

# 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](http://www.grandhavenlegion.org)

Issue #1096



### COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

I want to thank the members for giving me the opportunity to serve as your Commander. I also thank those members who have helped me "learn the ropes" over the past years, whether it was serving on the Honor Guard, Post committees, or simply helping serve and cleaning up the kitchen on "burger nights". Your help and counsel have helped prepare me for the year ahead. I also want to thank Phil Smith for his service to the Post for the past year and to he and other Past Commanders for their continuing service and wise counsel. They have

been especially helpful to me over the years and continue to help make our annual transition in leadership run as smoothly as possible. I want to thank our outgoing officer, Butch Balk, for his excellent service as Adjutant and now his willingness to serve as Executive-At-Large. And we are fortunate to have Rick Chittenden elected to step in as Adjutant and Bill Kaufman willing to continue to serve as our second Executive-at-Large again this year. Hugh Hyde has stepped down from that role, but will continue to give us his wise counsel and guidance as Judge Advocate. I wish to thank Ed DeKoekkoek and Dave Carlson for their continuing service to the Post and welcome them to their new roles as 1st and 2nd Vice Commanders respectively. And finally, I welcome the opportunity to continue to work with Officers Jim Thayer, Chris Tanke, Sue Metzler, Nathan VanKampen, Ken Kelly, and Adam Shumaker who will continue on at their posts.

The Coast Guard Festival will be in full swing soon and we are again fortunate to have Past Commander and Adjutant, Rick Chittenden, leading our efforts to contribute to Coast Guard Week and making it a memorable one for our neighboring and visiting "Coasties". I am sure Rick would appreciate any volunteer help he can get. Please contact him if you can help out.

Finally, we continue to be very fortunate in having great volunteers among our Veterans, Auxiliary, SAL and Legion Riders organizations, but we need more. We have an aging membership and we always need "new blood", especially for those tasks that require even moderate physical strength, such as supporting the Red Cross Blood Drives, setting up and taking down chairs, tables, and fences for special events. There are sign up sheets at the bar, and if you don't know what our needs are or what you might do, ask an Executive Committee member or Committee Chairperson. We need you! Hope to see you at our next Post meeting!

### American Legion Officers

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

### HONOR GUARD

This past month we had 4 funerals. Honor Guard from the Army National Guard helped with one funeral.

Members also attended Hospice of Michigan program at Seville Assisted Living Center, with members of the VFW. Hospice honored 6 veterans at Seville Assisted Living Center.

The Legion Honor Guard attended Flag Day program at the Water Front Stadium with members from the VFW Honor Guard. The Grand Haven Coast Guard Honor Guard was the "Color Guard" for the Flag Day program.

Honor Guard Leader: George Bennett

### WEDNESDAY'S MENU

#### AUGUST 1ST

PERCH DINNER,  
Fries, slaw & roll (Ray & Co.)

#### AUGUST 8TH

"ALL YOU CAN EAT"  
ZESTY SPAGHETTI  
garlic bread, salad (Coopersville Gang)

#### AUGUST 15TH

COUNTRY STYLE PULLED  
PORK DINNER,  
Mashed, gravy, veggies and roll. (LR)

#### AUGUST 22ND

SUCCULENT SWISS STEAK,  
Mashed, gravy, veggie  
& roll. (The A Team)

#### AUGUST 29TH

DELICIOUS HALF  
CHICKEN DINNER,  
(Ladies Aux)

### MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome to our new members and transfers  
Terry Cross,

Edwin  
Jones,  
Michael  
Jasinski,  
Phillip  
Jones,  
William  
Roper,  
William  
White, Mark



Kramer, Scott Plough, Donald Schmuker,  
Douglas Wolfe, Marcus Thornton, Steven  
Willey, Robert Wheeler, Matthew Hagen,  
and James McColl. Taps were played for  
Robert Burgess (Lansing Post), William  
Woerner, Glen Bronson, and Army Sgt.  
Joseph M. Lilly of Flint, KIA Afghanistan.

### 5th ANNUAL AMERICAN LEGION CAR AND MOTORCYCLE SHOW

The American Legion Post # 28 will be putting on it's 5th annual Car & Motorcycle Show on Sept 16th, 2012 here at the Post. There will be a pancake breakfast at 9 AM to 11AM, we will also be serving "Hot Dogs & Hamburgers" from 12 noon to 2 PM. All proceeds go to Legion Programs, part will be used to send one boy and one girl to the Boys & Girls State in 2013. Help us reach our goals. Registration 9AM to Noon, \$10.00 Fee. Dash Plaques to first 100! Awards Ceremony at 3 PM.





