

Published monthly by
Charles Conklin
Post #28 of the
American Legion

Post #28 Newsletter

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

P.O. Box 439 ~ 700 Harbor Avenue ~ Grand Haven, MI 49417-1743 ~ www.grandhavenlegion.org Issue #1076

Post #28 American Legion Officers

David L. MacKellar "Mack", Commander
Phil Smith, 1st Vice Commander
Ron Bauer, 2nd Vice Commander
Butch Balk, Adjutant

Jim Thayer, Finance Officer
Chris Tanke, Chaplain
Hugh Hyde, Judge Advocate
Sue Metzler, Sergeant-At-Arms

Ken Kelly and Carl Lori, Service Officers
Jack Gardner, Historian
Hugh Hyde and Bill Kaufman
Executive Board at Large

Dale "Rick"
Chittenden,
Past
Commander



POST #28 COMMANDERS COMMENTS



Where has the time gone. This year is coming to an end fast. As I am writing this we just had our first snow and I am not looking forward to more, but we know it is coming. All the snow birds have the right idea.

Our Veteran's Day programs were great. The morning program had about 35 people. It was nice to have the Coast Guard join us for the program. At the Veteran's Day dinner we had a great time, about 130 attended. Special guest speaker, Navy Captain Christopher Murdoch did a great job. His words of honoring us veterans came from his heart. Thanks to Cleo Phipps and the Ladies Auxiliary, SAL and all the kitchen crew for a wonderful dinner. Volunteers like all of you make our post one of the best.

December is always busy at the post. So please take the time and stop in and check out the events. We have our "Good Fellows" Christmas gifts for kids. Come down and help, it's always fun. Also our kids Christmas party and then our Christmas buffet at the Legion.

A reminder that your 2011 dues need to be paid by December 31, 2010.

During this time of year please take a minute and thank our service men and women who will not be here for the Holidays. Keep them and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

God Bless America. Commander: David L. MacKellar "Mack"



Commander David L. MacKellar presented Navy Captain Christopher P. Murdoch a Special Commendation for his service in Iraq and Afghanistan.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome to our new members and transfers: Kenneth Ennenga, Bernard Geurink, Thomas Laughlin, Howard Miller, John Bullinger, Edward Chatman, Michael Fitzgerald, Harry Lindback, John Schauer, Robert Isbell, Michael Mooney, Roger Vigland, Greg Gillissie.

Taps were played for: Members William VanderSys and James Carlton MacKellar. Marine Sergeant Anthony Matteoni

of Kalamazoo, Mi. and Army Specialist Joseph Prentler of Fenwick, Mi. both KIA Afghanistan. Please Support our Troops.



HONOR GUARD

This past month we had 2 funerals. Funeral for William 'Bill' VanderSys the family donated Bill's flag to the American Legion. The Flag now flies at the American Legion out front of Post #28. Honor Guard members went to Lakewood Elementary School in Holland for a Flag presentation and to White Pines Middle School for Veterans Day Programs.

Honor Guard Leader: George Bennett

BLOOD DRIVES

We need your help setting up Blood Drives. If you have a hour to help out it would be great. Second Reformed Church, 1000 Waverly, GH Dec 20, time 10:45 AM First Baptist Church, 118 E. Exchange St. Spring Lake Dec 23, time 9:45 AM Contact: Chairman George Bennett: 616-842-6302



Guest speaker Jason Smith talks to membership at November Post meeting about his 6 years in the Air Force. Jason is the grandson of Legion member Ed DeKoekkoek.

Fallen Heroes Memorial Monument Committee

C/O American Legion Post 28

700 South Harbor Avenue Grand Haven, Michigan 49417

We have ordered the monument and made a \$55,500.00 down payment which is the cost. We expect delivery in April 2011 and will make plans and develop a schedule for installation when the other of the cost (\$55,500.00) will be due.

The monument company (Superior Monument in Muskegon) has received the Eagle that goes on top of the monument. They will hold that until they install the monument. They will of course, install it as well. At that time the other of its cost (\$4,125.00) will be due.

Finally, we have to put in the concrete foundation prior to receiving the monument at an estimated cost of \$5,000.00. So, as you can see our total costs due when the monument is installed will be \$64,625.00. We have on hand \$16,000.00. So you can see we need your donations to cover the remaining \$48,625.00 due at installation.

