

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](http://www.grandhavenlegion.org) Issue #1065

## Post #28 American Legion Officers

Dale "Rick" Chittenden, Commander  
David MacKellar, 1st Vice Commander  
Phil Smith, 2nd Vice Commander  
Butch Balk, Adjutant

Jim Thayer, Fiance Officer  
Chris Tanke, Chaplain  
Hugh Hyde, Judge Advocate  
Ed DeKoekKoek, Sergeant-At-Arms

Jim Walton, Ken Kelly, Service Officers  
George Bryant, Historian  
Ray Ribbink & Jack VanWeelden  
Executive Board at Large

Dick VanderStel,  
Past  
Commander



## POST #28 COMMANDERS COMMENTS



Our Post Meeting, January 5th, was well attended. I'm delighted by the new faces that we see every month. If you were one of those new faces I hope your expectations were met. The 50/50 drawing was won by David Bramer. The upcoming smoking ban was discussed briefly as was Don "Chops" Rescorla's Memorial Service in May. Next month's meeting will be held February 2nd. If you didn't lose all your money at Las Vegas Night January 30th, come on down for a dollar beer. We have an ATM machine.

I want to thank Ray Ribbink and the whole Goodfellow Gang for the wonderful job they did in collecting and distributing gifts for needy families here in the Tri-Cities area. Another fine example of our Legion Family stepping up and helping out in the community. Thanks to everyone.

This coming month the Legion has its Chili Cook-Off as well as the Hawaiian Luau. Always something to do at 700 S. Harbor Ave. We also feed you on Wednesday and Friday nights. C'mon down.

A little advance notice: March 13th is our Legion's 91st Birthday Bash. Prime Rib is only \$8.00 and seating is limited. This event is open to all Legion, SAL, and Aux. Members and their significant others. We may even have a spring-like day by then. Mark it on your calendar.

At the January meeting we voted in the following new members and transfers: Ken Reimink, John Mekins, John Highhill, William Major, James Johnson, Jeff Kriger, Lathan Lawton, and Nathan Taylor.

Taps were played for the following friends and members: Phil R. DuShane, Ronald A. Hoffmeyer, Robert Sloothaak, Arthur H. Schmidt, Mr. Aldrich, and Donald L. "Chops" Rescorla. These men and all those that passed away in 2009 will be sorely missed. God Bless Them.

Till next time, Commander Rick Chittenden

## CHAPLAINS CORNER

On December 22, 1944, through a party consisting of a major, captain, and two privates under a flag of truce, General Heinrich Freiherr von Lüttwitz sent the following ultimatum to Gen. McAuliffe who's 101st Division was desperately holed up at Bastogne, surrounded and greatly outnumbered by the Germans . . .

"To the U.S.A. Commander of the encircled town of Bastogne.

The fortune of war is changing. This time the U.S.A. forces in and near Bastogne have been encircled by strong German armored units. More German armored units have crossed the river Our near Ortheuville, have taken Marche and reached St. Hubert by passing through Hompre-Sibret-Tillet. Libramont is in German hands. There is only one possibility to save the encircled U.S.A. troops from total annihilation: that is the honorable surrender of the encircled town. In order to think it over a term of two hours will be granted beginning with the presentation of this note.

If this proposal should be rejected one German Artillery Corps and six heavy A. A. Battalions are ready to annihilate the U.S.A. troops in and near Bastogne. The order for firing will be given immediately after this two hours' term.

All the serious civilian losses caused by this artillery fire would not correspond with the well known American humanity."

General McAuliffe's unorthodox and now infamous reply . . .

"To the German Commander, "NUTS!" The American Commander."

'Gotta love tenacity in the face of adversity! So the next time you feel surrounded and outnumbered by the circumstances of life, try shouting out "NUTS TO THIS"! I'm sure the late general wouldn't mind if you borrowed his line!

Chaplain Chris



## Hawaiian Luau

February 27th, 2010 - Tickets \$15.00 per person  
Band - Souled Out - Limited 200 tickets



Past commanders Dick VanderStel, Garrett Veihl and Bill Kaufman continue to help support the Legion by delivering presents for "THE GOODFELLOWS".

