



POST
COMMANDER
DOUG MacCRAE



UNIT
PRESIDENT
PAT KYLE



SQUADRON
COMMANDER
MIKE DEACON

Vol XXXIV, No 2
September, 2012

225 Main Street, Ames, IA 50010
515-232-9870
www.ameslegionpost37.com

www.ialegion.org
www.ialegion.org/ala
www.ialegionriders.org

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

Ames Legion Family In Action

Commander's Message to All

Post 37 Family –

This past month has been busy. I have attended as many meetings of the different Legion groups as possible and have gained renewed insight into the contributions made by each of these groups to the overall success of the Post as well as some of the challenges they face. Some of the challenges have been addressed already and some require more time to evaluate and develop a course of action that will benefit the Post in the long run. If we work together, as a Post Family, I am confident that we can address each of these challenges and be a stronger Post as a result.

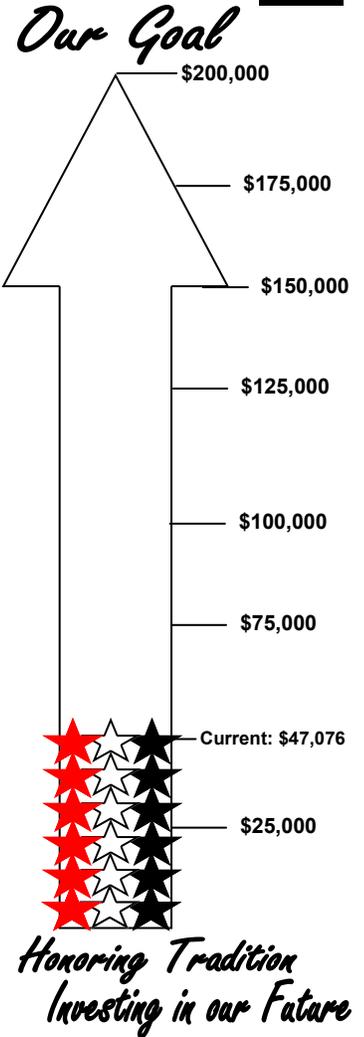
September will see activities picking up at the Post with many of our regular events, such as the monthly Steak Dinner, resuming. There are also several events planned including fifty-fifty raffles during the Iowa/Iowa State game on September 8th, followed by the Steak Dinner and a "Free Will Donation" Brunch on September 23rd in support of the Post Remodeling Fund. I hope that you will join us for these two events as well as the monthly Tenderloin Dinner and the other events listed on the calendar.

As you know, each of these events does not just happen on their own. Committee Members, with the assistance of Sarah and her staff, plan and execute each of these functions. After sitting through some of the meetings that plan these events, it became obvious to me that they need additional help – volunteer help from the Post membership. We need you to volunteer to help out on Post dinners, with Bingo, or with providing ideas and support to the different committees that make Post 37 function. Each of these events help raise funds that go to support the different programs that our Post supports. If every member would volunteer just one hour a month (or two hours once every two months) we would have more than enough support to put on these different functions and for our Post to thrive. It may seem like a pain

to give up some of your free time, but I think you will be rewarded by the good feelings that you will experience in knowing that you done something good and helped positively impact the lives of others.

I also want to talk briefly about change. Like it or not, change is the one constant in our lives. I think we can all agree that change can be either good or bad, and that determination lies, for the most part, in each of our perspectives. Many of you have seen the beautiful results of the changes brought on by the remodeling project. The structural and cosmetic changes were necessary to promote the long term well-being of the Post. Every year we make a conscientious decision to change some of the leadership at the Post. If we didn't make periodic leadership changes, we run the risk of stagnation and losing out on opportunities to play key roles in helping veterans, improving Post participation and promoting membership. I also see the need to make some changes in how we conduct different business aspects at the Post. I firmly believe that these changes are necessary in order to keep everyone informed about what we are doing at the Post, to increase and promote participation, do some fun things, and enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the business side of our Post operations. Many of these changes will not be as visible or obvious as the remodeling project, but each of the changes that I feel we should make will improve overall Post operations and participation. I will be working with the entire Post 37 Legion Family over the next several months to discuss and implement these changes in an effort to continually improve our Post.

Lastly, I ask that you keep those Post members and their families that are experiencing health concerns or the loss of loved ones in your thoughts and prayers.



Inside this issue:

Proposed By-Law Changes	2
Unit President	2
Squadron Commander	2
Clubroom Events	3
Steak Dinners Begin	3
Brunch	3
Membership Article	3

Post By-Law Amendments to be Proposed

A number of possible changes to the Post By-Laws will begin the process of consideration at the September. It is a lengthy process but an important one. In order for those documents to be amended, the proposed change must be passed at an Executive Committee and Post meeting with a 2/3 majority at each.

