



# THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY



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

Vol XLI, No 9  
March 2021  
225 Main Street  
Ames, IA 50010  
515-232-9870

[www.ameslegionpost37.com](http://www.ameslegionpost37.com)  
[www.ialegion.org](http://www.ialegion.org)  
[www.iowaala.org](http://www.iowaala.org)  
[www.ialegion.org/riders](http://www.ialegion.org/riders)

[www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org)  
[www.alaforveterans.org](http://www.alaforveterans.org)  
[www.sal.legion.org](http://www.sal.legion.org)

# Ames Legion Family In Action

## Your Help is Needed One More Time

### ADOPT-A-MONTH

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to cause hardships, not only in our personal

lives but also with the Ames American Legion Post. The Post Clubroom operations, our Wednesday curbside meals, and the help of federal and state Payroll Protection Programs and other incentives have kept the Post marginally stable financially. This has enabled us to pay the mortgage, keep the lights and heat on, pay the staff and provide some of our normal services, albeit at reduced operating hours. Clubroom operations alone do not fund all the Post's day-to-day expenses and with Bingo and Social Dinners suspended, the Post's income has dropped considerably.

Over the past several months, the funding of the Post's administrative, communications and program expenses has been dependent upon the financial reserves (savings) that were built up over the years for emergencies like this. The Executive Board has reduced expenditures to the greatest extent possible, but some things still require regular funding.

What are these expenses exactly?

Communications covers the newsletter, website, and postage and averages \$200 per month.

Programs fund Boys State, Shooting Sports, Academic Awards and Baseball for our youth at \$200 per month.

Administrative expenses are the insurance, property taxes, accountant fees and safety deposit box rental and that is the largest expense group at \$600 per month.

The combined monthly expenses average \$1,000.

We are reaching the point where those emergency reserves are getting danger-

ously low. The Executive Board has looked at the remaining financial resources available and has determined that dipping further into the reserves would not be a good financial decision in the event another problem arises. The Executive Board has approved a fundraising program that would allow our Post Family members to adopt part of, or all of, the Post's program, communication and administrative costs for a month. That program is named Adopt-A-Month.

Why should you make this donation? Because you support the Ames American Legion Post and the various programs and services it provides to you and the Ames community. Where would the money come from? Maybe you are one of those who has seen some of your expenses go down because of the pandemic but have not had your income drastically affected. Consider using some of that expense saving to adopt a portion of the Post's monthly expenses. Or maybe you are one of the many who will be receiving another stimulus check once they are approved. Again, if your expenses have gone down and your income is essentially unaffected, you could consider this stimulus check essentially "found money". If you need that money, please use it wisely. But if it is not necessary for your family's health and welfare, consider using some, or all, of it to help ensure that our Post remains fiscally healthy.

(continued on next page)

## Adopt-A-Month (continued)

You can participate as an individual or a group can get together and participate, either way will ensure that the program, communications and administrative expenses for a month are funded to keep the Post functioning. You can choose to adopt the expenses for a single category (program, communications, or administrative) for a single month or multiple months. Those that are especially generous can take on the entire Post expenses for a month.

If you choose to be part of this program, you will be recognized for your donation with a framed certificate which we will personally deliver as well as a voucher for two of our curbside meals of your choice. We would also like to take a picture of the certificate delivery for the newsletter. Of course, *if you wish to remain anonymous, we will very much respect that.*

Remember this does not have to be your donation alone. You and several friends may want

to make a group donation, and that would be great. That works for those that may want to help but maybe can't afford the entire amount for any of the three areas.

If you are able and willing to Adopt-A-Month, contact Adjutant Dave Rehbein at 515-231-3685 or [davidrehbein@msn.com](mailto:davidrehbein@msn.com). You can also mail it to the post, 225 Main, in care of Adjutant Dave Rehbein

Many of you responded to an earlier request to help keep our mortgage current. With that help and our clubroom's hard work, those mortgage payments are being made on time. Now we need to address getting through the next few months of funding Post expenses. While restrictions are starting to be lifted, and we want to return to a sense of normal, we do not want to restart Bingo and Social Dinners too soon as many of those who join us for those events fall into the higher risk category for COVID.

## Post Commander Jennifer's Comments

Hello, I have deferred most of my article space this month to the front-page article about donations but there are three things I wanted to let you know about.



