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[www.ameslegionpost37.com](http://www.ameslegionpost37.com)  
[www.ialegion.org](http://www.ialegion.org)  
[www.ialegion.org/ala](http://www.ialegion.org/ala)  
[www.ialegionriders.org](http://www.ialegionriders.org)

[www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org)  
[www.alaforveterans.org](http://www.alaforveterans.org)  
[www.sal.legion.org](http://www.sal.legion.org)

## LEGION FAMILY LOOKS TO THE FUTURE

# Ames Legion Family In Action

September informally kicks off another year full of events at the Post. The Legion, Auxiliary, SAL and Legion Riders and their various Committees have lots of things planned or in the works for the next several months that I think you will all enjoy and the Post will benefit from. Watch the Newsletter and check the weekly e-mail updates for more information on these events.

As I said last month, we are going to continue to review how we do day-to-day business at the Post with the goal of becoming more effective and efficient in our operations. As a first step this year, on September 5<sup>th</sup>, we will hold a meeting of representatives of all the different Legion Committees. The Auxiliary, SAL and Riders have also been invited to attend.

During this meeting, we will discuss several issues that affect the Post and our various Committees, most notably among them the Annual Consolidated Report and budgets. While this will not be an "open" meeting in the traditional sense of our monthly meetings, you are all welcome to attend to hear what is discussed.

My goal for this meeting is to outline plans to obtain inputs for the Annual Consolidated Report on a monthly basis from each Committee so that we can accurately and effectively document the activities of the Post. I am convinced that many of our Post's programs did not receive the rec-

ognition due them at State Convention because we did not do as good a job as we could have in preparing the Post's Annual Consolidated Report in June. The preparation of this report is a time consuming and all-encompassing effort for the Post leadership and if we can "build" it throughout the year versus playing catch-up at the last minute, we can do a better job.

Additionally, I think we can do a better job of anticipating program and operating costs through budgeting. This will be a difficult and perhaps unpleasant task for many committees to undertake, and I know that we will not get it "right" the first time, but I think over time the effort will be worth the benefits we can achieve.

The last item I want to cover at this meeting is the idea of establishing a Publicity Committee, comprised of all representative groups across the Post, to more effectively market our programs. Thanks to Don Miller and others, we have achieved some success in advertising Bingo in the Tribune, but we also need to have a central contact group that will act as a clearinghouse to advertise other Legion family functions such as the monthly Steak dinners, Poker and Biscuit & Gravy breakfasts, to name a few, in the paper, on radio, and other non-traditional advertising venues.

I will also take this opportunity to remind everyone to pay their dues as soon as possible. The

Early Bird Dinner is scheduled for November 16<sup>th</sup>, and we would like to fill the Party Room that evening with early bird dues payees. I would also like to put in a continual reminder that volunteers are always needed to help put on the many events scheduled throughout the month at the Post. If you have the time and interest, we would greatly appreciate your support through volunteering to help with one of these events.

Lastly, September means the start of football season, and the annual intra-state rivalry. If you don't have tickets to the big game on September 14<sup>th</sup>, come on down to the Post and watch the game on the big screen. Go Cyclones!

I hope to see you at the Post.  
 Commander Doug



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## Legion Family Websites—New Additions Every Day

Each month we list the addresses of the various organizations websites but when was the last time that you actually visited one of those sites.



Had you gone to The American Legion website at [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org) over the last 45 days, you could have:

Listened to the debate between the candidates for President of Boys Nation and witness the election of Simeon Toronto to that office. You could also listen to the Boys Nation Senators talk about their experience on Capitol Hill visting with their Senators

Met the Junior Shooting Sports champions Allan Rodriguez and Rachel Martin.

Read an account of each game in the Legion World Series and followed each game on ESPN3 or through the website. You also would have known that Dale Earnhardt, Jr stopped by the ballpark in Shelby NC to meet the teams.

Followed the progress of the Legion Riders on their Legacy Run raising funds for college scholarships for the children of those military members who died on duty since 9/11.

Learned that Vice President Joe Biden would be one of the headline speakers at the Houston National Convention and listened to much of the convention live.

Read the resolutions that were approved at the Spring National Executive Committee meeting that are now official Legion positions.



Had you instead gone to The American Legion Auxiliary's website to learn more at [www.alaforveterans.org](http://www.alaforveterans.org), you could have:

Met the 2013 Girls Nation Senators, one of which you already know since she was sponsored to Girls State by the Ames Unit.

Read the preliminary agenda for the National Convention and made plans to watch convention events through the website.

