

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

Sgt. Alvin Jonker Post 2326

20 N. FIRST STREET • GRAND HAVEN, MI 49417

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December 2012

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Chaplain Jerry Tripp 616-884-8206



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HONOR GUARD

Al Schmidt: 616-502-3747

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OFFICE

President
Sr. Vice
Jr. Vice
Secretary
Treasurer
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Bill Schippers 616-846-1102
Dale Henshaw 616-638-5382
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CLUB BOARD

Ted Raggl Chairman Always Post Commander
Fred Lemieux Vice Chairman 3 yr. Term
Mike Baauw Treasurer 3 yr. Term Always Quarter Master
Terry Grotemat 1 Trustee 2 yr. Term
Blane E Shafer 2 Trustee 1 yr. Term
3 Trustee 1 yr. Term

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Hi all,

Well another year is almost over. We had a good year, it went by fast. Although we did an awful amount of work. We had the soup and slider, Ribfest, Coast Guard festival, and four Texas Holdem's. What a great bunch of helpers our club has. We can always count on our people and for that our club is doing very good compared to a lot of other clubs. Thanks everyone.

Congratulations to all you successful hunters out there, of which I am not! We have been lucky this year so far, no snow. That's always good for us older people, of which I am one of!

I went with the Honor Guard to Christian Haven Home to thank our veterans and to pin them for their service in protecting our country. It was an awesome thing.

Now comes the work part. We need workers for our Soup and Slider and for our Texas Holdem. The Holdem is on March 11th 12th, and 13th. Signup sheets are at the bar, and while you are there, thank our bartenders for their service. Have yourself some great holiday moments.

Ted

HONOR GUARD ACTIVITIES

Very busy month. Thanks to the team for supporting me with these events.

Nov 2: Went to West Michigan Academy of Arts and Academics and did a Flag etiquette class.

Nov 3: Went to the District meeting.

Nov 5: Did a Flag etiquette class at the Post for a great group of scouts. Had approx. 100 scouts and their parents attend.

Nov 9: We went to the G.H. Jr. High School and helped the 7th grade classes of Mrs. Michelle Maintner celebrate Patriotic Day. We attended the first three classes. We were rewarded with an outstanding buffet.

Nov 9: We did a Veteran Pinning at Heartwood Lodge. We did this without any outside Hospice help. We pinned 17 veterans. Several days after we honored these vet's, one of them passed away.

Nov 10: My son and I helped present the Colors at the Marine Corps birthday breakfast that was held at the Eagles Hall.

Nov 11: Did the Military Rites at the W.W.1 Memorial for Veteran's Day.

Nov 12: Did the Military Rites at the Post's Veterans Day program.

Nov 14: Did the Military Rites at Mr. Jake Hill funeral.

Nov 21: Visited the veterans at Robbinswood Living Center.

Nov 29: Attended a meeting with the Legion and Police Dept. Honor Guard team leaders.

Along with the Salvation Army, I want to thank the following people for Ringing the Bell at Wal-Mart Sat, Dec 8. They were my wife Mary, Dianne and Ken Khodl, Vickie and Fred Hodge, Nancy and Darrell Pringnitz, Victoria and Jerry Tripp, Claudia and Bill Schippers, Lora Melcher, and Jack Maxfield and his grandson.

Hope you had a very Merry Christmas and will have a great New Year.

NEWS FROM THE CHAPLAIN

The Marines Father....

A nurse took the tired, anxious serviceman to the bedside.

"Your son is here," she said to the old man. She had to repeat the words several times before the patient's eyes opened.

Heavily sedated because of the pain of his heart attack, he dimly saw the young uniformed Marine standing outside the oxygen tent. He reached out his hand. The Marine wrapped his toughened fingers around the old man's limp ones, squeezing a message of love and encouragement.

The nurse brought a chair so that the Marine could sit beside the bed. All through the night the young Marine sat there in the poorly lighted ward, holding the old man's hand and offering him words of love and strength. Occasionally, the nurse suggested that the Marine move away and rest awhile. He refused. Whenever the nurse came into the ward, the Marine was oblivious of her and of the night noises of the hospital – the clanking of the oxygen tank, the laughter of the night staff members exchanging greetings, the cries and moans of the other patients.

Now and then she heard him say a few gentle words. The dying man said nothing, only held tightly to his son all through the night.