First is a pancake breakfast being held the morning of March 20<sup>th</sup> at the post, this fundraiser will

also benefit post programs.

There will be some dine-in seating available or you can order ahead and pick it up to go! It is entirely up to you! Please call the post that morning to

place your orders! 515-232-9870.

We will be serving from 7 to 10 that morning. The breakfast will be funded by a free will offering.

We have also decided to revamp the Ames American Legion Family website! It is currently under construction; we hope to have it back up and

available soon! Many thanks to our volunteers Ann Rehbein and Denny Krogh for all their work on this project! Watch our Facebook page for a re-



launch notice! We are excited to bring our website up to date and into the modern era!

We also want to thank the volunteers



that come in every month to fold, tab and label the newsletter for mailing. Sandy Deacon, who handles the mailing list, Ann Rehbein, Sue Jones, Jan Schmidt, Kathy and Doug MacCrea, Randy Freil, and Rodger Van Voorhis. They are a great help and make it possible for you to receive this newsletter.

## Unit President Sandy's Comments

**Who would have thought...**...that one year ago our lives and the lives of those we serve would be forever changed by a global pandemic. Our "new normal" is much different now, but we still have many opportunities to fulfill the Auxiliary's Mission.

Pay your Dues or if you already paid, consider paying for someone who may not be able to right now. Our dues allow us to continue to make important contributions to many worthwhile veteran, community and youth programs.

Check on your friends and family. Your

phone call or email will brighten their day, especially if you haven't been able to get together in person. Ask them if there is anything you can do to help them. Or if you are in need of assistance, let us know. We are happy to help.

Let us know what you are doing. We will be writing our annual reports in April. Please send a list of your volunteer hours to us so that we can report all of the activities our awesome members have participated in this year. We will need your name, how you volun-

teered, the number of hours, dollars and miles involved. Send that information to [amesunit37@gmail.com](mailto:amesunit37@gmail.com).

Stop into the Clubroom for a beverage or a snack. We are open, with appropriate social distancing and sanitizing. If you don't want to come in, order a meal from our Curbside Dining on Wednesdays. It is awesome and you don't have to cook.

Stay Safe and take care of yourself. You are important.

## Clubroom News

March is almost here so Spring is just around the corner. We are excited about warmer weather and more sunshine! I was reading last year's March newsletter that was written right before the pandemic hit and it made me sad for the events that we have missed out on this past year. We have had to do a lot of adjustments and changes around here and it hasn't always been the easiest but we have made it so far. That is all thanks to everyone that has donated to help pay the bills and everyone that has ordered and continued to order our curbside meals on Wednesday's. It is helping us stay afloat and keep the bills paid. Thank you all so much for your continued support!!

Here are the Curbside Meals for March:

Wed. March 3-Steak Night

Wed. March 10-Lasagna

Wed. March 17-Corned Beef and Cabbage

Wed. March 24-Meatloaf

Wed. March 31-Tenderlion Basket Night

**Weekly Bonus Drawing Night. Tuesday, March 30** is the first bonus drawing night of 2021. Drawings will commence at 5:30pm. Members must be qualified for the drawing by consistently entering into the weekly Monday drawing.



Thanks to all that helped with events and maintenance around the post in the last month. It is really appreciated. John Schomaker, Tom Hadaway, Mike Deacon, Bill Donovan, Sandy Deacon, Rodger VanVoorhis, Ken Woodley, Russ and Vicki Belz, Julie and Dennis Rinard and Tom Fowler.

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

## Commander to Visit Iowa



National Commander Oxford is scheduled for a tour of Iowa on March 15-18. He will be making two stops in the Sixth District:

Highland Park Post #374 at 3712 2nd Ave, Des Moines on

March 17 from 9:00 to 11:00 and

Cumming Post #562 at 113 N 44th St, Cumming on March 18 from 12:30 to 2:30.

Both visits are open. Feel free to attend.

## Commander Oxford to Present Testimony

National Commander Oxford will present The American Legion's testimony to Congress on March 4. Due to COVID-19, this year's testimony will be virtual rather than in person. The link to that testimony is not available yet but will be posted at [Legion.org](http://Legion.org) for you to access the testimony.

