

Charles A. Conklin Post 28
P.O. Box 439
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www.americanlegiongh.org



**THE
AMERICAN
LEGION**

Rick White
Post 28 Commander
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Monday - Thursday 1pm - 10 pm
Friday 1pm - 12 am & Saturday 12 noon - 12 am
Sunday 12pm - 8pm

July 2023
Issue #1226

AMERICAN LEGION

Michael Thurber, 1st Vice Commander
Ron Streng, 2nd Vice Commander
Chris Jarvis, Adjutant
Cyndy Neil-Wierenga, Finance Officer
Gary Doublestein, 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
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

Ron Ribbink, Commander
rjribb@gmail.com
Bill Moss, 1st Vice Commander
Tim Deiters, 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
Paul Kubicek, Past Commander

LEGION RIDERS

Steven Barnes, Director
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
Al Smith, Road Captain
Tom Schultz, Safety Officer
Gerald Keen, Past Director

Yale Pope, Post Manager
(616) 842-5310



COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

This will be my last Commander's newsletter (tone down the applause). Being serious for a minute, it has been a fantastic year for me and it has been a pleasure to serve all of our members of Post 28. As most of you know I had a hard year with my health issues. These events only slowed me down and made me miss a couple of Post meetings. I thank 1st Vice Mike Thurber stepping in for me. I owe him a couple of beers.

I made mention last newsletter of important events through the year. I did not mention Memorial Day. The day's tributes always bring a tear to my eye. So many of our members have lost a service member to war and its ugliness. I have a place in my heart for those who did not come home. We rode in the parade, which gets bigger every year. It was so nice to have people on the curbs that said "thank you for your service" even if this is not our day; that would be Veterans Day for us, another day to shed a tear. I remember too many who never came home to enjoy a life like we know. The Waterfront service was also a beautiful tribute for the fallen.

In closing, I have to mention a few members who helped me get through the year. I have to leave so many out, you know I have thanked you personally or bought you a beer, so we will shorten the list in order to keep this newsletter short. Thank you Doc Doublestein, Rick Chittenden, Mack, John Bilski, Mike Thurber, Larry Lambert, Gerrit Veihl, Freddie Smith, Cyndy Wierenga and Chris Jarvis, who was my mentor and friend. Thank you everybody. You made it a year that I'll never forget.

Rick White, Commander # 104

Memorial Day
Parade &
Waterfront Service



Charles A. Conklin
Memorial Service



AUXILIARY

I hope you are all enjoying your summer. It seems to go quicker every year.

Through National Poppy Day fundraising activities, our Unit raised \$2,600 for the Poppy Fund. Our Unit also participated in the Spring Lake Heritage Festival Artisan Market (craft show), raising an additional \$607.50 for the Poppy Fund. The proceeds (\$889) from the May 31st Chicken Dinner were designated for our Kate Olsen Scholarship Fund. Kate was a Charter Member and the first President of our Unit.

Please remember we have NO Auxiliary meeting in July. I hope you continue to have a safe and fun summer. Please support the dinners and activities of the Auxiliary, Legion, SAL, and Riders as we enjoy summer in beautiful Grand Haven.

Cheryl George, President



LEGION RIDERS

The Riders served over 130 Legacy Run participants on June 3. Thanks to all who volunteered and participated in the Legacy Run. It was a great day for a ride with our comrades from across the state.

The Riders have accumulated eleven plaques with Grab and Runs. We have also accumulated points by going to different Legion Posts as a group, wearing our ALR vests. Currently Grand Haven is in second place with more Grab and Runs planned.

Rebel Road starts July 20. Assistance is requested setting up and taking down the Veteran's Tent. This takes place at the Muskegon Visitors Center on Washington. Setup is at 10 AM Thursday, July 20 and take down is Sunday, July 23 at 10 AM.

ALRiders are also participating in the Michigan Viet Nam Wall escort on July 20 for the opening of Rebel Road. Billy Haynes will be leading the Wall escort. To participate, meet at the Muskegon Social Security Administration Office, 340 Morris Avenue, Muskegon at 4:30 PM. KSU by 5:00 PM.

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

The Bikers for Veterans committee has scheduled September 9, 2023, for the second annual fundraiser. This year will also be a Memorial ride honoring service members and first responders who have given their all. Cars and motorcycles may participate in the event. They will be conducting a raffle for \$500 Scratch-off tickets, Cooler of Fun, and \$100 cash.

