



Sons of The American Legion

Detachment of Michigan Newsletter

DETACHMENT COMMANDER DWAIN VERVILLE dverville22@yahoo.com



sometimes forget about the long term residents that consider the veteran's homes their homes. Any donations will be directed to the Sons representative at Grand Rapids or Jacobetti.

With the beginning of a new year every squadron should be keeping records of donations, hours volunteered and community service. This way, when the time comes to fill out the Consolidated Squadron Report at the end of the year, you will not have to rely on memory. The 2010 -11 top award winning Americanism and VA&R reports are included in this newsletter. Use these as your guide as I am sure many squadrons can easily do as well or better with good record keeping.

Membership will once again be our main concern. As officers, we know getting

new members is sometimes easier than retaining the members we sometimes take for granted. Making personal contact can often make a difference whether a member pays his membership or not. Membership in the squadron is every ones responsibility not just the membership chairman.

I would like to thank Brad Koch and Joe Hollomon for putting out this newsletter. They are asking all the squadrons to send them articles. You all are doing great things at the squadron level; please let everyone know what your squadron is doing.

After National Convention we will be starting the Conference and District meetings and hopefully I will see many members on my travels. Remember- Make Someone Smile, It May Be A Veteran.

With the start of a new year I would like to begin by thanking everyone that supported me for Commander. It will be an enjoyable year working with you all as one Legion Family. I would also like to thank the other officers and committee chairman. Without these members I would not be able to properly represent the Detachment and everything that we do.

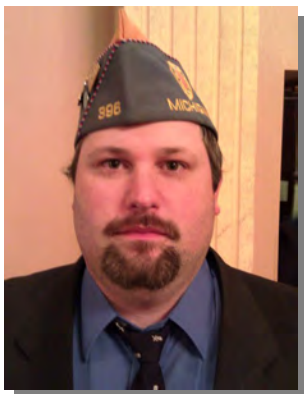
My "Special Project" is the Veterans Homes. I think we

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1ST ZONE COMMANDER

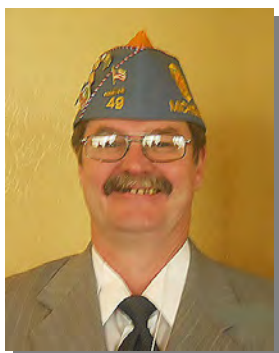
WILLIAM SARI II salwill@talkamerica.net



Hello to all, I hope you are doing well. With this being our 1st newsletter of the membership year, I would like to take this time to introduce myself. I am William Sari, the 1st Zone Commander. I am a member of Squadron 396 in Garden City, which is in the 16th District. I have the honor and privilege of being an SAL member because of my grandfather, who served in WWII. Basically, my job is to promote the programs of The American Legion, help increase membership, assist any squadron that has a problem, and be a line of communication between the Squadrons, Districts, and the Detachment. If ever you need me for anything you can call me at 734-347-3851 or text me at the same number. Even if I'm at work I can get back to you asap. Just a reminder, if you haven't done so please send in your completed officers list and bond to the Department of Michigan or you will not receive you cards. Have a wonderful end of summer and I will probably see you around. Remember to keep our veterans in your thoughts and prayers.

2ND ZONE COMMANDER

RODNEY TOLBERT rodtgoblue@yahoo.com



Greetings SAL and Legion family, I would like to thank you for electing me as your 2nd Zone Commander for 2011-2012. It is an honor to serve you all. As the Zone Commander, my goal is to communicate detachment news to

the districts and squadrons. I also plan to help all the squadrons with membership, fundraiser organization, filling out Consolidated Squadron Report forms, and to help teach what your duties are as an officer in your district or squadron. I will be there if your squadron or district has any problems of any kind big or small. I will also work with the district commanders to help their squadrons become stronger in helping our veterans, past, legion programs, and the community. My phone number is 269-252-9034 so please call me any time.

we can help squadrons become better SAL members of our great organization. I would love to see the 2nd Zone be number 1 in membership, be the first to turn in all consolidated report forms from all squadrons, and get all the squadrons' constitution and by-laws sent in to Mr. Pat Pustay. We can do this if we all work together. Let's all strive to be better SAL members for Community, State, and Nation. I Hope to see you at fall conference September 17 in Troy. Stay strong SAL!

For God and Country.

I would like to meet all the district commanders at one location a couple times to talk about how

4TH ZONE COMMANDER

EARL LASH earlbear@charter.net



Since last time, I went to Grayling to see about starting up an SAL Squadron but as of yet I haven't heard anything back. We are also waiting for Department to send paperwork out for us to get the SAL Squadron started in Traverse City, hopefully it will be soon. Plans are still in the making for the SAL State Convention for 2012 scheduled for June 1-3, 2012. I will have more information later, but you may call now and get your reservations in for the convention hotel. Phone numbers for the Comfort Suites in Houghton Lake are -989-422-4000 or toll free 866-422-5195 and fax is 989 422-4600. This hotel is right on the lake so bring all your water toys!

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING 2010-2011 AWARD WINNERS!

Americanism Award: Squadron 287 Cedar Springs
Community Service Scrapbook: Squadron 287 Cedar Springs
History Book: Squadron 459 Grand Rapids
VA & R: Squadron 258 Grand Rapids
Squadron of the Year: Squadron 287 Cedar Springs
Son of the Year: Rick Knapp, Jr., Squadron 459 Grand Rapids

Upcoming 4th District Meetings -All meetings will have service officers school at 11:00am, luncheon 12:30pm & meeting at 2:00pm

September 11	Post 331 Bridgman
November 6	Post 49 South Haven
January 8	Post 568 Stevensville
March 4	Post 223 Constantine
May 6	Post 345 Baroda

Upcoming 18th District Meetings - All meetings: 1st Thursday of month at 7:30 pm

September 1	Post 108 Oxford
October 6	Post 143 Auburn Hills
November 3	Post 253 Royal Oak
December 1	Post 374 Berkley
January 5	Post 354 Madison Heights
February 2	Post 377 Chief Pontiac
March 12	Post 224 Wixom (officer nominations)
April 5	Post 216 Milford (officer nominations)
May 3	Post 233 Lake Orion (officer elections)

ALL MEETING INFORMATION ON THIS PAGE MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. PLEASE CONFIRM DATES AND LOCATIONS PRIOR TO MAKING TRAVEL PLANS

POST 282 UPDATE EDWARD MARK CRISLIP

Hello Everyone,

I hope everyone enjoyed the summer. My name is Edward Mark Crislip and I am a Past Commander and District Officer. I am the current Adjutant for the Sons of The American Legion, Ypsilanti Squadron 282. After a devastating fire that destroyed the Post in February 2008, we have made some strides in getting a new building to call home. We have purchased a building and are working on a contractor with City, Township and other Government entities. I will try to use this venue to keep all abreast of the progress. So when we open you can come and pay us a visit.



PUBLICATIONS CO-CHAIRS BRAD KOCH bkoch1991@gmail.com **AND JOE HOLLOMON sal459jh@yahoo.com**

Greetings Michigan SAL officers, we'd like to give you some general information about our vision for the Detachment newsletter this year.

