

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 #1070

## Post #28 American Legion Officers

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

Jim Thayer, Finance 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



The May membership meeting was attended by more than 100 veterans and guests. 36 veterans took part in the initiation. The WWII guys said it was the most they could remember. I encourage those new members to regularly attend the meetings the first Tuesday of each month. Thanks to all of them. Soon to be new Commander David "Mack" MacKellar won the 50/50 and donated his portion to the Fallen Heroes Monument Fund. Nice. SAL Commander T.L. Lowe presented a check to the membership to help offset the cost of the new roof, parking lot resurface, and boiler. The amount was above and beyond the call of duty. It was a perfect example of how our Legion Family works together. We have each others back. Thank you gentlemen.

My tenure as Commander is rapidly coming to a close. It goes so fast. I'd like to see one more big push in 2010 membership dues, as well as volunteerism at the kitchen level. It's so easy to help a couple hours a month. Just see our

Post Manager, Andy, at the bar and ask him what you could do for your Post. It's fun and rewarding.

The June membership meeting on the 1st may have some financial and business protocol issues to vote on. As many veteran organizations seem to be "good old boy" groups, ours here in Grand Haven, with its large number of SAL, Ladies Auxiliary, and Legionnaires, makes it critical to conduct ourselves in a professional business manner. Finance Officer Jim Thayer has done a wonderful job in tweaking the day to day banking and insurance practices, but there are a couple loose ends I'd like to tie up. Your feedback at the next meeting would be appreciated.

Be sure and celebrate Flag Day this month. If you have an old flag that's seen better days, get a new one, and bring the old one down to the Post. We have periodic flag burning ceremonies to take care of "Old Glory" the proper way. Also, Father's Day is the 20th. Remember Dad by bringing him down to the Post and taking in the "scenery". :)

Taps were played for: Lt. Colonel James Korecki, Jerry Davison, and Army Sergeant Michael K. Ingram Jr. of Monroe Mi., who died in Kandahar Afghanistan, serving his country. We salute you.

The following new applicants and transfers were voted into Post #28, Charles A. Conklin, Grand Haven, MI. Dean Williams, James McDaniels, Steven Strazanac, John Penning, David Sleaman, Jerry Stack, Roger Cippara, Matthew Bowyer, Farrell Tompkins, Raymond Prins, William Hunter, Michael Carl, Ralph Wiltse, Robert Smith, Jamie Carlson, Harold Westcomb, Gregory Watters, Paul Vanderwater, John Beernink, Todd Huffman, and Lawrence Kallio, Jr. Congratulations to these new members. That brings new membership for 2010 up approximately 150 members. Thanks to all. Support your Post.  
Until the 4th of July Weekend, Rick Chittenden Commander

## Fallen Heroes Memorial Monument Committee C/O American Legion Post 28

700 South Harbor Avenue Grand Haven, Michigan 49417

The fund drive is going well. We are receiving donations from members regularly and we thank you for them. We are in receipt of 30% of our \$130,000.00 goal. We have a deck brick program planned and will have the paperwork available shortly for donors to fill out and submit with the donation.

Co-Chair: Ken Kelly Phone: 616-846-2329

Co-Chair: Max Riekse Phone: 231-865-3238

## 2010 Gene Rothie American Legion Scholarship

Sara Ann Rudy  
Granddaughter of George Bennett

Paul Ortega  
Grandson of Ted Brown

Charles Ainsworth  
Grandson of Calvin (Bud) Ainsworth

Abrielle Case  
Granddaughter of David Harden

Congratulations to this year's recipients.



## Riders Directors Comments

Ah yes, it is once again time to dust off, shine up, and fuel those beautiful machines we call motorcycles and hit the road. Its been a long winter. The legion riders at post 28 have been preparing all winter for the riding season and now that it is here we are eager to get going.

