

Ames Legion Family In Action

Final Honors—Will You Help?

Our Post has been diligent in providing final military honors for any veteran whose family requests that honor. That honor is the last respect that we can pay to our comrades. We don't know when the Post first formed the Honor Guard but we believe that it was sometime in the 1920s.



Now though, we are sometimes struggling a bit to provide the full 21 gun salute with seven rifles. Some of our long-term, dedicated honor guard members have had to step away. Replacing them can be a challenge.

member of the Post and that you are a member of the Legion family.

Our Honor Guard is not just made up of Post members. We currently have SAL members that serve regularly and have had an Auxiliary member or two in the past. What is important is your desire to provide that final honor to a veteran, not whether that veteran is a

What do we ask of the members of the Honor Guard? You will need to provide your own short sleeve white shirt and dark trousers, preferably blue. You will also need a blue tie and jacket. The jacket and pants should match in color.

will work around your availability and work schedule. We try to arrange a rifle squad as far in advance as possible based on the family request.

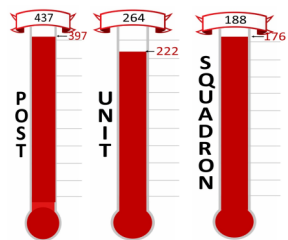
Our rifle squad uses M-1 rifles. If you are not familiar with the basic rifle drill, we will provide training. That drill is just a few of the basic movements with concentration on the verbal commands. It is not difficult and should not keep you from volunteering.

Of course if you are a Legion or SAL member, the cap from the organization is needed. The Post will provide a heavy coat suitable for service during the winter.

If you join our honor guard, you will one day be approached by a member of the family whose veteran you just helped honor for that person to thank you. Once that happens you will understand why many of our honor guard members have served for years. Contact Doug MacCrea at 515-450-0773 or by email at dmaccrea@gmail.com

Doug MacCrea organizes services as requested. He

Final Membership Push



It is that time of the year when our membership work is coming to a close. You can see from the graphics where we stand.

The Squadron is close to meeting their goal with only 12 more to go. The Post is close too with 92% of our goal but need 35 more renewals or new members to reach the 100% goal.

Regardless of the number needed though, every member is important as part of the Legion family but also as a recruiter of others into the Legion family.

You thought it was important to be a member, why is it not important for the members of your family to also be members. There is a red button at the top of the Legion family webpage, ameslegionpost37.com. Click on it and there are links to the Post, Unit, Squadron and Riders that you can use to join that group.

Lets get all three of the group thermometers to 100%.

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Post Commander Cliff's Comments

March is closing out and what a month it was!

After attending the Washington Conference in DC, I'm proud to say that the Legion Organization stands united in helping Veterans and their families.

We had a terrific turnout for the steak dinner and we are getting more and more proficient with the new point of sale system. We had a bunch of extra help this month, as we had 6 volunteers and 2 parents from the Civil Air Patrol. While not old enough to cook, they took their place at the dishwasher, at the dumbwaiter, they took orders and took food to tables and they cleaned away plates when our customers were done. Hats off to them, it was pretty impressive to see them join in, and at the end

of the night, leave with smiles and thank you's.

The Legion meeting saw the further movement on establishing a Finance Committee. This will be separated from Randy Freel who serves as the Finance Officer, and who we all agree has done a terrific job for many years. It's focus will be on funding the building affairs and managing the yearly budget. This will take some of the load off of Randy, who has seen mission creep over time put more and more on his plate.

I want to give a shout out too, to Cort and our JSSP team. I was able to see them shooting at Camp Dodge, and know that the future hold a lot of promise for them.

The Sixth District Conference was a success and one of our Former Riders, Anthony Perdue, will take over as District Commander at Convention.

The 40&8 Jambalaya feed was delicious, and raised money for their Nurses Scholarship Program.

As of this writing we still have the Bake Sale, Biscuits and Gravy event, and Operations monthly Music Bingo, I have no doubt they will all be fantastic. In closing, I want to thank all of you for your support and Dedication to the Ames Post. None of this could ever be possible without you.

Unit President Jodi's Comments

Time to welcome spring with warmer days and sun shine. To help us all feel a little more re-energized. It's also the time of year for our unit to start planning ways to help serve the community.

