



# 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](http://www.vfwpost2326.org)

April  
2012

### POST OFFICERS

Commander	Ted Raggl	616-846-4353
Sr. Vice	Darrell Thornley	616-842-4604
Jr. Vice	David A Liening	616-262-9154
Quartermaster	Mike Baauw	231-286-5182
Chaplain	Jerry Tripp	616-884-8206



### SERVICE OFFICER

Al Schmidt: 616-502-3747

### HONOR GUARD

Al Schmidt: 616-502-3747

### FACILITY RENTAL

Terry (Squeek) Groteamat  
616-850-2636



### LADIES AUXILIARY

Carol Verploegh	616-847-8929
Sally Kemme	616-846-3949
Beverly Shafer	616-846-5773
Edna McCarthy	616-842-6586
Meg Young	616-846-2418
Anne Parchert	616-842-80 34

### 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	Always Post Commander
Fred Lemieux	Vice Chairman	3 yr Term
Mike Baauw	Treasurer	3 yr Term Always Quarter Master
Sam Young	1 Trustee	2 yr Term
Al Schmidt	2 Trustee	1 yr Term
Blane E Shafer	3 Trustee	1 yr Term

### **COMMANDER'S CORNER**

We sure are having beautiful weather, too bad it had to be so windy for our soup and slider, but it went very, very well. Thanks to all that helped and to all that came out for it. Those vendors have great food and it was a hard decision. Justin Morgan made the Bloody Marys for the morning, we sold out, and we have a lot of breakfast people out there. hanks to our sponsor, Zing Zang.

Just to let you know our Rib Fest is next. We have signup sheets at the bar. We will need lots of help for it. Just to remind you, we have a great bunch of helpers and we really appreciate all that you do. Now get out there and enjoy the nice weather, if it is still there by the time you get this newsletter.

Hope so,

Ted

### TS DINNER WINNERS

Janice Woirol  
Ed Georgia  
Bill Parks  
Kathy Shippers  
Judi Henshaw

Please remember you have to be paid through drawing week to win. Must pay \$5 at a time.



## HONOR GUARD ACTIVITIES

We had no activities for February. No activities are usually good news, but could also mean our group has a problem again. In the past, a lot of people in our community had the mind-set that our Honor Guard only did the Military Rites for only our Post members. This is not true. Our group, the Honor Guard, like the American Legion, will do the Military Rites for all veterans as long as they do not have a dishonorable discharge. The exception is our Post Ritual Team, which usually only will attend a deceased veterans funeral if he/she is from our Post.

We're not asking to do more funerals, but in the past five years, we have never said no when asked to do one. All veterans deserve a full honors military funeral and were here to do that.

## NEWS FROM THE CHAPLAIN

This month's spotlight falls on VFW Post 2326, Life Member. Derk Doornbos. Derk was born 9 April, 1920 in the Netherlands. He came to this Country, with his father and mother and two older brothers, in September, 1920, landing on Ellis Island. Another brother and a sister were born in this Country.

The family moved to the Norton Shores area, where Derk's dad raised vegetables and, by horse and buggy, took them to market in Muskegon. Derk attended Hile School and passed all eight grades there. The family then moved to the Ravenna area where a larger farm was available. Derk left home at 15 to work for dairy farmers in the area. Even though this was in the height of the depression, Derk said that then (even as now) there was plenty of work to be had if you didn't mind getting your hands dirty. Everyone was after Derk to work because he was young and strong and could scoot up silos. Most farmers would pay him \$2.00 per week. One farmer couldn't pay him so he gave him a few traps and Derk earned his wages by selling muskrats for .90 cents each. About this time Derk joined the "Civilian Conservation Corp", commonly called the CCC boys. This was a group run by the government, somewhat resembling a military organization. Derk spent a year near Roscommon, Michigan, working in forestry. His Camp was not far from the one Joe Louis learned to box in. Eventually Derk found his way to Muskegon, working at Lakey Foundry. It was while working here that the draft came out in 1940, requiring all men between the ages of 21 to 37 to register for the draft. Many of Derk's friends were joining the war, so in September 1941 Derk quit his job and joined the Army. After traveling all around the Country, Derk eventually was shipped out of Norfolk, Virginia with the 3rd Division. Derk was to experience five assault landings and witness some of the fiercest fighting in Europe during WW11. Aside from his many medals, he also has documents from French Generals and Holocaust Survivors thanking him for his heroic efforts. Derk enjoys going to schools and other organizations telling people about his experiences. Derk was discharged 27 July, 1945. Two days after he got home he went to work on the old Zoll School near Ravenna. It had suffered terribly during the war from neglect. Derk cleaned, scraped and painted it back to being usable. One of the School Board Members gave him a Model A car for doing such a great job. That School Board Member owned an ice company in Muskegon and gave Derk a job there delivering ice. Because the government was helping veterans with schooling, Derk went to Saginaw Art School to pursue his love of drawing. Continuing his education he went on to Minneapolis Institute of Art. There he specialized in screening and lettering. While in Minneapolis he met and married his wife Sylvia in 1948. Coming back to Michigan, Derk worked in some local sign painting companies, finally settling in Grand Haven working for the Ottawa County Road Commission, in charge of all the signs in Ottawa County. Derk spent thirty years there retiring at the age of 62. Derk has one son and one daughter. Recently, Derk fell at home and has had to have a hip replacement. While still sharp of mind and

