

# 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](http://www.grandhavenlegion.org) Issue #1081



### COMMANDERS COMMENTS

May is here and we have all the deck chairs and tables back out. Thank you to all the volunteers that help out at the post. Come on down and enjoy the sun and fun on the deck. At our April meeting we had a good turn out. 5th district Commander Lawrence Gibbons came and presented the Post with a 100% Membership award and a thank you check from the State Headquarters. Our 50/50 was won by Sgt-at-Arms Sue Metzler and she donated it to the "Fallen Heroes Monument Fund". The FHM fund is still in need of your help. So please donate if you can.

This is going to be a very busy month here at the post. Our Post meeting on May 3 will be initiation of new members, guests are invited to the short ceremony. Also we will be voting on our new Officers for 2011-2012.

Come on down to our Kentucky Derby day on Saturday, May 7 and have some fun. May 12 the 5th District will have their meeting at our post. It would be great to have a good turn out from our Post. This year we are also hosting the 2011 Joint Fifth District Memorial Banquet and Service at our Post on May 14.

Our SAL will have their Memorial Golf Tournament on May 28. Come on down and sign up. May 29 our Sunday Evening Memorial Service will be at St. John's Lutheran Church at 6 PM. Monday May 30 the Memorial Day program will start at the Legion for breakfast at 8 AM for those that are marching in the parade. We will start our line up at 9 AM and the parade will start at 9:30AM. Followed by the Waterfront program then onto the Eternal Flame on Harbor Drive for a brief ceremony. Then we will continue on to the Veterans Monument at the G.A.R. site in Lake Forrest Cemetery for a short ceremony. With one more stop back at the Legion with a short ceremony in front of the Legion. Please join us for lunch at the Legion after the programs.

Please take time to thank a Veteran and our active duty Service men and women. God Bless America. Commander Post #28 David L. MacKellar "Mack"

### American Legion Officers

David L. MacKellar "Mack", Commander  
Phil Smith, 1st Vice Commander  
Ron Bauer, 2nd Vice Commander  
Butch Balk, Adjutant  
Jim Thayer, Finance Officer  
Chris Tanke, Chaplain  
Hugh Hyde, Judge Advocate  
Sue Metzler, Sergeant-At-Arms  
Ken Kelly, Carl Lori and Adam Shumaker,  
Service Officers  
Jack Gardner, Historian  
Hugh Hyde and Bill Kaufman  
Executive Board at Large  
Dale "Rick" Chittenden, Past Commander

### HONOR GUARD

This past month we had 2 funerals. Army National Guard helped with Max Studabaker funeral.

Members: Commander, 2nd Vice Ron Bauer, Past Commander Tom Streng, Honor Guard Leader George Bennett and Honor Guard member Jake Westra went to Ferry School and presented Principal Steven Avram with "Certificate of Appreciation for Americanism" and a Special Commendation American Legion Award for his service in Iraq with the Army National Guard. Honor Guard Leader: George Bennett

### Fundraiser for Fallen Heroes Memorial May 5, 2011 Kick Off

Weight Loss Challenge  
Where Losers are Winners!!!  
Win a brick in Central Park  
and 50% of the "Pot".

Cost to join: \$25.00 for one person  
\$40.00 for two

To sign up or with questions contact  
Tami: 616-844-0453  
E-mail [t.ripple@sbcglobal.net](mailto:t.ripple@sbcglobal.net)

### MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome to our new members and transfers: Michael Ciofu, John Frisch, Robert Rodgers, Cynthia Neil-Wierenga, William Wiebenga, Jr., Robert Regis, Dusten Rake, Evert Philpot, Terry Copper, Lewis Jones, William Van Eden, Anthony Golightly.

Taps were played for members: Paul A. Dashner, Max Studabaker, Larry Sieplinga, Howard Moorefield, Howard L. Ott, Sr.: Army Corporal Frank W. Buckles, the last surviving

American veteran of World War I.: Army Sergeant Kristopher Gould, KIA Afghanistan.; From

Muskegon County Andris Baltaisvilks known as " Mr. B" who had no Family, you are part of our family. God Bless all of you. Please Support our Troops.



Commander MacKellar and 2nd Vice Ron Bauer presented Jason Smith with "American Legion Special Commendation" Awarded for his service in Iraq and Afghanistan. Jason was also presented with a American Legion "Thank You" coin and pins "America is #1 Thanks to our Veterans" and Air force pin.

