

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 #1100

American Legion Officers

Ron Bauer, Commander
Ed DeKoeckkoek, 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
Butch Balk and Bill Kaufman
Executive at Large
Phil Smith, Past Commander

COMMANDER'S COMMENTS



As I write, we at the Post, and our local communities, are preparing to celebrate Thanksgiving and the Holiday Season. Evergreen garlands were hung on the Grand Haven lampposts today. During November, Post #28 celebrated Veteran's Day with our annual tribute to our veterans at the Eternal Flame monument. Thanks to Dave MacKellar and our Honor Guard, Acting Chaplain George Bennett, and Bill Kaufman for their contributions to a moving ceremony. And

we are grateful to the many local U.S. Coast Guard members, veterans and private citizens who attended. Their presence made our observance of the day even more meaningful. We also enjoyed a delicious Veteran's Day Dinner, prepared and served by our merry and gracious band of SAL and Cleo Phipp's Ladies Auxiliary volunteers, with Darrell Myers' Building and Grounds crew helping set up and decorate the dining room. We were privileged to have as our Guests of Honor, Lieutenant Kevin McDonald, Executive Officer, and Chief Ryan Lewis, Asst. Engineering Officer/Unit Command Chief, of the U.S. Coast Guard Field Office. As Guest Speaker, Lieutenant McDonald's personal account of his life experiences were very interesting, especially those related to drug trafficking and terrorist attacks on the U.S. Thanks to our Coast Guard guests and to all our Post volunteers and Veteran attendees for making a very special evening, and our national freedom and security, possible.

December will be a very busy month at the Post. Aside from our usual Honor Guard duties, Red Cross Blood Drive support, and other ongoing community service activities, we will have some truly cheerful and fun volunteer activities in which you might wish to join us, including bell ringing for the Salvation Army (contact: Bill Kaufman), and buying, wrapping and delivery of gifts for local needy children through the Post's Goodfellows Program (contact: Ray Ribbink). You may also wish to attend our Children's Christmas Party and other Holiday Season events at the Post described throughout this Newsletter.

During this busy time of year, please take a moment and act to thank and pray for our service men and women, especially those who will not be home for the Holidays and "in Harm's Way".

Reminder: Your 2013 membership dues need to be paid by December 31, 2012.

On behalf of all of our Post's Officers and their families, we wish you and yours, and our Nation, a safe and Happy Holiday Season and a healthy and prosperous New Year! Commander Ron Bauer

MEMBERSHIP NEWS



Welcome to our November new and transferred members: New - Kenneth O'Rourke, Paul Pellegrom, William Sutton, Ronald Wibalda, Michael Lampari, Shane Ryke, Hubert Ostertag. Transfers - Lloyd Dolphin, Phillip Leach, John Rose, Richard Wixson, David Stratton, Lewis Jones, Frank Maslowski, Roy Norcross. Taps were played for: Jack Kosanic, Lino Martinez (Honor Guard Member, Past Historian), Robert Van BURGEL (Honor Guard Member).



"Local Hero-Volunteers of the Month!
Just some of our regular Building and Grounds "Monday Morning Work Crew" members, who put in many hours every month maintaining and cleaning our Post buildings, equipment and grounds, moving and setting up meeting/dining area furniture for our many events, etc. First row, from left, Darrell Myers ("The Boss" and hardest worker in the bunch), Dave Carlson, George Bryant, and Bob Oosterbaan. Second row: "Mack" MacKellar, Bob Wyveck, Ray Rebbink, and Commander Ron Bauer (in charge of bringing donuts).



AUXILIARY COMMENTS

Happy Holidays to everyone and remember there is no meeting in December. If you have not paid your dues they are \$25.00 for the coming year and should be sent to Lisa Davis in care of the American Legion Post. They are due by the end of the year to keep current. I hope to see you at some of the activities at the Post, especially the Goodfellows wrapping.

Best Wishes, 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



Commander Ron Bauer, 1st Vice Commander Ed DeKoekkoek and Boy Scout Liaison Officer Dewie Jordan attended Banquet for Troop 165 with Scoutmaster Bruce Ostrow.

Andy's Draught

I know it's a long ways away, but June 30th 2013 I, along with 11 other Legion members, will be participating in a 12 mile obstacle course called the Tough Mudder. It is a fundraiser for the Wounded Warrior Project. Over the next 7 months we will all be training for this course that was designed by military special forces. Needless to say I have a lot of work ahead of me. Our goal as team "Mudders for Our Brothers" is to raise \$500 per teammate for the Wounded Warrior Project. With the Legion's blessing we will be hosting a dinner next spring as well as other fundraising activities. Feel free to check out the course at www.toughmudder.com. Your support over the next 7 months will be greatly needed to keep me motivated and focused on the task at hand.

