

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 #1101

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
Butch Balk and Bill Kaufman
Executive at Large
Phil Smith, Past Commander

COMMANDER'S COMMENTS



A bitter, cold 30-knot northerly wind is driving huge "grey beards" down Lake Michigan and up over the pier heads, whipping the beautiful holiday garlands and ribbons decorating our Post, and dusting the surrounding dunes with the Season's first layer of 'lake effect' snow. A good time to hunker down and say thanks to all who have helped us through the busy Holiday Season. First, we owe special thanks to the Mattson Foundation for making the Post's beautiful outside Holiday decorations possible. We also thank our incredible Post volunteers (Be they Angels?) who have been busier than ever providing services and supporting programs to help children, persons less fortunate or ill, and those far from home serving our Nation enjoy the Holiday Season knowing they are remembered and appreciated. We kicked off the Season's festivities with our Color Guard leading the 'Jingle Bell Parade' past hundreds of excited children lining our main street. This was followed by the Post's first Wild Game Dinner at which the serving tables (and eventually patrons' stomachs) were filled with truly delicious wild meat, fish, fowl and side dishes, as served by a Legion/SAL kitchen crew and provided by our sports men and women members and guests. Our annual Kids Christmas Party was also a hit with games, card making for troops in Afghanistan, and gift giving, led by Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus who looked great! (Yes Virginia, that is a real beard!). As I write this, the 2nd floor is filled with children's presents donated through the Crusade for Toys program being sorted, boxed and readied for our joyful Wrapping Party and delivery by Ray Ribbink and his Goodfellows who thereby bring so much joy to less fortunate children each year. Bill Kaufman is martialing his merry band of Salvation Army 'Bell Ringers' (the 'Fearless Frozen'), and our SAL volunteers are preparing to help bring in the New Year with our Post New Year's Eve Party. Scurrying about amidst all these volunteers and activities is Darrel Myers' Building and Grounds work crew, many other unsung volunteers and Andy and his crew, without whom these events would not happen... and the Post could not function. Thanks to All for All you have done in 2012! By the time you read this, the above events will be history, and the Post will be preparing for our next major events, most notably our annual Chili Cook Off in early February. (See Andy's article and January Calendar below for more information on upcoming events.) In the meantime, please support your Post by attending our next Post Meeting on Tuesday, January 8th and our Wednesday Legion Dinners and Friday Burger Nights. Or simply stop in to get out of the cold and wind and enjoy some sincere warmth, hospitality, games, sports TV and libations provided by Andy and his friendly Crew. A last reminder: as of January 1st, you must show a 2013 membership card to be served. On behalf of all at Post 28, we wish you and yours, --- and especially our service men and women and their families ---, a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year and beyond! - Ron Bauer, Commander

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome to new and transferred members: New - Orval Conine, Ray Duck II (on active duty), Kerry Krakhofer, and Mark Sullivan. Transfers - Kenneth Bordua, Chad Damm (on active duty) and Robert Rankin.



Taps were played for: William Griswold, S/ Sgt Donald Novell, George Steele, Donald VanDyke, Army Specialist Zach Shanafelt (died from complications due to injuries sustained in Afghanistan), former POW/ MIA Army Sgt. John Jones, KIA 1971 in Vietnam, buried at Arlington National Cemetery, 6 December 2012.

The following members and friends of the Legion have had to face medical issues or deaths recently. Please consider reaching out to them and/or their families and of course, keep all of them in your prayers.

Chaplain Chris •Leonard Kanouse •Hugh Hyde •Vince Antonich •Roman Marciniak •Dave MacKellar

Chili cook off is fast approaching, sign-up is January 3rd 2013 starting at 2:00 PM, the cook off is February 9th 2013. Doors open at 12:00 noon. Hope to see all of you there,
Phil Smith
Chairman



Legion Riders Director Toby Ross and Assistant Director Bob Wydeck presented new service flags to Commander Bauer and Past Commander MacKellar. The new flags will be installed on the flag poles in April 2013.





AUXILIARY COMMENTS

Welcome to the New Year. Now that the holiday festivities are over, it isn't time to hibernate. See the SAL column for many occasions to have fun at the Post. We will have our next Auxiliary meeting on January 22, at 7:00PM. Please join us for a short business meeting followed by dessert and coffee. If your dues were not paid by Dec. 31, 2012, you are delinquent and it will cause you to lose bar and club privileges after January 31, 2013. We had a great group shopping for the Goodfellows & your time doing that can go on Community Service along with other volunteering you do in the area.
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 PIPPS, Historian
Peggy Vermeer, Chaplain
Sgt. at Arms; Barb Kelly
Cleo Phipps, Past President



Commander Ron Bauer presented Building and Grounds Chairman Darrel Myers with a "Certificate of Appreciation" for all the work he does to help keep our American Legion building up and running.

Andy's Draught

Happy New Year!

Thank you to everyone involved in our 1st Annual Wild Game Dinner. It was a huge success with over 150 people in attendance. The menu included buffalo meatball, elk meatloaf, venison bbq, venison goolosh, duck stew, squirrel and so much more. The food was great, the band has awesome and everyone had a great time. We helped raise enough money to take about 5 Veterans fly fishing through the Flyin' Heroes organization. Plan on this being added to our list of annual parties.

Be ready to show your new 2012 card because we will be checking. If you haven't renewed yet you're delinquent. Shame on you.

Keep your eye on the calendar for our upcoming dinners, bands & events.

