

# 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 #1113

## COMMANDER'S COMMENTS



**PARTICIPATE:** Take part in something. Last month I attended the Legion Rider December meeting and came away very impressed. Although the Riders are the smallest group they filled the Auxiliary room. Also I attended the Eagle Scout court of honor and the statement was made that only 4 of 100 who entered scouting attain Eagle scout rank. I know that I have attended many of these ceremonies in the past few years and more than 4 out of 100 have attained this rank in Troop 165. How can each one of us participate in Post 28 meetings to fill our meeting hall to capacity. See you at the next meeting!

December, the month of giving, has been a great success with the Goodfellows, Children's Christmas Party and many other events to cheer the hearts of both the giver and the receiver.

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

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome to the new members and transfers who joined in December 2013. Michael J. Ey, Richard H. Meyers, Scott C. Morrison, Kyle M. Scherf, and Chelsea D. Stariha. Transfers were Lewis H. Jones, Barry L. Webber, Patrick L. Cuddohy, and Charles E. Westra.

Taps were played for 2 members who passed on to Glory Robert Twa and Edward Beebe Jr.



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  
Roman Marciniak  
Vince Antonich  
Dave Meints  
Ron Bauer  
Garrett Veihl



Just a few of the American Legion Members that helped ring the Bell for the Salvation Army at Orchard Market, Spring Lake and Walmart, Grand Haven.

Pictured: Past Commander Bill Kaufman, Past Commander Dave MacKellar and Grandson Carter MacKellar (Junior SAL member), Honor Guard member Leo DeGram, Honor Guard Member Jack Gardner, Legion Member Don Veeneman



12/04/20



## AUXILIARY COMMENTS

Greetings Auxiliary Members,  
Happy New Year! May you & your families be blessed throughout the year.

In December: Twelve Auxiliary members put together & delivered 300 fruit plates to veterans and wives of veterans in local assisted-living centers & nursing homes. Myrna Puse was Unit 28's representative who assisted veterans in choosing & wrapping gifts for their families at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans Christmas Gift Shop. Over 50 Auxiliary members volunteered for the Goodfellows program by purchasing warm clothes for 334 children (158 families). Thank you to all who volunteered their time. On December 7th the Legion, SAL, & Auxiliary presented the colors in the Jingle Bell Parade. Hope you all enjoyed the Christmas Buffet on December 20th & the New Year's Eve Party.

In January: A Leadership College class is coming to Post 28 on Saturday, January 11th from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Lunch is provided. Check your Legionnaire newspaper for the registration form or sign up online at Michiganlegion.org. On January 21st at 7:00 p.m., there is a 5th District Meeting at the Roger B. Chaffee Post 154 in Grand Rapids, MI. Our next Unit 28 General Meeting is Tuesday, January 28th at 7:00 p.m. upstairs at the Post.

2014 Membership News: We have over 1,200 members on our roster; as of December 10th, 2013, 799 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. Kathy Edwards (Membership Chair) and I will be collecting dues & passing out membership cards at the Post on January 3rd, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Or you can mail your \$25 dues to the Auxiliary c/o Post 28. Reminder: if you leave your dues (without a renewal notice) at the bar, please print your name, address, & phone number on an envelope with your dues sealed inside.

Respectfully, Michele Stetts, President [mstetts@charter.net](mailto:mstetts@charter.net)  
(616) 901-8331 Auxiliary fan page: [facebook.com/unit28ALA](https://www.facebook.com/unit28ALA)  
Auxiliary email: [ala28publicity@gmail.com](mailto:ala28publicity@gmail.com)

### 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

**JANUARY 1ST**  
**HAPPY NEW YEAR POST 28.**  
**NO DINNER**

**JANUARY 8TH**  
**CHOP'S MEATLOAF DINNER**  
Scalped potatoes, green bean casserole, roll.  
The "A" Team.

**JANUARY 15TH**  
**ALL-YOU-CAN EAT ZESTY SPAGHETTI**  
Salad, garlic toast (Coopersville Boys)

**JANUARY 22ND**  
**COUNTRY STYLE PORK DINNER**  
Mashed, veggies, corn bread. (Legion Riders)

**JANUARY 29TH**  
**Succulent Swiss Steak**  
Mashed, green bean casserole, roll.  
The "A" Team

**FEBRUARY 5TH**  
**CHOP'S MEATLOAF DINNER**  
Scalped potatoes, green bean casserole, roll.  
The Fr"A'n Team.  
The Dinner Committee hopes 2014 is good to you. Please come out and support your volunteers on Wednesdays. Thank you.

## Andy's Draught

Happy New Year!

January kicks off a great first quarter for us, starting with the SAL Vegas Night the 25th, then the Chili Cook-Off two weeks later and two weeks after that is the SAL Hawaiian Luau. These parties are a great way to cure your winter blues.

Okay, enough with the pleasantries. Beer prices are going up. Sorry, I had to do it. I haven't raised the price of our can beer in 8 years and we average 2-3 price increases every year from our distributors. It's time. Here are the new prices. All can beer is going up to \$2 and all bottled beer is \$2.50. Miller Lite and Bud Light pints will be dropping to \$2. Pitchers of beer will be \$6 for Miller Lite and Bud Light and \$10 for whatever premium beers we have on tap. We will still have our \$1 cans every Tuesday and our liquor, wine and pop prices will all remain the same.

