



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

October
November
December
2013

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

Well summer is over! What a great summer we had. We have a new window and a new entrance way. We also have some new tables with stools and dedications on them. We have all this because of our successful Ribfest, Coast Guard events and all the people that made it happen. Special thanks to John Kemme who poured the mud for our new entrance way. We also had beer tents and great music. Thank you to our bartenders, they worked very hard as did all our loyal helpers.

Our Men's Auxiliary had a food truck, which helps our community. We fed our Grand Rapids veterans and those from Robbinswood Assisted Living. Thanks to Al Schmidt and all his friends that helped. We also will be donating sweats for our veterans in the GR Veterans home. We also fund a scholarship program for our post.

On October 19 we are having a Fall Festival, starting with breakfast at 8:00 AM, then a grill for lunch, and after that a pig roast at 5:30. Finishing with a beer tent. In the afternoon we have live music. Then starting at 6:30 The Foundation will start playing in our beer tent, followed by Two Heded Chan. Both of these groups went really well during Coast Guard.

We are looking for help on all of these events. Come down and check it out, it should be a great time and please tell your friends and neighbors. It is open to the public.

Your commander, Ted Raggl

HONOR GUARD
ACTIVITIES

Did Military Rites for the following veterans:

Rudy Klopp - Martin Czinder - Charles Nowak - Howard Behm - Scott Meirs - Tom Baars.

Our Team also enjoyed entertaining a group of young kids from Camp Blodgett at our Post.

We were honored Coast Guard Week by Mike Smith who is the executive director of the Coast Guard Festival Committee.

We had two exciting events we did in September.

We went to West Michigan Academy of Arts and Academics on September 12 and showed the students how to properly raise the Flag plus gave a Flag etiquette class.

What I consider the premier event we do each year, our team, along with a ton of help from other Post and Auxiliary Members, fed and entertained veterans from the Grand Rapids Veterans Home and Robbinswood Living Center on September 18. Two people I would like to give a special thank too is our Post Commander Ted Raggi who did the cooking, and Dan Deal that calls for "Give-me-the-mola. AGAIN, thanks to all of you that helped with this event.

Hope to see a lot of you at Central Park at 11:00 A.M. on November 11. That's Veterans Day.

Mr. Larry Jongetjes resigned from our team. He did a great job while a member. He now volunteers a lot of his time helping his church and "Love".

Mr. Chet Simons joined our group. Chet is a Korea War Veteran.

Anyone wishing to join our Team can do so by contacting me at 616-502-3747. You do not have to be a Post Member to be on our Team, but must be a veteran.

I want to give a special **THANKS** one of our Honor Guard Member that participates in the majority of our events, comes to most of the Post dinners, plays the organ at several living care centers, and is a great VFW member. He is a Navy Guy that was in the Korea War. I think he was a taxi driver for the Marines. Who is this gentleman. When you see "Dick Fought", tell him thanks for his loyal duty to this Team and to our Post.

Please HELP SUPPORT OUR POST! Were far from perfect, but with your help, we can be become better.

FALLFEST Volunteers Needed

On Saturday October 19th the Post will be holding their First Annual Fall Fest. We need bartenders, security personnel, cooks, sanitation engineers, ticket sellers to name a few.

LADIES AUXILIARY
NEWS

LADIES AUXILIARY, Oct., Nov., Dec., 2013

Welcome to Autumn! Hope you enjoyed your Summer. Here is what's going on for the next three months:

OCTOBER

On Thursday, October 22, at 6:30 p.m. we will be hosting a '**Social Hour**' for new and old members so we can get acquainted with each other. Light refreshments will be served.

It is time to enter the **National Voice of Democracy Scholarship Contest**, open to students in grades 9-12. Theme: "Why I'm Optimistic About our Nation's Future". Record your original 3-5 minute essay on a standard cassette tape or CD. One student per CD or tape. Top scholarship award is \$30,000. The **Patriot's Pen Essay Contest** is open to 6th, 7th and 8th graders. Theme: "What Patriotism Means to Me" Essay length is 300-400 typewritten words. Deadline for either contest is November 1, 2013. Contest sponsored by Sgt. Alvin Jonker Post #2326 and it's Auxiliary. Questions? Contact Post Chairman, John Kemme, at 846-3949 or Auxiliary Chairman Edna McCarthy at 842-6586.

