



March / April 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:**

I hope most of you have had at least your first COVID-19 shot and are looking forward to your second one soon. The quicker we get vaccinated the quicker we can get back to having our in person gatherings.

We still continue to have members renew their memberships and I am happy to say that we are also getting new members to sign up with the Legion.

Every time we get new members, and our current members renew, it helps us to stay afloat.

I want to say how proud I am of our Post’s Officers during this pandemic. Without their dedication and hard work we would have completely closed a long time ago. With this being said, I have been told that this summer two of our Officers will be retiring. Believe me when I say, these two have been the bedrock of our Post for many years. I am asking all of you if you feel that it is time for you to step up and help run this place. I know that our Post will be very grateful if you make that decision.

Stay safe and continue to wear a mask, social distance, and wash your hands. These precautions are working and will make us stronger in the long run.

Michael B. Knight Post 663 Commander

**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:**

The warm weather and sunshine makes me think the future is looking bright. I hope you are getting vaccinated so we can gather once again. As we plan for re-gathering, we want to serve our members in the best way possible. Should we return to full meal service at regular meetings? If so, do we have volunteers to prepare and serve meals, perhaps on a rotating basis? Should we modify our food service to have appetizers and beverages only? Desserts and beverages only? Or are there other ideas that can be feasible? Please give this some careful consideration and let any of the officers know your thoughts.

On another note, we have two officer positions coming open this summer: Adjutant and Rental Coordinator. If you would like to know more, 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 March 3, 2021 we have 319 members in good standing for this year. Our goal is 361 -- so we still have a handful of members that have not renewed for this calendar year, making their membership in 'suspended' mode. Dues for 2021 can be paid until June 30th. If you have an interest in keeping your membership 'continuous' for purposes of recognition or longevity, it is important to pay your dues by June 30th. The tracking of continuous years of membership by National starts over when a single year is not renewed. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or concerns regarding 2021 membership Thank you for your continued support. Thanks everyone! 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:**

**March 14, Daylight Savings Time Begins**  
**March 15, American Legion Birthday 1919**  
**March 17, St. Patrick's Day**  
**March 20, Start of Operation Iraqi Freedom 2003**  
**March 27, Passover Begins**  
**March 28, Palm Sunday**  
**April 1, April Fool's Day/Officer's Meeting**  
**April 2, Good Friday**  
**April 4, Easter Sunday**  
**April 6, US Entry into WW1 1917**  
**April 15, Tax Day**  
**April 22, Earth Day**  
**May 5, Cinco de Mayo**  
**May 6, Officer's Meeting**

**Urbandale Auxiliary #663:**

The next meeting will be Tuesday, March 16th at 1:00pm at the Legion Hall. Please remember to wear a mask and we will socially distance. Discussion topics for this meeting will be about the following: 1.) Discussion on whether to do Poppies or not in May 2021. 2.) Do we have anyone interested in being a Polk County Auxiliary Officer? Polk County may have to deactivate according to the current President if they do not find Officers. 3.) Follow-up discussion with Ginny Campbell on the nomination of a young man for an Auxiliary award.

It was also announced recently that Iowa Girls State will be virtual this year due to Covid concerns. Follow-up information will be out shortly from the GS Board on how that will look.

A big thank-you to Peg Mullen and the other Urbandale Legion women Veterans that participated in a poppy project for Girls Nation this year!!!

Spring is on the way --- looking forward to the nice weather and more members being able to attend our meetings. 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.

**No Dinner or Meetings for first 6 months of 2021**