



## ERNEST F. OLDENBURG POST 216 MILFORD, MICHIGAN

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2008

Member of MALPA, NALPA

2008 Membership – 390

Ray Chaplin, Editor

### FROM THE COMMANDER: JOHN R. NELSON

#### Post 216 takes several more steps into the 21st Century.

**PROGRESS.** We like when it helps us, and hate it when it makes life more difficult. Well, your Post 216 Executive Committee is focused on the good progress, helping to make life better. And, I have several examples of that good progress that I can proudly share with you.

- ❖ Post 216 is now a wireless internet (wifi) hotspot. At the September meeting, the Executive Committee approved exploring replacing our slow dial-up internet service with high speed internet. And at the same we wanted to make our internet connection accessible to all members and guests. After investigating the costs and difficulty of converting our internet service, we decided at the November membership meeting to approve changing to Comcast high-speed internet and install a wireless network router. It's great; in fact, I am writing this part of the newsletter in Club 216 while I surf the internet.
- ❖ Have you seen the Post 216 webpage recently? If you don't check it several times each month, you'll be missing something. Our webmaster, John Moore, with your help, has been able to add fresh content almost weekly. I am so proud of Post 216, that we are active in our community, that we are helping veterans, that we are involved with important youth programs. There is so much good happening that our webpage never gets stale. Make [www.milfordlegion216.org](http://www.milfordlegion216.org) one of your favorites and check it at least monthly. (You will even be able to read the minutes from our monthly membership meetings and executive committee meetings.)

- ❖ After months of planning and preparation, the project to improve the air quality in Club 216 has begun. Soon, I will be calling a special meeting of the Executive Committee for the purpose of reviewing and getting approval of the project plan and budget. Until that meeting, I don't have anything specific to share. We expect to begin work to remove the ceiling on Saturday February 16. After that, it will be close to non-stop work in the club for approximately 6 weeks. There will be some days that the club will be closed for construction work, but we intend to keep the club operational every day possible. Our goal is to have the project completed well before Memorial Day. Look for updates in the next newsletter.
- ❖ In addition to improvements to air quality in the club, your House Chairman and I have been investigating options to remove the smoke in the Hall, particularly during bingo. By the time of the next newsletter I will be able to give you an update on this improvement too.

It gives me great pleasure to share with you that the membership in Post 216 is growing. We have far exceeded the membership goal that was set for last year, and we are well on our way to making our membership goal for 2008. Even more exciting for me is that we have 29 new members (many of them have never been in the American Legion in any post) since June 1 of last year. That is the most in all of our District, and in the top 2% in all of Michigan. All of you, members of the Legion Family at Post 216, have helped to attract these members, and for that I thank you. One final brag comment on membership – the 18th District, that Post 216 is in, is now the leader of all districts in Michigan, having surpassed its membership goal (which, by the way, was 60 more members than last year).

Election of officers is two months away – in April. The “Annual General Meeting” specified in the Post 216 bylaws will be held on April 15. At that time we will elect officers for the 2008-2009 legion year. I feel it is important to share with each of you the responsibilities of each of the officers of your post - you will find that in later pages of this newsletter. Being an officer is one way of serving Post 216; another way of service is to be part of one of the standing committees, or even to be the committee chairperson. Later in the newsletter you will also find a listing of the Post

216 Committees and a brief explanation of their responsibilities.

Post 216 has had a busy year in 2007, helping veterans and working in our communities. And, we will be just as busy in 2008. The work of serving veterans does not stop, and we will keep helping for as long as we are needed.

SERVICE TO VETERANS AND HAVING FUN TOGETHER. THAT IS OUR FOCUS IN 2008.

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### **Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion**

*(Part 2 of a series)*

*“To inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation;”*

Though the words of the Preamble were written with the military service veteran in mind, they fit for all citizens and members of our society. In this second installment of my series on the Preamble, I'll examine the American Legion role in leading our communities to be better citizens.

Citizenship has responsibilities, or obligations. We may take some of these obligations for granted, like *driving safely in traffic, paying taxes*. We do them because the consequences of ignoring them are too painful to consider. But other obligations as citizens seem to need more prompting. Some examples are *voting, participating in local government, contacting elected representatives and local officials to express concerns and opinions, observing National Holidays and patriotic events, understanding our national history and how our government functions*. Citizenship training begins with our youth, and it is something that we continually reinforce with even the adults in our villages and towns.

One of my earliest memories in the grade school classroom is standing and reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. In those years, we even sang a patriotic song each school day before beginning work on our lessons. We learned of service to our school, our town,

and our nation. We learned about government by the people. This early example of citizenship training formed the foundation upon which my own strong sense of patriotic obligation is built. That same citizenship training is still repeated in many places in our country, but not in every classroom or living room.

The American Legion and Post 216 can help fill the gap where teachers and parents may not have time or resources to give our community's youth the same training we had. In the months and years ahead, Post 216 has the opportunity to expand its role in the community with activities like helping citizens get to the voting polls, helping our schools and groups like the Boy Scouts to teach our youth about citizenship and government, taking a lead in disaster preparedness and response, and informing the adult population in our communities about important issues coming before our State Legislature and Congress. Each of these topics is actively supported by the American Legion National Executive Council. And the E.F. Oldenburg Post 216 of the American Legion can help the Huron Valley area by taking a leadership roll in some or all of these important activities. Leading by example, the American Legion shows the citizens of our communities how to fulfill their obligations of citizenship.