1. We will again be doing four newsletters with the following article due dates: November 11, 2011; February 24, 2012; and May 4, 2011. The newsletter should be online and/or mailed within two weeks of each due date
2. We would also like to continue having an ongoing "upcoming events" page on the website that you can submit any events you have happening in your squadron/district. You will submit them to us and we will get them on the list. This can be done by anyone and at anytime, not just when articles are due. Contact information is below.
3. Last year, you all did a great job with this and we hope to continue with these items in mind. In the interest of time and saving money, articles you read in the

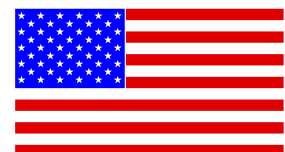
newsletter should follow the following guidelines:

- a. Keep articles brief and to the point, discussing only items that pertain specifically to your position(s).
- b. In referencing another story or piece of information, please provide a web link as opposed to copying and pasting the entire article into your submission.
- c. In at least one of your articles please describe exactly what your position or committee is all about. Even some of us who have been doing this for years still may not know what your committee's role is in the Detachment.
- d. Please also write your articles as if the audience is a general "blue capper" with no inside information that only experienced officers would understand.
- e. We do have a plan in place to send the letter out via email to as many members as possible. Our goal is to save money on

printing and postage. Many of you are likely reading the electronic version right now which is excellent. You can help us by submitting anyone else's email address that you have from your squadron. Again, use contact information below to do so.

Overall, we wish you all a successful year and are going to work hard to help provide the membership with useful information and attempt to keep everyone informed of any upcoming events as well. We can all make a difference for veterans and community but together we can make a huge difference. Thanks in advance for your help and cooperation.

Any questions or concerns please email Brad at bkoch1991@gmail.com or call 616-822-4567



THE MICHIGAN BOYS STATE EXPERIENCE LABRONT MOORE-STONE, SENIOR - BELLEVILLE H.S.

Michigan Boys State is an outstanding five star program. The program teaches you how to work with different people, and how the government systems really work. As Litigator Attorney at Michigan Boys State, out of fifteen cases I won fourteen and lost one. This program gave me a clear understanding of what I needed to know about the judicial branch. When it comes to going in the court room and arguing your case "trying to win" sometimes your best friends will become your worst enemies, and that is the beauty of it all because what goes on in the court room stays in the court room. Of course you would have lunch or dinner and shoot pool afterwards to get along (in other words) "no hard feelings".

I'm quite for certain that young gentlemen who are very interested in doing active duties in the government system, Michigan Boys State is definitely the place you need to be. You will get the mentorship, accountability, responsibility, direction, and leadership skills that will help you in your future. Many people such as my Michigan Boys State counselor Mr. Inam Kang, Mr. Tony Brown, and Mr. Nelson O'Bryan director over Michigan Boys State pushed me to my fullest potential and purged me in the process to be the best that I can be. As it did for me and many other Boys Staters it changed my life, and gave me a brief insight that being a Criminal Justice Lawyer is really the path I want to pursue in my life as my profession.

Remember that once you are in this program that you are in a brotherhood, that you represent the Boys State of Michigan, and that when you come here you will not leave here like you came.

For more information on Boys State, check out the following links:

<http://www.heritage.com/articles/2011/08/15/life/doc4e493f8dd6421385120516.txt>

<http://www.heritage.com/articles/2011/08/15/life/doc4e49422f13462897478557.txt>

PICTURES FROM DEPARTMENT CONVENTION—GRAND RAPIDS



LEFT: SAL Detachment members march during the Department Convention Parade. The parade route circled the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans.

RIGHT: SAL Detachment Commander addresses the Legionnaires and introduces his officers and chairmen for 2011-2012.



DETACHMENT HISTORIAN

RICK KNAPP

salra459@yahoo.com



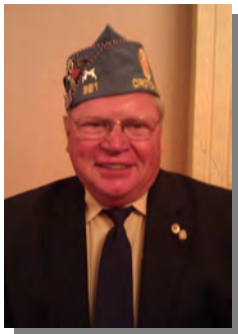
Greetings fellow Sons. My name is Rick Knapp, your 2011-2012 Detachment Historian. I want to thank the Sons membership for voting for me. I will work hard as your historian. American Legion Department Historian, Rex Lambert, and I will be working together to make it easier for both The American Legion members and the Sons of The American Legion members to turn in history books and scrapbooks. National rules will still be there, but it is too confusing for some to understand. So few squadrons are turning in books and we need to simplify the rules to make it easier for all. More information will follow in the coming months.

Please remember to send my any photos, flyers or articles to be published in Detachment Commander Verville's book. Send them to me by email, snail mail or just hand them to me at Fall Conference.

CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION

JOHN KAILUNAS

jakcroton@riverview.net



Child Welfare Foundation – What does it do?

The foundation gets many requests for funds throughout the year from various charitable organizations. These grant requests are sorted and those qualifying

are forwarded to the committee for selection. I am proud to say that I sat on that committee in the past and helped make those selections.

The monies we grant are not directly for the grantee but rather for the dissemination of information to the people who can benefit from what the organization (grantee) does. It gets the word to those who can benefit from that which the organization can do for them. It does no good if no one knows what help or benefits they can get from a charitable organization. The Child Welfare Foundation fills most of that need of communication and getting out the word to those who have the needs.

Child Welfare Foundation – What can you do?

We encourage all squadrons to have a fundraiser for CWF. Dexter and Milford squadrons have annual golf outings and another squadron is holding a car show. My squadron will be raffling a side of beef. Danny Poole raffled a small refrigerator full of my favorite canned beverage (which I did not win!) Send your check to Child Welfare with a note or email me with the amount and date. I would like to see every squadron in Michigan get 100% CWF ribbon for their standard.

WE WANT YOUR SAL PHOTOS!

Do you have a photo you would like to submit for the SAL Detachment Newsletter? Email it to Brad Koch at bkoch1991@gmail.com or Joe Hollomon at sal459jh@yahoo.com. We look for photos showing SAL caps in action whenever possible.

DETACHMENT ADJUTANT'S THOUGHTS AND NEWS SANDY LIPMAN sandylipman95@hotmail.com



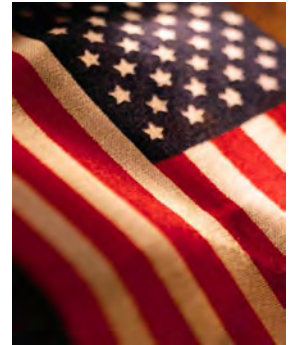
To all Squadron Adjutants there should be no zero squadrons as all officers have to be paid and up to date when installed. Please get those in as well as any other paid memberships you have. It is not too late to send in any 2011 dues that you have as well as sending in your 2012 cards. Also if you have not received your cards yet it means Department has not received your Officers List and bond payment. Please send in ASAP!

they can do. If you have a chance go see the lodge, you can call Lou Oberle and he will come down and take you on a tour. Please support and honor our Legion, veterans and all of the programs that we as Sons and our Legionnaires participate in. I will be providing more information to after we return from National.

Yours Always in God and Country.

