

# 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 #1105



## COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

As I write this at the Post in mid-April, a cold rain is falling with more promised every day this week.

Wherever you read

this, I hope you are enjoying warm, sunny May weather.

Phase II of our Post Improvement Project (PIP) -- the renovation of our new lounge and dining area and entrances -- is progressing on schedule. The basic bar is framed and closed in and the overhead recessed lighting makes the scene look warm and inviting. At this very moment, the new flooring is being laid down. If you are not able to come in and see our progress, check us out on Facebook. There Andy VanderHoek, Club Manager and PIP team member, has posted a progression of photos taken at various stages of the renovation.

We continue to be blessed and very thankful for the dozens of Post-member volunteers who help with dry-wall and painting projects, most notably in the new foyer, plus the Building and Grounds crews who have been doing the almost daily tasks of moving heavy furniture and materials in and out of the dining and Post meeting rooms to accommodate the construction process. These efforts have enabled us to save a great deal of money, plus continue to hold our basic Post Legion, Auxiliary, SAL and Riders meetings that help make this place run. We also appreciate our customers who have adjusted to and continued to patronize our temporary lounge (on the second floor veranda with the friendliest staff and "best view in town") throughout the construction period. (I know, "tough duty", but somebody has to do it.) Hopefully, by the time you read this, the weather will have permitted opening the deck areas as well.

All the contractors should be out of the Post by Friday, April 26th, and, as Andy noted, "That will give us a week to clean, move, paint, stock and touch up before the opening." The latter promises to be quite a task, especially removing all the dust that has settled throughout the main floor areas. If you would like to volunteer to help in this regard, please contact Darrel Meyers or Andy for details.

We plan to hold a Grand Opening Ceremony in the new Club Room on Friday,

May 3rd, 2 pm. Based on what we have seen thus far, and comments we have received in person and/or on Facebook, we think you will be pleased with our new entrances and Club Room and find the wait, cost and effort to have been well worthwhile, especially when the summer crowds arrive.

In addition to our Kentucky Derby Day Party on May 4th, (including a visit mid-day by the SAL 5th District Bus Tour & Kentucky Derby Party participants), we will:

Starting May 8th, resume serving Wednesday Legion Dinners and Friday Burgers Nights, and our Riders will resume serving brats and hot dogs on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month.

Hold the Election of Legion Officers for 2013/14 at our Post Meeting, Tuesday, May 7th, starting 7 PM.

Host the Legion Dept. of Michigan 5th District Meeting - May 9th, 7pm.

Hold our 11th Annual American Legion Memorial Golf Tournament, Saturday, May 25th (see ad in this Newsletter for details).

Participate in the annual Memorial Day parade and observances, including Legion/VFW Commanders' laying of a wreath at the 1st World War monument (Central Park, circa 7:30 am), Memorial Service at First Reformed Church, Washington St., Grand Haven on Sunday, May 26, 6 PM, the traditional community Memorial Day Services at the Waterfront Stadium, followed shortly thereafter with memorial ceremonies held at the Eternal Flame monument, followed by an Honor Guard salute at the Civil War veteran grave site at the Lake Forest Ceremony. I hope you will be able to attend these events, especially those in which we celebrate and honor those who have served our Nation.

We have other May events detailed elsewhere in this Newsletter you may wish to attend. Check them out and plan on joining us for camaraderie and fun at the Post. You can also have fun (truly) volunteering at the Post. The Service Officers, Honor Guard and Building & Grounds crews especially need new volunteers. And, a special "Thank You" to those persons who already responded to our appeals by volunteering to serve in Post Service Officer, Boy Scout Liaison and Honor Guard roles. Take care, have a Happy May, be safe, and we look forward to seeing you at the Post!

Ron Bauer, Commander

## American Legion Officers

Ron Bauer, Commander  
Ed DeKoekoek, 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

## "Bear ye one another's burdens . . . " May Sick Call List

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. Respectfully submitted, Chaplain Chris Dave Carlson, Hugh Hyde, Vince Antonich, Roman Marciniak, Garret Veihl

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome to New Members: James L. Angel, Vietnam War, Navy; Harold G. Bell, Vietnam War, Army; Ronald E. Owens, Vietnam War, Army; Bryan W. Shields, Lebanon/Grenada, Navy/Marine Corps; George R. Thomas, WW II, Air Force; Joshua J. VanOpynen, Gulf War/War on Terrorism, Marine Corps; Robert B. Weavers, Vietnam War, Navy; Donald Neidlinger, Vietnam War, Navy. Transfers: Roy J. Bronnekant, Jr., Gulf War/War on Terrorism, Navy; Richard R. Harden, Korean War, Army; Warren C. Olson, Gulf War/War on Terrorism, Army; Duane W. Koshork, WW II, Army Air Corps.

