



MICHIGAN LEGIONNAIRE

Michigan Legionnaire & Wolverine Auxiliaire Vol. LXXXIII No. 1

2014 - 2015 LEGION LEADERSHIP



SAL Commander Butch Maxwell



Department Commander Jim Wallace



Auxiliary President Nancy Knox

Welcome to Muskegon, Michigan

2014 Fall Conference - September 26-28, 2014



The 2014 Department of Michigan Fall Conference will be held in Muskegon, Michigan. Home to the USS Silversides SS-236 Museum. Make your hotel reservations today; a registration form is on page 19. It is also available online at www.michiganlegion.org/fyi We also encourage you to visit the website periodically for updates.

Holiday Inn –
Muskegon Harbor
939 Third St
Muskegon, MI
49440



<http://www.ihg.com/holidayinn>

Make hotel reservations directly by calling 231.722.0100.

Single or double occupancy rate is \$89.99, plus tax

No Return Postage Requested

MICHIGAN LEGIONNAIRE & AUXILIAIRE

(USPS 010637) is published monthly except February, May, August, and December by The American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Michigan, 212 N. Verlinden, Lansing, MI 48915-1297. Periodical postage paid at Lansing, MI, and additional mailing offices. Subscription \$10.00 non-members, members receive the publication as part of their dues. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Michigan Legionnaire, Department of Michigan, 212 N. Verlinden, Lansing, MI 48915-1297.

DEADLINE DATES

JULY/AUGUST 2014 - June 1, 2014

Circulation: 97,687

Printed: 7-3-14 · Mailed: 7-7-14

LEGION STATE HEADQUARTERS DIRECTORY

Publisher: Patrick W. Lafferty
Editor: Mark Sutton

The American Legion Dept. of Michigan
212 N. Verlinden, Lansing, MI 48915
(517) 371-4720 Fax: (517) 371-2401
Web Site: www.michiganlegion.org
Email: info@michiganlegion.org

Legion and SAL Membership - 24 -
deanna@michiganlegion.org

Legion Finance - 17 -
denise@michiganlegion.org

Programs, Boys State, Scholarships, Base-
abl, Website and History - 23 -
roxanne@michiganlegion.org

Veterans Service -12- Wednesday only

Public Relations - 16 -
mark@michiganlegion.org

Administration -13 -
kim@michiganlegion.org

Do you have a photo you would like to submit for the Michigan Legionnaire and/or website use? E-mail it to us at info@michiganlegion.org or mail it to department attn: Mark Sutton.

Please keep the photo at least 200 dpi or larger. If you are submitting a hard copy photo, please note photos printed from a home printer cannot be used, nor can photos clipped from newspapers.

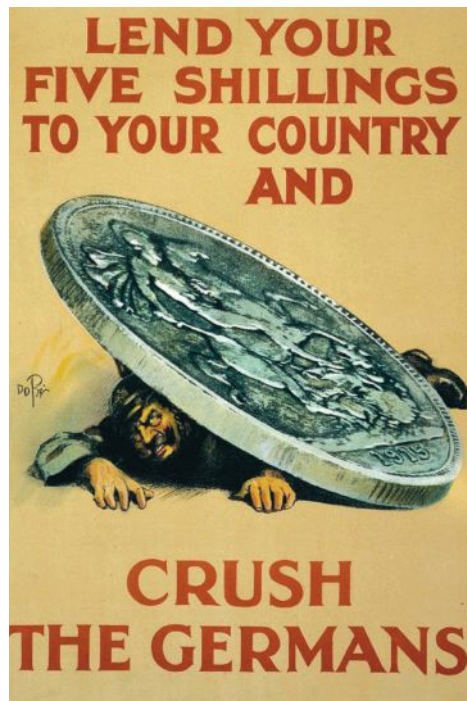
We look for photos showing Legion caps in action whenever possible.

Interested in placing an ad in the Michigan Legionnaire? Please Contact Mark Sutton at: info@michiganlegion.org or by phone at 517-371-4720 ext 16.

June 28th, 2014

100 Years Ago - Assassination Sparks World War 1

Reprinted from the History.com website
Picture British Propaganda poster



In an event that is widely acknowledged to have sparked the outbreak of World War I, Archduke Franz Ferdinand, nephew of Emperor Franz Josef and heir to the Austro-Hungarian Empire, is shot to death along with his wife by a Serbian nationalist in Sarajevo, Bosnia, on this day in 1914.

The great Prussian statesman Otto von Bismarck, the man most responsible for the unification of Germany in 1871, was quoted as saying at the end of his life that "One day the great European War will come out of some damned foolish thing in the Balkans." It went as he predicted.

The archduke traveled to Sarajevo in June 1914 to inspect the imperial armed forces in Bosnia and Herzegovina, former Ottoman territories in the turbulent Balkan region that were annexed by Austria-Hungary in 1908 to the indignation of Serbian nationalists, who believed they should become part of the newly independent and ambitious Serbian nation. The date scheduled for his visit, June 28, coincided with the anniversary of the First

Battle of Kosovo in 1389, in which medieval Serbia was defeated by the Turks. Despite the fact that Serbia did not truly lose its independence until the Second Battle of Kosovo in 1448, June 28 was a day of great significance to Serbian nationalists, and one on which they could be expected to take exception to a demonstration of Austrian imperial strength in Bosnia.

June 28 was also Franz Ferdinand's wedding anniversary. His beloved wife, Sophie, a former lady-in-waiting, was denied royal status in Austria due to her birth as a poor Czech aristocrat, as were the couple's children. In Bosnia, however, due to its limbo status as an annexed territory, Sophie could appear beside him at official proceedings. On June 28, 1914, then, Franz Ferdinand and Sophie were touring Sarajevo in an open car, with surprisingly little security, when Serbian nationalist Nedjelko Cabrinovic threw a bomb at their car; it rolled off the back of the vehicle and wounded an officer and some bystanders. Later that day, on the way to visit the injured officer, the archduke's procession took a wrong turn at the junction of Appel quay and Franzjosefst-rasse, where one of Cabrinovic's cohorts, 19-year-old Gavrilo Princip, happened to be loitering.

