



June/July 2022 Newsletter

**American Legion Urbandale Post 663**  
**6805 Douglas Avenue**  
**Urbandale IA 50322**  
**Phone: 515-278-8940**  
**WWW.POST663.ORG**

**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			

“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:**

**Events Past and Up Coming**

The American Legion and the VFW held our quarterly Food Drive for the Urbandale Food Pantry in May and again we were very successful with the amount of donations, complete with a check for \$100.00.

I want to thank each and every one of our Officers that helped make our hosting of the Polk County Legion Meeting on the evening of May 31<sup>st</sup> a success. Please check out the pictures on our Facebook page.

We have some major events coming up in the months ahead. The first is our annual Flag Retirement Ceremony. It will be held at Camp Dodge, starting at 10 AM on the 18<sup>th</sup> of June. This will be a combination of VFW Post 9668 and American Legion Post 663. All members are encouraged to attend the Ceremony followed by a free BBQ hosted by the VFW. Please be at the Post by 08:30 on Monday the 4<sup>th</sup> of July if you would like to participate in the Urbandale 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade.

Veterans Day will again be celebrated at the Iowa State Fair on Monday, the 15<sup>th</sup> of August. Please try and attend to help support our Post.

Commander Post #663

Michael Knight

**POST NEWSLETTER TIMING UPDATE:**

**As a cost control measure, our Post newsletter will be published every other month for the remainder of 2022. You will receive a newsletter in June, August, October and December. Thank you for your support.**

**Service Officer:**

We are looking into re-establishing the US Flag presentation for the Urbandale High School Friday night football games. If you would be interested in this please contact Robert Morris at one of the meetings, or email at robertmorris4710@gmail.com

**Urbandale Auxiliary #663:**

The next Auxiliary meeting will be June 28 at 1pm in the Legion Hall. We will be making final plans for our breakfast to be held on August 12, at 9 am. I would ask everyone who is planning to attend to please send me an email at hotovec@centurylink.net or you can text me at 515-306-1926. This will help in planning our menu. There will be no charge and we will ask for a free will donation to help with our projects for veterans.

Look forward to seeing you there. I also would like to thank everyone who helped with our poppies project and everyone who stopped by to see us.

Our July meeting will be held on Tuesday July 26 at 1pm in the Legion Hall. Joann Hotovec, Auxiliary President, Unit 663 Urbandale

**Membership Report:**

The 2022 membership year is ending soon, we currently have 310 members in good standing. If you have not renewed yet, please do so before June 30 to continue receiving communication from our Post. Beginning July 1, 2023 membership can be paid online, by check or by cash. If you have any questions about your membership, I'm happy to help. Also, if you are still receiving our newsletter by paper mail but have an active email address, please consider helping our Post financially by switching to online receipt of the newsletter. Doing so reduces our print and postage costs. Thank you.

Peg Mullen, Membership chairperson  
rpush20@gmail.com



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

**Dates to Remember:**

**Officer's Meeting first  
Thursday of the month @ the  
Post NO Meeting in July  
June 14. Flag Day  
June 18, Flag Retirement  
Camp Dodge  
June 19, Father's Day  
June 21, First Day of Summer  
July 4, Independence Day  
August 4, US Coast Guard  
Birthday  
August 7, Purple Heart Day**

**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.

**Financial Information:**

As many of you are aware, we at Urbandale Post 663, have experienced a significant decrease to net income. This was chiefly due to COVID, which in turn led to little or no rentals, meetings, dinners, etc. Since January 2021, we showed monthly income as a deficit in 11 of those 17 months, and six of the last six months.

Currently there is only so much we can do to improve our bottom line; mainly because certain fixed expenses continue. When we will once again sponsor meetings, dinners and other activities, we will look forward to having your support and participation.

Ted L. Rutherford, Finance Officer

**\*\*\* 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.