

# 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  
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Issue #1114

## COMMANDER'S COMMENTS



**LEADERSHIP** (Webster) "That ingredient personality which caused individuals to become a team."

I along with many others from our post attended The Leadership College held at Post 28 on January 11. I found out that there is no "I" in team and as a leader you must lead and not drive. Also cultivate a sense of humor and remember that every action is a reaction. "honor is given but respect is earned" Much can be learned spending a few hours of a Saturday to learn leadership qualities at the State leadership College.

Thanks to the SAL who came through with a \$800.00 gift to complete the cost for the Sound Abatement program which is scheduled to begin very soon. Remember this is your post and we are here to serve veterans and their families, so get involved.

Advance notice: the Legion birthday party is scheduled for Saturday March 15 for all legion member, Auxiliary, SAL, and their spouses. Commander Ed DeKoekoek

## American Legion Officers

Ed DeKoekoek, Commander  
David Carlson, 1st Vice Commander  
Bob Wydeck, 2nd Vice Commander  
Rick Chittenden, Adjutant  
Jim Thayer, Finance Officer  
George Bennett, Chaplain  
Garrett Veihl, Judge Advocate  
Nathan VanKampen, Sergeant-At-Arms  
Adam Shumaker, Service Officers  
David MacKellar, Historian  
Butch Balk and Chris Whalen  
Executive at Large  
Ron Bauer, Past Commander



The following members and friends of the Legion have had to face medical issues or deaths since we last met. Please reach out to them and their families if you feel so lead and keep all of them in your prayers.

Respectfully submitted,  
Chaplain: George Bennett  
Bob Wydeck  
Vince Antonich  
Dave Meints  
Doug Telgenhof



Color Guard Members: Dan MacKellar, Dave MacKellar, Harold Weaver, Bill Kaufman and Ray Ribbink, were at Northway Lanes in Muskegon. For opening ceremony for the Michigan State USBC Bowling Association. On Saturday January 11, 2014.





## AUXILIARY COMMENTS

Greetings Auxiliary Members, Winter has settled in, but Spring is right around the corner (hopefully!).

The Leadership Class on January 11th was well attended & very informative & engaging. Attendees included Auxiliary Department President Sandra Snyder & Unit 28 members Kathy Edwards, Barb Herron, & Michele Stetts, as well as many SAL & Post 28 Legionnaires. I encourage our members to participate and volunteer, whether for events at the Post, within our community, or at the Veterans' Home. Enjoy the activities at the Post

during February and the coming year. Our next General Meeting is February 25th at 7:00 p.m. Like us on Facebook (facebook.com/unit28ALA); you can check for upcoming events & meetings & view photos of activities.

2014 Membership News: As of January 13th, 895 members have renewed for 2014. Your 2013 membership card expired on December 31, 2013. If you have not renewed your membership for 2014, there's still time. You can mail your \$25 dues to the Auxiliary c/o Post 28. Respectfully, Michele Stetts, President

### AUXILIARY OFFICERS

Michele Stetts, President  
Charlene MacKeller, 1st Vice President  
Diane Kirk, 2nd Vice President  
Gloria Honey, Secretary  
Romayne Althaus, Treasurer  
Barbara Herron, Historian  
Peggy Vermeer, Chaplain  
Sgt. at Arms; Barb Kelly  
Ann Kammeraad, Past President



## WEDNESDAY DINNER MENU

### FEBRUARY 5TH

#### CHOP'S MEATLOAF DINNER

Scalped potatoes, green bean casserole, roll.  
The "A" Team.

### FEBRUARY 12TH

#### ALL-YOU-CAN EAT ZESTY SPAGHETTI

Salad, garlic toast (Coopersville Boys)

### FEBRUARY 19TH

#### COUNTRY STYLE PORK DINNER

Mashed, veggies, corn bread. (Legion Riders)

### FEBRUARY 26TH

#### Succulent Swiss Steak

Mashed, green bean casserole, roll.  
The "A" Team

### MARCH 5TH

#### Ash Wednesday

Maybe a surf and turf...  
Stay tuned...

PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR POST.

## Andy's Draught

Alright Everyone! You now can get your Legion fix 7 days a week all year long. We will be open every Sunday throughout the year. This time of year our Sunday hours are from 1-7pm. Once the warmer weather starts to settle in we will be extending our Sunday hours. Draft Miller Lite and Bud light are still only \$1 (Sundays only). We are looking for volunteers whip up some chili to serve. Feel free to bring a dish to pass or our Post Pizzas will be available.

