



Post Commander: Jennifer Monserud
Unit President: Sandy Deacon
Squadron Commander: Bob Bellinghausen
Chapter President: Cliff Barker

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

www.ameslegionpost37.com
www.ialegion.org
www.ialegion.org/ala
www.ialegion.org/riders

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

Ames Legion Family In Action

It Is Time To Report What We Do

Each year the Legion family reports their volunteer hours and donations to the causes we support under the four pillars. Those reports are important as they are used to tell Congress and the country of our work.

We need your help compiling the information for those reports. We know you do things that we probably don't know about and won't know about unless you tell us.

The Unit is up first. Their reports need to be to their County President by April 30 so please be quick. Information in the following categories can be sent to amesunit37@gmail.com. Information is needed on number of volunteer hours, dollars spent and donated miles driven for Veterans, Children & Youth and Community Service

ALA Service for Veterans/

Active-Duty/Reserve Military (Examples: care packages for deployed troops, helping wounded warriors and elderly veterans at home, parades, projects for homeless veterans, poppy activities, Veterans Creative Arts Festival, fundraising to benefit veterans, advocating for The American Legion legislative agenda.)

ALA Service for Military Families: (Examples: programs for military and veterans' children, helping Family Support Groups, organizing and delivering hero packs.)

ALA Service for Youth: (Examples: Jr. Activities, classroom and patriotic activities for children, camps open to all children, raising funds for or promoting Legion Family activities like Girls State)

ALA Service in My Community (Examples: blood

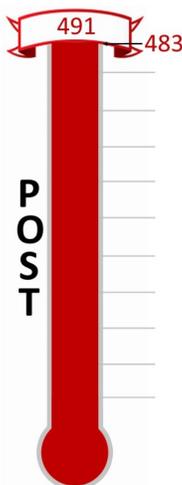
drives, walks/runs, food pantries.)

Remember this information is needed SOON. Send your hours, dollars and miles to amesunit37@gmail.com.

We will be working on same kind of reports for the Post and Squadron over the next month. Whether for the Unit, Post or Squadron, it does not have to be a Legion family organized event. If you are a Legion family member and you volunteer, your hours count. If it is not a veteran-oriented event, then it is community service and those hours, dollars and miles count.

Not every Post, Unit and Squadron report their volunteer work but this Legion family does. Help us by telling us what you do. We know you care, we know you volunteer, now tell us about what you do.

8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1-GOAL



We are concentrating on the Post's quest to 100% in this newsletter. The Unit and Squadron have both reached and exceeded their goal. You can see the Post needs another 8. Just 8, that's all. We can get that done by May 1.

If eight of us commit to getting one, whether it is a renewal for a new member that brings us one closer. Commander Monserud can supply you with a few names of nonrenewed 2019 members if you are willing to make a call or two. Contact her at Jennifer.monserud@gmail.com and ask for a list.

The 100th Birthday of the Post is June 16. We should celebrate that event with all members of the Legion family at 100%. Will you help? Just get one!!!

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Post Commander Jennifer's Comments

Hello!

We are still in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic and our doors are still closed. While we miss seeing our members face to face there are still ways you can help the post! We have started holding drive-through meals on Wednesday nights. Watch our Facebook page for updates on the weekly meals! Call the post after 3pm to place your order the day of the meal!

If you sew, many locations such as the Iowa Veterans Home are still accepting homemade masks. In addition to their everyday needs, they are asking for snack items and soda. Those can be delivered to the Quartermaster at 1301 Summit St, Marshalltown IA 50158.

Our April meeting was held via web-conferencing and our May meeting will likely be the same. If you are interested in attending via web-conference please email me at [Jen-](mailto:Jen-nifer.monserud@gmail.com)

nifer.monserud@gmail.com and I will send you instructions and the internet link.

Membership is still trickling in and I am grateful to everyone that is out there recruiting and renewing memberships! We currently need 8 more to meet our goal and I am cautiously optimistic that we will make it!

If you are a veteran and haven't paid your dues yet and can't due to COVID-19 please contact me and we will try to get your membership sponsored so you don't lose your benefits!

We are trying to launch a weekly virtual "happy hour" where members can come together online or via the phone and reconnect with each other. If you are interested in participating, please contact the email address above. You are not alone, and we want to make sure that everyone gets a little TLC during this very difficult time.

