

Ames Legion Family In Action

Commander Jay's Thoughts on POW/MIA and 9/11

Hello again! I hope this finds everyone well. With this new spike in Covid as a result of the Delta-variant, if you haven't been vaccinated yet, it may be time to consider doing that. As they say, "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure". Stepping off my soapbox now.

It's that time of the year again, time to renew your membership if you haven't already done so. Want to stop getting those annoying reminders forever? Consider becoming a Paid Up for Life member.

Instead of just paying your dues and being a member, consider volunteering as a member of one of the committees in the Post. See me or any of the Post officers if you're interested.

If committees aren't your thing, maybe you'd consider helping out one Sunday night with Bingo. They can always use the help. Contact Randy Freeland if you're interested.

If Bingo isn't your thing, how about helping out on Wednesday night with our curbside dinners. For the last 18 months, essentially the same people have been working to bring you those meals. I'm sure they'd love to have some help and be able to take a break. Contact Jodi in the Club Room if you're interested.



In 1979, then President Jimmy Carter signed a proclamation designating the third Friday in September as National POW/MIA Recognition Day. Since that time each succeeding President has issued

a similar proclamation. This year it is Friday, September 17th.

This is taken from the Department website, "A sacred value of The American Legion is the full accounting and repatriation of fallen U.S. service personnel. The Legion supports Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) activities to locate and repatriate all recoverable remains of U.S. military personnel who have fallen or are missing in foreign battle zones."

Here are some numbers from the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency to give you some perspective, "more than 81,600 Americans remain missing from WWII, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Cold War, and the Gulf Wars/other conflicts. Out of the more than 81,600 missing, 75% of the losses are located in the Indo-Pacific, and over 41,000 of the missing

are presumed lost at sea (i.e. ship losses, known aircraft water losses, etc.)." Please take a moment on September 17th to remember those POW/MIA and the sacrifice they made.



Saturday September 11th, 2021 marks the twentieth anniversary of the attack on the World Trade Center, the

Pentagon, and the loss of Flight 93 in Pennsylvania. A total of 2977 people lost their lives that day. It's one of those days that people will never forget where they were or what they were doing.

Some of you may know someone that was lost that day. I lost a high school classmate at the World Trade Center. A Navy Enlisted Man that Barb and I worked with back in Virginia was injured at the Pentagon. Let's not forget the selfless first responders who, knowing how desperate the situation was, risked their lives to save others.

Also, those that worked on "the pile", searching first for survivors and then recovering remains of those missing. Many of those workers are now suffering the aftereffects of having worked tirelessly in that toxic environment.

Unit Nut Fundraiser Beginning



Enclosed or attached you will find the annual nut fundraiser information. Again this year the Unit will only be ordering to fulfill these orders and will not have extra nuts as in the past. Please order everything you might want now so you won't be disap-

pointed later. You can also order online anytime at AmesIowaUnit37ALA.terri Lynn.com.

Thank you for your support of this fundraiser. It is greatly appreciated and the funds will support our programs especially in this time of COVID-19. Many of our fundraising programs could not be done this year. If you purchase through this program, not only will you get a great product but you will be supporting the programs that mean so much to our veterans and our community. Don't wait, place your order today.

Inside this issue:

Unit President	2
Squadron Commander	3
Membership Contest	2
Clubroom Events	3
Legion Riders	3
Air Rifle Club Recruiting	3
Steak Dinners Return	3

Commander Jay (cont'd)

The American Legion's podcast will be concentrated on 9/11 beginning the week of August 16. There will be 20 episodes, one for each of the 20 years. Guests will discuss their experience beginning with Past National Commander Ric Santos who was on Capitol Hill preparing for his testimony to Congress. Episodes can be found on YouTube at Tango Alpha Lima.

If you're so inclined, there is a 21 mile commemorative walk from Centennial Park in Waukegan to the State Capitol. You can find more information and register at marchtothecapitol.com. In any case, please take a few moments to remember those who lost their lives, their families, the first responders, and the disaster recovery workers.

Till next time, take care of yourselves and stay safe!

Membership Contest

That trophy is the prize that will be awarded to the winner of a membership contest between the First and Sixth Districts.

If you look closely, that is a version of the Cy-Hawk trophy, only this one it will be awarded for membership, not football. First District of course is the home of the University of Iowa and Sixth District is the home of Iowa State University.

The winner of the trophy will be determined by which district is ahead in membership on when the real Cy-Hawk trophy is awarded. Of course we have a



vested interest in that contest since Jennifer Monserud of our Post is the Commander of the Sixth District. We need to work hard to support her.

We are also the largest post in the district. If we don't do well, the Sixth District probably won't either. We will need to recruit new members to make our goal. You can help by first renewing your dues and then by asking a friend or neighbor or relative to join. Everyone who has served since Pearl Harbor is eligible. We need them.