Well my fellow members another year has come to an end as we get ready to attend National Convention in Minneapolis. I am sorry to say we did not reach our goal of over 21,000 members and at this time we are at 97.8%. Looks like I will be taking Mackinaw Fudge, Sander hot fudge, Faygo Red Pop and Better Made Potato Chips with me for the challenge winner Iowa. Congrats to them for a super all time high!

In the month of July I had the pleasure of traveling with Legion Member Frank Flores up to Trout Lake and the Wilwin Lodge. We stayed on the premises in Frank's pop-up trailer, or as Frankie put it, the "Lipman/Flores Post Juan". I was very proud to see the number of Sons who made it up there for the open house. This Legion effort is outstanding and I believe that the Sons should support this 100% by making donations, volunteering and whatever else



SON OF THE YEAR WINNER 2011 RICK KNAPP salra459@yahoo.com

I want to thank you for making me your Son of the Year 2011. I am truly honored. Thanks to Northeastern Squadron 459 for all the vote of confidence. Thanks also goes out to Northeastern Post and Unit 459 for the support. I am truly proud to be a part of #459. I also want to thank Glen Hill Squadron 287 for all they have done for me. Thank you for all the guidance you have given me.

Rick Knapp
Northeastern Squadron 459
(Shotski!)



PICTURES FROM GRAND RAPIDS HOME FOR VETERANS CARNIVAL



LEFT: Rodney Tolbert and Pat Pustay staff the SAL 5th District booth at the GRHV Carnival.

RIGHT: Pat Pustay and Ron Wyatt spend some time talking with a GRHV member.



LEFT: Rodney Tolbert accepts his 1st place prize as winner of the GRHV Pie Eating Contest - Adult Division.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS



CARVIN CHAPMAN

Congratulations to my fellow officers and I thank you for allowing me to serve as your Detachment Sgt.-at-Arms. I will be responsible for making sure the flags are displayed in their proper places in plenty of time at all of the meetings, conventions, and conferences. I will also be taking them down, folding them, and storing them until needed further. Recently I had the proud opportunity to support outgoing Commander Dave Mennel and incoming Commander Dwaine Verville at the UP Convention in Sault St. Marie. I am looking forward to an exciting and fun year.

NATIONAL EMERGENCY FUND

ALLEN LIEBAU

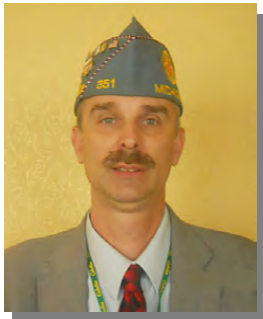
sal409@yahoo.com

This title is brand new to me this year, and I am still working on contacts at National. I am trying to keep track of any Squadron in Michigan that has sent donations in to The NEF Fund. If your Squadron has done that, please let me know so I can properly account for it. You can contact me at SAL409@yahoo.com or by phone 313-295-4664 or cell 313-608-3934.

RAINBOW CONNECTION CHAIRMAN

ANDRE SVACHA

asvacha@hotmail.com



Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Michigan has slowed down with donations, I haven't received any since Detachment convention. So let's get out there and continue to raise some money as there are many kids that could use our help, remember the money we raise will go for a Michigan kid and have a rainbow fun filled day.



Alternate NEC Chairman Greg Price (2nd from right) joins others in front of American Huey 803 at the 87th Annual Memorial Day Parade in Dearborn, MI. This helicopter flew in Vietnam 1964-1965.

VA & R EARL RUTTKOFSKY

eruttkofsky9771@aol.com



As the Veterans Administration and Rehabilitation Chairman, I would like for everyone to know the description of this job. Number one is to help and work with the American Legion on VA & R issues within our state. Second is to look at and help the VA hospitals and homes with their needs for the patients in those facilities. Third is to get Representatives and Deputy Reps in all our VA facilities that are all certified. Fourth is to keep abreast of all the issues that are coming out of government that concerns our veterans and their families and make sure that they know about them. In the next part of my report are some of the concerns that The American Legion has.

Of special concern to the Legion is the so-called "disabled veteran tax" or "concurrent receipt" practice, which offsets veterans' retirement pay with the amount of disability pay they are receiving. "Both retirement pay and disability benefits are well and truly earned, and both should be awarded fully. To do otherwise is shameful," American Legion National Commander Jimmy Foster said.

While acknowledging the recent, unprecedented increase in VA funding (\$125 billion), the American Legion is requesting additional monies for the agency, mostly to support improved medical care, research and facilities. But the Legion is also offering Congress a suggestion that, if enacted, would help to offset any VA budget increase.

Legion leaders point to the fact that more than half the veteran population served by VA is eligible for Medicare benefits. Yet VA is not authorized to collect third-party reimbursement from Medicare (or Medicaid) for health services provided to vet-

erans that have no connection to their military service.

Among other items of concern to The American Legion are deficiencies in the Post-9/11 GI Bill. Improvements can be made, the Legion says, by broadening eligibility for benefits to members of reserve units and the National Guard, as well as expanding the list of VA-approved institutions to include vocational schools and those offering online and distance learning curricula.

Peter Gaytan, executive director of The American Legion in Washington, sums up the organization's view. "Realistically, the new Congress may be hard pressed to find a non-partisan agenda that all its members can agree on. But why not try to bridge that chasm by agreeing to honor our nation's veterans, not only by maintaining their current benefits but improving them as well?"

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

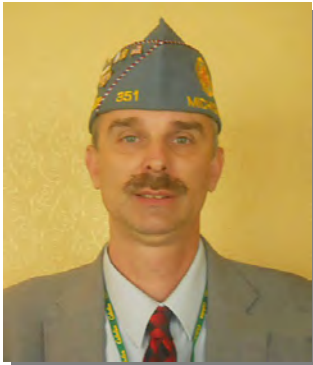
DAVE MENNEL

davidmennel@yahoo.com



Hello everyone, hope that you all had a great summer. Now is the time to get back to work for our Legion Family. Our membership is our life blood of our organization, without it we cannot exist. By now all squadrons should have sent in their officers list to Department and should have received their membership cards. There should not be any zeros for membership at this point. All squadron officers should have paid their dues and the chairman should have sent them in to Department. It is very important that you do not hold back any membership dues; please send them in as soon as possible. Squadrons that have not sent in an officers list by September will receive a call as to why not. It is the job of your Zone Commanders and me to help in any way we can so please contact us with any issues. Hope to see many of you at Fall Conference in September!

HOMELAND SECURITY ANDRE SVACHA asvacha@hotmail.com



Since being appointed to this chairmanship I have spent some time on the National website learning what part we play in helping with homeland security. I plan on having a table at Fall Conference that will be loaded with information on how to prepare for a national, state or local disaster. These items have been on order for 2 months, I still have not received anything but am keeping out hope that I will before

Fall Conference.

Specific Disaster Recovery Information

This month I would like to spotlight some specific information on how to quickly recover from a disaster. The following link to a FEMA website <http://www.fema.gov/rebuild/recover/after.shtm> will give information dealing with the most common disasters all of us may have to deal with at one time or another.

