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Department Convention This Month

The Iowa American Legion Family Department Convention meetings will take place at the Airport Holiday Inn in Des Moines on July 17-19. We have selected delegates but any member is welcome to attend and observe.

On the Legion side, the Internal Affairs reports on Saturday will be overseen by Jennifer Rehbein of Ames, who chairs that Commission as well as the Media & Communications Committee.

Cliff Barker of Ames will report on the activities of the Be The One ad-hoc committee. That ad-hoc committee was charged with setting up the Be The One program in Iowa. More on that later.

During the Auxiliary convention, Sandy Deacon will serve as Parliamentarian and Governing Documents chair with Jamie Barker giving the report from the Mar-

keting and Risk and Compliance committees. Ann Rehbein serves on the Girls State Board of Directors but will not be present at the convention due to her attendance at Girls Nation.

Serving in leadership roles during the Sons Detachment convention will be Vice-Commander Cliff Barker, finance Officer Steve Malmquist and Chaplain Mike Deacon.

The business part of the Legion convention will be on Sunday morning. There will be two items of business that rarely happen at our convention.

Iowa is in line to provide a candidate for National Vice-Commander for the 2028-2029 Legion year. The Glenwood Post and the Seventh District are submitting a resolution for Brian Ring to serve in that role. A positive vote on that resolu-

tion will see his name being submitted to National for distribution.

In addition to Brian's resolution, the Oskaloosa Post and the Fifth District are submitting Darrin Alderson for endorsement for National Commander. It has been nearly 20 years since Iowa's last Commander. It is time for Iowa to again have a candidate for National Commander.

There is no year specified on the Alderson endorsement. If successfully endorsed, Darrin would begin the process by hopefully being appointed to a National chairmanship this fall.

On the subject of National chairmanships, Cliff Barker of the Ames Post was recently appointed chairman of the National Be The One committee. Obviously the Iowa ad-hoc committee's work laid a great foundation.

Legion Family Membership Renewal

The 2027 Legion Family Renewal window opens July 1st, with the Legionnaires receiving their first renewal notice just after the first of July. The Auxiliary and SAL renewal notices for 2027 will be mailed out starting in late July and early August.

The renewal process starts early because your membership ties directly into, among other things, the resources we then have available to budget for our

programs and gives us a better understanding of what additional fundraising efforts need to be undertaken to meet our financial responsibilities and fund our programs.

So, please, when that renewal notice arrives in your mailbox, please take a moment and renew your membership, either online, by mail or in person at the Post.

It will be greatly appreciated.

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Post Commander Cliff's Comments

Well, here we are. I'm closing out my second year as the Commander of Ames Post 37. As I look back on what my plans were when I came in, how far we've come, and what I now handoff to the next Commander, I find myself smiling.

From the moment I put the Commander pin on my cap I've done everything I could to represent each of you in a way that was positive and productive. From meetings with the City, to networking events, I've filled my time bringing as much attention to what we do as I could.

Some of the recent invitations we've gotten are testament that the City of

Ames and its community, and The American Legion, can benefit each other.

Was I successful in everything? No, there are some things that will take more time to see through to completion, and other things that didn't get addressed in a way that I feel they needed. I think every Commander has those thoughts.

The incoming Commander will need all the support you've given me. Together we are a team, an unstoppable force. We have added many new members, you've noticed some new faces and ideas. Help me help them find their place in this organization. Give them

advice as needed, and support them when you can.

Inside the Post I'll be moving on to Finance Officer. Thank you to Randy Freel, who has given many years of his time, and it's an honor to carry on as part of the Officers of Ames Post 37. Be proud of your Post, and all it's seen and all it's done in its 107 years. Great things lay ahead. Thank you all for your help in carrying on for God and Country.

July 4 Activities

July 3 7:15AM: Main Street Flags Up
 July 3 6:00PM: Decorate Float
 July 4 11:00AM: Parade & Grilling
 July 5 5:00PM: Main Street Flags

Unit President Jodi's Comments

Summer is in full swing with lots of sunshine and big Summer rain storms. Last month was girls state it will be great to hear the reports from our two citizens.

Last month was also Juniors Convention. We have two of our Juniors that were elected to office. Nevaeh Johnson as Vice President and Avery Jones as Historian. Congratulations to both Nevaeh and Avery. Jamie Barker and I had the privilege of attending the Juniors Convention and representing 6th District.