Seeing his opportunity, Princip fired into the car, shooting Franz Ferdinand

and Sophie at point-blank range. Princip then turned the gun on himself, but was prevented from shooting it by a bystander who threw himself upon the young assassin. A mob of angry onlookers attacked Princip, who fought back and was subsequently wrestled away by the police. Meanwhile, Franz Ferdinand and Sophie lay fatally wounded in their limousine as it rushed to seek help; they both died within the hour.

The assassination of Franz-Ferdinand and Sophie set off a rapid chain of events: Austria-Hungary, like many in countries around the world, blamed the Serbian government for the attack and hoped to use the incident as justification for settling the question of Slav nationalism once and for all. As Russia supported Serbia, an Austro-Hungarian declaration of war was delayed until its leaders received assurances from German leader Kaiser Wilhelm that Germany would support their cause in the event of a Russian intervention—which would likely involve Russia's ally, France, and possibly Britain as well. On July 28, Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia, and the tenuous peace between Europe's great powers collapsed. Within a week, Russia, Belgium, France, Great Britain and Serbia had lined up against Austria-Hungary and Germany, and World War I had begun.



Bob Gines of Gaines Jewelry in Flint is presented a Certificate of Appreciation for his help in our annual Poppy Campaign by Larry Williams, Past Commander of Oakley Traynor Post 64 in Flint. Bob has been a continuous member of the American Legion for over 66 years.

STATE OFFICERS

State Commander Jim Wallace, Pickney	Finance Officer .. George Dolan, Grand Blanc	Alt. National Executive Committeeman Roger Webster, Croton
State Adjutant... Patrick W. Lafferty, Farwell	Historian..... Mitch Louth, St. Johns	Immediate Past Commander Ray Moore, Lake
1st Zone..... Joe Callahan	Chaplain..... Larry Volink, Ypsilanti	Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Director Gary Easterling,
2nd Zone..... Jim Carlin	Sergeant-at-Arms Frank Flores, Madison Heights	Membership Dir.... Steve Striggow,
3rd Zone..... Marilyn Britten	Judge Advocate..... Elmer White, Muskegon	Public Relations Director Mark Sutton, Eaton Rapids
4th Zone..... Joe Renis	National Executive Committeeman	
5th Zone..... Jim Dougovito John Skinner, Schoolcraft	

Headquarters

Jim Wallace, State Commander



Jim Wallace
State Commander

It is a great honor and privilege to have the 96th American Legion, Department of Michigan State Convention delegation elect me as your Department Commander for the year 2014-2015 in Livonia, MI on June 29, 2014. During my campaign this past year, I was able to attend a meeting at each District and I wish to thank all District Commanders for

the opportunity to present my agenda and goals for the coming year.

I thank my wife, Linda, family and my mentors (you know who you are) for their support during these previous years that brought about the trust and confidence you have conferred upon me for this next year.

I look forward to representing everyone in the strict spirit of the American Legion. That involves working diligently toward the betterment of our Veterans, their families, the community, state and nation. It also includes working in unison with the Auxiliary, Sons of the Ameri-

can Legion and the Riders to bring together and enhance the programs and activities of the Legion Family. We, as a Family, must work as a team to help grow membership and magnify our appearance and standing within the communities of the posts, units, squadrons and chapters.

This year will be challenging with the replacement of a great adjutant, Pat Lafferty, the negotiations to have our Veteran Service Officers (VSO's) enhance their reach to all our veterans statewide, to promote our programs and activities and to increase our membership within the Family.

It can only be accomplished with the dedication of everyone to start off the year by working together. Being an "I" person is not an option for these accomplishments. As you have heard in the past – there is no "I" in TEAM.

Now is the time to initiate new ideas in order to accomplish our goals and overcome our challenges.

As Department Commander, I look forward to seeing you throughout the year at many functions and gatherings. If I haven't met you yet, please come up and introduce yourself.

Patrick Lafferty, State Adjutant

Welcome 2014 – 2015

New Beginnings



Patrick Lafferty
State Adjutant

For The American Legion the new membership year has begun as of July 1st, 2014. Congratulations to our new Department Commander Jim Wallace from the Pinckney Post and the 6th District. Congratulations to all of our new and returning District and Zone Commanders who were sworn in on Sunday immediately following convention. If you are new to a position please remember the Department staff is always here to assist.

We hit the ground running in the summer, as required by our by-laws our 30 day meeting will be held Saturday July 19th, 2014 at the Department Headquarters, followed by the Membership workshop down in Indianapolis. The bus will leave Lansing early in the morning to take

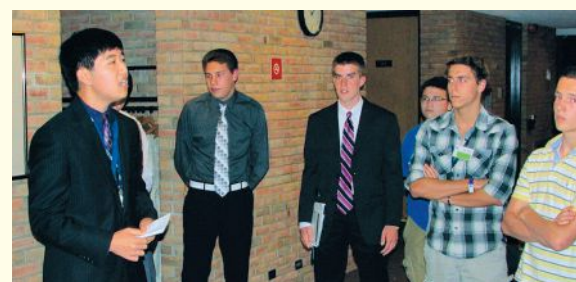
district commanders or their alternates on Thursday July 31st, 2014 to head to Indianapolis. The National staff puts on a great program to kick off your membership year right. Be ready to learn. We return Saturday evening, it's a fun and enlightening experience. We truly have a world class organization supporting our Posts, Districts, Zones, and Department.

Then it is down to Charlotte, NC for National Convention, from August 22nd, 2014 to August 28th, 2014 to finish business for the year and see a changing of the guard.

For Department we will have a great program ready for Fall Conference in Muskegon, MI September 26th – Sept 28th, 2014. Fill out your registration form and send it in.

For new officers at any level, welcome aboard, hold on tight the year will go by fast. Thank you for your dedication and service.

