

MARCH 2010

Post Officers:

Legion Commander:

**Bruce A. Brown**

S.A.L. Commander:

**Danny Schmidt**

Auxiliary President:

**Joann Brown**

Web addresses:

**POST 71**

[www.urbanapost71.com](http://www.urbanapost71.com)

**LEGION**

**National** [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org)

**Dept** [www.illegion.org](http://www.illegion.org)

**AUXILIARY**

**National**

[www.legion-aux.org](http://www.legion-aux.org)

**Dept**

[www.illegion.org/Auxiliary](http://www.illegion.org/Auxiliary)

**SAL**

**National**

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

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**Upcoming events**  
**BREAKFAST 3/7/2010**  
**CORNED BEEF**  
**DINNER**  
**3/16/2010**



## AMERICAN LEGION POST 71

### Dinners and Breakfast

Breakfast continues to draw good crowds. We had 190 in February for the breakfast for American Legion Baseball. We were able to donate \$1,617.00 to our baseball teams. Breakfast is the first Sunday of the month from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. At a price of only \$8.00, you can enjoy fresh fruits, breakfast potatoes, biscuits and gravy, sausage, bacon, ham, corned beef hash, scrambled and special eggs, eggs cooked to order, homemade cinnamon rolls, toast on request, and coffee, tea, milk or juice. Where else can you get that kind of selection for the price. Hope to see you soon.

I wish we could report the same for Tuesday dinners. During the fall, we averaged 110 people a night, which was a good crowd. However, starting in January, the crowd has dropped to an average of 68. This is not enough to make the dinners self sufficient. We will continue with dinners through the end of April, but the future is in serious doubt. We will not drop the quality of the produce and meats we use, so January and February have not paid for themselves.

While we know other Posts are in the same position, it is so difficult to see these dinners go. Unfortunately, it not only affects our part time employees, but our suppliers and their employees, too.

If you enjoy the dinners at the Legion, come out in the next 2 months, because it could be your last time.

### Commander's Corner

#### Have You Heard the Expression:

**You can lead a horse to water but you can't make him drink!**

This seems to be a very common sense expression, but it seems like most people today don't quite understand what this means.

Probably most of you know that the Illinois Legislature has legalized video poker in the state of Illinois. This is OK, but our Post and all the other veterans clubs that survive with the income from these machines may have a very tough time remaining open if we don't get the state run machines soon after July 31st.

# AMERICAN LEGION POST 71

## Commander's Corner

After July 31st, no video poker machines will be allowed in any establishment in Illinois. That is because after July 31st, our state license will expire on these old machines and we won't be able to have them on our premises. That means loss of income, and maybe **CLOSING OUR DOORS**.

I can understand why the people against the legalized machines can't figure out and don't understand that while they are concerned about the 1% of the people who will play these machines, will put all their money in them. If these people can't play these machines in Champaign or Urbana, they will go to Peoria or some other gambling establishment and "spend all their money". Here we come back to "You can lead a horse to water but you can't make him drink".

That means, they are going to gamble somewhere. So if they gamble in Urbana, then Urbana makes money on the taxes and license and everything else we sell.

So, I think that hopefully we will be able to survive 6-8 months before we get the state machines and won't have to close our doors

What does closing our doors mean? It means 2 full time and 8 part time employees will lose their jobs here. So should we be concerned about the one person who spends all their money or the 10 people losing their jobs and not paying taxes?

Oh, I would like to ask for a donation of \$124.51 from someone, because I recently bought 2 cigarette

butt canisters for the front and back of the Post. The other ones we had were stolen. We had someone complain to the Urbana Business Association about cigarette butts on the front walk.

Here we are again, back to the "You can lead a horse to water but you can't make him drink". Just as a note: Most smokers weren't using the butt canisters, anyway. Thanks for the donation, we may need that money to pay for something useful like the power bill

On a very serious note: At the February Legion meeting, it was voted to suspend all donation until we determine how much business we will lose once the video poker machines are taken out and after we get the state video poker machines. We will honor the donations we have already committed, but we will not be giving the \$6,000 to the Gifts to the Yanks program that was earmarked for that program. We will need that money to pay for 4 months power bills after July 31st. Hopefully, when and if we get the new state Video Poker machines we will be able to continue our charitable programs. This will affect Camp New Hope, American Legion Baseball, college scholarships, packages to the Troops, Special Olympics, Boy's State, State convention delegates and alternates, Urbana Sweetcorn Festival, CU 4th of July Celebration and many other programs.

On a good note, SAL Squad-

ron #71 purchased 150 boxes of Girl Scout cookies that we will be sending to the troops overseas in Iraq and Afghanistan. Special thanks to our anonymous donor of \$100.00 to the cookie program. That money will be used to buy extra boxes of cookies for the troops.

### **Bored-Lonely-Tired of nothing to do?**

1st Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Yes, its your Legion meeting. Nomination of officers was made by the Nominating Committee and the Legionnaires nominated are:

Commander Bruce Brown  
Sr. Vice Commander Gary Michael  
Jr. Vice Commander. Jim Marshall  
Adjutant/Finance Officer

Bob Henderson  
Sgt-At-Arms Joe Trotter  
Chaplain Neal Bollman  
Service Officer Chris Bonner

You have 2 more meeting to submit a nomination for Legion Officers for 2010-2011

State Convention Housing forms are available from Department or we have them at the Post. State Convention will be July 13-17 in Springfield.

