

Charles A. Conklin Post 28  
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[www.americanlegiongh.org](http://www.americanlegiongh.org)



**THE  
AMERICAN  
LEGION**

Rick White  
Post 28 Commander  
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Monday - Friday 2pm - 10 pm  
Saturday 12 noon - 10pm  
Sunday 1pm - 7pm

April 2023  
Issue #1223

### AMERICAN LEGION

Michael Thurber, 1st Vice Commander  
Ron Streng, 2nd Vice Commander  
Chris Jarvis, Adjutant  
Cyndy Neil-Wierenga, Finance Officer  
Duane Smith, Chaplain  
Larry Lambert, Judge Advocate  
Jim Porenta, Sergeant-at-Arms  
Dennis Siron, Historian  
Garrett Veihl, Service Officer  
Garrett Veihl, Executive-at-Large  
Jim Porenta, Executive-at-Large  
Freddy Smith, Executive-at-Large  
Gary Doublestein, Past Commander

### AUXILIARY

Cheryl George, President  
[cageorge4@gmail.com](mailto:cageorge4@gmail.com)  
Becky Glockzin, Vice President  
Ginny Hebert, Secretary  
Michele Stetts, Treasurer  
Linda Gieske, Historian  
Pam Medendorp-Peck, Chaplain  
Vicki Siron, Sergeant-at-Arms  
Kathleen Edwards, Membership

### SAL

Paul Kubicek, Commander  
[pkubicek@hotmail.com](mailto:pkubicek@hotmail.com)  
Ron Ribbink, 1st Vice Commander  
Bill Moss, 2nd Vice Commander  
T.L. Lowe, Finance Officer  
Marc DeHaan, Chaplain  
Scott Kelly, Historian  
Steve VanderWall, Sergeant-at-Arms  
Dr. David Ireland, Membership  
Mike Brown, Adjutant  
Jeff Warner, Past Commander

### LEGION RIDERS

Steven Barnes, Director  
[Alriderspost28@gmail.com](mailto:Alriderspost28@gmail.com)  
Jay Stevens, Assistant Director  
Michelle Lucas, Secretary  
Larry Foose, Treasurer  
Wes Spyke, Chaplain  
Jeannine Harms, Historian  
Bob Wydeck, Sergeant-at-Arms  
Sally Kemme, Membership Chair  
Tom Spelman, Road Captain  
Tom Schultz, Safety Officer  
Gerald Keen, Past Director

Yale Pope, Post Manager  
(616) 842-5310



### COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

Even though Member Catherine Buckley gave a wonderful talk at the 104th birthday party, I would like to repeat some of her speech to those who could not attend our dinner or members who do not know the history. American Expeditionary Forces during WW1 were asked to help with creating a better morale among the troops. In 1919 it was charted by the US Congress and was given the name "The American Legion". Throughout the years, the American Legion has expanded to 12,000 communities with a post in every state. We are involved in many activities such as athletics with baseball sponsorship, which I played as a kid, the Operation Comfort Warrior which supports wounded warriors and their families, and carry a strong voice in Washington on matters pertinent to veterans. We have one of the best Posts in Michigan. Membership, volunteerism, and your participation help to keep it that way. Any ideas you may have to help this post, should be brought to a post officer or left at the bar for staff. Thank-you for reading, and God Bless America. Rick White, Commander #104

### Post 28 Slate of Officers

The election of Post Officers is going to be at the May 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting. The Nominated members for the 2023-2024 Officers that we currently have are:

Commander – Mike Thurber  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander – Ron Streng  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander – Catherine Buckley  
Adjutant - James O'Neil  
Finance Officer – ?

Historian – Saul Lopez  
Chaplain – Gary Doublestein  
Sergeant at Arms – Jim Porenta  
Executive at Large – Phil Polyak  
Executive at Large – Freddy Smith  
Executive at Large – Garrett Veihl

If you are interested in being an Officer, please reach out to John Bilski at [mjbilski@att.net](mailto:mjbilski@att.net) or Chris Jarvis at [cjretsf97@hotmail.com](mailto:cjretsf97@hotmail.com) or call (616) 402-1598



**104TH  
LEGION POST 28  
BIRTHDAY  
CELEBRATION**





## AUXILIARY

We have made it to spring. March was packed with meetings and events. I hope you were able to participate in many of them.

