

Ames Legion Family In Action

Shooters Invited to April Post Meeting

The picture to the right are six of the eight shooters that have competed for the Ames Club this year. They are (front row, L-r) Marc Gourley, Morgan Gourley, Nathan Baldwin, Sadie Breyfogle, Noah Helming and William Zellner.



With them in the back row are coaches Cort Pahl, Mark Patrick and Randy Lien. Two others, Aubrey and Christian Hanson participated through the year but could not be there on photo day.

They are all invited to the April Post meeting at 7:00 on April 13. Plan to attend and meet them. They represented you all year. They all participated in the American Legion Postal Match in January and also participated in

the Iowa Postal Match Series, which consists of 8 matches from December to March.

Sadie Breyfogle placed second in her individual competitor age group (J2). The Ames club placed third overall in team competition. We had three shooters participating in the March 18 Iowa Legion Department Match, Nathan Baldwin, Sadie Breyfogle, and Noah Helming. Noah placed third in his age group (J3).

And there are also these shooters who come to practices, but haven't participated in any matches. They are our youngest members—Nicolai Zellner, Kenna Lederhouse and Elias Buttery

ans. We currently plan on holding these coffee's monthly with the goal of potentially offering them weekly based on interest and response. We hope that you will assist us in spreading the word about this event and then join us.

VETERAN'S COFFEE GET TOGETHER

The Post will be hosting it's inaugural Veteran's Morning Coffee on Friday, April 28th from 8:00 – 10:00 AM.



Open to all veteran's, this is an opportunity for veterans to gather for camaraderie, support and the opportunity to bond with your fellow veter-

RAGBRAI IS COMING TO TOWN



RAGBRAI is coming to Ames on July 25. We have received requests from out of town Legion Family participants riding in RAGBRAI for overnight support. If you are interested in hosting or providing support (opening your yard for camping and or home for restroom & showers) to one of these Legion Family groups, please contact the Post's Vice Commander, Doug MacCrea at 515-450-0773 or via e-mail at dmaccrea@gmail.com.

50/50 Raffle

February winner—Lisa Volk—\$320. March—as of March 21—\$261.50 to IA Vets Home Legion Post.

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Post Commander Jay's Comments

Well, it's officially Springtime in Iowa! Hopefully the weather will continue to be more like Spring and less like Winter.

First off, if you haven't paid your dues yet, please do so. If, for some reason, you're unable to pay, let someone know and we'll work with you to find a solution. Failure to pay your dues will result in your key fob being deactivated.

Second, a nominating committee has been formed to identify candidates for the Post leadership positions for the 2023-2024 term. It is sad that we have 496 names on the membership roll yet we can barely muster a quorum at the monthly meetings. I know there is any number of reasons folks don't want to get involved, but that's exactly what we need, people to step up and get in-

involved. Yes it takes time, but it's not hard work and you'll be helping your fellow Legionnaires and the Legion family. If you're interested in serving, let either Doug MacCrea, Stan Elliott, or Dave Rehbein know.

Third, on Friday, April 28th from 8 – 10 AM, we will be holding our first Veteran's coffee in the hall. This is open to ALL veterans whether they are Legion members or not. There will be donuts and/or bagels to go along with the coffee. This is intended to be a chance for veterans to come in and spend some time with other veterans and share their stories. We'll have information on veterans benefits available if they want it as well as membership applications should they be interested in joining. We'll start monthly and based on interest expand it to every other week or weekly. If you

know a veteran who is not a member let them know. This is NOT a membership drive, if we add members as a result, that's great. As I said it's just a chance for veterans to spend some time with others who have a similar background.

Fourth, as I mentioned last month, I want to establish a Buddy Check program here at the Post. A "committee" has been formed to come up with recommendations on how we might best accomplish that. More to come.

Finally, on March 24th, I had the opportunity to present academic awards to a number of Iowa State Army ROTC Cadets at their Military Ball. Barb and I had a good time meeting some of the cadets and from what I can see, the future of the Army is in good hands.

Till next month take care and stay safe!

Unit President Rachel's Comments

April, the first full month of Spring. Let's just hope that Mother Nature gets that Spring weather to come and add some color to the landscape. I'm getting a bit tired of seeing a lot of white.

Speaking of colors...Purple Up! April is the month of the Military Child. In 1986 Secretary of Defense Weinberger made April the month to recognize the young members of a military family, the children. The approximately 1.6 million military children from birth-18 have not only the normal "kid" things to worry about, but also face other unique challenges related to a parent's military service. April 15, 2023 is designated as Purple Up Day. We ask you to remember these children by wearing purple on that day.

