

# 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 #1108

## COMMANDER'S COMMENTS



My first entry to the legion newsletter. I wish to thank all who have encouraged me to run for this office of Commander of Post 28 and have lead and encouraged me thru the past years as Sargent-at-arms, 2nd and 1st Vice Commander. Keep me in your prayers, and that I would always do the will of our Heavenly Father.

"ON FIRE" I am a member of the Rifle Team and I fire at funerals and other official functions. We always remind each other about waiting for the command from the rifle commander "on fire" before we pull the trigger. When we listen and are on Que it sounds like one bang. We have been accused of having only shells in one weapon.

"ON FIRE" also has another meaning. To be turned on to a cause or idea. You are encouraged to be "ON FIRE" to the legion and make this post the best place for veterans and their families to be. Strive to be "ON FIRE" for your American Legion Post 28 here in Grand Haven and volunteer when and where ever you can.

## 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

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 led and keep all of them in your prayers.

1. Hugh Hyde
  2. Vince Antonich
  3. Dave Meints
  4. "JW" James Wayne
  5. "Jimbo" Jim Land
- Chaplain:  
George Bennett



## WW II Veterans were Honored on June 28, 2013

The American Legion and the VFW together with Hospice of Michigan, Honored WW II veterans at the Grand Haven Senior Center ( Four Pointes) on June 28, 2013. Here is a Video prepared by one of our members John Siemion. <http://youtu.be/8UpJNc4wGYU>

We are planning to show this video at the American Legion at our Wednesday Night dinners during the month of August on our Big Screen TV. Please come down and watch and thank our WW II veterans. If there is any questions please contact Past Commander MacKellar at [mackeda1@aol.com](mailto:mackeda1@aol.com) or Cell # 616-402-2206.



Past Commander Ron Bauer presented to the Legion a "Korean War Memorial Poster" with the help of Gary Byl. Gary had been a Marine and served at the Chosin Reservoir. Part of the Korean War.

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

A warm welcome to our new members and transfers, Michael A. Brown, Robert D. Etheridge, Jeremiah D. Jacobs, David A.

Liening, Marcel Manzagol, James K. Palma, Richard J. Radde, Walter A. Wasil, Andrew L. Sytsma, Gerald J. Verrier, Ryan B. Atkins, Thomas W. Austin, Richard F. Baxter, Bruce D. Campbell, Thomas D. DeYoung, Donald C. Hipp, Michael D. Metzger, Dennis H. Steffens, Edward J. Talen, Sijtze VanTuinen, and Thomas J. Devlin. You are urged to become involved by attending meetings and volunteering. WELCOME ABOARD.

Taps were played for Robert "Bob" Elenbass, Terry "T.J. Thompson, and Norbert "Bud" Grant. REST IN PEACE.



## HONOR GUARD

This past month we had 4 funerals. Army National Guard helped with 2 funerals, Navy helped with 2 funeral.

Honor Guard members attended Programs for SAL Convention, Senior Center program, Flag Day and "We Honor Vets WW II" programs.

Honor Guard Leader: George Bennett



## AUXILIARY COMMENTS

Greetings Auxiliary members,  
The Quilt Raffle ended successfully on July 4th. Congratulations to Jan Kinane, the winner of the beautiful patriotic quilt. Mr. & Mrs. Ottenwass won the second-place drawing, a glass American flag design encased in a concrete garden stone. Raffle donations totaled \$1,600, which we divided equally between the Quilts of Valor group and the American Legion's program Operation Comfort Warriors (for our wounded warriors).

The next 5th District meeting is August 13th, 7 p.m., at the Grand Rapids Boat & Canoe Club. At the August 27th Unit meeting, our Girls' State delegates are reporting on their experiences in Lansing. Please come show them your support. We have a casual dinner/get-together at the VFW Auxiliary on September 12th at 5:30. Sign up at the August meeting or give me a call if you will be attending this fun evening. Fall Conference is September 20th – 22nd at Boyne Highlands Hotel in Harbor Springs. I recommend & encourage our committee chairs to attend.

As we continue to plan many activities & events at the Post, please consider volunteering a few hours of your time. Thank you to all of those members who have helped at past events.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the membership of Unit #28 as president. I am proud to be a part of this great organization and its mission to honor and aid our veterans. This is another one of life's experiences and I am ready for the challenge. Please feel free to call or email me with questions, suggestions, or if you need information. I will do my best to find the answers.

