

Thank You for Your Phone Calls

On May 19, Senate Veterans Affairs Chairman Tester (D-MT) and Ranking Member Moran (R-KS) released an agreement on the Honoring Our PACT Act. This legislation would provide long-overdue care for our veterans suffering from toxic exposure by expanding presumptions related to **Agent Orange**, healthcare eligibility for **Post-9/11** combat veterans, and creating a framework to establish future presumptions.

“The work is still not yet complete, but the agreement between Senate Veterans’ Affairs Committee Chairman Jon Tester, D-Mont., and ranking member Jerry Moran, R-Kan., is proof that Democrats and

Republicans can achieve great things for veterans when they work to put country ahead of partisanship,” American Legion National Commander Paul E. Dillard said. “The Honoring Our PACT Act would deliver needed benefits for up to 3.5 million veterans who were exposed to the poisons of war due to the prevalence of burn pits, radiation, contaminated water, Agent Orange and other toxicants during deployments and military assignments. The House of Representatives deserves great credit for passing this legislation, and I am confident that with the continued support of The American Legion, the Senate will now follow suit. This is an histor-

ic opportunity for the 117th Congress to pass the most meaningful veterans legislation in a generation. I am asking all Americans to tell their senators to vote for the Honoring Our PACT Act.”

Legion leadership and active members have been calling their Senators in regard to passage of this legislation. Thank you to all who have placed calls.

While this is great news, the bill needs the support of **60 Senators** to pass the Senate. Senators Grassley’s office can be reached at 202-224-3744 and Senator Ernst at 202-224-3254. Call them and ask that they support this agreement and vote AYE when it comes to the floor of the Senate.

Breyfogle-Air Force Academy Grad and 2nd Lieutenant



Ames Legion Family member Seth Breyfogle and his family celebrated his graduation from the Air Force Academy and commissioning as a Second Lieutenant this spring. He and his family will be at the Ames Post on Sunday, May 29 from 2-4. Members of the Legion family are invited to stop in and congratulate Lieutenant Breyfogle as he begins his Air Force career.

Iowa Loses a Hero



Cmdr. Larry Spencer (ret) passed away on May 21, 2022. Services will be held at 10 AM, May 31 at the Lutheran Church of Hope, West Des Moines. Burial will follow at the Iowa Veterans Cemetery and will include a flyover.

Cmdr Spencer was Iowa’s long-

est held Vietnam POW. He spent 2,551 days in captivity. His returned to active duty after his release.

His decorations include two Silver Stars, two Purple Hearts and the Prisoner of War medal along with many others.

Larry’s life was an inspiration to many. Iowa can be proud to claim him as one of our sons.

Inside this issue:

Post Commander	2
Squadron Commander	2
Officer Nominations	2
Unit President	3
Clubroom Events	3
Legion Riders	3

Post Commander Jay's Comments

Hello Legion Family! Well Summer is almost upon us, even if the weather as I'm writing this makes one wonder. If you have travel plans during the summer, please be safe.

It's been quite a year. At this time last year, we were getting ready to reopen the Club Room and restart Bingo. We also restarted our monthly Steak Nights in October. The SAL was able to hold their biscuits and gravy breakfasts and the Auxiliary was able to hold their Cookie Fair in person in December and their Bake Sale in April.

Bingo has been doing well and has had a fairly consistent number of players each week. We can always use volunteers for Bingo, so if you can spare a few hours on a Sunday night let us know. The work isn't difficult.

The Legion is still short of it's membership goal. We do have some members that could use help in continuing their membership. If you'd be willing to sponsor a member, please let Doug MacCrea or myself know. If you haven't renewed your membership, please do so.

On this page in the Newsletter you'll see the nominees for leadership positions within the Post. If you're interested in filling a position, even if there is a name already attached, let Doug MacCrea, Stan Elliott, or Randy Freel know. We wouldn't mind having an election.

For coming events, we have election of officers in June, installation of officers in July, the Department Convention will be held July 7-10 in Des Moines, and throughout the summer we will be hold-

ing a pancake breakfast once a month (June 18th, July 16, August 20th, and September 17).

The pancake breakfasts are fundraisers for the Legion programs. These are free will donation. As always, volunteers are needed, so if you're able to help, let me or someone on the Leadership Team know or leave a note in my box.

Finally, I want to thank you all for the help and support I've received over the past year. I have truly enjoyed this past year and I feel I've learned a lot, but still have a lot to learn. We can always be better and should always strive to do more for Veterans and within our community.

Take care and stay safe!

Squadron Commander Doug's Comments

Memorial Day has come and gone and school is out. Yea – it's summertime!

As we start to spend more time outside with family and friends, both enjoying the great summer weather and all that goes with it, as well as spending more time doing yard work, we need to be mindful of our surroundings and of the need to remain vigilant and safe. More Americans are injured or killed over the next 3 months than the other 9 months of the year combined.