April 15th is the 6th District Spring Con-

ference, which will be held in Ankeny at the FFA Enrichment Center on the DMACC Campus. Since we have a large unit, we are also able to have a large delegation at this conference. It is a good way to learn more about what's happening in other units from our district as well as the different programs. At the March meeting a camping/glamping list was handed out. The items on these lists are going to be used as a fundraiser for Junior Camp during the Department Convention. Please bring any items on the list to the District Conference.

VOLUNTEER HOURS DUE! Have you helped a veteran? Have you helped out in your community? In other words, have you volunteered? Keep track of ANY hours that you have volunteered

since May 2022. The more hours we log as volunteers translates to more money that we as the American Legion Auxiliary get to help our veterans. This information needs to be turned in on April 30th.

You may have heard rumblings about a dues increase. This is confirmed. Last fall at the National Convention, a dues increase was approved. Our current membership dues of \$30 will not be sustainable for very long, if we keep it as such. At the March meeting we voted to increase the dues to \$40. Per our by-laws this is to be read and voted on twice. Our 2nd vote will be at our April 4th meeting. I am encouraging all unit members to attend and vote on this important matter.

Squadron Commander Doug's Comments

Spring Greetings and Happy Easter! Daylight Savings Times has arrived and it finally appears as if winter has loosened its grasp on us and we can start looking forward to some better, meaning warmer, weather.

April is also the month when the Nominating Committees for the Legion, Auxiliary and SAL really go to work to seek out our Post leadership for the upcoming year. These are exciting times for our Post and your participation and

support by volunteering to fill a leadership position in the Post will be both beneficial to the Post and a rewarding experience for you. If you are interested in serving in a leadership position for the Legion, Auxiliary or SAL, e-mail that info to LegionPost37Newsletter@gmail.com, drop a note in my basket at the Post, or call the Post with your name and contact information and we will ensure that you are contacted by the right Nominating Committee.

April 20th also marks the return of the Post's Special Monthly Bingo Night where the individual game prizes will be \$100 if 60 or more players attend. For more information on Special Bingo Nights, stop by the Post.

Please mark your calendars and plan on attending the Building Fundraiser Mother's Day Brunch on May 11th. This will be another free will donation event.

Have a great April and I hope to see you at the Post.



**MEMBERSHIP IS
EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY**



Clubroom News

Spring is finally here! It was a beautiful day today and it was so nice to get outside and get some fresh air. We have started to see some bigger crowds for events in the Clubroom. It is great to see some new faces and ones we haven't seen in awhile. Taco Tuesday's have started back up and we still have our Wednesday night meals going on. We also have steak night and baked potato bar this month. Lots of different options to join us for a meal.

Although most of the local teams have been eliminated from the tournaments

the clubroom is still a great place to catch the rest of the tournament action. We also have baseball starting up this month so come catch a game.

Here are our Curbside meals for April:

Wed. April 5-Ham Balls

Wed. April 12-Grilled Pork Chops

Wed. April 19-Meatloaf

Wed. April 26-Creamy Tuscan Chicken with rice

Baked Potato Bar-Friday, April 28-5-6:30pm. Get a large potato and fill it

with all you favorite toppings for just \$5
Kudos:



Thanks to all that help make the events in the clubroom possible! We appreciate you and all that you do for us!! Tom Fowler,

Russ and Vicki Belz, Julie Rinard, Bill Donovan, Rodger VanVoorhis, Sandy and Mike Deacon, Marty Kelly, Tom Hadaway, Steve Shill, Paul Madson and Colten Christiansen.

Legion Riders

It's Spring. It comes every year no matter how hard winter tries to hold on. It feels like it's late though. Your Riders have been waiting impatiently to get the season started. We've checked off all our winter tasks and finally have the wreaths picked up on the 3rd attempt. Thanks for all those that helped make this endeavor such a fulfilling one. We've resumed our can drop off days, on the 3rd Saturday of every month we will be in the back parking lot from 9-11. If you could separate the glass, we can take care of the rest. Last year we returned over \$2,000 worth of cans and bottles. At 20 per dollar that comes to 40 THOUSAND pieces. That's incredible and we thank you. Soon we're going to take on getting a true and accurate count of our Veterans at Ames and Ontario Cemeteries. This would be a great Boy Scout Project and we'd love to help. So if anyone knows of a Boy Scout Troop looking to take this on with us, please put them in touch.