Following those approvals, all members must be notified of the proposed amendments with the amendments presented a second time at the next Post meeting. Approval again requires a 2/3 majority in order for the amendments to receive final approval.

That process will begin for several items:

- 1) Changing the date and time of the Executive Committee meeting to one hour prior to the regular meeting.
- 2) Reducing the nominating committee from seven members to three.

3) Changing Installation in June to be on a rotating schedule with the Unit and Squadron.

4) Changing the amendment notice requirement to allow e-mail notification.

5) Raising the amount of the Post dues to \$40 in light of the Department's recent raise. This raise would take effect January 1, 2013.

There may be other items brought up for consideration. Regardless you will be notified of any that receive initial approval in time for you to register your opinion through your vote at the October Post meeting. The wording of any amendments that receive initial approval will be printed in the October issue of the Post newsletter.

The By-Laws are the governing document of the Post. As such, they are the most important document we have. Your input in any changes in encouraged and needed.

Convention Covered Live

You can participate in a number of the sessions of The American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary National Conventions from the comfort of your home through your computer.

The American Legion will broadcast all of the business session of the convention as well as several other events. The schedule of live-streamed events can be found at www.legion.org. Go to that page each day beginning on August 24 and you can witness the National Convention events as they occur.

The American Legion Auxiliary will be live blogging their general sessions beginning Monday, August 27. Go to their website, www.alaforveterans.org, and click on the Live Blog link. You can post questions and participate in polls throughout the convention general sessions.

Take the opportunity and tune in. Your time will be well spend.

Unit President Pat's Comments

Well another summer has flown by. I hope everyone got out and did as much as they wanted to despite all the heat.

We were honored to have our new Post Commander Doug MacCrea attend our meeting. He talked to us about uniting our Legion Family to make our Club a well working unit.

Our Jr. Girls that attended camp gave us a report on their activities. Kylie Spencer and Laurene Wingert are looking forward to going again next year.

They showed us bags that they made out of different colored duct tape, fly swatters and flower holders. They also had a great time hiking, swimming and a lot of other games. On the serious side they had a lecture on bullying. They made posters on anti-bullying. We are proud of our young Juniors. Thank you, Laurene and Kylie.

Several of our unit members will be in Indianapolis from Aug. 23-30 for National Convention. We will be attending

meetings and will have some up-dates on our committee reports.

Please keep your 2013 dues coming in. We really appreciate all of you sending in your dues early it makes things run smoother.

If you can work BINGO please let us know we appreciate all the help we can get.

School of Instruction will be at our next meeting.

Squadron Commander Mike's Comments

Hello everyone, welcome to the End of Summer. Well it's that time of year and school is back in session. I do hope that everyone had a very enjoyable & safe summer.

Social Dinners will be starting this month. The September Dinner will be on the Second Saturday this month only as the first Saturday is Labor Day weekend. The Legion is responsible for this dinner but if you can help out please do so. If you cannot help out with any of the monthly social dinners, please at least come down and patronize your American Legion Post. The Sons will be responsible for the November dinner. Please make plans to help out.

Our Major fund raiser for this year is fast approaching. The Biscuits and

Gravy Breakfast will be held on December 8th. This is the second Saturday of the month. The breakfast will again be held in conjunction with the Auxiliary Cookie Fair, from 7 to 11 am.

Membership stands at 57 as of the August meeting. There will be a dues increase this coming year. The American Legion of Iowa voted to raise the cost of dues going to Department by \$5.00 and I am sure The Ames Post will be raising their dues to coincide with that increase. Our Dues for members over 21 years of age are required by our By-laws to be the same amount as the Legion members, so if you want to save \$5.00 then please make sure that you pay your dues before January 1st. As of that date, dues will be raised to \$40.00

a year. At this time our members age 20 & under and our Dual members now pay \$10.00. It is possible that these will raise also, but this needs discussion.

Please come down to your Squadron meeting on the Second Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm. Let us know what you would like to see us doing to help in our community. We still need to fill some openings in our offices and committee appointments.

As I have said, if you have any ideas for us to be involved in as a Squadron, please come to the meeting and let us know.

Till next month, hope to see you around the Club Room, come and enjoy the friendships that last forever.

Clubroom News

The fall is fast approaching and this is when it's really fun to stop into the Clubroom. With fall comes football, and of course, we will have all the top games on TV and plenty of specials also. It's time to sit back and relax after this crazy summer and before the hustle and bustle of the holiday season. Check out what we have planned for this month:

Saturday, September 1 is All-American Weekend. Enjoy a variety of activities, food and entertainment throughout the weekend including an All American Car Show in downtown Ames, plus additional events throughout the community.

Thursday, September 13 is Music Walk. Visit the Main Street Cultural District for an evening of great shopping set to the sounds of great music at businesses throughout the district. The vast

variety of musical genres will please guests of all ages. This post will host a musician from 5-8pm.