We are in the process of another local direct mail solicitation but we still need your donations. Remember you can make the checks out to Fallen Heroes Monument and mail them to the American Legion Post #28 or Grand Haven Area Community Foundation.

Co-Chair: Ken Kelly Phone: 616-846-2329 Co-Chair: Max Riekse Phone: 231-865-3238

AUXILIARY OFFICERS

Jean Koehs, President
Cleo Phipps, 1st Vice President
Ruth Kelly, 2nd Vice President

Ann Kammeraad, Secretary
Romayne Althaus, Treasurer
Jean Wolniakowski, Past President

Ina Kaufman, Parliamentarian
Peggy Vermeer, Chaplain
Charlene MacKellar, Sgt. At Arms

**AUXILIARY PRESIDENTS COMMENTS**

It's that time again. The season to be jolly. The Veteran's Dinner was a great success. Special thanks to Tim for putting the turkeys in the oven for his mother, Jack for taking them out, his crew for carving them, Jean W. and the S.A.L. crew for all the cooking and cleaning, the Auxiliary for serving and cleaning. We love you, Veterans. Thanks to the gals who did a beautiful job on the Howard Mattson lunch. We initiated 11 delightful ladies in the Auxiliary in October. We will be helping out in the Grand Rapids Veterans Home on December 2. Meet at a 8:00 am at the Front Porch in Spring Lake. Fruit plates will be assembled to go to Veterans, and their surviving spouses, at nursing homes. Shopping for Goodfellows will start on December 2. Call Barb Kelly at 846-1649. To volunteer for Bell Ringing for the Salvation Army, call Ina at 842-4477. Ruth Kelly still has 2-year calendars for sale. It's time to pay dues if you haven't already. Auxiliary- \$16.00, 8 & 40- \$11.00. Merry Christmas, Cleo Phipps, 1st Vice President.

AMERICAN LEGION GOODFELLOWS

Goodfellows time is rapidly approaching.
If you don't have a chance to give to the firefighters
"Crusade for Toys" on December 4th
you may send your donation to:

Goodfellows: c/o American Legion Post #28,
700 Harbor Ave.
Grand Haven, MI 49417



We are anticipating a greater need this year for toys and clothing for the needy children who are referred to us by the Salvation Army, which serves as our clearing house.

The Goodfellows, What Do They Do? For over 60 years, the American Legion Post #28 Goodfellows program has worked to make sure that the needy children of the area have a good Christmas. We furnish each child with new clothes, along with toys, games and candy. The Goodfellows Committee is made up of Legion, SAL and Auxiliary members. We shop for clothes and specialty items, then pack all items in a family box, wrap and deliver to their homes.

Shoppers will need to pick up their list between 6:00 and 8:00 pm on December 2, 2010, at the Post and shopping must be completed by December 11, 2010.

Wrapping party is on Thursday, December 16, at 7:00 pm, with delivery on Saturday, December 18 with breakfast for Delivery Personnel at 9:00 am. Delivery will start at 10:00 am.

Thank you everyone – The Goodfellows Committee
Please sign up for delivery in the Lounge.

Veteran's Day has passed, but the mission of the American Legion is to serve veterans through out the year. The Service Officer program has been very busy and we ask those in need of help if at all possible to come in on the 4th. Friday of each month so that we can serve you as efficiently as possible. Our Veterans Service Officer, Martha Wieland will be at the Post on the 31st. from 09:00 – 12:00 hrs. and she can also be reached at her office at 165 E. Apple Ave in Muskegon on Mondays from 09:30 – 16:00 hrs. and at (231) 724-7143. From Ken, Adam and myself, we wish everyone and their families most joyous Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

KITCHEN HELP

Fall sports are in full swing. This has affected our volunteer help on Friday burger nights and Wednesday dinners. If you have 3-4 hours free for one of these nights ONCE per month, that would be a tremendous help. For the "Good of your Legion", please call Andy at 842-5310. Grab a friend and volunteer. It's fun. Dinner Committee



Commander MacKellar presented Army National Guard Members, SGT. Nicholas Gerfen, SPC. Michael Yelding, SPC. Sandra Ruiz with Special Commendations for there service in Iraq.