## **The American Legion “Four Pillars of Service”**

(Part 2 of a series)

- *A Strong National Security*
- *Taking Care of Veterans*<sup>9</sup>
- *Mentoring Youth*
- *Promoting Patriotism*

“The founders of The American Legion realized that exercising the responsibilities of citizenship and enhancing loyalty to America were key ingredients in preserving what they fought for. Today, that effort to create better citizens and cultivate loyalty – patriotism – is carried on in the many programs under the heading of “Americanism.”

“Americanism is an unfailing love of country, loyalty to its institutions and ideals, eagerness to defend it against all enemies, individual allegiance to the Flag, and a desire to secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity.

“Our forefathers laid the foundation for a civilization that is the envy of the world. It has brought us greater spiritual and material wealth than any people has ever known. This is our heritage. The many Americanism programs of The American Legion are designed to acknowledge and preserve that heritage, recognizing all of the inalienable rights of man.

“Developing good citizens and instilling patriotism in our youngest Americans is a large part of the important work of The American Legion. And it is done through programs like:

- American Legion Baseball
- The American Legion and Scouting
- American Legion Shooting Program
- American Legion Boys State and Boys Nation
- The American Legion National High School Oratorical Contest
- The American Legion Flag Education Program
- The American Legion School and Student Programs”

You can learn more about this at the national website also ([www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org))



## OFFICERS OF POST 216

As we prepare for the coming election of officers in April, it is important to be reminded of the duties and responsibilities given to those whom we will elect to lead Post 216. Here are excerpts from the installation ceremony, found in the Officers Manual, and the portion of our own Post 216 Constitution and Bylaws which describes each officer position. The post member who currently serves in each position is also named. Each member should carefully consider where he or she can best serve Post 216, including taking the mantle of responsibility, for a time, as one of the post officers.

### **Commander**

JOHN NELSON

*“....entrusted....duty....of teaching and protecting the cardinal principles of The American Legion throughout your entire Post supervision of the duties of all other officers of the Pos....duty to see that no worthy comrade is turned away without full justice duty to see that Freedom is ever the watchword of those with whom you may come in contact....”*

### **Section 1. Commander**

He shall preside at all meetings of the Post and as Chief Executive Officer shall have a general supervision over the business and other affairs of the Post....He shall perform such other duties as directed by the Post.



### **SR. VICE COMMANDER**

TONY PUENTE

*“....should....interest yourself in the membership of the Post....will be the exponent of means of safeguarding the honor of the Flag of our Country .... are the teacher of ‘Democracy’.”*

### **Section 2. Senior Vice Commander**

He shall assume the duties of the Commander in the absence or disability of or when called upon by the Commander. He shall have charge of the enrollment of the Post membership and perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Commander.



### **JR. VICE COMMANDER**

TODD HERRON

*“....should be interested in patriotic observances of all kinds, in developing Post activities, and in the entertainment features which mark all meetings... The applications of Justice will be your particular concern.”*

### **Section 3. Junior Vice Commander**

He shall assume the duties of the Commander in the absence of both the Commander and Senior Vice Commander. He shall especially interest himself in the Americanism and Community Service, Education and Youth Activities of the Post by stimulating the work of those committees. He shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Commander.



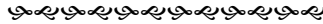
### **Financial Officer**

RON NEVORSKI

*“....keeper of the moneys and (responsible for) the financial policy of the Post....year’s budget and .... payment of all obligations when proper authorization has been given for such payment. Your position demand(s) integrity and honesty....”*

### **Section 5. Finance Officer**

He shall have charge of all funds of the Post, which he shall keep deposited in a local bank or as otherwise directed by the Post. He shall keep the accounts of the General Fund, Welfare and other Special Funds under separate headings. He shall make all payments of Post monies by check but only after having received written authorization from the Post Adjutant or the Post Commander. He shall submit a written report at least once each month of the transactions and the financial condition of the Post. He shall be bonded in such sum as fixed by the Post.



### **Chaplain**

BOB JANOSKA

*“....spiritual leadership of this Post.... You should be in close confidence with the Commander and the other officers of this Post, and should attend all meetings of the Post. You should be ready upon occasion to take your part in the initiation of new members, the dedication of halls, ....and the funeral services for a comrade....Into your keeping we place the spirit of comradeship of this Post....”*

### **Section 7. Post Chaplain**

He shall render the opening prayer at all meetings and render non-sectarian services at all funerals, dedications or other functions where the Post is called upon to officiate. He shall adhere to such ceremonials as are recommended by the Department and National organizations. He should especially interest himself in members reported sick or in distress through bereavement.



