 37	