Right now the Post is at 275 of our goal of 500, the Unit has 83 of their goal of 268 and the Squadron is at 61 of a goal of 200. The trophy is just for the Legion districts but it would be great if all three members of the Legion family exceeded their goal. You can help make that happen.

Unit President Rachel's Comments

This month is the beginning of Fall. Soon football games will be played, tailgates will happen, not to mention events happening around our own Post home as you will see throughout this newsletter. September also marks the 20th anniversary of the terrible events that unfolded on September 11, 2001. We must keep in mind those that have suffered loss not only on that day, but since. It is a good reason also to reflect as to why we became a member of this organization. As Auxiliary members, we must continue to support our military

and veterans, not only on the homefront, but also while deployed. This is also another good opportunity to continue buddy checks and check on your American Legion Family.

We have a good start to membership with around 80 paid members and more coming in. Let's keep it going! I talked with another member at the Department Convention regarding getting new members to join. One tactic she does is that she carries membership applications with her while out shopping at Wal

-Mart or the grocery store. If she comes across anyone that is wearing a hat (or other piece of clothing) indicating they are a veteran, she asks if they've considered joining the American Legion. If they haven't, then she gives a brief overview and then gives them a membership brochure and encourages them (and any eligible family members) to apply. Remember, membership is everyone's responsibility. The unit is still looking for a Sergeant at Arms, a Historian and several committee chairs. Please sign up!

Squadron Commander Doug's Comments

Squadron Mates –

Last month I addressed the importance to the Squadron (and to our Post Family) of timely renewals of your membership in the SAL. For those who have renewed - thank you, and for those who haven't renewed yet, please do so as soon as possible.

As I mentioned last month, the second area of concentration for the Squadron for the remainder of 2021 is individual participation in Squadron and Post events. Each of you have made a conscientious decision to join the SAL, for a specific reason or reasons, most likely along the lines of supporting veterans or our youth. While it would be nice to think that we could do this with just our membership dues, the reality in the world today is that it is not just feasible, given the general need of so many that the SAL supports.

To provide that support, we need our members to participate – specifically we need you to participate (and yes, that means volunteer) helping us provide the manpower needed to support our endeavors, be they fund raising dinners, other Post or community events, or simply by attending SAL meetings and providing us the benefit of your experience and wisdom as we contemplate what actions we can take to help make that difference in the lives of our veterans or the children of our community.

We have roughly 175 members in the Ames Squadron. While I don't have an exact count, I estimate that of those 175 members, approximately 75 are either out of the area or are young juniors and not able to participate with the Squadron on a regular basis. That leaves about 100 of us to carry the torch for

the SAL, both within our Post and in the Detachment. Sadly, only about a dozen or so members of the Squadron routinely step forward to help make a difference. We can and must do better if we are going to continue to make a difference and provide support to our Post Home and the programs the Squadron helps fund/sponsor.

We all like to be asked to help out, so I am asking you now. If you are able, please step forward and volunteer to support one of the Squadron activities throughout the year or to attend a meeting. **Be proactive!** Giving a couple of hours a month is not too much to ask of you to help the SAL support the goals of the American Legion that our forefathers gave their time and energies to for the benefit of their fellow veterans and to lay the foundation for our future.

Clubroom News

Greetings from the clubroom! Summer is almost over and we are gearing up for fall and football in the clubroom. We will be showing all Cyclone games in the clubroom and have some great drink specials during the game. We are having some supply problems with some of our products so we don't have our specials nailed down yet. So keep a lookout on the Facebook page, the weekly update or stop in the clubroom to find the specials out closer to game day. We will also have the NFL Sunday ticket again so join us on Sunday's to watch your favorite team.

We will continue our curbside meals on Wednesday as those continue to be a hit! We are also bringing back one of our favorite dinner nights. Join us Friday Sept. 24 from 5-7pm for baked potato bar. Get a potato and all your favorite toppings for just \$5.

Curbside Meals for September:

Call the Post any time after 2pm to order and pick up behind the Post or dine-

in between 5-6:30pm. You may also message me your order anytime through Facebook.

Wed. Sept 1-Pork Loin \$7

Wed. Sept 8-Steak Night

Wed. Sept 15-Meatloaf \$8

Wed. Sept 22-Cheesy Chicken Casserole \$7

Wed. Sept 29-Hand Breded Chicken Strips \$7

Thanks to everyone for their continued support!!



Thanks to all the great volunteers that help make the Wednesday meals happen and help out around the clubroom: Tom Fowler, Russ and Vicki Belz, Sandy and Mike Deacon, Ken Woodley, Julie Rinnard, Marty and Jo Kelly, Bill Donovan and Addison Donovan.

Legion Riders

August has been a great month for riding and as the riding season starts to wind down, with cooler evenings and slightly shorter days, the jackets are coming back out. Cliff and Doug rode the 1500 mile "Iron Butt" ride. They skipped Denver and went to Fort Worth instead. Riding through thunderstorms and 105 degree heat, they made it there and got back with 26 minutes to spare. Also in long ride news, Mike and Sandy Deacon rode to Daytona and back for a 10 day vacation and ride, easily earning their own "Iron Butts" for their almost 3,000 mile adventure.