Listen to Local Officials

Learn about the emergency plans that have been established in your area by your state and local government. In any emergency, always listen to the instructions given by local emergency management officials. Usually, rolling blackouts

occur when power usage increases, especially during hot weather when many people are using air conditioning to keep cool. Power companies try to give a warning when they will turn off power to an area, but they cannot always do that. For further information on how to plan and prepare for blackouts as well as what to do during and after a blackout, visit the American Red Cross website.

Always keep mind full of what is going on around you, as there are some many ways of our nation being attacked, like even a large amount of beans being bought by a farmer, or any other type of bomb building material. You never know when something that can seem harmless, really is not. With the tenth anniversary of nine eleven around the corner, we can never let our guard down.

ALTERNATE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEMAN / PDC 3 GREG PRICE grinnerman@msn.com



It has only been a short while since our convention, but there have been many activities that have happened during these warm summer days. Many posts and districts have held picnics within their com-

munities. The 1st and 16th Districts held a Zone Picnic which brought the Detroit and Downriver posts together for an enjoyable day of horse-shoes and barbequing. Many chapters of the Legion Riders have also been hosting events across our state. Those have helped in the needs of numerous organizations, and have also supported many of the programs that help our veterans.

Some of the help from the events have helped homeless men and women veterans along with their families. Other help has supported PTSD programs, and Child Wel-

fare programs that benefit the children with their hopes and their dreams.

We, Sons, continue to show our great pride with being a part of this Legion family, and with the effort that we all put toward fulfilling the ideas that are in our preamble. I truly am proud that we continue to show how important the priceless heritage is that we all possess. Let us carry on with the endeavor in making others happy and supporting our God and Country.

PICTURES FROM WILWIN LODGE



LEFT: Wilwin Lodge getting prepared for an open house event held July 16, 2011.

RIGHT: A group of SAL members join together for a picture during the Wilwin Open House.



LEFT: (L-R) Detachment Commander Dwaine Verville, Auxiliary President Carrie Bowerman, Wilwin donor Bob Considine, Department Commander Dick Chatman & Auxiliary State Junior President get together for a picture.

RIGHT: (L-R) SAL Detachment Adjutant Sandy Lipman and Squadron 233 Steve Cobble. Steve and his wife, Laurie, generously donated \$12,000 to Wilwin Lodge.





DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN AMERICAN LEGION,
 AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY and SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
 FALL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION and HOUSING REQUEST
 SEPTEMBER 15-18, 2011
 Troy Marriott, 200 W. Big Beaver Rd., Troy, MI 48084

REGISTRATION: \$10.00 per person - must be registered to attend meetings
 PAYABLE TO: 18th District Association
 MAIL TO: Sheryl May, 3300 Dutton Rd., Rochester, MI 48306

Name _____ Legion Auxiliary Sons
 Name _____ Legion Auxiliary Sons
 Name _____ Legion Auxiliary Sons
 Name _____ Legion Auxiliary Sons
 \$10.00 per person x _____ = \$ _____ Make check payable to 18th District

HOUSING: ALL ROOM REQUESTS WILL BE MADE THROUGH CONFERENCE COMMITTEE
 or for other accommodations contact: Committee Co-Chairman
 Shannon Wawruck at (248) 625-8393 or shannon.wawruck@gmail.com
 Deadline date: August 25, 2011

Standard \$85.00 per night plus 13% tax Suite \$150.00 per night plus 13% tax
 Single ___ Double ___ Triple ___ Quad ___ limited to one per district ___

Credit Card to Reserve Room Only
 Visa ___ MC ___ American Express ___ Discover ___ Other ___

Name on card _____
 Card # _____ Expiration Date _____
 Special needs: Hearing ___ Wheelchair ___ Other _____
 Arrival date _____ Departure date _____

Send Confirmation to: _____
 Email _____ Phone _____
 Address _____

Please contact Sheryl May at (248) 953-3008 or may555@juno.com if you
 have questions.

LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN ROGER DEES rdees29@comcast.net



Two issues that you need to contact your Representatives about:

1. Caregiver's Assistance Program:

The House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Health met recently to hear testimony from witnesses on how well the Department of Veterans Affairs is implementing benefits for its caregivers assistance program. The subcommittee's chair, Rep. Ann Marie Buerkle of New York, said in her opening remarks that, at a hearing four months ago, "it was clear to me that VA must go back and address deficiencies with the department's initial implementation plan, particularly the strict eligibility requirement, and get this important program up and running."

In response, VA modified its eligibility requirements and published an interim final rule (IFR) on May 5 to speed up rule-making process so that benefits could be issued. At the beginning of July, VA began sending payments to eligible families and

has provided a point of contact for caregivers. According to a July 11 article in the Military Times, VA had approved 182 applications and had 1,259 more in process; up to 3,600 families could be eligible for the benefits. One witness at the hearing, Debbie Schulz of Friendswood, Texas, said the application process for caregiver benefits is one of the easiest and least stressful to process. Schulz has been caring full time for her son, who suffered severe brain injuries in 2005 from an IED explosion while serving with the Marines in Iraq.

"We appreciate the fact that VA has gotten the ball rolling on caregiver benefits, and that the application process is relatively worry-free," said Verna Jones, director of The American Legion's Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Division. "But we are concerned that VA has set a 40-hour-per-week cap on those benefits." Jones said it isn't uncommon for caregivers to spend 50, 60 or more hours per week tending to their loved ones. "Being a full-time caregiver isn't the same as a 9-to-5 job," she said. "If someone is completely dependent on you for their well-being, you can't just punch in and punch out whenever you feel like it."

Another concern the Legion has with the caregivers assistance program is how it is being implemented across the country. In one case a caregiver said, a VA medical center assigned a new clinician to evalu-

ate a servicemember and caregiver's eligibility benefits who was not their primary-care physician the veteran had never seen that provider, who had no background on his injuries and illnesses to make the clinical determination. There is a lot of inconsistency that needs to be addressed and improved. The American Legion has recommended that VA create e-flyers and share caregiver program information with its 2,000 accredited veteran's service officers across the country. The American Legion service officers meet with veterans who file claims every day and are willing to provide information to veterans and their family members on their eligibility for caregiver benefits. The American Legion has invited Debbie Amdur, VA's chief consultant at its Care Management and Social Work Office and who leads VA's caregiver program, to speak at the Legion's national convention in Minneapolis.

2. Cutting OSC Budget:

A bill being considered by the House of Representative threatens to cut \$1.5 million from the Office of Special Counsel (OSC) budget for fiscal 2012. OSC plays a key role in prosecuting cases of discrimination against veterans by federal agencies, under provisions of the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Act (USERRA). The proposed legislation, the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act (H.R. 2434),

(Continued on page 15)

Need Legion Family Supplies?
Go to National Emblem Sales online at: www.emblem.legion.org

LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN - continued

(Continued from page 14)

was introduced July 7 by Rep. Jo Ann Emerson of Missouri. It would provide ODC with about \$18 million in funding, rather than the \$19.5 million requested by the Obama administration.

The American Legion sent a letter to Emerson on July 13, urging her to support full funding for ODC. "If ODC is not fully funded," the letter said, "it will have to work short-handed, will not be able to achieve the high corrective action rate obtained in previous years, and will take longer to resolve cases" During 2005-2007, ODC handled more than 450 veterans discrimination cases and achieved a corrective action rate of 26 percent.