**AUXILIARY OFFICERS**

Jean Wolniakowski, President  
Cleo Phipps, 1st Vice President  
Linda Gieske, 2nd Vice President

Ann Kammeraad & Cleo Phipps, Historian  
Char Mac Keller, Sergeant-At-Arms  
Jean Koehs, Past President

Ina Kaufman, Parliamentarian  
Mollie Pipp, Pat Best & Ruth Rescorla,  
Executive Board

**AUXILIARY PRESIDENTS COMMENTS**

Not much to report since there was no meeting in December. In January we will be looking at the "Pocket Flag Project" for active service members. We will work in combination with students in Spring Lake. We hired a new cook for events here at the Legion. Her name is Cindy Cagle. When you see her, welcome her to the Legion. Cindy is a sister to Tina at the bar. We will start working on our Poppy mailing this month. In closing, I want to extend my deepest sympathy to members Ruth Rescorla and Michelle Stetts on the passing of husband and father "Chops". Many of us worked with Chops on dinners and all agree he was the best. He was always ready to help the Auxiliary with anything we needed. We salute you Chops. President, Jean Wolniakowski

**FALLEN HEROES MEMORIAL MONUMENT COMMITTEE**

Now that we have the Grand Haven City Councils go ahead to put the Memorial in Central Park we have to start on our fund raising. With the Memorial cost in the range of \$125,000.00 to \$135,000.00 we have our job cut out for us during these difficult economic times.

We have \$4,800.00 in the bank and as you can see by the included picture the SAL have contributed \$5,000.00 as their initial contribution. We have some other tentative plans but are also looking to our Legion and Auxiliary membership for their individual contributions. We have received some but are anticipating many more.

You can make the contribution directly to the American Legion Post #28 and mark it for the FALLEN HEROES MEMORIAL. Shown in the picture from left to right: Ken Kelly, Larry Kuipers, Darrell Thornly and Finance Officer Rich Kelly and Commander T. L. Lowe of the SAL.



**ATTENTION SNOWBIRDS  
DUE TO LARGE AMOUNTS OF MAILINGS  
"YOU" ARE FULLY RESPONSIBLE  
FOR ANY AND ALL CHANGE OF  
ADDRESSES. EITHER SPRING OR FALL.**

**SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**

Applications for the 2010 American Legion Post 28 Gene Rothi Scholarship are available at the Grand Haven and Spring Lake High School Guidance Offices and also at Legion Post 28 office. Applications are due April 16th, 2010.  
Thank You Scholarship Committee

**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, Texas Hold' Em  
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  
2nd 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 Hattson, Post SAL Chairman  
 Mike Mattson, Membership Chair  
 Jeff VanderWeen, Adjutant

**SAL COMMANDERS COMMENTS**

How well are you doing with your New Year's Resolutions? Hopefully, they are still at the top of your list and you are making steady progress. If not, take time to reevaluate.

The SAL had a great New Year's Eve Party. The event sold out and a great time was had by all. I would like to thank the set-up committee: Paul Kubicek, Phil Young, Rocky Johnson, Dutch Vander Veen, Scott & Debbie Kelly and TL Lowe, and the cooking crew which consisted of Willis Kerridge, Chuck Yonker, Tom Glockzin, Ken & Pauline Melvin, Carl Lori, Alan & Gloria Van Dam, and Tom Greenberg. Through the efforts of this group we had an outstanding evening filled with food, laughter, dancing, and fellowship.

**Upcoming Events: Vegas Night - January 30th, Chili Cook-off - February 13th - Come down and see if you can pick the winners, Hawaiian Luau - February 27th Ticket \$15 per person (Band - Soul'd Out - limited to 200 people). Dinner at 7:00 Band 8:30 - 12:30 SAL Birthday Party - March 20th (Details to follow in the next Newsletter but I know we will be serving Lasagna)**

This past month we had 8 new members: Chad Thomson, Brandon Thomson, Mike Hutchins, Brad Suhecki, Fred Kaiser, Jr, Adam Kramer, Mike Potter, and Jason Stehouwer; and 1 Transfer member: Frank Cegelis, Jr (Post #258 Grand Rapids). We have reached 60% of our membership goal.

The SAL sends its condolences to the family of Don Rescorla (Chops). Chops will certainly be missed at the Grand Haven Post. The time, energy and devotion that he gave to our post can not be adequately described by words. May he and his family be kept in our thoughts and prayers. Sincerely, TL Lowe SAL Commander

**Andy's Draught**

As I am writing this we are at the beginning of a heat wave. We could see temps close to 40 tomorrow. What's even better... we are as warm here as are most parts of Florida. Nice.

