



October 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	Lynn Clary	515-494-1510	Facility Manager	Fred Gagen	515-669-2612
Service Officer	Robert Morris	515-278-4231	Bldg. Rental		
Auxiliary President	Joann Hotovec	515-306-1976			

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

Commanders Comments:

It is finally fall and before you know it we will be shoveling snow instead of mowing grass. We continue to keep the Post from opening up for our monthly dinners but still hope to start sometime next year.

We are planning to man the doors of Hy-Vee again this year so we can acquire funds to build Christmas Baskets for our Veterans. Please step forward and volunteer for either Friday the 5th of November or Saturday the 6th of November.

On the 11th of November (Veterans Day), Rob Stark and I will represent the Post in the annual Veterans Day event at Gabus Park in Urbandale (next to the library). The Mayor and City Council and the Urbandale Police Honor Guard partake. Please plan on attending if you are in the neighborhood. It starts between 0800 and 0830 usually.

On the 13th, 14th, and the 15th of December we will ask again for volunteers to help assemble the Christmas Baskets and help with distribution. We made 263 Baskets last year and plan on the same or more this year.

Because of the status of the world (Covid-19) we live in, it has become very hard to maintain our usual supply sources, so we are asking if any member has contacts with organizations that would be able to support us with items that we could include in the Baskets for our Vets. Believe this is a good cause and does make a lot of people happy. We are still looking for a Building Rental Manager to step up and assume the position that Gordon Hendrickson has retired from. Please think about it! Currently we are not renting to any more non-members until April 1st of 2022 and will begin taking applications in March of 2022.

Commander Michael Knight Post 663

Boys State 2022.

Des Moines Christian, St Pius and Webster 5th Grade teachers all have agreed to participate in the essay contest. John Forbes will get us Christmas bag items and try to identify a candidate for Boys State 2022.

Jim Cade

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.

Membership Report:

As of the Officer meeting last week, we have 221 members currently in good standing for 2022. The second renewal notice is scheduled to go out mid-October, from National HQ. If you would like to keep your membership continuous with the American Legion, please pay your dues upon receipt of this notice. Payment can be made in cash, check, or online. **There will be a Post Everlasting ceremony held virtually this year, honoring Post 663 members that passed away in 2019 and 2020. If you would like to watch the ceremony conducted online by our Post Chaplain, please click on the following link at 7pm CST on Tuesday evening, October 19, 2021. YouTube link address:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DKiSDigrChM>.

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

Post Everlasting:

To be held on Tuesday October 19, 2021 AT 7:00 PM CST. Please refer to Peg Mullen's membership report on how to view the ceremony to be conducted by Post Chaplain Rob Stark.

Looks Whats Coming!!!:

Watch your Legion Newsletter for more information about a January Chili Feed. The menu will mirror that of our regular January Chili Dinner -- venison chili, Beef chili and chicken and noodles. This will be a drive-up service dinner. Watch for information about date, price and the process for reservations.



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

Dates to Remember:

Officer's Meeting first Thursday of the month @ the post.

Freedom 2001

October 13, US Navy Birthday

October 14, Cuban Missile Crisis 1963

October 23, Beirut Bombing 1983

October 25, Grenada Invasion 1983

October 28, National First Responders Day

October 31, Halloween

November 2, Election Day

November 7, Daylight Savings Time Ends

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

November 11, Veterans Day / WWI Armistice 1918

November 25, Thanksgiving

**Dinner & Business Meetings
are on hold until futher
notice.**

Urbandale Auxiliary #663:

The next meeting for the American Legion Auxiliary will be Tuesday, October 26 at the Legion Hall at 1 pm. We will be discussing candidates for Girl's State. Hope to see you there.

Regina Chock, who is president of our 6th district, is planning to attend.

our meeting. Hope we will have a good turn out for her.

Joann Hotovec—President Auxiliary #663
hotovec@centurylink.net.

***** 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.

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.