



**American Legion Urbandale Post 663**

**March 2024**

**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	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	515-745-7236	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			

**"This nation will remain the land of the free only so long as it is the home of the brave." – Elmer Davis**

**Commanders Comments:**

Please try and attend our next Dinner/Meeting to be held on the 21<sup>st</sup> of March. The doors will open at 5 pm and dinner will be served at 6 pm. We are honored to have the 6<sup>th</sup> District Commander here to present our own 2<sup>nd</sup> place winner of the Flag Essay (Abraham Osmond Dera). He will be awarded a certificate and a check for his accomplishment.

The Historical Presentation at the Urbandale Library on Sunday the 11<sup>th</sup> of February was a great success. Dennis Appelhons, Commander of VFW Post 9668 and myself representing American Legion Post 663, hosted a two-hour seminar reflecting the history of our Post from the 1930's until the present time. It was such a success that we plan on having another one in the near future.

I would like to thank all of the volunteers, representing the VFW and Legion, who came out in the cold snowy conditions to help with our Urbandale Food Pantry Food Drive held on the 17<sup>th</sup> of February. We took in over \$400.00 dollars in cash and checks and all kinds of food for the event. The Urbandale Food Pantry expresses its gratitude to one and all.

On Thursday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> from 7 am until 10 am the Urbandale Planning and Zoning Committee, City Council Members and Mayor met with 20 to 25 Business owners at our Post. It was an informative progress update explaining the overall plan to improve the city's appearance. I met with the Mayor and explained that we were a non-profit and he assured me that the City would help us in everywhere possible. The City has scheduled the next meeting to held on the 19<sup>th</sup> of March at 3 pm at our Post. There could be up to 6 to 7 more meetings spaced about 6 weeks apart..

**Commander Michael Knight  
Post #663**

**ADJUTANTS COMMENTS**

Post 663's 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Flag Essay Winner, Abraham Dera, advanced to the 6<sup>th</sup> District contest where his essay placed 2nd. Congratulations Abe! We look forward to hearing him present his essay at a future dinner Post 663 paid membership is still below our goal of 301 members in good standing. If you know of any eligible veterans that would benefit from Legion membership, please direct them to our Membership Chair, Peg Mullen (515) 205-6853.

As I've been becoming more involved in my duties as the Post 663 Adjutant, I can't help but notice the many volunteer opportunities that are available to our members. If you have any spare time and are looking for a place to volunteer, please ask any of the officers for suggested ways to utilize your talents.

**Stephen Smith, Post Adjutant #663  
ss49er@hotmail.com**

**Urbandale Auxiliary Unit 663::**

Our Unit donated 4 bags filled with baking items for the Silent Auction held at the Mid-Winter Conference. We made \$200 which will be used for expenses for Girls State. The bags were made by our member, Nancy Upton.

On February 16 our Unit provided treats for all of the Veterans visiting the South Side Clinic. Even though we had 4 inches of snow that day, Connie Cade made it to the Clinic early that morning and set up the table with decorations and food to be ready for the patients when they arrived.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, March 26 at 1pm at the Legion Hal

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



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

**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.

**Dinner Meeting/Business Meeting On March 21<sup>nd</sup>**  
**Menu: Potato Bar with the trimmings Desserts will be furnished.**

**Notify Robert Morris 515-278-4231 for Reservations. Cost is \$10.00 doors open at 5:00 PM. Social 5:30 PM Dinner # 6:00 PM**

**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 515-278-423Dinner @ 6:00 PM

**Dates to Remember:**

**Officer's Meeting Thursday March 7th @ the Post 5:30 PM**  
**March 10, Daylight Savings**  
**March 17, St. Patrick's Day**  
**March 19, Spring Begins**  
**March 21, Dinner/Meeting**  
**March 24, Palm Sunday**  
**March 29, Good Friday**  
**March 31, Easter**  
**April 1. April Fool's Day**  
**April 22, Earth Day**  
**April 23, Passover Begins**