### **Sergeant-at-Arms**

SKIP DAVISON

*“....the sentinel...., the outer guard of this Post. You will guard especially against the loss of one of The American Legion’s greater possessions—our deep and abiding spirit of comradeship. You will learn the identity of and introduce to the Commander all visiting comrades and guests of the Post. You are responsible that no one shall remain a stranger in our midst....Into your hands is given charge of the stand of colors which you will properly display at all Post meetings and on ceremonial occasions.”*

### **Section 8. Sergeant-at-Arms**

He shall vouch for the Legion Membership of persons attending Post meetings. He shall introduce new members or visiting comrades and report to the Commander any non-members that may be present and the purpose of their presence. He shall be custodian for all Post Colors and have them properly placed at all meetings and perform such other duties as may be assigned him by the Commander.



### **Historian**

MURRAY BURLEY

*“.... responsibility of preserving and compiling the records of this Post....”*

### **Section 6. Post Historian**

He shall be charged with keeping the Historical Records of the Post and its members, making an annual addition of the Post History of the activities and incidents of interest during his term of office.



**Executive Committee Member**

BOB GODWIN, JIM HUNTER, JACK WINDER

*“The administrative affairs of this Post of The American Legion shall, except as may be otherwise provided by the By-Laws, be under the supervision of an Executive Committee which shall consist of . . . . members in addition to the officers of the Post.”*

**Section 1. The Executive Committee**

The Executive Committee shall be composed of all the Officers, a representative of the Auxiliary selected by the Unit, a representative of the Sons of The American Legion selected by the Squadron, three (3) elected members and the immediate Past Commander, who shall have no vote. They shall be charged with the administration affairs of the Post except as otherwise provided for. They shall be at the call of the Commander or the joint request of three or more members of the Executive Committee to deal with emergency matters concerning the Post. Five (5) members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum and all their actions shall be subject to the approval of the members of the Post.



**Judge Advocate** (appointed)

BOB JANOSKA

*“....the interpreter of the Constitution and By-Laws of your Post, ....may be called upon to rule on the legality of actions and decisions....charged with protecting the integrity of our organization.....”*



**Adjutant** (appointed)

CHUCK HOOBLER

**Section 4. Adjutant**

He shall keep a record of the minutes of all regular and special meetings, which shall be presented for review or read at the next following meeting. He shall handle all correspondence and keep files of the Post including such records as the District, Department or National Organizations may require. He shall issue warrants to the Finance Officer authorizing all expenditure only after such payments have been authorized by the Post.



## COMMITTEES OF POST 216

In addition to opportunities to serve as an officer, there are many committees of Post 216. Through their work we insure the success of the post. The Post Commander is continually concerned with having the right person as an appointed committee chairman. This should be a person who has a passion for the subject, and who can devote the time to making a difference for Post 216 in the community.

Committee Chairpersons are appointed by the Commander, and voted upon by the membership, at the June meeting. Shown below is a summary of what each committee is responsible to accomplish, as excerpted from the Post 216 Constitution and Bylaws. Also shown is the post member(s) who currently serves as Chairman.

**Section 1. Membership Committee** Typically Sr. Vice Commander (BRUCE HAYDEN)

The chairman shall be, when possible, the Senior Vice Commander....charged with forming committee to obtain New Members, renewal Old Members, examine the credentials of applicants and report the eligibility of all applicants.

**Section 2. Service and Rehabilitation** Service Officer - BRUCE HAYDEN

The Chairman of this committee shall be known as the Post Service Officer and shall handle all matters pertaining to service comrades in the prosecution of just claims against the State or Federal Governments under the various Veterans' Benefits Laws. He shall handle all cases of emergency need for medical or other relief for Veterans or their families in the Post area that may be brought to his attention. He may appoint one or two assistants to aid him in his work

**Section 3. Child Welfare** Vice Commander - TODD HERRON

The Chairman of this Committee shall keep close observation of all activities pertaining to child welfare in the community. He shall work in close co-operation with the Post Auxiliary and other local child welfare agencies. He shall render assistance to needy Veterans' children when such need is brought to his attention. He shall furnish an Annual Child Welfare Report to the District and Department Child Welfare Chairman.

**Section 4. Americanism** Vice Commander - TODD HERRON

The Chairman of this Committee shall be charged with stimulating Patriotism, Community Service, Education and Youth Activities and shall work in close co-operation with the various Chairmen of the above Committees. He shall complete and file the Annual Americanism and Post Activities Report with and through the Post Commander to the Department and National Organizations.

**Section 5. Education** Education (JOHN ROBINSON) / Scholarship (SKIP DAVISON)

The Chairman of this Committee should co-operate with the various schools in the Post area promoting the American Legion Programs such as teaching of flag etiquette, presentation of American Legion School Award Medals and Trophies, National Oratorical Contest, Guy M. Wilson and National American Legion Scholarships, National Education Week and observance for all Patriotic Occasions.

**Section 6. Boy Scouts** Vice Commander (TONY PUENTE)

This Committee shall assist in the organization and operation of a Post sponsored Boy Scout Troop. They shall make recommendations to the Post Members for the betterment of the Troop and report its progress at regular Post meetings.

**Section 7. Junior Baseball** Vice Commander (TONY PUENTE)

This Committee shall assist in the organization and operation of a Post sponsored Junior Baseball Team and shall work in close co-operation with other co-sponsoring groups to promote good sportsmanship and stimulate community interest in this activity.