Signed up for the American Legion Auxiliary e-Newsletter.



The Sons of The American Legion website at [www.legion.org/sons](http://www.legion.org/sons) would have helped you:

Meet SAL National Commander Chris Huntzinger, learn his goals for the year and follow his travels

Tracked the Sons' amazing success at fundraising for the Child Welfare Foundation and measured Iowa's progress against the other detachments.

Those websites educate, enlighten, entertain us as members and publicize the activities of our National Organizations to the general public that visit them. The state organization also has a similar set of websites for issues at that level.

American Legion: [www.ialegion.org/](http://www.ialegion.org/). Recent information there includes a safety warning concerning a shipment of the wrong blank ammunition for the rifles used by the Honor Guard and an announcement of the upcoming tour of the VA hospitals used by Iowa veterans. That tour will include a stop at the Iowa Veterans Home.

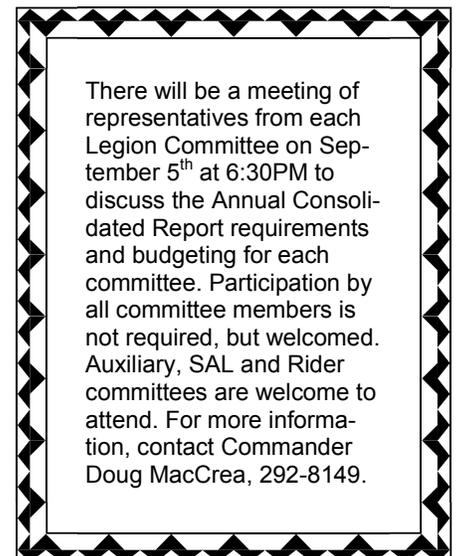
American Legion Auxiliary: [ialegion.org/ala/](http://ialegion.org/ala/). Here you can meet the new state President, Ann Crawford, whose membership for a number of years was in Unit #37 and a member of the Pure Heaven Color Guard.

The Sons of The American Legion in Iowa maintains two websites, [ialegion.org/sal](http://ialegion.org/sal) and [www.bobboomer.com](http://www.bobboomer.com). Both contain good information on the plans and activities of the Sons in Iowa. The second website contains a link to a video describing the Iowa Sons' becoming the first recipient of the SAL Triple Nickel Award, a very prestigious membership award. That was first awarded in 2011 and the Iowa Detachment has achieved that award each year since.

The Website for the Ames Post [www.ameslegionpost37.com/](http://www.ameslegionpost37.com/) is currently being updated. We will notify you when the update is complete and the website is current. Until then, please bear with us as we work to improve.

All of these websites are for your use to help us achieve our legislative objectives and help us stay strong. Check them often for new information.

## Joint Committee Meeting



## Squadron Commander Steve's Comments

September is here and activity at the post is picking up. Social Dinners will be starting September 7th. The Legion is responsible for this dinner but if you can help out please do so. If you can not help with any of the monthly social dinners, please at least come down and patronize your American Legion Post.

Our first fundraiser this year is fast approaching. We will be having The biscuits and Gravy Breakfast on December 14<sup>th</sup>. This is the second Saturday in

December and the Auxiliary will also be having the cookie fair that day, from 7 to 11 am.

Membership at the August meeting was 47. We are off to a good start, I would like to see us at target by mid-winter conference.

The Detachment of Iowa at National Convention, was awarded it's third Triple Nickel award for membership. Let's go for number 4!

I would like for everyone to keep track of all the hours that you donate to the community and veterans, so that it can be reported on each organizations consolidated reports. This helps the American Legion get benefits for our veterans from congress.

And to the members of our Post that were in the Air Force, I say Happy Birthday to You, September 18, 1947.

Until next month, God Bless Our Troops and God Bless America.

## Clubroom News

The fall is fast approaching and this is when it's really fun to stop into the Clubroom. With fall comes football, and of course, we will have all the top games on our jumbo 110" TV and plenty of specials also. The post is the best place to watch all the Cyclone games. It's time to sit back and relax after this crazy summer. Check out what we have planned for this month:

**Saturday, August 31 is The All-American Car Show.** Enjoy a variety of activities, food and entertainment including an All American Car Show in downtown Ames.

**Thursday, September 12 is Music Walk.** Visit the Main Street Cultural District for an evening of great shopping set to the sounds of great music at businesses throughout the district. The vast variety of musical genres will please

## Steak Dinners Resume



Join us for a fabulous steak dinner on Saturday, September 7. Dinner will be served from 5:30-7pm. Choose from a New York Strip Steak, Breaded Shrimp, Smoked Chop, or a combination. Dinner always includes our soup and salad bar, dinner roll and your choice of potato. After dinner we will have Karaoke and dancing!!!