I am working on plans to add 2 more craft beers on tap. I am going to focus on only offering Michigan craft beers. Let me know if you have any favorites you would like to see down here.

If you haven't renewed your dues yet you are delinquent. Be ready to show your 2014 membership card because we will be checking everyone and probably be asking for it more than once.

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

January drink specials: \$3 Good & Plenty, \$1 12oz can beer every Tuesday and \$2 you call talls every Monday.

Cheers Andy







## SAL COMMENTS

There is nothing like the holiday season to make you want to spend quality time with good friends and family, especially our Legion family. The SAL got the holidays off to a great start by hosting the Wild Game Dinner. The food was incredible, and a lot of money got raised for The Healing Heroes program that takes veterans on fly fishing adventures. We had marinated duck and goose, moose meatloaf, elk meatloaf, buffalo meatballs, venison wrapped in bacon, ultimate cheesy potatoes, mac & cheese, teriyaki salmon, elk stroganoff, pheasant pot pie, roast bear, deep

fried cod, mule deer meatballs and much more...it was an amazing, delicious spread! Thanks to all our SAL volunteers who spent the day cooking and serving to make this event possible!

Our next big SAL event is on New Year's Eve. We'll be serving appetizers until 8:00, and then Clover Bar pizza at 10:00, and sparking wine and party favors at midnight. We'll be dancing to the sounds of Amalgamated Sound, and it should be a rocking good time! Please come join us for the best New Year's Eve party in town!

Coming up on January 25, is Las Vegas Night...a chance to hang out with your friends and play a little poker, blackjack, or spin the Money Wheel. We are still looking for volunteers, so please sign up at the Legion Bar for this fun night.

On February 15, we are having our first SAL Open House. This event is open to all SAL members and spouses. We will be talking about all of the good causes and charities that the SAL supports through the year, and looking for some fresh faces to join us in volunteering. We are in the SAL to honor veterans and to raise money for veteran's causes and charity. We would love to have each of you join us in this effort...it feels so great when you help someone less fortunate than yourself! To celebrate the efforts and success of the Post 28 SAL, we will have free beer and pizza for all SAL members at the Open House, so please come check it out!!

The very next weekend, on February 22, we will host the annual Hawaiian Luau. This is our most popular event of the year, and always sells out. Put on your hawaiian shirts, grass skirts, leis and please come join us for some great food, great music, great friends and great fun!

I hope each of you gets the chance to spend the holidays with your loved ones, doing the things that you most want to do. Please take time to remember our armed forces serving at home and overseas who are not able to be with friends and family, especially those who are in harm's way. They are giving up their comfort, happiness and safety to keep the rest of us safe and free!

Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas, Happy New Year!

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 New Year, we hope you and your family will have a wonderful 2014! Our 8 & 40 Salon will not have a meeting in January. Our next meeting will be February 11, 2014. If you haven't paid your 2014 dues yet, you may pay them to Ann Kammeraad, they are \$15.00. If you would prefer, you may pay at the American Legion, just put your money in an envelope. Thank you 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 3 funerals. Army National Guard helped with 1 funeral. Honor Guard members attended Veterans program at Lakeshore Middle School, Veterans day program at the Flame, Honored 3 Veterans here at the post that had not received their Awards from the service, We Honor Veterans at Heartwood Lodge and Flag raising program at Robinswood Assisted Living.

Honor Guard Leader: George Bennett



Chili cook-off is fast approaching. Our 13th Annual cook-off is Feb 8, 2014. Sign up is Jan. 7th at 2:00 PM at the post, see Phil Smith. There's A \$25.00 entry fee to the first 10 teams. Remember this is an adult function only, no one under 21 please.



## LEGION RIDERS

Another year has gone by. I want to thank our Post 28 Riders for all their donations they were able to give this past year. As we face the cold winter months to come we can remember the rides and good friends that shared them with us. Thanks for another safe year. I want to leave you with a poem from a Marine stationed in Okinawa. (See the back page for the poem)

### 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

## Kids Christmas Party December 14, 2013.



JANUARY DRINK SPECIALS:  
\$3.00 CHRISTMAS MARTINI

# JANUARY 2014

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  Post Closed	2  7pm ALR Meet	3  6PM BURGERS	4  6pm Karaoke
5	6  7:30 SAL Meeting \$2 U-Call Tall	7  6pm House Comm. 7pm Post Meeting \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	8  5PM CHOP'S MEATLOAF DINNER	9	10  6PM BURGERS	11  8:30am Leadership College
12	13  \$2 U-Call Tall	14  \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	15  5PM ALL-YOU-CAN EAT ZESTY SPAGHETTI	16  7pm Trivia	17  6PM BURGERS	18
19	20  \$2 U-Call Tall	21  7pm Executive Board \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	22  5PM COUNTRY STYLE PORK DINNER	23	24  6PM BURGERS	25  6pm SAL Vegas Night
26	27  \$2 U-Call Tall	28  7pm Auxiliary Meeting \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	29  5PM SWISS STEAK DINNER	30	31  6PM BURGERS	Feb. 1  6pm Karaoke