Many of our national American Legion events have been cancelled including national convention in Louisville, KY. Our national officers will remain in their posts for another year since we cannot hold an election. Decisions have not been made for the Department of Iowa convention and officers as of this writing, that will come in May. Districts are currently making their decisions all over the state, our 6th district has not decided yet. We will likely need to fill a spot or two at the post level due to resignations or other complications. If you are interested in serving please send me your name and I will pass it on to the Nominating Committee Chair, Stan Elliott.

I hope each of you is staying healthy and you have the things you need. If you do not, please reach out. We are here for you and will assist in any way we can.

I hope to see everyone at the post soon!! Take care of yourselves!

Unit President Sandy's Comments

Our American Legion Family is the greatest. When we had to close the Post because of COVID-19, we weren't sure how we would survive the loss of income. But the Post Executive Board voted to allow "carry out" meals once a week. So we decided on hamburgers for the first week, put it on Facebook, and a whole boat load of you showed up. Tenderloins the next week, and even more people showed up. We will continue curbside meals in May, and I am sure you will show up again.

THANK YOU SO MUCH.

When the Iowa Veterans Home in Marshalltown and Mary Greeley Medical Center asked for masks, our "sewing warriors" got to work. I will report next month how many masks were made. THANK YOU SO MUCH.

Now the Veterans Home also needs snacks and sodas, so we put out the word again and I am confident that we will have at least one pickup load to take to them. THANK YOU SO MUCH.

With so many things being cancelled, it is heartwarming to know that our Ames Legion Family will step up to help whenever, and wherever they can. Keep doing your Buddy Checks on family, friends and neighbors. If someone needs something you can't supply, please email amesunit37@gmail.com and we will contact them.

Stay Safe, Be good to yourselves.

Sandy

Squadron Commander Bob

We will have a meeting in May via ZOOM. Further info will be sent to SAL members prior to the meeting. We have received four scholarship applications: 2 from AHS, 1 from GHS and 1 home schooler. Mike Deacon is the scholarship chairman and Doug McCreary and Russ Belz are the other judges. Their recommendations will be provided at the meeting. Nominations for next year's officers will need to be discussed and if possible, voted on by the members. Please stay healthy and hopefully the Post will be able to reopen safely in the near future.

maybe one that we wouldn't think about so much or maybe consider too important but to the residents at IVH it is important. We go to the grocery store whenever we want and keep some snacks around. The residents at IVH depend on the vending machines for those snacks.

The company that maintains and fills those vending machines is declared a non-

Unit Makes COVID-19 Donations

President Sandy said Thank You in her column for donations from members for masks to Mary Greeley medical center and snacks to the Iowa Veterans Home.

The donation of masks is one that we hear a lot about in the medical community all over the country. We are very thankful that not only do we have members of the Legion family that have the ability and sewing machine to make those masks but that those members will take time from their normal activities to do the work. As Sandy said—THANK YOU SO MUCH.

The donation of snacks to the Iowa Veterans Home is a little different story,

essential business during COVID-19. It is just snacks after all. Well, it may be more than just a snack to those residents. It may be one of the high points of their day. Our members that made the donation shown in the picture are helping restore that high point in those residents' day.



Depending on the progress of COVID-19 recovery, we may need to do that again. We know our members will step forward if the call comes again. Thanks to those who collected the snacks and to Cliff and Jamie Barker for the delivery

Clubroom News

Greetings from the clubroom!

As I write this we have been closed for over a month and still are not sure when we will be able to reopen. We have been busy cleaning and sanitizing inside the clubroom so we will be safe and ready whenever that time comes. We will be taking all the precautions to help keep everyone safe.

We are going to continue with our Wednesday night curbside meals until it's safe to start having meals again in the clubroom. Thank you to all that have supported us and continue to support us during this very difficult time. Together we will make it through this. Here is our

planned Wednesday meals through May. Call the clubroom Wednesday's after 3pm for pickup from 5-6:30pm. 232-9870

April 29-Chicken or Beef and Noodles \$7

May 6- Ham Balls with cheesy potatoes and green beans \$8

May 13-Burger Baskets \$6

May 20-Tenderloin Baskets \$7

May 27-Chicken Fried Steak with mashed potatoes and corn \$8

Watch our Facebook page for any changes and updates.

We miss you and can't wait until we can see you all again!! Stay safe!