On June 14th we will celebrate Flag Day, an event started by Wisconsin schoolteacher Bernard Cigrand in 1885. Several Presidents signed proclamations declaring June 14 as Flag Day,

but it wasn't until 1949 that Congress formally declared June 14 as Flag Day, formalizing the day as a national day of observance for the history and meaning of our flag. I encourage all of our Sons to help our fellow citizens understand the history and importance of this day.

June also means that it is time to elect new Squadron Officers for the coming year. The current slate of nominees is outlined in this newsletter and as you can see there are some gaps that need to be filled. I am asking all of the Sons to look over the list of positions and strongly consider putting your name into the hat to lead the Squadron in the coming year. Just because we have a

nominee for a position already does not mean that we can't have more than one nominee per position when we hold elections at the June meeting.

The summer months are usually slow for the Sons in terms of scheduled events. I strongly encourage you to look at the events being sponsored by or hosted by our Legion Family and volunteer to help. I guarantee that it will be a rewarding experience and that you will have some fun in volunteering.

With that, have a great June, I hope to see you at our June meeting on the 14th. Be safe and we hope to see you at the Post!

Leadership Candidates Reported-Openings Remain

Below you will see listed the reports from the nominating committees for the Post, Unit and Squadron for the 2022-2023 year. There are open spots in each of the reports.

Those open spots are ideal for someone like you, someone that is dedicated to helping veterans, dedicated to helping veterans families and dedicated to making Ames a better place to live.

Of course, if you have not been an officer before, it may seem

like this is a huge commitment but please remember that those who have served remain ready to help new officers learn their position and responsibilities. You will not be alone.

Consider that if you accept an office, you will be joining the leadership of one of the strongest Legion families in Iowa. Each group has their own programs but we work together as a family. Step forward and join one of our leadership teams. You will find the work rewarding and enjoy your time in the job.

Commander	Jay Sisco
First Vice Commander	Doug MacCrea
Second Vice Commander	Open
Adjutant	Open
Finance Officer	Randy Freel
Sergeant-at-Arms	Open
Historian	Dave Rehbein
Chaplain	Rickey Thompson
Service Officer	Bob Bellinghausen
Executive Board	Kevin Brace
Cliff Barker	Stan Elliott
Randy Breyfogle	Frank Andrew

President	Rachel Breyfogle
1st Vice	Jamie Barker
2nd Vice	Kathy MacCrae
Secretary	Keri Guy
Treasurer	Marilyn Nervig
Sergeant at Arms	Jay Sisco
Historian	Open
Chaplain	Joyce Elliott
Executive Board	Sandy Deacon
Barb Sisco	Sharon Bellinghausen
Kelli Hitsman	Jan Schmidt

Commander	Doug MacCrea
First Vice Commander	Cort Pahl
Second Vice Commander	Keven Brace
Adjutant	Mike Deacon
Finance Officer	Randy Freel
Sergeant-at-Arms	Open
Historian	Open
Chaplain	Roger Elliott
Executive Board	Stan Elliott
Steve Malmquist	Jay Sisco

Clubroom News

We are so excited for the warmer weather and the fact that Summer is almost here. We will still have some of our great weekly specials going on throughout the Summer so please stop in and join us. We would love to see you. Our Wednesday night meals continue to be a popular night in the clubroom. Our volunteers put a lot of effort and time in to help out with those meals every week and we really appreciate it. We have a pretty open policy about bringing outside food into the clubroom most nights but we would kindly ask that on big food nights like Wednesday's meals, fish fries, steak nights etc. that you refrain from bringing in outside food. We try to offer something for everyone on those nights so if there is something you would like to see on the menu please let us know.

Curbside Meals-please check the Facebook page and the weekly updates for our full menu each week

Wed. June 1-Hand breaded chicken strips

Wed. June 8-Meatloaf

Wed. June 15-Burger Night

Wed. June 22-Ham Balls

Wed. June 29-Steak Night

These meals are available for pickup or dine-in from 5-6:30pm. Call anytime after 2pm to order.



Kudos-Thanks to all who helped out over the last month. It is greatly appreciated. Tom Fowler, Russ and Vicki Belz, Paul Madsen, Sandy Deacon, Mike Deacon, Ken Woodley, Bill Donovan, Julie Rinard, Colten Christensen, Addison Donovan and Rodger VanVoorhis.

President Rachel's Comments

"Old Glory", "Stars and Stripes", "The Star Spangled Banner". These are the names of one of the most recognizable symbols of the United States, our flag. June 14th is Flag Day. This date commemorates the day in 1777 the United States approved the first design for the first national flag. Nearly four decades later a poem written by Frances Scott Key, entitled the Defiance of Fort McHenry became the lyrics of our National Anthem. The remaining parts of the flag that inspired this poem is on display at the Smithsonian's Museum of American History.

