

Charles A. Conklin Post 28
P.O. Box 439
700 S. Harbor Drive
Grand Haven, MI 49417-1743
www.americanlegiongh.org



**THE
AMERICAN
LEGION**

Walt Pedersen
Post 28 Commander
wolsalt@charter.net

Monday - Friday 1pm - 10 pm
Saturday 12 pm - 10 pm
Sunday 12 pm - 9 pm

April 2026
Issue #1259

AMERICAN LEGION

Cyndy Wierenga, 1st Vice Commander
Nick Matiash, 2nd Vice Commander
James O'Neal, Adjutant
Robert Kepner, Finance Officer
Gary Doublestein, Chaplain
Larry Lambert, Judge Advocate
Jim Porenta, Sergeant-at-Arms
Dennis Siron, Historian
Garrett Veihl, Service Officer
Mike Thurber, Service Officer
Karl Christensen, Executive-at-Large
Linda Laswell, Executive-at-Large
Freddy Smith, Executive-at-Large
Ron Streng, Past Commander

AUXILIARY

Becky Glockzin, President
glockzinb@gmail.com
Darlene DeHaan, Vice President
Ginny Hebert, Secretary
Michele Stetts, Treasurer
Linda Gieske, Historian
Pam Medendorp, Chaplain
Laurie Koldyk, Sergeant-at-Arms
Kathleen Edwards, Membership

SAL

Tim Deiters, Commander
deiterst@yahoo.com
Jeff Wierenga, 1st Vice Commander
Andrew Ruiters, 2nd Vice Commander
T.L. Lowe, Finance Officer
Marc DeHaan, Chaplain
Gary Kerkstra, Historian
Steve VanderWall, Sergeant-at-Arms
Dr. David Ireland, Membership
Mike Brown, Adjutant
Bill Moss, Past Commander

LEGION RIDERS

Alan Smith, Director
alriderspost28@gmail.com
Fred Smith, Assistant Director
Jim Sacks, Secretary
Larry Foose, Treasurer
Marc DeHaan, Chaplain
John Boese, Historian
Dave Feenstra, Sergeant-at-Arms
David Baldwin, Membership Chair
Al Smith, Road Captain
Tom Schultz, Safety Officer
Steven Barnes, Past Director
Yale Pope, Post Manager
(616) 842-5310

COMMANDER'S COMMENTS



March is gone and April is now upon us. With the approach of warmer weather, we are nearing the reopening of the deck, where guests will have opportunity to appreciate the outstanding views of the harbor.

The Legion Birthday Dinner was great — many thanks to the volunteers who cooked and served. The St. Patty's Day celebration was also memorable, especially with the impressive performance by Grand Haven High School's Celtic music group, GOTAK. Hats off to them and their talented director, for inspiring them to give their best.

On a more serious topic, nominations are open for elections of Post Officers, which will be taking place at the monthly member meeting Tuesday the 5th of May at 7:00 pm. I'll be direct, we need members to get involved. To keep our Charter, the Post must have at least three active officers — a Commander, an Adjutant and a Finance Officer.

Currently we have candidates for two positions: Cyndy Wierenga for Commander and Nick Matiash for First Vice Commander. We need individual members to step up so we can have all necessary positions filled.

If you or anyone you know would be interested in stepping up and volunteering to run for a particular position of service at the Post, please contact one of these Past Commanders on our Nominating Committee: Chris Jarvis, John Bilski, or Gary Doublestein.

Thank you to all who serve in making our Post the best it can be.

For the good of the Legion – Walt Pedersen, Commander #107.



Happy 107th Birthday Post 28



AUXILIARY

The proceeds from our March 18 Chops' Meatloaf Dinner were changed to benefit our National Security Program. Our final for-the-season Meatloaf Dinner is April 22. On April 29, we'll feature a Pre-Cinco de Mayo Dinner.

Coming in May - Poppy month! National Poppy Day is May 22, when we'll be collecting donations for our veterans' programs.

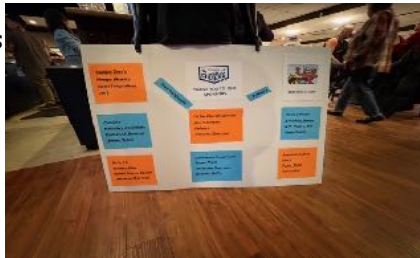
Our Nomination Committee members will present the 2026-27 Slate of Officers at our April 28 meeting, with the election to be held at our May meeting. All offices are open for candidates. The new officers' year begins with the August 2026 meeting. Please consider running for office to join our Auxiliary Leadership Team in some capacity! You will be supported by an experienced group of women who are passionate about serving Veterans! Contact Cheryl George (Chairperson), Pat Best, or Noreen Sayranian if you are interested.