Speaking of local warming trends, this month we are having are our 9th Annual Chili Cook Off (Saturday the 13th) and our SAL Hawaiian Luau (Saturday the 27th). The Chili Cook-Off will produce more of an internal rise in temp, where the Luau you dress like its 90 outside. Dig out your favorite tropical apparel and warm up with good food, good friends and a great band. Both events are open to the public. The Luau is a ticketed event. Get your tickets early because it will sell out.

Next month, we will be celebrating two birthdays. The Legion will be 91 and will be celebrated on Saturday the 13th with dinner and drinks. We will also be celebrating our Post's SAL 20th birthday on Saturday the 20th. These are not public events, but all Post members are invited. There will be tickets available for sale at the bar.

Keep an eye on the calendar for upcoming dinners, dates & dancing. February drink specials: \$3 Love Potion # 28 & \$1 12oz can beer every Tuesday. Cheers Andy



Auxiliary Member Barb Kelly and Granddaughter Julia Drabczyk Ring Bell for Salvation Army.

**HONOR GUARD**

This past month we had 6 funerals, all full Military. S/Sgt. Jason Abbott from the Army National Guard-Honor Guard Team attended the funeral for Richard Strevey, Sr. Air Force Honor Guard helped with the funeral for Ronald Hoffmeyer.

Members of Honor Guard, Commander Rick Chittenden, Past Commander's Bill Kaufman, Garrett Veihl, Chaplain Chris Tanke, Honor Guard Leader's George Bennett, David MacKellar and Legion Member Carl Lori stood Guard for the open house for Past Commander Donald "Chops" Rescorla. There will be a Memorial Service for "Chops" on May 22.

2009 the Honor Guard did 47 Funerals. The Rifle Team did 37 of the Funerals and 5 Special activities. George Bennett and Dave MacKellar attended G.H. Hall of Fame on behalf of Post # 28 name sake, Charles A. Conklin. Members did Program at New Holland School for Memorial Day and Program "Patriot Hall" at Ferry School with members from the V.F.W. Veterans Day Programs at Spring Lake Alternative Education School. Members also went to the 7th grade class at White Pines Middle School, in G.H. (With members from the V.F.W.) Honor Guard Leader George Bennett



**BE READY TO SHOW YOUR  
 2010  
 MEMBERSHIP  
 CARDS!!**

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Legion members interested in running for office for the 2010/2011 run should contact Ray Ribbink at 842-5310. If you have questions about certain offices and requirements please call Dale "Rick" Chittenden at 616-837-3810. Holding an office is a great way to contribute, and give back to our Veteran's organization. Thank You Commander Rick Chittenden


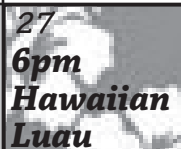


**The American Legion**  
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NON-PROFIT  
 ORG.  
 US POSTAGE  
 PAID  
 PERMIT NO. 129  
 GRAND HAVEN  
 MI 49417



**FEBRUARY 13, 2010**

FEBRUARY DRINK SPECIALS: \$3.00 Love Potion #28							<b>FEBRUARY 2010</b>						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 7:30pm SAL Meeting \$2 U-Call Tall	2 6pm House Comm. 7pm Post Meeting \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	3 5PM LAKE PERCH DINNER	4	5 6PM BURGERS 8pm Lakeshore Big Band	6	7	8 \$2 U-Call Tall	9 7pm 8 & 40 Meeting \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	10 5PM CHICKEN DINNER	11 7pm Legion Riders	12 NO BURGERS NO BAND	13 12pm CHILI COOK OFF 6pm Karaoke
14 	15 \$2 U-Call Tall	16 7pm Exec. Comm \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	17 NO DINNER	18 7pm Trivia	19 6PM BURGERS & FISH 8pm Silverado	20	21	22 \$2 U-Call Tall	23 7pm Aux Meeting \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	24 5PM SWISS STEAK DINNER	25	26 6PM BURGERS & FISH	27  6pm Hawaiian Luau
28	March 1 7:30pm SAL Meeting \$2 U-Call Tall	2 6pm House Comm. 7pm Post Meeting \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	3 5PM LAKE PERCH DINNER	4	5 6PM BURGERS & FISH 8pm Lakeshore Big Band	6 6pm Karaoke							