## AUXILIARY COMMENTS

Now that the new officers have been installed, I will be looking for Chairmen. Please consider taking one of these if asked. Remember a way to meet more of the other members and help the veterans, is to become more active in the Auxiliary. Supporting the veterans is the reason we have an Auxiliary group. Our Unit will be sending volunteers

to the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans on Aug. 16, to help with Bingo. We will leave about 5:30 pm and car pool from the Front Porch ice cream shop in Spring Lake. My number is 842-6541 so you can call me if you are planning to go. Also this month we will have some of the delegates, who attended Girls State make a report on their experiences. Commander Bauer is also planning to attend so be sure to come and share that evening with us.  
Ann Kammeraad, President

## AUXILIARY OFFICERS

Ann Kammeraad, President  
Michele Stetts, 1st Vice President  
Diane Kirk, 2nd Vice President  
Gloria Honey, Secretary  
Romayne Althaus, Treasurer  
Molly Pippis, Historian  
Peggy Vermeer, Chaplain  
Sgt. at Arms; Barb Kelly  
Cleo Phipps, Past President



## IMPORTANT: FOR THE GOOD OF THE LEGION

Reminder: September's newsletter will the last newsletter mailed by Post 28, Grand Haven. To get your copy of the newsletter, here is what you can do:

- 1) Come down to the Post on Harbor Avenue and pick one up.
- 2) Go to our wonderful website at [www.grandhavenlegion.org](http://www.grandhavenlegion.org). Click on "Current Newsletter", on the right-hand side, and read or download.
- 3) Have a friend or relative email or mail one to you.
- 4) If you would like to receive an email notifying you when the newsletter is posted to our website, feel free to email Andy at [alpost28@gmail.com](mailto:alpost28@gmail.com).

This change has come about due the extreme expense of printing and postage. The cost of the newsletter in 2011 was \$13,544.89. The Executive Committee apologizes for any inconvenience this may cause our readers. Thank you for your understanding.

### 8&40 Salon 499

The new officers have been installed last month and we welcome Char Mac Kellar as our new Chapeau. Thank you for the support you gave me during my term in office. We will again deviate from our regular meeting because in August we will all meet at JW's for our annual dinner out. This will be at 6:00pm. No formal business will be held, but by then we may have our new partnership cards. Starting with the new year 2012-2013 our renewal dues will be \$15.00 and new partners dues will be \$17.00 for the first year. Chaoeau Passe', Ann Kammeraad



2012-2013 Commander Ron Bauer and wife Nancy at the July Post meeting.



Chaplain Chris Tanke, Finance Officer Jim Thayer, Adjutant Rick Chittenden, 2nd Vice Dave Carlson, 1st Vice Ed DeKoekkoek, Commander Ron Bauer were some of the Officers installed for 2012-2013.

## Andy's Draught

Post 28 is the greatest Post in the State. Sure my opinion is bias, but how can anyone argue? We have a fantastic location, a beautiful building and great members.

Over the years additions have been built, things have been moved and systems have been updated. Yet with all that has changed, the important things have remained: its warm, welcoming and familiar atmosphere. From the cozy feel of the bar, to the welcoming members of our Post, visitors leave with positive memories of their time spent here. We have much to be proud of. I know I am.

So, keep your eye on the calendar and on our newsletter articles and ads for upcoming dinners, bands and other events, and "Come On Down"!

August drink specials: \$3 Post Punch, \$2 You Call Tall Mondays, and \$1 12oz can beer every Tuesday.



## SAL COMMENTS

As I write this, we are in the middle of one of the hottest Michigan summers that I can ever remember. We are so lucky to have our Post located next to the big lake, which moderates the temperatures and gives us some nice breezes. At this time of year, Grand Haven is bustling with visitors and there are always a ton of events going on in town. It's a great time for you to stop by the Legion if you haven't been here in a while and hang out on the deck, patio, or in the bar. The SAL just installed a new wall-mounted TV in the end of the dining room closest to the bar along with some new hightop tables. This should allow even more people to hang out and chat with friends while enjoying a tall, cool drink and watching the Tigers on TV.

The SAL held another highly-successful Golf Outing over the Memorial Day weekend. We'd like to thank our Tee Sponsors, without whom, this fun event would not have been possible. Thanks to Joe Stalec – Stan's Bar, Dave Engle – IMI, Dan Smart – Sideline Sports, Dirk VanDam - M-45 Auto Parts, Paul Kubicek – Dover Educational Services, TL Lowe - 1948 Educational Consultant, Chris Bekins – Bekins Auto Services, Joe Danicek – Boulevard Used Cars, Mike Gebben – Rich's Automotive, Dan Masko – Pioneer Printing, Dale VanZantwick – VBK Funeral Homes, John Rycenga – Rycenga Building Center, Jerry Swiftney – Jerry's Citgo Service, Gary Cobb – Montana Mfg. Lee Dewitt – Lee's Auto Repair, Mike Heck – State Farm Insurance, Terry Draeger – Harbor View Eye Care, Jim McClain – 5 Star Real Estate, Maggie Lowe – Harbor Psychological Associates, and a special thank you to Carl Nelson with 4 Tee sponsors for Pronto Pup.

