

# 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  
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Issue #1118

## COMMANDER'S COMMENTS



The United States commemorates the adoption of the flag of the United States, which happened on June 14, 1777 by resolution of the Second Continental Congress.

In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation that officially established June 14 as Flag Day. It's at the President's discretion to officially proclaim the observance. It will be a sad day if our president does not proclaim the observance!

The Grand Haven Elks Lodge #1200, American Legion, VFW and U.S. Coast Guard jointly celebrates Flag Day at the Waterfront Stadium on June 14th at 6:00 pm. Post 28 will host a flag retirement ceremony at 7:30 pm. Please plan to attend both ceremonies.

Special thanks to Post 28 for your support, cards and prayers with the recent loss of Commander Ed's 102 year old mother.

## American Legion Officers

Ed DeKoekkoek, 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

## HONOR GUARD

This past month we had 6 funerals. Honor Guard from the Army National Guard helped with 2 funerals, Air Force helped with 1 funeral and Navy helped with 1 funeral.

Honor Guard Leader: George Bennett

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

New Members voted on at our May Meeting were Nickolas C. Bergman, Brooke Briggson, Paul E. Davis, Mark J. Donnelly, Scott Kinney, James P. Raad, Robert C. Reyes, Joseph L. Robeys Jr., John A. Ryan, Terri Lynn Torres, Tonia D. VanDyke, and Ronald W. Whitman. Transfers Gary A. Swindlehurst, and Bruce C. Kennedy. WELCOME ABOARD TO POST 28

Taps were played at the May Meeting for Gene R. Swiftney, Army Vietnam, Alvin J. Cook, Army, WWII, Dale R. Bouwkamp, Army, Vietnam, Thomas L. LeMieux, Air Force Vietnam, Elizabeth J. Hanson, Navy WWII, and Edwin G. Oestman, Navy WWII. R I P



During the Kentucky Derby, Michigan American Legion State Commander Raymond Moore was presented with a Charles A. Conklin Post # 28 Challenge Coin by Post #28 Past Commander & 5th District Junior Vice Commander Garrett Veihl



Vietnam Veteran's Dinner. Remembering those not accounted for and those that paid the ultimate price for freedom. RIP Brothers.



## AUXILIARY COMMENTS

Greetings Auxiliary Members,  
Thank you to everyone who volunteered for Auxiliary events/activities at the Post or in our community during May. Welcome to all new members who were initiated & received their pins at the May 27th meeting. Thank you to Past Commander Dave MacKellar &

Crew for the inspirational flag-folding ceremony they presented during our Initiation. Although the election of officers took place at our May 27th meeting, we still do not have (as of 5/14/2014) candidates for Historian (responsible for the President's scrapbook) and Secretary (responsible for recording the minutes of each meeting). We have over 1,000 members...surely someone can take notes or make a scrapbook? Please contact Ann Kammeraad if you are interested. At our June 24th meeting, we will be installing new officers for 2014 - 2015. Please join us for this occasion at 7:00 p.m. All current officers are asked to bring their pins and handbooks even if they are continuing in the office. Three Auxiliary members are attending the Department Convention in Livonia on June 26th - 29th. The new membership year begins with the July 22nd meeting, so I hope to have the new hostess booklets available by August. National will be sending membership renewal notices for 2015 in September. Check the Post newsletter and our Facebook page ([facebook.com/unit28ALA](https://www.facebook.com/unit28ALA)) for more activities/events coming up. Continue to volunteer...and pass it on! Have a relaxing and warm June. Happy Flag Day & Father's Day!  
Respectfully, Michele Stetts, President

### AUXILIARY OFFICERS

Michele Stetts, *President*  
Charlene MacKellar, *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 DINNER MENU

**JUNE 4TH**

### PERCH DINNER

Fries, slaw and roll. Ray's Gang.