The February breakfast made \$1,671.00 for our Legion Baseball teams

Yours in Service  
Bruce Brown  
Commander  
American Legion Post 71

## From Your President

Dear Members,

On February 3, 2010, Urbana Unit #71 hosted the Champaign County Auxiliary meeting. There were over 20 members in attendance. After soup and sandwiches, the meeting was held, with reports from the various units in the county. It is always interesting to hear what projects the other units in the county are completing.

Our regular meeting was held February 10th at 6:00 p.m. with 7 members in attendance.

Past President Parlay Chairman Maura Michael reported there are currently 5 female veterans at the VA.

217-367-3121

**From Your President continued**

She will be putting together Valentines Day gift bags of personal items such as a compact mirror, lipstick and nail polish.

The 19th District Spring Convention will be held March 13, 2010 at the Homer Village Hall. Meeting starts at 9:30. Joann Brown, Maura Michael and Sharon Conatser will attend.

4th Division meeting and Poppy Seminar will be held March 14th at Danville Post 210. Poppy Co-chairs Joann Brown and Kayla Kidwell will attend the Poppy Seminar to pick up our Poppy order .

We have spent a great deal of our Poppy Funds this past year, so our fund is quite depleted. We need a really good year of donations to continue with our donations for veterans.

Patriotic Conference will be held March 19th in Lisle, Illinois.

I know the weather has been terrible, and so many can't get out in the winter. Hopefully, the weather will be better for our next meeting , March 10, starting at 6:00 p.m. We love to see new faces. I know there are a lot of members out there with great ideas. Please come in and share them with us. Meeting normally last less than an hour.

God Bless America

Joann Brown  
President  
Auxiliary Unit 71  
JLBROWN52@SBCGLOBAL.NET

**TUESDAY DINNERS AT THE LEGION**

**Serving from 4:00 to 6:30p.m.**

Due to the cancellation of Dinner February 9, 2010, the menu has been modified

March 2, 2010	Cajun Roast Turkey/Roast Beef
March 9, 2010	Fried Fish/Smothered Steak
March 16, 2010	Corned Beef/Pot Roast
March 23, 2010	BBQ Chicken/Stuffed Peppers
March 30, 2010	Spaghetti/Chicken Parmesan

**ALL DINNERS INCLUDE SALADS, ENTRÉE, VEGETABLE,  
HOMEMADE PIES AND CAKES AND  
COFFEE OR ICED TEA  
TO GO ORDERS ARE AVAILABLE  
PRICE: ADULTS \$8.00**

**SAL News**

Dear Comrades,

Thank you for attending the SAL meetings. The turnout had really improved. February meeting nominations were as follows:

Commander	Dan Schmidt
Sr. Vice Commander	Gus Robertson
Jr. Vice Commander	Chris Bonner
Sgt-at-Arms	Richard Brand
Adjutant	Rob Bross

Nominations can still be made from the floor. Hope to see you at the next meeting.

SAL has started another Meat Raffle. Only \$5.00 each for a chance to win one of three prizes.

1st prize	\$200.00 Gift Certificate
2nd prize	\$100.00 Gift Certificate
3rd prize	\$ 50.00 cash

Only 150 tickets sold. They go fast so don't wait.

Yours in Service  
Dan Schmidt  
SAL Commander

A great man has vision and does not keep the truth to himself.

A great man has passion for life and is not ashamed to show it.

A great man expects the best from others and gives the best of himself.

A great man knows how to work and how to play, how to laugh and how to cry, how to give and how to receive, how to love and how to be loved.

There are many men who are by the world called "great,"

but a man who bears honor in his heart, who can, in the evening hours, lie upon his bed and peacefully close his eyes,

knowing that he has done all that is within his power to live his life fully and fruitfully, that is truly a great man.

Excerpt from "True Measure of Greatness" Randall Weeks

MARCH 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 DINNER 2 CAJUN ROAST LEGION MTG 7:00 P.M. BUSCH	3 DINNER 2 CAJUN ROAST TURKEY ROAST BEEF	4	5	6	
7 BREAKFAST 8-11:00 A.M. SAL MTG 7:00 P.M. PBR	8 DINNER 9 FRIED FISH SMOTHERED STEAK	10 DINNER 9 FRIED FISH SMOTHERED STEAK 6:00 P.M.	11	12	13 AUX 19TH DISTRICT SPRING CONVENTION	
14 4TH DIVISION SERVICE BOARD MTG DANVILLE POPPY	15 DINNER 16 CORNEB BEEF POT ROAST	17	18	19	20	
21	22 MGD	23 DINNER 23 BBQ CHICKEN STUFFED PEPPERS	24	25	26	27
28	29 HIGH LIFE	30 DINNER 30 SPAGHETTI CHICKEN PARMESAN	31			

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

We're on the web  
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