Respectfully, Michele Stetts, President  
mstetts@charter.net  
(616) 901-8331

### 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'S MENU

**AUGUST 2ND FRIDAY @ 5:30pm**

### Charcoal Grilled Half Chicken Dinner

Bean Medley, Potato Salad, Roll  
(American Legion)

**AUGUST 3RD SATURDAY**

**@ NOON - 7pm**

### Charcoal Grilled Half Chicken Dinner

Bean Medley, Potato Salad, Roll  
(American Legion)

**AUGUST 7th**

### PERCH DINNER

Slaw, Fries and Roll (Ray's Gang)

**AUGUST 14TH**

### ALL-YOU-CAN EAT ZESTY SPAGHETTI

Salad, garlic toast (Coopersville Boys)

**AUGUST 21ST**

### COUNTRY STYLE PORK DINNER

Mashed, veggies, dinner roll (Legion Riders)

**AUGUST 28TH**

### SUCCULENT SWISS STEAK DINNER

Mashed, green bean casserole, dinner roll  
(The "A" Team)

Come out and support your Post and its volunteers. "For the Good of the Legion" Dinner Committee. Happy Summer.

## Andy's Draught

Membership Cards! Got it? Be ready to show it. We are checking and probably rechecking everyone. With the completion of the new bar we are signing up new members every day. There are a lot of new faces. Don't take offense when we ask to see your membership card. You should be proud to show it. It is a privilege to be a member of the American Legion. It is the law that we only sell alcohol to Legion members. The bartenders are only looking out for what's best for the Post.

No more "Andy will vouch for me." or "I just showed the other bartender". The bartenders are trained to card everyone they don't recognize as a current member. We don't have any data base to where can look up every one of our 3,200 current members either. Plain and simple, if you don't have your current card on you, we can't serve you alcohol.

We are working on getting the pizza situation. It will still be a few weeks before they are available, because we are still waiting on a few things. The pizza oven will be set up in the kitchen by the double doors. They will be available if there is no dinner being served from the kitchen, the bartenders are not too busy behind the bar or volunteers would like to help cook them. I will let you know as soon as we are ready to start serving them again.

This month's wine feature is a chardonnay from Chateau Ste Michelle. This chardonnay offers apple and pear fruit character with bright natural acidity. This lightly oaked wine goes well with food. It is \$3.50 by the glass or \$12 for the bottle.

August drink specials: \$3 Sangria, \$2 You-Call Tails every Monday & \$1 12oz can beer every Tuesday.

Cheers! Andy



Service Officer Adam Shumaker and Sgt-at-Arms Nathan VanKampen presented a Grand Haven Post #28 license plate to Post Commander George Blackard of "Andrew Pearson" Post #117 Billings, Montana. Adam and Nathan were in Montana at a week long Fly Fishing School (Sweetwater Travel Guide School), where they are now certified Fly Fishing instructors. They took the license plate for Past Commander MacKellar, Andrew Pearson was a friend of the family who was killed in Iraq in April of 2008. The new Post #117 was named after Army Capt. Andrew "Drew" Pearson.





## SAL COMMENTS

Summer is here and the living is easy! I hope you all are getting plenty of time to relax and enjoy our fantastic Michigan summer...they always go by too quickly. The hot weather has arrived in full force and the Legion is packed every day with members enjoying all the amenities that our Post has to offer. This is especially true of the new bar area (and air conditioning) and the deck with it's shiny new furniture (courtesy of your SAL!). Coast Guard Festival is right around the corner and there are a lot of great events in the works for our Legion family. During this Festival, we want to honor our Coast Guard serving troops and veterans, and of course all other veterans and current military. Take advantage of Coast Guard Festival to do a good deed for a veteran...mow their lawn, babysit their kids, take 'em out to dinner, drive them to a Dr. appointment, or whatever...but make sure you thank them for their service!

It won't be long now before we celebrate Labor Day and then shortly afterwards, the Grand Haven Salmon Festival. As always, your Detachment 28 SAL will cook dinner for hundreds at the annual Fish Boil, and will provide entertainment and a Beer Tent during the evenings of the Festival. We need a lot of volunteer help to pull this off, so please make sure and sign up at the Legion Bar...sign up sheets will be up shortly. We need people to peel and clean vegetables (corn, potatoes and onions), to help with the cooking, to sell and take tickets, to serve beer and wine, and to help with cleanup and security. These events don't happen without a lot of great people working hard...but are great, great fun.