We will be open for the Super Bowl with extended hours.

Our 13th Annual Chili Cook Off is Saturday the 8th. This is an adult function only. No minors allowed. The Post opens at noon, tastings will start around 3pm with the winners being announced around 6pm. Raffles will be going on throughout the day.

Saturday the 22nd the SAL will be hosting the Hawaiian Luau from 6-12am. This is a ticketed event and in always sells out. This is a great time with great people and a great band. Don't miss out.

I would like to take a minute to share with you something that I learned last weekend. We were able to host the Legion's Leadership College Saturday January 11th. This Leadership

College is put on by the Legion's State office as well as National. They go all over the state of Michigan teaching Legionnaires, Auxiliary and SAL members how to be great leaders and what the Legion does. We are much more than a local watering hole. We give back to our community, take care of our Veterans and instill Americanism in everything we do.

Throughout this 8 hour class they used our Post as an example of how a Legion should be run. From our Honor Guard teaching school kids proper flag etiquette and funeral services they provide for a fallen Veteran, to the overwhelming support we give the our community through Boys State and Girls State, to the membership recruiting and so many other things. We should be very proud of who we are and what we do. I know I am.

By the way, there will be a wine feature for this month. I just don't know what it is yet. I can tell you it will be \$3 per glass or \$10 for the bottle.

February drink specials: \$3 Post Punch, \$1 12oz can beer every Tuesday & \$1 drafts every Sunday.

Cheers  
Andy



Post # 28 hosted the Michigan American Legion Leadership College in January.

- 97th Commander.....Dave Carlson
- First Vice.....Bob Wydeck
- Second Vice.....
- Adjutant.....Rick Chittenden
- Finance Officer.....Jim Thayer
- Service Officers.....Adam Shumaker
- Service Officer.....
- Historian.....
- Chaplain.....George Bennett
- Sergeant At Arms.....Nathan VanKampen
- Executive At Large.....Chris Whalen
- Executive At Large..... Butch Balk
- Judge Advocate.....Garrett Veihl
- Past Commander.....Ed DeKoekoek

If you are a member in good standing and would like to inquire about ANY of these positions contact Rick Chittenden, Dave MacKellar, or Ron Bauer. For the Good of the Legion.

- April 2014....Proposed Nominees
- May 2014....Election of new officers
- June 2014....Initiation of new members
- July 2014....Swearing in of new officers





## SAL COMMENTS

Well, it's obvious that Winter is here in a big way, but we are tougher than it is! Now that we've survived the Polar Vortex (whatever the heck that was), and dug out from all the snow, it's time to have some fun! February is a really fun month for the Post 28 SAL.

On Saturday, February 15 from 6pm-8pm, we will hold an SAL Open House to highlight all the good things your SAL does throughout the year. We want to encourage you to attend and learn more about the various activities we participate in, the charities and causes we donate to, ways

you can get involved, and the fun and satisfaction we get from helping our Veterans. We will be providing FREE BEER AND PIZZA to all SAL members who attend the Open House. We will also announce the recipient of the new 'Tom "Cap'm" Glockzin Volunteer of the Year Award'. So no more excuses, c'mon out and join us for FREE BEER AND PIZZA, and find out more about how you can get involved in your SAL!

The following Saturday, February 22 is Hawaiian Luau time!! Our biggest and most popular event of the year, this one always sells out...so get your tickets early (\$20 at the Legion Bar)! Cocktails start at 6:00pm, then we'll have a delicious pork dinner at 7:00pm, followed by dancing to the classic tunes of the Beach Bashers. It's a great break in mid-Winter and a fun time, so get out your coconuts, Hawaiian shirts and grass skirts and join us for some umbrella drinks!

I'm looking forward to meeting all our new (and old) members at the SAL Open House!

Tom Greenberg, SAL Commander

### SAL OFFICERS

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

### 8&40 Salon 499

Happy Valentine's Day, our next meeting will be on February 11, 2014, 7:00 pm at our beautiful post. If you haven't paid your dues yet, you can do it at that time. Thank you ladies for supporting the children with Cystic Fibrosis and other respiratory diseases, may a cure be found soon. Chapeau, Char MacKellar

### 8 & 40 OFFICERS

Char MacKellar, Chapeau  
Barb Kelly, Demi Chapeau Premier  
Barbara Herron, Demi Chapeau Deuxieme  
Ann Kammeraad, La Secretaire  
Peggy Vermeer, La Cassiere  
Cleo Phipps, L'Archiviste  
Veloce Hansen, L'Aumonier  
Cleo Phipps, L'Avocate  
Ann Kammeraad, Le Pouvoir

### HONOR GUARD

This past month we had 6 funerals. Honor Guard from the Army National Guard helped with 4 funerals and Navy helped with 1 funeral. We want to thank the VFW Rifle Team for helping us out with the funeral for Robert Gardner, Sr.

