

# Beaverdale VFW Post #9127

4029 Urbandale Ave.

The Post was originally located at 3716 Beaver Avenue, the current driveway to the A&D Kwik Kar Wash. The cornerstone for the Urbandale Avenue location was laid in 1959. The members predominantly built the new building; only a small basement section of the original one-story wood home that stood on the lot remains.

Membership requirement is US military service on foreign soil during a war. Post #9127 has 757 members. Membership has increased each of the past 6 years. Recent new members include approximately 100 veterans who served in Bosnia, Desert Storm, Kuwait, Iraq and Afghanistan. The Ladies Auxiliary has 210 members.

Post #9127 2005-06 Officers include: Harold Christ, Post Commander; John Jones, Post Quartermaster; and Twylla Milliman, Post Ladies Auxiliary President.

Post activities include: Friday night dinners and Saturday lunches; fish fry nights; wild game dinners; an annual golf tournament in September; a June hog roast and an August corn on the cob feast; and participation in the Beaverdale Fall Festival Parade.

Post #9127 is proud of their exceptional funeral detail. The Post also delivers Christmas baskets to needy Veterans, and provides flags to scout troops, nursing homes and schools.

They are very proud of the VFW youth program that includes: the Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest; the Outstanding Young Volunteer of the Year Award; and the Voice of Democracy Program. Awards and scholarships are given on a local, district, state and national levels. Post #9127 helps special needs children in Beaverdale as well as supports Camp Sunnyside and Camp Courageous.

The BNA is grateful to the VFW for the memorial tree on Urbandale Avenue and the use of their meeting room.

**STATE VFW HEADQUARTERS**  
3601 Beaver Ave.

The state headquarters serves 187 Posts in Iowa providing state meetings and a newspaper, assisting vets, widows, and orphans, and consulting on budgets and finance. The office was originally located in the Royal Building in downtown Des Moines. The groundbreaking for the current location was held April 12, 1953. Jerry Frederiksen serves as Adjutant Quartermaster.

**The VFW mission** is to "honor the dead by helping the living" through veterans' service, community service, national security and a strong national defense."

### **VFW History**

The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States traces its roots back to 1899 when veterans of the Spanish-American War (1898) and the Philippine Insurrection (1899-1902) founded local organizations to secure rights and benefits for their service: Many arrived home wounded or sick. There was no medical care or veterans' pension for them, and they were left to care for themselves. In their misery, some of these veterans banded together and formed organizations with what would become known as the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. After chapters were formed in Ohio, Colorado and Pennsylvania, the movement quickly gained momentum. By 1915, membership grew to 5,000; by 1936, membership was almost 200,000.

### **A Century of Accomplishments**

- ✓ Planned establishment of the Veterans Administration
- ✓ Led development of the national cemetery system
- ✓ Fought for compensation for Vietnam vets exposed to Agent Orange
- ✓ Encouraged elevation of the Veterans Administration to the president's cabinet
- ✓ Protected and enhanced the VA budget
- ✓ Raised \$500,000 to provide 300,000 care-packages to Desert Storm troops
- ✓ Matched funds for the creation of the World War II Memorial