



May 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:

My fellow Legionnaires, in the past month I have heard the unrest of people complaining that the American Flag has been lowered to Half Staff for too many people and should only be lowered for Veterans or Active duty personnel whom have been killed defending our nation.

We should not forget that the Flag not only represents our Country but every citizen that resides in it. When we as a nation lower our Flag to Half Staff it is our way to give respect to that individual and their family.

I hope that the majority of you have had your shots and that everyone is feeling positive about the progress we as a nation have made thus far in this fight against COVID-19. Rest assure that your Officers are working hard to keep the Post in fine shape in preparation for the re-opening this Summer with our first Dinner Meeting being held in over a year.

Please stay safe and continue to wear a mask, social distance and wash your hands.

Michael B. Knight Post 663 Commander

Membership Report:

The American Legion 'MyLegion' site is undergoing a major system enhancement. As of right now, unfortunately I am not able to see current membership numbers. If you have paid your dues online by credit card in the last couple of weeks, I have no system access to see your payment – so please send me a note or give me a call to let me know you have paid – so I can send you your membership card. If you have not paid your 2021 dues yet, the end of June is rapidly approaching. July 1st will begin the 2022 membership season. Please reach out if you have any questions about your membership. Thanks everyone!
Peg Mullen, Membership Chair
mullen.margarete@gmail.com
phone 515-205-6853

FROM THE ADJUTANT:

We are beginning to get closer to back to normal at the Post. We had two very successful breakfasts in March and April. The Auxiliary has stepped forward to host another breakfast on May 21, starting about 8:30 a.m. and serving breakfast about 8:45. It will be a good opportunity to see old friends and, perhaps, make some new ones. **PLEASE MARK YOU CALENDARS FOR MAY 21 AT 8:30 A.M. FOR BREAKFAST AT THE POST.** In our last newsletter, I asked for your input on when and how you would like to begin to gather for our regular monthly meetings. Please let one of the officers know what you think about having dinner, snacks or just desserts with our business meetings. We value your thoughts.

The Iowa Legion State Headquarters reports that the VA is now authorized to give Covid-19 vaccinations to veterans AND spouses. Call the VA Hospital (515-699-5999) for more information and to make an appointment. Remember, the sooner we get a supermajority of our citizens vaccinated, the sooner we can really get back to normal activities.

Remember Memorial Day is May 31. Please watch news reports for information on when and where memorial activities will occur. Please plan to attend one or more if you can. If not, please pause in your own activities to remember the sacrifices of our colleagues and friends who gave the ultimate sacrifice for the safety and security of the United States.

The Post is open for rent. We are taking rental reservations for private parties starting July 1, 2021. Call 515-681-9663 with any questions. We do have member rates available. Spread the word among your families, neighbors and friends. , 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



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:

May 5, Cinco de Mayo
May 6, Officer's Meeting
May 8, VE Day 1945
May 9, Mother's Day
**May 15, Peace Officers Memorial Day/
Armed Forces Day**
May 28, National Poppy Day
May 31, Memorial Day
June 3, Officer's Meeting

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.

Urbandale Auxiliary #663:

1. The Auxiliary will now meet the 4th Tuesday of each month at 1:00pm at the Urbandale Legion Hall.
2. Our annual Poppy Day will be Saturday, May 22nd from 8:00am to 6:00pm. We are currently checking with Hy-Vee and Fareway to see if we can do poppies at those two locations. If you are available to work a 2 hr. shift, please contact Meribeth at mbhaynes18@gmail.com
3. The Auxiliary will host the next breakfast at the Legion Hall on Friday, May 21st. Coffee at 8:30am with breakfast following at 9:00am. We will be serving breakfast casseroles, fresh fruit, assorted breads and muffins, and coffee and orange juice. We will also have our poppies there that day so please bring a few dollars to donate for a poppy. Poppies are made by our Veterans and are a program of the American Legion Auxiliary. It is one of our biggest fundraisers Thanks!
next Auxiliary meeting is Tuesday May 25th at 1:00 PM@ the Legion Hall.
Meribeth Haynes - President Auxiliary #663
mbhaynes18@gmail.com

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

No Dinner or Meetings
for first 6 months of
2021.