**JUNE 11TH**

### ALL-YOU-CAN EAT ZESTY SPAGHETTI

Salad, garlic toast (Coopersville Boys)

**JUNE 18TH**

### COUNTRY STYLE PORK DINNER

Mashed, veggies, corn bread. (Legion Riders)

**JUNE 25TH**

### Succulent Swiss Steak

Mashed, veggie, roll.  
Fran and The Dreamers

Dinner on the waterfront at Charles Conklin's place. Does it get any better than that? Lots of outdoor seating, dinner, and a cold drink. Grab a Bud and come on down. Thanks.

June 3rd is the initiation of new members. New members should be at the bar at 6:30pm. Invitations are being mailed out, but if haven't yet been "sworn in", feel free to participate. Largest post in the great State of Michigan.

## Andy's Draught

Be ready to show your membership cards. You'll be seeing some new faces behind the bar this summer and they have been instructed to card everyone. Remember, it's a privilege to be a member. Be proud to show your card.

We are no longer the second largest Post in the Michigan. We have surpassed Mt. Clemens for the #1 spot. We now have over 1500 Legionnaire (Veteran) members and are continually growing. Congratulations Post 28.

For the month of June all I can say is I hope Summer shows up. We will be opening up at 1pm Monday through Friday & extending our Sunday hours to 9pm. I will have the bar upstairs staffed on Friday nights as weather permits. It needs to get a lot warmer first.

We are always looking for crews to cook burgers. A crew should consist of about 8-10 people. We have experienced crews that will help train any new crew interested in helping. It's a great time, a great way to help the Post &

a great way to get involved.

The single burgers are \$3 & the doubles are \$4. They are served with a bag of chips, a plate & a smile. The condiments are for the burgers only. They are not for making salads. Any complaints can be brought to the bar. We'll put you to work in the kitchen.

This 4th of July we will not be open to the public. We will be serving members only. The front yard will be fenced in as we have done the last few years for your firework watching pleasure. Bring your chair & your blankets.

This month's special is a Malbec from Bonarda. This slightly smoky red wine has notes of currant and blackberries & is \$3 per glass or \$10 per bottle.

June drink specials: \$3 Another, \$1 Bud Light/Miller Lite drafts every Sunday, \$2 U-Call-Tall every Monday & \$1 12oz can beer every Tuesday. Cheers! Andy

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 lead and keep all of them in your prayers. Respectfully submitted,  
Chaplain: George Bennett

Vince Antonich  
Charles Davis  
Doug Telgenhof



### 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*

### 8&40 Salon 499

A few people have asked about the origins of the 8 & 40 group at our Legion. The original national group began in 1922 as a sister organization to the 40/8 mens group of the American Legion. The 40/8 title of officers was taken from the French railway system of 40 men and 8 horses in one box car. The 8 & 40 group also used French titles. The group decided since they no longer had a connection with the railway they would use titles related to hats, which were very popular at the time. The first National Chapeau was known as Le Grand Chapeau. The group was dedicated to uphold the ideals of God and Country and developed into doing charitable work for Veterans and their families. Le Chapeau, Char MacKellar



## SAL COMMENTS

We doff our collective SAL hats to Tom Greenberg, Commander for the last two years. Tom's professional demeanor kept meetings on track and made tough decisions manageable. Thanks, Tom. Congratulations to all the new SAL officers for 2014-2015.

Welcome to new members:

Danny Midkiff, jr., Keegan Johnson, Mike Hoffman, Gerald Wojtaszek, William Fochtman, Thomas Stevenson, Jeffrey Sawinski, Michael Lonergran, Mark Luttenorn, Nathan Dekker, Brian Wise

Saturday, June 19, is Flag Day. This is a good time to check yours for fraying and/or fading. Drop off tattered flags at the Legion and look to purchase a new one from the club's stock.