Now we look forward to Easter, but not so much to tax day. We will also be enjoying a visit from our District President at our April 25th meeting.

Chaplain Pam Medendorp-Peck recently presented awards to local students for their Americanism Essays and Poppy Posters.



Tell the people you love how you feel. If you are given the opportunity to help someone, grab it. Volunteer! Many hands make light work. We can't expect the same people to do all the work over and over again. It's spring, time for rebirth and new beginnings. Begin a volunteer habit today.

Cheryl George, President

Troop 165 Boy Scouts, Kyle Turner (L) & Matthew Hoffmeyer (R), make a presentation to Legion members at their March 7th meeting.



Fisher House of Michigan representative, Mark Tellier (R), accepts donations from Commander White and Auxiliary representative, Michele Stetts.

## SAL

Daffodils and then tulips will begin to bloom this month. Let's enjoy this month with new life and new friendships at the Post. I'm sure we will be opening the deck sometime soon as a sure indication of Spring.

The "Bar Fly's and Pimps" did not have a trifecta win in Trivia. A new team "Sly Foxes" won this past month and donated the winnings to our Post "Honor Guard." Come on down and see who wins the next Trivia event.

At our last SAL meeting we approved four new members. Please welcome Michael J Quigg Jr., Peter Stalzer, Wesley Farrell, and Jacob Brye. We also received the following nominations for Officers to be voted on next month:

SAL Commander - Ron Ribbink

1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander - Bill Moss

2nd Vice Commander - Fred Smith & Tim Dieters

Sgt. At Arms - Steve Vanderwall

Historian - Scott Kelly

Chaplain - Marc DeHann

Finance Officer - TL Lowe

The SAL usually makes and serves up the Ham Dinner on the second Wednesday of the month. Since that dinner is three days after Easter (traditional Ham Dinner Sunday), we are changing this month's dinner to Pulled Pork, Au gratin Potatoes with Green Beans and a Roll. I hope to see everyone there!

In closing, I would like to thank our Legion Family for all the prayers and support to my family and I, in the recent passing of my wife Jill. We (especially I) are truly blessed to have received the outpouring of love, encouragement and your presence during this difficult time. Thank you again.

Serving Veterans and our Community

Paul Kubicek – SAL Commander

## LEGION RIDERS

April Showers may bring May flowers, but it also brings the Riders Hot Dog Night! Starting April 25<sup>th</sup>, we will start serving hot dogs, baked beans and potato salad. It can't be missed! These will continue throughout the summer on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. Serving starts at 5:00 and continues until we are sold out.

Other Michigan ALR groups have started to Grab and Run with other's plaques. We are making plans for our own Plaque run to other participating ALR groups.

2023 dues are currently being collected and are \$12. If you would like to join, complete the form available at the post or email [alrriderspost28@gmail.com](mailto:alrriderspost28@gmail.com). You must be an active Legion, Auxiliary, or SAL member to join.

Bikers for Veterans is scheduled September 9, 2023 for the second annual fundraiser. We are currently soliciting sponsorships from local businesses. If you would like to assist, email ALR. All help is appreciated. This year will also be a Memorial ride for those service people and first responders who have given their all.

Follow the Post 28 ALR Facebook page for event updates and information. Are you interested in becoming more involved as a volunteer or member? New faces are always welcome to help with events and activities at the Post. Our next meeting is Thursday, April 6 at 7:00 PM.

*Take a journey, soar like an eagle, there are so many roads to explore, so little time.*

Steve Barnes, Director

## POST NEWS

### NEW MEMBERS

Ryan Tucker, Active USN  
Garald Moeggenborg, USA  
Jerome Rogers, USA  
Phillip Carsten, USA  
Adam House, USA  
Mark Peikarski, USA  
Sophia Kleinheksel, Active USN  
Michael Krushinsky, USA  
Daryl Stewart, USA  
Clifford Drent, USA  
Heidi Zellar, USA

### TRANSFERS

Terry, USA  
Mark Leech, USA  
Gerald Gardner, USN  
Nicholas McManus, USA

### SICK CALL

Mel Nielsen  
Ken Kelly  
Ed DeKoekkoek  
Ron Bauer  
Oscar Ledesma  
Sandra Custodeso



### TAPS WERE PLAYED FOR:

Gordon Hitsman, USA Vietnam  
Dewayne Burns, USA Korean Era



### HONOR GUARD

Honor Guard had two services since the last Post meeting.