We began our training on safe riding as a group and are ready to put what we have learned into practice. We are starting to plan our rides and events for the summer and it looks like we have some great rides coming up. Just to name a few. June 19th we will be attending the "Lest We Forget Veteran Tribute" in St Joseph. In July we will be going to the Viet Nam veteran welcome home event in Grand Rapids and in August we will be participating in the national legion legacy run in Indianapolis and the A.L.R. romp and the national convention in Milwaukee. We will also be sponsoring the Michigan Viet Nam wall again this year here at the post during the Coast Guard Festival. Thanks to all the riders who showed up to help at the dinners and work sessions this past winter. We ride to support our troops and their families and to support our post and community.  
Please ride safe and responsibly Billy - Riders Director

**AUXILIARY OFFICERS**

Jean Koehs, President  
 Cleo Phipps, 1st Vice President  
 Ruth Kelly, 2nd Vice President

Ann Kammeraad, Secretary  
 Romayne Althaus, Treasurer  
 Jean Wolniakowski, Past President

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

**AUXILIARY PRESIDENTS COMMENTS**



We are into spring and enjoying the sunshine. Hope summer is quick to follow. Thanks to everyone who helped with the Poppy mailing. A job well done! Congratulations to our 2010-2011 officers. Hats off to President – Jean Koehs, 1st VP – Cleo Phipps, 2nd VP – Ruth Kelly, Secretary – Ann Kammeraad and Treasurer – Romayne Althaus. Thank you for your commitment and I ask every member to give them your support. Installation will be held at the June meeting. All are welcome to attend. Each year the American Legion Auxiliary sponsors an Americanism Essay Contest for students in grades 3 – 12. The Theme this year is “What is My Patriotic role as a U.S. Citizen?” Fifth district had two winners who have been sent on to compete at the District level. Winners at District will receive \$100 and move on to National level. Good Luck to Madison Miller of Spring Lake (Class I, 3rd & 4th grade) and Joe Richards of Grand Haven (Class III, 7th & 8th grade). Department also sponsors an essay contest with a theme “Americanism our privilege, honor and right...How is it affected by the media?” Congrats to Jake Mitchell Arnold of Grand Haven (Class I, grades 6, 7 and 8). Jake will also advance to the District level. Good luck as these students moves on. We'll keep you posted.

**HONOR GUARD**

This past month we had 4 funerals. Army National Guard came to 3 of the funerals and members of the Patriot Guard and our Legion Riders came to the funeral for Lt. Colonel James Korecki. Dave MacKellar and George Bennett went to Fort Custer for the Memorial Service for Fred Westra brother of Honor Guard member Jake Westra. George and Dave presented the flag during the service. The Fort Custer Honor Guard let us take part with 2 funerals that day. What a “Great Honor” to work with the members from Fort Custer Honor Guard Team.

Honor Guard Leader George Bennett



36 veterans were sworn in as new members of American Legion.

*Flag Day*



June 14th

**SPECIAL ADVANCED COAST GUARD WEEKEND MEETING**

There will be a Pre-Coast Guard meeting Tuesday night June 29th at the Post. It will start at 7 pm. If you have volunteered in the past, present, or plan to volunteer to help at the Post, Friday and Saturday, please plan on attending. Last year Chops served 1100 chicken dinners. He had lots of help. I was standing next to him when we ran out at 6:55 Saturday night. 5 minutes till closing. It was remarkable. The man had a gift, and was always calm. This years volunteers will receive a special T-shirt. Hope to see some new faces as well as the veterans of this fun weekend. Mark June 29th on your calendar, Thanks, Commander Rick

**Last call to get a raffle ticket for the Chops Rescorla Memorial Quilt.**

A portion of the proceeds will go to The Fallen Heroes Monument Fund in the Rescorla Family's name. A portion will go back to The Quilts of Valour Group who do this worthwhile service for our veterans. Drawing is scheduled for June 1st immediately following the Membership Meeting at around 8 pm at the Post. Need not be present to win. The quilt includes a personalized label of the winners choice sewn on as well as a laundering before possession. Tickets are \$5 each or 3 for \$10.



**NOTICE AMERICAN LEGION POST 28 OFFICERS FOR 2010-2011**

Commander.....David MacKellar  
 1st Vice Commander.....Phil Smith  
 2nd Vice Commander.....Ron Bauer  
 Adjutant.....Butch Balk  
 Finance Officer.....Jim Thayer  
 Service Officers.....Ken Kelly  
 .....and Carl Lori  
 Historian.....Jack Gardner  
 Chaplain.....Chris Tanke  
 Sergeant at Arms.....Sue Metzler  
 Executive at Large.....Ray Ribbink  
 .....and Jack VanWeelden  
 Judge Advocate.....Hugh Hyde  
 Installation of new officers will be on July 6, 2010.