2014 Boys State



Veteran Expos Promise One-stop Shop for Veterans

Are you or someone you know interested in new career opportunities, thinking about returning to school or looking to connect with organizations in your community that serve veterans and their families? Then you won't want to miss the 2014 Veteran Expos, hosted by the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency. These free events will be held at the following locations across the state:

MARQUETTE August 8 & 9 Superior Dome	GRAND RAPIDS September 5 & 6 Deltaplex Arena	DETROIT November 7 & 8 Cobo Center
--	--	--

Employers from throughout the region and state will be at each expo seeking veterans to add to their workforce. Employment specialists will also be available to help you polish your resume and interviewing skills and ensure you are making the most of your military skills in the job market.

If a return to the classroom is in your future, you can also talk with representatives from Michigan colleges and universities about opportunities to get college credit for your service, on-campus veterans' programs and other questions you have about returning to school.

The expos will offer a one-stop shop for veterans to learn more about available services and resources in areas like housing, recreational opportunities, family support and more, and will serve as an opportunity for community organizations to reach out and honor veterans. The VA will offer on-site health screenings, and benefits counselors will be available to help you learn more about and apply for the benefits you have earned through your service.

For more information, contact the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency at 1-800-MICH-VET or visit www.MichiganVeterans.com.



Lady Liberty has been saved. A new base has been installed and the Lady has been put in her new place. An official re-dedication was held on July 3rd, 2014.

District Meetings 2014 - 2015

5th District

July 10th, 2014 @ Neal Fonger Post #179 at 7 P.M for the installation of new officers.

6th District

Lunch @ 12:00PM

Meeting @ 1:00PM

Sept 14, 2014 @ Post 491 – 422 Woodworth St, Leslie, MI

Nov 2nd, 2014 @ Post 64 – 4314 W. Carpenter Rd, Flint, MI

Jan 11th, 2015 @ Post 419 – 9807 Whitewood Rd, Pinckney, MI

March 8th, 2015 @ Post 269 1485 Haslett Rd., Haslett, MI

May 3rd, 2015 @ Post 267, 10309 Davison Rd., Davison, MI

7th District

August 10th, 2014 @ Mt Clemens Post

Oct 12th, 014 @ Sebewaing Post

Jan 11th, 2015 @ Lapeer Post

March 8th, 2015 @ Caro Post

May 17th, 2015 @Lapeer Post

June 2015 – Department Convention

8th District

Sept 7th, 2014 @ Elsie Post 502

Nov 2nd, 2014 @ Owosso Post 57

Jan 4th, 2015 @ Hubbaidston Post 182

March 1st, 2015 @ Stanton Post 175

May 3rd, 2015 @ Saranac Post 452

11th & 12th District

Fall Meeting October 11th, 2014 @ Post 349 Little Lake

Service Officer school at 9AM

District Meetings at 10:30AM

Association Meeting 1PM

16th District

Meetings begin at 7:30PM

* Service officer School at 6:30PM

Sept 9th, 2014 @ Allen Park Post 409 Dual meeting

Oct 14th, 2014 @ Riverview Post 389*

Nov 11th, 2014 @ Flat Rock Post 337

Dec 9th, 2014 @ Southgate Post 478*

Jan 13th, 2015 @ Stitt Post 232

Feb 10th, 2015 @ Fort Dearborn Post 364*

March 10th, 2015 @ Wyandotte Post 217

April 14th, 2015 @ Trenton Post 426*

May 12th, 2015 @ Lincoln Park Post 67 Memorial Service & Elections

June 9th, 2015 @ Garden City Post 396

18th District

Meetings start @ 2:00PM

July 13th, 2014 @ Post 172

Sept 14, 2014 @ Post 149

Nov 9th, 2014 @ Post 143

Jan 11th, 2015 @ Post 20

March 8th, 2015 @ Post 374

April 12th, 2015 @Post 216 Memorial Service

May 17th, 2015 @ Post 346 - Elections

June 14th, 2015 @ Royal Oak Post #253

2014 Top Recruiter of the Year - Ed Gorecki



L-R Ron Runyan (DMS), Gray Hlavka (4th Zone Cmdr), Ed Gorecki, and Membership Chairman Larry Money.

At the 2014 American Legion Department of Michigan Department of Michigan Summer Convention Ed Gorecki of Post 217 in Wyandotte Michigan was crowned Recruiter of the Year for the State of Michigan. Ed was recognized with an award from the National American Legion Membership as well as a plaque from Michigan Leadership.



212 N. Verlinden Ave, Ste. B, Lansing, MI 48915 New Phone: (517) 267-8809

SECTION TWO

AUXILIAIRE

Page 5

JULY/AUGUST 2014

From the Desk of the President

2014 - 2015 Department President, Nancy Knox



Thank you for allowing me the privilege of becoming President in the largest women patriot organization that we have. It is truly humbling to be in this position and I accept the responsibilities of this office with the help of my deep faith in God and the devoted commitment to the American Legion Auxiliary.

No one can achieve this position by herself. Throughout the years I have had some wonderful mentors. One stands on my shoulder every day as an angel and is usually whispering in my

Let the Little Changes Start

ear. Others are in the background encouraging me every day and to them a huge thank you for all you do. But remember the year is just starting so your job as mentors isn't quite over with.

I would like to thank the members of my Unit #351- Utica. I know some of our meetings can get long and drawn out as I have a lot to say. Add to that my insistence of making them do things the right way and I am sure they are not always happy with me but, I am so proud of them.

Next is to thank my family for letting me do what I love for this upcoming year. I know that this "grandma" missed several big days, and I am sure there will be others, but thank you for

understand. A huge thank you in advance to my husband John for the driving, carrying luggage and the endless speeches he will hear.

My theme for the year is "LITTLE CHANGES, BIG DIFFERENCES FOR OUR VETERANS". So I am asking, pleading, begging for each member of the American Legion Family to make one small change that will help the American Legion Family grow and be stronger. My project for the year is the Dorothy Pearl Scholarship. More on that at fall conference.

So let the Small Changes start and we will finish with a big difference for our Veterans, Community and our State.

Michigan's Year-End Impact Report—2013-14

Below is the information required by the National American Legion Auxiliary to report the hours and dollars which each department acquires during the respective year. The following report is what I turned in to National regarding Michigan. The women of our auxiliaries are working very hard for our veterans, their families, and community. I believe after reviewing this report, you will agree.