"That's an exceptionally high rate of success for federal employment cases," said Joe Sharpe, the Legion's Economic Division director who wrote the letter sent to Emerson. "ODC's outstanding performance will be jeopardized if it doesn't get proper funding. Cases will take more time to be resolved, and more veterans are going to suffer from unemployment."

Currently, the Department of Labor takes the lead in attempting to resolve veterans' discrimination claims against federal agencies under USERRA provisions. If a resolution can't be reached, the cases are referred to ODC for prosecution. The American Legion places a high value on ODC's services because it helps veterans regain the federal jobs they left to serve in the military. It is imperative that veter-

ans who leave federal agencies to fight for America be given the necessary tools and resources to get their jobs back.

Further consideration of H.R. 2434, which has been approved by the House Committee on Appropriations, has been postponed until after the August recess.

For more info on what is happening check the Sons of The American Legion's Website for Legislative Commission updates. The web site is: <http://www.sal.legion.org/commissions/legislative/index.htm> Check out the legislative web site for information to keep you informed regarding the activities of the Commission and legislation affecting our Veterans and Country.



Sons of The American Legion:
Preserving American traditions and values, improving the quality of life for our nation's children, caring for veterans and their families, and teaching the fundamentals of good citizenship.

CHAPLAIN DANNY J. POOLE

cool.poole@att.net



The Purpose of the Chaplaincy

The chaplaincy has many purposes. One of which is to help persons grow in their relationship with God and one another. We also serve as a reminder of the transcen-

dent and to seek to develop an environment within which Sons are encouraged in their personal and collective moral and spiritual growth. We are to remind all Americans that God is the source of all rights and privileges.

The Sons of The American Legion is a comprehensive in nature embracing all religions, faiths and denominations within its ranks. The chaplaincy, being non-denominational and non-sectarian, wishes to minister to the spiritual affiliation or non-affiliation.

Chaplains seek to minister to people wherever there is a need. For many, chap-

lains are only ministers they will ever know as they have no affiliation with a church, synagogue, or other religious institutions. The role of the chaplain is ever increasing due to the aging of our membership. Each Son should be alert to the physical and spiritual needs of their comrades. The Chaplain should be notified when there is a death, illness, or special concern in the membership. At that point the chaplain should provide all ministry and service available.

"Service to God and Country"

NATIONAL AMERICANISM COMMITTEE GERALD HAMMERSCHMIDT



No matter when or what time of year it is, flag education is still important to all of us. We cannot forget our mission to educate the youth of our country about the flag.

That being said we have the ability to educate our youth about the Flag. **For Which It Stands** is a good way to educate the youth on Flag education. **For Which It Stands** is a DVD about the history of the Flag of the United States, the significance and meaning of our flag and respecting

and caring for our flag.

"*George Learns The Pledge*" - An animated feature explaining the meaning behind the Pledge of Allegiance.

"*Rally 'Round The Flag*" - Students ask a flag expert about specific ways to care for and respect the flag and are given the opportunity to play the "Flag Quiz" game.

The "*Flag Timeline*" activity allows students to learn more about the history of our flag and the rationale behind its design

Here are a few other ways to educate our youth, all of these and the **For Which It Stands** DVD are available at *The American Legion Emblem Sales*. **Let's Be Right on Flag Etiquette**, a 16-page "question & answer" booklet on proper

flag etiquette. **Flag Code** illustrates and describes the correct way to display the American flag, and **Our Country's Flag** comic book.

The **Flag Replacement Post Card** allows you to anonymously tell others how to dispose of their flag. As a symbol of our nation, the U.S. Flag belongs to the people, who should be given the power to protect it. All of these books and pamphlets and the **For Which It Stands** DVD can be found thru The American Legion Emblem Sales.

To answer the questions you have about flag, you can go to the American Legion website and click on the U.S. Flag.

The web site is http://www.legion.org/flag/questions_answers.

VA & R 1ST PLACE AWARD—SQUADRON 258, GRAND RAPIDS continued on page 20

Please print or type clearly.

Detachment (State) (1) Michigan District (2) 5th
 Squadron Number (3) 0258 Squadron Name (4) Furnace City
 Current Year Membership (5) 331 Prior Year Membership (6) _____
 City/Town (7) Grand Rapids Zip Code (8) 49505

AMERICANISM

Boys State, No. of Boys Sponsored (9) _____ Cost (10) \$ _____ Girls State, No. of Girls Sponsored (11) _____ Cost (12) _____
 Education, No. of 5 Star/10 Ideals Program (13) _____ Cost (14) \$ _____ No. of Flags Presented (15) _____ Cost (16) \$ _____
 No. of Small Flags Placed on Graves/Given Away at Parades (17) _____ Cost (18) \$ _____ Hours (19) _____
 Cost of Scholarships Awarded (20) \$ 1,000 No. of Hours for Educational Programs (21) 260
 Oratorical Contest, Squadron Sponsored Contest (22) No. of Contestants (23) _____ Cost of Contest (24) \$ _____
 Hours Of Participation (25) _____ Color Guards, Squadron Sponsors (26) No. of Appearances (27) 30 Cost (28) \$ _____
 NEF, Donations (29) \$ _____ Flag Education, No. of Flag Etiquette Programs (30) _____ Cost (31) \$ _____ Hours (32) _____
 No. of Flag Retirement Programs (33) 1 Hours (34) 24 Community Service, No. Hours of Service (35) 375
 Cost/Donation to Other Organizations (36) \$ 4,000 Scouting, Squadron Sponsors Troop (37) No. of Youths Involved (38) _____
 Cost (39) \$ _____ Junior Shooting Sports, No. of Youth Involved (40) _____ No. Hours of Service (41) _____
 Cost Of Sponsorship (42) \$ _____ Baseball, American Legion Baseball Team Sponsored (43) Cost (44) \$ _____
 Blood Drives, Pints Collected (45) 75 Hours (46) 40
 Other Teams Sponsored, Cost (47) \$ _____

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Child Welfare Foundation, Donations (48) \$ _____ Hours (49) _____ Special Olympics, Donations (50) \$ _____ Hours (51) _____
 Children's Miracle Network, Donations (52) \$ _____ Hours (53) _____ Josh Dogs, No. Given (54) _____ Cost (55) \$ _____
 TBD (56) _____ TBD (57) \$ _____
 Other Children & Youth projects, Donations (58) \$ _____ Hours (59) _____

VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION

Veterans Homes, No. of Visits (60) 6 Total Hours (61) 48 Cash Donations, (62) \$ 3,000
 V.A Medical Centers, No. of Visits (63) 14 Total Hours (64) 42 Items Donated, Estimated Dollar Value (65) \$ 800,00
 Field Service, Hours (66) 260 Home Service, Hours (67) 160 Fisher House, Hours (68) _____ Cost (69) \$ _____
 Support for the Troops, Hours (70) _____ Cost (71) \$ _____ Family Support Network, Hours (72) _____ Cost (73) \$ _____
 Other VA&R Projects, Hours (74) 470 Cost (75) \$ 4,000
 National Veteran's Assistance Day, No. of Veterans Helped (76) 180 Hours (77) 480 Cost (78) \$ 2,000

OTHER HOURS AND DONATION NOT COVERED ABOVE

Total Hours, No. of Visits (79) 272 Cash Donations, (80) \$ 4,000

St. uke _____ Adjutant _____ 5-2-2019
 Signature Title Date

VA & R 1ST PLACE AWARD—SQUADRON 258, GRAND RAPIDS

continued from page 19

Consolidated Form Attachment

Project 1 Americanism__ Children & Youth__ VA & R ✓ Other__ Hours: 72 \$ 1,200

Description: Vet Savvy
Information and Retirement investment options
meetings for Veterans and their families

Project 2 Americanism__ Children & Youth__ VA & R__ Other__ Hours: ____ \$ ____

Description: _____

Project 3 Americanism__ Children & Youth__ VA & R__ Other__ Hours: ____ \$ ____

Description: _____

AMERICANISM 1ST PLACE AWARD—SQUADRON 287, CEDAR SPRINGS

Please print or type clearly.

