

October 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

October
2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 CLOSED Rented 3-12pm
2	3 CLOSED	4 Bar Open 3:00	5 Bar Open 3:00 Post MTG. @ 7:30pm	6 Bar Open 3-6pm	7 Bar Open 3:00 Euchre 6:30	8 CLOSED
9	10 CLOSED	11 Bar Open 3:00 Pool League 7:00	12 Bar Open 3:00 Men's Aux. MTG. @ 7:00pm	13 Bar Open 3-6pm Meatloaf Dinner 5-7pm	14 Bar Open 3:00 Euchre 6:30	15 CLOSED Karaoke Moved to Oct 29th
16	17 CLOSED	18 Bar Open 3:00 Pool League 7:00	19 Bar Open 3:00 7:00 p.m. Ladies Auxiliary	20 Bar Open 3-6pm	21 Bar Open 3:00 Euchre 6:30	22 Bar Opens @ Noon Euchre Tourney 1-5:00 pm
23	24 CLOSED	25 Bar Open 3:00 Pool League 7:00	26 Bar Open 3:00 Club Board MTG @7:00pm	27 Bar Open 3-6pm	28 Bar Open 3:00 Euchre 6:30	29 Bar 3pm Karaoke Halloween Party 7-11pm Dress up for this event!
30	31 CLOSED					

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 616-990-7436



HONOR GUARD
Al Schmidt: 616-502-3747

FACILITY RENTAL
Barbara Fletcher: 616-846-4669



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 Ted Raggl
 Vice Chairman Jerry Meicher
 Secretary John "Dutch" Ringelberg
 Treasurer John Bosse
 1 Trustee Sam Young
 2 Trustee Al Schmidt
 3 Trustee Blane E. Shafer

Always Post Commander
 3yr Term
 2yr Term
 3yr Term Always Quarter Master
 2yr Term
 1yr Term
 1yr Term



COMMANDER'S CORNER

Greetings All VFW members and families

Thanks to all those who came down for our open house, the night of our Burgers and Brats.

To all of you who didn't make it down, try and get down to see the changes to our building.

The changes are awesome! Our people did a great job. Its a great place to play cards with your family or friends, come on down.

Ted

HONOR GUARD ACTIVITIES

08/13 - Full honors Military Rites for Clifford Rance. This was done on a Saturday afternoon, during a terrible storm at the Eagles Campgrounds at Black Lake. It was an honor to do this for a two tour veteran of Vietnam.

08/17 - We hung a new American Flag at the Robbinswood Care Center, as requested by veterans that live there.

Still need veterans to join our Honor Guard. We only average about 3 funerals every two months, so it isn't really a time constraint for retired veterans. We also do community events that are very rewarding. This is one of the most rewarding ways to honor a veteran for serving his Country. The "thank-yous" we receive from the deceased family members are the greatest reward our group can receive. Call me at [616-502-3747](tel:616-502-3747) if you are interested in joining, or just have a question. This a critical period for our group, as we cannot continue to exist without more members willing to join our team. I have never had to turn down a funeral request yet, and I hope this goes on into our Team future.

Our Honor Guard Team will do Military Rites for all veterans, not just Veterans of Foreign Wars. We Honor all Veterans.

One last statement. I think all out Post members should say a "Thank You" to my Honor Guard" members, They have always been there when requested. I'm proud to have these veterans as team Mates, and so should you. They always do 100% at every event we have. God Bless America. Al Schmidt

NEWS FROM THE CHAPLAIN

This months spotlight falls on a member of the Auxiliary.

Beverly Shafer is not only a member of the VFW Ladies Auxiliary, she is a veteran of the United States Navy. Bev was born 10 February, 1954 in Muskegon to Henry and Nelva Van Andel. She has four sisters and one brother.

Bev was raised in Spring Lake and graduated from Fruitport High School.

In 1982, at the age of 28, Bev enlisted in the U.S. Navy. While in Boot Camp, in Orlando, Florida, Bev turned 29.

After Boot Camp Bev was sent to the Sub Tender "Jason" at Pearl Harbor.

Being a non-striker her duties included chipping paint and all the other menial deck duties.

When the opportunity to be a mess cook came up, Bev jumped at the chance. She was assigned to the Chiefs Mess, making her the first women to ever serve in the Chiefs mess on any ship.

Fraternization, much less marriage, was taboo on board. Somehow Bev wound up marrying Blaine Shafer, HT Chief at Poly Mountain. Because marriage wasn't allowed between crew members they had to be very discreet about their wedding.