Department—Michigan

Number Units in Department—282

Department President—Sandra Snyder

Department Secretary—Bonnie Olson

Here is what our department did during the following reporting period this year:

- 1. Our service for veterans:** (Examples include hours volunteering at the VA, helping Wounded warriors and elderly veterans at home, providing transportation, distributing poppies, recording veterans histories, raising money for the Veterans Creative Arts Festival, fundraising events at your unit or post, training, planning and assisting with veterans job fairs, et el.)

Hours volunteered—88,112

Dollars we spent--\$209,534

Value of in kind donations requested and received--\$138,416

Number of veterans assisted—88,705

Number of Veterans in the Classroom presentations facilitated—41

Number of new Home Service Volunteers recruited—4

Number of new Field Service Volunteers recruited—110

Number of poppies purchased for distribution—538,450

Dollars raised from the poppies distributed--\$237,990

Number of veterans who made the poppies—30

Total amount paid to veterans who made poppies--\$33,818

2. Our service for active duty military

(Examples include shopping for and preparing care packages, writing letters, contacting legislators, helping with US military or National Guard send-off and welcome home events, et al)

Hours volunteered—6,527

Dollars spent--\$72,788

Number of US service members served—5,509

- 3. Our service for military families**—(Examples include organizing and delivering hero packs, helping with service projects, promoting-- ALA KIDDS—Kids in Danger of Depression or Suicide—or mental health awareness day, providing child care, tutoring at school, distributing blue star banners, et el)

Hours volunteered—11,531

Dollars spent--\$68,424

Number of military families served—2,951

4. Scholarships our Department presented

Number of scholarships presented/awarded—123

Dollar amount of local scholarships—\$22,388

Dollar amount donated to Department scholarships--\$46,888

5. Children & Youth Information

Number of volunteer hours served for children—4,545

Total dollars raised for children--\$58,733

Number of children served—2,362

Bonnie Olson - Secretary-Treasurer

*This is why we serve, this is why we donate,
THIS is our mission.*

MILITARY AWARENESS MONTH

Two local Military support groups, Soldiers around the World (SAW) and the Michigan Armed Forces Hospitality Center, Inc. (Freedom Center) joined forces for a May 10th event at Kroger Stores in our area

SAW is a military support group started by Tammy DeFord an "Army Mom" from Livonia, Michigan. SAW collects non-perishable items and hygiene products and ships them to individual soldiers, sailors, marines and airmen deployed in Afghanistan and other theaters. Shipping these packages overseas is a major expense and donations from community members, local businesses are used to pay for the shipments.

Michigan Armed Forces Hospitality Center, Inc. is a Michigan 501©3 group that operates The Freedom Center military lounge at Gate A-43 in the McNamara Terminal at Detroit Metropolitan Airport for traveling military, family members and veterans.

I received a Press Release from Mark Sutton, Public Relations Director from the American Legion Department of Michigan. His email stated that SAW needed volunteers for their May 10th event at Kroger Stores in our area.

A chance to (Step Out Of The Box) as I have been talking about all year to our members. Find another group that is working for our service members, our veterans and their families. Partner up with them for their events or ask them to partner up with you. You may find a new Auxiliary member in their group as you tell them who we are, what we do for our veterans, their families and our communities.

This is what I did when I choose FREEDOM CENTER as my special project for my year as Michigan's Department President. I made two phone calls and had volunteers to staff the Westland Kroger Store in our area. 17th District President Claudia Barbara - Martin and Connie Kovacs Department Children & Youth Chairman and myself also members of the 17th District. We worked two shifts giving out flyers to Kroger customers which had a list of items they could purchase as they shopped. Items were placed in our special shopping carts as they left the store. Information about SAW and Freedom Center were available at our table. This event was a great success. During our time at the store 10 shopping carts were fill to their tops, plus all the cases of water that was placed beside them.

Thank you Tammy DeFord, and SAW for all you do for our service men and women you help and also for your support of FREEDOM CENTER.

-Sandra Snyder

Deanna Cortright, Department Chaplain

Thankful Now and Tomorrow.....

As I write this I am thinking of all the people and things that I have to be thankful for. There are my grandmother that taught me so much about

how to be an adult, my parent's for my even being here, all of my teachers and friends that I have had throughout the years, my husband, my daughter Jennifer who taught me so much about why we need to live life to the fullest, and the girls that stepped in after her death to become my daughters and have allowed me to be Grandma to all of their children. But, above all of those people, I have to thank my God for helping me get through all of the down times in my life.

We all have so many people and things to be thankful for. We, when being thankful for the things that we have, must also thank the many Veterans and their families for all that they have sacrificed over the years to allow us to have the freedom to have so much. Many people throughout the world

aren't given the opportunities that we are.

We are thankful for our Veterans but we don't often take the time to actually say thank you. Memorial Day and Veterans Day are set aside for thanking them but why just two days? Shouldn't we think about the individuals that put themselves out there for us more than just two days a year? They spent much more than two days a year thinking of all of us.

Many of us have prayer chains through our places of worship, or a group we belong to. Wouldn't it be great to add our current servicemen and women to that list. Whether we know anyone that is serving personally or not, they can always use our support and prayers that someone will watch over them as they protect our freedom every day.

As we leave one Auxiliary year and move into a new one, I ask that each of us remembers those that we are thankful for, and why. Please remember to tell them, if you can, that you are thankful that they are a part of your lives.

The ALA-USAA Credit Card – Rewards Members AND Departments

Promote the card to increase money to your department!

They're gorgeous – have great reward benefits for members – and generate revenue for the department! A triple Win! Win! Win!

The ALA-USAA Rewards Credit Cards are attractive with the Auxiliary emblem and either their pretty poppies or American Flag flying proudly. The American Legion Auxiliary and USAA were both founded on similar principles after World War I – a commitment to serve veterans and military families

These cards help fund Auxiliary programs and support veterans as well as active-duty military and their families each time you use them! USAA Bank makes a contribution to the American Legion Auxiliary each time a member opens an account, makes eligible purchases, and keeps their account active. The cards also offer valuable rewards for the member who uses them, earning one point for every dollar spent, that can be used for gift cards, cash, or merchandise.

