

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES



Commander

Dennis Appelhons
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Sr.Vice Commander

Michael Knight

Jr. Vice Commander

Matt Wolf

Quartermaster

Mark Newhall

Adjutant

Jack Lingelbach

Chaplain

Al McPherson

Urbandale-Johnston VFW Post 9668 December 2023 Newsletter



From the Post Commander

**MERRY
CHRISTMAS**



We're all busy this
time of year, no
matter which holidays
we celebrate.



However, the most important thing is to enjoy the season
and share that joy with your family and friends.

Post Meeting

- December 4th is our monthly Post meeting. We will honor our three Patriot Pen and two Voice of Democracy winners.
- Christmas Food Baskets
- We will also discuss and review our Wreaths Across America ceremony for December 16th at McDivitt Grove Cemetery

VFW Post 9668
6805 Douglas Avenue
Urbandale, Iowa 50322

WEB Pages

w.w.w.vfw9668.org

Facebook at VFW Post 9668

Post 9668 Email is

Cmdr@vfw9668.org or
Adj@vfw9668.org

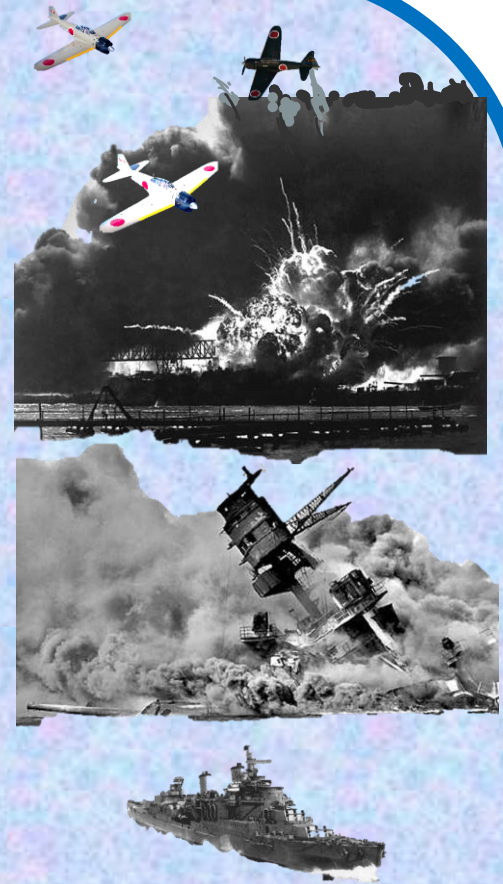
Post meetings are the 1st
Monday of each month, 7:00
P.M. at the American Legion
Hall, 6805 Douglas Ave.
Urbandale, Iowa.

COFFEE & COMRADERIE
DES MOINES



Saturday December 9, 2023

0900 – 1200 hours, VFW Post
9668 & American Legion Post
663 6805 Douglas Ave.,
Urbandale, Ia. 50322



“Yesterday, December 7, 1941 – a date which will live in infamy – the United States of America was suddenly and deliberately attacked by naval and air forces of the Empire of Japan.”

“As Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy I have directed that all measures be taken for our defense.”



“With confidence in our armed forces –with the unbounding determination of our people – we will gain the inevitable triumph – so help us God.” “ I ask that the Congress declare that since the unprovoked and dastardly attack by Japan on Sunday, December 7, 1941, a state of war has existed between the United States and Japanese Empire”.

- - - - - Franklin Delano Roosevelt, President of the United States, December 8, 1941 - - - - -

Check your local news sources for any Remembrance Day Ceremonies that may be planned. The Iowa State House will announce that flags be flown at half-staff on December 7th.



December 16, 2023 -- 10:00 A.M.

Join VFW Post 9668, American Legion Post 663, Urbandale Parks & Rec, Urbandale Historical Society, Urbandale Lions Club and West Des Moines Elks Lodge participating with Wreaths Across America in placing memorial wreaths on the more than 100 veteran graves in McDivitt Grove Cemetery, 7100 Meridith, Drive, Urbandale, Ia.

Ceremony at 10:00, Wreath Laying at 10:30.