Wednesday, September 19 is Tenderloin Basket Night. Tenderloins are served from 5-6:30pm, and cost of the meal is \$5.00. Please remember that we are willing to fix them to go.

Friday, September 28 is Texas Hold-Em. Play begins at 7pm. Drop in a little early and grab a bite to eat.

Join us in the Clubroom for every Iowa State football game. Enjoy great game day specials regardless if ISU is televised. Kick-off will be Saturday, September 1. We will be offering great food and drink specials!!

Stop in to check out our "Happenings," it's full of great information on birthdays, specials, and new arrivals. We look forward to seeing you soon!!

Banquet Hall Available



Do you have a special event coming up? The newly remodeled banquet

hall at our post is the perfect venue for any birthday, anniversary, meeting or any reception.

We have added many amenities to help make the day extra special and will work with you to ensure your guests enjoy whatever you have planned. This would be the perfect place for your event. Please call for pricing and availability at 232-9870.

Unit Nut Sale Begins

You will find the 2012 Nut Order form as an insert in this bulletin. Many new items have been added along with your favorites. Ask your friends and neighbors if they would like some too!



Also new this year are gift tins of cashews or mixed nuts – perfect for that hard to buy for person or as a company thank you gift. This sale has been very popular in past years and helps the Unit fund our programs. It is a win-win for you and us. If you have questions, contact information is on the order sheet.

Department Membership Chairman

You probably know by now that the Five Dollar dues increase was passed by the delegates attending the State Convention in Ames last month. This increase will take effect on January 1, 2013. As of now, Ames Post 37 has not proposed a dues increase for this year. However, if members do not pay their dues in a timely manner, this could change and any members who has not paid their dues by January 1, may have to pay an extra \$5.00 at that time. We do not want to do that this year.

I am asking every member to send in their dues as soon as possible for this year as soon as possible. If you wait and do not send them in by January 1st and the post does not increase the dues this year, it means the Ames Post will have to absorb the \$5.00 increase for every member's dues that come in after January 1st. This would put undue stress on our finances, especially after the cost of the post remodel project completed earlier this year.

We value your membership in the Ames

CLUBROOM COUPON

Any Tuesday in September

Present Coupon to get

2 drinks for the price of 1.

Cash Purchase Only

Steak Dinners Start

Join us for a fabulous steak dinner on Saturday, September 8. Dinner will be served from 5:30-7pm. We are proud to present our newly remodeled dining room to include round tables that will make your dining experience more enjoyable. Choose from a New York Strip Steak, Breaded Shrimp, Smoked Chop, or a combination. Dinner always includes our soup and salad bar, dinner roll and your choice of potato. Come early and enjoy the ISU/Iowa football game in the Clubroom and stay for Supper, we look forward to seeing you there!!!

Sunday Brunch

Sunday, September 23
11AM-1:30PM



Not quite breakfast, not quite lunch. Brunch is the best way to kick off a weekend day - food, drinks, and you don't have to get up early to enjoy them with friends.

Here's where to go for a fabulous mid-morning meal. Brunch will include a variety of your favorite breakfast and lunch fare. This is a free will donation event that's not to be missed. Bloody Marys and Mimosas will be available in the clubroom. We hope to see you there!!!

American Legion Post 37. All we ask is that you send your dues in now. It sure would be nice if we could collect all the renewals before December 31st. I know Marion Eacret, the Post Membership Chairman would appreciate it. Also, as Department Membership Chairman, I would appreciate it because it shows that my post supports my efforts.

Thanking you in advance for your cooperation,

Jim Demarest
Iowa Membership Chairman

AMES POST NO. 37
 225 Main Street
 Ames, IA 50010

NON PROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE PAID Permit 147 Ames, IA

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

LOOK INSIDE FOR COUPON **SEPTEMBER**

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
						1 ALL-AMERICAN WEEKEND
2 BINGO	3 LEGION RIDERS	4 AUXILIARY REGULAR 7:00	5 BINGO	6 LEGION BOARD 6:30 REGULAR 7:30	7 MUNCHIES NIGHT	8 ISU/IOWA GAME STEAK DINNER 5:30-7:00
9 BINGO	10 BUILDING COMMITTEE 6:00	11 SAL REGULAR 6:30	12 BINGO	13 MUSIC WALK 5:00-8:00	14 MUNCHIES NIGHT	15
16 BINGO	17	18 PAST PRESIDENT'S PARLEY 7:00	19 TENDERLOINS 5:00-6:30 BINGO	20 STORY COUNTY AT ZEARING	21 MUNCHIES NIGHT	22
23 BRUNCH 11-1:30 BINGO	24	25 40&8	26 BINGO	27 OPERATIONS COMMITTEE 6:00	28 TEXAS HOLD-EM 7:00 MUNCHIES NIGHT	29
30 BINGO						