**Section 8. Wolverine Boys State** BOB JANOSKA

The Chairman of this activity shall make recommendations for sponsoring boys to the annual assembly, work with other organizations wishing to sponsor boys, arrange for the selection of boys through the school faculty and see that Registration and other necessary details are complied with.

**Section 9. National Security and Un-American Activities** SCOTT HIIPAKKA

The Chairman of this joint activity shall appoint his Committee to work closely with the Local Civil Defense organizations to promote the Legion programs on National Defense and the combating of all subversive and un-American activities.

**Section 10. Publicity and Public Relations** JOE SALVIA

The Chairman of this activity shall promote public support by keeping them informed of the Legion programs and Post Activities through the local and nearby newspapers and work in co-operation with National and Department publications.

**Section 11. Finance Audit Committee** Financial Officer (RON NEVORSKI)

This Committee shall be composed of at least three (3) members who shall be charged with keeping constant surveillance of all matters pertaining to the finances of the Post. It shall prepare the annual budget recommendations, conduct the annual audit of the financial records, shall prepare and file the Annual Income Report and the Michigan Corporation and Securities Commission Report.

**Section 13. Other Committees**

The Commander shall appoint any other Committee that may be deemed necessary by a majority vote of members present at any regular meeting.

Ceremonial-Honors Team –	JOHN MOORE
Poppy -	BOB JANOSKA
Memorial Day Parade –	JOE SALVIA
Webmaster & Technology–	JOHN MOORE

Chairpersons for three committees are selected by the Executive Committee. Those committees are:

**Bingo Committee** (BRUCE HAYDEN, JIM HUNTER)

The Bingo Committee shall consist of a Bingo Chairman and Co-Chairman. They shall be responsible for assigning necessary workers, purchasing necessary supplies and equipment pertaining to Bingo. They shall be responsible for filing a Michigan State Lottery Report. They will transfer funds from the Bingo account as he deems necessary or as directed by the Executive Committee.

**Clubroom Committee** (BOB JANOSKA, MIKE McDONNELL, FRED MORIN)

The Clubroom Committee shall consist of two (2) or more Co-Chairmen who shall have the responsibility of managing the Post Clubroom in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Michigan Liquor Control Commission. They shall make all necessary purchases, pay all necessary bills and take care of all maintenance of Clubroom equipment. They shall hire all bartenders and necessary help, and shall pay all wages, in accordance with Michigan Employment Securities Commission regulations and shall keep record of same. They shall submit a written monthly report to the membership at a regular Post meeting.

It shall be responsibility of the Clubroom Chairmen to take any disciplinary action, when necessary, against any member or guest for any infraction of Clubroom Rules. It shall be the responsibility of the Bartender(s) to refuse service to any members or guest who in his or her opinion had enough to drink.

Each member shall be responsible for the conduct of his or her guest at all times. Guest of Post members shall not have the privileges of the Clubroom after the member departs from the Post.

**House Management Committee** (RON NEVORSKI)

This committee shall be composed of at least three (3) members who shall be charged with the management, maintenance and upkeep of the Legion Memorial Home, furniture, equipment and other property. It shall have charge of all arrangements for allowing the use of the Memorial Home and Property by other organizations or individuals, subject to rules and policies set up by the Post.



## Membership 2008



### CHARLES L. HOOBLER ADJUTANT

My fellow Legionnaires,

We have made great progress in the past 2 months toward our 2008 Membership Goal of 390 members. However we still have work to do. We are 9 members short of our goal. Our membership statistics as of the January 2008 Meeting are as follows:

Paid Members-----	299
Honorary Life Members-----	43
PUFL (Paid Up For Life)-----	24
Military Members-----	15
Total-----	381
Short-----	9
Goal for 2008-----	390

We have 59 members who have not renewed their membership yet. If you are one please send your 2008 dues to Bruce Hayden our Membership Chairman or % of Bruce to Post 216. If you cannot pay your dues at this time for any reason please contact Bruce or me and we will work to assist you if possible.



Our goal of course is to surpass the 2008 goal and build the strength of our Post. In this way we can provide even greater support to our many projects and fellow veterans.

On a positive note I am told that our new membership numbers have qualified Post 216 for a cash award from Department of Michigan. Congratulations to everyone. Without everyone supporting the recruitment of new members we could never have achieved this milestone.

You can obtain, and turn in the Membership Applications along with a copy of the applicants DD Form 214, or discharge documentation, and their \$40.00 check or money order (first year dues) at the Post, to Bruce Hayden, or at the Meeting in February.

Let's keep membership foremost in our minds and reach our goal this month.