## Membership—Time To Renew

OK, so that Legion dues renewal notice was in your mailbox almost two months ago now but you still haven't done anything with it. You're maybe not sure why you haven't renewed your dues, you just haven't gotten it done yet.

Think about all the things that would be missing here in Ames if it wasn't for the Legion family. There would be no one to sponsor the Academic Awards ceremony in October. There would be no Boys and Girls Staters sent to those programs. Who would provide the color

guests of all ages.

**Wednesday, September 18 is Tenderloin Basket Night.** Tenderloins are served from 5-6:30pm and cost of the meal is \$5.00. Please remember that we are more than willing to fix them to go.

**Friday, September 27 is Texas Hold-Em.** Play begins at 7pm. Drop in a little early and grab a bite to eat.

Bacon Munchie contest recap: Thanks to everyone that participated in the latest competition. We saw a wide variety of entries from sweet to savory. The first place winner was Karen Goodman (BLT Bombs), second place winner was John Eidemiller (Wasabi Bacon Deviled Eggs), and third place went to Sandy Deacon (Bacon Wrapped Smokies).

## Special Event Rental



Do you have a special event coming up? The newly remodeled banquet hall at our post is the perfect venue for any birthday, anniversary, meeting or any reception. The Legion has added many amenities to help make the day extra special. Please call for pricing and availability at 232-9870.

guard for the Memorial Day and Fourth of July parades, to say nothing of having no honor guard at the funerals of our departed comrades.

You can tell yourself that the lack of one member won't mean those things are gone but it is members that make those things possible. Not just the members that work those programs and fill the line of that honor guard but really the members that make all that possible just by being members. It's time to renew, Legion, Auxiliary, Sons, do it now!

**CLUBROOM COUPON**  
**Any Tuesday in September**  
**Present Coupon to get**  
**2 drinks for the price of 1.**  
**Cash Purchase Only**

## Legion Riders



With Labor Day being on the regular meeting night, our September meeting will be held one week later. Come join

us on September 9 at 6:30.

Last month, on one of the Monday night dinner rides, one of our Legion Riders had a serious accident. Keith Harvey has been in Methodist Hospital since then. He will be coming home soon, but will continue to need our support. Please keep Keith and his family in your prayers.

In addition to the regular Monday dinner ride, the Riders had a special ride to Rolling Green in Nevada this month. Members gave rides to several residents, and a few employees and visitors too. Most of the residents had never been on a motorcycle before, and all enjoyed it. The oldest rider was 95 years old.

## Unit Nut Sale Begins



You will find the 2013 Nut Order form as an insert in this bulletin. Along with your old favorites the new items are a tropical blend and a berry nut mix and peanuts are back! Ask your friends and neighbors if they would like to place an order also.

This sale has been very popular in past years and pre-ordering assures that you get what you want. This sale helps the Unit fund their programs. It is a win-win for you and them. If you have questions, contact information is on the order sheet.

AMES POST NO. 37  
 225 Main Street  
 Ames, IA 50010

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

LOOK INSIDE FOR COUPON **SEPTEMBER**

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
1 BINGO	2 LABOR DAY	3 AUXILIARY REGULAR 7:00	4 BINGO	5 DOLLAR DOG NIGHT JOINT MEETING ALL LEGION COMMITTEES 6:30PM	6 MUNCHIES NIGHT	7 STEAK DINNER 5:30—7:00 KARAOKE AFTER DINNER
8 BINGO	9 LEGION RIDERS 6:30 BUILDING FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE	10 SAL REGULAR 6:30	11 BINGO	12 DOLLAR DOG NIGHT  LEGION BOARD 6:30 REGULAR 7:30	13 MUNCHIES NIGHT	14
15 BINGO	16	17 PAST PRESIDENT'S PARLEY 7:00	18 TENDERLOIN 5:00-6:30 BINGO	19 DOLLAR DOG NIGHT	20 MUNCHIES NIGHT	21
22 BINGO	23	24 40&8	25 BINGO	26 DOLLAR DOG NIGHT  OPERATIONS COMMITTEE 6:00	27 TEXAS HOLD-EM 7:00 MUNCHIES NIGHT	28
29 BINGO	30			 Find us on Facebook at <b>American Legion Family of Ames, IA Post 37</b>		