Two days after their wedding, instead of a honeymoon, Blaine was sent to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba and Bev was sent back to Hawaii. Back aboard the "Jason" Bev began working in sick bay and became a Hospital corpsman striker.

Soon after she started a sailor came in with a gash in his head. Never having done it before, Bev stitched him up.

Finally she was sent to Class "A" Hospital corpsman School at Great Lakes, Illinois. Very nervous about going to school because she had never been a great student, but lo and behold she excelled and graduated with the highest honors in her class, while serving as Class Adjutant.

After graduation, and because her marriage to Blaine didn't have to remain secret, she was transferred to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. There she worked in the base hospital in all the different areas, finally winding up in O.B. which became her love.

In 1986 Bev was discharged and joined Blaine, who had been transferred to the Submarine base at Groton, Connecticut. While in Groton, as a civilian, Bev worked for an OBYN Doctor for over four years.

In 1990 Blaine retired from the Navy and he and Bev came back to Grand Haven. Blaine was already a member of the VFW and Bev joined the auxiliary in 1991.

Bev worked her way through the chairs and was Auxiliary President for two years.

Bev has, and continues to, give so much of herself to our Post. She volunteers to tend bar, for many of the Post events that occur and has been the motivating force behind the recent re-modeling of the Club Room.

When Bev talks about her life, she is quick to point out that, when needed, she has always felt the presence of Angels touching her shoulder. I believe VFW Post 2326 has an Angel on it's shoulder also, and her name is Bev Shafer. When you see her, give her a hug and a thank you. She gives a lot.

On the lighter side.....

It's a hot summer day and Jake and Harry are in a ditch digging away. Meanwhile, Ralph is up under the shade of a tree sipping on a cool drink. Jake asks Harry, "Why are we down here digging in the hot Sun while Ralph is being cool up there?" Harry says, "I don't know, I'll go ask him". Harry goes up and asks Ralph, "Why are you up here in the shade drinking a cool drink and Jake and I are in the ditch digging in the hot sun?" Ralph says, "'cause I've got smarts". "What's that? Asks Harry. Ralph puts his hand in front of the tree and says, "Hit my hand as hard as you can". Harry swings his fist at Ralph's hand, Ralph moves his hand and Harry hits the tree, hurting his hand. Ralph, says "I knew to pull my hand away, that's called having smarts". Harry goes back in the ditch and Jake asks, "What did he say?" Ralph says, "Its cause he has smarts." "What's that? Asks Jake. Harry puts his hand in front of his face and says. "Hit my hand!"

God bless and looking forward to seeing you at the October meeting.

LADIES AUXILIARY NEWS

Ladies Auxiliary News, October, 2011

Hope you had a nice relaxing summer. Now it's time to roll up your sleeves and get to work again.

There are hundreds of men and women veterans who are homeless. The Grand Rapids Home for Veterans is trying to get things together to help them. They will be asking for our help when they are ready.

All Past Presidents are invited to meet at the club on Tuesday, October 4th at 11:00 a.m. for a Pizza Lunch. RSVP to Janice Woirol at 846-6582.

Columbus Day will be observed on Monday, October 10th. Be sure to display your flag.

The Post will be serving a Meat Loaf dinner on Thursday, October 13th. Get together with your friends and enjoy a night out.

We extend our sympathies to the families of Violet Janes who passed away on July 10th and Alice Gifford who passed away on August 24th and to Sally and Stan Green whose son passed away on August 26th.

Date for the Auxiliary meeting is Wednesday, October 19th at 7:00 p.m. All members are welcome.

Aug 27th-31st the club received a new look, thanks the dedicated group of 17 who put in a combined 300+ hours.

These men and women were an awesome group to work with, their hard work & cheerfulness made a big job easy to complete.

A big Thank-Youk to Steve Randall Seavers (Seavers Painting) for going the extra mile to find a cost effective way to paint our room dividers and also making themselves available to our time schedule, they did an awesome job.

If you have seen our new look yet, come down and enjoy the view.

Thank -You again to the volunteers, you all have a special place in my heart.

Bev Shafer

Plans for Veteran's Day, Fri. Nov 11th Will include a short program followed by chili dinner, provided by the Men's Aux. The evening will conclude with entertainment by "Sweet Justice", Further Details will be in the November Newsletter. So... Save the Date!