Honor Guard for the 2013 year did 66 funerals, Rifle Team attended 59 of the funerals with 4 special events. 37 WWII Veterans, 10 Korean War Veterans, 18 Vietnam War Veterans and 1 Gulf War

Veteran.

This last year we lost one of our Honor Guard, Rifle Team members Past Commander Hugh Hyde he will be missed by us all.

Members of Legion and VFW did programs "Patriot Hall" at Ferry School, Veterans Day program at 7th grade class at Lakeshore Middle School, in G.H. and 2 programs with Hospice.

Honor Guard Leader: George Bennett

### MEMORIAL DAY COMMITTEE MEETING

Our first Memorial Day Meeting will be Monday, March 3rd at 7 PM. We will meet at the Grand Haven American Legion this year. Committee members, if you have questions or can't make it, please call me at 616-402-2206 or e-mail me at mackeda1@aol.com. Looking forward to a great Memorial Day. Past Commander David MacKellar



## LEGION RIDERS

This month always seems like the coldest month of Winter except for this year. I think we have had enough already. I know by the time you get this newsletter we will be on the downhill side of Winter, sliding into March. I always feel that March is the turning point. I can maybe get the bike out for a short cold ride here and there.

Okay, I need to quit dreaming. Back to February. At this month's Riders meeting we will be having nominations for our 2014 officers. Yes, it is that time of year again. We want

to get our new officers in place so they have time to plan for the new riding season. At the March meeting we will elect officers and they will take over in April. March will be my last Riders meeting as your ALR Director.

As for our Winter get-togethers we have had great turnouts. It has been fun to see and talk and laugh with everyone. I am planning the last two get-togethers. We will be going to Whitlows on February 8th at 5pm and Vic's on March 8th. I will send out emails to remind everyone.

Also the Riders will be doing hot dogs and chips on the 4th Tuesday in February and March. In April we will start Bike Night up again on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays through September. We will serve 1/4 lb hot dogs or brats with potato salad, baked beans and a \$1.00 drink ticket.

We have a lot to look forward to and warmer weather is one of them. Think Spring. Ride safe.

Toby Ross, ALR Director

## SAL OPEN HOUSE

6pm - 8pm

**Feb. 15**

**FREE BEER  
AND PIZZA**

to all **SAL** members  
that attend.

### LEGION RIDERS OFFICERS

Toby Ross, Riders Director  
Mike Stressman, Sergeant-at-Arms  
John Kemme, Secretary  
Larry Foose, Treasurer  
Bob Wydeck, Assistant Director  
Robert Butcher, Chaplain  
Sally Kemme, Membership Chair  
Burl Newbill, Ride Captain



**Our 13th Annual  
CHILI COOK-OFF  
Feb 8, 2014.  
11AM - 6PM**

Remember this is an adult function only, no one under 21 please.

FEBRUARY DRINK SPECIALS: \$3.00 POST PUNCH		<b>FEBRUARY 2014</b>					February ~ Chili Cook-Off, Hawaiian Luau March ~ American Legion Birthday Party, Annual Food Drive, St. Patrick's Day Party
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
						1 6pm Karaoke	
2 \$1 Draft	3 7:30 SAL Meeting \$2 U-Call Tall	4 6pm House Comm. 7pm Post Meeting \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	5 5PM CHOP'S MEATLOAF DINNER	6 7pm ALR Meet	7 6PM BURGERS	8 11AM CHILI COOK OFF	
9 \$1 Draft	10 \$2 U-Call Tall	11 7PM 8& 40 MEETING \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	12 5PM ALL-YOU-CAN EAT ZESTY SPAGHETTI	13	14 6PM BURGERS	15 6PM SAL Get Together	
16 \$1 Draft	17 \$2 U-Call Tall	18 7pm Executive Board \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	19 5PM ROAST PORK DINNER	20 7pm Trivia	21 6PM BURGERS	22 6pm SAL LUAU	
23 \$1 Draft	24 \$2 U-Call Tall	25 7pm Auxiliary Meeting \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	26 5PM SWISS STEAK DINNER	27	28 6PM BURGERS	MAR. 1 6pm Karaoke	