



July 2024

American Legion Urbandale Post 663

6805 Douglas Avenue

Urbandale IA 50322

For further information Phone: 515-278-8940

www.urbandaleamericanlegion.org



OFFICERS LIST

Commander	Mike Knight	515-556-9239	Chaplain	Rob Stark	515-979-2925
1st Vice			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	515-745-7236	Membership	Peg Mullen	515-205-6853
Service officer	Robert Morris	515-278-4231	Facility Manager	Fred Gagen	515-669-2612
Auxiliary President	Joann Hotovec	515-306-1926	Bldg. Rental	VFW Rental Team	515-681-9663

"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:

I would like to thank every one of you that has donated to our Parking Lot Project. The feedback and support have been overwhelming.

I have reached out to the local restaurants in the Urbandale area for support for our Post. I sent out a flyer that explained what we do for veterans in the area and what we stand for. I also included a letter inviting each one to be a supporter of American Legion Post 663. It is with great pleasure that I can tell you that the **Texas Roadhouse** has stepped up to help us by catering our August Dinner/Meeting and more in the future.

I have also had a meeting with the **Ruby Tuesday Restaurant** and they too have stepped up by agreeing to cater the September 19th Dinner/Meeting. I hope that that my additional flyers that I have sent out will bring in more positive responses.

Please write this down on your calendars that our next Dinner/Meeting will be on August 15th with happy hour starting at 5:30PM with dinner starting at 6:00pm. **Texas Roadhouse** will cater the meal that will consist of Pulled-Pork, Fresh baked bread and Honey-cinnamon butter and a side dish.

I am asking you to RSVP me by August 1st. Please Text me or leave a message on my phone (515-556-9239), you can also e-mail me at (cmsgtknight1946@msn.com). We really need to get an accurate count so **Texas Roadhouse** can supply the right amount of food for us and have time to prepare it.

We will have a guest speaker Carrie Garr of (Caption Call) helping Veterans stay connected.

The **Flag Retirement Ceremony** that was cancelled has been rescheduled for the 7th of September starting at 10 AM at the Park on Camp Dodge. Following the ceremony the VFW will provide a free BBQ for all of those attending. Please try and attend if you can.

Michael Knight

Post #663 Commander

Membership Report:

July 1st marked the kickoff to the 2025 membership renewal season. Like some subscriptions, the American Legion begins requesting the next year renewal before the

current membership year expires, so that there is no lapse in membership. Paying your 2025 dues early ensures you will continue to receive communication from the National and Department of Iowa American Legion. I mentioned previously that our dues for 2025 are increasing to \$50 per member. Your membership dues are divided among the National, state, and district programs and initiatives – all which support veterans and their families. For Post 663 to continue to receive \$4 for every renewal, our annual dues had to be raised. Renewal notices should be arriving in your mailbox sometime in July. Please let me know if you have questions about your membership, our dues, etc. Thank you for your support, as always. Thank you.

Peg Mullen, Membership Chairperson
rpusn20@gmail.com

Urbandale Auxiliary Unit 663:

Thank you to each of you for helping fill the gift bags for the Urbandale High School Alumni golf tournament.

Our project for July is donating for the Silent Auction being held at the Dept Convention held at the Airport Holiday Inn on July 19. Proceeds will go to help with Girls State expenses.

We will be hosting a breakfast on August 2 at 9am at the Legion Hall. Our guests will be the girls who attended Girls State and the boys who attended Boys State and their families. I will be taking reservations. You can call or text me at 515-306-1926. My email is hotovec@centurylink.net.

Our next meeting will be July 23 at 1pm at the Legion Hall. We will start collecting our dues at this meeting. Our dues remain at \$35.

Joann Hotovec, President American Legion Auxiliary, #663



NON-PROFIT ORG.
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID
 DES MOINES, IA
 PERMIT NO. 4915

URBANDALE POST 663
6805 DOUGLAS AVENUE
Urbandale IA 50322

**August dinner meeting on
 August 15th No Charge
Reservations Required**

Text me or leave a message on my phone (515-556-9239), you can also e-mail me at:
 cmsgknight1946@msn.com

From the Adjutant:

The 105th Annual Convention of The American Legion, Department of Iowa will be held in Des Moines on July 19, 20, & 21, 2024. The convention will be at the Ballroom Central and South of the Holiday Inn Airport Conference Center. Post 663 is authorized to be represented by seven (7) Delegates with an additional seven (7) Delegates. Delegates will 1) elect new officers; 2) Ratify the Constitution and Bylaws; 3) Select the place for the 107th Annual Convention; Select delegates and alternates to the 105th Annual National Convention; and participate in the transaction of such other business as may be brought before the Convention. Anyone interested in representing Post 663, please call me or send a text message at (515)745-7236 or email me at ss49er@hotmail.com.

Stephen Smith Post #663 Adjutant

Dates to Remember:

**Officer's Meeting First
 Thursday of the month @ the
 Post 5:30 PM**

**August 1, Reservations for
 August Dinner meeting due
 August 2, Auxiliary Breakfast
 9:00 AM**

**September 2, Labor Day
 September 7, Flag Retirement
 September 8, Grandparents Day
 September 11, Patriot Day
 September 22, Autumn Begins**

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.**

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)