

The American Legion Post #28 Newsletter

Post Hours:
Mon. - Fri. 2pm - 10pm+
Sat. 12pm - 10pm+

Published monthly by Charles Conklin Post #28 of the American Legion
P.O. Box 439 ~ 700 Harbor Avenue ~ Grand Haven, MI 49417-1743 ~ www.grandhavenlegion.org

Issue #1084



COMMANDERS COMMENTS

First I would like to thank everyone for allowing me to be the 94th Commander of American Legion Post #28. It is an honor that has been passed down for many years. Next I would like to welcome the other officers Ron Bauer, Ed DeKoekkoek, Butch Balk, Jim Thayer, Chris Tanke, Hugh Hyde, Sue Metzler, Nath Van Kampen Carl Lori, Ken Kelly, Adam Shumaker, and last but certainly least Dave (Mack) MacKellar who did an outstanding job as Commander, one that's going to be hard to follow. I want to thank Phil Slater for chairing the Boardwalk Bash, A good time was had by all that attended. Now we look forward to the Coast Guard Festival, which is always a great time at our Post. Coast Guard week could not run like a well oiled ship if it weren't for all our volunteers and our Bar Manager Andy. This year we will have the "Michigan Vietnam Moving Wall" back one more time, plus the Army National Guard will have fun things for the kids on our front lawn for 4 days during Coast Guard. I am also looking forward to working with our great Auxiliary, SAL and Riders who have done so much for our Post it's too much to mention. So until next month, I will see you at the Post.

Phil Smith Commander Post # 28

American Legion Officers

Phil Smith, Commander
Ron Bauer, 1st Vice Commander
Ed DeKoekkoek, 2nd Vice Commander
Butch Balk, Adjutant
Jim Thayer, Finance Officer
Chris Tanke, Chaplain
Hugh Hyde, Judge Advocate
Sue Metzler, Sergeant-At-Arms
Ken Kelly, Carl Lori and Adam Shumaker,
Service Officers
Nathan VanKampen, Historian
Hugh Hyde and Bill Kaufman
Executive Board at Large
David L. MacKellar "Mack", Past Commander

HONOR GUARD

This past month we had 3 funerals. The Legion Honor Guard attended Flag Day program at the Water Front Stadium with members from the VFW Honor Guard. Members Ken Kelly, Ed DeKoekkoek, George Bryant, Rick Chittenden and Dave MacKellar were Color Guard for Ferrysburg's Parade. Honor Guard Leader: George Bennett

SERVICE OFFICER NOTES

There has been a change in the time that our VSO is to visit our Post. It is 1:30 PM - 4:00 PM on the 3rd. Friday of the month. It is always best to call the VSO prior to coming down so that you will be fully prepared with any of your military records that may be required to process your request(s): Tommy Simpkins (269) 330-6539. If you require additional or perhaps special assistance with your request, our U.S. Congressman Bill Huizenga's District Representative Valerie Shurlow can assist you in any issues in regards to VA, Social Security Administration-Retirement, Disability, SSI and Railroad Retirement. Ms. Shurlow can be reached at (616) 395-0030. Mr. Huizenga's office can handle a number of other citizen's concerns also at that same telephone number.



Nancy wife of
Commander Phil Smith
pins Commander pin on
Phil Smith, 2011-2012
Commander.

Commander Phil Smith presents "Certificate of Appreciation" to Michael Zumbach our Post # 28 Web-Master for winning the, "State Website of the Year Award" at the American Legion 93rd State Convention.





AUXILIARY COMMENTS

It is time for the Coast Guard Festival. Hope everybody has a good time.

At the State Convention, Unit 28 Auxiliary received the Patricia Donaldson Citation for the Unit of 200+ members with the greatest numerical increase. Awards received for Poppy Poster Contest from our unit; Lena Searfoss, Class III - 1st place, and Rachel Bradley, Class IV - 1st place. Five members from Unit 28 attended the Convention.

Our guests at the July meeting were Girls State representatives. August 9th is the 5th District meeting in Cedar Springs.

On August 18th Unit 28 will travel to the Veterans Home in Grand Rapids to help the veterans play Bingo. If you have never gone, it is an exciting evening. The veterans are a joy to be with. We will meet at the Front Porch in Spring Lake at 5:00 p.m. If you would like to join us, please call Pat Best at 842-0749 to arrange for carpooling.

I hope you have a delightful Coast Guard Festival and spend part of your time on our beautiful deck and the other activities the men of the Legion and the SAL provide for us.
President Cleo Phipps

AUXILIARY OFFICERS

Cleo Phipps, President
Ruth Kelly, 1st Vice President
Diane Kirk, 2nd Vice President
Ann Kammeraad, Secretary
Romayne Althaus, Treasurer
Michele Stetts, Historian
Peggy Vermeer, Chaplain
Barb Kelly, Sgt. At Arms
Molly Pippas, Char MacKellar,
Sharron MacConnack, Executive Board
Peggy Vermeer, Ruth Kelly, Kay Dougall,
House Committee
Jean Koehs, Past President



Andy's Draught

First order of business is August's Post meeting has been moved to the second Tuesday (9th) this month due to Coast Guard Week.