You can help ensure the success of this great member benefits at the department level by encouraging members to apply and then use these cards. And promotion of the cards is easy! Really! USAA can provide you with credit card applications for distribution at your summer convention. They can also send you a PowerPoint presentation about the cards that

can easily be included in your program. Some departments have already arranged to have a USAA spokesperson on site to discuss the benefits of the card and to answer questions.

By calling now, you may be able to secure a spokesperson at your convention! An opportunity also exists to have units sign up to receive applications and PowerPoint presentations and that assistance is just a phone call or email away. Our USAA contact is Glenda Oakley Cook, Account Manager, at Military Affinity/USAA in San Antonio, TX. Her phone number is 210-413-7859 and her email address is Glenda.oakley@usaa.com .

USAA is a proud sponsor of the ALA and has a dedicated phone line and website specifically for ALA members. To become a USAA ALA cardholder members can call 1-855-291-8252 or go online to www.usaa.com/ala.

Mary "Dubbie" Buckler | Executive Director/National Secretary | American Legion Auxiliary National Headquarters | Direct: 317-569-4506; Fax: 317-569-4502 | DBuckler@ALAforVeterans.org | www.ALAforVeterans.org | In the Spirit of Service Not Self for Veterans, God and Country

2014 Scholarships

Medical Scholarship Winners

Last Name	First Name
Backlas	Joseph
Bundschuh	Colton
Cleveland	Sydney
Currie	Natalie
Otto-Dove	Cassidy
Edgar	Kyla
Elles	Jean
Ford	MacKenzie
Hoffman	Tia
Jacks	Marissa
LaVigne	Allison
Lyon	Devinne
May	Heather
Mitcham	Auguste
Moore	Katelyn
Natzke	Mariah
Newby	Adam
Perkins	Taylor
Powell	Devyn
Spencer	Gretchen
Story	Kaitlin
Taylor	Ashley
Watt	Jalissa
Webb	Valerie

ALTERNATES

Gooseberry Laura

Memorial Scholarship Winners

Barnum	Bonnie
Barry	Brittanie
Bussler	Lea
Champion	Alexus
Driscoll	Silver
Gembarowski	Degen
Gotham	Breanne
Grosvenor	Autumn
Harrington	Angela
Hassebrock	Mary
Haught	Karen
Herstine	Emma
Iuliano	Hunter
Kelsey	Michelle
Kief	Catlin
Lohrey	Katelynn
Marcath	Samantha
McLeod	Mariah
Moore	Gretchen
Penny	Lauren
Rozegnal	Jaycie
Saylor	Haley
Segard	Makayla
Spence	Courtney
Zoller	Kathryn

ALTERNATES

Bean Emily
Lyon Devinne

Department Non-Traditional Scholarship Winners

Campanella Camille
Peck Stephanie



Kathleen Cool and Elaine Tisch, demonstrating folding the thirteen folds of The American Flag at the first evening of Girls State on June 15th, 2014. These Auxiliary women are members of American Legion Mackinder-Glenn Post#510: Auxiliary, Stockbridge, MI 49285. Thank you, Girls State for inviting us to participate our second year. It is a honor to be a part of such a great organization.

The American Legion, leading 70 Years of the G.I. Bill



The American Legion, the nation's largest veterans service organization, etched a permanent place in history in 1944 when it conceived, drafted and led efforts to pass the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, the original GI Bill. The ensuing legislation educated tens of millions of veterans in the second half of the 20th century, creating the U.S. middle class, revolutionizing higher education and dramatically increasing home ownership in America. American Legion Past National Commander Harry Colmery, who helped draft the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, said, "The American Legion proposed this bill ... because we believed it to be the duty, responsibility and desire of our grateful people.

78th Annual Bowling Tournament 2014

The champions of the 78th annual bowling tournament 2014 are:

Team Event; from Oakley Traynor Post 64, of Flushing; "Cats-5"; Ron Miller (Capt.), Jim Thomason, Dave Shegos, Scott Campbell, and Mike Stewart. Score 3508 (Hcp. 00) Doubles Event; Walter Frazer Post 108, of Oxford; Don Walker and Deione Walker Score 1430 (Hcp.45) Singles Event; from Chief Pontiac Post 377 of Pontiac; Dwayne Griggs. Score 792 (Hcp. 00) Honorable mentions go out to Bob Tice & Gary LaMunyon of Lynn C Weeman Post 514, of Ida, with 300 games. Gary Rupar of Charles Conklin Post 28, of Spring Lake shot 299. Larry Speck of Myron H Beals Post 32, rolled 804 in the last team event of the Tournament.

The checks were sent out in late May, you will need to contact your team captain or post depending on the address that was put on the entry form to see if you have a little something coming! Checks must be cashed within 90 days. Checks not cashed will be returned to the general fund and not reissued.

The bowling tournament for 2015 will be hosted by Harold Ollrich Post 4 of Mt. Clemens. Further information will follow on the bowling establishment which as of this writing Inferno Lanes. The weekends of choice are April 11 & 18, 2015. There will be a morning and afternoon Squads, if needed. The Honorary President will be Art Miller (Subject to Change). This is important to all participants, you

do not have to bowl in all three events, you may bowl in any combination of events, be it just one or all three. Furthermore, you may bowl in doubles and team event again, provided you have a different partner or team!

The Association would like to thank Jerry & Joe Doyle for having a wonderful staff at the lanes and meeting the needs of all our participants. I would be remiss if I didn't send out my personal Kudos's to Sue Rodriguez who takes care of the changes and the initial input of information. At-ta' Boys & Girls go out to Dane Carnell and his crew of finely tuned personnel. Well Done. Please keep our S.A.L.'s informed as they do not receive the Legionnaire.