This Flag Day, June 14th, also marks one year since our Juniors installed a Flag Box for worn/tattered flags placed at our post. This box allows a way for the Ames Community to properly dispose of Flags no longer suited for flying.

Did you know that not only can you dispose of your Flag at the Post, but you can also order a replacement flag? You can stop in at the Post or order through Emblem Sales. Either way our post can get credit for Flag sales. When ordering online, set up an account and where indicated use Post 37 as the Post you are supporting.

Thank you to everyone who came out to help plant flowers at the Ames Veterans Memorial. Fortunately, the weather held off and we were able to clean up the flower beds, plant flowers and add new mulch to the beds. Thank you to Jamie Barker for organizing this event.

We are inching ever so close to our membership goal. We have less than 20 to go! If you are willing to sponsor a member, please notify our membership chair, Sandy for details. We will be having our Unit Elections taking place at our June 7th meeting. It is very important that we have as many members as possible present at this meeting. Please take about 1 hour of your time and come to the post and join in the meeting.

Girls State will be held in-person this year at the Drake Campus June 19-24. The unit is sponsoring 2 Citizens from Ames High School.

Department of Iowa Junior Camp is August 7-12 with it convening on August 12 with the Juniors Department Convention on August 12th. If you have a Junior member age 8-17, please consider having them attend Junior Camp. Registration deadline is June 15th. It is a way for Juniors from across the state to network and have some fun!

Also, in regards to Juniors Camp, there will be a fundraiser on July 8th at the Department Convention entitled "What's in the Bag". This is a similar fundraiser to last year's "Purses, Purses, Purses". If you are willing to donate a bag to be auctioned off for this event, please let me know

Legion Riders

Hello again from the Legion Riders!

In typical spring fashion, plans get made and then Mother Nature sees fit to adjust them for us. Such was our first dinner ride. After a wonderful Saturday where your Riders helped the Sleeping Angels Foundation raise nearly 65K dollars, we were met on Sunday with wind and rain and not riding weather at all. But the day before, May 7th, your Riders led 31 people, on 21 bikes from Boone to the Templeton Rye Distillery and back. If you've never been it's a certain must visit. The history and the staff are both something to experience. After we got back, a dinner and auction rounded out a great day. None of it would have been possible without a great team of Riders supporting what we do. Hopefully the weather on the 28th will be better for our dinner ride to Copperhead in Stratford.

Next up is the 6th District Legacy Ride. We'd like to thank the Legion, the Auxiliary, and the SAL for all of their generous donations. We will take those, as well as the donations from other posts and other members of the 6th District and pool them at Department convention and present them to the Department Commander. From there we will take all of the donations from around Iowa, and present them at National Convention. If you would like to join us on our 6th District Legacy Ride, June 11th, we will depart from Department headquarters at 930 AM, We will be stopping at Cumming, Waukee, Johnston for lunch at the Cozy Cafe, and then on to Polk City and ending at Ames. Feel free to follow along at the tail in your cars or meet us at one of the stops. If you'd like to make a personal donation, you can make checks payable to the American Legion 6th District.

Coming up later this summer is our Annual Ride to the Rock on June 4th, where we go see the latest painting of the Freedom Rock in Menlo, IA, a Bike Night at Big Barn Harley Davidson to raise funds for the commissioning of the USS Iowa, several of us are riding the full Legacy Run from Mobile, AL to Milwaukee, WI, and a Legion Riders ride across the state from Sargent Bluff to Dubuque with Riders from all over Iowa.

Did I miss anything? Probably, yes. We're going to be putting on some miles for 2022, join us as a supporter and come along. We would love to have you.

Until then ride safe, and ride often.

Cliff B.

Director, Chapter 37, Ames ALR

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

JUNE

<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		American Legion Family of Ames, IA Post 37	1 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY CURBSIDE MEAL CHICKEN STRIPS	2 DOG NIGHT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE 6:00	3 FIREBALL FRIDAY MUNCHIES NIGHT	4
			5 BINGO	6 LEGION RIDERS 6:30	7 TACO NIGHT \$4 AUXILIARY REGULAR 6:30	8 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY CURBSIDE MEAL MEATLOAF
12 BINGO	13	14 TACO NIGHT \$4 FLAG DAY—UP @ 6, DOWN @ 5 SAL REGULAR 6:30	15 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY CURBSIDE MEAL BURGER NIGHT	16 DOG NIGHT	17 FIREBALL FRIDAY MUNCHIES NIGHT	18
19 BINGO	20 VFW POST MEETING 7:00	21 TACO NIGHT \$4	22 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY CURBSIDE MEAL HAM BALLS	23 DOG NIGHT 40&8	24 FIREBALL FRIDAY MUNCHIES NIGHT	25
26 BINGO	27	28 TACO NIGHT \$4	29 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY CURBSIDE MEAL STEAK NIGHT	30 DOG NIGHT		