



Post 28 Newsletter

Published monthly by Post 28 of the American Legion
Charles Conklin Post #28

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POST HOURS
Mon. - Fri. 2pm - 10pm+
Sat. Noon - 10pm+



POST #28 COMMANDERS COMMENTS



Tom Brokaw calls them the Greatest Generation. Those Americans born in the years 1914-1929. At this year's Veterans Day Celebration we will be paying tribute to our WWII veterans. Our guest speakers will be from among them. It should be a special night.

October's Post meeting was very productive. Bids were handed out for snow removal and roof improvement. It was a little disappointing to have 35 members out of 1400 show up, but we were opposite the Tigers/Twins game, and we all know how that turned out! Ray Ribbink won the 50/50 and donated his share to Goodfellows. Nice.

I would like to wish Howard Mattson a BIG welcome back. He took ill on Coast Guard Saturday and has been lying low ever since. You've been missed Mr. Mattson. In my short tenure here at Post #28 you have been an

MVP in many, many ways.

Get strong and hopefully we'll see you at our November 3rd Post meeting.

Members should be getting another reminder for 2010 dues. Please get your dues paid. Thanks.

This month's new members and transfers are: Jeff Vollmer, Chris Paulus, Loren Gerber, Richard Fett, Thomas Braun, Thomas McKay, Richard Kohnke, Jeff Brondyke, Charles Lembke, John Logan, Joseph Capitann, Alan Korpi, Jack Olthof Sr., and Chris Hartley.

Taps were played for Jim Bussard, Jack Nickerson, William "Bill" Selgert, Robert Harry VanderSchoor, Ret. Cdr. George K. Smith, Lloyd Berwald, Robert Yonkman, James S. Lakatos, and Henry "Hank" Harjer. May all these husbands, dads, and veterans rest in peace.

Hope to see you on Veterans Day,
Commander Rick Chittenden

Post #28 American Legion Officers

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

PATRIOTS DAY

"Members of the Honor Guard and guests at 10am on Sept. 11, 2009 take time to honor those who lost their lives on Sept. 11, 2001 during the attacks on the World Trade Center, United Airlines Flight 93 and the Pentagon and to honor those who have since sacrificed defending freedom in Iraq and Afghanistan."

MOTORCYCLE/CAR SHOW SEPTEMBER 20, 2009



VETERANS DAY

Armistice Day was established to mark the end of WWI. In 1954 the 83rd Congress and President Eisenhower amended the Act of 1938 by striking out the word, Armistice, and inserting Veterans. November 11th is officially Veterans Day. Here at the Charles Conklin Post #28 we have a morning ceremony at the Eternal Flame at 11am. with coffee and doughnuts afterwards. Wednesday evening, November 11th we have our annual Veterans Day Celebration. Veterans only. Bring a fellow veteran even if he or she isn't a member of Post #28. Social hour will start at 6pm, with dinner at 7pm. Tickets are \$7 and 200 will be sold. A select number of our WWII members will speak as to what being an American Veteran has meant to them. Should be a great evening. Please try and attend. Andy has tickets. Thank you.

AUXILIARY PRESIDENTS COMMENTS



Happy Fall! Did we miss Summer? Christmas will be here before we know it. September meeting – We heard from Mike with the “Friends of Michigan Veterans Homes Inc” about our donation and all the good work that they are doing. A wonderful organization to get involved with. We voted to donate \$100.00 for the blanket drive held at the GRVH. New 2009-2010 booklets have been sent to all members containing Presidents letter, Officers, Hostesses and Committee Chairs. If you have not received yours please contact any Auxiliary Board Member. We will be shopping for the GR Veterans on November 5th. We will participate in the Veterans Christmas Gift Shop on December 1st, 2nd and 3rd. If you’re interested in helping on these, call Pat at 842-0749. We also held our October initiation/potluck this month. November meeting – We are planning a Partnership with students in Spring Lake to send “Pocket Flags” to our Men and Women in active duty. Watch for more information to follow. November is our Veterans Dinner. We will prepare and serve a Turkey dinner for all our Veterans. Chef Tim resigned to take a full time position in the Culinary Department at Baker College. We will miss him so much. He did a fantastic job. If anyone is interested or knows anyone who might want to speak to the Auxiliary about this position, call Jean at 842-8237. Good Luck Tim! Remember, members from the Legion, SAL and Auxiliary will start working on “Goodfellows” to help the less fortunate at Christmas. If you would like to help in any way, give Ray a call at 842-1669. Thanks and have a great Thanksgiving.