Jodi

Interesting Legion Sites to Visit

With COVID-19 keeping us at home most of the time except for those that still go to their place of work, sometimes looking at the same four walls and the same television shows and movies and reading books can get a little old. We have some interesting sites that you should think about visiting to provide some entertainment and some new knowledge of The American Legion.

The series of articles on the centennial of the Ames Post that were published last year are online on National's centennial website. Go to

centennial.legion.org/histories.

Find Iowa in the Department list and then Post 37. All of the newspaper stories are there along with some that weren't published. While you are there, click on some of the other posts. Check out the Sioux Indian Pow-Wow sponsored by the Hartley Post in 1928.

National has some other interesting, informative features that you may not have seen. There is a YouTube channel for The American Legion at youtube.com/user/americanlegionHQ and another for the Auxiliary at youtube.com/user/AmericanLegionAux.



The Legion channel contains "This We Believe" a statement of our values by E. Roy

Stone and the centennial videos "To Strengthen A Nation" with Jeric and



Lorna as they traveled the country exploring the story of the legacy of The American Legion. Among many other videos, you will find one of our members, Mike Monserud, discussing why he is a member of the American Legion family.

Among many videos on the Auxiliary channel is the story of Missouri Unit #253 and the services they perform at



Jefferson Barracks Cemetery in Missouri, a group that reminds many of us of our own Pure Heaven Color Guard and the their many years of National Championships.

A completely new feature on the Legion website is the podcasts that were started three weeks ago. Three younger Legionnaires spend those podcasts discussing events that interest them as veterans and how those events fit into the Legion's beliefs and traditions. You can find those podcasts at legion.org/tangoalphalima.

One more new feature on the Legion website is the introduction of online exhibits from the Headquarters museum. The first and to-date only tells the story of the First National Commander Franklin D'Olier but more than just his Legion year, it tells the story of his life. Go to legion.org/library and look for the online exhibit space link.

Enjoy your time at these spots. Stay safe.

CLUBROOM COUPON

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

Legion Family Cancellations

COVID-19 has caused quite a disruption in the Legion families activities in Ames, in Iowa and across the nation. Our primary summer youth programs, Boys State and Nation, Girls State and Nation and American Legion Baseball have all been cancelled for this year.

Along with those programs, the Legion family National Conventions have also been cancelled. With no elections being possible without a convention, the Legion, Auxiliary and Sons National Officers will continue in office until the 2021 convention in Phoenix.

The Iowa Department and Detachment Conventions remain as planned at this point for July 10-12. Further direction from Governor Reynolds will provide guidance as to whether the conventions can be held as planned or must be postponed or be cancelled completely. Several districts, including our Sixth District, are also still considering their conferences that would normally be held this spring.

For now, all official travel at all levels has been suspended. We would have seen National Commander Oxford at the March Story County meeting except for that suspension of travel.

National Commander Oxford and National President Clapp both intend to continue in office for a second year. They will be the first to serve for that length of time. Early Commanders and Presidents sometimes served for 15 months but that was due to scheduling of conventions in the early years.

The Iowa Department Executive Committee will make a decision on convention soon. Until that decision is made, room reservations should remain in place for the July 10-12 dates.

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

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US POSTAGE PAID Permit 147 Ames, IA

LOOK INSIDE FOR COUPON

MAY

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
CLUBROOM REMAINS CLOSED DUE TO COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS. UPDATES AND MEETING ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE ANNOUNCED ON FACEBOOK AND WEEKLY UPDATE. MEAL EVENTS ARE PICK-UP ONLY. CALL AFTER 3 TO ORDER 232-9870.					1	2
3	4 LEGION RIDERS 6:30	5 AUXILIARY REGULAR 6:30	6 HAM BALL DINNER 5-6:30	7	8	9
10	11	12 SAL REGULAR 6:30	13 BURGER BASKET 5-6:30	14 LEGION BOARD 6:30 REGULAR 7:30	15	16
17	18 VFW POST MEETING	19 PAST PRESIDENT'S PARLEY 7:00	20 TENDERLOIN BASKET 5-6:30	21 SOCIAL COMMITTEE 6:30	22	23
24 31	25 MEMORIAL DAY	26 40&8	27 CHICKEN FRIED STEAK DINNER 5-6:30	28 OPERATIONS COMMITTEE 6:00	29	30



Find us on Facebook at **American Legion Family of Ames, IA Post 37**