

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

May 2026
Issue #1260

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

Well, we certainly had a few April showers and, as advertised, here's hoping they'll bring the May flowers. April not only brought the spring rains but also a few changes to our Wednesday dinner menus. We've tasted the last of Chops meatloaf until fall, a change from Perch to Walleye filets and a Cinco De Mayo dinner until next May. Help us help those charities we contribute to and come out Wednesdays for a great meal and a great time with family and friends.

And they're off, right out of the gate! We'll have our annual Kentucky Derby Party on May 2 starting at 2 pm. The ALR have a great day planned for all who'll be there. Watch the race on the large screen or any one of the other screens around the Post. Take part in the Kentucky Derby Hat Contest, a lighthearted, free-to-enter competition where attendees can showcase their best hats and bowties while enjoying the pre-race atmosphere. And let's not forget Memorial Day, Celebrating 250 years of independence.

Last, but not least, don't forget nominations closed and voting for Post officers will be held at the May meeting, with installation of officers at the July meeting. New member initiation will be at the June meeting. Take an active part in supporting Charles A. Conklin Post 28 and participate in the monthly meetings.

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

2026-2027 Officers

Commander – Cyndy Wierenga
1st Vice Commander – Nick Matiash
2nd Vice Commander – Loren Prief
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 - Harold Weaver
Historian – Open

Post Resource Officer (used to be called Service Officer)
- Garrett Veihl and one other for training with Garrett

Nominations will be closed at the May 5 meeting. ALL NOMINEES MUST BE IN ATTENDANCE TO ACCEPT THE NOMINATION.

Voting of officers will be held at the May 5 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.

New officers will be installed at the July 2026 Post 28 meeting.

New Legion members will be initiated at the June 2026 Post 28 meeting.

AUXILIARY

Friday, May 22 is National Poppy Day. Please support veterans, active-duty military, and their families with a contribution to the Auxiliary's Poppy Fund.



Our outdoor Drive-Thru runs from 10 am to 12 pm in the Post's parking lot. Donations will also be accepted inside during business hours, or by mail, or by credit/debit card using the DONATE button on the Post's website <https://www.americanlegiongh.org/poppy-program.html>. If donating by check, please make payable to **American Legion Auxiliary Unit 28**. Mail to...

American Legion Auxiliary
P.O. Box 465, Grand Haven, MI 49417.

We'll be doing 50/50 Raffles and Gift Raffles throughout the day. There are also poppy canisters set up in the dining & bar areas. Thank you for your support!

Becky Glockzin, President

LEGION RIDERS CORNER

The past winter offered numerous noteworthy experiences, including participation in a Chili Cook-off, attendance at a Kentucky Derby celebration, and substantial preparation for an upcoming trip to Arkansas. These events provided both engagement throughout the colder months and opportunities to foster collaboration in planning future travels.

As May ushers in warmer weather and blooming flowers, preparations are underway for seasonal rides. The onset of spring encourages us to ready our bikes for forthcoming excursions and to begin organizing travel itineraries. We anticipate to fully embrace the opportunities presented by the season.

We are supporting Habitat for Humanity this year by making donations to provide housing for homeless veterans. In September, we're organizing a Bikers For Vets ride and selling raffle tickets to raise funds for this program. All donations to help make this project a great success will be appreciated.

Anyone interested in joining the Riders group, and who owns a motorcycle, is encouraged to inquire with the bartenders or look for a vested Rider for more information.

Please note that the strength of our group is directly determined by the level of engagement and support provided by its members. Thank you. Tag Smith, Director



SAL

Spring has sprung! SAL is already engaging in many projects for the summer: Golf Outing On May 23, helping with Saturday Breakfast, one Burger Night per month, and one Wednesday Dinner night per month, the Club Crawl on May 16, and the Purple Heart Ceremony on August 7, just to name a few.

We are blessed with great volunteers, but would like to see more SAL members join in on some of the events. This month we added sixteen more members: S Anderson, C Stuck, J Plowman, L Lorenz Jr, J Tiano, R Rogers, J Shear, C Wamczyk, M Wierenga, K Schueler, D Norton, T Lohr, W Nousain, M Kinney, J Ketner and C Burkhardt. WELCOME!

Nominations for this coming year's officers was started, so at next month's meeting we will have a new set of leaders on board.
Tim Deiters, SAL Commander

CLUB CRAWL

MAY 16th ★ 2:00-7:00 PM

2026

4 CLUBS ★ 1 COMMUNITY ★ 1 CAUSE

AMERICAN LEGION ★ VFW ★ ELKS ★ EAGLES

★ Funds raised will be donated to help prevent food insecurity ★

★ Raffle Prizes
★ Poker Run
★ Door Prizes

★ *OPEN to the PUBLIC!*

★★ Food available at all locations ★★

★ \$10 ENTRY ★

Start at any location!

End of crawl raffle @The Eagles | 6:30

Free rides available by Harbor Transit

Thank you to our sponsor

Yuengling

CLUB CRAWL

First time event to bring all of the Clubs together to raise money to alleviate food insecurities. Harbor Transit is running free. Food is available at each club. Poker Run. Open to the public at each location.