Next, we will be hosting West Michigan's first Hot Dog cooking competition. Saturday August 20th from 3-6pm and will be open to the public. This is a competition for the most original and best tasting hot dogs. There is a \$20 registration fee per team and each team can consist of up to 4 people. The Post will supply the hot dogs. The teams are responsible for coming up with their own unique ways to produce an award winning hot dog. The judging will be based on presentation, originality and ingredients. There will also be a peoples choice awarded too.

Weather permitting this event will take place outside on the front lawn. We will have the yard fenced off like we have for the 4th of July. This is a family friendly event so feel free to bring the kids. Proceeds will be donated to our Wounded Warrior / Healing Waters fly fishing program set to go late this September.

Plans for the Wounded Warriors / Healing Waters program are coming together nicely. We are looking to hit the Muskegon River late September. We would like to go during the week because the river won't be as congested. We would like to supply each Veteran with their own rod, reel and flies. We could still use help getting supplies and help securing a couple more John Boats and driver. If anyone is able to help us out with equipment or time please email me at andyvpost28@yahoo.com.

If you haven't heard already Harbor Avenue is going to be under construction starting after Labor Day. The construction will go from Y Drive past the state park entrance. They will be installing new water and sewer as well as widening the sidewalk and other things. The construction is slated to be completed by Memorial Day 2012. One grave lane will remain open during this construction to allow access to the Post.

Our hours of operation, dinners and dances may be subject to change. I will do my best to keep everyone informed of any changes.

Keep your eye on the calendar for upcoming dinners, bands & events.

August drink specials: \$2 Postini (Raspberry vodka & squirt), \$2 You Call Tall Mondays & \$1 12oz can beer every Tuesday
Cheers Andy

GIRLS STATE 2011

This year, after a difficult selection process, Unit 28 was able to send 11 worthy representatives of our community to Girls' State at Michigan State University. Even though the local economy is still struggling, we sincerely appreciate our sponsors who make it possible to send these future leaders to Girls' State. This year's sponsors include JSJ Corporation, Rotary Club of Grand Haven, Shape Corporation, private (anonymous) donors, as well as our very own Post 28, SAL, and Auxiliary. We are please to recognize our delegates for 2011: From Spring Lake High School: Abigail Cook, Annie Cook, Morgan Gagnon, Kayli Horne, Marie Michels, and Kathryn Rumpetz; from Grand Haven High School: Laura Burton, Reilly Butler, Morgan Hawver, Alexa Redick, and Leah Strong. Unit 28 looks forward to welcoming this year's delegates to our August 23 meeting. Please join us and hear about their experiences first hand. Thank you to all who work for this fine leadership program.
Kelly VanderHoek, Unit 28 Girls' State Chair



Service Officers Carl Lori, Ken Kelly; Historian Nathan VanKampen and Chaplain Chris Tanke, Officers installed for 2011-2012



SAL COMMENTS

I look forward to beginning my third term as the Commander of the Sons of the American Legion. I am amazed at the outstanding dedicated people who serve in leadership positions and those who work tirelessly to make our Post one of the best in the State. It was a pleasure working with Dave MacKellar this past year. Mack led by example and worked with all groups for the betterment of the Legion. Mack great job!!!

I would like to thank the following Tee Sponsors for The American Legion Memorial Tournament as they helped make this a successful event : Grand Haven Chiropractic, Bekins Auto Service, Jerry;s Citgo Service, Stan's Bar, Boulevard Used Cars, Montina Manufacturing, IMI, Rich's Automotive, Art's Barber Shop, Sideline Sports, Pronto Pups, Lee's Auto Repair, M-45 Auto Parts, Pioneer Printing, Dover Education, VBK Funeral Homes, 1948 Educational Consulting, and Rycenga Building Center.

Up and Coming Events: Legion Picnic in September, Salmon Festival - September 16th (Just Joe - musical entertainment), and Wine and Cheese Tasting - October 22nd. Details to follow in the next newsletter.

There are no new members added to our membership roll last month.

Trivia - 3rd Thursday of the month (August 18th) at 7:00 pm.

TL Lowe SAL Commander



Past Commander David MacKellar and Tina Davis



SAL OFFICERS

TL Lowe, Commander
Tom Greenberg, 1st Vice Commander
Jack DeMaar, 2nd Vice Commander
Rich Kelly, Finance Officer
Tom Glockzin, Chaplain
Mike Zolik, Sergeant-At-Arms
Tom Greenberg, Historian
Carl Lori, Legion Advisor
Mike Brown, Membership
Paul Kubicek, Adjutant
Brad Chittenden, Past Commander

WEDNESDAY'S MENU

AUGUST 3rd
PERCH DINNER (L)

AUGUST 5th

GRILLED HALF CHICKEN

5:30-8pm Immediately following

Coast Guard Dinner (L)

AUGUST 6th

GRILLED HALF CHICKEN

Noon-7pm Coast Guard Weekend (L)

AUGUST 10th

ZESTY SPAGHETTI (L)

AUGUST 17th

PULLED PORK (LR)

AUGUST 24th

SUCCULENT SWISS STEAK (L)

AUGUST 31st

CHICKEN DINNER (Aux)

These are fun times at your Post.