Charles L. Hoobler  
Adjutant (248) 889-2301 or (248) 207-0050



## **Membership Renewal for 2009**

### **BRUCE M. HAYDEN SERVICE OFFICER**

It's that time again – American Legion Department of Michigan will start sending out renewal membership notices for the upcoming year. The membership dues are as follows:

- Legionnaire Membership .....\$40.00
- 65 years of age with at least 5 years in Post 216.....\$35.00
- Honorary Life Membership is granted to Members who have completed 30 years in Post 216, and dues will then be paid by the post.
- Active duty Military Personnel dues are paid by the post. Please send your renewal notice with current mailing address. If no longer on active duty, dues will be as stated above.
- Members who transferred in during or after March 1, 2007, will receive notices from their previous post, however, dues should be paid directly to Post 216.
- New members who joined after March 1, 2007, may not receive a notice, but should send their dues for 2008 to Post 216.
- Paid Up For Live Membership (PUFL) – contact Membership Chairman for cost:  
Bruce M. Hayden – 248-684-6838  
Service Officer

**ALL CHECKS SHOULD BE  
MADE PAYABLE TO:  
American Legion Post 216**

## CEREMONIAL TEAM

JOHN MOORE

CEREMONIAL COORDINATOR

### Summary for 2007

The Honor and Color Guard teams which make up our Ceremonial Unit were very busy during the year 2007. Sadly we started out the year with a memorial service, for our friend and comrade Peter Spier. Peter was a Past Commander, a District Officer, and former U.S. Coast Guard Petty Officer. There was a large turnout of friends and relatives that afternoon to honor and remember Peter.

The Honor Guard provided military honors for eighty (80) veterans and their families during the year. Fifty six (56) were held at the Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly where the team provides firing team support on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month. The other twenty four (24) ceremonies were held at various local cemeteries and/or funeral homes in the area.

Through the generous contributions we have received, and the matching funds the Post provided, the team was able to purchase winter boots, hats, and gloves for our 20 members. These uniform additions proved to be invaluable when we were selected to provide both a color guard, and a rifle team for December's "Wreaths across America" ceremony at the Great Lakes National Cemetery. It was one of the coldest and snowiest days we have ever spent in Holly.

The Post Color Guard was also busy leading the Memorial Day, 4<sup>th</sup> of July, Homecoming, Veterans Day, and Christmas parades in Milford. They also provide color guards for the High School graduations, Relay for Life, baseball opening ceremonies, and other community events.

Members of the ceremonial team visited Independence Village to honor their veterans, and provided a "Former POW/MIA Recognition Day" ceremony for a POW veteran at Milford Park Place. Visitations to area nursing homes were part of the Memorial Day activities.



"Wreaths Across America" at Great Lakes Cemetery





“Wreaths Across America” at Great Lakes Cemetery

Many individual members took part in Color Guards supporting The Paralyzed Veterans of America Salute to Veterans, the Athletes with Disabilities fundraiser, and the Redford Theater Salute to Veterans.

Thanks to each of our members for making these events so meaningful for veterans and their

families, and to the communities and organizations we support.

Also, we want to thank the Post and its leadership for the continued support and encouragement they provide.



“The Paralyzed Veterans of America Salute to Veterans”



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### Children's Christmas Party 2007



My thanks to one and all! Great Job!

For all the wonderful helpers taking the time to be here for the kids. Great surprise always, Santa Claus, thanks for coming. Big Thanks to Milford Police Department for coming and finger printing super job!

Sincerely

Thank You

Pam LaClair, Auxiliary 2nd. Vice President

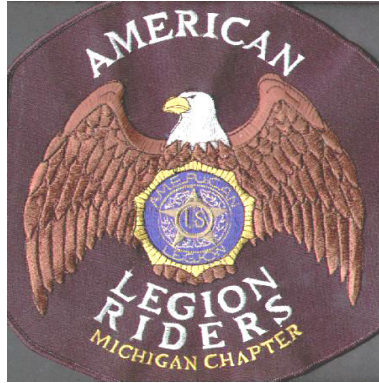


### NOTABLE EVENTS

- Thursday Night Hamburgers -5 pm - 8 pm. Kitchen help always needed. Sign up your name on the calendar in the kitchen if you would like to help.
- The SAL will put on a fish dinner Good Friday, March 21, 2008. Details will be posted in February.
- The SAL is sponsoring another Tiger Baseball Game/Casino bus trip this spring. The date is Saturday April 26, 2008. The suite package will be used again. Trip details and the sign up sheet will be posted in the clubroom.



Children's Easter Party will be held on Sunday March 9th at the American Legion Post 216 from 10:00am till noon.



Hello and Happy New Year! The Riders have been busy since our last news letter. Some of the more notable things we have been up to include the open to all Legion members Christmas Party where we supplied food and drinks at no charge to all that attended. This was the first time we have done this and we had decent attendance. We would have of course liked to see more of the total American Legion Membership take advantage of this no cost event.

We also just completed our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Beach Party that's open to the public as a fund raiser. We had a live band, food and an open bar. This is starting to become a well known event in the area. Our attendance however was down slightly from the past two years, but we did raise funds and had a great time. I would like to thank all the ALR members that helped put this party on and also thank all who attended. This is our major fund raiser and allows use to operate and donate to other Legion backed programs.

Our riding season will soon be here and our elections are coming in March – April. Many of our officers have been in position now since the beginning in 2003. It would be great to see others get more involved.

This should prove to be a great year as we are getting better at planning rides and events as each year goes by.