Detachment (State) (1) MICHIGAN District (2) 5TH
 Squadron Number (3) 0287 Squadron Name (4) GLEN HILL
 Current Year Membership (5) 151 Prior Year Membership (6) 157
 City/Town (7) CEDAR SPRINGS, MI. Zip Code (8) 49319

AMERICANISM

Boys State, No. of Boys Sponsored (9) 1 Cost (10) \$ 310.00 Girls State, No. of Girls Sponsored (11) 0 Cost (12) \$ 0
 Education, No of 5 Star/10 Ideals Program (13) 5 Cost (14) \$ 50.00 No. of Flags Presented (15) 4 Cost (16) \$ 135.00
 No. of Small Flags Placed on Graves/Given Away at Parades (17) 7.00 Cost (18) \$ 97.00 Hours (19) 40
 Cost of Scholarships Awarded (20) \$ 400.00 No. of Hours for Educational Programs (21) 100
 Oratorical Contest, Squadron Sponsored Contest (22) No. of Contestants (23) 0 Cost of Contest (24) \$ 0
 Hours Of Participation (25) 0 Color Guards, Squadron Sponsors (26) No. of Appearances (27) 30 Cost (28) \$ 300.00
 NEF, Donations (29) \$ 0 Flag Education, No. of Flag Etiquette Programs (30) 2 Cost (31) \$ 0 Hours (32) 4
 No. of Flag Retirement Programs (33) 2 Hours (34) 4 Community Service, No. Hours of Service (35) 120
 Cost/Donation to Other Organizations (36) \$ 400.00 Scouting, Squadron Sponsors Troop (37) No. of Youths Involved (38) 20
 Cost (39) \$ 100.00 Junior Shooting Sports, No. of Youth Involved (40) 2 No. Hours of Service (41) 50
 Cost Of Sponsorship (42) \$ 50.00 Baseball, American Legion Baseball Team Sponsored (43) Cost (44) \$ 0
 Blood Drives, Pints Collected (45) 0 Hours (46) 0
 Other Teams Sponsored, Cost (47) \$ 300.00

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Child Welfare Foundation, Donations (48) \$ 0 Hours (49) 0 Special Olympics, Donations (50) \$ 0 Hours (51) 0
 Children's Miracle Network, Donations (52) \$ 0 Hours (53) 0 Josh Dogs, No. Given (54) 0 Cost (55) \$ 0
 TBD (56) _____ TBD (57) \$ _____
 Other Children & Youth projects, Donations (58) \$ 800.00 Hours (59) 20

VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION

Veterans Homes, No. of Visits (60) 4 Total Hours (61) 40 Cash Donations, (62) \$ 300.00
 V.A Medical Centers, No. of Visits (63) 10 Total Hours (64) 342 Items Donated, Estimated Dollar Value (65) \$ 0
 Field Service, Hours (66) 2200 Home Service, Hours (67) 0 Fisher House, Hours (68) 0 Cost (69) \$ 0
 Support for the Troops, Hours (70) 0 Cost (71) \$ 0 Family Support Network, Hours (72) 0 Cost (73) \$ 0
 Other VA&R Projects, Hours (74) 6 Cost (75) \$ 50.00
 National Veteran's Assistance Day, No. of Veterans Helped (76) 0 Hours (77) 0 Cost (78) \$ 0

OTHER HOURS AND DONATION NOT COVERED ABOVE

Total Hours, No. of Visits (79) 12 hrs (2) Cash Donations, (80) \$ 50.00

Signature Russell Washington Title Sq. AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN Date 6-03-2011

SQUADRON OF THE YEAR, MAURICE L. MICHAEL AWARD—SQUADRON 287, CEDAR SPRINGS

continued on page 20

MAURICE L. MICHAEL AWARD
APPLICATION BY: SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
GLEN HILL SQUADRON #287

Period From: June 2010 to the Present

ACTIVITIES TO HONOR THE AMERICAN LEGION

Participation of the S.A.L. Color/Guard Drill Team in Memorial Day Services.

Putting up the Avenue of Flags for deceased Veterans that served our Country.

Purchased flowers for Memorial Day - these are placed in the Cemeteries that the Post will hold Ceremonies at.

Participation in Honor/Guard activities at the Post's Spring Banquet.

Presentation of gifts to those who gave of their time to help our Squadron at the Annual Spring Banquet. Cost of Banquet share was \$70.00.

Showing appreciation at the Spring Banquet to the workers of the Sons of The American Legion Friday Night Bingo, with gifts.

Carnival Bingo proceeds of \$300.00 went to the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans' Bus for the Cedar Springs High School Band to attend Memorial Day Services, cost \$125.00.

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS ACTIVITIES:

Supported two baseball teams at cost of \$250.00.

Donation to Local Boy Scouts of \$200.00

Donation to the Cedar Springs Ministerial Association of \$50.00 for needy families.

Donation to the Grand Rapids Santa Claus Girls of \$50.00 for Christmas gifts to the needy families of Kent County.

Donation to the North Kent Service Center for Seniors of \$50.00.

Carnival Bingo for the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans.

SQUADRON OF THE YEAR, MAURICE L. MICHAEL AWARD—SQUADRON 287, CEDAR SPRINGS continued on page 21

Page 2

POST AFFAIRS ACTIVITIES:

Paid 1/4th of the Post Liability Insurance of \$1227.25.

Hosting of the Annual S.A.L. / Post Horse Shoe Tournament game at Picnic \$100.55.

Helping in sales of Poppy's for the American Legion.

Participation of Squadron members in the Activities of the American Legion and Auxiliary, such as Regular and Special Bingo's and Dinners.

S.A.L. Friday Night Bingo which raised over \$12,000.00 to assist the Post in various projects.

Sharing in the cost of the Post Newsletter (Tissapater) - cost \$881.36 year.

Donation of \$100.00 to the American Legion Auxiliary Funeral Fund.

Paid 1/3rd of cost of the Post Christmas Parties, one for Children and one for Adults - cost of \$373.17.

Paid the Post \$10,200.00 for utilities, and paid the Post \$1500.00 for the auditing of the S.A.L. records.

Paid 1/4th of the cost for Snow Plowing of \$318.75.

