



June 2021 Newsletter

American Legion Urbandale Post 663

6805 Douglas Avenue

Urbandale IA 50322

Phone: 515-278-8940

WWW.POST663.ORG

OFFICERS LIST

Commander	Mike Knight	515-556-9239	Chaplain	Rob Stark	515-979-2925
1st Vice	Connie Gregory	515-210-8158	Finance Officer	Ted Rutherford	515-240-0241
2nd Vice	Larry Draughn	515-238-1856	Sgt-At-Arms	Mark Dreckman	515-491-8973
Adjutant	Gordon Hendrickson	515-681-9663	Membership	Peg Mullen	515-205-6853
Historian	Lynn Clary	515-494-1510	Facility Manager	Fred Gagen	515-669-2612
Service Officer	Robert Morris	515-278-4231	Bldg. Rental	Gordon Hendrickson	515-681-9663
Auxiliary President	Meribeth Haynes	515- 480-2429			

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

Commanders Comments:

There is light at the end of the tunnel at last. To begin with we are opening up with a Dinner Meeting on August 19th, which will include a meal and a special entertainment segment featuring Elvis the impersonator.

The next two events are going to happen even before the Dinner. The first is on the 12th of June (Saturday) at Camp Dodge. We are partnering with VFW Post 9668 for a Flag Retirement Ceremony. We haven't had one of these in two years. Please come and observe this special Ceremony starting at 10 AM at the Urban Park located on Camp Dodge. Anyone 18 and older will only need a driver's license and those under 18 will be allowed in when accompanied by an adult with a driver's license.

The second event is the city of Urbandale has decided to have a 4th of July Parade this year, taking place on the 3rd of July (Saturday). The only stipulation is that there will be NO candy to be given to the kids lining the streets. If you would like to take part in this event please report to the Post by 0800 on Saturday Morning. We will have a flat bed trailer with chairs for your riding comfort.
Post 663 Commander Michael Knight

Leadership Position Announcement:

Gordon Hendrickson, Post Adjutant, has announced that he will step down at the end of June. If anyone has interest in this position, feel free to contact Gordon at 515-480-4348, Commander Mike Knight at 515-556-9239 or past Commander Jim Cade at 515-205-7054 to discuss your availability and answer any questions regarding this position.

FROM THE ADJUTANT:

It sure feels like we have jumped right into the heat of Summer. Let's hope this summer allows us to do the things we are used to doing in the summer. We have several events on the horizon so please try to attend as many as you can. 1) We will have a **POST BREAKFAST ON JUNE 25, 2021** starting about 8:30 a.m. or so. Legion and Auxiliary members are welcome as well as spouses Please come and enjoy some fellowship with your fellow members. 2) The **URBANDALE FOURTH OF JULY PARADE** is scheduled for July 3, 2021. We

will have our usual trailer/float, so please come to the Post about 8:00 a.m. to get things ready and loaded so we can be in position for the Parade kickOff at 10:00 a.m. We will not be throwing candy this year but the parade will be a great opportunity to show our support for Urbandale. 3) The **STATE FAIR VETERANS PARADE** will be held on August 16 and the Post will be represented that day. Legionnaires are invited to signup through the Department of Iowa to Walk for Veterans. To do so, register with the Department of Iowa (www.ialegion.org or call 515-282-5068) and wear a Walk for Veterans Shirt available from the Department for \$10.00. Registration will close July 10, 2021. 4) Please watch for exciting news regarding our return to regular dinner meetings in August. please contact me at ghlegion@q.com or 515-480-4348 Call, email or text me 515-480-4348, ghlegion@q.com Thank you!
Gordon Hendrickson, Adjutant

Membership Report:

As of June 3, 2021 we have 326 members in good standing for membership year 2021. The membership goal that is set for our Post by the American Legion chain of command is 361...so we are 35 membership renewals for 2021 short, or below our goal. The New Year kicks off July 1 -- meaning the request for 2022 membership dues will begin. Remember the Legion dues is similar to a magazine subscription -- they prefer you pay ahead of time, to maintain continuity and keep all the communication flowing without interruption. This includes emails, the magazines from the State and National, etc. If you have paid for 2021 and have not received your membership card, please let me know. As mentioned previously, there is a system upgrade happening at the National level, which is impacting my ability to view membership data at this time. So please reach out if you have any questions or concerns. Our Post receives funds from each membership renewal...so it's really important to keep our membership strong -- as that allows us to maintain our high level of veteran support, and community involvement and activity. I'm always open to any ideas or thoughts on how to *retain* current members, or attract new members -- would love to hear from you on this topic if you would like to discuss. Thank you for your continued support of Post 663.

Peg Mullen, Membership Chair
mullen.margarete@gmail.com phone 515-205-6853



URBANDALE POST 663
6805 DOUGLAS AVENUE
Urbandale IA 50322

POST EVERLASTING:

Please notify us when you know of a member who has passed away, we want to be sure to get them enrolled in Post Everlasting. Please Contact Peg Mullen 515-205-6853 or mullen.margarete@gmail.com with name of member who passed away.

**** POST EVERLASTING ****

Due to the Covid-19 we will hold this year 2020 Post Everlasting in late 2021 Post Everlasting.

***** Perform Buddy Checks *****

Don't forget to check in with a buddy this month. A call, text or email to a fellow veteran can mean a great deal during this holiday season.

Check in with older veterans in your communities to make sure they have the supplies they need, are feeling healthy and help them acquire the resources they need. Of course, Buddy Checks can be done with phone calls and emails so as not to risk spreading or contracting coronavirus.

Dates to Remember:

June 12, Flag burning @ Camp Dodge
June 14, Flag Day/ US Army Birthday
June 20, Father's Day
June 21, First Day of Summer
June 22, GI Bill Signed (1944)
June 25, Start of Korean War 1950
July 1, Officer's Meeting
July 4, Independence Day

Urbandale Auxiliary #663:

The next Auxiliary meeting will be Tuesday, June 22nd at 1:00pm at the Legion Hall. We would like to thank everyone that helped with the Auxiliary breakfast on May 21st and with Poppies on May 22nd. Both events were very successful for our Auxiliary. At the May meeting we elected the following Officers for the 2021-2022 year: Joann Hotovec, President; Ginny Campbell, Vice-President; Jean Schneiders, Secretary; and Marty Wiese, Treasurer. A big thank-you to these 4 ladies for agreeing to be Officers for the upcoming year. July is the start of the new membership year, when you receive your notice from the National Office, please send in your membership as soon as you can to Marty Wiese.

At the upcoming breakfast on June 25th, Ginny Campbell will be presenting a certificate to a young man who did community service that qualified him for an award through the Auxiliary's "Children and Youth" program. Tanner and his parents will be present at the breakfast to receive this award. It has been a pleasure and a privilege to be the Auxiliary President for the past 2 years and I greatly appreciate everyone that pulled together, including the Legion members who helped us, to keep our Unit from disbanding when it looked like we might have to do that. We have a great group involved at this time and hopefully it will continue to grow!! Thanks!

Meribeth Haynes - President Auxiliary #663
mbhaynes18@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.

Dinner & Meetings to return
in AUGUST 19, 2021.