As you may know, a part of the membership rules for the Riders are they must first be members of Legion, Auxiliary, and SAL members. We now have approximately 40 members, many of which are new to Post 216 and have been drawn here because of the Riders group. Several of these new members have become officers in the Legion, Auxiliary, and SAL. I'm proud to be associated with this "can do" group and welcome all current Post 216 members that would like to ride to talk to any of us if there is a interest.

MotorEZ,

Andy Russell  
Director,  
American Legion Riders #216



## 111TH FIGHTER SQUADRON CELEBRATES ITS 90<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

The Texas Air National Guard's 111th Fighter Squadron, attached to the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, celebrated its 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary by giving one of its F-16C a special paint job.



All the colors and markings have specific meanings, reflecting the unit's nine-decade history.

- ❖ The rudder is painted like a JN-4 Jenny, which the squadron flew in the 1920s.
- ❖ The schemes for the wings and flaps recall the paint schemes of the pre-World War II era.
- ❖ The blue fuselage represents the era between WWI and WWII.
- ❖ The gray underside represents the jet age.
- ❖ The "N5 A" was the insignia the squadron's P-51 Mustangs sported during World War II, in which the squadron claimed 44 air victories. Also representing World War II is the star on the fuselage, while the star on the wing represents the pre-World War II era.
- ❖ "Ace in the Hole" and the star on the tail replicate the markings of the squadron's F-84s during the Korean War.





The 111th Fighter Squadron began as the 111th Aero Squadron on 14 August 1917 at Kelly Field, TX. The unit, composed of teamsters and laborers, was on special duty at Kelly and was known as the "Post Headquarters Squadron." The squadron deactivated 19 August 1919 but was called to service again on 29 June 1923 in the old Houston Light Guard Armory, as the 111th Observation Squadron, 36th Division, Texas Air National Guard.

The squadron had no airplanes, so the hot summer of 1923 was devoted to close-order drill and classroom sessions. That was remedied, however, in September of that year when the 111th became airborne in the Curtiss JN-6H.

In September 1927 the Curtiss JN-6Hs were retired and the squadron gained PT-1s and several other trainers until June 1928 when new O-2 observation aircraft arrived. These planes were replaced with new O-38 Douglas operation planes in January 1931.

By 1938 the squadron was flying both O-43As and O-47s.

With the onset of World War II, the unit was called into federal service 25 November 1940 and trained with the 36th Division until it was sent to the Mexican border after Pearl Harbor was bombed. The border patrol was short, and on 14 February 1942 the squadron left Texas for Augusta, GA, and became part of the 68th Observation Group.

By November 1942 the squadron was in Europe. During 23 months of continuous combat flying, from June 1943 through May 1945, the 111th Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron flew 3,840 reconnaissance missions. While keeping Army Headquarters informed of enemy movements, the 111th destroyed 44 enemy aircraft, damaged 29 others and claimed 12 probable kills. The squadron received eight Battle Stars and the Presidential Unit Citation for its World War II accomplishments. The squadron also served during the Korean War, flying mostly close-air support and interdiction missions and destroying two MiG-15 fighter jets.

Between 1952 and 1959 the squadron flew many aircraft, to include the F-80, F-86D and F-86L. In August 1960 the unit became one of the first to transition to the F-102A all-weather fighter interceptor and began a 24-hour alert to guard the Texas Gulf coast. By January 1970 the wing was starting a new mission: training all F-102 pilots in the United States for the Air National Guard.

On 6 May 1971 the unit received F-101F fighter interceptors and became the training center for all Air Guard interceptors. In August 1974, after 14 years of service, the unit's F-102s were retired, but the unit maintained a full fleet of F-101s.

The squadron converted to F-4Cs in 1982 and converted to F-4Ds starting in November 1986.

In September 1989 the 111th converted to the F-16A, and by June 1992 the jets were being converted to F-16 air defense fighters, later converting to F-16Cs beginning in September 1996; a transition completed by February 1997.

For more information browse these websites:

[http://www.txelli.ang.af.mil/111th\\_History.aspx](http://www.txelli.ang.af.mil/111th_History.aspx)

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/111th\\_Fighter\\_Squadron](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/111th_Fighter_Squadron)

Acknowledgements: Photos courtesy of 147<sup>th</sup> FW/111<sup>th</sup> FS; History from Wikipedia



## USS NAUTILUS (SSN 571)



Construction of NAUTILUS was made possible by the successful development of a nuclear propulsion plant by a group of scientists and engineers at the Naval Reactors Branch of the Atomic Energy Commission, under the leadership of Captain Hyman G. Rickover, USN.

In July of 1951, Congress authorized construction of the world's first nuclear powered submarine. On December 12th of that year, the Navy Department announced that she would be the sixth ship of the fleet to bear the name NAUTILUS. Her keel was laid by President Harry S. Truman at the Electric Boat Shipyard in Groton, Connecticut on June 14, 1952.



After nearly 18 months of construction, NAUTILUS was launched on January 21, 1954 with First Lady Mamie Eisenhower breaking the traditional bottle of champagne across NAUTILUS' bow as she slid down the ways into the Thames River. Eight months later, on September 30, 1954, NAUTILUS became the first commissioned nuclear powered ship in the United States Navy.