March 19 at about 8:30pm with a unanimous vote the Story County Auxiliary voted to disband. Reason for the disbandment was lack of participation in County activities. The friendships that have been made at these meetings over the years will be missed. Everyone would like to stay in touch by having service days together. Also by inviting everyone to activities at each other's post.

March 21 Was 6th District Spring Conference. Installation of new Officers for the 2026 - 2027 year. President - Sherri

Rosener (Highland Park), Vice President - Allison Perdue (Baldwin Patterson), Secretary - Becky Teed (Altoona), Treasurer - Linda Henderson (Ames), Chaplain - Amy Ose (McCallsburg), Historian - Beth Lycke (Nevada).

District Poppy Chairmen Bonnie Forsythe let us all know about a new exhibit coming to the Iowa Quilt Museum in Winterset April 7 - July 5 2026. Cherrywood poppy quilt Challenge & Quilts of Valor.

March 28 will be the Junior District Conference in Roland with registration starting at 9am. Members please bring your Juniors to the meeting. The address is 207 Main. St.

March 28-Just a reminder, it will be our

annual bake sale in conjunction with the SAL Breakfast 7 - 11am. With Easter just the following weekend get some goodies (cake, cookies, pie, rolls) to have after Easter dinner.

April 4 Is steak night. Hope our nice weather holds out. So everyone can come in and enjoy good food with good friends. This month's dinner is sponsored by the Auxiliary.

April is the month of the Military Child so we 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 their sacrifices.

Hope to see you at our meetings -- first Tuesdays, 630pm

Squadron Commander Russ's Comments

The S.A.L. has provided Scholarships/Merit Awards to graduating high school seniors, so that they may continue their education, for many years. We are in the process of selecting this year's recipients at this time. I have been on the committee for several years. Some years we have only one or two applicants. I think the most we've had, while I was involved, was six. Yes, I would always like to see more applicants, so if you have a child, grandchild, niece nephew, or friend that will be a senior next year, please keep this Merit Award in mind.

Today I want to share a few thoughts about the essays we receive with the applications. There is always the possibility that the writer is just typing what they think we want to hear. And, in a

couple cases, that was clear. But, in most essays it is obvious that the writer is putting their true feelings and emotions into their essay. It never fails that when I read those essays, I can't help but get a little re-inspired in my patriotism, and the faith that our country will be in good hands when our generation is no longer able to complete the mission.

We can provide guidance, offer our support, and stand ready to provide assistance, when requested, to develop our successors. But, at some point, those that now follow us, will some day lead us. Within the S.A.L. we have a very dedicated core group of members that regularly attend meetings, conduct fundraisers, and do a multitude of tasks around and for the Post. They are

teaching the younger generations by leading by example. For them I am very grateful.

If you are not one of them, please, consider becoming one. Yes, we would love your input, and help. But the bigger picture is what your children, your relatives, your neighbors will see. They will see that you are a man of principles. A man giving back to his community, in a way that honors those that fought to earn, and protect the very freedoms we each enjoy.

One of the responsibilities I have as Commander is to make sure our programs are successful. I am asking you to join me in that endeavor. Our next meeting is Tuesday, April 14th at 6:30 pm. I'll see you there.

Clubroom News

Happy Spring!! We have had a crazy week of weather this week, blizzard warning on Sunday and now Thursday it is 70 degrees and beautiful out. We love the warmer weather because it brings in faces we haven't seen in a few months. 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 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 1-Meatloaf

Wed April 8-Grilled Pork Chops

Wed April 15-Lasagna

Wed April 22-Scalloped Potatoes and Ham

Wed April 29-Hand breaded chicken strips



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

Marty and Jo Kelly, Bill Donovan, Russ Belz, Vicki Belz, Addison Donovan, Ken Woodley, Paul Madson, Colten Christensen, Greg Hobbs, Rodger V and Julie Rinard.

Your Community Service—Tell Us About It!!

Attention Legion Family Members – its time to brag!

The members of the Ames American Legion Family have a wide footprint in the area and we tend to give more of our time and resources to the community than we think, volunteering with civic organizations, church and area schools, in addition to the time and resources we volunteer in support of the American Legion.