### SERVICE OFFICER NOTES

As many of you know by now, our VSO representative position with the American Legion of Michigan is not filled and it is unknown when or if it will be filled again. Until then you can call the Detroit office for assistance at (313) 964-6640.

I also advise every veteran to visit the County Court House to ensure that you are in their records as a resident of the county. This is a very important part of assuring that all benefits entitled to you will be available to you when the need arises.



## AUXILIARY COMMENTS

Welcome back all our snow birds. On the 5th Wednesday in March we served a soup and salad bar, all you can eat. It went over real well. Thanks to Melanie and her crew. On April 14th we had the V.F.W. for supper and games. All enjoyed the evening. On May 2nd at 9:30 we will be mailing out Poppy letters to the legion family. May 14th is the 5th District Memorial Banquet and Service at our post. May 15th is Girls State Orientation at 2:00 at our Post. May 24th is initiation potluck at 6:00. May 29th is the Memorial Service at St. Johns Lutheran Church. Meet at the church at 5:30 to walk in and sit together. May 30th is the Memorial Parade and service with lunch following.

President Cleo Phipps

## AUXILIARY OFFICERS

Cleo Phipps, *President*  
 Ruth Kelly, *1st Vice President*  
 Diane Jarmac-Kirk, *2nd Vice President*  
 Ann Kammeraad, *Secretary*  
 Romayne Althaus, *Treasurer*  
 Jean Wolniakowski, *Past President*  
 Lisa Davis, *Parliamentarian*  
 Peggy Vermeer, *Chaplain*  
 Charlene MacKellar, *Sgt. At Arms*



## Andy's Draught

I hope you're sitting down because I have a lot to talk about.

We are putting together our own Healing Waters program similar to what Trout Unlimited offers. This will be a program for our veteran members to teach them the healing properties of fly fishing. We will be teaching vets how to tie flies and how to cast and with enough support we will go fishing this Fall. If you are interested in helping out or learning the benefits of fly fishing email me at andyvpost28@yahoo.com or call me here at the Post.

Get your teams together for another cooking competition this Summer. Saturday August 20th is our 1st annual Weinie Cook-Off. This hot dog cooking competition will consist of teams assembling the best tasting and most original hot dogs ever created. Prizes will be given out for Most Original and Peoples Choice. Weather permitting we will set up in front with the yard fenced off. Watch the newsletter for more details or contact me. We will start signing up teams in July.

If you haven't heard already Harbor Ave is slated for reconstruction starting after Labor Day. The Department of Public Safety has informed us that there will still be access to our Post. They will not completely close Harbor Ave. Construction is scheduled to take a couple months. Please bear with us as we get more details in the coming weeks.

On tap for this month we have the Kentucky Derby Party Saturday May 7th. We will have our Derby raffles, mint juleps, the ladies fancy hat contest, karaoke & as well as the Conklin Stakes with live jockeys. As always we ask you to bring a dish to pass.

Saturday May 14th we will be hosting the 5th District Memorial Service and Banquet. We will be host to nearly 200 people for this event. The dinner will be downstairs at 5:30 with the Memorial Service upstairs immediately after. The deck will be closed that evening. If you would like to attend tickets are \$12 each and are available from Lynn Jolink. She can be reached at (616) 813-1370.

Saturday May 28th we will be hosting another Memorial Golf Outing. This year it will be back at West Ottawa Golf Course, with dinner served back here at the Post afterward for the golfers. Sign up sheets are available at the bar. This year we are limited to the 1st 30 teams.

Memorial Day the bar will be open from noon - 6pm. Memorial Day also kicks off our summer hours. Monday - Friday the Post will be open from 1 - 10pm, Saturdays Noon - 10pm & Sundays 1-7pm. These hours will continue up to Labor Day.

Don't forget to watch the calendar for our upcoming events & dinners.

May drink specials: \$3 Cosmopolitans, \$2 You-Call-Talls every Monday & \$1 12oz can beer every Tuesday Cheers Andy

## 9th ANNUAL MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Well, spring is here (to stay, we hope) and I'm sure all you golfers are starting to get the itch. As I sit at my computer and write this the temperature is 42 degrees and the upcoming forecast is sounding pretty good. The Legion Memorial will be once again held at West Ottawa Golf Course on Saturday, May 28th so mark that date on you calendar and start thinking about getting your foursome together. There will be an Open Division (4 players any age), Senior Division (4 players 50 & older) and a Couples Division (2 guys, 2 gals). There will be entry forms at Post 28 in the Bar area so when you get a chance, stop in and pick one up.