Rifle Team at Veterans Day Program at the Eternal Flame Nov. 11, 2010



Commander MacKellar presented George Bennett a "Certificate of Appreciation" for his outstanding service and assistance to the American Legion Programs.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January ~ Happy New Year!, Las Vegas Night
February ~ Chili Cook-Off, Hawaiian Luau
March ~ American Legion Birthday Party,
Annual Food Drive,
St. Patrick's Day Party
April ~ IRS Party, Armed Forces Day
May ~ Memorial Day, Kentucky Derby Party,
Legion Memorial Golf Outing
June ~ Flag Day
July ~ Independence Day

August ~ Coast Guard Festival, Enlisted Men's Party,
BBQ Chicken
September ~ American Legion Picnic
October ~ Oktoberfest Party
November ~ Veteran's Day Dinner, Saturday Football Parties,
Trivia Begins, Happy Thanksgiving!
December ~ Goodfellows Toy Drive, Children's Christmas
Party, Christmas Buffet, New Year's Eve Party,
Merry Christmas!

Every Month
1st Tuesday ~ House 6pm, Post 7pm
Every Monday ~ Building & Grounds 9am
1st Monday ~ SAL Meeting 7:30pm
2nd Tuesday ~ 8 & 40 Meeting 7pm
2nd Thursday ~ Legion Riders 7pm
4th Tuesday ~ Auxiliary Meeting 7pm
1st Saturday ~ Karaoke
Every Wednesday ~ Dinner 5-7pm
Every Friday ~ Burgers 6-8pm

SAL OFFICERS

TL Lowe, Commander
 Rob Wolniakowski, 1st Vice Commander
 Charlie Yonker, 2nd Vice Commander
 Rich Kelly, Finance Officers

Tom Glockzin, Chaplain
 Tom Greensberg, Sergeant-At-Arms
 Jeff VanderVeen, Historian
 Brad Chittenden, Past Commander

Howard Mattson, Post SAL Chairman
 Mike Brown, Membership Chair
 Jeff VanderWeen, Adjutant

**SAL COMMANDERS COMMENTS**

As I write this in mid-November, we are experiencing an Indian Summer: Warm, sunny days and cool nights. The cold, snowy winter months lie ahead of us.

A big THANKS goes out to Jack DeMarr (Chair), Mike Zolik, Phil Young, Tom Greenberg, Carl Lori, and TL Lowe for the first Wine and Cheese Tasting Party. While the turnout was a little smaller than we expected, a great time was had by all that attended. We are beginning to make plans for next year's event.

It is time to mark your calendar for the SAL NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY. Tickets will \$20.00 per person and will be held on Friday, December 31st. We are excited to have Barnyard Dogs from Spring Lake who will be providing the evening's musical entertainment. We would love to see you there. This is a great time to spend with friends and family as we welcome in the New Year. We will have party favors, Clover Bar Pizza, and great music to bring in the New Year

At our November meeting we approved 1 SAL transfer member – Kenneth R Kalapiszewski (Kent City) and 4 new SAL Members: Ronald H Windemuller, Jeffery Roetman, Philip Nass, and Jeff Vanportfleet.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the Howard Mattson family with his recent passing. Howard was an integral part of the American Legion. His leadership, guidance, and expertise will certainly be missed at the post.

I want to thank Jeff VanderVeen for the countless hours and endless commitment he has given to the SAL over the past 20 years. Jeff has been the Adjutant, Historian, Golf Co-Chair, and Vegas Night Chair since I have been the SAL Commander. Jeff has asked to be relieved of these duties. I have appointed Paul Kubicek - Adjutant and Tom Greensberg - Historian. Rich Kelly has volunteered to head our Annual Golf Scramble held in May. Thanks again Jeff for your leadership and work for the good of the Legion and the SAL.

Finally, a thank goes out to Rich Kelly, Mike Brown, Mike Zolik, Phil Young, Paul Kubicek, Brian Viening, and TL Lowe for putting away the deck and patio furniture. Thanks, also, goes to Paul and Phil for removing sections of fencing around the patio to make it easier to plow the snow in the parking lot.

