

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

www.americanlegiongh.org



**THE
AMERICAN
LEGION**

Michael Thurber
Post 28 Commander
michael.thurber76@gmail.com

Monday - Friday 2pm - 10 pm
Saturday 12 noon - 10 pm
Sunday 12pm - 8pm

October 2023
Issue #1229

AMERICAN LEGION

Ron Streng, 1st Vice Commander
Walt Pedersen, 2nd Vice Commander
James O'Neal, Adjutant
Robert Kepner, Finance Officer
Gary Doublestein, Chaplain
John Bilski, Judge Advocate
Jim Porenta, Sergeant-at-Arms
Saul Lopez, Historian
Garrett Veihl, Service Officer
Mike Thurber, Service Officer
Garrett Veihl, Executive-at-Large
Phil Polyak, Executive-at-Large
Freddy Smith, Executive-at-Large
Richard White, 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
Laurie Koldyk, 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

Helllloooo Post 28!!! DO YOU guys SMELL THAT??? SNIFF.... SNIFF.... SNIFF.... Yep, I smell it! The clean fresh smell of fall is definitely in the air. Along with that smell comes one of my favorite fall activities. FOOTBALL being my favorite. I love this time of the year when my maize and blue hit the gridiron and my Lions take to the field once again. And hey, for the first in a LONG time, my Wolverines and Lions are picked to win their respective divisions. Heck (knock on wood...and this better not jinx them) the Lions may even go and WIN in the playoffs...Holly crap that would be something, wouldn't it?

Like I said earlier, we had a great summer, and we will continue to have a great fall here at the Post. We have a lot of activities to look forward to this month. October 14 will be our second annual Oktoberfest here at the Post. And I'm pleased to report Rudi will be headlining the act like he did last year. That guy is a lot of fun and hoot with his one-man accordion show. Also, we have a public license this year. So, get the word out. Tell one, tell all. These public licenses are a great way to show off our wonderful Post, make new friends, and find new members to keep the life blood of this Post going strong! We plan to have a great German-inspired meal, and we will have fresh German beer on tap from Cedar Springs Brewing Company like we did last year. Also, the Auxiliary will be hosting their annual Halloween dinner like they do every year! So much fun coming to that event, and seeing all the kids (and adults) in their costumes. It's too bad my youngest is getting to the age where Halloween isn't as much fun or "cool" anymore. Maybe I can convince him to play the game for one more year. One can hope.

So, I want to make a request of all the Legionnaires out there who are active members of our Post. The last couple meetings have been light on attendance. We were worried last meeting whether we would even have a quorum and thus have a meeting. Please, if you are able, please attend our meetings that are always held on the first Tuesday of the month at 7pm. Dinner or food is always available after these meetings. Remember as a Legionnaire these meetings are YOUR opportunity to make your voice heard. So again, I encourage all Legionnaires to attend our membership meetings!

Well, I guess that's all this month. As usual we are ALWAYS looking for volunteers to help out with events at our Post. If you are interested in helping, please reach out to me, our Post manager Yale, or any of his bar staff. We would love to have you help in any capacity you feel most comfortable with.

For the Good of the Legion, Mike Thurber, Commander #105

Patriots Day 9.11 Ceremony at the Post



AUXILIARY

It's officially Fall...and I'm still working on remembering to use the date 2023. Summer was truly a blur. Many thanks for supporting our September *Welcome Home Celebration* for the returning service members, your generous gifting of classroom supplies for our local schools, and supporting us on Culver's Share Night.



On October 25 we will be cooking our Terrifying (but Gourmet!) Taco Dinner, including Ghostly Guacamole & Chips, Spooky Spanish Rice, and

Frightful (re)Fried Beans! Be ready for some family fun, including activities for kids and a costume contest for all! The proceeds for this event will go to help our newly adopted child, 8-year-old Benjamin Bator, who was diagnosed with KAT6, a very rare genetic disorder.

Throughout the year, we'll continue to collect school supplies to support our local classrooms and teachers! Please bring items to our next meeting on October 24, or bring them anytime and put them in the blue bin in the Auxiliary room.