Rifle Team Leader, David MacKellar



## POST 28'S 104TH BIRTHDAY DINNER



## Chaplain's Corner

Submitted by Pam Medendorp-Peck, Unit 28 Chaplain

In opening, this Corner was brought to my attention by my Leader of faith, Smitty! I was honored that he asked me to be a part of the newsletter. As was written last month by Gary, his welcoming, soft, caring nature drew me to the task. I sorely miss him too!

We first met at our request of his Matrimony Services to marry my Air Force Son and Daughter in Law. He responded immediately! He met with them prior (no Mom you are not a part of this), and bonded them with our Lord's commitment in premarital counsel. The Blessings to them were concluded in a ceremony of Biblical covering on the Beach, and Janie and Smitty joined us for celebration!

That in a nutshell says who he was. Whether he was giving words of Biblical Blessings as we said our farewells to Life. Or Beginning lives with Biblical instructions and Blessings, Smitty was there! A Time to weep, and a time to laugh, a time to mourn, and a time to dance! Ecclesiastes 3:4. He is dancing in heaven, of that, I am sure!!

Let us all share the Faith that he followed! Smitty's example in everyday life from his readings of Holy Scripture and his prayers to the Lord, and even on to his playing with his puppy at the dog park, they all showed his love for the life that His Creator gave to him.

We can all grow as we plant these seeds of Caring, sharing, and faith in each other and God. This is what binds us and builds our Post!

With Love, Chaplain Pam

### Legionnaires April 2023 Membership Update

Looks like the Groundhog got his six more weeks of Winter, it is now time to focus on Spring! Soon the upper and lower patio areas will be open for all members to enjoy. Please remember to check your membership cards for the "2023" at the top.

National will send one more 2023 batch of renewal notices/forms. Again please check before you pay with cash or check, there are three ways to verify if your renewal has been processed: 1) Check your membership card, the year at the top of your card should say 2023. 2) Log into mylegion.org and look under "My Account". 3) Email one of us and we can check for you.

As always, please write your membership number on your check, or if renewing at the Post write it on the membership application, or you can always just print a copy of your card and include it. This is not necessary if you use the form sent to you in the mail as your card number is already printed on it.

As always, should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact any one of us. Larry Lambert - [larry\\_lambert@sbcglobal.net](mailto:larry_lambert@sbcglobal.net); Linda Doublestein - [lindadoublestein@gmail.com](mailto:lindadoublestein@gmail.com); Phil Polyak - [wattnot@me.com](mailto:wattnot@me.com).





## 2023 Gene Rothi Scholarships

Gene Rothi Scholarship applications and instructions are now available. Google "Gene Rothi Scholarship" to download the application. Year 2023 high school graduating seniors who are descendants of Post 28 American Legionnaires (current or deceased) and will be incoming 2023-2024 college freshmen are encouraged to apply. All applications must be received at Post 28 by April 14, 2023! Awardees will be notified by mail in mid May.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 <b>ARTURO'S TACOS</b> Fresh Mexican Grill • Taqueria Thursdays 3p-9p Saturdays 2p-9p Sundays 1p-6p						<b>1</b> 
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 7 pm <b>SAL Meeting</b>	<b>4</b> 6 pm House Committee 7 pm Post Meeting	<b>5</b> 5-7 PM <b>PERCH DINNER</b>	<b>6</b> 7 pm <b>ALR Meeting</b>	<b>7</b> 5:30p-7:30p <b>BURGERS</b>	<b>8</b> 
<b>9</b> <b>POST CLOSED</b> 	<b>10</b> 	<b>11</b> 	<b>12</b> 5-7 PM <b>PULLED PORK DINNER (SAL)</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 5:30p-7:30p <b>BURGERS</b>	<b>15</b> 
<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 	<b>18</b> 7 pm Executive Committee 	<b>19</b> 5-7 PM <b>CHOPS MEATLOAF DINNER (AUXILIARY)</b>	<b>20</b> 7 PM 	<b>21</b> 5:30p-7:30p <b>BURGERS</b>	<b>22</b> 
<b>23</b>  <b>30</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 5 pm <b>Hot Dog Night (ALR)</b>  7 pm <b>Auxiliary Meeting</b>	<b>26</b> 5-7 PM <b>SUCCULENT SWISS STEAK DINNER</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 5:30p-7:30p <b>BURGERS</b>	<b>29</b>