July 4th celebration, we voted again this

year to have a float in the parade. Friday July 3 we will be decorating our float behind the post at about 6pm. We are open to all and any ideas for decorating the float. You are welcome to ride on the edge of the trailer (float) or walk with us in the parade which starts promptly at 11am.

Some dates to remember are: Joint Installation at the post will be held on Monday July 13th at 7pm. Department Convention will be held July 17-19 at the Airport Holiday Inn, 6111 Fleur Dr, Des Moines. Please attend as many of the sessions as you are able. Remem-

ber the more input we get and give, the better an organization we can become as a whole. The cost of Convention is a minimal \$10 donation for Senior members and FREE for our Juniors.

This is my final newsletter, my time as Unit President has come to its end. I would like to thank everyone for your help and words of encouragement this past year. I would like to welcome Jo Kelly as your new Unit President. Let's help her along the way as she learns the role this year.

Squadron Commander Russ's Comments

So much to discuss as we prepare to celebrate America's 250th birthday. We will start our celebrations by putting up flags along the parade route. If you can help, we would appreciate it. We will start at 7:15 am on July 3rd. Any changes in the date and time will be in the weekly update email. Then on Friday, July 3rd, we will put our float together. We will do this in the parking lot behind the Legion, and we will begin at 6:30 pm. It doesn't take long, so you will be done in plenty of time to catch the fireworks.

On Saturday the 4th, the parade starts at 11:00 am. We will be selling hot dogs, burgers, and popcorn during, and for a short time after, the parade. We invite your family to come over for a nice lunch, and/or a cool beverage. We

will conclude our part of the celebration by taking down the flags along the parade route at 5:00 pm on July 5th. Again, any changes in the specific date and time will be in the weekly update email. We would really appreciate your help with all of these activities.

On Monday, July 13, the S.A.L. will be hosting the Joint Installation of Officers Meeting. It begins at 7:00 pm. Out of respect for the significance of the event, this is a formal dress occasion. As the regular monthly S.A.L. meeting would be on the 14th, if the S.A.L. has any major matters of business to discuss we will meet briefly after the Joint Installation meeting, and forego our regular monthly meeting. So, I hope to see you at the Joint Installation meeting.

As your Commander, my first order of

business is to appoint committee representatives and members. If you are interested in serving on one or more committees, and I haven't asked you, please let me know your desires. Some of our committee members have been serving for years, and I'm sure they would love to help you get started by providing mentorship to insure a smooth transition.

Music Bingo will be held on July 24th. See details in the Operations section of this newsletter. Ames' Rummage Rampage will be held the last week of July. Thank you to all that volunteered to work at the Rampage. It is a pretty easy way to bring some funds into the Legion Family.

That's all I have for July. I'll see you around on the 3rd and 4th.

Clubroom News

Happy Independence Day to all!! We hope that everyone is well and having a fabulous summer. We invite all of our members to join us for the 4th of July parade beginning at 11am. The Clubroom will be open at 10am. We will be grilling hamburgers and hot dogs out front of the post.

There will be plenty of activities downtown July 3rd and July 4th, come and join in the fun!! We are always looking for volunteers to help with our booth before, during and after the parade. If you are able stop in and let me know or email me at alames37@aol.com.

Our curbside meals have continued to be a hit! Join us on Wednesday's for dine-in or curbside pickup. Some of these meals have been extremely popular so if you want to make sure you get one please let me know ahead of time so I can make enough.

I try to keep costs down by only making a certain amount so that there is not much waste.

Wed July 1-Lasagna

Wed July 8-Steak Night

Wed July 15-Ham Balls

Wed July 22-BBQ Chicken

Wed July 29-Burger Night



Kudos-Thanks to all who helped out around the clubroom over the last month. It is greatly appreciated. Russ and Vicki

Belz, Paul Madsen, Sandy Deacon, Mike Deacon, Ken Woodley, Bill Donovan, Julie Rinard, Marty and Jo Kelly, Greg Hobbs, Rodger VanVoorhis, Joan Schoenbaum and Colten Christensen.

Post Rifle Program Expands to BB-Guns



The Ames Legion's Junior Shooting Sports is creating a new shooting education program for children 8 years old and up in the Ames community! This will be a seven session course and will complement our current air rifle competition program. Most of the equipment has been purchased and tested, which includes six new Daisy 499B BB guns, target backers, safety backdrop, safety glasses and more.

Next steps include training instructors, identifying initial participants and conducting a pilot program to test and refine the program. A date for the pilot program is still to be determined.