We had a great turnout last year with all three divisions represented very well and we will only be taking the first 30 teams to get their entries in, so don't wait too long and miss out on a great day of fun with our Legion family & friends. If you can't make it down to the Post to pick up and application, please give me a call and I'll mail one out.

The proceeds from this year's tournament will be going to the "Fallen Hero's Memorial" fund.

If you are not a golfer but would like to help out, we always need help at the golf course and afterward at Post 28 for the steak dinner. There will be a sign up sheet at the bar for anyone interested.

Until next month, Rich Kelly Chairman 846-1649 e-mail: kelldog70@yahoo.com

## USCG 180-ft. Buoy Tender Veteran Reunion

This reunion is open to all Coast guard personnel and their families who served on any 180-ft. buoy tender.

Monday August 1, 2011, the reunion will be held at the American Legion Post # 28 at 700 S. Harbor Avenue, Grand Haven, Michigan. Time: 4PM-7PM.

Dinner will be served at 5PM. Reservations are necessary due to the space available of 500 guests. Cost of the dinner will be \$12.00 per person. Cash bar. Reunion polo shirts will be available for \$20.00 for sizes S-XL and for sizes 2X, 3X, etc. there will be an additional \$2.00 charge. Checks for the dinner should be made out to Lysle Hansberger/ organizer. The polo shirts will require to be preordered and the checks for the shirts will be made out to the Grand Haven CPOA Chapter. To confirm reservations for the dinner and your shirt order your checks must be mailed to BMC Lysle Hansberger Ret., 3979 N Lincoln Rd., Ludington, Mi. 49431 and must be received no later than July 1, 2011. If you have any further questions about the event you may contact me at wowlud@yahoo.com or at 231-843-4313.

GRAND HAVEN COAST GUARD FESTIVAL  
 JULY 29-AUG.7, 2011

## Notice

### American Legion Post 28 Officers for 2011-2012

At our May meeting the following officer candidates will be voted on:

Commander ..... Phil Smith  
 1st Vice Commander ..... Ron Bauer  
 2nd Vice Commander..... Ed DeKoekkoek  
 Adjutant ..... Butch Balk  
 Finance Officer ..... Jim Thayer  
 Service Officer ..... Ken Kelly,  
 ..... Carl Lori, and Adam Shumaker  
 Historian ..... Nathan VanKampen  
 Chaplain ..... Chris Tanke  
 Sergeant at Arms ..... Sue Metzler  
 Executive at Large ..... Hugh Hyde  
 ..... and Bill Kaufman  
 Judge Advocate ..... Hugh Hyde

Installation of new officers will be on  
 July 5th, 2011

## 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

May ~ Memorial Day, Kentucky Derby Party,

Legion Memorial Golf Outing, Armed

Forces Day

June ~ Flag Day

July ~ Independence Day

August ~ Coast Guard Festival, Enlisted Men's

Party,

BBQ Chicken

September ~ American Legion Picnic

October ~ Oktoberfest Party, Wine Tasting

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 COMMENTS

Spring has finally arrived. It is now time to begin our yard projects - cleaning up from the winter, planting, fertilizing, and beautifying our homes and yards. A new beginning after a long winter.

The SAL elected their Officers and they are as follows: TL Lowe Commander, Tom Greenberg - 1st Vice, Jack DeMaar - 2nd Vice, and Mike Zolik - Sargent at Arms. We wish them well and look forward to their leadership.

The SAL will be sponsoring a Memorial Day Golf Scramble again this year. It will be held at West Ottawa Golf Course on May 28th and will be a 9:00 am shot-gun start. This event is limited to 30 teams, we will have team forms available at the post. This is a great event that will be followed by a steak dinner back at the Post. We will be donating the net proceeds to the Fallen Heroes Monument. If you are interested in being a Tee Sponsor or would like to work at this event please contact Rich Kelly, TL Lowe, or Paul Kubicek.

We added the following new members to our membership rolls this past month: Justin Stevens, Davin Lepisto, Roger Boerma, Carter MacKellar, Edward Ahc, Nick Emmerich, Daniel Wildey, and Brock Rodgers.

We are closing in are membership goal again this year. This will help us retain our position as the largest SAL in the State. This will give us 22 delegates for voting at the SAL Convention that is being held in Novi this June.

