

Officer Candidates Needed

The Post, Unit and Squadron are all searching for candidates for the offices of their organization for the next year.

Nominating committees have been appointed in each of the organizations but we cannot just depend on them to recruit candidates. We need members that are willing to step forward and volunteer.

The Post is especially in

need of candidates. It is sad to say but this year, we have been forced to have a stand-in for adjutant and the 2nd Vice-Commander spot has been vacant. How does that happen in a Post of over 400 members, especially a Post with the level of activity that we enjoy.

Commander Jay, President Rachel and Commander Doug have all appointed nominating committees charged with finding the

candidates that are needed. Don't feel that you must step into one of the top spots. All three organizations have lower offices and executive committee spots that are great for breaking into officer status.

Contact one of them and they can put you in touch with the nominating committee to get familiar with the possible offices. Your Legion Family needs you!!!



Memorial Day in Ames

Our fallen heroes will be remembered in Ames on Monday, May 29. The remembrance is organized by the Ames Patriotic Council and will include a parade and ceremony at Ames Municipal Cemetery.

The parade will organize at 10AM at City Hall, step off at 10:30 proceed north on Clark and east on 9th to the Cemetery. The ceremony at the cemetery will begin at 11 AM and will include remarks by Dan Runyon.

The Post Honor Guard will fire a salute during that ceremony and also at Ontario and Story Memorial cemeteries later that day. Plan on joining us for the ceremony.

Legion Family Memorial Service

One of the long-standing Legion family traditions in Ames is remembering those Legion family members that have left us in the past year. Each year at the Unit meeting, we read the names of those Post, Unit and Squadron members that we remember. That service will be held at the beginning of the American Legion Auxiliary meeting on May 2.

Those names will be read and a



candle lit in their memory. This service has been held every year in May in honor of all those Legionnaires, Auxiliary members and Squadron members who have kept the Ames Legion family alive and active.

Thanks to them the four pillars of The American Legion still stand strong. Join us on May 2 at 6:30 to honor those great men and women that will be missed.

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Post Commander Jay's Comments

Hello again! I hope this finds you all well and enjoying the ride on the weather rollercoaster. I'm sure at some point things will even out.

I want to start off this month by offering an apology to Legion Riders Director Cliff Barker, the Legion Riders members, and to the whole Legion family. I have a tendency of sometimes putting my mouth in gear before my brain catches up. I made some ill-advised comments at the recent Legion meeting regarding MY perception that Riders do an outstanding job of supporting Rider sponsored activities but that I didn't see that same support for other Legion Family events. My perception was wrong, and I was wrong to make those comments in an open meeting. I want to be clear that it was MY perception, and I was not speaking on behalf of the Post. As Commander, I should be better than that. Please accept my humble apology.

By the time you read this we will have sponsored our first Veteran's Coffee. is something we plan to continue monthly to give veterans a place to come and talk with other veterans and share their stories. Attendees do not have to be Legion members; this is intended for any veteran who just wants to get out and enjoy some time with other comrades in arms. Legion members will be available to answer any questions.

May will see the last Steak Night, sponsored by the SAL, before our summer break. We'll resume in September.

Also, in May, the Nominating Committee will bring forth a new slate of officers for the 2023-2024 year. The slate will be voted on at the June meeting and officers will be installed in July after the Department Convention. If you are interested in serving as an officer, contact Dave Rehbein, Doug MacCrea, or Stan Elliott.

I am also working with Gilbert Intermediate school to go there and present the 6th District Flag Essay contest award to Emma Chen, who won the award for the Ames Post. She finished third in the district, behind the ultimate Department of Iowa winner.

The Ames Patriotic Council Memorial Day observance will be at 11 AM, Monday, May 29, at the Ames Municipal Cemetery. It would be nice if we could have a large group of members walk in the parade from City Hall to the cemetery. We will put additional information in the weekly schedule as we get closer.

Finally, remember to Be the One to ask a veteran how he/she is doing, Be the One to listen when a veteran is talking, and Be the One to reach out when a veteran is struggling.

Until next time take care and stay safe!

Unit President Rachel's Comments

Greetings! The weather is getting warmer, even though we've had a few dips in the temperature with some residual white precipitation that doesn't want to leave. Thank you to everyone that attended the District Conference in April and wore purple that day in honor of Military Kids.

May is a month of remembrance. We not only remember those who have made the ultimate sacrifice, but also members of our Legion Family that have gone to their eternal home. The poppy, a simple little flower and symbol of our organization, reminds of this.