On the morning of January 17, 1955, at 11 am EST, NAUTILUS' first Commanding Officer, Commander Eugene P. Wilkinson, ordered all lines cast off and signaled the memorable and historic message, "Underway on Nuclear Power." Over the next several years, NAUTILUS shattered all submerged speed and distance records.

On July 23, 1958, NAUTILUS departed Pearl Harbor, Hawaii under top secret orders to conduct "Operation Sunshine", the first crossing of the North Pole by a ship. At 11:15 pm on August 3, 1958, NAUTILUS' second Commanding Officer, Commander William R. Anderson, announced to his crew, "For the world, our country, and the Navy - the North Pole." With 116 men aboard, NAUTILUS had accomplished the "impossible", reaching the geographic North Pole - 90 degrees north.

In May 1959, NAUTILUS entered Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Kittery, Maine for her first complete overhaul - the first of any nuclear powered ship - and the replacement of her second fuel core. Upon completion of her overhaul in August 1960, NAUTILUS departed for a period of refresher training, then deployed to the Mediterranean Sea to become the first nuclear powered submarine assigned to the U.S. Sixth Fleet.

Over the next six years, NAUTILUS participated in several fleet exercises while steaming over 200,000 miles. In the spring of 1966, she again entered the record books when she logged her 300,000th mile underway. During the following 12 years, NAUTILUS was involved in a variety of developmental testing programs while continuing to serve alongside many of the more modern nuclear powered submarines she had preceded.

In the spring of 1979, NAUTILUS set out from Groton, Connecticut on her final voyage. She reached Mare Island Naval Shipyard, Vallejo, California on May 26, 1979 - her last day underway. She was decommissioned on March 3, 1980 after a career spanning 25 years and over half a million miles steamed.

In recognition of her pioneering role in the practical use of nuclear power, NAUTILUS was designated a National Historic Landmark by the Secretary of the Interior on May 20, 1982. Following an extensive historic ship conversion at Mare Island Naval Shipyard, NAUTILUS was towed to Groton, Connecticut arriving on July 6, 1985.

On April 11, 1986, eighty-six years to the day after the birth of the Submarine Force, Historic Ship NAUTILUS, joined by the Submarine Force Museum, opened to the public as the first and finest exhibit of its kind in the world, providing an exciting, visible link between yesterday's Submarine Force and the Submarine Force of tomorrow.



The small ring is the diameter of the first submarine while the outer ring is the diameter of the modern submarines.

### **Ships Named Nautilus**

NAUTILUS first appeared on the Navy roles in 1803 as a schooner of twelve guns. She was in the Mediterranean during the campaign against the Barbary pirates. She saw service until captured by the British at the outbreak of the War of 1812. NAUTILUS next appeared as another schooner which was commissioned in 1847 and played a role in the war with Mexico. In 1911 the name NAUTILUS made its appearance in the submarine force, although later that year her name was changed to H-2. She saw service until 1922. During World War I the name and tradition were carried on by a Motor Patrol Boat commissioned in 1917 and assigned to patrol and escort duty. The fifth NAUTILUS (SS 168) was built at Mare Island Naval Shipyard, California in 1930 and was one of the largest submarines ever built for our Navy. During World War II in the Pacific, NAUTILUS quickly established a reputation that was to characterize her service through the next three years of combat. On her very first patrol she sank the Japanese Aircraft Carrier SORYU that had been damaged by aerial attacks.

For more information visit the Submarine Force Museum website at

[www.submarinemuseum.com](http://www.submarinemuseum.com). They have a cool virtual tour of the submarine.



## DID YOU KNOW?

For a long time it was thought that the Merchant Marines had no accompanying music like the other military branches as we are all familiar with. Well, after a little bit of surfing the internet it revealed that Lieut. (jg) Jack Lawrence, USMS, wrote a song title “Heave Ho! My Lads! Heave Ho” in 1943. The lyrics follow below. You can hear the music at the Merchant Marine website <http://www.usmm.org> .

### Heave Ho! My Lads! Heave Ho!

#### VERSE

Give us the oil, give us the gas  
Give us the shells, give us the guns.  
We'll be the ones to see them thru.  
Give us the tanks, give us the planes.  
Give us the parts, give us a ship.  
Give us a hip hoo-ray!  
And we'll be on our way.

#### CHORUS

Heave Ho! My Lads, Heave Ho!  
It's a long, long way to go.  
It's a long, long pull with our hatches full,  
Braving the wind, braving the sea,  
Fighting the treacherous foe;  
Heave Ho! My lads, Heave Ho!  
Let the sea roll high or low,  
We can cross any ocean, sail any river.  
Give us the goods and we'll deliver,  
Damn the submarine!  
We're the men of the Merchant Marine!