Cheryl George, President

Upcoming Event: December 2 - Jingle Bell Parade

LEGION RIDERS

Bikers for Veterans on September 9th was a huge success. With over 65 participants on 45 motorcycles and 8 cars, the ride was exceptional. Also, we had participants from four other American Legions: Holland Post 6, Grand Rapids Boat and Canoe Club, Grandville Post 28, and Croton Post 381. The ride to Kent City American Legion, Croton American Legion (where they served lunch) and Holton American Legion was enjoyed by all. The route was all on rural roads which many had not ridden and was without issues. Every post had an issue. In appreciation, the Post 28 riders sponsored a cash raffle at each stop with the proceeds going to the host post.

The Riders owe a big thank you to the Post, Auxiliary, and SAL for all their support. From their financial support, purchasing raffle tickets, participating in the Memorial Service, being a part of the event, or making and serving the dinner – it was truly a full American Legion Post 28 effort. We appreciate all the support everyone gave.

The Riders are still in fourth place with the Grab and Run. We have accumulated points by going to different Legion Posts as a group and wearing our ALR vests. We have gone to Southeast Michigan, Battle Creek, Kentwood, and Kentwood on Grab and Runs. We will continue to plan more and make more points. 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, October 5 at 7:00 PM.

Life is not about waiting for the storms to pass: it's about learning to ride in rain!
Steve Barnes, Director

SAL

October 26 marks the National Day of the Deployed. This day honors all service members who have been deployed in service of our country. The day also acknowledges the sacrifices that military families make during deployment. The first National Day of the Deployed was observed in 2006, when North Dakota announced a proclamation for the day, thanks to Shelle Michaela Aberle, who petitioned Governor John Hoeven with the idea. October 26 was chosen for the date in honor of Shelle's cousin, LTC David Hosna, who had been deployed to Iraq (the day was Hosna's birthday). By 2012, every state in the US was observing this day.

Trivia is back after taking the summer off. Stop in on the third Thursday of each month to show off your knowledge of all things trivial! The questions begin at 7pm, and all proceeds are donated to a worthy cause.

The Legion's Oktoberfest fun is scheduled for the 14th this year, and the following week features one of Michigan's biggest events: The Wolverines vs. the Spartans college football clash. We'll have it here on Saturday the 21st.

The 9/11 Patriot Day ceremony was memorable, as it should be. Thank you Post Commander Thurber for sharing your memories from that time.

Thank you to all who attended and helped with the Legion Family picnic. It was a beautiful sunny day to be out.

At our September SAL meeting we approved 28 new members. Please welcome Kevin Greening, Michael Dolce, John Zuidema Jr, David Zuidema, Jacob Cook, Brian Madden, Rick Grillo, Chad D. Smith, Chad Jettner, Bruce Stein, Todd Warren, Clayton Zimmerman, Mark Zimmerman, John P. Compton, Derek Gajdos, Matthew Batts, Erhan Groothuis, Michael Baker, Christopher Bethke, Bryan Houck, Bruce Kleyn, Robert Dutcher, Scott Widener, Derrick Thayer, Daniel Owen, Thomas Terranova, Albert Terranova, and Levi Overway. I am looking forward to seeing you at our meetings and around the Post.

I encourage any and all SAL members to attend our monthly meetings. You will learn about what is going on around the Post, and maybe find a place to help out.

Serving veterans and our community,
Ronald Ribbink - SAL Commander



The Riders' signed up 45 motorcyclists for the Poker Chip Run on September 9.

Lee & Chris Duvall, Post 28 Members, won the "Cooler of Fun" in the ALR raffle. Steve Barnes is also in the picture.



POST NEWS

NEW MEMBERS

Nathan Pennington USA
LeRoy Schiedeknecht USN
Matthew Rogers USAF
Paul Woodbery USA
Harry Nienhouse USA
Raymond Koop USMC
Douglas Shimmel USA
Danny Robinson USA
David Wood USA
Myra Maxwell USN
Chad Wvmer USA

Steve Mack USN
Ryan McClain USAF
Mark Neil USA

TAPS WERE PLAYED FOR:

David Smith USMC
David Philippart USN



SICK CALL

Mel Nielsen Bob Smith
Ron Bauer Carl Lori Catherine Buckley

Chaplain's Corner

TAKING A STEP BACK

I don't know about you but this summer has been a whirlwind for me. It almost seems like I meet myself coming and going. I pray often that God will allow me the time and stamina to complete the tasks before me.

And then, suddenly, I discovered a small prayer card and it was like a love note from God. We don't often contemplate how much God loves us. Now, I read this "love note" every night before I go to sleep. I would like to share it with you so that you might know the depth of the love God has for you.

13 Good Things God Says to All of Us.

I created you out of love.