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

Race the rain, ride the wind, chase sunset. Only a Biker understands.

Steve Barnes, Director

SAL

I am honored to have been chosen as your SAL Commander for the next year. Welcome 1st Vice Commander Bill Moss and 2nd Vice Commander Tim Deiters to their new chairs. Many thanks to our outgoing commander Paul Kubicek, arguably the heart and soul of our Squadron. Thanks also to the volunteers that make our events happen. Just in the past few weeks our SAL volunteers did Trivia night, hosted a Wednesday dinner, Friday burgers, ran the annual golf outing, organized the chili dog night, assisted with Memorial Day activities and ran the Cornhole Tournament. Volunteers are essential to our Squadron and Post 28, and new ones are always welcome.

May Trivia winners were Bar Flies and Pimps who generously donated their winnings to the Auxiliary's Poppy fund.

The 21st annual Golf Scramble was held at Three Fires Golf Course. Division winners were Couples: Bob Oosterbaan, Thelma Oosterbaan, Jeff Simmons, and Julie Simmons; Open: Joe VanHoeven, Jake VanHoeven, George Chittenden, and Dan Chittenden; and Seniors: Tim Kronmeyer, Kevin Middendorf, Scott Hopkins, and Keith Middendorf. All three teams were first time winners in our Scramble! Many thanks to the volunteers and sponsors that make this annual fundraising event happen and special thanks to Paul Kubicek and TL Lowe for running this scramble for years. We were able to donate \$2,700 to Michigan Homeless Veterans. **SAVE THE DATE** - Next year's 22nd Memorial Golf Outing will be held May 25, 2024. We would love to see you there!

More than 1,100 hotdogs were served at the G&L Chili Dog night, organized by our Dave Ireland. Approximately \$3,800 was raised. Of those dollars, \$500 will go directly to help local Vets through DVSO Courtney Thurber.

Squadron 28 had seven representatives attend the SAL convention in Dundee MI. Squadron 28 was recognized for 100% membership and received the Veteran Affairs and Rehabilitation plaque once again. We were also able to donate \$13,500 to our MI Detachment for various veteran programs.

Eight new members were approved at our June meeting. Our yearly membership has hit an awesome 107.2%. Please welcome our new members: Robert Terpstra, John Duplissis, Andrew Tinsley, Todd Andrews, Toby Coffin, James Coffin, John Blok and Fisher Poel.

Please note our July meeting is moved back one week to Monday July 10th. I hope everyone has an enjoyable 4th of July holiday. After that, we'll be gearing up for Coast Guard Festival week! Serving our Veterans and Community,

Ronald Ribbink, SAL Commander

Squadron 28 Jr SAL Michael Thurber is recognized as MI Jr SAL of the Year by SAL National Commander Christopher Carlton and SAL Detachment of MI Commander Victor Fisher. Michael also won the 20 and under marksmanship competition.



POST NEWS

NEW MEMBERS

Gabriel Maniwczak, USN
James Warren, USA
Jeffery Abram, USAF
Petra Abram, USA
Richard Abraham, USA
Ryan Alter, USMC
Benjamin Simon, USA

NEW MEMBERS continued

Nathan Bouck, USMC
Michael Mahoney, USCG
Christopher McGraw, USAF
Gregory Gordon, USCG
Thomas Nauta, USA
Duane Dunlap, USN
Patrick Brown, USA

SICK CALL

Mel Nielsen	Ken Kelly	Ed DeKoekkoek
Ron Bauer	Catherine Buckley	Sandra Custodeso
Rick White	Carl Lori	Bob Smith

TAPS WERE PLAYED FOR:

Daniel Pauwerda, USA Vietnam Era
Gary VanDongen, USN Vietnam Era
Willard Brinks, USA WWII



HONOR GUARD

Honor Guard had four services since the last Post meeting. They also took part in two School Programs at Ferry School and both Memorial Day programs with VFW members. Thank you to all the Volunteers that helped with the Memorial Day programs.