Taps were played for: Charlie Greenough, WW II, US Army Air Corps; Jerry Tappe, Vietnam War, Marines Corps; William Roper, WW II, Navy; Hardy Bedford, Vietnam War, Navy.





## AUXILIARY COMMENTS

We begin the month with Derby Day on the 4th. It's a good chance to model our hats in a contest. Bring your favorite canape or snacks to share & come on down. We will have a meeting to mail out the poppies on May 7 at 9:30 am. Next is the Memorial banquet on May 11, in Cedar

Springs to commemorate those who have passed on from our district. The delegates and alternates for Girls State from the 5th District will receive an orientation on May 19, at 2:00pm. Allow extra time to reach the Post as it will be extra busy on Harbor Dr. On the 23rd we will host the ladies from the VFW Auxiliary with a light supper and a game. This will start at 5:00 pm. Join us for the Memorial Sunday service at 6:00 pm. The church will be announced in the poppy mailing. As usual the Auxiliary will serve lunch for a nominal fee after the parade and the flag raising on Memorial Day. To finish the month we will have initiation of new members and a pot luck supper starting at 6:00 on May 28.

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 Pippis, Historian  
Peggy Vermeer, Chaplain  
Sgt. at Arms; Barb Kelly  
Cleo Phipps, Past President



## WEDNESDAY'S MENU

**MAY 8TH**

### ALL-YOU-CAN EAT ZESTY SPAGHETTI

Salad, garlic toast (Coopersville Gang)

**MAY 15TH**

### COUNTRY STYLE PORK DINNER

Mashed, veggies, dinner roll (Legion Riders)

**MAY 22ND**

### SUCCULENT SWISS STEAK DINNER

Mashed, veggies, dinner roll The "A" Team

**MAY 29TH**

### CHICKEN DINNER

Mashed, veggie, dinner roll. Fundraiser for Operation Comfort Warrior. Total Post 28 effort.

Much has happened since our last Wednesday dinner. We have a beautifully remodeled main floor. Look forward to seeing all the regular customers on May 8th. Dinners will now be \$8. Sorry, but it had to happen with food costs going up. Our volunteers deserve it. For the Good of the Legion. Dinner Committee

## WW II Veterans

We are planning a day to honor all WWII veterans. The VFW and the American Legion together with Hospice of Michigan would like all WWII veterans to meet at the Grand Haven Senior Center (Four Pointes) on June 28, 2013 at 2PM. For a pinning ceremony to honor all of our WWII Veterans.

Please help us Honor our WWII veterans, we need a list of all that will attend this program. Contact Past Commander David MacKellar at 616-402-2206 or e-mail mackeda1@aol.com.

## HONOR GUARD

This past month we had 3 funerals. Navy Honor Guard helped with 2 funerals. This last month we had one of our WWII Honor Guard members, Harold Hymble step down because of health reasons. We will miss having you at our services Harold. Our prayers are with you and your family.

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

## Andy's Draught

The new bar is done! I could not be happier. Thank you to Hughes Builders, Harborfront Interiors, Raczk Electric, Northside Heating and Cooling and all the other contractors for their hard work. It was a pleasure to work with them all. Their commitment to this project was very evident by their attention to detail and willingness to complete all of our wishes. Just to let everyone know that the original blueprints were basically thrown away about a week into the project because of complications with having to put in a ceiling. The heating and cooling system was redesigned 4 times and construction continued one day at a time. Every morning we met and reevaluated how things were going to go back together. The final product is a new club room, with the most beautiful bar I have ever seen. A bar I am proud to work behind.

To break in the new bar let's have a party. Saturday May 4th is our Kentucky Derby party. This is not open to the public. We will have our Derby raffles, mint juleps and the ladies fancy hat contest. Karaoke has been cancelled due to schedule conflicts. Jessica will be back in June. As always we ask you to bring a dish to pass.