April is for cleaning off the dust and getting out and riding when and where we can. Our favorite back roads are still

a little dirty for two wheels in some places and we need some rain still to clean them off. Remember to watch out for motorcycles if your driving, and watch out for others if you're riding. Most aren't in the habit of seeing us and we need to ride defensively for the first couple weeks.

In May we will begin our dinner rides. Stay tuned to the newsletter for exact dates and times as we are changing things up for 2023. Some rides are going to be on Saturdays, and some will have earlier departure times. We'll try to have a more complete calendar out soon but our first stop this year will be the Nite Hawk in Slater. May 14th, and to the Whistlin Donkey in Woodward May 28th. May will also be the Sleeping Angels Benefit Ride among others.

If I could speak on a personal note for a moment. I was appointed to the Revenue and Promotions part of the Department Marketing committee. I would like to be able to take your ideas from the Ames Post to the meetings and I would be happy to help explain some of the

efforts being undertaken currently to both raise awareness and to raise revenue without falling back on the Legion Family membership. If you have ideas or questions let me know. What does this have to do the your Riders you may ask? The Department of Iowa Riders have been the only group so far to escort the Chip Ganassi Racing Team to the racetrack. Plans are underway for them to do it again in 2023. Proudly your Ames Riders will lead the way, once again. To be honest, I couldn't be more impressed with what your Ames Riders accomplish every year and 2023 looks to be no exception. Thank you all for supporting them and if there is anything we can do for you, just ask.

So, as the riding season is shaping up, if you get out before the roads are washed clean, please be careful. Keep your head on a swivel, the others drivers aren't really looking for us yet.

As always, Ride safe, and Ride often,
Cliff B, Director, Ames Legion Riders

Honor Flight Opportunity

The Cedar Valley Honor Flight has expanded its territory to include Story County. Applications are being taken from veterans of WW II, Korea and Vietnam as well as any veteran diagnosed with a terminal illness.

Applications are also being taken for Honor Flight guardians. There are a number of requirements to be able to serve in that position.

Applications can be obtained from the editor at davidrehbein@msn.com. More information is available from veterans@cedarvalleyhonorflights.org.

Past President's Meeting

The Past Presidents Parley has moved it monthly meeting due to the Sixth District Conference. The meeting will now be held on April 22 at 10AM at the Ames Clubroom.

If you are a Past President of the Ames Unit or any other Unit in Story County, please consider attending. We are not a large group but we are active with a project almost each month as well as celebrating Christmas together. We would be very happy to have you join us.

Contact Info

IS YOUR POST CONTACT INFO UP-TO-DATE?

Over the course of time we move, or change our e-mail address or change our primary phone number. The Post asks that when you do this that you update your contact info with us. As a checks and balance, if your address, e-mail or phone number has changed in the past couple of years we ask that you contact the Post with that new information. We routinely find that e-mail addresses or land-line phone numbers are no longer active and that impacts our ability to reach out to you with timely information or to stay in touch with you.

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON PROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID
Permit 147
Ames, IA

APRIL

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
YOUTH AIR RIFLE 1-3 AT IZAAK WALTON		 Find us on Facebook at American Legion Family of Ames, IA Post 37				1 STEAK DINNER 5:00—7:00
2 BINGO	3 LEGION RIDERS 6:30	4 TACO TUESDAY AUXILIARY REGULAR 6:30	5 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY CURBSIDE MEAL HAM BALLS	6 DOG NIGHT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE 6:00	7 FIREBALL FRIDAY MUNCHIES NIGHT	8
9 BINGO	10	11 TACO TUESDAY SAL REGULAR 6:30	12 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY CURBSIDE MEAL PORK CHOP	13 DOG NIGHT LEGION REGULAR 7:00	14 FIREBALL FRIDAY MUNCHIES NIGHT	15 SIXTH DISTRICT CONFERENCE
16 BINGO	17 VFW POST MEETING 7:00	18 TACO TUESDAY	19 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY CURBSIDE MEAL MEAT LOAF	20 DOG NIGHT SPECIAL BINGO SOCIAL COMMITTEE 6:00	21 FIREBALL FRIDAY MUNCHIES NIGHT	22 PAST PRESIDENT'S PARLEY 10:00
23 BINGO 30 BINGO	24	25 TACO TUESDAY	26 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY CURBSIDE MEAL TUSCAN CHICKEN	27 DOG NIGHT 40&8	28 FIREBALL FRIDAY VETERANS COFFEE 8-10 AM BAKED POTATO BAR	29