



November 2020 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

The Commanders Comments:

Covid-19 continues to spread and cause death across this great nation. We have adapted to a new way of life, which includes (Social Distance and Wearing of the Mask) and we will persist. Nothing can stop the will of the American people. I would like to report that we have had some positive response to our request for members to switch from a hard copy of our News Letter to an email format. I continue to ask you if you haven't switched to please do so. The act of switching helps us to maintain our precious operating funds so we can stay open and try to do all we can for the community as well as for our fellow veterans. We owe a big thanks to our Brothers in arms, the VFW Post 9668. They have stepped forward and are providing us with two Plexiglas shields for our tables at Hy-Vee. This along with our masks will help protect our volunteers. Please stay safe.

Michael B. Knight Post 663 Commander

FROM THE ADJUTANT:

Fall seems to have come and gone quickly this year. I hope everyone is doing well and staying healthy. Please remember your fellow veterans especially as we approach Veterans Day on November 11. One way we can do that is to call a buddy. Check in with a veteran you haven't seen lately just to chat. It helps everyone. Another way is to contribute to our annual Christmas Basket program. Normally many of our members contribute directly at the November Dinner meeting, since we will not hold that meeting this year, please consider sending a donation, whatever you can afford no matter how small, to the Post or drop it off in the mail box. (If you drop it in the mailbox, please place it in an envelope and mark it for Christmas Basket Program.) Boys State is coming next summer and we are looking for interested boys who are currently high school juniors who will be seniors next fall. If you know of a possible candidate, please let one of the officers know. Stay well and keep a positive outlook on life. Thanks.

Gordon Hendrickson, Adjutant

FINANCIAL ISSUE FOR OUR POST:

Our Post has experienced a substantial decrease in income this year due to Covid-19. The biggest issue being reduced revenue derived from building rentals. In past years, building rental income has been half of our annual revenue. Since March of this year, rental income has dried up. As a result, we have been operating in a deficit for the last four of five months -- and expect that to continue at least through the remainder of 2020. It is much easier to reduce expense vs. increasing revenue. With that in mind, there is a small way for all members to help with this, and it won't cost you anything. We all enjoy receiving the monthly newsletter; either through snail mail or via email. Email is free when compared to the cost of the local printer to create the current 223 hard paper copies, plus postage. We are currently paying the local printer \$190 per month, as well as paying postage -- which is approximately \$.30 per copy to mail. Over a year's time, this amounts to an expense of around \$3,100 per year. We are aware that not everyone has access to email, and we completely understand if that is the case with you. But if that's not your situation -- we would like to see as many members as possible who are currently receiving the newsletter via paper mail, switch to email delivery. This would not only save the Post considerable money, but email of course is a faster delivery method. Using email will also allow you to receive any online correspondence from us in real time. This year there have been news items which went out only by email and provided information on short notice. Please consider making the change. Just send Peg Mullen (mullen.margarete@gmail.com) your email address, and she will include you on the next monthly newsletter email. We all need to work together to keep our Post financially healthy during this pandemic. Ted L Rutherford, Finance Officer

Membership Report:

Thanks so much to everyone that has paid their 2021 dues, it is very much appreciated. As of this newsletter, 190 members have renewed by check/cash or online, we have 2 new members, and one transfer member. Nineteen of our fellow Legionnaires have passed away since January 2020. This brings our total membership in good standing to 243. If you have any questions about your membership, dues, etc. -- please let me know. Let's try and have a productive Q4 so we can start off 2021 with a robust list of renewed members! 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 with the May 2021 Post Everlasting.

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

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.

VETERANS ON THE MOVE:

Please accept the challenge of your Post Officers to get active and stay active during the Covid-19 pandemic while supporting your Legion Post and Post Auxiliary. The challenge is to move at least 66.3 miles (walk, run, treadmill, elliptical, stationary bike, bicycle, or other non-motorized vehicle) between September 1, 2020 and Veterans Day, November 11, 2020. The registration fee is \$6.63. An appropriate recognition will be awarded upon successful completion of the program. Simply send your name along with a check payable to American Legion Post 663 to 6805 Douglas Avenue, Urbandale, Iowa 50322. Please contact Gordon Hendrickson ghlegion@q.com or 515-480-4348 with any questions. **Remember, this is for all Auxiliary and Post members**

Urbandale Auxiliary #663 :

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, Nov. 24th at 1:00pm at the Urbandale Legion Hall. Please remember to bring your mask. At our meeting on Oct. 20th we paid our State and District dues and sent money to the Dept. Office to send 2 girls to Girls State in June 2021. Girls State will be celebrating their 75th Anniversary this year since they were not able to do so this past June 2020. Our next project we are working on is purchasing tote bags for veterans and their families to take home their personal items once they are discharged from the VA Hospital. We were approached about considering this donation and the group voted to purchase bags. They will have an imprint on them that they were donated by our Urbandale Auxiliary Unit #663 group.

Membership is now due!! Thank-you to everyone who has sent their membership in. If you have not sent yours in yet, please do so as soon as you can.

Meribeth Haynes - President Auxiliary#663

Dates to Remember:

November 1, Daylight Savings time Ends
November 3, Election Day
November 11, Veterans Day
November 26, Thanksgiving
December 7, Pearl Harbor Day

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
the Remainder of 2020**