TL Lowe – SAL Commander

CHRISTMAS CARDS

The Legion would like to send out Christmas cards again this year to our service men and women that are on active duty. I know Christmas is only weeks away, time seems to go by fast. I have also been in contact with two schools in the area to get names so the kids can send Christmas cards. If you can send me your family members name and address so we can start getting a list together that would be great. You can send it to the Post or you can E-mail me at mackeda1@aol.com <<mailto:at.mackeda1@aol.com>> . American Legion 700 Harbor Avenue Grand Haven, MI. 49417 . Commander David L. MacKellar "Mack"

**Andy's Draught**

Merry Christmas! I would like to thank Bruce Chase and his crew for their time and effort with the Kid's Christmas Party over the last 11 years. They have done a fantastic job putting smiles on more than 1000 kid's faces.

Due to budget cuts this year, we have had to scale back on the Kid's Christmas Party. Santa will still be here with Mrs. Clause and a food will still be served. This year we will have games and crafts for the kids to do, like cookie decorating, Christmas bingo, pictures with Santa, make your own Christmas card for the troops and other crafts. The party will be Saturday December 11th from noon – 2pm. We ask that each child bring a new unwrapped toy for the Crusade for Toys campaign.

Monday December 20th is our 2nd annual ugliest Christmas sweater contest. Judging will be done by everyone present and prizes will be awarded to the top 3 contestants. Come to the bar for official rules and regulations.

New this year is the Post #28 "Christmas Gift Re-gift Exchange". The week between Christmas and New Year bring down your wrong size, duplicate or just unwanted gift to swap with other unwanted Christmas gifts. This would be a great opportunity for any late white elephant Christmas parties or gifts for next year. All exchanges are final. No returns or credits given without a receipt. Keep your eye on the calendar for our dinners, dances and events.

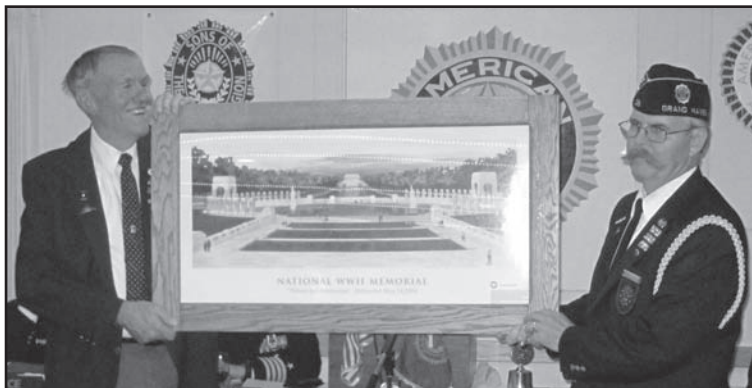
December drink specials: \$3 Christmas Martini, \$2 U-Call-Tall Monday & \$1 12oz can beer every Tuesday.

Merry Christmas! Andy



Thank you to the members of the Ladies Auxiliary and SAL for serving the Veterans Day Dinner.

Frank Parchetta presented a picture of the WWII Monument in Washington DC to Commander MacKellar at the Veterans Day Dinner.





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



DECEMBER DRINK SPECIALS: \$3.00 Christmas Martini						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 5PM SUCCULENT SWISS STEAK DINNER	2	3 6PM BURGERS	4 6pm Karaoke
5 1pm Lions vs Chicago	6 7:30 SAL Meeting \$2 U-Call Tall	7 6pm House Comm. 7pm Post Meeting \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	8 5PM ZESTY SPAGHETTI DINNER	9	10 6PM BURGERS 8pm Silvertones	11 12pm Kids Christmas Party 2:30pm Army vs Navy
12 1pm Lions vs Green Bay	13 \$2 U-Call Tall	14 \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	15 5PM ROAST PORK DINNER 7pm Trivia Night	16 7pm Goodfellows Gift Wrapping	17 6PM CHRISTMAS BUFFET 8pm Silverado	18 9am Goodfellows Gift Delivery
19 1:00pm Lions @ Tampa Bay	20 7pm Ugliest Christam Sweater Contest \$2 U-Call Tall	21 7pm Exec. Comm. \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	22 5PM CHOP'S MEATLOAF DINNER	23	24 CHRISTMAS EVE OPEN 12 - 6PM	25 CHRISTMAS POST CLOSED
26 1:00pm Lions @ Miami	27 \$2 U-Call Tall	28 \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	29 5PM SUCCULENT SWISS STEAK DINNER	30	31 8PM NEW YEARS EVE PARTY	1