In closing, everyone who has participated in the tournament over the years, has notice the decline in participants. We have 406 posts in Michigan of which only 24 competed this year. It looks like word of mouth may be are best resource. If you belong to a league you may want to see if anyone might be interested in next year. Please remember the eligibility rules have been modified, therefore, we will not send info packets to all the posts in Michigan, however, all team Captains of record of this years tournament shall get one. You may contact us anytime for information about the Tournament or to receive next years info packet if you are not on our mailing list @ 734-422-8670 Or Malbowl@sbcglobal.net.

As always; Yours in comradship. Scotty, Don, Ellen & Elsie

Selfridge Open House a 'Thank You' to Community September 6th & 7th, 2014



A wide range of American military capabilities will be on public display during the 2014 Selfridge Open House & Air Show, scheduled for the weekend September 6th & 7th, 2014..



said.

The second theme – Women in Aviation – will highlight the many contributions that female aviators have made to advance the mission of the Air Force and to the development of flight in general. A

number of civilian female aerial acrobatic performers are scheduled to appear at the Open House and many of them will also be offering a short presentation about their careers and experiences in aviation.

"The Open House provides an opportunity for the young people of our community to become exposed to some of the possible careers that exist in the military and in aviation in general," Ward said. "We are very pleased that many of the women who will be flying at Selfridge during the Open House will be available to meet our visitors in a designated tent during the show."

With parking and admission to the Open House free, Ward and other Selfridge leaders strongly encourage those who plan on attending the show to arrive early – gates open at 8 a.m. and flying starts around 11 a.m. – and make a day of it, in order to avoid the worst of the traffic congestion that typically takes place during the late morning and afternoon of the Open House.

Additional details on the Open House will be available at www.selfridgeopenhouse.com.



The Open House – which is free to the public – provides an opportunity for local military units to showcase their mission in a way that also provides a "thank you" to the citizens of the metropolitan Detroit area for their long-standing support of Selfridge Air National Guard Base.

The Open House will feature displays from all branches of the U.S. military, as well as the U.S. Customs & Border Protection agency, which has a significant presence at Selfridge. Among the highlights at the Open House will be an aerial demonstration by the U.S. Navy Flight Demonstration Team – better known as the Blue Angels

Two themes will be prevalent during the 2014 Open House, said Major Bartley Ward, an A-10 Thunderbolt II pilot at Selfridge who is serving as the Open House director.

"The first will be the Air National Guard & Armed Forces, obviously demonstrating to the local community the capabilities not only of the air power assets that we operate, but the many, many different skills and abilities that our Armed Forces have based right here at Selfridge and in the surrounding area," Ward

2014 State Convention - Livonia





Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Michigan Newsletter

Editors: Sandy Lipman

SAL 2014/2015 DETACHMENT COMMANDER MAXWELL



I am looking forward to spending time with the American Legion commander and the auxiliary

President this year. I hope I can serve the office of detachment commander as well as past commander Boughner. This year will be a learning experience for me. I am looking forward to working with a lot of new faces and helping people as much as I can. I will do my best to support veterans as much as I possibly can. This

is what the American Legion family is all about; taking care of veterans.

My goal this year is to make people aware of PTSD Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. Also to help in trying to get this changed from Disorder to an injury. In doing these veterans will be able to get the help they need to cope with coming to try to live a normal life.

The next thing I would like to touch on is membership; we need to try to get veterans coming home from the current war to join the American Legion. A lot of veterans don't know what we are about they can use the

American Legion as a support group to get help from our service officers and send them to get help they need. Also when these veterans come home we need to make them feel welcome greet them with a smile and a hand shake and thank them for their service.

I am looking forward to traveling around the state and making new friends, and visiting some posts I have not been to yet. When visiting different posts it is a way to see the many different ways to make our own post more productive.

These are just a few of the things I have in mind to make

my year as commander special. I hope I can make the American Legion Family proud of me. I will do my best to make it to as many events as possible that I am invited to, I know I will not be able to attend all but I will try. Please feel free to contact me if you need I will try to get back to you as soon as possible, I am available after 4:30 weekdays.

e-mail:
butch2460@comcast.net

Thank you,

Harley (Butch) Maxwell

DETACHMENT DUES INCREASE EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

At the Detachment of Michigan Summer Convention in South Haven, Michigan delegates present passed a \$1 increase in dues owed to the Detachment. The change brings the Detach-

ments due's to \$8.00 up from \$7.00 per member. Effective immediately, the increase is to cover the expense of being included in the Michigan Legionnaire a few times a year.

CHILD WELFARE

By, **John A. Kailunas,**
CWF Chairman

Did your Squadron earn a Child Welfare streamer/ribbon for your Squadron Banner? If so, CONGRADULATIONS! And THANK YOU!

The CWF Ribbon for your Banner is available for any Squadron, district, or Detachment which donates at least \$1.00 per member. If your Squadron, District, or Detachment has done so, the Adjutant can request the form on line. Go to the National

American Legion web site, then to Child Welfare sub site and you will find the request there.

If every Squadron has just one fund raiser a year for Child Welfare, we would meet our Squadron, District, and Detachment objectives.

As of May 31st, 2014 the Detachment of Michigan raised \$12,258.62, about \$.58 per member. On the National level the Sons raised over \$346,099 for this very special children's foundation about \$.97 per member.

LEGION RIDERS YEAR END REPORT 2013-2014



Tom Howard,
Chairman
American
Legion Riders
Detachment
of Michigan

The American Legion Riders in Michigan continue to have new chapters forming. I have received numerous calls in regards help on getting chapters started. Through pushing for more safe riding information and classes the Legion Riders were invited to be part of the Governors Motorcycle Action Team. This is a group through MDOT, Secretary of State, Michigan State Police, Governor's office and others with a common goal of motorcycle safety. I consider this an honor as the Legion Riders and Abate are the only actual riders organizations in the meetings. The Michigan Legion Riders web site is beginning to blossom as new events are being added. Please submit your chapters major events for the web site to myself. There have been a number of requests this

last year for Legion Rider tri fold brochures. As long as I continue to have access to these I will continue to send them to Chapters and Posts that request them. They are a great way to promote the Legion Riders of Michigan and your chapter. I hope to ride with some of you to the National Convention in Charlotte this year in support of the Legacy Scholarship. Throughout the year my wife and I have enjoyed traveling to Posts and meeting new people, and helping chapters. Sharing ideas can be beneficial to all as I know I have learned many new things from other Posts and Chapters. We appreciate all of our Legion Families support in helping us as well as support from the great Legion staff in Lansing. It is my wish to continue working for the Son's of the American Legion and promoting our great country, Veterans and the Legion Family.