Saturday May 11th the Tough Mudder team is hosting a benefit for the Wounded Warriors Project (WWP) and Operation Comfort Warriors (OCW). We will be hosting the band Barefoot Sunday from 8-11pm for your dancing pleasure. We will be asking everyone to make a donation in lieu of a cover charge. Our goal is to raise \$10,000 for the two organizations. This event is open to the public.

Saturday May 25th we will be hosting another Memorial Golf Outing at West Ottawa Golf Course. Dinner will be served back here at the Post afterward for the golfers. Sign up sheets are available at the bar. This year Memorial Day the bar will be open from noon - 10pm. We will also begin opening on Sundays starting Memorial weekend as well as starting 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.

Watch the calendar for our upcoming events, dinners & dances. May drink specials: \$3 Cosmopolitans, \$2 You-Call-Talls every Monday & \$1 12oz can beer every Tuesday Cheers Andy



Commander Ron Bauer, Honor Guard Leader George Bennett, Service Officer Adam Shumaker and Past Commander Dave MacKellar. Adam was presented with his "Honor Guard" pins at the April Post meeting. Welcome to the Honor Guard Adam.



## SAL COMMENTS

After a long, long Winter, Spring has finally arrived in Michigan, and the Post 28 SAL is about to get really busy! As I write this, the bar and lounge renovation project is still on schedule to be completed by the end of April. The latest progress photos that I've seen show the almost completed bar with all of the drywall installed. Now it's time to put in the lighting, plumbing, coolers, TVs, and bar fixtures. I know that it will be amazing when completed and I can't wait to have an adult beverage at the new bar with some of our SAL members.

At our April meeting, the Post 28 SAL elected new officers for the 2013-2014 year. They are: TL Lowe, Past Commander; Tom Greenberg, Commander; Mike Zolik, 1st Vice Commander; Tom Schultz, 2nd Vice Commander; Paul Kubicek, Adjutant; Chuck Yonker, Sergeant at Arms; Brock Rodgers, Historian; Al VanDam, Chaplain; Mike Brown, Membership; Rich Kelly, Finance Officer. These officers will be sworn in at our next meeting. We'd also like to welcome 7 new members, voted in at the April meeting: Robert Tiffin, Robert French, Gregory Williamson, John Peters, Daniel Clark, Jon Otting, and Christopher Burton. Hope to see all our new members at an SAL meeting soon!

On May 4th, the SAL 5th District Bus Tour and Kentucky Derby Party will be coming to Post 28. The Bus Tour is starting and ending at Post 459 in Grand Rapids, and visiting Posts in Grand Haven, Kent City, Cedar Springs, Rockford, and Comstock Park along the way. This will be the first "official" visit to our Post after the completion of the bar renovation and the SAL 5th District officers are very excited to see it in all its new glory! In attendance will be the Department Commander, the Department President and the Detachment Commander. Next, on May 6, we have our monthly SAL meeting. Then, on May 14th, Post 28 will be honored to host the SAL 5th District meeting. This meeting will include the installation of the new slate of 5th District officers.

Also coming up on May 25th is our popular SAL Memorial Weekend Golf Outing. We only accept 28 teams for this event, and it fills up every year, so please contact Rich Kelly, Paul Kubicek, or TL Lowe as soon as possible if you'd like to register. The cost is \$60 per person and includes a steak dinner.

Next up, the SAL State Convention, coming to Post 28 the weekend of June 8-9. Summer is really kicking off with a bang...soon we'll all be having a cold one on the deck and watching the world pass by! Hope to see you at the Legion soon...

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

In keeping with our 8 & 40 Obligation our Salon promises to uphold the ideals upon which our country was founded. We also pledge to promote good fellowship and assist in the prevention and control of lung and respiratory diseases in children. Therefore we donated to the National Jewish Health Organization and to the Nurses Scholarship Fund last month. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday May 14 at 7 PM. 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  
Veloce Hansen, L'Aumonier  
Pat Vadas, L'Concierge  
Cleo Phipps, L'Avocate  
Ann Kammeraad, Le Pouvoir

### Proposed Nominees 2013/2014

#### Post 28 Officers

96th Commander.....Ed DekoekKoek  
First Vice.....Dave Carlson  
Second Vice.....Bob Wydeck  
Adjutant.....Rick Chittenden  
Finance Officer.....Jim Thayer  
Service Officers.....Ken Kelly / Adam Shumaker  
Historian.....Dave "Mack" MacKellar  
Chaplain.....George Bennett  
Sergeant At Arms.....Susan Metzler or Nathan VanKampen  
Executive At Large....Chris Whalen  
Executive At Large....Garrett Veihl  
Judge Advocate.....  
Past Commander.....Ron Bauer

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

### 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



5th District Commander Dale Gould presented "American Legion Award" to the Legion Riders. Past Commander Garrett Veihl, Legion Riders Assistant Director Bob Wydeck & Post Commander Ron Bauer accepted the award.