Your dues are due. If you haven't renewed already it is time to do so.

Our 1st Annual Wild Game dinner is Saturday December 1st. Tickets are available at the bar. They are \$8 each, but if you bring a dish to pass your ticket price will be refunded at the door. The Sweet Justice Band will be playing from 8pm-11:30pm. Proceeds from this dinner will go to the Flyin' Heroes organization.

The Kid's Christmas party will be Saturday the 8th. It will be similar to our party last year with games, crafts and cookie decorating for the kids. Santa and Mrs. Clause will be here for picture. There will be Christmas cards to be signed and decorated for our troops as well as a light lunch being served. The party will be from noon - 2pm. We ask that each child bring a new unwrapped toy for the Crusade for Toys campaign.

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

WEDNESDAY'S MENU

DECEMBER 5TH

MEATLOAF ALA CHOPS,
Green bean casserole, baked potato, roll
(The "A" Team)

DECEMBER 12TH

**"ALL YOU CAN EAT"
ZESTY SPAGHETTI**

garlic bread, salad (Coopersville Boys)

DECEMBER 19TH

**COUNTRY STYLE
PORK DINNER**

Mashed, veggie, and a roll. (Legion Riders)

DECEMBER 26TH

**NO DINNER
MERRY CHRISTMAS**

JANUARY 2ND

**NO DINNER
HAPPY NEW YEAR**

JANUARY 9TH

CHICKEN DINNER
(Ladies Aux.)

Thank a dinner volunteer next time you see them.... or become one. Have a great 2013!
Dinner Committee

It's almost time again for Chili Cook Off. 2013 Cook Off will take place on February 9th 2013. Sign up for Chili Cook Off is January 3rd 2013 at the post starting at 2:00 PM. Just 12 teams my sign up on a first come first served. Thanks, Phil Smith Chairman



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 one month 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 . Past Commander David L. MacKellar "Mack"



SAL COMMENTS

I'd like to wish everyone in the Legion family a very happy Holiday season! I hope you will take time to relax, enjoy time at the Legion with friends and family, and reflect on the year gone by. We are starting off December with a brand new event, the Wild Game dinner, which will be held on Saturday, December 1. Bring a wild game dish to pass, and come and enjoy many other wild game delicacies from your fellow members. It should be a great time and we hope to see this become an annual event.

There is always a lot going on at the Post during the Christmas and New Year's holidays and the SAL gets involved in many of the events. From Trivia Night to the kid's Christmas party to hosting the annual New Year's Eve Party, the SAL is hard at work. New Year's Eve is always one of the most popular events and sells out every year. This year tickets will be \$20 per person and our band will be the popular group, Sweet Justice. We will have appetizers, Clover Bar pizza, party favors, and a champagne toast at midnight to welcome the New Year. It's a really great time, and I hope to see you there. Advance purchase tickets are available at the Legion and I'm sure they will be going fast, so get yours early!

I also want to welcome our new members voted in at the November meeting: Francis Massucci, Douglas Tharpe, Jason Rauch, Scott Campbell, Dennis Winicki, David Vernon, Calvin Schans, Dan Nowak, Terry Rutherford, George Barker, Steven Brems, and Patrick Boruta. I hope you will come to one of our meetings (first Monday of every month) and get involved! You will meet a great bunch of guys, honor our Post's veterans, and do good work in the community...who wouldn't want to do that?

I want to end the year by giving a huge thanks to all the SAL members who volunteered their time for so many events this year. We could not host the large events we do each year (New Year's Eve, Vegas Night, Hawaiian Luau, Memorial Day Golf Outing, Salmon Festival, and many more), not to mention Burger Nights, the Legion Picnic and other activities around the Post, without your help! You volunteers are the heart and soul of the Post 28 SAL and I salute your hard work!

Wishing everyone a safe and joyous Holiday season...

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

8&40 Salon 499

May you have a blessed Christmas and a prosperous New Year. A reminder, if you haven't paid your dues please send it to Ann Kammeraad or leave it at the post for her. The amount is \$15.00, they have been raised from last year. Our next meeting will be February 12, 2013. Enjoy the holidays with family and friends. Chapeau, Char MacKellar

8 & 40 OFFICERS

Char MacKellar, Chapeau
Barb Kelly, Demi Chapeau Premier
Michele Stetts, Demi Chapeau Deuxieme
Ann Kammeraad, La Secretaire
Peggy Vermeer, La Cassiere
Cleo Phipps, L'Archiviste
Veloyce Hansen, L'Aumonier
Pat Vadas, L'Concierge
Cleo Phipps, L'Avocate
Ann Kammeraad, Le Pouvoir



LEGION RIDERS

December... there's a cold chill outside and the clouds are looking for a place to dump some snow. The outside Christmas lights are going up and you might even see your first snowman. The stores are playing Christmas music and hoping for a good sales season. For many of us this is a happy time of year as we look back at our childhood. Waking up Christmas morning and running out to the living room to see what Santa left us. We get to spend time with our families and loved ones and look forward to that great Christmas dinner.

