

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

www.americanlegiongh.org



**THE
AMERICAN
LEGION**

Rick White
Post 28 Commander
slider3350@aol.com

Monday - Thursday 1pm - 10 pm
Friday 1pm - 12 am & Saturday 12 noon - 12 am
Sunday 12pm - 8pm

June 2023
Issue #1225

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

As my time as Commander of Post 28 draws near to a close, I am reminded of what a fantastic year I have had. Medical issues have dominated my entire year and limited me in accomplishing what I intended to do. You have to go with what life gives you and that's all I got to say about that.

We started the year off with a very generous gift from a couple of members who wish to be anonymous, of 5000.00 raised with a corn hole tournament. I cannot say enough about their generous gift. The Veterans

Day dinner was a blast with the Mayor of Grand Haven, Catherine McNally, as our guest speaker. What a remarkable career she has had. Also, the Parade that day was a lot of fun. Christmas came and went as members of the Legion went to Florida in flocks. This is normal behavior, and I am glad to be one of them, but medical issues kept me here in miserable cold and snow! Looking forward to the last two months of my time.

Rick White, Commander #104

OPEN LETTER TO MEMBERS

To all Post 28 Legion Family Members:

Post 28 is very blessed to be the largest American Legion Post in Michigan, with membership increasing each year. This also means there is a large number of people who enjoy the use of our beloved Post. It takes the efforts of EVERYONE to keep our building and its contents in great condition, to minimize repairs and upkeep, to keep everyone safe and to allow for Post meetings without interruption.

Unfortunately, due to the actions of a few, it is necessary to periodically remind everyone of a few important things:

1. In general, please **follow all signage** posted throughout the building, including, but not limited to...
 - a. Upstairs deck closure (no one may use the deck when closed);
 - b. Picking up all items on your tables before you leave the Post – bottles and glasses returned to the bar and trash in the trash can;
 - c. Closure of the upstairs ballroom and porch during Post meetings, (the outside stairs may be used to access the deck when open);
2. NO ONE IS PERMITTED TO BE BEHIND THE BAR (both downstairs and upstairs) except the bartender on duty, the Post Manager and / or a barback approved by the bartender on duty.
3. Chairs on the porch upstairs may NOT be moved to the deck.
4. White chairs on racks or in the upstairs ballroom may NOT be moved to the deck.
5. Downstairs dining room folding chairs may NOT be moved outside.
6. Bulletin boards are to be used exclusively to promote Post 28 events and programs for our veterans, armed forces and their families.
7. Alcoholic beverages may NEVER be brought outside the Post 28 building EXCEPT during events in which fencing is extended and signs are posted.
8. Minor children may NEVER sit at the bar or at the slot machines, nor may they purchase or handle pull tab lottery tickets.

The vast majority of our members are respectful of each other, our volunteers, our bar staff and our building, and we are grateful for that. If you notice someone who is not following Post rules or is being disrespectful, please speak to the Post Manager, a bartender or an Officer of the Post / Auxiliary / SAL / Legion Riders. Thank you for your membership and support of Post 28!

Post 28 Building & Grounds Committee

AUXILIARY

Welcome Summer! We are blessed to live in this beautiful area and have a great Post in a gorgeous setting. Soon there will be many visitors to our town. LEAD by example, please! CLEAN UP after yourselves at the post, practice kindness & patience with staff and volunteers, know the Post rules and follow them. It will make for a more enjoyable experience for all members.

The Auxiliary voted on the new slate of officers for 2023-2024. All officers except Sergeant-at-Arms will remain the same.

President - Cheryl George Vice President - Becky Glockzin
Treasurer - Michele Stetts Secretary - Ginny Hebert
Pam Mendendorp Peck - Chaplain
Sergeant-at-Arms - Laurie Koldyk
Historian - Linda Gieske
Executive Board Members -
Pat Best, Jean Harms & Noreen Sayranian

We hosted Girls State Orientation on April 30. Nine of our



fourteen delegates attended the event, which gives the girls a glimpse of what to expect during the week-long session in June.

The Auxiliary will have three booths at the Spring Lake Heritage Festival Craft Fair on June 13th &

14th from 12:00 - 6:00 pm. Please stop in, support the Auxiliary, and maybe get a jump on your holiday shopping.

The Cinco de Mayo Dinner was a success, raising \$1,000 for the Poppy Fund.

I'm honored to be the Auxiliary President again and look forward to the new year. Our next Auxiliary meeting is on June 27th at 7:00 pm. Hope to see you there.

Cheryl George, President

LEGION RIDERS

ALR again led the Memorial Day Parade. It is a wonderful sight to see everyone participating to honor our Veterans who have given their all.

On June 3 the Legacy Run will be stopping at the Legion for lunch. Please join us in welcoming Riders from West Michigan, over 75 motorcycles are participating. It is a great opportunity to meet other Legion members and see lots of motorcycles. Lunch will be served for all Legacy Riders.

ALR has completed several Plaque Grab and Runs now. We have gone to Battle Creek and several other posts to accumulate the plaques. Currently we are in sixth place for the Grab and Run Points out of 61 ALR. The first Plaque Run was successful. For every three riders wearing a patch on a vest, they can take one plaque. Plans are in the works to visit other Legions.

