

AMES TEAM SHOTS DEPARTMENT JSSP MATCH



The Ames Air Rifle team sponsored by the Ames Post and led by coaches Cort Pahl and John Baldwin competed in the Department of Iowa JSSP match on March 23 at Camp Dodge.

Members of the team at the match as pictured above are Mark Gourley (hidden behind Noah), Noah Helmig, Jack Savage, Clark Savage, Nathan Baldwin, Sadie Breyfogle, Tom Utter and Trlgg Utter

Also shown are coaches John Baldwin (left), Cort Pahl and Mark Patrick (right). Also included is William Utter who is responsible for the shirt design. Jack Bunda also competed but is not in the picture.

The team finished second overall behind the Swisher Sharp Shooters from Post #671. Four teams participated; Ames, Swisher, Lone Tree and Muscatine.

Sadie Breyfogle received an

individual award for finishing third in her age category. She was presented the award by Bob Waugh, Alternate National Executive Committeeman and Jeff Large, Department Vice Commander.

This match concludes the season for the team. They will organize for next season in September. Congratulations to them on a great season and to coaches Cort and John. We are proud to sponsor the team.

Ames Legion Family In Action



MEMBERSHIP IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY



Squadron Awards Scholarships



Every year, Ames Squadron #37 sponsors the selection of Merit Awards for eligible high school seniors to help them with continuing education expenses after graduation. This year, thanks to the

efforts of our Legion Family to get the word out, we had six submissions - a marked increase over prior years. This year's participants all submitted very competitive essays. The squadron is happy to report it awarded \$1000 each to two winners, Clare Stahr and Adalyn Gauck, both of Ames, Iowa. Congratulations!

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Post Commander Jay's Comments

Spring has sprung although the weather is on a bit of a roller coaster ride. I do remember that when I was here as a student in 1973, we got hit by a snow-storm the first week of April. Got to love that Midwest weather.

If you haven't paid your dues yet and are having difficulty doing so please reach out and let us know so that we can work with you and keep you on the active roll.

It's that time of year again when we form a nominating committee to look for volunteers to fill the leadership roles in the Post. If you might be interested in serving, contact Post Adjutant Doug MacCrea. The new slate of officers will be brought before the members at the May meeting and elections will take

place at the June meeting. New officers will be installed in July.

At our April meeting we plan to honor three members of the Post with their 50 Year Continuous Membership Certificates: Edward Abbott, Clark Risdal, and Dana Thompson. You are welcome to attend the meeting to congratulate these members on attaining this important milestone. We will recognize them at the beginning of the meeting so you won't have to stay.

I'll put a plug in for the SAL and Auxiliary who will be holding a biscuits and gravy breakfast and bake sale respectively on Saturday, April 13. Stop by and enjoy breakfast and pick up some goodies to take home.

Until next time take care and stay safe.

Legion Family Fun Day

April 27th, noon-3pm

Inis Grove Park Walnut Shelter
24th & Grand

Fun and games for the whole family. There will be hot dogs and chips for lunch along with lemonade and water.

We'll have cornhole, temporary tattoos for the kids, a possible visit from the balloon lady, and we're looking into a bounce house. We know one is available and they handle the insurance. We also have use of the playground, tennis court, and there is a baseball diamond.

Unit President Jamie's Comments

Welcome Spring! This is such a busy time of year but I always feel a little more re-energized to see the sun shining and I hope you do as well! What an exciting time of year for our unit as we plan for ways to help serve our veterans and community.

We start the month by sharing that we will have Puppy Jake Foundation with us at our meeting on April 2nd and they are bringing us two furry friends named Derby and Chips. **All post members** are welcome to come into the meeting room at the start of our meeting for this presentation.

April 13th will be our annual bake sale in conjunction with the Sons breakfast. If you are willing/able to bake some goodies (cakes, pies, breads, cookies, rolls, etc) to help with our fundraiser, we will have members at the post to accept

your donations on Friday, April 12 from 3-7. Thank you for helping us with this annual event!

April is also the [Month of the Military Child](#) so we will create a small display to remember the impact military life has on children. Please stop by the table, take a moment, and help us remember those sacrifices made.