I made you in My image and likeness.

(I want you to be like Me.)

I made you good.

I love you. I love you. I love you.

I want to be in a relationship with you.

I forgive you.

You are worth dying for.

I have a plan for you.

I call you by name.

I send you.

I equip you.

I am not finished with you.

Only I complete you.

When your stresses get to you, step back, take a breath, and read this love note from God. You will find that He's been there all the time! God Bless and Keep you!

Gary Doublestein, Post 28 Chaplain

HONOR GUARD

Honor Guard had four services since the last Post meeting. They also took part in the Ferry School First Day of School Program. Rifle Team Leader, David MacKellar

Honor guard at Ferry School - First Day of School Program.



Denny Siron won the Cornhole Boards. Baker Lumber donated the wood, Jon Harrison & Dave Ireland built the boards, and Travis VanAnel painted them. \$600 was raised for 22zero.

The Riders had a Memorial Service on 9/9 for Military and First Responders who have given their all



From The Post Manager Yale Pope

Fall weather is now upon us and many questions are asked concerning when we will shut down the outside deck and patio. Our answer is that it is totally weather dependent and it is our intention to keep it open as long as it is viable and the weather is warm enough to enjoy.

As we get into the cooler weather, we are having fewer burger crews sign up for Friday night burgers, so putting a shout out to anyone interested. Sign-up sheet is next to the kitchen door. We also are in need of pizza crews currently for Tuesday Nights, so please pitch in if you get an opportunity.

Thanks to all our members for their continued support and let's have a great October.

Legionnaires October 2023 Membership Update

Please note: Anyone applying for new membership, or that is transferring from the Michigan **at large** Post 0225, 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.

We continue to seek volunteer(s) to join the membership committee. The work is largely clerical in nature, usually would require a few hours of your time once a week. Please contact any Post 28 American Legion Officer, Linda Doublestein, Yale Pope, or myself (Phil Polyak) should you choose to help out. Thank you for your consideration.

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. Linda Doublestein - lindadoublestein@gmail.com, or Phil Polyak - wattnot@me.com.

OCTOBER 2023

Auxiliary members should have received their 2024 renewal reminders in the mail. Memberships renewed at the Post or mailed to the Post before Veterans Day will get an "Early Bird" sticker. Questions - contact Kathleen Edwards at gkedwards25@yahoo.com or (616) 604-4050.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
October 1  INTERNATIONAL COFFEE DAY	2 7 pm SAL Meeting	3 6 pm - House Committee 7 pm - Post Meeting	4 5-7 PM PERCH DINNER (Legion)	5 7 pm ALR Meeting	6 5:30p-7:30p BURGERS 	7 3pm-7pm Private Party Upstairs Closed 
8  Fire Prevention Week	9 	10  Happy National Angel Food Cake Day!	11 5-7 PM PULLED PORK DINNER (SAL)	12 6:30 PM Goodfellows Meeting	13 5:30p-7:30p BURGERS 	14  Oktoberfest Time TBA
15	16  NATIONAL DICTIONARY DAY OCTOBER 16	17 7 pm Legion Executive Committee	18 5-7 PM SUCCULENT SWISS STEAK DINNER (Legion)	19 4pm-7pm Private Party Upstairs Closed 7 PM 	20 5:30p-7:30p BURGERS	21 Private Party Upstairs Closed 7:30 PM Michigan vs Michigan State 
22  HAPPY NATIONAL NUT DAY	23 <u>1915</u> 25,000 women marched in NYC demanding the right to vote.	24 7 pm Auxiliary Meeting	25 HALLOWEEN FEST Gourmet Taco Dinner (AUX)	26 <u>1825</u> The Erie Canal, the first manmade waterway, opens.	27 5:30p-7:30p BURGERS 	28  MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY
29  NATIONAL FRANKENSTEIN DAY	30  HAPPY NATIONAL CANDY CORN DAY!	31  HAPPY HALLOWEEN	November 1 5-7 PM PERCH DINNER (Legion)	2 6:30 PM Goodfellows Meeting 7 pm ALR Meeting	3 5:30p-7:30p BURGERS	4  LOVERS DAY
5	6 7 pm SAL Meeting	7 6 pm - House Committee 7 pm - Post Meeting	8 5-7 PM PULLED PORK DINNER (SAL)	9 6:30 PM Goodfellows Meeting	10 5:30p-7:30p BURGERS 	11  VETERANS DAY