Ride for a Veteran as they may not be able to ride.

COMMANDER'S FINAL REPORT:

Wow it is really hard to take a blank piece of paper and sum up a whole year. When I decided to run for Detachment Commander I knew it was going to be a very busy year, but words cannot describe how much of a pleasure it has been to represent the Michigan Sons this year.

I started the year off with a bang, after our Convention in Grand Haven, my first duty was to attend the UP Summer Convention, in Menominee. What a great trip, and the Sons in the UP continue to do a good job supporting our veterans. I left Menominee at 4:00 in the morning and drove to Boys State, this is the first time I had the opportunity to see this program up close, and I was so impressed by the young men who were participating. After a short visit I was off to Girls State in Lansing, again an impressive group of young ladies, what a great group of volunteers that the legion family has for these two programs.

Next up was a day working at the Michigan Veterans Foundation in Detroit at a summer veterans stand down; it was really difficult to see how some of our homeless veterans are in need of the simple things in life like deodorant and socks.

At the end of June it was off to the Department Convention in Sault Saint Marie, where my "dad" Commander Ray Moore and my "mom" President Sandy Snyder were elected, and we became an instant family, I know

Final NEC Report JULY/AUGUST 2014

PROUD TO BE AN S.A.L. MEMBER

Greg Price, N.E.C.

We as Sons of the American Legion have continued to be an important part of supporting the programs of the American Legion. We have been persistent in our donations to Children & Youth, as well as our support for Boy's State, Girl's State, and Student Trooper. We have Representatives that help within V.A. Hospitals, and our membership has contributed many voluntary hours in helping the Veterans who are in those facilities.

We have shown support for our Veterans and their families by our assistants in programs such as Operation Comfort Warrior, Fisher House, USO, Freedom Centers, and with the number of our members who have ridden their motorcycles in the Legacy Runs, which has helped to raise donations for Legacy Scholarships.

WE have also displayed that we care about those within our communities, with us supporting local Scouting Clubs, High School ROTC programs, Baseball groups, and by assisting in various local Charity events. We have shown that we would like to make Veterans Assistance Day last all year, by being there for any Veteran who may be in need of having us to help shovel their sidewalk, cut their lawn, give them a ride to a doctor appointment, or maybe to just "stop by and talk for a while".

My time as our Detachments National Executive Committeeman is coming to a close. I have been very proud of you my brothers, and all the great things you have accomplished. You have given of yourselves, and it has shown that we are truly a part of the American Legion Family. I really believe that those Veterans of the Great Wars are delighted in the things we have been doing, and are honored that we are their Male Descendants.

we will be friends for life. During Convention, I attended the UPAA picnic, marched in the parade and met a lot of great people.

In July, I had a lot of fun at the Chesaning Parade and the Grand Rapids Veterans Home Carnival, where against my better judgment; I participated in the annual pie eating contest (if you don't believe me check out our website). What love and support the legion family has for the Veterans at the home, Brad Koch and Joe Hollaman manned the grill and Dominic Merlington had a tent full of goodies for the veterans. It was so much fun to see the faces of the Veterans as they participated in the event.

At the beginning of August it was my pleasure to attend the annual Chief Pontiac homeless veteran's picnic, Carvin Chapman and the Sons working together with the Legion and Auxiliary put on a great day of fun and activities not to mention great food for the guys.

Next was an amusing and entertaining golf outing in Ida. What a great job Doug Winkler and the Sons do putting this event together, the only problem is while I was golfing my wife was working on getting me a new car. I have to laugh at her qualifications for the car, she knew the make and model she wanted but the only request was that the car was white, since the Legion Commander had a blue car and the Auxiliary President had a red car and she wanted mine to be white so we would have red, white and blue. I know what you are thinking but without her I could not have done this job.

Houston, we got a problem! It was too hot! August National Convention business went on without a glitch except for the fact that Legion Adjutant Pat Lafferty lost his luggage for the first two days and kept asking everyone if they had spare underwear.

September was Service Officer's School, Fall Conference and the 16th District tour. As most of you know, my special project for the year is Operation Comfort Warrior and my theme for the year is Penguins. Well as I was leaving the Fall Conference this year my favorite stuffed penguin, "Colonel" was kidnapped. After receiving several ransom letters I was given a challenge to raise \$500 for OCV, which I did and the kidnappers (Sandy & Kimmy Lipman) returned Colonel to me safe and sound.

October events included, the 10th District tour, a visit to Commander Moore's home post in Lake City, a trip to Commander and Adjutant's school in Indianapolis and an Oktoberfest fundraiser at Birmingham Troy.

On to November and the War Bonnet Dinner at Chief Pontiac, the 18th District tour, and one of the most significant events was the Veteran's Day service at the National Veteran's Cemetery in Holly. Representing the Detachment in the Detroit Veteran's Day parade although it was cold outside it was a privilege. Along with NEC Greg Price and other members of the Legion Family we had a wonderful Thanksgiving Dinner with area Veterans from the VA in Detroit at the Taylor Post. After the dinner there was an elderly lady who wowed the crowd with some fabulous tap dancing. What a cool event!

December brought a visit to the Battle Creek VA Hospital Christmas Gift shop what a great job the Auxiliary does making sure our veterans have a happy holiday.

During the year I was able to meet up with many Sons and Legion Family members at Leadership school in Detroit at the Joe Lewis Post, Frankenmuth and Port Huron. It is always terrific to meet the future leaders of our organization.

Then came January and snow, snow, snow! Cedar Springs was my first stop where I received a pair of red flannels, who knew I was going to need them this year. My third trip to the UP was for the UP Winter Tour, we

were able to visit some smaller posts and it was cool to hear about all the work that they do for the veterans. One of the highlights of the trip was the tours of the Jacobetti Home for Veterans and the VA Hospital in Iron Mountain.