January drink specials: \$2.50 Good & Plenty, \$2 You Call Tall every Monday & \$1 12oz can beer every Tuesday Cheers Andy



"Our Post sporting it's Grand Haven Garden House professionally-prepared and -mounted Holiday decorations courtesy of the Mattson Foundation. "Howard's kind spirit lives on!"

WEDNESDAY'S MENU

JANUARY 2ND
NO DINNER
HAPPY NEW YEAR

JANUARY 9TH
CHICKEN DINNER
Ladies Aux. Always delicious.

JANUARY 16TH
"ALL YOU CAN EAT"
ZESTY SPAGHETTI
garlic bread, salad (Coopersville Boys)

JANUARY 23RD
COUNTRY STYLE
PORK DINNER
Mashed, veggie, and a roll. (Legion Riders)

JANUARY 30TH
SUCULENT SWISS STEAK
Mashed, Veggie and Roll (The "A" Team)

Brave the weather this Winter and have dinner with us. "For the Good of the Legion"



Kids Christmas Party
December 8, 2012





SAL COMMENTS

The Post 28 SAL lost one of its longest-serving and most dedicated members when Past SAL Commander (and current Chaplain) Tom "Cap'm" Glockzin passed away unexpectedly just before Thanksgiving. A 1970 graduate of Grand Haven HS, Cap'm was involved in every SAL activity throughout the year, and had helped start many of our most popular events, like Trivia and the Hawaiian Luau. He was a tireless volunteer and his positive attitude and commitment to the SAL will be greatly missed. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his wife, Becky, their family members, and all his close friends in the Legion family. We'll always pop a cold Coors Light for Cap'm at every SAL event...fact!

December is always an incredibly busy month for the SAL. This year was no different, as we started it off with our first ever Wild Game Dinner. The dinner was a huge success, with proceeds going to the Flying Heroes charity that takes wounded veterans fly fishing. The SAL crew, led by Past SAL Commander Willis Kerridge, made a large array of dishes, including: Elk Meatloaf, Venison BBQ, Venison Goulash, Bison & Sausage Meatballs, Grilled Venison wrapped in bacon, Grilled Duck wrapped in bacon, Grilled Salmon, Smoked Salmon, Duck Stew over wild rice, and more. Add to that all the extremely tasty dishes brought by some of the attendees, and we had a wild game feast fit for a king! We had about 150 people turn out...an awesome response for an introductory event. We are already planning to do it again next year, even bigger and better. Special thanks to Willis, Andy, Chuck, Rocky, Al, Carl, Tom S., Paul, Charlie, the fellas from Coopersville, and everyone else who helped make this event a huge success.

SAL was also involved with all the Post's Christmas events, ranging from the Goodfellow's Christmas gift delivery to Trivia Night and the kid's Christmas Party. And of course, the year ended with the annual New Year's Eve party...always a great time, as the SAL prepared appetizers, served Clover Bar pizza and champagne, and everyone danced to the jams of Sweet Justice. Ringing in the New Year at the Legion is always affordable and fun, so plan to join us next year for this great party!

Last, but certainly not least, we are bringing our SAL chapter into the digital age for the New Year! In an effort to connect all our SAL membership and help get information out to everyone in the Legion family, the Post 28 SAL has started our own Facebook Page. Please do a search for the "Sons of the American Legion Charles A. Conklin Michigan Post #28" on Facebook and "like" our page to get all the latest info on our events and activities! We are also beginning to create an electronic database of our membership. This should allow us to communicate better and get more members involved in all our great community activities. Thanks to Brock Rodgers and Mike Brown for their invaluable assistance with this process!

Here's hoping you all have a happy, healthy, prosperous 2013...see you at the Legion!
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

Happy New Year! Our 8 & 40 Salon will not have a meeting in January. The next meeting will be February 12, 2013. If you haven't paid your dues for 2013, please pay them to Ann Kammeraad. You could also leave them in an envelope at the post for her. There is a raise in the dues for the new year, the amount is now \$15.00. Thank you. 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

HONOR GUARD

This past month we had 5 funerals. Honor Guard from the Army National Guard helped with 1 funeral. Commander Ron Bauer, 2nd Vice Commander Dave Carlson, Past Commanders Bill Kaufman, Rick Chittenden, Dave MacKellar and Honor Guard member Dan MacKellar with SAL Past Commander TL Lowe were members of the Color Guard for the Jingle Bell Parade.

The Honor Guard is in need of new members. If you would like to help out with Honor Guard activities please contact George Bennett (geoabsr@comcast.net) or Dave MacKellar (mackeda1@aol.com).
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

LEGION RIDERS



January 2013....a new year of pork dinners, burger nights, bike nights, helping our Legion and Vets, the Legacy and more.

I hope everyone had a great Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year. It's a long hill, but I would like to think we are on the down hill side to Spring. I know going for a ride sounds pretty good right now.

The Post 28 Riders don't have much going on this month other than our pork dinner.

I would like to thank our Riders that volunteered their time to help the Salvation Army as bell ringers in December. Also I would like to thank the Buildings and Grounds crew for cleaning, maintaining equipment, and for taking care of our building and grounds in 2012. You guys ROCK.

I'd also like to thank the ALR for doing all the pork dinners, burger nights, bike nights and the Bash. We had great turn outs on all of our rides this past year and the donations we were able to give helped so many people. It's all of you, the Riders that make all these things work and make this ALR one of the best. I'm glad that I'm one small part of this GREAT bunch of Post 28 Riders. Thank you!

Lets make 2013 another great year! Toby Ross (American Legion Riders Director)

