



American Legion Urbandale Post 663

December 2023

6805 Douglas Avenue

Urbandale IA 50322

For further information 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	Don Swan	515-710-5350
2nd Vice	Larry Draughn	515-238-1856	Sgt-At-Arms	Mark Dreckman	515-491-8973
Adjutant	Steve Smith	515-252-0148	Membership	Peg Mullen	515-205-6853
Historian			Facility Manager	Fred Gagen	515-669-2612
Service Officer	Robert Morris	515-278-4231	Bldg. Rental	VFW Rental Team	515-681-9663
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

Commanders Comments:

From the Desk of the Commander:

Greetings fellow Legionnaires.

I want to wish each and every one of you Happy Holidays and a very Happy New Year. We now have our first snow, so it must be winter, and now we can say goodbye to fall.

The Food Drive was a success again with over \$300.00 cash collected and a pickup full of can goods, packaged food, and much more.

Please volunteer for **Wreaths Across America**, or just plan on attending on the 16th of December. The ceremony begins at 10 AM at the Eastern portion of McDivitts Cemetery. Parking is available on adjacent side streets and at the Church parking lot just straight west of the cemetery. We will be partnered with Urbandale Parks and Recreation, Urbandale Fire Department Color Guard, Boy Scouts, and VFW Post 9668.

Please come at 9 AM, on December 18th to start building **Christmas Baskets at the Legion Post**. Depending on how things go, we may start delivery in the afternoon but we will deliver the majority on December 19th.

Please remember to think about paying your **2024 dues** this coming month before the end of the year. Starting in January of 2024 the dues will go up \$5.00.

Commander Michael Knight Post #663

Membership Report:

Year end is approaching quickly...please pay your 2024 dues soon, as it is increasing from \$40 to \$45 as of January, 2024. Remember, our Post only receives \$4.00 per renewal -- so each and every membership renewal really is critical to our ability to continue our Post programs for veterans and children in our community. Please support Post 663 and renew your 2024 membership today. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the Post programs, finances, meetings, dinners -- anything -- please reach out and speak to one of the Officers. Thank you.

Peg Mullen, Membership Chairperson
rpusn20@gmail.com

Urbandale Auxiliary Unit 663:

The Auxiliary has 2 projects for December. We will help to fill the Christmas Bags on Monday December 18, and on Thursday December 21 we will decorate the Legion Hall for our Christmas Dinner. Our next meeting to be January 23, 2024. The Auxiliary sends wishes to each of you for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Joann Hotovec, President American Legion Auxiliary, Urbandale Unit #663



URBANDALE POST 663
6805 DOUGLAS AVENUE
Urbandale IA 50322

December 21st Potluck

Dinner:

Happy Hour 5:30 PM

Dinner 6:00 PM.

sign up sheet in hall with what you declare to bring, # people in your group, and/or RSVP to Robert Morris 515-278-4231
Main meat dish is pork loin

Service Officer:

Questions or Concerns about getting enrolled in the VA

System or questions about compensation, qualifications, the VA Hospital or just how to get your DD-214, Please call your Post # 663 Service Officer (Robert Morris at 515-278-4231)

***** 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.

Dates to Remember:

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

December 7, Pearl Harbor Day

December 8, First Day of Hanukkah

December 13, U. S. National Guard Birthday

December 18-19, Plan on filling bags on Monday, December 18th & bags can be delivered on Monday or Tuesday, December 18-19th

December 21, Christmas Potluck Dinner at Post. Pork Loin Roast / First day of Winter

December 25, Christmas Day

December 31, New Year's Eve

January 1, New Year's Day