Jean Wolniakowski, President

Post #28 Auxiliary Officers

Jean Wolniakowski, President
 Cleo Phipps, 1st Vice President
 Linda Gieske, 2nd Vice President
 Ann Kammeraad & Cleo Phipps, Historian
 Char Mac Keller, Sergeant-At-Arms
 Jean Koehs, Past President
 Ina Kaufman, Parliamentarian
 Mollie Pipp, Pat Best & Ruth Rescorla,
 Executive Board

HONOR GUARD

This past month we had 4 funerals. All funerals were full military. Funeral for Lloyd Dell Berwald was attended by both American Legion and the VFW Honor Guard. S/Sgt. Jason Abbott from the Army National Guard - Honor Guard Team attended funeral for Retired Navy Cdr. George K. Smith. Honor Guard Leader George Bennett

CHAPLAINS CORNER

Greetings all,

The following prayer was approved by the department of the Army way back in 1996 (so you know that it's guaranteed to work - chuckle). The prayer booklet, “With Heart and Hand,” A Guide to Personal Prayer, was first issued to servicemen and their families by the chaplain corps with the hope that it would encourage those left behind while at the same time protect those in harms way on foreign fields. Read it through and ask yourself if they didn't hit the bulls eye with it. And don't stop there.. support our military members and their families by using it!

Have a blessed Thanksgiving!
 Chaplain Chris
 (616) 935-7400

*Heavely Father,
 Grant a courageous heart,
 a quick mind,
 and a serene spirit*

*to those now in our armed forces,
 ready to offer their talents,
 and if necessary their lives,
 for the cause of truth, justice, and
 liberty.*

*Keep them close to You
 in every way.*

*Make them always,
 even in these difficult circumstances,
 true witnesses to Your
 goodness, love, and compassion.*

*And finally, bring them safely back
 to their homes and families.*

Amen

Got no checkbooks, got no banks.
 Still I'd like to express my thanks -
 I got the sun in the mornin' and the
 moon at night.
 - Irving Berlin



VETERAN'S DAY CELEBRATION NOVEMBER 11TH, 2009

This year's Veteran's Day celebration will be held at the Post this evening of November 11th, with social hour starting at 6pm. It will be the “old fashion” way with veterans only in attendance. My World War II friends will be our special guests. They will have their own special table and even eat first. How about that, Larry? Cost is \$7 in advance. 200 tickets will be sold. We will have a 50/50 drawing and hopefully a couple nice prizes to raffle off. A guest speaker has yet to be announced, but I'm working on it. Jeannie and the Ladies Auxiliary will be preparing another delicious meal. Tickets should be available. I'm asking my Vietnam Brothers and Sisters to support this celebration and attend. It should be a good time.

See you there, Commander Chittenden

OUR MILITARY FAMILY

USMC, PFC, Serina (Ruiz) Westman
 Camp Pendleton, California
 Granddaughter of Jim and Liz Thayer
 is our newest member
 CHRISTMAS CARDS



The Legion would like to send out Christmas cards to our service men and women that are on active duty, I know Christmas is just a few months away, time seems to go by fast. I have been in contact with two schools in the area to get names so the kids can send Christmas cards. If you can send me your family members name and addresses we can start getting a list together that would be great. You can send it to the Post at American Legion 700 Harbor Avenue, Grand Haven, MI 49417 or you can E-mail me at mackeda1@aol.com. 1st Vice Commander David L. MacKellar “Mack”.

SAL COMMANDERS COMMENTS



The cool crisp Fall air has come much quicker than we anticipated. I looked forward to the changing color of the leaves and, hopefully, a little Indian Summer for a few weeks as we begin to get ready for the cold snowy winter months.

A big thank you goes out to Danny Smart, Rich Van Doorne, and William (Willis) Kerridge and his crew for the successful Salmon Fest Friday Night Fish Boil and Beer Tent. The weather was fantastic, the crowd was well fed, and outstanding entertainment was provided by Just Joe. The work of many made this another proud moment for our Post in Grand Haven.

