



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS Sgt. Alvin Jonker Post 2326

20 N. FIRST STREET • GRAND HAVEN, MI 49417
Phone: 616.842.6210 • Website: www.vfwpost2326.org

January
February
March

2016

POST OFFICERS

Commander	Ted Raggl	616.846.4353
Sr. Vice	Jack Maxfield	616.296.2163
Jr. Vice	Al Schmidt	616.502.3747
Quartermaster	Chris Streng	616.402.2115
Adjutant	Roy Schmidt	
Judge Advocate	Terry Grotemat	616.850.2636
Chaplain	Jerry Tripp	616.384.3186
Surgeon	Irving Borta	
Trustee	Jim Porenta	
Trustee	Terry Grotemat	616.850.2636
Trustee	Mike Baauw	231.286.5182



Service Officer
Al Schmidt 616.502.3747
Honor Guard Commander
Al Schmidt 616.502.3747
Facility Rental Managers
Bill & Claudia Schippers 616.846.1102
Ward-Goff Scholarship Director
John Siemion 616.402.3351



VFW AUXILIARY

Debra Hallada	616.846.6964
Sally Kemme	616.846.3949
Mary Parchert	616.847-6427
Judy Brown	616.638.2471
Meg Young	616.846.2418
Anne Parchert	616.842.8034

OFFICE

← President →
← Sr. Vice →
← Jr. Vice →
← Secretary →
← Treasurer →
← Chaplain →

MEN'S AUXILIARY

Dan Raggl	616.846.3946
Bill Schippers	616.846.1102
Dale Henshaw	616.638.5382
Jim Koats	616.402.7766
Brian Schippers	616.846.6062
John Zlotnicki	616.638.0239



CLUB BOARD

Ted Raggl	Chairman
Chris Streng	Treasurer
Terry Grotemat	Trustee
Jack Maxfield	Trustee
Debra Hallada	VFW Aux. Pres.
Dan Raggl	Men's Aux. Pres.
John Siemion	Club Manager

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Happy New Year to all: Hope we all have a great year to come. We start with New Years Day potluck. Come down to eat, drink, and watch football. Bring your friends. Our day starts at noon and ends when my team wins. Ha Ha

If you haven't heard, our volunteer bartender, has been having a very rough year. She has been ill. We really miss her smiling face. We really appreciate all Sally has done for us. While she takes some much needed time off, we will be needing some volunteer bartenders. If you are bored and need some good conversation, please give it a serious thought. Contact John Siemion or Ted Raggl.

Our Soup and Slider is on March 12th. We are thinking of changing it to Tacos. Any input. Ken Kodl has donated 30# of liver to our club. I personally love liver and onions. so we will be having a liver and onions dinner soon. We will be having another food "such as chicken" for those who don't like liver.

A special thanks to the Men's Auxiliary for the draft beer taps they have bought our club. See you soon, Ted

**HONOR GUARD
ACTIVITIES**

Honor Guard Report for the last quarter.

Did 5 Military Rites for deceased veterans.

We attended 14 misc. events including:

1. Greeted the students of Mary White School as they arrived at school on Nov. 11. We also went into each class room to talk to the students.
2. We attended a veterans program put on by C.B.I., which is a school for challenged young adults. Was a great event.
3. Attended the dedication for the Walter Plant Walkway that is part of the new bridge in Nunica.
4. Did a pinning at Heartwood Lodge for 17 veterans.
5. Did a pinning at the Sanctuary at the Oaks for 24 veterans. Was just a VFW program.
6. Did our annual Bell Ringing at Walmart. This helps the Salvation raise funds for people in need. Also had other Post volunteers help us out. Everyone should do this at least once.

Mr. Richard Fought, a long time team member passed away.

I would like to say thanks to the few very dedicated men and women that keep our Post functioning.

Have a very great New Year. You could start the New Year off by joining our Team. We need a few more members, either men or women.

New Years Day Potluck

We will have a Potluck on New Years Day. The bar will open at 12 noon. Bring a dish to pass and watch a variety of College Football Bowl games on our 3 televisions.

