

February 2011

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

February
2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 Pool League 7:00p.m	2 Post MTG. @ 7:30pm	3 CLOSED	4 Euchre @6:30 p.m.	5 CLOSED
6	7 CLOSED	8 Pool League 7:00p.m	9 Men's Aux. MTG. @ 7:00pm	10 CLOSED	11 Euchre @6:30 p.m.	12 CLOSED
13	14 Happy Valentine's Day CLOSED	15 Soup & Slider MTG. @ 7:00pm Pool League 7:00p.m	16 Ladies Auxiliary MTG. @ 7:00	17 CLOSED	18 Euchre @6:30 p.m.	19 No Karaoke Soup and Slider Festival Bar Open @10am Food@11am Music 1-5 pm w/Tony Keck Judging 2pm
20	21 CLOSED	22 Pool League 7:00p.m	23 Club Board MTG @7:00pm	24 CLOSED	25 Bob Akey 9 Ball Pool Tournament @ 7:00pm NO EUCHRE	26 19th Annual Bob Akey 8 Ball Tournament Starting @ 10am Bar Open @ 9am NO EUCHRE
27	28 CLOSED					

POST OFFICERS

Commander	Sam Young	616-405-1161
Sr. Vice	Gerald Melcher	616-846-2456
Jr. Vice	Jerry Sias	616-433-1764
Quartermaster	John Boese	616-638-4998
Chaplain	Jerry Tripp	616-837-9180



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	616-842-8034

OFFICE

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

MEN'S AUXILIARY

Dan Raggl	616-846-3946
Bill Schippers	616-846-1102
Scott Bazany	231-744-5211
Brandon Weigel	616-844-2719
Brian Schippers	616-846-6062
John Zlotnicki	616-638-0239



CLUB BOARD

Chairman	Sam Young	Always Post Commander
Vice Chairman	Jerry Melcher	3yr Term
Secretary	John "Dutch" Ringelberg	2yr Term
Treasurer	John Bosse	3yr Term Always Quarter Master
1 Trustee	Jerry Sias	2yr Term
2 Trustee	Mark Kelly	1yr Term
3 Trustee	Ted Raggl	1yr Term

COMMANDER'S CORNER

While watching one of my favorite John Wayne movies, I Harms Way, I was trying to think of something to write about, when it dawned on me that today is the day that would live INFAMY PEARL HARBOR DAY. I would like to take a moment to say thank you to all of our WWII veterans for all of things that your generation did for me and my generation and all generations to come. Through your actions I was taught what it means to be an American. You truly are the greatest generation of all time. So comrades and sisters, take time to say thank you to your Fathers, Grandfathers, old aunts and uncles for their service 60+ years ago.

I want to say a few words to say thanks to Dick Swain, for donating the money our annual Kandu Kids Christmas party, also a thank you goes out to the unknown person who donated a Wii game for the kids. There is one more person I would like to mention the next time you see John Zlotnicki tell him thank you for all that he has done around our post home. John is one of our unsung hero's from the men's aux. All you have to do is mention something to him and the next thing you know its done THANKS JOHN.

The weekend of January 20th is fast approaching and we still are in need of more volunteers for the Texas Hold-Em tournament. Please call Dan Raggl to sign up for a shift or you can do it the next time you are at the club.

I don't have much more to say except that I will be in Florida next month and I won't be back till March until then have a good winter.
Don't forget to kiss a vet

HONOR GUARD ACTIVITIES
December

12/2 and 12/18 - Honor Guard, Post Members and their family members "Rang the Bell" for the Salvation Army at the south door of Walmart. The Salvation Army sent me thank-you letter for our efforts. Our Ringers raised \$556 on those two days. They would like us to help them again this coming December. What we raised will help feed over 400 families, and helped provide gifts for 800 children over the holidays. Thanks for the great effort to all those who braved the cold to do this for our community. The greatest part of doing this was watching the little children putting their coins in the Kettle.

12/20 - Presented the FLAG at Mr. Robert Livingstone funeral. He was a non-member, but a Navy Veteran.

12/30 - Jerry Tripp and myself was **honored** to present the new girls Daisy Troop from Saint Mary's Church with their own American Flag.

I want to thank the Salvation Army for the military overcoat they donated to our Honor Guard. I needed one to fit our new member. I know they would have helped us out, even if we didn't help them. They're a great organization. Have a great New Years.

NEWS FROM THE CHAPLAIN

Hope everyone is getting through the winter alright. The "VFW National Home" celebrated its 86th birthday on January 7th. Though the "National Home" was incorporated in 1925, its importance was never greater than it is today. The New York Times stated that 6 out of 10 military persons being deployed today are married.