May is again, another busy month for

our unit. Just before the Unit meeting on May 2nd 6:30 pm, we will have the Joint Memorial Service. We will be remembering those members from the Legion Family 37 that have passed away this past year. ALL Legion Family members are invited/encouraged to attend. We will also be planting flowers and cleaning up the Ames Veteran Memorial flower garden that we have adopted early this month. This flower garden is located at the west end of the City Hall parking lot near Grand Avenue.

May 26th is National Poppy Day. Our unit has secured 5 locations around

Ames to distribute poppies on May 26th and May 27th. These locations are both Hy-Vee locations, both Fareway locations as well as Wal-Mart on North Grand. We are looking for Legion Family members to help with distribution. I have created a Sign-Up Genius link below to assist in getting members signed up. I will also have printed copies of the sign-ups available at the post, for those that don't have access to a computer or email. Along with in-person distribution, we will also have cans available at several businesses around the area as well. If you have any questions regarding the sign-up, please contact me at rsbreyfogle@gmail.com.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f4bafa82fa20-ames#/>

Squadron Commander Doug's Comments

Well, May is now upon us and it is time to start focusing on who will be the leadership team of the Sons in the coming 2023 – 2024 year. We have established a Nominating Committee who have been working to identify individuals to fill all of the leadership positions in the Squadron.

Help them! If you are even remotely interested in being part of the leadership team in the year ahead, or want more information about a leadership position, let me know and I will let them know. We have already identified and reached out to a few individuals who have volunteered their time to fill one of the positions open. We will publish the proposed slate next month and vote for the new leadership team at the June meeting.

As I write this, we need about 20 more members, either new or existing, to meet our goal for the year. I am not optimistic that we will make goal. There are 35 plus names on our unpaid list, many of whom had their dues paid for by a family member who is no longer able to or willing to pay. You know who you are. I

encourage each of you to consider continuing your membership in the SAL in honor of your veteran father or grandfather.

We selected an awardee for our Merit Scholarship. Congratulations to Brooklyn Nees from Gilbert High School. Her application essays were the best reviewed by the Committee in recent years. We have invited Brooklyn to our May meeting to be recognized for her receipt of this Award. My thanks to the Committee and especially Russ Belz for their hard work in soliciting and then evaluating the applications.

Congratulations to Mike Deacon for winning the March 50/50 Raffle sponsored by the SAL. Mike took home \$490 and we will be presenting a similar amount to help the new American Legion Post at the Iowa Veterans Home get established.

Finally, the Sons will be hosting the May Steak Dinner, the last of the season. Please come out and support our Legion Family with a great dinner at the Post! Have a great month of May!

Clubroom News

Happy May! We are getting closer to some warmer days and more sunshine! We have had a few teasers of nice days but hopefully we will have more soon. We have lots going on in the clubroom this month and hope you will join us. We have done a few Music Bingo nights and they have been so fun we have decided to make them a monthly event. Check our Facebook page for more info.

Here are our curbside Meals for May:

May 3-Lasagna
 May 10-Burger Night
 May 17-Hot Beef Sandwich
 May 24-Chicken Piccata
 May 31-Pork Loin

Check our weekly emails and Facebook

for full menu each week. Meals are still available for curbside pickup and dine in. If you would like to ensure you get something please call ahead and place your order. It really helps me plan how much food to make. Thanks for your continued support!!

Check out our awesome daily specials:

Taco Tuesday's-Enjoy a walking taco for just \$4 with all your favorite toppings.

Winesday Wednesday-try one of our many fine wines, whether you like a dry red or a sweet white or somewhere in between we have a wine for you. Just \$3 a glass!

Thursday's-Enjoy \$2 hotdogs, your

choice of plain, Jalapeno or Cheddar sausage. Wash them down with \$2 Domestic bottles.



Thanks to all that volunteered to help make our Curbside, Fish Fry and Tenderloin night's a great success!! We could

not do them without all the help. John Schomaker, Lynn Sellmeyer, John Sellmeyer, Chris Duncan, Hunter Schomaker, Mary Kelly, Jo Kelly, Colten Christensen, Bill Donovan, Addison Donovan, Ken Woodley, Sandy Deacon, Paul Madsen, Megan McEnany, Maria McEnany, Julie Rinard, Tom Fowler, Russ and Vicki Belz.

Legion Riders



What are your Riders up to these days. Well, we're riding of course! Most of us

have gotten everything tuned up, put a few, or more than a few miles on and are ready for the season to hit the stride. The heavy rain cleaned off most of the highways and back roads and I'll be honest, it felt good to twist the throttle again and just sit back and listen to the rumble. It's still a little cool in the mornings but afternoons were made for riding, and sometimes it takes a whole tankful of fuel before you can think straight.