**LADIES AUXILIARY  
NEWS**

We are well into spring now so hopefully we can put away our "little used" snow shovels and get out the rakes. It sure was a weird winter.

We wish everyone a Happy and Holy Easter.

Election of Officers will take place on Wednesday, April 18. Please come to the 7:00 p.m. meeting and show an interest in the what the Auxiliary does and see if there is anything you would like help with.

The National VFW Auxiliary President will make her official visit to the State of Michigan on Wednesday, April 18. She will be honored with a noon luncheon on that date at the Creston Post on Monroe Ave. in Grand Rapids. Reservations required.

We are still collecting Campbell products bar codes to send to the National Home. We cannot use Box Tops for Education or Pop Tops. Thank you for the 212 labels already collected and delivered to the Home. Keep up the goods works!

We have lost another Past President and very active auxiliary member in the passing away of Barbara Frickman. We extend our sympathies to her husband Fred and family.

Chairmen: Your Annual Reports must in the mail before April 20<sup>th</sup>

The next and last District meeting of the year is scheduled for May 5<sup>th</sup> at the Comstock Post in Comstock, Michigan.

Have a great and safe month.

**MEN'S AUXILIARY  
NEWS**

Texas Hold'em was very successful. We will need volunteers for the next one. Please see signup sheet at the Bar for dates.

We are donating \$100.00 to the Boy Scout Troop who helped with last year's Rib Fest.

Nominations for Men's Officers are now being accepted. Elections will be at the April Meeting DUES! Please remit to keep in good standing.

We will be purchasing a food truck in the near future.

**NEWS FROM THE  
CHAPLAIN (cont.)**

possessing a great memory, he has experienced some physical limitations, so he is moving to Christian Haven Nursing Home in Grand Haven. Derk Doornbos, we the members of the Post and the Auxiliaries salute you, and thanks for your service.

On the lighter side.....

Light travels faster than sound. This is why some people appear bright until you hear them speak.

Food for thought.....Going to Church doesn't make you a Christian anymore than standing in a garage makes you a car.

God bless and see you at the April meeting.

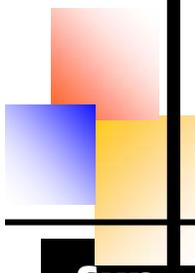
**Monthly Thursday Night Dinner**

April 12, 2012

We're having Grilled Chicken

Salad, Baked Beans

Roll & Dessert



# April 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> CLOSED	<b>3</b> BAR OPEN 3-9 PM  Pool League	<b>4</b> BAR OPEN 3-9 PM  7:30 PM Post Meeting	<b>5</b> BAR OPEN 3-9 PM	<b>6</b> BAR OPEN 3-9 PM  Euchre 6:30 PM	<b>7</b> BAR OPEN 12-5 PM
<b>8</b>   Happy Easter	<b>9</b> CLOSED	<b>10</b> BAR OPEN 3-9 PM  Pool League 7 PM	<b>11</b> BAR OPEN 3-9 PM  7:00 PM Men's Aux.	<b>12</b> BAR OPEN 3-9 PM  Chicken Dinner	<b>13</b> BAR OPEN 3-9 PM  Euchre 6:30 PM	<b>14</b>  BAR OPEN 12-5 PM
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> CLOSED	<b>17</b> BAR OPEN 3-9 PM  Pool League 7 PM	<b>18</b> BAR OPEN 3-9 PM  7:00 PM Ladies Aux.	<b>19</b> BAR OPEN 3-9 PM	<b>20</b> BAR OPEN 3-9 PM  Euchre 6:30 PM	<b>21</b>  BAR OPEN 3-11 PM Karaoke 7:00-11:00
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> CLOSED	<b>24</b> BAR OPEN 3-9 PM  Pool League 7 PM	<b>25</b> BAR OPEN 3-9 PM  7:00 PM Club Board Mtg.	<b>26</b> BAR OPEN 3-9 PM	<b>27</b> BAR OPEN 3-9 PM  Euchre 6:30 PM	<b>28</b>  BAR OPEN 12-5 PM
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> CLOSED					