## LEGION RIDERS

May! I'm not sure if it's May or April. It has been a cold and wet April. Let's hope May is warmer. As I'm writing this newsletter the Post makeover is going well and we hope to be using the new bar this month. We also will be starting Bike Night so tell all your friends to come down for some good food. Riding Season is here! I'm hoping to get the 2013 ALR ride schedule out to you at the May meeting. I want to thank the Ride Committee for all of their help. I hope you all enjoy the rides this year. Looking forward to a great

riding season. Ride safe.  
Toby Ross (ALR Director)

## American Legion Memorial 11th Annual Golf Tournament Saturday, May 25 2013

What a winter, we had just about every kind of weather and more snow than we've seen in a long time. I don't know about everyone else, but I sure have seen enough for this year. As I write this, I'm really starting to get the itch to get the sticks out and get the old swing limbered up for another season of golf.

By the time you receive this newsletter everything will be starting to come together for our annual Legion Memorial golf tournament.

For those of you who haven't had the pleasure of playing in the tournament in the past, it is a 4 person scramble format with three divisions: OPEN division (any age), SENIOR division (60 & over) and the COUPLES division (2 guys & 2 gals). The cost will be \$60/person \$240/team, which includes golf & electric cart, tee gift and steak dinner @ Post 28 following golf. The tournament will be once again be held at West Ottawa Golf Course.

We will be looking for Tee sponsors again this year with a cost of \$75 for a sponsor sign, so if you have sponsored a tee box in the past, please consider doing it again as it's for a good cause.

The sign up brochures and a volunteer sign-up sheet will be available at the bar. Think spring and see you soon! Rich Kelly



*Saturday*  
*May 4, 2013*  
*12pm*  
*Kentucky Derby*

**Saturday May 11th the Tough Mudder team is hosting a benefit for the Wounded Warriors Project (WWP) and Operation Comfort Warriors (OCW).** We will be hosting the band Barefoot Sunday from 8-11pm for your dancing pleasure. We will be asking everyone to make a donation in lieu of a cover charge. Our goal is to raise \$10,000 for the two organizations. This event is open to the public.



MAY DRINK SPECIALS: \$3.00 COSMOPOLITANS							<b>MAY 2013</b>							June ~ Flag Day July ~ Independence Day																				
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY													
			1 <b>NO DINNER</b>	2	3 <b>NO BURGERS</b>	4 <i>12pm Kentucky Derby</i>	5	6 7:30 SAL Meeting \$2 U-Call Tall	7 6pm House Comm. 7pm Post Meeting \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	8 <b>5PM ALL-YOU-CAN EAT ZESTY SPAGHETTI</b>	9 7pm Legion Riders Meeting	10 <b>6PM BURGERS</b> 8pm Silvertones	11 8pm Barefoot Sunday Tough Mudder Benefit	12 <b>Mother's Day</b>	13 \$2 U-Call Tall	14 7pm 8 & 40 Meeting \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	15 <b>5PM COUNTRY STYLE PORK DINNER</b>	16 7pm Trivia	17 <b>6PM BURGERS</b> 8pm Silverado Band	18	19	20 \$2 U-Call Tall	21 7pm Executive Board \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	22 <b>5PM SUCCULENT SWISS STEAK DINNER</b>	23 5pm VFW Visit	24 <b>6PM BURGERS</b>	25 7:30 Memorial Golf	26 1-7pm Post Open	27 <b>Memorial Day</b> \$2 U-Call Tall	28 6pm Auxiliary Pot Luck 7pm Scottsville Clown Band Practice \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	29 <b>5PM CHICKEN DINNER</b>	30	31 <b>6PM BURGERS</b>	JUNE 1 6pm Karaoke