Our loom volunteers are doing such a great job! How awesome it is to see all family members wanting to take part in our bed mat making. Thank you! If you haven't had a chance to learn about our loom, we have had more auxiliary members who can now teach you a few tricks! Please join us and be sure to put your hours down for helping us help veterans. When National Vice Commander, Ray Vail (KS) visited the Ames Post on March 20th, I showed him our

work with the loom and he was quite impressed and has plans to share this idea with other auxiliaries. What a great project.

ALA members, please mark your calendars for the Spring District Auxiliary meeting which will be held in Norwalk on April 20th. All are welcome to come and spend time with other units from our district as we hold our annual memorial service, hear about some unit activities, listen to some committee reports and plan for future projects. This is also a good relationship building opportunity with fellow ALA members.

Hope to see you at our unit meetings – First Tuesdays, 6:30pm.

Past Presidents Parley has been moved due to District Conference. That meeting will be held on April 13.

Squadron Commander Cort's Comments

I hope this newsletter finds everyone adequately adjusted to Daylight Savings Time by now. Warmer weather patterns are beginning to arrive and spring flowers are popping up. It's a nice reward for enduring another winter season.

Your squadron continues to be quite busy and productive, thanks to the many who volunteer their time and talents. In March, we awarded this year's Merit Awards. Please see the article elsewhere in the newsletter providing more details.

Mark your calendars for the SAL Biscuits and Gravy Breakfast on April 13th. This is being held in conjunction with

the Auxiliary's Spring Bake Sale. Please come on out and support them and bring friends. Also, keep in mind May 4th for the SAL Steak Dinner.

Finally, over the next couple of months, we need to be thinking about officer and executive committee elections. Serving in one of these roles is a great and essential way to contribute your time and talents to your squadron. The best way to start, is attend the squadron meeting in May. Hope to see you there!

In other news, the Ames Junior Air Rifle Club completed its season. 17 youth from the community participated in the club from September to March. They

competed in various postal and in person matches. One of those matches was the Iowa Postal Match, which I've commented on here before. Clubs from Ames, Muscatine, Lone Tree, Swisher, and Ely participated in a series of eight matches conducted in their home ranges. Every two weeks each club submits target scores for their shooters to the match coordinator. At the end of the eight match series, scores are aggregated and winners recognized. This is the second year our club competed in this postal match and we had greatly improved results over the prior year. Out of the five competing teams, Ames placed second, behind Swisher, up

Clubroom News

Happy Spring!! We have had a great couple weeks of weather and are seeing more people out and about in the clubroom. We hope that you are able to join us for a meal, good conversation or watching your favorite team. We have lots of things happening so we hope you can join us!

Here's our Curbside meals for April. Just a couple notes on our Wednesday meals. It is very helpful for me if you call your order in ahead of time if you want to make sure you get the meal.

We do these meals to help generate money for the clubroom. If I have a lot of leftovers then that defeats the purpose. I can always prepare more if I am getting more than normal orders. On the other hand, if I have very few orders then I will not make more than normal.

We really appreciate the support and want everyone to get the meal they

would like so if possible, please order ahead. You can call the Post after 2pm on Wednesdays, give the bartender your order any other time during the week or message us on Facebook.

Wed April 3-Hot Beef Sandwich

Wed April 10-Creamy Tuscan Chicken

Wed April 17-Lasagna

Wed April 24-Ham Balls

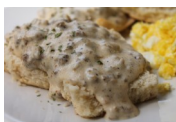
THANK YOU



Thanks to all who helped out at the post in the last month!! It is very much appreciated. Sandy Deacon,

Mike Deacon, Tom Fowler, Bill Donovan, Russ Belz, Vicki Belz, Addison Donovan, Ken Woodley, Chris Duncan, Colten Christiansen, John and Lynn Sellmeyer, Ashley Kitten and Julie Ri-nard.

Breakfast and Bake Sale



It's time for the Spring Bake Sale and SAL Breakfast! April 13th 7am-11-am. Choose from an assortment of freshly baked items. All proceeds from the bake sale will go to help support ALA Unit Programs and from the breakfast for the SAL Squadron programs.



