



November 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	Dan Good	515-444-1701	Membership	Peg Mullen	515-205-6853
Historian			Facility Manager	Fred Gagen	515-669-2612
Service Officer	Robert Morris	515-278-4231	Bldg. Rental		
Auxiliary President	Joann Hotovec	515-306-1926			

**"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 were able to see the Post Ever Lasting presentation on YouTube that aired on the 19<sup>th</sup> of October.

The presentation was very well done and was so moving that it should be the standard of a Post Ever Lasting Program. The program was a creation of Rob Stark, our very own Chaplain and was assisted by Peg Mullen (Membership Chair) and Jim Cade (Past Commander). In addition to the actual program a certificate and coin were sent to the surviving families by mail. Please continue to support our Post and I guarantee that there is a light at the end of the tunnel and we will be up and running in the near future.

Commander Michael Knight Post 663

**Rental Coordinator:**

Are you looking for a place for your family reunion or your special anniversary? The Legion Hall is available for rent. We have special rates for members. Spread the word among your friends and neighbors. Our rental rates are very competitive. Call or text me at 515-681-9663 for rentals information.

**Monthly Meeting Status Update:**

As a result of the recent increase in virus activity, the decision has been made to pause all monthly Post meetings at this time. The health and safety of our members is our main priority. We will consider monthly meetings and other standard Post activities on a month-by-month basis and share updates and adjustments accordingly. Please continue to pay close attention to information shared in the newsletter as we move into the fall season. Any questions, please reach out to any of your Officers. Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

**Christmas Baskets:**

**Tuesday December 14, build baskets for vets.**

**Wednesday December 15, deliver baskets to Vets.**

**Membership Report:**

The Department of Iowa American Legion Service Office handles approximately 67% of VA claims filed in the State of Iowa, with 4 full time Service Officers. To date, those 4 individuals have processed 1,339 new awards to veterans in our state. Out of those 1,339 new awards -- 902 were to veterans that chose the American Legion as their Veteran Service Organization -- not the Disabled Veterans of America, VFW, Paralyzed Veterans of America or Vietnam Veterans of America, among other choices. Your membership dues pays the salaries for these 4 people...along with the opportunity to hire additional staff at the Department office, and additional Service Officers to assist veterans with claims in a more timely manner. There are approximately 120 people in our Post that have not renewed for 2022 yet...that's a lot of money at \$40 a person. Even if you do not have the time or energy for 'a job' at our Post right now, that's OK -- but your membership dollars are critical. The American Legion needs your renewal dollars to keep serving our veterans -- starting at the local level. Please contact me if you have any questions regarding your renewal status. Thank you. Peg Mullen, Membership mullen.margarete@gmail.com phone 515-205-6853

**Looks Whats Coming!!!:**

**CHILI .....CHILI .. .....CHILI**

Make your reservations for hot, tasty chili on Saturday January 15. We will be serving, chili and chicken and noodles for curb side pickup between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. For more information or reservations call text or email Gordon Hendrickson at 515-480-4348 or ghlegion@q.com to reserve your dinner. Twelve-ounce (12oz) servings are only \$8 each.

**Urbandale Auxiliary #663:**

The American Legion Auxiliary will not have their regular meeting in November or December. My hope is that some of us will be available to help the Legion with the Christmas baskets and with the Chili supper that is being planned. Our next meeting will be January 25 and we will be planning our next project to help the veterans. Joann Hotovec, President American Legion Auxiliary Unit 663 hotovec@centurylink.net



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

**Dates to Remember:**

**Officer's Meeting first Thursday of the month @ the Post.**

**November 10, American Legion Auxiliary Birthday 1919 / U.S. Marines Birthday**

**November 11, Veterans Day / WWI Armistice 1918**

**November 25, Thanksgiving**

**November 28, Hanukkah begins (Sundown)**

**December 6, Hanukkah Ends (Sundown)**

**December 7, Pearl Harbor**

**Dinners & Business**

**Meetings are on hold**

**until further notice.**

**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

**\*\*\* 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.

**Membership FAQs:**

All male descendants adopted sons and stepsons of members of the American Legion. and such descendants of veterans who died in service during World War 1 or since December 7, 1941, during the delimiting periods set forth in Article iv, Section 1, of the National Constitution of The American Legion or who died subsequent to their honorable discharge from such service, shall be eligible for membership in the Sons of the American Legion. There shall be no form, or class of membership except an active membership.

**Are girls or women eligible to join the sons?**

**No. Only males are eligible to join the sons.** Women who are veterans and are eligible to join The American Legion are welcome and encouraged to do so. The American legion Auxiliary was established to provide Legion Family membership for female relatives of Legionnaires.