Other Post activities happening in December

- VA Hospital visits
 - Food Baskets and Pork Loin deliveries
 - Post Planning Meeting , December 18
- CHRISTMAS WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS

*CHECKING IN WITH
MEMBERS ON THEIR
WISHING THEM A*



*OUR SENIOR POST
WELFARE AND
MERRY CHRISTMAS*

*December 31st — New Year's Eve:
Take a deep breath and lift a glass.
The new year is coming.*

December 24th — Christmas Eve

December 25th --- Christmas Day

WHAT DID WE DO IN NOVEMBER



Table display at Johnston Fareway



Ken Meythaler and Tom Jamison at
Urbandale HyVee

November 3rd and 4th Post members Mark Newhall, Tom Jamison, Larry Cramer, Roger Rothamel, Al McPherson, Ken Meythaler, Dang Tung, Jason Coltrain, Eric Christoffel, Paul Brisbois, Scott Scheulte, and Dennis Appelhons, distributed our annual Veterans Day Poppies at Urbandale HyVee Store, and Johnston HyVee and Fareway Stores.'



Thank you all for taking time to
volunteer to help in our mission:
"VETERANS HELPING VETERANS"

NOVEMBER 8TH OUR POST HELD A FREE BRATTS & BURGER APPRECIATION MEAL FOR ALL OF OUR POST MEMBERS. ALTHOUGH THE ATTENDANCE WAS LOWER THAN EXPECTED, THE EVENT WAS CONSIDERED SUCCESSFUL . SOME OF THOSE THAT ATTENDED WERE LONG TIME MEMBERS THAT WERE INACTIVE, POTENTIAL NEW MEMBERS, A LADY VETERAN AND A HOMELESS PERSON IN NEED.

Active post members attending felt that this is an event that should be conducted routinely to bring in more of our less active members.

Veterans Day - November 11, 2023

Post members attended various Veterans Day ceremonies throughout the Des Moines area.

A belated event involved the Gloria Dei Lutheran Church's Tiny Treasures Pre-school classes presenting hand colored "Thank You for your Service" posters to Post 9668.

Ms. Beth Mitchell, representing the Tiny Treasures class, presented the posters to Commander Appelhons and the Post on November 13, 2023.



Patriot Pen and Voice of Democracy winners were judged on November 13. The Post has three Patriot Pen winners and two Voice of Democracy winners and one Teacher of the Year. Presentation of the awards is planned for the December 4th Post meeting.



November 18th Legion and VFW Food Drive for Urbandale Food Pantry.

Gordon Hyke, Roger Rothamel, and Mike Knight. Scott Schuelty also assisted for the whole day. Over \$300. in cash & checks were also collected with 3 tables full of food goods.



Important December Calendar

Dates:

4th: Post 9668 business meeting at 1900hrs*.

7th: 82nd National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day.

8th: War Declared on Japan, (1941).

5th: Somalia Campaign Began (1992).

9th: Coffee and Comraderie Des Moines, 1000-1200 Hours, VFW Post 9668.

13th: National Guard Birthday:

15th: Iraq War Ended (2011).

16th: Wreaths Across America, Iowa Veterans Cemetery. 1100 hours, IA Veterans Cemetery, Adel. McDivitt Grove Cemetery, 1000 hours Urbandale, Ia..

20th: Space Force birthday.

21st: Winter begins.

25th: CHRISTMAS Day.

31st: Official end of WWII, (1946).

Kosovo Campaign ended (2013).

When you are making out your schedule for the next month, please keep the post activities in mind.

December Happy Birthdays

6 December Eric Hammer

6 December Dan Waller

18 December Sherry Meyer

25 December Chris McGee

31 December Chris McClaskey

Do not see your birthday, contact the adjutant at Adj@vfw9668.org.

New Members

Sherry Meyer -Kosovo

Donald Swan - Desert Storm

David Lamb= Transfer

Information:

Phone number for the Headquarters, Department of Iowa V.F.W., is (515) 255-2139, Fax: 515-255-2130. Hours are from 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M., Monday – Friday. The office is closed on Federal Holidays.

ATTENTION - -

Post 9668 December Meeting: The December business meeting of Post 9668 will be held at Urbandale American Legion Hall, on Monday, 4 December 2023. Please join us in person. If you have any questions, contact me or Michael Knight.