It is time to mark your calendar for the SAL NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY. The time and the price for tickets have yet to be determined. Please watch for further details in the coming months. We are excited to have our own AMALGAMATED SOUND who will be providing the evening's musical entertainment. We would love to see you there. This is a great time to spend with friends and family as we welcome in the New Year.

On November 25th the Legion will be hosting the first Trivia night. This will be the 15th year of this ongoing event. You are welcome to bring your team or join a group to match the talents of many of the existing teams. Come join in the laughter and puzzled looks to the weekly generated questions about local folk lore, naming the mystery songs and artists, and other trivia matters. Mark your calendar for the Wednesday night prior to Thanksgiving Day. Trivia begins at 7:00 pm.

At our September meeting we approved 1 SAL transfer member - Dennis Stearns and 12 new SAL Members: Loren Pitsch, Thomas Gerber, Matthew Snyder, Derk Lemke, Mark Dreese, Dan Curtiss, Steve Fiorenzo, John Kowelke, Scott Klempel, and Keith Strickler.

An update on Howard Mattson. He has returned home and has made several recent trips to the American Legion. Welcome Back Howard.

TL Lowe – SAL Commander



Commander Rick Chittenden and Sergeant at Arms Ed DeKoekoek presented "Americanism Award" to Past Commander Dick VanderStel for his outstanding work for 2008-2009.

Post #28 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

Alan VanDam, Past Commander

Howard Hattson, Post SAL Chairman

Mike Mattson, Membership Chair

Jeff VanderWeen, Adjutant

Andy's Draught

Tickets are available at the bar for the Veteran's Dinner Wednesday November 11th. Our regular Wednesday dinner will be cancelled. Don't worry, spaghetti will be back next month. The tickets are \$7 each and available at the bar.

Wednesday November 25th is this seasons Trivia Kick-Off. Trivia starts at 7pm. Trivia Night has continued to grow each year & we expect the trend to continue. So bring your brightest friends & family & test your wits against some of the Legions finest. Remember, you may not use your cell phones to look up answers. That would be cheating.

The Post will be closed Thanksgiving Day. I hope everyone enjoys their Thanksgiving.

The Post now has its own Facebook page. You can find us as Charles A Conklin American Legion Post 28. I will be updating this on a weekly basis. Become a fan and add your favorite Post pics to our page.

It's not too early to renew your memberships. Feel free to mail us your renewals or see one of the bartenders. We just ask that you not try to renew your membership at the bar during a busy dinner.

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

October drink specials:
\$3 Oatmeal Cookie, \$2 U-Calls every Monday & \$1 12oz can beer every Tuesday.

Cheers!

Andy

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, Texas Hold' Em

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

2nd 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



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

NOVEMBER DRINK SPECIALS: \$3.00 Oatmeal Cookie							NOVEMBER 2009						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 7:30pm SAL Meeting \$2 U-Call Tall	3 6pm House Comm. 7pm Post Meeting \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	4 5PM LAKE PERCH DINNER	5	6 6PM BURGERS 8pm Lakeshore Big Band	7 MSU vs W. MI UofM vs Purdue 6pm Karaoke	8	9 \$2 U-Call Tall	10 7pm 8 & 40 Meeting \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	11 7PM VETERAN'S DAY DINNER	12 7pm Legion Riders	13 6PM BURGERS 8pm Silvertones	14 MSU @ Purdue UofM @ Wisconsin
15	16 \$2 U-Call Tall	17 7pm Exec. Comm \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	18 5PM ROAST PORK DINNER	19	20 6PM BURGERS 8pm Silverado	21 MSU vs Penn St. UofM vs Ohio St.	22	23 \$2 U-Call Tall	24 7pm Aux Meeting \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	25 NO DINNER 7pm Trivia Kick-Off	26 HAPPY THANKSGIVING POST CLOSED	27 6PM BURGERS	28
29	30 \$2 U-Call Tall	DEC. 1 6pm House Comm. 7pm Post Meeting \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	2 5PM LAKE PERCH DINNER	3	4 6PM BURGERS	5 Army vs Navy 6pm Karaoke							