



American Legion Urbandale Post 663

April 2023

6805 Douglas Avenue

Urbandale IA 50322

Phone: 515-278-8940

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			

www.urbandaleamericanlegion.org

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

From the Desk of the Commander:

Commanders Comments:

On behalf of American Legion Post 663 I want to congratulate both **Layton Stump** and **Ted Rutherford** for **Continuous Membership** with the American Legion for **50 years each**.

I want to invite each and every one of you to please attend our next Dinner Meeting being held on Thursday the 20th of April. We are happy to let you know that we will have the World Famous (Butts-N-Buns) cater our meal. We will have BBQ Pulled Pork with Buns and Sauce, including Baked Beans, Cole Slaw and Chips. Our American Legion Auxiliary will provide Pie and Ice Cream for dessert. The cost will be \$10.00 per person, starting at 5:30 and the meal being offered at 6:00 PM.

Please call Robert Morris at (515-278-4231) to make your reservations. There are no tickets needed, but a correct head count will assure us of the right amount of food will be available for your pleasure.

We are honored to have as our guest speaker (Matt Wolf), Department of Veterans Affairs Service Officer. I have made arrangements to have Matt address our group on matters of benefits available to you and the procedure to enroll in the VA System. He will have handouts for you to take home to keep for further reference.

Michael Knight Commander Post 663

Membership Report:

Many of us belong to - or volunteer for - several organizations and groups within our community, not just the American Legion, or American Legion Auxiliary. These groups could include educational, environmental, religious, civic, or service oriented groups. Each of us has different interests! When you are engaging with friends or colleagues from your other groups, ask people if they might be veterans, or spouses of veterans...tell them about our Post,

and all the good things we do to support the community and our local veterans each year. Feel free to give out my name and phone number, and have them give me a call. We all need to help in keeping our membership strong – that’s what makes our Post so successful! Thank you for your support.

Peg Mullen, Membership chairperson
rpush20@gmail.com

Urbandale Auxiliary Unit 663:

The response to bring your plastic grocery bags to the Legion Hall has been heartwarming I have already taken 2 car loads to the office downtown. Keep them coming. Thank you so much.

April will be a busy month for the Auxiliary. We are providing coffee and refreshments for those attending the Spring Conference on April 15 in Ankeny. Our Unit is also providing many items for the Silent Auction that will go toward expenses for the Junior Camp.

On April 21 we are going to help with Bingo at the Iowa Veterans Home in Marshalltown.

Our next meeting will be on April 25 at 1pm at the Legion Hall.

Joann Hotovec, Auxiliary President, Urbandale Unit 663 hotovec@centurylink.net

April 20th Dinner, by Butts-n-Buns BBQ Pulled Pork with Buns and Sauce, including Baked Beans, Cole Slaw and Chips. Our American Legion Auxiliary will provide Pie and Ice Cream for dessert 5:30 PM Social - Dinner 6:00 PM. \$10.00. Advanced reservations are required by April 17th call Robert Morris

515-278-4231 your reservation by Monday April 17th



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

**Officer's Meeting First Thursday
of the Month @ the Post**

**April 6, Passover begins at
sundown the day before**

April 7, Good Friday

April 9, Easter

April 20, We have made arrangements to have Matt Wolf address our group on matters of benefits available to you and the procedure to enroll in the VA System. He will have handouts for you to take home to keep for further reference.

April 28, Arbor Day

May 1, May Day

May 14, Mother's Day

May 22, National Maritime Day

May 29, Memorial Day

***** 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.

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.**

Happy April Fellow Veterans!

I'm writing to update you on the website and something NEW we will be adding. We haven't added the rental update yet but we will when it's finished and the form for rentals is complete. Kathy and I added Google Analytics to track specific information on the site. Our newsletter is updated monthly and we add information in the Resource category such as Veteran's Crisis Line, Life Line for Veterans, and additional information.

The NEW item being added to the website (urbandaleamericanlegion.org) will be called "In the Spotlight" and will feature our members and their "military stories." It will add a more personal touch to our website AND we will get to know those we serve with at Post#663. The Board of Officers are very excited about this new way of highlighting our own members. The website is being viewed regularly by many. If you haven't seen the website, go check it out. It is updated monthly. And any activities, meetings, or special events are added along with any pictures taken at the events.

Thank You all for your continued support and participation.

First Vice Connie Gregory