



**American Legion Urbandale Post 663**

**July 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	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	VFW Rental Team	515-681-9663
Auxiliary President	Joann Hotovec	515-306-1926			

[www.urbandaleamericanlegion.org](http://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:**

Greetings fellow Legionnaires, I hope you are getting ready for a great summer.

**This year we will be participating in the annual Urbandale 4th of July Parade.** Jim Cade has purchased a tent for our float and has been working very hard to install it with all of the trimmings. Jim has asked that if you would like to partake in the Parade by riding on the float, please be at the Post no later than 0800 on the morning of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Jim will need extra time to get the remodeled float into position and by getting it in place, shortly after 0800, it will help him immensely. I also want to say that shortly after 0800 the city will start to block off streets, which will make it harder to get to the Post.

**Please start thinking about the Iowa State Fair Veterans Day Parade being held on Monday, August 14th beginning at 11:00 AM.** If you want to be part of the Parade please let me know. If it is like last year I hope to get 15 wristbands with allowance for three cars. If you just want to go to the Fair that day on your own, entry will be at a discounted rate.

**On August 19<sup>th</sup>, we will have our quarterly Food Drive at our Post starting at 10 AM and lasting until 2 PM.**

**Urbandale American Legion Post 663, VFW Post 9668, and Boy Scout Troops 43 and 98 will support this operation.**

**Volunteers are welcomed.**

Curbside drop off including monetary support (cash) will be accepted. Please make checks out to Urbandale Food Pantry.

Please have a wonderful summer.

**Commander Michael Knight**

Commander Post 663

**Membership Report:**

The 2024 membership year will kick off on July 1, 2023. This means that each of you will probably receive a renewal notice from the National American Legion office in July, to pay your 2024 dues (unless you are Paid Up For Life). Please remember that Legion renewal dues are similar to other subscriptions -- meaning if you pay before the end of the year, your membership status will not be negatively impacted. Membership dues can be renewed online, by cash or check -- whichever is easiest for you. Our dues renewal remains at \$40 per year. Please reach out to me directly if you have any questions about membership in general, or your own situation. Each of you is truly critical to the success of Post 663. Thank you.

Peg Mullen, Membership chairperson  
rpushn20@gmail.com

**Urbandale Auxiliary Unit 663:**

Our project for June was helping the Urbandale Alumni Association put gift bags together for those who would be playing in their golf tournament. We had a great

turnout. Thanks to everyone who came to help.

Our July project is hosting breakfast on Friday July 28 at 9 am at the Legion Hall.

We will introduce the girls and boys who attended Girls State and Boys State.

There will be no charge, but we will accept donations to help with our expenses for next year. Please make a reservation to help with our planning of the menu.

You can call me or text me at 515-306-1926 or email me at hotovec@centurylink.net.

Please keep bringing your plastic bags. I will let you know when we have enough to make our benches.

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

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



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

#WomensVeteransDayus♥☐🇺🇸

Peg Mullen and Connie Gregory attended a Women's Veteran Day Luncheon on June 8, 2023 at the Valley Junction Activity Center. Guest Speaker Major Lillie Miller from the Des Moines Police Academy shared her thoughts of women stepping up and out to be our own voices to shift the culture. A meal was served, prizes were awarded and two received Quilts of Valor. This is an annual event sponsored by AmVets, VFW Post 3519 Knoxville, VFW Post 8879 Valley Junction and several Veterans Service Organizations.

#Saluteus

Connie Gregory  
 First Vice Commander



**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.**

**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.

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

**July 4, Independence Day, 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade**

**July 28<sup>th</sup> Auxiliary Breakfast @ Legion Hall 9 AM**

**August 4, United States Coast Guard birthday (1790),**

**August 7, Purple Heart Day**

**August 14, Veterans Day Parade @ Iowa State Fair**

**August 19, Post Quarterly Food Drive 10 Am – 2 PM**