State Legislature Update

This year in the Iowa Legislature has picked up where last year left off. We are seeing activity on Legion priorities.

Veterans Courts

These courts specialize in handling veterans that have committed crimes but that may be suffering from Traumatic Brain Injury or Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. In those cases Veterans courts can help those veterans receive treatment rather than just be incarcerated. More of these courts are being created at the county level in Iowa.

County Veterans Affairs Training

An additional \$3,000 per county has been appropriated to be used for train-



ing the county veterans affairs directors. In order to draw on this money, the county must certify that it is being used for training.

Veterans Service Organization Grant

Our legislators have become aware of the funds that flow into Iowa thanks to the veterans organizations working service connected compensation claims. Membership declines have reduced the number of service officers to help with those claims. We are requesting a matching grant to be distributed among the veterans organizations to help maintain the number of service officers to assist with those claims.

(Squadron news continued from previous page) from last year's third place finish. Additionally, we had three team members individually finish in the top three of their respective age class: Nathan Baldwin and Sadie Breyfogle finished second and third respectively in the J1 class and Jack Savage finished second in the J2 class. The final match for nine members of the club was the Department of Iowa JSSP match on March 23 at Camp Dodge. See the front page article for more on that match.

Legion Riders

April, yeah, it's showers and flowers but it's the official start of riding season. Finally.

It's also the start of our Wreaths Across America can redemption days for 2024. Saturday April 20th is the first day and your first chance to clean out your winter stash of cans and bottles. We will be holding them on the 3rd Saturday of every month, and last year we raised over \$2000 for WAA just from cans, At 5 cents each the math is staggering, that's a lot of cans and bottles.

We say this all the time but the support we get from the Post and the community means a lot to us.

June 22nd is the day for the Annual District Legacy Ride to support the Veterans and Children's Foundation. We are still confirming the stops but we are beginning in Pella, and ending in Waukee this year and everyone is welcome to come along. It's always a good time visiting other posts and sharing the details of one of the lesser known but still important assistance tools the Legion provides for our Veterans.

Last month's 50/50 raffle raised much needed funds for the Department version of this assistance, the Veterans Emergency Fund. There are flyers around the post and we hope you had a chance to scan the code and learn more. This fund is the focus of the Riders Department wide and all money raised is used locally in the State of Iowa for Iowa Veterans in need.

Your Riders Chapter is growing at every meeting, we have new members that have come to us from as far away as AZ and Puerto Rico and have added supporting members from the Department Staff. You aren't required to be a member to come join us in the summer festivities, but you're welcome to join even if you don't ride. As state Chair for the ALR, I visit chapters and posts all over the state and I believe we have the Best and the best supported Chapter in the Department. We couldn't do any of this without you. So, have a great April, we hope to see you on Can Day, and let's get the 2024 riding season started off right.

Thank you all, and as always, Ride Safe, and Ride Often.

Cliff Barker

ALR Chap 37 Director

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APRIL

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
	1 WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA 5:30 LEGION RIDERS 6:30	2 TACO TUESDAY AUXILIARY REGULAR 6:30 PUPPY JAKE	3 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY CURBSIDE MEAL HOT BEEF	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 CREAMY TUSCAN CHICKEN	11 DOG NIGHT LEGION REGULAR 7:00	12 FIREBALL FRIDAY MUNCHIES NIGHT	13 PPP 10:00 AM BREAKFAST & BAKE SALE 7:00-11:00 AM
14 BINGO	15 VFW POST MEETING 7:00	16 TACO TUESDAY	17 WINESDAY CURBSIDE MEAL LASAGNA	18 DOG NIGHT SOCIAL COMMITTEE 6:00	19 FIREBALL FRIDAY TENDERLOIN BASKET NIGHT	20 SIXTH DISTRICT CONFERENCE CUMMING & NORWALK
21 BINGO	22	23 TACO TUESDAY	24 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY CURBSIDE MEAL HAM BALLS	25 DOG NIGHT 40&8	26 FIREBALL FRIDAY MUSIC BINGO 7:00-9:00 PM	27 FAMILY FUN DAY
28 BINGO	29	30 TACO TUESDAY		Find us on Facebook at American Legion Family of Ames, IA Post 37		