February 14th brings us another "Valentine's Day" opportunity to express our love to those we care about.

Valentine Smile

On Valentine's Day we think of those
Who make our lives worthwhile,
Those gracious, friendly people who
We think of with a smile.
I am fortunate to know you,
That's why I want to say,
To a rare and special person:
Happy Valentine's Day!

On the lighter side:

Little David comes home from first grade and tells his father that they learnt about the history of Valentine's Day. "Since Valentine's Day is celebrated for a Christian saint and we're Jewish," he asks, "will God get mad at me for giving someone else a valentine?" David's father thinks a bit, then says, "No, I don't think God would get mad. Who do you want to give a valentine to?"

"Osama Bin Laden," David says.

"Why Osama Bin Laden?" his father asks in shock.

"Well," David says, "I thought that if a little American Jewish boy could have enough love to give Osama a valentine, he might start to think that maybe we're not all bad, and maybe start loving people a little bit. And if other kids saw what I did and sent valentines to Osama, he'd love everyone a lot. And then he'd start going all over the place to tell everyone how much he loved them and how he didn't hate anyone anymore."

His father's heart swells and he looks at his boy with newfound pride and says, "David, that's the most wonderful thing I've ever heard."

"I know," David says, "and once that gets him out in the open, the Marines shoot him!"

God Bless and looking forward to seeing you at the meeting February 2nd.

★ Winner of January \$100 Meijer Gift Card is Judy Fischer ★
★ Congratulations! ★

LADIES AUXILIARY NEWS

Ladies Auxiliary News, February 2011

HAPPY VALENTINES DAY!!

Have you noticed, the days are getting longer? We are halfway through the winter so hang in there and look forward to March and the melting snow.

Saturday, February 5th is the date set for the District Voice of Democracy luncheon. The luncheon will begin at 11:00 a.m. at VFW Post 3030 in Otsego. Please RSVP to the Post if you plan to attend. The Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen winners will be given their awards at this time. Following the luncheon, the ladies auxiliaries will meet at 1:00 p.m. at the Otsego Methodist Church. Department President, Pat Patterson will be present to represent the Department of Michigan.

Chairmen, check your guide sheets to see what goals you have completed. You have two months left to get the required points of your chairmanship.

Members, many of you do volunteer work for other organizations such as serving on funerals, delivering meals to home-bound people, transporting people to doctors appointments, working in food pantries, helping at Love INC, Hospice, Red Cross and many others. Please keep track of the hours spent and report them to the Community Service Chairman.

Auxiliary meeting is Wednesday, February 16th at 7:00 p.m.



This coming January, February, March and May, Post 2326 will be sponsoring the Charity Gaming events at Century Lanes in Holland as

a fund raiser to pay our bills. These games are Texas Hold'em tournaments and cash tables where our function is to sell and cash poker chips. It is a 4 day event one weekend per month (up to 4 annually). Thurs and Fri from 5 p.m. to 2 a.m. and Sat and Sun from noon to 2 a.m. We will need volunteers for 2 shifts each day (approximately 6-7 hours), an early shift and late shift of 2 persons each. Members of the Post and Auxiliaries are eligible. We so far have approximately 20 volunteers but need more to cover all the events that will require 16 people per weekend. So if you would like to join in the fun and help the post contact either me, Mark Kelley at 810-343-6275 or Dan Raggl at (616)846-3946. We need you!!

★ Second Annual Soup & Slider Fest ★

★ The Sgt. Alvin Yonker Post 2326, Grand Haven, MI "Soup & Slider Fest" committee are going to use our facility (back by popular demand) for the second annual Soup & Slider Fest. Our first year was outstanding. So the Committee will comply to our faithful members once again. Our celebrity judges are: Sen. Arlan Meekhof, Arron Shapiro from the West Michigan Culinary Institute, and Eric Kaelin, G.M. of WGHN.

★ I was elected to be the chairperson of the Soup & Slider Fest. We as a committee have voted to give part of the proceeds to the Fallen Heroes Memorial in Central Park. If you believe in this worthwhile cause, please attend. We are open to the public on Feb. 19th from 11:00 am until 7:00 pm or later. We will have live entertainment by Tony Keck who is a phenomenal guitar player. So come on down and support this cause and enjoy the best Soup & Sliders from the seven restaurants that we have participating. That's fourteen different soups and seven different sliders! Please bring you family, friends, and appetites!

★ Please support our Post. I personally want to see our Post stay open and conduct events that help our fellow Veterans and worthwhile causes. That is what we have done in the past and that is what we should all do in the future.

★ Sincerely, Fred LeMieux ★