Come and be a part of it.

Have a safe Coast Guard week.

Dinner Committee.

LEGION RIDERS

Summer is here and the riders are getting ready for another season of riding and serving our veterans and their families.

We are now in the planning stage for the events we have scheduled for this summer.

In May we road to San Antonio Texas to compete in the first annual Legion national B.B.Q. cook off.

The first place trophy for brisket went to our own Jack Vanweelden.

Awesome job Jack ,beating the Texans at their own game.

A special thanks to the riders that met us at the Michigan border to give the winning team an escort back to the post. (Next year we will host this national event at our post)

In June we will be riding to Curtis in the upper peninsula to visit the wounded warriors camp that we have been sponsoring and get a tour of the camp grounds and meet with the special people that conceived the idea and put it all together.

In July we will ride to southern Indiana for the national riders romp and in August we will be riding to support the legion legacy scholarship ride that will be coming thru Michigan on its way to the national convention in Minnesota.

We will again be sponsoring the Michigan Viet Nam wall during coast Guard week here at the post and are planning a ride to the veterans hospital in Grand rapids (date not yet determined.)

We have a busy schedule lined up for this summer and are looking forward to a great summer of riding in support of our legion family and military veterans.

Thanks to all that were able to help out at the dinners this past winter and please ride save and responsibly.

God Bless those wonderful men and women who sacrifice so much to keep us free.
Riders director Billy

LEGION RIDERS OFFICERS

Billy Haynes, Commander
Freddy Smith, Assistant Director
Ed Mc Donald, Secretary
Larry Culbertson, Treasurer
Rev. Wesley Spyke, Chaplain
Michael Capman, Historian
Sally Kemme, Membership Chair
Glen Bullock, Past Director

8&40 Salon 499

At their July meeting a pot luck supper was held. Afterward these new officers were installed; Chapeau, Ann Kammeraad, 1st VP, Barb Kelly, 2nd VP, Michelle Stetts, La Secretaire, Char Mac Kellar, Treasurer, Peggy Vermeer, Historian, Cleo Phipps, Chaplain, Veloyce Hansen, Sgt. At Arms, Pat Vadas and Chapeau Passe', Cleo Phipps. The August meeting has been changed to the 16th and the group will go out to dinner. If you have questions on time & place, call Ann Kammeraad, 842-6541.



The American Legion
 Charles Conklin Post #28
 700 Harbor Ave
 PO Box 439
 Grand Haven MI 49417-1743
 (616) 842-5310

NON-PROFIT
 ORG.
 US POSTAGE
 PAID
 PERMIT NO. 129
 GRAND HAVEN
 MI 49417



**AMERICAN LEGION
 POST #28 HARBOR AVE.
 CHICKEN BAR-B-Q
 PUBLIC INVITED**
FRIDAY AUG. 5TH (5:30-7PM)
 (After Coast Guard
 personnel have been served)
SATURDAY AUG. 6TH(12PM-7PM)
 (First come, First serve)
**ADULTS \$7.00 A PLATE
 CHILDREN \$4.00 A PLATE
 SCOTTVILLE CLOWN BAND
 APPEARING AFTER THE PARADE**

AUGUST DRINK SPECIALS: \$2. Postini (Raspberry Vodka & Spuirt)							AUGUST 2011							September ~ American Legion Picnic October ~ Oktoberfest Party, Wine Tasting																				
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY													
	1 12pm Parade of Ships 7:30 SAL Meeting \$2 U-Call Tall	2 6pm House Comm. \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	3 5PM PERCH DINNER	4 6pm Deck-E-Oke	5 5PM ENLISTED MEN'S DINNER	6 12PM BBQ CHICKEN DINNER	7 1pm Sunday Hours 1-6	8 \$2 U-Call Tall	9 7pm 8 & 40 Meeting 7pm Post Meeting \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	10 5PM ZESTY SPAGHETTI DINNER	11 7pm Legion Riders Meeting	12 6PM BURGERS 8pm Silvertones	13	14 1pm Sunday Hours 1-6	15 \$2 U-Call Tall	16 7pm Exec. Comm. \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	17 5PM COUNTRY STYLE PORK DINNER	18 7pm Trivia	19 6PM BURGERS 8pm Silverado	20 12pm Post #28 Weiner Cook-Off	21 1pm Sunday Hours 1-6	22 \$2 U-Call Tall	23 7pm Aux Meeting \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	24 5PM SUCCULENT SWISS STEAK DINNER 6pm Deck-E-Oke	25	26 6PM BURGERS	27	28 12pm Sunday Hours 12-6 9am 4th Annual Car Show	29 \$2 U-Call Tall	30 \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	31 5PM CHICKEN DINNER	Sept. 1	2 6PM BURGERS	3 6pm Karaoke