



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
2014

POST OFFICERS

Commander	Ted Raggl	616.846.4353
Sr. Vice	Jack Maxfield	616.842.9085
Jr. Vice	Al Schmidt	616.502.3747
Quartermaster	Mike Baauw	231.286.5182
Chaplain	Jerry Tripp	616.884.8206



Service Officer
Al Schmidt 616.502.3747
Honor Guard Commander
Al Schmidt 616.502.3747
Facility Rental Managers
Bill & Claudia Schippers 616.846.1102



LADIES AUXILIARY

Carol Verploegh	616.847.8929
Sally Kemme	616.846.3949
Mary Parchert	616.847.6427
Edna McCarthy	616.842.6586
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	
Fred Lemieux	Vice Chairman	3 yr. Term
Mike Baauw	Treasurer	3 yr. Term
Terry Grotemat	Trustee 1	2 yr. Term
	Trustee 2	1 yr. Term
Blane E Shafer	Trustee 3	1 yr. Term

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Hello VFW members It's hard to remember what went on for three months, but here goes.

Our fall fest did not go so well. The weather was rainy and cold and our heaters did not work. All I can say is, we learned some things not to do next time.

A special thanks to Al Schmidt and the honor guard. They did a pinning at Heartwood Lodge and Grand Pines. Our Chaplin Jerry Tripp was one of the speakers and he made us proud.

At the Rib Fest we raised money for the vets. We purchased sweat pants and sweat shirts in xxxx-large and larger sizes. Our friend John Johnson of Apparel Sales got us a great deal on 46 pairs.

Also a big thanks to our bartenders and Bill and Claudia Schippers for their service.

Stop in and see us once in a while.

Ted Raggl

HONOR GUARD ACTIVITIES

Wishing all of you a great new year.

The honor Guard had a busy fourth quarter last year.

1. We did the military rites for several deceased veterans.
2. Did a Flag program for a local scout troop. This was a very rewarding evening.
3. Participated in Pinning of Veterans at both Heartwood Lodge and Pine Wood assisted living care center.
4. Veterans Day we fired in Central Park in a rain storm. We figured that in war time conditions there are no time-outs because of bad weather, so we owed our veterans this Honor to do this event where it is always held. It's too bad only a hand full of people could join us at the park.
5. From a rain storm to a blizzard: Our Team headed up a group of Post members and their family members that again helped the Salvation Army by RINGING-THE-BELL at the south door of Walmart Saturday, December 14. Guess we're nature lovers. This is always a very rewarding experience. If you haven't done this before, try it next year. It's only one hour of your life your donating to help people in our community. You never know, you or your family members may need in the future.
6. Special Thanks to:
 - Our Commander, Ted Raggl. He puts in many, many hours at our Post. He has the guts to try different things to help our Post survive, grow, and prosper.
 - Next is John Siemion. He is doing a great job as bar manager, and is responsible for all the publicity we are now receiving.
 - And then there is Jerry Tripp. You may ask what he does. Well, he is a member of both the Honor Guard and Ritual Teams. Is the Post Chaplin. Has officiated at deceased veterans funerals. Visits veterans at living care centers on a monthly basis, and when they're in the hospital. Always volunteers to Ring the Bell. Also is one of the main organizers at our veterans pinning events. He does all this in his spare time as he is very busy in his life outside of the Post.
 - Last, to everyone that helps out. Without you, our Post would cease to exist.

New Honor Team Members are always welcomed. Give me a call if you want to volunteer a few hours of your time per month.

GOD BLESS the UNITED STATES of AMERICA.

WELLNESS CLINIC

On Tuesday, January 21st starting at 4:00 PM we will be hosting a Wellness Clinic sponsored by Weiss Chiropractic Wellness Center.

This event is open to the public. All we ask is that you either call the Club at 616.842.6210 or sign up at the bar so that we have some idea as to how many will be attending this event.

LADIES AUXILIARY
NEWS

Ladies Auxiliary, January, February, March, 2014

Happy New Year everyone! Hope you all enjoyed your Christmas. It is time to put the holidays behind us and get back to work again!

January:

A big thank you is in order to the knitters who made all the hats, scarves and mittens for the Mitten Tree. Your work is much appreciated! They were donated to the Good Fellows for distribution by the Salvation Army.

We have some talented teenagers in our midst. We are happy to announce that Schaefer Thelen, the winner of the Voice of Democracy essay contest, has taken 1st place in District 8 and will be forwarded to the Dept. of Michigan for State competition. Rebekah Schrader took 2nd place in District 8 in the Patriots Pen essay contest.

State of Michigan Mid-Winter Conference will be held at the Radisson-Plaza Hotel in Kalamazoo on January 23 -25, 2014

Auxiliary meeting, January 15 at 10:30 a.m.

February:

The first District meeting of 2014 will be at the Wayland Post on February 1st. A sit-down dinner will be at 11:00 a.m. Reservations required.

Auxiliary meeting, February 19, 10:30 a.m.

March:

The auxiliary will be cooking a Corned Beef & Cabbage dinner in honor of Saint Patrick's Day. This will be held on Thursday, March 13, 2014 at 5:30 p.m.

Auxiliary meeting, March 19, 10:30 a.m.

FROM THE BAR

We have received our permit to allow us to serve alcoholic beverages on Sunday. This will allow us to not only open on Sundays but also rent out the hall for parties. Check the calendar and notices at the bar for upcoming Sunday events. We have one party booked for a Sunday already.

If you would like to book the hall for a party on Sunday or any other day, please contact Bill or Claudia Schippers at 616.846.1102

We now have a limited supply of Hamm's 12 oz. cans at the bar for \$1 all day, any day. If it sells well, we will carry it all the time.

We also have micro brew on tap. Come on down and try one at special pricing.

While some clubs are raising the prices of their beer and mixed drinks we continue to maintain our pricing and in some cases reduce prices. Please come down and support YOUR club.

NEWS FROM
THE CHAPLAIN

The Christmas holidays have come and gone once again, but I pray that the of Spirit of Christmas will dwell in our hearts all year. Here is a recipe to help make that happen;

Take twelve whole months,
Clean them thoroughly of all bitterness, hate, and jealousy,
Make them just as fresh and clean as possible.

Now cut each month into twenty-eight, thirty, or
thirty-one different parts,
but don't make up the whole batch at once.
Prepare it one day at a time out of these ingredients.

Mix well into each day one part of faith,
one part of patience, one part of courage,
and one part of work.

Add to each day one part of hope,
faithfulness, generosity, and kindness.
Blend with one part prayer,
one part meditation, and one good deed.
Season the whole with a dash of good spirits,
a sprinkle of fun, a pinch of play,
and a cupful of good humor.

Pour all of this into a vessel of love.
Cook thoroughly over radiant joy,
garnish with a smile,
and serve with quietness, unselfishness,
and cheerfulness.

You're bound to have a happy new year.

Food for thought.....

Henry ford said;

"Life is a series of experiences, each of which makes us bigger, even though it is hard to realize this. For the world was built to develop character, and we must learn that the setbacks and grief's which we endure help us in our marching onward."

On the lighter side.....

On New Year's Eve, George was in no shape to drive, so he sensibly left his van in the car park and walked home. As he was wobbling along, he was stopped by a policeman. 'What are you doing out here at four o'clock in the morning?' asked the police officer.

'I'm on my way to a lecture,' answered George.

'And who on earth, in their right mind, is going to give a lecture at this time on New Year's Eve?' enquired the constable sarcastically.

'My wife,' slurred George grimly.

Overheard Jack Maxfield at the Club;

"Going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than standing in a garage makes you a car."

God bless.