Rifle Team Leader: David MacKellar



Honor Guard at last day of
Ferry Elementary School



From The Post Manager

Yale Pope

As we have moved into our busier time of year, many of you have noticed some new faces behind the bar. Leonska, Colleen, Teagan, Payton, and Nicole have all been hired to replace some of our departed employees, but also to increase our staff for the upcoming summer months. Each one brings a unique perspective and all have some connection to the Post. Please introduce yourself and welcome them to the Legion.

Also, I would like to thank all our members for their courtesy in bussing their own tables, and helping out our bartenders when they are extremely busy and showing patience when the lines are long.

Most importantly I ask that all members take a moment to reflect on the true meaning of July 4th and the sacrifices made so that we are able to celebrate it.

Chaplain's Corner

Submitted by Pam Medendorp-Peck, Unit 28 Chaplain

The summer always brings to mind how we have Flag day in June, and Celebrate July 4th Independence Day with our Flag flying high! It has such significance to all of us in this country I wanted to share it's meaning:

The United States Flag reflects what we are, and what we hope to be. The White Stripes symbolize purity of purpose in our freedom of thought, expression, and worship. These are the privileges guaranteed to all who live in our land. They are the rights defended against all enemies who seek to crush the way of life that you and I so cherish! The Red stripes represent the courage, our willingness to die, if necessary, for the preservation of American ideals. The Blue of field of tranquility, upon which the stars of our States are United hold intact all that is truly ours - the desires for peace, prosperity, and happiness throughout our great nation. After the raising of the flag, the Veterans present - saluting this flag and recite Our Pledge of Allegiance.

It is more than Colonies and States, it IS the Heart of this Nation. A memorial to pass on generation to generation!! A Nation Under God. in Who We Trust!

Legionnaires July 2023 Membership Update

The 2024 Membership Renewal drive will be starting shortly. Soon you will receive a renewal document in the mail. As you review your document, please ensure all the information is correct. Please make pen and ink corrections as needed and we will update your information during the renewal process. Also, by logging into MyLegion.org, you can renew and make your own corrections.

Over the past nine years Larry Lambert was solely responsible for Legion renewals, transfers and new applications. Linda and I have assisted over the past two years. Larry will soon be stepping into a more advisory role. Please join us in thanking Larry for his dedication and many hours of work.

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, 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.

Feel free to contact us should you have any questions or concerns. Larry Lambert - larry_lambert@sbcglobal.net
Linda Doublestein - lindadoublestein@gmail.com; Phil Polyak - wattnot@me.com.



Past Commander #99 and
Adjutant, Chris Jarvis,
swears in new Legion
members.

JULY 2023



Coast Guard Festival Week Volunteer Meetings

The Coast Guard Festival Week planning meetings are scheduled for July 10th and July 25th at 7 p.m. in the back of the dining room. Volunteers can sign up for parking, bar backs and kitchen help, as well as get an overview of this most important week of Post #28. Coast Guard week defines our wonderful Post and we strive to put our best foot forward. See you there.

Rick Chittenden, Past Commander #92

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2  <small>© Can Stock Photo</small>	3	4 	5 5-7 PM PERCH DINNER (Legion)	6 7 pm ALR Meeting	7 5:30p-7:30p BURGERS	8 <div></div>
9 	10 7 pm SAL Meeting 7 pm CG Volunteer Meeting	11 5 pm Hot Dog Night (ALR) 6 pm - House Committee 7 pm - Post Meeting	12 5-7 PM PULLED PORK DINNER (SAL)	13 7 PM TAL Fifth District Meeting	14 5:30p-7:30p BURGERS	15
16 	17	18 7 pm Executive Committee	19 5-7 PM SUCCULENT SWISS STEAK DINNER (Legion)	20	21 5:30p-7:30p BURGERS	22
23 Happy National   Ice Cream Day	24	25 5 pm Hot Dog Night (ALR) 7 pm CG Volunteer Meeting	26 5-7 PM ZESTY SPAGHETTI DINNER (Legion)	27	28 5:30p-7:30p BURGERS	29
30 	31 11 am Parade of Ships 5-7 pm Marine Corps League PRIME RIB DINNER	August 1 7 pm Scottville Clown Band ALR Hotdogs 	2 Marine Corps League Dinner Sloppy Joes	3	4 5 PM CG Enlisted Personnel CHICKEN DINNER 5:45 PM CHICKEN DINNER Open to the public - \$12	5