Have you done any community service or volunteer work in the past year? Donated blood? Helped with a Veterans event? Worked at a senior citizen event or helped out at a school? Donated money to local charity events in support of children or veterans? Then we want to know about your contributions to the community and our veterans so that we can document your efforts in our Annual Report to the Department, which will in turn be used as an input to the National Report that is required to be delivered

to Congress each year.

We know that we make a big impact in the Ames Community – and we are not ones to brag about it, but our contributions make a really big difference, so let's tell everyone how much of an impact that we make. Please provide any inputs (hours volunteered and where, donations made, etc.) that you have by May 8th (your information will be kept confidential).

Legionnaires and SAL members can provide their inputs to the Post Adjutant by e-mail at dmaccree@gmail.com or by text to 515-450-0773. Auxiliary and Rider members can provide their inputs to the Unit and Chapter Secretary at their next meeting. You can also drop your input off at the Post or fill out a form that can be used for your input.

Thank you in advance for your support in helping us put this very important report together.

Legion Riders

Hello all, as I am writing this Mother Nature is still showing that she is in charge and won't release Spring just yet.

At our March meeting Kim Louis from Zylstra Harley Davidson came to talk about the 2026 riding incentive program. This year HD will donate 1 million Dollars for 1 million miles ridden and it doesn't matter what brand of bike you ride. Stop in and see Kim for more information on this program that helps many Veteran programs.

Dates to put on the calendar, dinner rides will start in May 2nd & 4th Sundays. Memorial Day parade. Nation of Patriots (NOP) will receive the flag on Sunday, May 17 and deliver the flag Tuesday, May 19. Flag Bearer will be Tim Payton from our Riders group. Fourth of July parade. Statewide Legacy ride is scheduled for July 11 & 12. National Legacy ride is scheduled for August 23 to the 27th. As we get closer to these dates more information will be provided.

Riding season is just around the corner; it is almost in site. Please take a moment and check over your bike before jumping on and taking off.

Please be safe and I hope to see you all at our next meeting.

Junior Air Rifle Season

The Ames Junior Air Rifle Club capped off a successful season, with the team finishing 2nd in the Iowa Air Rifle Postal Match Series, which is a set of eight matches shot from December to March.

In addition to the team results, three individuals placed in their respective age categories in this competition: Noah Helming finished 2nd and Marc Gourley finished 3rd in the Intermediate Junior class; Zac Hadsall finished 3rd in the Junior class. [Congratulations](#) to these shooters and to the entire team and coaches Cort Pahl and John Baldwin.



The club now takes a summer break until the season resumes in September. Thank you Ames Legion Family for your support! This club wouldn't exist without you!

THANK YOU
Volunteers!
We couldn't do it without you

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<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 MEATLOAF	2 \$2 DOG NIGHT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE 6:00	3 FIREBALL FRIDAY MUNCHIES NIGHT	4 STEAK DINNER 5:00—7:00
5 EASTER CLUBROOM CLOSED BINGO	6 WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA 5:30 LEGION RIDERS 6:30	7 TACO NIGHT—\$4 AUXILIARY REGULAR 6:30	8 WEDNESDAY CURBSIDE MEAL PORK CHOP	9 \$2 DOG NIGHT LEGION EXEC BOARD 6:00 REGULAR 7:00	10 FIREBALL FRIDAY MUNCHIES NIGHT	11
12 BINGO	13	14 TACO NIGHT—\$4 SAL REGULAR 6:30	15 WEDNESDAY CURBSIDE MEAL LASAGNA	16 \$2 DOG NIGHT	17 FIREBALL FRIDAY MUNCHIES NIGHT	18 CAN/BOTTLE DROP-OFF 9—11 AM PAST PRES PARLEY 10:00
19 BINGO	20 VFW POST MEETING 7:00	21 TACO NIGHT—\$4 SOCIAL COMMITTEE 6:00	22 WEDNESDAY CURBSIDE MEAL SCALLOPED POTATOS & HAM	23 \$2 DOG NIGHT 40&8	24 FIREBALL FRIDAY TENDERLOIN NIGHT 5-6:30 MUSIC BINGO 7:00-9:00	25
26 BINGO	27	28 TACO NIGHT—\$4	29 WEDNESDAY CURBSIDE MEAL CHICKEN STRIPS	30 \$2 DOG NIGHT		