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. 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. Thank you to the

SAL

My year as your SAL Commander has come to an end. I feel blessed to have had a great Executive Board and SAL membership to make this a successful year. I have complete confidence that newly elected SAL Commander Ron Ribbink will carry on the traditions we have established over the years. A special thanks also goes to our Legion and Auxiliary in our ability to work together for the benefit of Veterans and our Post.

At our last SAL meeting we were fortunate to have our State SAL Commander Victor Fisher and State Adjutant Steve Hamilton attend our meeting. State Commander Fisher installed our newly elected Officers and thanked our Squadron for all our support to Veterans and our Community.



Membership chairman Ireland presented eleven new members for approval. Please welcome Ryan Porenta, Simon Porenta, Colin Porenta, Dustin Rogers, Casey Patterson, Michael Rowan, Todd Braak, Daniel Quaine, Ray Squires, Scott Blease, and Michael Dunn. We also approve \$500.00 to support our Auxiliary's Project to send care packages to active servicemen from our Post.

At Trivia, the "Bar Flies and Pimps" again won. They also gave the winnings to our Auxiliary to support our active servicemen and women. A special thanks goes to our membership for setting up the Deck and Patio furniture and finally to our Wednesday night Dinner crew.

Reminder: 3rd Annual Cornhole Tournament is June 17th. Sign-up forms are available in the lounge.

Serving Veterans and our Community,
Paul Kubicek - SAL Commander



Auxiliary and SAL for co-sponsoring the event. Their generosity and willingness to help is greatly appreciated. We are also soliciting sponsorships from local businesses. If you would like to assist, email ALR. 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.

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, June 8 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

Matthew Bodine, USMC
Thomas Gerger, USAF
Patrick Walker, USA
William Bellinger, USN
Thadeus Ausfield, USAF
Don Duncan, USN
Silvia Salmon, USA
Russell Geurink, USA
John Krause, USN
Quentin Davis, USA

TRANSFERS

William Casewell, USN
John Rozanc, USN
Bryan Kirby, 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:

Leonard Noell, USA
Louis Dreese, USN
David Deblacy, USA
Gilbert Glynn, USAF
Roderic Ferguson, USN
John Fallon, USA
Mike Maxfield, USA
Mike Smith, USCG



HONOR GUARD

Honor Guard had six services since the last Post meeting. They also took part in two School Programs, one in Ravenna and the other in Conklin. Thank you to everyone who came out to remember Charles A. Conklin. Rifle Team Leader, David MacKellar

Cinco de Mayo

The dinner was a huge success! The Auxiliary raised \$1,000 for the Poppy Program, which provides funds for addressing the needs of veterans & active-duty military and their families. Thank you for supporting our fundraisers.



Chaplain's Corner

Submitted by Pam Medendorp-Peck, Unit 28 Chaplain

Let me say yes, Gary, every breath we take IS a gift from Our Creator, the air we breathe, as you mentioned in last month's Corner, is the gift, along with the gift of life that we often take for granted!! Thank you for your article!

I often ponder, "What if that breath is taken away?!" The people who sacrificed their lives on D-Day come to mind this month. They followed the command of their Leader. Their life was given to save many, but without that life given we would see a totally different world today.

Much like Our Lord. God gave, He gives breath, He gives all the good news of eternal life back to us! He gives us New Breath, a different way to approach life. How can we give and live? By His example! The Eternal Flame represents this burning consistency of Caring. Let's use that Breath to fan the flame. It is never quenched! We need able bodies to step forward. Your Leader calls-God gives us the insight and the wherewithal to care, and in that action we show our gratitude. Let's answer His call!

Legionnaires June 2023 Membership Update

As of the beginning of May, approximately 90% of our membership has renewed for 2023. June will begin the membership drive for 2024, starting with the mailing of renewal notices.

Just a few reminders: If you did not renew in 2023, your membership fee will be applied to the 2023 renewal. If you skip a renewal year, your "Continuous Years" will reset to "1". As always you may check your current renewal by the year at the top of your membership card, or by logging in anytime to MYLEGION.ORG.

Please remember to 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.

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.



June 17
at the Post



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 SAL Fundraiser G&L Chili Dogs	2 5:30p-7:30p BURGERS 	3 Riders Legacy Run 12:30 - 2 pm Lunch
4 	5 7 pm SAL Meeting 	6 6 pm House Committee 7 pm Post Meeting	7 5-7 PM PERCH DINNER (Legion)	8 7 pm ALR Meeting 	9 5:30p-7:30p BURGERS	10 
11 	12 	13 5 pm Hot Dog Night (ALR)	14 5-7 PM PULLED PORK DINNER (SAL) 	15 7 PM 	16 5:30p-7:30p BURGERS	17 SAL Cornhole Tournament Sign up at the Post
18 HAPPY FATHER'S Day! 	19	20 7 pm Executive Committee	21 5-7 PM SUCCULENT SWISS STEAK DINNER (Legion)	22 	23 5:30p-7:30p BURGERS	24
25 	26 1498 The toothbrush is invented in China.	27 5 pm Hot Dog Night (ALR) 7 pm Auxiliary Meeting	28 5-7 PM ZESTY SPAGHETTI DINNER (Legion)	29 	30 5:30p-7:30p BURGERS	