This Christmas Eve some of us will go to church for the candlelight service like we have done since we were kids. We will keep in our prayers our men and women fighting in lands far away and those who can't be home with their families this Christmas because they are fighting for our freedom.

Please keep in prayer those that are in need out East from Sandy. Many don't have a home any more to have Christmas in. Also remember all the people and their families that have lost jobs across America.

We all have many things to be thankful for this season. One is the great bunch of people that make up the Post 28 Riders. Without you we couldn't do a lot of the things that we do. I'm looking forward to 2013, and some fun rides, maybe a weekend up north in the U.P., helping our Legion and Vets, the Legacy, Bike nights, and the Bash, and everything we do in between.

I also want to remind you that your Riders dues will be taken at the Dec. 13th Riders meeting, and they are still only \$12.00.

I wish every member of our American Legion Post a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Toby Ross (American Legion Riders Director)

HONOR GUARD

This past month we had 6 funerals. Honor Guard from the Army National Guard helped with 3 funerals.

Members of the Legion also went to Grand Haven Lakeshore Middle School for a Veterans Day program with the members of the Grand Haven VFW Honor Guard. Members also attended Veterans Day program at the Eternal Flame in Grand Haven.

This past month the Honor Guard lost 2 of its members. Robert Van Burgel and Lino Martinez we will miss both of you, our "Thoughts and Prayers" go out to the families.

The Honor Guard is in need of new members. If you would like to help out with Honor Guard activities please contact George Bennett or Dave MacKellar. Honor Guard Leader: George Bennett

LEGION RIDERS OFFICERS

Toby Ross, Riders Director
Mike Stressman, Sergeant-at-Arms
John Kemme, Secretary
Larry Foose, Treasurer
Bob Wydeck, Assistant Director
Pastor Wes Spyke, Chaplain
Sally Kemme, Membership Chair

A "Special Thank You" goes out to the members of the Auxiliary and the SAL for helping prepare the Veterans Day Dinner.



Past Commander Ken Ennenga, "Chairman of the Life Membership Committee", presented Life Membership Awards to Past Commanders Bill Kaufman and Garrett Veihl during the Veterans Day Dinner.

2nd Vice Commander Dave Carlson, Honor Guard Leader George Bennett, Coast Guard XO, Lieutenant Kevin McDonald and Commander Ron Bauer at the Veterans Day Dinner. Lieutenant McDonald was the Guest Speaker at the Veterans Day Dinner.

DECEMBER DRINK SPECIALS:
\$3.00 CHRISTMAS MARTINI

DECEMBER 2012

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<i>January ~ Happy New Year!, Las Vegas Night</i> <i>February ~ Chili Cook-Off, Hawaiian Luau</i> <i>March ~ American Legion Birthday Party, Annual Food Drive, St. Patrick's Day Party</i>					6PM BURGERS 8pm Entourage	1 6pm Wild Game Dinner
2	3 7:30 SAL Meeting ☛2 U-Call Tall	4 6pm House Comm. 7pm Post Meeting \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	5 5PM CHOPS MEATLOAF DINNER	6 6pm Goodfellows	7 6PM BURGERS 8pm Lakeshore Big Band	8 12pm Kids Christmas Party 6pm Karaoke
9	10 ☛2 U-Call Tall	11 7pm 8&40 Meeting \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	12 5PM ZESTY SPAGHETTI DINNER	13 7pm Legion Riders Meeting	14 6PM BURGERS 8pm Silvertones Band	15
16	17 ☛2 U-Call Tall	18 7pm Exec. Comm. \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	19 5PM COUNTRY STYLE PORK 7pm Trivia	20 7pm Goodfellows WRAPPING PARTY	21 6PM LEGION CHRISTMAS BUFFET 8pm Silverado Band	22 9am Goodfellows TOY DELIVERY
23	24 CLOSED ☛2 U-Call Tall	25 CLOSED MERRY CHRISTMAS!	26 NO DINNER	27	28 6PM BURGERS	29
30	NEW YEARS EVE 31 PARTY	CLOSED JAN. 1	2 NO DINNER			