**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  
 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  
 1st 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 Matson, Post SAL Chairman  
 Mike Matson, Membership Chair  
 Jeff VanderWeen, Adjutant



**SAL COMMANDERS COMMENTS**

Summer is on the way. What a great time to enjoy the warm weather and spending time at the Legion either on the deck or the patio. Be sure to make plans to join your friends at the Post to share in the beautiful scenery.

Last month a group of volunteers worked on extending the fence on the south side of the building. This enclosed area allows you to take your beverages to either the patio or deck without violating the law. Remember that your drinks must stay within the fenced in area. A big Thank you goes out to Bruce Chase, Don Wiebenga, Daryle Meyers, Paul Kubicek, Phil Young, and TL Lowe for their work on this project. Make sure to mark your calendars for the 4th of July weekend. The post will have an entertainment tent on Friday and Saturday night. What great place to be on this great weekend to celebrate our country's beginning.

This past month we added 13 new members and they are as follows: Scott Tompkins, Tom Sleaman, Brian Gordon, James Penning, Eric Workman, George Pulds, Jr, Robert Roosien, Aaron Veeneman, Scott Kaufman, Curt Vaneyk, Raymond Prins III, Steven Korecki, and Jason Caster. We have exceeded our membership goal for the year.

TL Lowe – SAL Commander

**ATTENTION VETERANS IN NEED:**

Money is available to help veterans who are struggling to make ends meet. Ottawa County Veterans Affairs (Soldiers and sailors relief fund) has money set aside to help the veterans of Ottawa County. If you need help or know of someone who does please call to set up an interview. Bill Haynes (616) 212-1176 or Roger Jansen (616) 399-1023



**Kentucky Derby Day**

Winners of the "Kentucky Derby Hat" contest. 1st Place: Tina Davis 2nd Place: Terri Vipon 3rd Place: Marie Ryder, Winner of the "Conklin Stakes", Grand Prize: The Roses go to Ina Kaufman



**Andy's Draught**

I would like to say thank you to our SAL. As the years have past our Post has grown. As our membership has grown so has our business. We are starting to see issues with our current bar setup. Our main concern is lack of cooler space. The SAL has generously donated enough money to add another much needed bottle cooler. It will allow us to stock an additional 20 cases of beer behind the bar, which means less trips to the walk-in cooler in back.

This doesn't mean we will be able to stock everyone's favorite beer, just more of what we have. Maybe we'll bring on one or two more products, if you ask me nicely.

Thank you SAL.

Moving on... The roof is done. The parking lot is done. The cooler is being added... Bring on Summer!

Friday June 25th, we will not be serving burgers. Instead, Ken Kelly and the Fallen Heroes Committee will be serving an exceptional dinner to help raise money for the monument. Come and support this historic project.

We are having another beer tent over the 4th of July weekend. It will be Friday July 2nd and Saturday July 3rd. There is a sign up sheet at the bar if you would like volunteer to help. Keep your eye on the calendar for the dinners, bands & events.

June drink specials: \$3 Margarita, \$2 U-Call-Tall every Monday & \$1 12oz can beer every Tuesday

Cheers!  
 Andy



**The American Legion**  
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 Grand Haven MI 49417-1743  
 (616) 842-5310

NON-PROFIT  
 ORG.  
 US POSTAGE  
 PAID  
 PERMIT NO. 129  
 GRAND HAVEN  
 MI 49417



JUNE DRINK SPECIALS: \$3.00 Margarita							<b>JUNE 2010</b>						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 6pm House Comm. 7pm Post Meeting \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	2 5PM MEAT LOAF DINNER	3	4 6PM BURGERS 8pm Jazz Trio	5 6pm Karaoke							
6	7 7:30pm SAL Mtg \$2 U-Call Tall	8 7pm 8 & 40 Meeting \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	9 5PM SPAGHETTI DINNER	10 7pm Legion Riders	11 6PM BURGERS 8pm Silvertones	12							
13	14  \$2 U-Call Tall	15 7pm Exec. Comm \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	16 5PM ROAST PORK DINNER	17	18 6PM BURGERS 8pm Silverado	19							
20 Happy Fathers Day!★	21 \$2 U-Call Tall	22 7pm Aux Meeting \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	23 5PM SWISS STEAK DINNER	24	25 6PM FALLEN HEROES DINNER 8pm Steve Edge	26							
27	28 \$2 U-Call Tall	29 \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	30 5PM BAKED CHICKEN DINNER	July 1	2 BEER TENT	3 BEER TENT							