We are proud to announce that ASHLEY BRYANT from Grand Haven was sponsored by our Post and Auxiliary in the '**Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest**'. Her entry "The Soldier" was the seventh place winner in this national contest and her poster appears in the September *Ladies Auxiliary VFW Magazine*, Page 13.

We extend our sympathies to the families of Lucy Bazany, who passed away on July 14; Esther Guy, who passed away on August 13; and Lorraine "Dottie" Baker, who passed away on August 30. Our sympathies, also, to Phyllis Behm, whose husband, Howard, died on August 13, 2013.

The October Auxiliary meeting is Wednesday the 16th at 10:30 a.m.

NOVEMBER

The Auxiliary will host a **Harvest Dinner** on Saturday, November 2, at 5:00 p.m., serving meatloaf, scalloped potatoes, salad and dessert. Donation \$7.00. Children under 10, \$4.00. Please come and bring your friends and families. Public is welcome.

Eighth District meeting will be held on November 2nd in Charlotte at Post 2406. Dinner will be served at 11:00 a.m. Meeting is at 1:00 p.m.

Veterans Day is Monday, November 11. Remember to fly your flag!

Mittens, hats, scarves and socks are being collected to adorn the **Mitten Tree**. These will be distributed to the needy children in the area. Please have to the Club by December 1.

The November Auxiliary Meeting is Wednesday the 20th at 10:30 a.m.

DECEMBER

The December Auxiliary meeting is Wednesday, December 18. 10:30 a.m.

HAVE A MERRY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE!

NEWS FROM
THE CHAPLAIN

Scars of Anger

There once was a little boy who had a bad temper. His father gave him a bag of nails and told him that every time he lost his temper, he must hammer a nail into the back of the fence. The first day the boy had driven 37 nails into the fence. Over the next few weeks, as he learned to control his anger, the number of nails hammered daily gradually dwindled down. He discovered it was easier to hold his temper than to drive those nails into the fence. Finally the day came when the boy didn't lose his temper at all. He told his father about it and the father suggested that the boy now pull out one nail for each day that he was able to hold his temper. The days passed and the young boy was finally able to tell his father that all the nails were gone. The father took his son by the hand and led him to the fence. He said, "You have done well, my son, but look at the holes in the fence. The fence will never be the same. When you say things in anger, they leave a scar just like this one. You can put a knife in a man and draw it out. It won't matter how many times you say I'm sorry, the wound is still there. "A verbal wound is as bad as a physical one.

Anger not only leaves a verbal wound, but also leaves a major physical ailment. It is a known medical fact that when you are Angry, your entire system gets a severe jolt, just like an earth-quake. Numerous people have had massive heart attacks when they were angry. Some died, some survived and some got paralyzed. So let's try to cage and contain this Anger, if not for any-one else, for our own-self.

Author: Unknown

Proverbs 29:11

A fool always loses his temper, But a wise man holds it back.

Food for thought.....

Even if you are on the right track,
You'll get run over if you just set there.

On the lighter side.....

A young, freshly minted lieutenant was sent to Bosnia as part of the peace keeping mission. During a briefing on land mines, the captain asked for questions. Our intrepid soldier raised his hand and asked, "If we do happen to step on a mine, Sir, what do we do?" "Normal procedure, Lieutenant, is to jump 200 feet in the air and scatter oneself over a wide area."

George McCarthy says; "Never test the depth of the water with both feet."

God bless and see you at the October meeting.

MENS AUXILIARY
NEWS

We welcome three new members Gordon Walcott , Gil Rodriquez , and Ron Vanheest

We are going to need some help on the Fallfest coming up on 10/19/13. Anyone interested in helping can call Bill Schippers at 846-1102

FROM THE BAR

We recently lowered the prices on our draft beer and now have four sizes to choose from, a 10 oz. glass a 16 oz. glass a 23 oz. glass and a 60 oz. pitcher.

Soon we will be offering weekly drink specials. Check the mirror behind the bar for those specials as they occur.

For those of you that have not been in lately we have a new bartender, her name is Chelsea Deal. She normally works on Wednesdays and some Saturdays. Stop on in and say hello.