



January 2023 Newsletter

American Legion Urbandale Post 663

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.POST663.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:

I hope everyone got through one of the worst storms we have had in many years. Our Post has had a busy December as we ushered out 2022 and we, as a group, look foreword to new challenges in 2023.

I represented Post 663 on December 13th at the monthly Urbandale City Council Meeting. I asked for \$1,175.00 to support our flag essay awards and supporting our candidates for Boys State. It looks very positive that we will be awarded the amount I asked for.

On December 17th Post 663, along with VFW Post 9668, Urbandale Parks and Recreation, Urbandale Fire Department, Urbandale Lions Club, and Urbandale Historical Society met at McDivitt Grove Cemetery as part of the national Wreaths Across America program. We had a wonderful turnout in spite of the very cold temperatures. We placed over 100 wreathes with help of the Boy Scouts, volunteers from the community, American Legion Post 663, VFW Post 9668 and many families of veterans buried in the cemetery. This will now be a yearly event to honor our veterans.

We gathered and built Christmas Bags on the 20th of December, starting at 800 AM at the Post and because of a record turnout of volunteers we were done in no time at all. A big thank you goes out to all who came and helped, so we could deliver these bags before Christmas.

Commander Post #663
Michael Knight

Urbandale Auxiliary Unit 663:

The next meeting for the Auxiliary will be Jan 24 at 1pm at the Legion Hall.

We will be making final plans for the Valentine's Dinner on February 16th, at the Legion Hall.

Hope to see you there.

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

Membership Report:

Post 663 finished 2022 with 243 members in good standing, with a membership goal of 305. Thanks so much to all of you that renewed your membership before year end, much appreciated. If you have not had a chance to renew yet, please do so soon...the new year has kicked off, and if you have not paid by 12/31/22 you have lost any continuous years you have accrued. Please send me a quick note or call if you have a new mailing

address, email address, or cell phone number. I'm happy to update that information in the system for you. That way, you will continue to receive your American Legion magazine and other correspondence from our Post, State office, or National American Legion in a timely manner. Thank you for your support of Post 663 during 2022.

Peg Mullen, Membership chairperson
rpusn20@gmail.com

Chili Dinner: As in recent years, there will be a special chili dinner to raise funds for the Post in January. The dinner will be held on JANARY 21,2023 at 4:00pm.

The cost will be \$10.00 per plate.

Advanced sales are required. Get yours early and be ready to enjoy a special social event. This dinner will replace our normal January dinner meeting. Contact Robert Morris 515-278-4231 or at robertmorris4710@gmail.com



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

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

January 12, Lincoln's Birthday

**January 16, Martin Luther King
Jr Day**

January 21, Chili Dinner

**January 21st Chili Dinner,
4:00 PM \$10.00 Advanced sales
are required.**

February 14, Valentine's Day

**February 16, Valentine's Dinner
by American Legion Auxiliary**

February 20, President's Day

February 22, Ash Wednesday

***** 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.**