Consider volunteering! It's a great way to help out, to support the Auxiliary and Legion, to make friends, and have a feel-good time. Our next meeting is March 24 at 6:30pm. Hope to see you there.

Becky Glockzin, President

LEGION RIDERS

We sincerely thank all participants in the Chili Cook-off for their enthusiasm, creativity, and outstanding recipes, which contributed significantly to making the event both memorable and enjoyable. We greatly value your dedication and effort in ensuring this cook-off was a tremendous success. The results are as follows: *Gold Medal Chili* received first place for their Chicken Chili; *Paul's Special Chili* earned second place as well as the People's Choice award; *Miracle Chili* won Best Decorated. Attendance was excellent, and the American Legion Riders raised \$3,044.99 to support veterans. I want to thank the Grand Haven merchants for your support.



Our next event will be the Kentucky Derby Party on May 2. We invite you to join the Legion Riders in celebration by wearing your finest Derby hats and attire on this special occasion.

Thank you all for your support.
Tag Smith, Director/Road Captain



SAL

This month we approved eight new members. Dave Ireland reported that we have 108 new members and 1,036 renewed for a total of 1,144, which is 78% of our goal.

We also have approved \$3,800 dollars towards funding the extended patio table and chairs, if it passes at the higher level. The Pub Crawl is scheduled for May 16, starting at 2pm, with a \$10 entry fee.

There are six seats still available for the Tigers bus trip.

AS ALWAYS I ask for more SAL members to please get involved. THE FIRST MONDAY AT 7PM, WE MEET UPSTAIRS.

Tim Deiters, SAL Commander

American Legion Post 28 Memorial GOLF Outing

Calling all golfers and those who want to have fun!! It is time for the American Legion Memorial Golf Outing on Saturday, May 23, 2026. We will be back at Three Fires Golf Course in West Olive. Stop down to the American Legion Post 28 and pick up a brochure at the bar to sign up for a fun and great time. Sign up early to reserve your spot.

Ted Rescorla



1st Place Overall

Gold Medal Chili



People's Choice & 2nd Place overall - Paul's Special Chili

POST NEWS

WELCOME NEW LEGION MEMBERS

Roy Rogers
Manuel Cisneros
David Oelerich
Wallace Struntz
Paul Cole
Gerald Nousain
Alan Horton

SICK CALL

Denny Siron
Bob Wydeck
David MacKellar
Rick White
Roman Marciniak
Oscar Ledesma
Karl Kuzyk
Robert Sanders
Stefanie Marvin-Miller
Daniel Kiomento II
Mike Brown

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

My word this month is RECIPE!

Are your mouths beginning to water? We share wonderful meals at our Post that draw us all close together. We work as a team to support our Post home! We are so grateful for the camaraderie.

Behind the scenes there is a RECIPE that pulls this all together! It is the grace of blending together all those ingredients that makes it possible to have a successful meal. All the flavors of individual scents, tastes, and textures cause the recipe to be deliciously desirable. We, the members, are the ingredients that keep this Post desirable, drawing us together. OUR FUTURE depends on it! God has blessed us with a multitude of members (aka ingredients). WE NEED YOU to hop in the pot and support our mission!

May God lay on your heart to support us with your time and new tasty ideas!

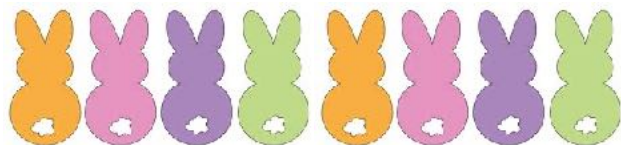
In His Service, Auxiliary Chaplain Pam

HONOR GUARD

There were two funerals since the last Post meeting, one Buc's Pride program, and the Four Chaplains Program.
Rifle Team Leader
Dave MacKellar

TAPS WAS SOUNDED FOR...

Wesley DeWitt, USA
David Botbyl, USA



Legionnaires April 2026 Membership Update

The return of warmer weather and the hint of Spring means that the decks will soon be open! Make sure that your Membership Card has a 2026 printed in Red at the top of your card. Our bar staff are checking for members for valid 2026 Membership Cards. There is also a rumor, that the deck area may offer more seating. News at eleven!