## SAL OFFICERS

Mike Zolik, Commander  
Tom Shultz, 1st Vice Commander  
Jack DeMarr, 2nd Vice Commander  
T.L. Lowe, Finance Officer  
Al VanDam, Chaplain  
Ross Rigoli, Sergeant-At-Arms  
Brock Rogers, Historian  
Carl Lori, Legion Advisor  
Mike Brown, Membership  
Paul Kubicek, Adjutant  
Tom Greenberg, Past Commander



## LEGION RIDERS

As I write Junes newsletter it is gloomy and raining not good riding weather. We give thank's for the past few days as they have been really great riding days and hope to have many more. Our hot dog bike night dinners are 6-10-14 and 6-24-14 from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. Our pulled pork dinner will be 6-18-14 from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. Congratulations to our own Freddy Smith for being elected the new SGT-AT-ARMS of Post 28. Congratulations also to Garrett Veihl for being elected Sr

Vice Commander at district level. The Raise the Roof benefit went well thank you Michelle for thinking of the veterans.

Ride Safe Bob Wydeck ALR Director

## LEGION RIDERS OFFICERS

Bob Wydeck, Riders Director  
Fred Smith, Assistant Director  
Mike Stressman, Sergeant-at-Arms  
Diana Arens, Secretary  
Larry Foose, Treasurer  
Ryan Atkins, Chaplain  
Sally Kemme, Membership Chair  
Burl Newbill, SR. Road Captain  
Larry Lambert, Grab-an-Run

# KENTUCKY DERBY 2014



Kentucky Derby Day at the Legion the winner of our "Conklin Stakes" was jockey Linda Quaine.



Past Commander Bill Kaufman calling out moves for the Conklin Stakes Jockey Race.













Winners of the Kentucky Derby Hat contest are left to right: 3rd place Ann Kammeraad, 2nd place Linda Kiel and 1st place Cheryl Myaard

JUNE DRINK SPECIALS:  
\$3.00 ANOTHER

# JUNE 2014

July ~ Independence Day  
August ~ Coast Guard Festival,  
Enlisted Men's Party, BBQ Chicken

| SUNDAY                                | MONDAY                                                            | TUESDAY                                                                                                                                                    | WEDNESDAY                                     | THURSDAY                                                                                       | FRIDAY                                                                                                     | SATURDAY                                                                                          |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1<br><br>OPEN 1PM - 9PM<br>\$1 Draft  | 2 8am Building and Grounds<br>7:30 SAL Meeting<br>\$2 U-Call Tall | 3<br>6pm House Comm.<br>7pm Post Meeting<br>\$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER                                                                                           | 4<br><br>5PM PERCH DINNER                     | 5<br><br>7pm ALR Meet                                                                          | 6<br><br>6PM BURGERS  | 7<br>6pm<br> |
| 8<br><br>OPEN 1PM - 9PM<br>\$1 Draft  | 9 8am Building and Grounds<br>\$2 U-Call Tall                     | 10 <br>6pm Legion Hot Dogs<br>7PM 8& 40 MEETING<br>\$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER | 11<br><br>5PM ALL-YOU-CAN EAT ZESTY SPAGHETTI | 12                                                                                             | 13<br><br>6PM BURGERS | 14                                                                                                |
| 15<br><br>OPEN 1PM - 9PM<br>\$1 Draft | 16 8am Building and Grounds<br>\$2 U-Call Tall                    | 17<br>7pm Executive Board<br>\$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER                                                                                                          | 18<br><br>5PM ROAST PORK DINNER               | 19<br>7pm  | 20<br><br>6PM BURGERS | 21                                                                                                |
| 22<br><br>OPEN 1PM - 9PM<br>\$1 Draft | 23 8am Building and Grounds<br>\$2 U-Call Tall                    | 24 <br>6pm Legion Hot Dogs<br>7pm Aux. Meeting<br>\$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER  | 25<br><br>5PM SWISS STEAK DINNER              | 26                                                                                             | 27<br><br>6PM BURGERS | 28                                                                                                |
| 29<br><br>OPEN 1PM - 9PM<br>\$1 Draft | 30 8am Building and Grounds<br>\$2 U-Call Tall                    | JULY 1<br>6pm House Comm.<br>7pm Post Meeting<br>\$1 (12 oz) CAN BEER                                                                                      | 2<br><br>5PM PERCH DINNER                     | 3<br><br>7pm ALR Meet                                                                          | 4<br><br>NO BURGERS   | 5<br>6pm<br> |