Turning to some important SAL business, the Executive Committee of the American Legion has set the annual dues for the SAL at \$40.00 beginning January 1, 2013. They did this in order to have SAL dues match the regular Legion dues. As a reminder, SAL dues had already been increased to \$30.00 as of July 1, 2012. This dues increase will allow us to support more worthy groups in our community, region and state with donations...causes like the Grand Rapids Veterans Home, the Emergency Relief Fund and the Make-A-Wish Foundation. You can save a few bucks if you renew your membership for the 2013 year (assuming you are a current 2012 member), before the dues increase goes into effect on January 1, 2013.

A group of us are serving burgers on Friday, August 10 at 6:00PM, if any other SAL members are interested in coming to help out. We generally cook burgers one Friday evening each month, and it's a great way to meet your fellow members and have a fun time. Hope to see you all at the Legion soon!

Thank you, Tom Greenberg SAL Commander

## SAL OFFICERS

Tom Greenberg, Commander  
 Mike Zolik, 1st Vice Commander  
 Tom Shultz, 2nd Vice Commander  
 Rich Kelly, Finance Officer  
 Tom Glockzin, Chaplain  
 Brock Rodger, Sergeant-At-Arms  
 Paul Kubicek, Historian  
 Carl Lori, Legion Advisor  
 Mike Brown, Membership  
 Chuck Yonker, Adjutant  
 TL Lowe, Past Commander



Well, it's August already. By the time I'm writing this, I will have two months behind me.

I was checking the membership, and it looks like we have about 60 members. Let's keep it going.

We have had a good riding season so far, and some fun rides, so why stop? We can talk about upcoming rides and outings at our meetings. But there is one event coming up that I would like to mention here: The Annual American Legion Legacy Run Home (Aug. 20th to Aug. 23rd) and the American Legion Riders Expo (Aug. 24th to Aug. 25th). The Legacy has always been supported by us, and it is not too far away. The Riders Expo looks very worthwhile. So think about it.

The last thing I want to say is a Big Thank You to all our past Directors for the great jobs they have done, as well as all the past Officers that were there to help out.

And I can't leave out The Dinner Crew. Without them, we couldn't do it. Thank You for stepping up. The last bunch is the Burger Nite crew that comes down when Andy asks for help. A Big Thank You! I hope I did O.K. on these comments. It's a start. Ride safe. – Toby Ross (Riders Director)



Commander Ron Bauer presents Past Adjutant Butch Balk with American Legion Certificate of Appreciation for his outstanding years as Post Adjutant.

## LEGION RIDERS OFFICERS

Toby Ross, Riders Director  
 Rick Phillips, Assistant Director  
 John Kemme, Secretary  
 Larry Foose, Treasurer  
 Pastor Wes Spyke, Chaplain  
 Sally Kemme, Membership Chair



**The American Legion**  
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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. 3TH (5:30-7PM)  
 (After Coast Guard  
 personnel have been served)  
 SATURDAY AUG. 4TH (12PM-7PM)  
 (First come, First serve)  
 ADULTS \$8.00 A PLATE  
 CHILDREN \$4.00 A PLATE  
 SCOTTVILLE CLOWN BAND  
 APPEARING AFTER THE PARADE**

AUGUST DRINK SPECIALS: \$3.00 POST PUNCH							<b>AUGUST 2012</b>						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
September ~ American Legion Picnic October ~ Oktoberfest Party, Wine Tasting November ~ Veteran's Day Dinner, Saturday Football Parties, Trivia Begins, Happy Thanksgiving!							1						4
			<b>5PM PERCH DINNER</b>		<b>6pm</b> Deck-E-Oke	<b>5PM ENLISTED MEN'S</b>							<b>BBQ CHICKEN NOON - 7PM</b>
5	6	7	8	9	10	11							
	<b>7:30 SAL Meeting</b> \$2 U-Call Tall	<b>6pm House Comm.</b> <b>7pm Post Meeting</b> \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	<b>5PM ZESTY SPAGHETTI DINNER</b>	<b>7pm</b> Legion Riders Meeting	<b>6PM BURGERS</b> <b>8pm Silvertones Band</b>	<b>6pm</b> Karaoke							
12	13	14	15	16	17	18							
	\$2 U-Call Tall	<b>6pm 8640 Meeting</b> \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	<b>5PM COUNTRY STYLE PULLED PORK DINNER</b> <b>6pm</b> Deck-E-Oke	<b>7pm</b> Trivia	<b>6PM BURGERS</b> <b>8pm Silverado Band</b>								
19	20	21	22	23	24	25							
	\$2 U-Call Tall	<b>7pm Exec. Comm.</b> \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	<b>5PM SUCCULENT SWISS STEAK DINNER</b>		<b>6PM BURGERS</b>								
26	27	28	29	30	31	SEPT. 1							
	\$2 U-Call Tall	<b>7pm Auxiliary Meeting</b> \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	<b>5PM CHICKEN DINNER</b>		<b>6PM BURGERS</b> <b>8pm Azz - lzz</b>	<b>6pm</b> Karaoke							