We ask that you consider renewing on line at mylegion.org.

Please note: Anyone applying for **new** membership, or that is **transferring from another Post**, you must submit a copy of your DD-214. Active Duty applicants need to provide a proof of Active Duty. Feel free to black out or redact your Social Security number, we also will return it once your membership is approved. We cannot process or approve either without your DD-214, current military ID or Leave and Earnings Statement. Should you need a DD214 or other proof of Service, you may request it at <https://www.va.gov/records/get-military-service-records/>.

Please remember to **write your membership number** on your **check**, or if renewing at the Post write it on the **membership renewal and/or application (print CLEARLY)**, 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 feel free to contact us: Linda Doublestein - lindadoublestein@gmail.com, Linda Laswell - lindathemac@gmail.com, or Phil Polyak - wattnot@me.com.

2026 Gene Rothi Scholarship - Last Call

Gene Rothi Scholarship applications and instructions are now available. Google "Gene Rothi Scholarship" to download the application. Year 2026 high school graduating seniors who are descendants of Post 28 American Legionnaires (current or deceased) and will be incoming 2026-2027 college freshmen are encouraged to apply. All applications must be received at Post 28 by mid-April 2026! Awardees will be notified by mail in May.



2026-2027 Officers

Commander – Cyndy Wierenga
1st Vice Commander – Nick Matias
2nd Vice Commander – Open
Adjutant – Linda Laswell
Finance Officer – Open
Executive-at-Large – Freddy Smith
Executive-at-Large – Karl Christensen
Executive-at-Large – Randy Snyder
Chaplain – Gary Doublestein
Sgt-at-Arms - Open
Historian – Open
Post Resource Officer (used to be called Service Officer)
- Garrett Veihl and one other for training with Garrett

Nominations will be held at the May meeting, with voting of officers at the June meeting. Anyone interested in running for any of the positions listed above, please contact Past Commander Chris Jarvis (616) 402-1598, Past Commander John Bilski (616) 935-2012, or Past Commander Gary Doublestein (616) 402-6741.

Open Euchre Tournaments

2pm - 4pm
Every Sunday



APRIL

2026

Arturo's Tacos

3:30pm - 8pm
Every Thursday

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>GOODFELLOWS You can make a contribution to the Goodfellows nonprofit at anytime by visiting the American Legion webpage (americanlegiongh.org) and clicking on the donation link, or scan the QR code here. Thank you. Ron Ribbink & Lisa Danicek, Co-Chairs</p>			<p>April 1 5-7 PM PERCH DINNER (Legion)</p>	<p>2 7 PM ALR Meeting</p>	<p>3 5:30p-7:30p BURGERS</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5 POST CLOSED</p>	<p>6 7 pm SAL Meeting</p>	<p>7 7 pm Post Meeting</p>	<p>8 5-7 PM POTATO BAR & PAUL'S CHILI (SAL)</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10 5:30p-7:30p BURGERS</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14 6 pm Legion House Committee Meeting</p>	<p>15 5-7 PM CHOPS' MEATLOAF DINNER (Auxiliary) Last Meatloaf until the Fall</p>	<p>16 6 PM</p>	<p>17 5:30p-7:30p BURGERS</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19 1775 Beginning of the American Revolution; battles of Lexington & Concord; the shot heard round the world.</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21 7 pm AL Executive Committee</p>	<p>22 5-7 PM ZESTY SPAGHETTI DINNER (Legion)</p>	<p>23 TAKE A CHANCE BECAUSE YOU NEVER KNOW <small>YOU ABSOLUTELY MUST HOLD UP YOUR COULDS FOR YOU</small></p>	<p>24 5:30p-7:30p BURGERS</p>	<p>25 9 - 11 am \$10 Breakfast</p> <p>LUSH BUS Departs Post 28 at 11:30 am</p>
<p>26 1805 Marines capture Dema, forcing peace with the Barbary Pirates. This raid birthed the <i>Marines Hymn</i></p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 6:30 pm Auxiliary Meeting</p>	<p>29 5-7 PM CINCO DE MAYO DINNER (Auxiliary)</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>May 1 5:30p-7:30p BURGERS</p>	<p>2</p>
<p>3</p>	<p>4 7 pm SAL Meeting</p>	<p>5 7 pm Post Meeting</p>	<p>6 5-7 PM PERCH DINNER (Legion)</p>	<p>7 7 pm ALR Meeting</p>	<p>8 5:30p-7:30p BURGERS</p>	<p>9</p>