Pistol Raffle

The Men's Auxiliary will be raffling off two pistols again with the drawing to be held on Saturday, March 12th. First drawn ticket has first choice.

Tickets will be available from Men's Auxiliary members or at the bar. Tickets are \$10 each or 3 for \$20.

Only 300 tickets will be sold.

JANUARY

Greetings and HAPPY NEW YEAR to all! May you be able to keep all the resolutions you're making.

Have you noticed? We are no longer the "Ladies" Auxiliary. At the National Convention last August it was voted to let eligible men join the Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Welcome aboard!

We are happy to announce that we had a first place winner in the District Eight "**Patriot's Pen**" contest! **Audrey Trucks'** speech has been forwarded to Department in Lansing and will be judged at Mid-Winter Conference. Audrey is a seventh grader at Lakeshore Middle School in Grand Haven. We wish her well in the quest for State! Some of our Auxiliary members will be attending the banquet there on Saturday night, January 23, 2016, in support of Audrey, where awards will be given to the State winners.

The 37th Mid-Winter Conference dates are Friday, January 22, 2016 until Sunday, January 24, 2016 at the *Causeway Bay Lansing*. A full agenda and housing information can be found on the new website: www.vfwauxmi.org. All members are invited to attend.

The Auxiliary has changed the time of our monthly meetings for the months of January, February, and March from 7:00 PM to 3:30 PM. The meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month. Some of us (most of us) have trouble driving at night, especially when the weather is not so great. By April, the meetings will resume at 7:00 in the evening.

The next Auxiliary meeting is Wednesday, January 20, 2016, 3:30 PM

FEBRUARY

Saturday, February 6, is the date for the Eighth District meeting to be held in Otsego at VFW Post #3030.

Dinner will be served at 11:00 AM. The meeting will be held at 1:00 PM. All members are invited to attend both.

Auxiliary meeting Wednesday, February 17, 2016, 3:30 PM

MARCH

Thursday, March 10, the Auxiliary will be cooking their annual **Comed Beef and Cabbage Dinner**. Serving begins at 5:00 PM. There will be a **Basket Raffle** also as a fund raiser. You may donate a basket of "whatever" for people to take a chance on. Last year's baskets contained themes such as: special foods, car safety items, wine and crackers, tea pot and teas, school supplies, pet supplies, Patriotic items, tools and gadgets, etc. Call or email President Deb Hallada if you plan to donate one contact Deb Hallada at 616-846-6964 or angelmay_77@yahoo.com

Turn your clocks ahead one hour on Sunday March 13. Daylight Savings Time begins!

Auxiliary meeting, Wednesday, March 16, 2016, 3:30 PM

Happy **St. Patrick's Day**, Thursday, March 17! Happy **Easter**, Sunday, March 27!

**NEWS FROM
THE CHAPLAIN**

Greetings to all. We find ourselves at the start of a new year. This past year we have transferred many members from their Earthly homes to their Heavenly homes. If each one of us would bring in one new member this year, think of what that would do.

Sharing a quote from Alberto Casing: "When you find yourself in the position to help someone, be happy and feel blessed. God is answering that persons prayer through you. Remember; our purpose on Earth is not to get lost in the dark, but to be a light to others so that they may find a way through us."

God bless, attend your meetings and volunteer.

A big thank you goes out to...

CPT Travis Siemion, VFW Post 2326 and American Legion Post #28. On October 24, 2015, SGT Alvin Jonker VFW Post 2326 and Charles Conklin American Legion Post #28 sponsored a chicken dinner for all that served from 1982 to the present. It was their way of saying welcome home to our service personnel. Guest speaker for the evening was CPT Travis Siemion. CPT Siemion is presently the Commander of Bravo Company, 781st Military Intelligence battalion at Fort George G. Meade MD. CPT Siemion is a member of both SGT Alvin Jonker VFW Post 2326 and Charles Conklin American Legion Post #28 and has been proudly serving his country since 2001.



Jim Koats for all the work you did in repairing the storage barn. It looks great!

VFW Post 2326 Men's Auxiliary for your donation to have the new beer taps installed at the bar.