What's on the schedule for 2023? Well, there are a few rides I want to mention, and perhaps explain what being a Rider means.

May 6th is the fundraising ride for The Sleeping Angels Foundation. I've mentioned this before and this ride has become a staple for most of us and a

cause unlike any other.

May 13th is the 6th District Legacy Ride. We are raising funds from our District to donate to the American Legion Legacy Scholarship fund. Last year we raised just over \$2000 from this district alone. April's 50/50 raffle proceeds will also go to this cause.

May 27th is the Iowa Legion Riders Thunder Ride. We will ride across the state of Iowa along the Medal of Honor Highway, 335 miles in one ride, to rally with riders from all over to a memorial taking place to honor our MOH recipients in South Sioux City, NE.

May 29th is the Memorial Day wreath laying, and Memorial Day services at each of Ames Cemeteries. Ames Cemetery will have a new look this year, and part of that look is a new garden area around the flagpole and granite monument. This garden area and it's summer upkeep was offered to the Ames Legion Riders to maintain, much like the Grand Avenue Memorial is maintained by the Auxiliary. We're proud to be given this

honor, made possible through our WAA mission at Ames Cemetery.

But did you know that every single Ames Rider you see is also required to be a member of the Legion, the Auxiliary, or the SAL before they can be a Rider? A good number of us belong to multiple Legion families the same as you do. In addition to our regular dinner rides that we do for the fun and camaraderie of riding together, we staff a can redemption day each month, and continually work to raise funds for our Wreaths Across America mission. Not only do we do our own events, we also volunteer at the post for weekly and monthly dinners, bingo, operations, and many of the other functions put on by the Legion families. We put ourselves out in public, wearing the name of the American Legion proudly, and we use the connections and contacts we make with the one common goal of the American Legion above all others, helping out Veterans and their families, however we can.

As always, ride safe, and ride often.



The current prize amount for this month's 50/50 raffle is \$156 but is bound to go up before the end of the month drawing. This month's raffle will be donated to support The American Legion's Legacy Scholarship Fund. The drawing will be held on April 30.

Be sure to get into the club and get your name in the pot. The Legacy Scholarship goes to help the children of those seriously injured or killed in service. It is a good cause selected by the Ames Riders.

Correction from Commander Doug

I guess the April Fool's was on me! If you read my April comments closely you would have seen comments on a Centennial Celebration Committee (It is a little early for the Sons to be planning their Centennial), Special Bingo Night

and a Mother's Day Brunch, perhaps among a couple of others. My apologies – no, we are not having any of these events this year. What was published in the Newsletter was **not** what I had drafted. Somehow, some way, when I


saved the article prior to sending to the Editor, it got lost some where and it looks like the article I sent was a past input from when I was Post Commander (and I'm not even sure where that input is now!).

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MAY

<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 TACO TUESDAY LEGION FAMILY MEMORIAL AUXILIARY REGULAR 6:30	3 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY CURBSIDE MEAL LASAGNA	4 DOG NIGHT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE 6:00	5 FIREBALL FRIDAY MUNCHIES NIGHT	6 STEAK DINNER 5:00—7:00
7 BINGO	8	9 TACO TUESDAY SAL REGULAR 6:30	10 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY CURBSIDE MEAL BURGER NIGHT	11 DOG NIGHT LEGION REGULAR 7:00	12 FIREBALL FRIDAY MUNCHIES NIGHT	13
14 BINGO	15 VFW POST MEETING 7:00	16 TACO TUESDAY	17 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY CURBSIDE MEAL HOT BEEF	18 DOG NIGHT SOCIAL COMMITTEE 6:00	19 FIREBALL FRIDAY TENDERLOIN NIGHT	20 PAST PRESIDENT'S PARLEY 10:00
21 BINGO	22	23 TACO TUESDAY	24 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY CURBSIDE MEAL CHICKEN PICATTA	25 DOG NIGHT 40&8	26 FIREBALL FRIDAY POPPY DAYS MUNCHIES NIGHT	27
28 BINGO	29 MEMORIAL DAY PARADE AND SERVICE AT MUNICIPAL CEMETERY	30 TACO TUESDAY	31 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY CURBSIDE MEAL PORK LOIN	 Find us on Facebook at Legion Family of Ames, IA Post 37		American Legion Family of Ames, IA Post 37