

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  
 2012

**POST OFFICERS**

Commander	Ted Raggl	616-846-4353
Sr. Vice	D Thornley	616-842-4604
Jr. Vice	David A Liening	616-262-9154
Quartermaster	Mike Baauw	231-286-5182
Chaplain	Jerry Tripp	616-837-9180



**HONOR GUARD**

Al Schmidt: 616-502-3747

**FACILITY RENTAL**

Terry (Squeek) Grotemat  
 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
Brandon Weigel	616-844-2719
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**

Hey, is it February already? Just to let you know we still have openings for Texas Hold'em sign-up sheets. They are at the bar. We need you! February (9, 10, 11, and 12)

We are going to do a picture wall for the ladies and men's auxiliary. We will need pictures, so start searching.

Soup and slider is coming up, we need people to work Saturday and Sunday. Help us out again please and thank you. I would also like to remind you to come on down to our February 9th dinner, bring a friend or enemy, no matter who you bring it's always a nice meal and a great time to share time with others.

Superbowl is coming soon, I don't know about you, but it's always a good time. Soon football will be over, but Nascar will be starting.

LIFE IS GOOD

Ted

## HONOR GUARD ACTIVITIES

12/01 - Team and Post Members rang the Bell at Wal-Mart for the Salvation Army.  
12/02 - Did the Military Rites at Vincent Morford funeral.  
12/05 - Did the firing at the Hero's Memorial dedication.  
12/12 - Did the Military Rites at Paul Walsh funeral.  
12/22 - Helped 5 veterans living at the Robbinswood Living Center have a little more joyful Christmas.  
Our Team did [military rites](#) at 17 veteran's funerals in 2011; plus all the other community events we participated in.

## NEWS FROM THE CHAPLAIN

A story is told about a soldier who was finally coming home after having fought in Vietnam. He called his parents from San Francisco. "Mom and Dad, I'm coming home, but I've a favor to ask. I have a friend I'd like to bring home with me. "Sure," they replied, "we'd love to meet him." "There's something you should know," the son continued, "he was hurt pretty badly in the fighting. He stepped on a land mine and lost an arm and a leg. He has nowhere else to go, and I want him to come live with us." "I'm sorry to hear that, son. Maybe we can help him find somewhere to live." "No, Mom and Dad, I want him to live with us." "Son," said the father, "you don't know what you're asking. Someone with such a handicap would be a terrible burden on us. We have our own lives to live, and we can't let something like this interfere with our lives. I think you should just come home and forget about this guy. He'll find a way to live on his own." At that point, the son hung up the phone. The parents heard nothing more from him. A few days later, however, they received a call from the San Francisco police. Their son had died after falling from a building, they were told. The police believed it was suicide. The grief-stricken parents flew to San Francisco and were taken to the city morgue to identify the body of their son. They recognized him, but to their horror they also discovered something they didn't know, their son had only one arm and one leg. The parents in this story are like many of us. We find it easy to love those who are good-looking or fun to have around, but we don't like people who inconvenience us or make us feel uncomfortable. We would rather stay away from people who aren't as healthy, beautiful, or smart as we are. Thankfully, there's someone who won't treat us that way. Someone who loves us with an unconditional love that welcomes us into the forever family, regardless of how messed up we are. Tonight, before you tuck yourself in for the night, say a little prayer that God will give you the strength you need to accept people as they are, and to help us all be more understanding of those who are different from us!!! There's a miracle called Friendship that dwells in the heart You don't know how it happens Or when it gets started But you know the special lift It always brings. And you realize that Friendship Is God's most precious gift! Friends are a very rare jewel, indeed. They make you smile and encourage you to succeed. They lend an ear, they share a word of praise, and they always want to open their hearts to us. Show your friends how much you care....

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

On the lighter side... One Sunday morning, the pastor noticed little Alex was staring up at the large plaque that hung in the foyer of the church. It was covered with names, and small American flags were mounted on either side of it. The seven-year-old had been staring at the plaque for some time, so the pastor walked up, stood beside the boy, and said quietly, "Good morning, Alex."

"Good morning," replied the young man, still focused on the plaque. "What is this?" Alex asked. "Well, son, it's a memorial to all the young men and women who died in the service." Soberly, they stood together, staring at the large plaque. Little Alex's voice was trembling and barely audible when he asked, "Which service, the 9:45 or the 11:15?"

Thought for the day.....

"You don't get to choose how you're going to die or when. You can only decide how you're going to live." - Joan Baez

**LADIES AUXILIARY  
NEWS**

Winter has finally arrived. I hope we don't get an overdose of snow like they got in Alaska!

The 'Voice of Democracy' and 'Patriot's Pen' winners will be honored at a dinner on Saturday, February 4, 2012 at 11:30 a.m. at the Creston VFW Post 3023 located at 1535 Monroe Ave. N.W. in Grand Rapids. Reservations are required to attend the dinner. The Eighth District meeting will follow the dinner at the same location at 1:00 p.m.

We offer our sympathies to the family of Ellen Johnson, a member of Auxiliary 2326, who passed away on December 12, 2011. And to auxiliary member, Betty Cooper and her family, whose husband, Henry Cooper, passed away on December 27, 2011. We also extend our sympathies to Marge Brown-Hyde on the death of her brother.

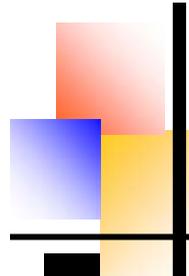
Auxiliary meeting date is Wednesday, February 15.



We are very close to 100% in membership. If you have not paid your 2012 dues you are not entitled to any of the privileges of the Auxiliary or the Post. You can pay your dues at the Post or send them to Meg Young. Dues are \$17.00.

Thanks  
Meg Young

Brick forms are available at the bar. Fallen heroes are placing bricks on the sidewalk to the monument. Instructions are listed on the forms. They are priced at \$100 to \$1000.  
\$100 for 28 characters and 56 for a large one.  
For information call Darrell Thornley (616)842-4604 or Jack Garpnin (616) 607-7265



# February 2012

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