I want to welcome our new members to Detachment 28: Michael Skilling, James Lindrup, Brian Stephans, Dino Poganelli, William Beland, Brian Holzgen Jr., Jace George, Brett Berry, Casey Howe, Gary Rummier, A. Brian Cain, Dan Knue, Gregory Schmeling, James Gill, Brandon Teets, Todd Deal, Tim Linton and Kenny Epplett. I hope you'll all go out of your way to make these new members welcome! As I've mentioned before, we are proud to have the largest SAL detachment in the state of Michigan. But we have a familiar problem...the same group of people seem to do all the work. Our next SAL meeting is Monday, August 5 at 7:30PM. Come to the meeting and get involved! I hope I'll get a chance to meet all the new members in person at the best meeting you'll attend all summer.

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

We have changed our meeting in August to the 20th of the month because of a conflict with another meeting. It will actually be our annual dinner out at JW's at 6pm. We should have our new partnership cards by then and you can pay your renewal dues of \$15.00 at that time. Dues for new member are \$17.00. 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  
Veloyce Hansen, L'Aumonier  
Cleo Phipps, L'Avocate  
Ann Kammeraad, Le Pouvoir

## LEGION RIDERS



This is the August newsletter already? It seems like we're just getting started. I think the summers are getting shorter, but the good news is we still have time to pile on some miles. What's going on with our rides this summer? At the time I wrote this newsletter close to the end of July, we haven't been on a Post 28 ride yet. The first two got canceled due to rain and Martin and I were the only two to show up for the Grass Lake ride. There is a Post to Post ride scheduled for August 10th. I don't know what Burl has planned for us, but it should be fun. We will meet at Kathy's Country Kitchen. Kickstands up at 9am.

Also you can go on a ride to Indy for the Legacy Run send off. That will be on August 17th and 18th. Just one night in a hotel.

Another ride you might want to do is Mary's Dream at Mt Pleasant. The price for that is \$25.00 per bike. The date is August 3rd.

The Post 28 Riders have been getting into hot dogs a lot this summer. Our Riders kitchen crew has been busy lately cooking some mean dogs. Bike Nights have picked up and we have been doing 50/50's with all of our dinners. We also did hot dogs and chips on the 4th of July. I would like to thank the Riders kitchen crew for all their help. We will be having a steak dinner with mashed potatoes, corn and a dinner roll on August 8th serving from 5pm to 7pm. Dinner price will be \$10.00.

Another fun event coming up is our Riders Bash and Potluck on October 12th. I just wanted to bring that up because we should have some meetings and start planning for that event.

I hope everyone has been getting some great rides in this summer and trying to stay cool.

Also, if anyone wants to donate to the Legacy you can give your donation to Larry Foose or myself and I will see that Larry gets it. We will be sending a check with Billy to take to Indy in August.

Lets do some riding. Ride safe.

Toby Ross, Post 28 ALR Director



### 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



AMERICAN LEGION POST #28 HARBOR AVE.

# CHICKEN BAR-B-Q PUBLIC INVITED

**FRIDAY AUGUST 2ND**

**(5:30-7PM)**

(After Coast Guard personnel have been served)

**SATURDAY AUGUST 3RD**

**(12 NOON- 7PM)**

(First come, first served)

**ADULTS \$8.00 A PLATE**

**CHILDREN \$4.00 A PLATE**

SCOTTVILLE CLOWN BAND

APPEARING AFTER THE PARADE

AUGUST DRINK SPECIALS:  
\$3.00 SANGRIA

## AUGUST 2013

September ~ American Legion Picnic  
October ~ Oktoberfest Party,  
Wine Tasting

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	July 29	30	31	1	2	3
COAST GUARD WEEK						
		7pm Scottville Clown Band	<b>5PM BURGER NIGHT 6PM DECK-E-OKE</b>		<b>5PM ENLISTED MEN'S DINNER</b>	<b>12PM BBQ CHICKEN</b>
4	5 7:30 SAL Meeting \$2 U-Call Tall	6 6pm House Comm. 7pm Post Meeting \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	7 <b>5PM PERCH DINNER</b>	8 5pm Steak Dinner	9 <b>6PM BURGERS</b>	10 6pm Karaoke
11	12 \$2 U-Call Tall	13 6pm Rider's Hot Dogs \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	14 <b>5PM ALL-YOU- CAN EAT ZESTY SPAGHETTI</b>	15 7pm Trivia	16 <b>6PM BURGERS</b>	17
18	19 \$2 U-Call Tall	20 6pm 8 & 40 Meeting Dinner at JW's 7pm Executive Board \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	21 <b>5PM COUNTRY STYLE PORK DINNER</b>	22	23 <b>6PM BURGERS</b>	24
25	26 \$2 U-Call Tall	27 6pm Rider's Hot Dogs 7pm Auxiliary Meeting \$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER	28 <b>5PM SUCCULENT SWISS STEAK DINNER</b>	29	30 <b>6PM BURGERS</b>	31