If you want to be an instructor and/or know of a child who would like to participate, please contact Cort Pahl at

centraliowajssp@gmail.com

for more information.

Girls and Boys State



Claire Lu and Camille Rehbein attended American Legion Auxiliary Girls State on the Drake Campus from

June 14-19. Both enjoyed the experience very much.

Claire was elected Lieutenant Governor, the second highest ranking position in the Girls State Government.

It is anticipated that the boys will give a report at an upcoming Post meeting while the girls will do likewise at a Unit meeting. Watch for the announcement of those appearances in the weekly email updates



The Post sponsored seven boys to Boys State. They are Samuel Nystrom, Zane Wick-

enkamp and Tillman Schieffer from Ames, Evan Call from Gilbert and Jared Drenth, Jacob Condon and Henry Little from Nevada. That program ran from June 21-26 at Camp Dodge while this newsletter was in final editing.

Legion Riders

Happy Independence Day!! I hope you all have a safe and happy Independence Day. Several things to note as we move into this busy month. The 4th of July parade will roll out at 11 am. Staging time is between 9:15 and 10:30, please plan to be there, we will have several of our riders at the Sojourn 250 from Pittsburgh to Washington D.C.

Our can drive for July will be July 18 from 9 am to 11am. Please bring your empty cans and bottles to help support our Wreaths Across America project.

We will be looking for volunteers to help with the National Legacy Ride stay over in Ames on Sunday, August 23rd. time to be determined. Please let me or Cliff know if you would like to put on a list to help.

The first State Legacy Ride will take place July 11 & 12. You can find more info on our Facebook page. Our July meeting will be on July 6 at 6:30 pm at the Post.

Have a great and Safe month, ride safe. See you all at the meeting.

Doug

Sweet Corn & Bologna

Voiture 285 of the 40&8 will be hosting a sweet corn and bologna fundraiser at the post on July 10 beginning at 5PM.

The Voyageurs are asking that anyone who attends make a free will donation. The funds raised will be used for the programs of the 40&8.

This fundraiser is open to everyone, membership in the 40&8 is not required in order for you to enjoy the sweet corn as long as supplies last that evening.

Pancake Breakfast & Raffle

The calendar shows a pancake breakfast being held on July 10 and July 18 from 8:30—10:30. Menu for those is pancakes, sausage and juice with a free will donation being requested.

Post Vice Commander John Baldwin is in charge and plans to have this breakfast available throughout the Farmers Market season. Proceeds are being donated to the Post General Fund.

The 50-50 Raffle at the Post starts new every month. The proceeds from the raffle will be used to support one of the programs of the Legion family or to help with expenses of the building. The bartender has tickets. The best deal is 12 tickets for \$10. The winner receives half the sales for that month.

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JULY

<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 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY CURBSIDE MEAL LASAGNA	2 \$2 DOG NIGHT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE 6:00	3 FIREBALL FRIDAY MAIN STREET FLAGS UP 7:15	4 PARADE & GRILLING OUTDOORS
5 MAIN STREET FLAGS DOWN 5:00 BINGO	6 WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA 5:30 LEGION RIDERS 6:30	7 TACO TUESDAY AUXILIARY REGULAR 6:30	8 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY CURBSIDE MEAL STEAK NIGHT	9 \$2 DOG NIGHT LEGION EXEC BOARD 6:00 REGULAR 7:00	10 FIREBALL FRIDAY SWEET CORN & BOLOGNA 5:00	11 PANCAKE BREAKFAST 8:30—10:30 am
12 BINGO	13 LEGION FAMILY INSTALLATION 7:00	14 TACO TUESDAY	15 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY CURBSIDE MEAL HAM BALLS	16 \$2 DOG NIGHT	17 FIREBALL FRIDAY MUNCHIES NIGHT	18 PANCAKE BREAKFAST 8:30—10:30 am CAN DRIVE 9-11
19 BINGO	20	21 TACO TUESDAY	22 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY CURBSIDE MEAL BBQ CHICKEN	23 \$2 DOG NIGHT 40&8	24 FIREBALL FRIDAY MUSIC BINGO 7-9 PM	25
26 BINGO	27	28 TACO TUESDAY	29 WINESDAY WEDNESDAY CURBSIDE MEAL BURGER NIGHT	30 \$2 DOG NIGHT	31 FIREBALL FRIDAY MUNCHIES NIGHT	