Residence from Grand Rapids Home for Veterans transported to Cedar Springs by Bus - donated \$100.00 and Gifts for the Vets of \$120.00.

Donated to the Fifth District Veterans Carnival of \$100.00.

Gained recognition from the Post by having one voting member on the Board of Control and Building Committees, each serving a two year term.

Donation toward the Post Picnic of \$133.08.

Donation towards share of Workmen's Compensation & Liquor Liability Insurance of \$386.75.

SQUADRON OF THE YEAR, MAURICE L. MICHAEL AWARD—SQUADRON 287, CEDAR SPRINGS

Page 3

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION ACTIVITIES FOR THE BENEFIT OF IT'S MEMBERS:

Members of the Squadron that renewed their Membership (Early Birds) were treated to Breakfast at the Cedar Café, which cost \$138.16.

S.A.L. members volunteered 2200 hours for V.A. & R. Field Service.

S.A.L. member of the Kent County Honor Guard for Funerals of 5.

Five Point Program of the S.A.L.

Color/Guard Drill Team participated in the Cedar Springs Red Flannel Day Parade, the Rockford Celebration and the Greenville Danish Festival Parades.

Members that need comfort in time of illness or death.

S.A.L. members participated in the Post's Early Bird Dinner at a cost of \$382.07 paid by Squadron.

Donation to the Red Flannel Festival, Patron donation of \$100.00.

Installation Dinner for Officers held at the Crazy Horse at a cost of \$223.99.

S.A.L. members participated in the 5th District as S.A. L. Officers.

S.A.L. members serving the Detachment of Michigan as Officers and Chairmen.

Transported by bus from Veterans Home in Grand Rapids to Cedar Springs for a game of Bingo, with the cost of \$200.00 and gave the Vet's Carnival \$100.00.

Sending 7 S.A.L. Delegates from Squadron 287 for Detachment Convention and one S.A.L. Advisor.

CERTIFIED: *Sharon J. Turner* TITLE: S.A.L. ADVISOR: DATE: 6-03-11

WINNING ENTRY - SON OF THE YEAR 2011

6/3/11

Our nominee for Son of the Year for 2011 has done an outstanding job representing our squadron this year. He's made every meeting and performed all duties of his elected position as Adjutant. In addition he has served our Community, State, and Nation by volunteering his time for numerous activities throughout the year.

He has been present and working hard at all our SAL fundraisers which in turn have helped us make multiple donations to Make a Wish, Children's Miracle Network, Child Welfare, and many others. He has also spent at least 26 hours working at and around the Post on beautification projects. He has served our Veterans and Community by working over 1304 hours calling in the Bingo Hall and in the kitchen making food for those events. He's spent 117 hours working at various dinners and parties that have taken place within the Legion Family. He spent 48 hours in the fall and spring as an election volunteer. He's worked 415 hours serving senior citizens in the community. With his other functions such as bake sales, funeral luncheons, festivals, and working poker fundraisers, he's put in another 136 hours.

In closing, this nominee has truly taken his role as a Son of the American Legion to heart. He marches in all the parades, works hard for Children and Youth, Veterans, and our Community at large as illustrated by his over 2050 hours of volunteer service. He is certainly deserving of this award.

Michigan Legion Family Upcoming and Ongoing Events

8/19/11 – Desert Angel Fundraiser - THIS FRIDAY in ORTONVILLE!!! Down on the farm!! Grab your boots, grab your hat, hop on your horse!!! Yeee Haaa!! Let's have some fun!!!

DIAMOND M STABLES CONCERT SERIES PRESENTS CONCERT IN THE BARN WITH 4 TIME GRAMMY WINNER MICHAEL RENO HARREL at 8:00 P.M. HOSTED BY BOB MARSHALL. Performing singer and songwriter . www.bobmarshallmusic.com. DIAMOND M STABLES, 3368 Breezewood Ct., Ortonville, MI 48462. Bring your lawn chair. Tickets are \$12.00 each and can be purchased at the door. A portion of the proceeds from this event will go to The Desert Angels who pack and mail 'Miracle' Boxes to our servicemen and women overseas. <http://TheDesertAngel.org>. Michael Reno Harrell is an award winning songwriter, as well as a veteran storyteller and entertainer, and he's from the South... the Southern Appalachian Mountains to hone it a bit finer. Michael's recordings have for years received and continue to garner awards in Country, Americana and Folk circles. His humor and wit, as well as the emotional depth of his work, keep his fan base growing and staying tuned in for whatever comes next. Don't miss the chance to experience what those faithful fans keep returning again and again to enjoy. WWW.MichaelReno.com. For ticket information contact: bobmarshallmusic@aol.com

8/20/11 – Post 154 Wyoming - ELVIS IS ALIVE AND AT POST 154!!! Come join the fun 6:00pm for drinks, 6:30pm for dinner. Let your inner Elvis out! Dress like Elvis or the 50's. For more information, contact americanlegionpost154@yahoo.com

8/20/11 – Post 28 Grand Haven – Hot dog cooking competition, 3-6pm. \$20 per team to compete for the most unique award winning hot dog. For more information, contact Andy Vanderhoek at andyvpost28@yahoo.com

8/20/11 – Post 462 White Pine - Steak Dinner benefit for the Legion. The "Easy Money" band will be playing for the dinner. The band will probably start at 8 or 9 PM. Mark is donating their time for the veterans! Dan Floyd and the Dry Dock crew will be grilling outside. Guests will serve themselves, but Aux Ladies will supervise salad stuff and steaks. Large prizes on 100 square board (probably \$5 or \$10/ticket). 50/50 drawing. Some door prizes to be drawn out of the 50/50. For more information, contact Philip at ptegner@yahoo.com

8/20/11 – Desert Angel Packing - 10:00 am on the EAST Side McNeil Chiropractic Packing Party -McNeil Chiropractic Office 22 & Hayes, Macomb Twp. Help the Desert Angels Send Goodies to OUR TROOPS and our MILITARY WORKING DOGS!! Collecting pocket foods, breakfast items, snacks, personal hygiene products, toys for the children, and things to keep our men & women cool....dark socks & boxer shorts (size small) Waterless Dog Shampoo Paw or Nose Salve, K-9 Ear Cleaner, K-9 Eye Drops, Large Kong Toys, Large Rope Toys, Silicone Dog Brushes, LOTS of COFFEE, Hot Chocolate, dry drink mixes, Tea, Dry Gator Aid, Tang Flavored Dry Creamer, Instant Foods, Instant Breakfast, Breakfast Bars, Cereal, Oatmeal, Granola Bars, Pop Tarts, Beef Jerky, Nuts, Hard Candy, Gum, Rice Krispy Treats, Dried Fruit, Baby Wipes Cash Donation- FOR POSTAGE. Always collecting cards & letters of Hope & Encouragement for Our Troops serving our GREAT country! Bring your family in & pack a few boxes for the Soldiers! We would LOVE to send YOUR loved one a Miracle Box. Please make sure we have their address! For more information contact desertangel4u@gmail.com

8/21/11 – Post 42 Charlotte - On Sunday August 21st there will be a press conference with our National Commander at our Post. He will be arriving at approx 1:45 PM. The Commander and the 200-300 or more motorcycles will be coming to Charlotte on the Legacy Scholarship Run for the Children of Killed while serving veteran's after 9/11. The motorcycles will follow and should roll in at 2:30 PM. All Legion persons are invited. If you wish to help there are many ways. We need fuel station attendants to help with the bikes to keep the flow going. We could certainly use groups on overpasses holding flags and banners, not just in our area but from the state line to Charlotte. The timeline can be calculated at 70 miles an hour back from Charlotte at 2:30PM. Any contact information can be email to me at tom@tttbeads.com or my cell

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(Continued from page 24)

number is 517 488 4740. There will also be food available at a cost in our Legion and our Legacy Tee Shirts will be for sale. Any help is appreciated and advance notice is best. Post 42 Address 1000W. Lawrence Ave Charlotte, MI 48813. Thank You Tom Howard ALR Director Post 42 Charlotte.

