



American Legion Urbandale Post 663

February 2025

6805 Douglas Avenue

Urbandale IA 50322

For further information Phone: 515-278-8940

www.urbandaleamericanlegion.org

OFFICERS LIST

Commander	Mike Knight	515-556-9239	Chaplain	Rob Stark	515-979-2925
1st Vice			Finance Officer	Don Swan	515-710-5350
2nd Vice	Larry Draughn	515-238-1856	Sgt-At-Arms	Mark Dreckman	515-491-8973
Adjutant /Membership	Steve Smith	515-745-7236			
Service officer	Robert Morris	515-278-4231			
Auxiliary President	Joann Hotovec	515-306-1926	Bldg. Rental	VFW Rental Team	515-681-9663

"This nation will remain the land of the free only so long as it is the home of the brave." – Elmer Davis

From the Desk of the Commander

I hope all of you are enjoying this great weather we have been having.

This is a reminder that Post 663 will not have an Officers Meeting or a Dinner/Meeting during the month of February 2025. The next meetings that we will have are in the month of March 2025 and will be starting with the Officers Meeting on the 4th followed by our Dinner/Meeting on the 20th of March 2025. This was based on past weather conditions we have had during these months. It is better to be safe than sorry.

I have updated our web site with the latest information including the past four newsletters ending with the month of January 2025. This makes us all caught up.

With the loss of some of our board members at the end of December, the members that have stayed have stepped up to try and continue to make things happen.

In order to make things more efficient I have been going over our membership rolls with the help of Headquarters in downtown Des Moines. This is a work in progress and will be until it gets straighten out.

We are still looking for Legion Members to help form a team to run our membership program and someone to be the building manager. If you are interested, please contact me with a text to (515-556-9239) or an email to (cmsgtknight1946@msn.com).

Please take a look at our web site (urbandaleamericanlegion.org). It gives you a lot of needed information as well as our newsletter which you can download and have your own copy anytime. The more people that do this saves us money that would allow us to be able to spend on other things that support our veteran's.

If you have ideas that could help our Post, please feel free to send me a text or an email with your thoughts. This is your Post and if you see something that isn't working or could be improved let me know.

Michael Knight Post #663 Commander
cmsgtknight1946@msn.com

Urbandale Auxiliary Unit #663:

Our January project was to collect socks for our Veterans. I am happy to report that we collected 164 pairs of socks. Thank you to everyone for helping with this project.

The week of Valentine's Day in February we honor Veterans who are patients.. Thank you to Connie Cade who will see that the patients who attend the South Side Health Center will receive hot chocolate, bananas, and some other goodies. If any of my members would like to help Connie, please give her a call.

By now most of you know that I suffered a stroke on January 6 and was in the hospital for 11 days. I am now recuperating at Grand Living at Tower Place in WDM. Thank you to everyone who has sent flowers, cards, kind words and prayers. I miss you all! Thank you.

Joann Hotovec, President American Legion Auxiliary, #663

ADJUTANT / Membership

January has come and gone. I'm beginning to get the hang of being the Membership Chair as well as the Adjutant. Busy, Busy, Busy! If you have not renewed your membership yet, PLEASE DO! It's easy to do online or it can be done the old-fashioned way. Either way, your continued support of Post 663 is appreciated. I might add that we are still short of our goal of 275 paid-up members. As a side note, if you happen to have a secret desire to become the Membership Chairman, please step forward.

The Fifth Grade Flag Essay contest is now over. Our team of volunteers read and judged 134 essays and managed to come up with First, Second, & Third place winners for each of the participating schools plus an overall Winner. The overall winner was forwarded to the Sixth District but did not place there. The schools and individual winners are just waiting for me to deliver their notification letters and prize checks. Soon, I promise! Are you logging all of your volunteer hours? Before you know it, the Post Data Report will be due, and I'll be hounding you for a summary of all of those selfless hours that you spent supporting your fellow man. Volunteer (And Document!) All of your efforts are appreciated!

Please have a safe and enjoyable February. See you at the March Dinner Meeting.

Steve Smith, Post 663 Adjutant / Membership Chair



**URBANDALE POST 663
6805 DOUGLAS AVENUE
Urbandale IA 50322**

Our post is asking for help in identifying delegates for our post to sponsor Boys State 2025 at Camp Dodge June 22-27. Boys State is a 5 day resident camp event focusing on Leadership, Civics, and Character Development. Here are the details:

- **Delegates must be Juniors this school year (2024-2025) and be of good moral character**
- **Service Officer (Robert Morris) will be responsible to submit our delegates to State**
- **Headquarters. As part of that submission process, an email address (that is regularly monitored by the Delegate) will be required to be provided to the Service Officer**
- **Starting on Jan 15TH, 2025 the State Headquarters will use the email from above to send a registration link to the Delegate.**
- **We can enter Delegates up to April 1. All delegates must be registered by that time.**
- **Once the delegate completes the registration link, we will get invoiced the \$400 fee per delegate.**

**Please get any delegate names and emails to: Robert Morris at:
robertmorris4710@gmail.com**

Flags for Sale:

American Legion Post 663 sells new flags in three sizes 3X5 - \$30.00, 4X6 -\$40.00, 5X8 -\$50.00 The Post keeps several in stock.

Dates to Remember

No Offices Meeting in February 2025

No Dinner/Meeting

February 2025

February 12, Lincoln's Birthday
February 14, Valentines Day
February 15, Sinking of the USS Maine
February 17, President's Day
February 22, Washington's Birthday
February 23, Flag Raised on Iwo Jima (1945)
February 27, Battle of Java Sea (1942)
March 5, Ash Wednesday
March 9, Daylight Saving Time Begins
March 17, St. Patrick's Day
March 29, Vietnam War Veterans Day