Tee-shirts will be available starting the third week in April, along with entry forms. \$10.00 for the Poker Run and \$20.00 for the tee-shirt. Red, White, and Blue theme to celebrate the 250-year anniversary of the USA. Doors prizes and raffles. Start where you would like, finish at the Eagles at 6:30. Get a group and come "crawl with us"

POST NEWS

WELCOME NEW LEGION MEMBERS

Todd Amberger
Katherine Hoffmeyer
Michael Freeman
Rich Stupick
Robert Pacquin
Bruce Olsen
Michael Higgins
George (Mike) Tatu
Blair Schultz
Jared Benes

SICK CALL

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

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Pam Medendorp, Auxiliary Chaplain

HERE WE ARE AGAIN!! Florida members, welcome back!! Let's gear up for a summer of growth and expectations!!

Our Dear God of this country carried the first settlers across the ocean with expectation and adventure! He watched over us as we encountered growth, war, and many Blessings! Francis Key Scott watched as the Brits made an agreement to free our citizens from a boat imprisoning them if he would come aboard to carry them safely home. It was a trick! They lied, but truth won out, finally taking care of the tyrants and making our land ours! The Star Spangled Banner was penned from this!! God is good!

Welcome home native Michiganders, and thanks for bringing some warm weather back with you!!!

HONOR GUARD

There were eleven funerals since the last Post meeting. Thank you to everyone who attended the Visitation & Funeral Service for Past Commander #100, James Porenta.

Rifle Team Leader
Dave MacKellar

TAPS WAS SOUNDED FOR...

Garry Purdy, Sr., USA
Robert Schroeder, USN
Richard Grimminck, USN
Robert Ogle, USA
Allen True, USA
Daniel Masko, USAF
Eugene Camfield, USA
Silvestre Arispe, USA
David Fortenbacher, USN
Reginald Stroebe, USA
Past Commander #100
James Porenta, USN



From The Post Manager, Yale Pope

Dalton Pope, Assistant Manager

Spring is finally here and we've got a lot of great events scheduled for May, including the Kentucky Derby Party and the Club Crawl, as well as our regular Memorial Day Festivities.

Anyone who is still interested in joining the Post 28 Mug Club, please do so as soon as possible since we are limited to one hundred members and the mugs are going fast.

I also would like to ask our members to take time to observe the importance of Memorial Day and reflect on the sacrifices made and, most importantly, set an example for others to follow who may not understand its significance.

Legionnaires May 2026 Membership Update

If you decide to renew your Membership for 2026 and are paying by cash, **either include your expired 2025 Membership card, or provide copy of your 2025 Membership Card.** We are seeing a considerable amount of duplicate pays. We cannot return cash via US Mail, this means we have to deposit your cash while having our Finance Officer issue a refund check.

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

Please note: Anyone applying for **new** membership, or who is **transferring from another Post**, you must submit a copy of your DD-214. 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, for Active Duty please provide a 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.

SAL 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












Left, Auxiliary member Linda Gieske helps prepare and deliver Easter Bags of Joy for veterans in assisted-living or nursing facilities.

Led by VA&R Chairwoman, Pat Best, the Auxiliary distributes over 300 Bags of Joy five times a year...on Valentine's Day, Easter, Fourth of July, Halloween and Christmas.

Pizza by Barb
5pm - 8pm
Every Tuesday



Arturo's Tacos
3:30pm - 8pm
Every Thursday

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
GOODFELLOWS You can make a contribution to the Goodfellows nonprofit at anytime - scan the QR code here. 	RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE - MAY 26 - 9AM TO 2:45 PM Please go to www.redcrossblood.org , put in the zip code 49417 to search and register... plenty of openings. If you have any issues, please contact Chris Jarvis at (616) 402-1598 or at cjretsf97@hotmail.com . 				1 5:30p-7:30p BURGERS	2 2pm - ? Derby Party (see flyer) 
3 12p - 2p \$3 Bloody Marys	4 7 pm SAL Meeting	5 7 pm Post Meeting	6 5-7 PM WALLEYE DINNER (Legion)	7 7 PM ALR Meeting	8 5:30p-7:30p BURGERS	9 12p - 2p \$1 Margaritas 
10 12p - 2p \$3 Bloody Marys	11	12 6 pm Legion House Committee Meeting	13 5-7 PM POTATO BAR & PAUL'S CHILI (SAL)	14 7 pm Legion Fifth District Meeting at Post 28	15 5:30p-7:30p BURGERS	16 12p - 2p \$1 Margaritas 2pm - 7pm Club Crawl (see flyer)
17 12p - 2p \$3 Bloody Marys 	18	19 7 pm AL Executive Committee	20 5-7 PM SUCCULENT SWISS STEAK (Legion)	21 6 PM 	22 5:30p-7:30p BURGERS 10 am - 8 pm NATIONAL POPPY DAY  WE REMEMBER	23 12pm - 2pm \$1 Margaritas SAL GOLF OUTING Three Fires Golf Course
24 12p - 2p \$3 Bloody Marys	25 9:30 am Parade 	26 6:30 pm Auxiliary Meeting 	27 5-7 PM ZESTY SPAGHETTI DINNER (Legion)	28	29 5:30p-7:30p BURGERS	30 9am-11am Breakfast 12p - 2p \$1 Margaritas
31 12p - 2p \$3 Bloody Marys	June 1 7 pm SAL Meeting	2 7 pm Post Meeting	3 5-7 PM WALLEYE DINNER (Legion)	4 7 pm ALR Meeting	5 5:30p-7:30p BURGERS	6