A dinner ride to Rides Bar and Grill in Fort Dodge included a stop along the way for a terrific group photo with the new Medal of Honor Highway sign on US20 outside Webster City. We are proud to have been part of that ride last month. August 22nd we'll be going to Las Flores in Iowa Falls. September

wraps up the Dinner ride season with Sept. 12th ride to Los Altos in Bondurant and Sept. 26th ride to Johnny's Italian Steakhouse in Altoona.

Also in September we have two special events to mention. One is the Homeless Veterans Stand down in Des Moines. On Sept 17-19, members of the American Legion family will be helping distribute goods and clothing to homeless veterans that need a hand. See Sandy Deacon for more details or to help.

The second is an endeavor taken on by the Legion Riders of Waukee to mark the 20th anniversary of 9/11. The Waukee Riders have an honor ride planned for Saturday, September 11th. Beginning at 11am, they will be leaving from Big Barn Harley Davidson in DSM, stopping in Polk City, Kelley, and Cambridge, ending the ride at Mean Machine Cycles in Elkhart.

Legion Riders from Ames, Polk City, and all around the state will ride in remembrance of that day. The Ames Riders will be at the R-Place Pizza and Pub stop in Kelley from 10am until the last rider leaves that afternoon, and then they will meet everyone for the Small Town Throwdown in Elkhart.

Proceeds raised from this event will go to Iowa C.O.P.S., the Peer Support Foundation, and to Puppy Jake.

For more information on any of these events, contact your Ames Legion Riders.

CLUBROOM COUPON

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

Air Rifle Team Recruiting

The Ames Youth Air Rifle team is seeking new members! This program is an American Legion Junior Shooting Sports Program sponsored by Ames American Legion Post 37.

The program teaches rifle safety, procedure and marksmanship and lets young people participate in an Olympic skill sport using a .177 air rifle while fostering healthy competition. All interested youth under 18 years old are welcome, regardless of gender or physical ability.

Contact coach Cort Pahl (centraliowajssp@gmail.com) for details, or visit during scheduled practices (Sundays, 1-3pm September - May, Ames Izaak Walton League Clubhouse) to learn more about the program.

Saturday Steak Dinners Return

Steak Dinners on the first Saturday of the month will return in October after a recess of 17 months. We are still developing the menu and working out prices. We are sure you have noticed price increases for meat. For that reason, we may need to raise our prices also. Mark your calendar for October 2. We will start serving at 5 and promise that you will see the same quality meal that you were used to before COVID came along.

Can Drive-Wreaths Across America

The Legion Riders Chapter will be conducting a can drive to benefit Wreaths Across America on September 26 from 10AM to 1PM. We know people have bags of cans in the garage left over from COVID. Come through the alley behind the post and drop them off. All funds raised will go to the Wreaths Across America project in the Ames Cemeteries.

Legion Racing Coming to Iowa

Mark your calendars for July 23-24, 2022, IndyCar will be returning to the Newton track. That will include the Legion sponsored car driven by Jimmy Johnson. Be alert for more details.

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 **SEPTEMBER**

<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			1 WEDNESDAY CURBSIDE MEAL PORK LOIN	2 DOLLAR DOG DAY OPERATIONS COMMITTEE 6:00	3 FIREBALL FRIDAY	4
5 AIR RIFLE 1-3 AT AMES IKES BINGO	6 LEGION RIDERS 6:30	7 TACO TUESDAY AUXILIARY REGULAR 6:30	8 WEDNESDAY CURBSIDE MEAL STEAK NIGHT	9 DOLLAR DOG DAY LEGION REGULAR 7:00	10 FIREBALL FRIDAY	11 CY-HAWK GAME WATCH
12 AIR RIFLE 1-3 AT AMES IKES BINGO	13	14 TACO TUESDAY SAL REGULAR 6:30	15 WEDNESDAY CURBSIDE MEAL MEATLOAF	16 DOLLAR DOG DAY SOCIAL COMMITTEE 6:30	17 FIREBALL FRIDAY	18
19 AIR RIFLE 1-3 AT AMES IKES BINGO	20 VFW POST MEETING 7:00	21 TACO TUESDAY	22 WEDNESDAY CURBSIDE MEAL CHEESY CHICKEN	23 DOLLAR DOG DAY	24 FIREBALL FRIDAY BAKED POTATO BAR 5:00-7:00	25 PAST PRESIDENT'S PARLEY 10:00
26 AIR RIFLE 1-3 AT AMES IKES WAA CAN DRIVE 10AM-1PM BINGO	27	28 TACO TUESDAY 40&8	29 WEDNESDAY CURBSIDE MEAL CHICKEN STRIP	30 DOLLAR DOG DAY		