© Leeds Music Corporation



## Puzzle Page

### Word Search – Ship Ahoy

U	E	R	E	P	P	I	L	C	R	E	D	N	E	T
S	K	F	E	R	R	Y	R	E	N	O	O	H	C	S
P	A	K	R	N	U	E	G	U	V	F	X	F	F	K
N	Y	Z	F	E	I	G	Y	T	S	A	F	N	T	R
P	A	W	K	R	I	L	U	D	T	R	R	I	E	A
I	K	M	R	R	C	G	T	B	E	E	E	A	K	B
H	U	A	T	D	A	A	H	L	A	L	W	O	C	S
S	C	U	U	N	N	X	I	T	M	W	B	A	A	L
H	O	T	W	K	A	O	R	M	E	A	R	C	P	O
Y	J	G	E	R	L	H	I	E	R	R	J	A	A	O
P	R	R	G	K	B	L	C	G	L	T	T	N	F	P
Z	V	O	N	V	O	P	E	R	U	A	M	O	A	T
Z	S	U	D	P	A	D	D	L	E	W	H	E	E	L
Y	J	P	U	N	T	H	C	A	Y	M	Y	W	J	M
M	G	L	L	Z	N	O	N	H	C	N	U	A	L	T

ARGOSY  
BARGE  
BARK  
CANAAL BOAT  
CANOE  
CARAVEL  
CARRIER  
CLIPPER  
DORY

FERRY  
FREIGHTER  
JUNK  
KAYAK  
KETCH  
LAUNCH  
LINER  
MERCHANT MAN  
OILER

OUTRIGGER  
PACKET  
PADDLE WHEEL  
PUNT  
RAFT  
SCHOONER  
SCOW  
SHIP  
SKIFF

SLOOP  
STEAMER  
TANKER  
TENDER  
TRAWLER  
TUG  
WHALER  
YACHT

### SUDOKU

			9		1			
6				4				3
		1	6		8	5		
5		8				9		2
	6		2		5		8	
9		2				6		7
		9	8		7	2		
1				2				9
			4		9			

## Veteran Links

The American Legion Post 216	<a href="http://www.milfordlegion216.org">www.milfordlegion216.org</a>
The American Legion National Website	<a href="http://www.legion.org">http://www.legion.org</a>
The American Legion State of Michigan Website	<a href="http://www.michiganlegion.org/">http://www.michiganlegion.org/</a>
The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Website	<a href="http://www.vfw.org">http://www.vfw.org</a>
The AMVETS National Website	<a href="http://www.amvets.org">http://www.amvets.org</a>
The Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA) Website	<a href="http://www.michiganpva.org/">http://www.michiganpva.org/</a>
The Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Website	<a href="http://www.dav.org/">http://www.dav.org/</a>
The Viet Nam Veterans of America (VVA) Website	<a href="http://www.vva.org/">http://www.vva.org/</a>
The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)	<a href="http://www.va.gov/">http://www.va.gov/</a>
The Great Lakes National Cemetery Website	<a href="http://www.cem.va.gov/CEM/cems/nchp/greatlakes.asp">http://www.cem.va.gov/CEM/cems/nchp/greatlakes.asp</a>
The National Archives (Veterans Records)	<a href="http://www.archives.gov/veterans/evetrecs/index.html">http://www.archives.gov/veterans/evetrecs/index.html</a>
American Battle Monuments Commission (Overseas cemeteries and monuments.	
Very interesting stuff)	<a href="http://www.abmc.gov/home.php">http://www.abmc.gov/home.php</a>
Department of Defense	<a href="http://www.defenselink.mil">www.defenselink.mil</a>

## Puzzle Page Answers

U	E	R	E	P	P	I	L	C	R	E	D	N	E	Y
S	R	E	R	R	Y	J	E	N	O	O	H	C	S	
P	A	K	R	N	U	E	G	U	V	F	X	F	F	K
N	Y	Z	F	E	Y	T	S	A	F	N	T	R		
I	A	W	K	R	T	L	U	D	T	R	I	E	A	
I	R	M	R	R	G	C	B	E	E	E	A	K	B	
U	A	T	D	A	A	H	L	A	L	W	O			
S	U	U	N	N	X	I	T	M	W	R	A	A	L	
H	T	W	K	A	O	F	M	E	A	R	O	F	O	
Y	J	G	E	R	L	H	I	E	R	J	A	A	O	
P	R	G	K	B	L	C	G	L	T	T	N	F	P	
Z	V	O	N	V	O	P	E	R	U	A	M	O	A	T
Z	S	U	D	A	D	D	L	E	W	N	E	E		
V	J	R	U	N	T	H	C	A	Y	M	Y	V	J	M
M	G	L	L	Z	N	O	N	H	C	N	U	A	L	T

2	5	4	9	3	1	7	6	8
6	8	7	5	4	2	1	9	3
3	9	1	6	7	8	5	2	4
5	1	8	7	6	4	9	3	2
7	6	3	2	9	5	4	8	1
9	4	2	1	8	3	6	5	7
4	3	9	8	5	7	2	1	6
1	7	5	3	2	6	8	4	9
8	2	6	4	1	9	3	7	5

## Moving? Address Change?

Don't miss a single copy of your post newsletter. Fill out the form below and mail to:  
Bruce Hayden, C/O American Legion Post 216, 510 W. Commerce, Milford, Mi 48381

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Member of: \_\_\_\_ Legion \_\_\_\_ Auxiliary \_\_\_\_ SAL  
Old Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
New Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_