Along towards dawn, the old man died. The Marine released the now lifeless hand he had been holding and went to tell the nurse. While she did what she had to do, he waited.

Finally, she returned. She started to offer words of sympathy, but the Marine interrupted her. "Who was that man?" he asked.

The nurse was startled, "He was your father," she answered.

LADIES AUXILIARY NEWS

HAPPY NEW YEAR! May 2013
be filled with Joy, Prosperity, Peace and
Happiness for each of us and for all of us!

ALL AUXILIARY MEMBERS PLEASE TAKE NOTICE: As of this date, the Monthly meetings for December, January, February, and March will be held at

10:45 a.m. on the third Wednesday of each month. This should make it safer for all who participate, so they don't have to be driving in the dark during bad weather.

We wish to thank all Post, Ladies and Men's Auxiliary members who donated items for our adopted Salvation Army Family. They were greatly appreciated. It warms your heart knowing you made some little kids' Christmas a little brighter!

A big thank you also for all the hats, mittens, socks and scarves that were collected for the Good Fellows.

Mid-Winter Conference will take place in Kalamazoo at the Radisson-Plaza hotel January 24 through the 27th.

The first meeting of the New Year will be at **10:45 a.m. on Wednesday, January 16, 2013.**

NEWS FROM THE BAR

From the bar, Members come in on your birthday for a free drink of your choice. Friday Jan. 25, music by Sweet Justice, 7-11 P.M. Kitchen open from 6-8 P.M. Come on down and watch the

human sled race right in front of the post on 1 St. street then come in for some entertainment. We would also like to open the kitchen on Karaoke nights from 6-8 P.M. if we can get some volunteers to help!! We will be open on New Year's Day from Noon to the end of the Rose Bowl game. I understand we used to have a pot luck on that day, so bring a dish to pass and come on down!! Last but not least Soup and Slider will be March 9, 2013

Thanks Squeek

NEWS FROM THE CHAPLAIN CON'T

"No, he wasn't," the Marine replied.

"I never saw him before in my life."

"Then why didn't you say something when I took you to him?"

"I knew right away there had been a mistake, but I also knew he needed his son, and his son just wasn't here. When I realized that he was too sick to tell whether or not I was his son, knowing how much he needed me, I stayed."

Author Unknown

Food for thought.....

[War is an ugly thing, but not the ugliest of things. The decayed and degraded state of moral and patriotic feeling which thinks that nothing is worth war is much worse. The person who has nothing for which he is willing to fight, nothing which is more important than his own personal safety, is a miserable creature and has no chance of being free unless made and kept so by the exertions of better men than himself.](#)

[John Stuart Mill \(1806 - 1873\)](#)

On the lighter side....

Groups of Americans were traveling by tour bus through Holland. As they stopped at a cheese farm, a young guide led them through the process of cheese making, explaining that goat's milk was used. She showed the group a lovely hillside where many goats were grazing. 'These' she explained, 'Are the older goats put out to pasture when they no longer produce.' She then asked, 'What do you do in America with your old goats?' A spry old gentleman answered, 'They send us on bus tours!'

January 2013

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

		1  BAR OPEN NOON —?	2 BAR OPEN 3—9 POST MTG. 7:30 PM	3 BAR OPEN 3—?	4 BAR OPEN 3—9 EUCHRE 6:30 PM	5 BAR OPEN NOON—5
6	7 CLOSED	8 BAR OPEN 3—9	9 BAR OPEN 3—9 MEN'S AUX. 7:00 PM	10 BAR OPEN 3—?	11 BAR OPEN 3—9 EUCHRE 6:30 PM	12 BAR OPEN NOON—5
13	14 CLOSED	15 BAR OPEN 3—9	16 BAR OPEN 3—9 LADIES AUX. 10:45 AM	17 OPEN 3—?	18 BAR OPEN 3—9 EUCHRE 6:30 PM	19 BAR OPEN NOON—11 KARAOKE 7—11 PM
20	21 CLOSED	22 BAR OPEN 3—9	23 BAR OPEN 3—9 CLUB BOARD 7:00 PM	24 BAR OPEN 3—? Spaghetti Dinner	25 BAR OPEN 3—11 SWEET JUSTICE KITCHEN OPEN 6—8	26 BAR OPEN NOON—5
27	28 CLOSED	29 BAR OPEN 3—9	30 BAR OPEN 3—9	31 BAR OPEN 3—?		