8/24/11 – Post 569 Stevensville – Hot beef/turkey dinner, 4:30-7:30pm. For more information, contact post568@att.net

8/27/11 - EAST SIDE Desert Angels Packing Party - - Saturday Aug. 27th
9:30 am - 11:30 am Place - American Legion Hall, Cass Ave, Utica (Place is Subject to change. Confirm at www.thedesertangel.org and click on "Events" or call [586/532-8851](tel:5865328851))

9/4/11 – Post 49 South Haven - Legion Summerfest 2011 and Veterans Wall Dedication at 1:00 pm. Burgers, dogs and corn on the cob and other goodies, come for the fellowship stay for the sunset. For more information, contact Rodney Tolbert at rodtgoblue@yahoo.com

9/11/11 – Post 459 Grand Rapids – Golf outing, \$70 fee includes range ball, golf w/ cart, dinner, and two drink tickets. Tee off at 10am. To sign up or for more information, contact Joe Hollomon at sal459jh@yahoo.com

9/16-18/11 – Department Fall Conference. Troy Marriott. For more information, contact Sandy Lipman at sandylipman95@hotmail.com

9/17/11 – Post 568 Stevensville – End of summer fling dinner. Barbecue chicken, corn, naked beans, and cole slaw. \$8. For more information, contact post568@att.net

9/24/11 – Post 208 Grand Rapids – 80's Night. Tickets will be \$8.00, with reserved seating only. All proceeds will go to our MDM's fund. Tickets go on sale September 3rd, 1st come, 1st served in the Clubroom. For more information, contact AmericanLegion-Post208@comcast.net

9/24/11 – Post 459 Grand Rapids - **3:00 pm** – Legionnaire's "Fall in for Chow" – PIG ROAST&CHICKEN– OPEN TO THEPUBLIC – 50/50's – Karaoke begins at 7:00 pm

9/29/11 – Post 179 Grandville – Whitetails Unlimited Banquet. Games/Raffles & Social Hour - 5:00 p.m. Buffet Dinner - 6:30 p.m. This is a Banquet to die for. Prizes are out of this world, food is given a 5 star. No Hunter would want to miss this one. Contact: American Legion Post 179 @ 616-453-9861

10/1/11 – Post 208 Grand Rapids - Legion Steak Fry & "The Big Dogs" Band. For more information, contact AmericanLegion-Post208@comcast.net

10/7-8/11 – Post 459 Grand Rapids –Pulaski Days Celebration. 12pm-2am each day. Come down for great Polish food, fellowship, great music, and just a generally great time! For more information, contact Chris Moore at cmoore1966@peoplepc.com

10/15/11 – Post 208 Grand Rapids - OMELET BREAKFAST, 9:00 am – 12:00 noon. MDM's (Mothers of Military) is cooking up another fantastic breakfast. This time it's "ANY WAY YOU WANT IT OMELET". For \$7.00 you will receive a large omelet, hash browns and toast (white or wheat).

(Continued on page 26)

Omelets will be "made to order" with a variety of fixins" to choose from. Please bring your family and friends to help us raise money to get care packages out to our deployed troops. Following the breakfast, it's GAME DAY. **U of M vs MSU** party thrown by the SONs. . For more information, contact AmericanLegionPost208@comcast.net

10/22/11 – Post 569 Stevensville – Oktoberfest dinner. For more information, contact post568@att.net

Ongoing Events

Every Monday - Post 326 Sterling Heights - Bingo is held every MONDAY MORNING starting at 10:30 A.M. with an early bird game at 10:15. It is a paper bingo only, thereby saving the players about \$20.00 as opposed to an electronic bingo session. Charity game tickets and a progressive pot are available. The bingo is held at the STERLING PLAZA CENTER on the N.W. corner of M-59/Schoennher Rd by the Pier One Imports store. For more information, contact Michael Welicki at iggsterwl@yahoo.com

Every Monday – Post 94 Cadillac - TACO day on mon \$1.25each. For more information, contact Ritchie Harris at sodaredpopguy@yahoo.com

Every Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday – Post 459 Grand Rapids - Karaoke every Tuesday (7-11), Friday (8-12) and Saturday (8-12). For more information, contact Chris Moore at cmoore1966@peoplepc.com

Every Tuesday – Post 462 White Pine – Trivia Contest, 7pm. For more information, contact Philip Tegner at pbtegner@gmail.com

Every Wednesday – Post 28 Grand Haven – Dinner night, 5pm. For menu or more information, contact Andy Vanderhoek at andy-vpost28@yahoo.com

Every Wednesday – Post 94 Cadillac - Burgers on the grill. 5-8pm, For more information, contact Ritchie Harris at sodaredpopguy@yahoo.com

Every Friday – Post 6 Holland – Dinner night. For menu or more information, contact jeff Landaal at lan_doo@hotmail.com

Every Friday – Post 28 Grand Haven – Burger night, 6pm. For menu or more information, contact Andy Vanderhoek at andy-vpost28@yahoo.com

Every Friday – Post 48 Grand Ledge – Burger night, 6-8pm. For menu or more information, contact streamfisher@comcast.net

Every Friday – Post 4 Mt. Clemens - from 4pm till 7pm or until we run out we are serving 3pc Chicken Dinner - Potato - Vegetable - Roll and Butter for \$5.00. For more information, contact alrider4@mtclemensamericanlegionpost4.com

Every Friday – Post 94 Cadillac - AYCE COO supper for \$ 8.00. For more information, contact Ritchie Harris at sodaredpopguy@yahoo.com

Every Friday – Post 4 Mt. Clemens - we are having Pulled Pork Sandwich w/ French Fries for \$3.00 from 1pm till we run out! For more information, contact alrider4@mtclemensamericanlegionpost4.com

Every Saturday – Post 4 Mt. Clemens - from 7pm to 11pm is Juke Box Saturday Night with free Pool Table. For more information, contact alrider4@mtclemensamericanlegionpost4.com

This list will continue to be maintained by Brad Koch (SAL #459) and sent out to all who have email and are on the list (email me to get on the list) at the beginning of each month. This can be for any Legion Family event so please feel free to add events from your Post by emailing the information to me at bkoch1991@gmail.com. This document is also on the www.michiganlegion.org website on the right side, click on Events Calendar. It is also on <http://www.michalaux.org/>, left hand side. It will be updated on the website each Thursday.