Make sure you take time to come down to the Post and enjoy the beautiful view of the channel and Lake Michigan. The patio furniture is out already for your use.  
TL Lowe SAL Commander

### SAL OFFICERS

*TL Lowe, Commander  
 Rob Wolniakowski, 1st Vice Commander  
 Charlie Yonker, 2nd Vice Commander  
 Rich Kelly, Finance Officers  
 Tom Glockzin, Chaplain  
 Tom Greenberg, Sergeant-At-Arms  
 Tom Greenberg, Historian  
 Brad Chittenden, Past Commander  
 Carl Lori, Post SAL Chairman  
 Mike Brown, Membership Chair  
 Paul Kubicek, Adjutant*

### DINNER COMMITTEE

Wednesday May 4th: People's Choice Award Perch Dinner (Legion)  
 May 11th: Zesty Spaghetti (Legion)  
 May 18th: Country Style Pork (Legion Riders)  
 May 25th: Succulent Swiss Steak (Legion)  
 Dinners are served from 5 till 7, or until the food runs out. As Summer approaches we will be getting busier with out of towners. This is great for our Post. Get there early and support your Post. Thank you.

## A BRICK TO REMEMBER THEM BY "FALLEN HEROES MEMORIAL"

Contribute to the memorial by purchasing an inscribed brick. May we suggest using the identity of the donor or something similar because the name of the hero will be inscribed on the memorials.

A donation of a minimum of \$100.00 up to \$999.00 with a maximum of 28 characters will purchase a 4"x8" brick.  
 A donation of \$1,000.00 or more will purchase a 8"x8" brick with a maximum of 56 characters. This size is good for groups, etc.  
 (example - "In Honor of Robert Hodel," 24 characters)  
 (example - "The Ken Kelly Family," 20 characters)

Please send check or money order for

\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 payable to **"FHM-BRICKS"**

My name is:

\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

For clarification, information or questions, call  
 Jack Gardner (The Brick Man)  
 P.O. Box 43  
 Spring Lake, MI 49456  
 (616) 607-7265.

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**The American Legion**  
 Charles Conklin Post #28  
 700 Harbor Ave  
 PO Box 439  
 Grand Haven MI 49417-1743  
 (616) 842-5310

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

**CONVERTIBLES NEEDED**

When: Monday, May 30th For: Memorial Day Parade  
 Each year the American Legion and the VFW work on the organization of the Memorial Day services, parade and waterfront service held in Grand Haven. We use convertibles to carry dignitaries and other people in the parade and we are always looking for volunteers to help out and drive their convertibles in the parade. It's a great way to help out on a day we remember our departed loved ones and comrades. Please contact Rich Kelly at (616) 846-1649 e-mail: kelldog70@yahoo.com or leave your name and phone number at Post 28 (616) 842-5310 and we'll get in touch with you.



MAY DRINK SPECIALS: \$3.00 Cospopolitans							<b>MAY 2011</b>																											
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY																				
1	2 7:30 SAL Meeting \$2 U-Call Tall	3 6pm House Comm. 7pm Post Meeting \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	4 5PM PERCH DINNER	5 Cinco de Mayo 7pm 5th District SAL Meeting	6 6PM BURGERS 8pm Lakeshore Big Band	7 12pm Kentucky Derby 6pm Karaoke	8 Mother's Day	9 \$2 U-Call Tall	10 7pm 8 & 40 Meeting \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	11 5PM ZESTY SPAGHETTI DINNER	12 5pm 5th District Legion Meeting 7pm Legion Riders Meeting	13 6PM BURGERS 8pm Silvertones	14 5pm District Memorial Banquet	15 12pm Girl State Orientation	16 \$2 U-Call Tall	17 7pm Exec. Comm. \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	18 5PM COUNTRY STYLE PORK DINNER	19	20 5pm World Beer Expo 6PM BURGERS 8pm Silverado	21 5pm World Beer Expo	22	23 \$2 U-Call Tall	24 6pm Int. Pot Luck 7pm Aux Meeting \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	25 5PM SUCCULENT SWISS STEAK DINNER	26	27 6PM BURGERS	28 9am Memorial Golf Outing	29 Memorial Service @ St. John Lutheran Church	30 Memorial Day Post Open 12pm - 6pm \$2 U-Call Tall	31 \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	JUNE 1 5PM PERCH DINNER	2	3 6PM BURGERS	4 6pm Karaoke