

American Legion Post 403 Oratorical Contest

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On December 5, 2010, the American Legion Post #403 sponsored the local Post American Legion Oratorical Contest. Community high school age students, grades 9-12, were eligible to participate for Post scholarship awards. The following awards were presented;

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First Place: Holly Baiotto \$300.00 with another \$200 in incentives

Second Place: Amelia Beal \$300.00

Third Place: Megan Enos-Skogerson \$200.00

It is now known that Holly is also the Official winner of The American Legion Dallas County Oratorical Contest as there was no other Post in Dallas County that held an Oratorical Contest this year. As a result, Holly has now earned another \$100 in scholarship dollars to be presented at her graduation. Holly will go on to represent Post 403 at the American Legion District Oratorical Contest to be held at the Bondurant American Legion Post in Bondurant, Iowa on January 9,

2011 at 2 p.m. We would like to encourage classmates, Legion members, and community individuals to attend this event and support Holly as she advances through the competition.

The National High School Oratorical contest sponsored since 1938 by the American Legion is designed to instill a greater knowledge and appreciation of the Constitution of the United States in high school students. Other objectives include the development of leadership, the ability to think and speak clearly, and the preparation for acceptance of the duties, responsibilities, rights and privileges of American citizenship. Another purpose of the program is to assist students in paying the high cost of college education.

The Post competition is the beginning step to the final culmination in the National competition. The student advances from the Post level, county level, district level (there are 9 Legion districts in the state of Iowa), area level (comprised of 3 district level winners), department level (State competition comprised of 3 area level winners), and finally the national level in which the student competes against winners from other states at Indiana University Purdue University in Indianapolis, Indiana.

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Submitted by Post 403

Pictured here are L:R: Megan Enos-Skogerson , Amelia Beal and Holly Baiotto

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