The other meetings that occur as part of the Washington Conference are all available this time virtually. Those are meetings of the National Security, VA&R, Veterans Education and Employment and Legislative commissions. The schedule for those meetings is posted at

<https://www.legion.org/washingtonconference/schedule>.

You can register for any of those meetings now. If you register, you will receive an email with the link to the meeting. Those meetings generally have very interesting speakers.

Watch for the link to the Commander's testimony.

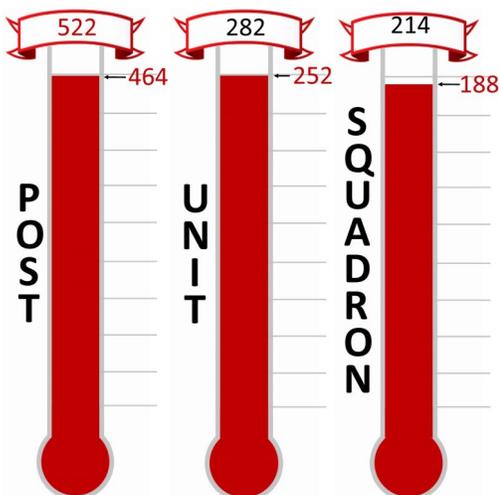
The American Legion's legislative priorities are also posted at [legion.org/publications/226187/legislative-agenda-117th-congress](http://legion.org/publications/226187/legislative-agenda-117th-congress).

At a traditional Washington Conference, the attendees will visit our Senator's and Representative's offices to brief them on our the items of importance. Those visit will not happen this year so we must depend on our Legion family members communicating with them by other means.

Please download the brochure and take whatever method you can to put it in front of your Senators Grassley and Ernst and your representative. Be sure to tell them that you are one of their constituents.

You can go to [votervoice.net/AmericanLegion/home](http://votervoice.net/AmericanLegion/home) to find and send a message to them. They should have received our brochure so you can refer to that delivery in your message.

## Membership Slowly Rising



From the graphs to the left, you can see how close the membership contest is between the Post, Unit and Squadron.

It is hard to tell without a calculator but the Unit is slightly ahead 89.4% to 88.9% for the Post. It wouldn't take much for the Squadron to jump from their 87% to the lead.

Now is the time when all three will be finishing their membership work. Have you renewed? Your Legion family leadership has worked hard to keep our programs operating and our Post Home together.

If they must contact you in person, they will. Help them out and take the initiative to do that yourself.

## Months Adopted

Response to the Adopt-A-Month appeal has started quickly. We already have two months adopted and nearly half of a third.

March has been adopted by the Mac-Crea and Patrick families while April is under the care of the Rehbein and Monserud families. An anonymous donor has taken half of May with a \$500 donation.

Our first goal was to have the next six months adopted. We hope that with more people being vaccinated every day, that at the end of that six months, our operation would be back to normal.

We are nearly half way to that six months. Will you help?

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

# MARCH

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
	1  LEGION RIDERS 6:30	2 TOASTED CHEESE & SOUP  AUXILIARY REGULAR 6:30	3 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY  CURBSIDE MEAL STEAK NIGHT	4 DOLLAR DOG DAY  OPERATIONS COMMITTEE 6:00	5 FIREBALL FRIDAY	6
7	8	9 TOASTED CHEESE & SOUP  SAL REGULAR 6:30	10 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY  CURBSIDE MEAL LASAGNA	11 DOLLAR DOG DAY  LEGION REGULAR 7:00	12 FIREBALL FRIDAY	13
14	15  VFW POST MEETING 7:00	16 TOASTED CHEESE & SOUP  PAST PRESIDENT'S PARLEY 7:00	17 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY  CURBSIDE MEAL CORNED BEEF & CABBAGE	18 DOLLAR DOG DAY  SOCIAL COMMITTEE 6:30	19 FIREBALL FRIDAY	20  PANCAKE BREAKFAST 7—10 AM
21	22	23 TOASTED CHEESE & SOUP  40&8	24 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY  CURBSIDE MEAL MEATLOAF	25 DOLLAR DOG DAY	26 FIREBALL FRIDAY	27
289	29	30 TOASTED CHEESE & SOUP  QUARTERLY DRAWING 5:30-8:00	31 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY  CURBSIDE MEAL TENDERLOIN	 Find us on Facebook at Legion Family of Ames, IA Post 37		American Legion Family of Ames, IA Post 37