February came in with the roar of winter and the Americanism Dinners at the Stit and Chief Pontiac posts, the annual Legislative breakfast in Lansing, the Four Chaplain's service in Lapeer and Winter Conference. God Bless America!

Happy Birthday American Legion, March was a great month with two American Legion Birthday parties, at Port Huron and IDA, I really enjoyed the speakers at each of these events. The month rounded out with a trip to Maryland for National Commander Joe Gladden's homecoming and on to Washington DC for the annual conference and then back home for the 6th District tour.

I have told my wife that I don't have enough confidence in myself to own a motorcycle, I know for sure if you put that much power under me, I would definitely be in trouble, but what fun I had when I attended the 20th Anniversary of the Legion Riders at the Dearborn VFW the first week in April. It was great food and great company and I learned a lot about the program.

Talk about inspiration, the Jr. Auxiliary Convention that was held at the Milford post in April really showed how our young members are preparing themselves for the future of our organization. Next came the joint Testimonial Dinner where Past Commander Dick Chapman stole the show, Dick's roast of Commander Moore was the highlight of the evening. Thanks to all those who were able to attend.

Back on the road in May, I attended the National Management Institute program in Indianapolis. The Holland Tulip Festival was next and what a fantastic event. The folks at Holland really spoiled both me and my wife and don't tell anyone but I have already worn my wooden shoes they gave me around the house.

I am writing this in the middle of May and at this point I only have a couple of more events on my calendar, the Vietnam Traveling Memorial wall in Grandville, Lapeer Post installation of Officers, Polar Bear Memorial Service and then I will be meeting you in beautiful South Haven for Detachment Convention.

All in all it has been a magnificent year, a year I will remember for the rest of my life.

Thank You, to everyone who asked me to attend your event, your hospitality and generosity is greatly appreciated. Thanks to everyone who gave me a special gift from hats to gloves, pins and penguin paraphernalia, I really appreciate your kindness and thoughtfulness.

Thanks to all the members and Squadrons who donated to my special project (Operation Comfort Warrior). Donations so far are more than \$4,000!

Thank You, to all the Past Detachment Commanders for your consultation and support.

Thanks to my father Gary who served in the Army during the Vietnam Era and gave me my eligibility for the Sons. A big Thank you to my wife Jacquelynn who traveled with me and supported me throughout this year her love and encouragement was really key to my success.

Last but not least Thank You, to all the members who voted for me, for all of your hard work and dedication throughout the year.

Yours in Service,

Commander Michael G. Boughner
Detachment of Michigan Commander 2013-2014

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Dwaine Verville

As the close of my second year as Membership Chairman I am able to report that the membership team was able to achieve the goals set forth by National. I participated in all the conference calls that were done by Central Vice Commander Randy Eicher, which included all the Detachments in the Central Region. I found it a great tool to stay informed on what the other Detachments were doing for membership. At the time of this report, we are at 90.30%, which is 24th place at National.

With one month before convention 57 Squadrons are at 100% with 24 Squadrons receiving an award to display at their Post home. Last year, 97 squadrons achieved 100% by National Convention and earned

an award. Hopefully those squadrons will once again get 100% and update their awards. Another order was placed for more awards so this program will be continued.

The year started out slow but with the work of the Zone Commanders we ended the year with only 11 zero squadrons which come out at less than .5%. Hopefully some will send in membership after this report.

Individual recruitment award forms were sent to all squadrons and hopefully the members take advantage of earning this award. Many of the squadrons did recruit 5 or more members and they are eligible.

In closing I would like to thank all Zone, District and Squadron Commanders and the membership team for working so hard and making my job as Chairman much easier.

NEF & PUBLICATION FINAL REPORT

By, Sandy Lipman, SAL NEF Chairman & SAL Publication

Once again it is hard to believe this year is almost over. Congratulations to Commander Mike Boughner for a great job this year and we know you will continue to do so after your term is finished.

This project is the National Commander Dellinger's project. His goal Nationwide is \$1,000,907.01. As of April 15th he has received \$249,151,089. To date the Department of Michigan has given a total of \$4,485.00 of which \$1,350.00 includes donations from the Detachment and other Squadrons

Our Newsletter in conjunction with the Michigan Legionnaire has been going great. Our issues have been well received by the Legion Family. We have had nothing but positive responses as well as members in general commenting on not knowing that the SAL throughout this State supported the Legion

Programs like they do. This publication goes out to every Legion Family household. So as in the past if they being Legion or Auxiliary Members have never received an SAL Newsletter they can now see exactly what we do as this great Organization.

By doing this in conjunction with the Michigan Legionnaire it has increased our cost for this publication. We will be proposing an amendment at SAL Convention to help cover the extra expense of this great new addition to the Michigan Legionnaire which goes to over to 175,000 members as well as including throughout the Country. We can only "toot" our own horn as no one else is going to do it. So PLEASE send me your articles, pictures so I can do my best to make sure that you and we as a Detachment Squadron are recognized in all the great work that we do to help support this great Legion Family.

To: Mike Boughner,
Detachment Commander 2013-14



L-R Randy Eicher, NVC, Mike Moss, Greg Price, NEC, & Ron Wyatt

Mike,

It has indeed my honor and privilege to serve the Detachment of Michigan and the Central Region as your National Vice Commander for the 2013-14 membership year. Being able to interact with the leadership of the 126,000+ members of the 8 state Central Region has been an experience that has enriched my life and one that I will never forget. The friendships that I have built during the year will forever be cherished and the personal bonds created will forever hold a special place in my memories. Being a guest of the Detachment of Michigan as you celebrate a very successful year with your annual convention is an experience that I am proud to be a part of.

As members, family and friends assemble this weekend in southwest Michigan to share one another's fellowship and company, pat your selves on the back for the successes of this year. Your commitment, dedication and devotion to the Veterans and Children of your communities has been unparalleled. You have approached and completed projects that benefited countless individuals with "purpose, pride and passion" and your efforts are greatly appreciated. May we forever be "United in Service" as the American Legion Family for our past, present, future veterans and the children of our Country.

For God and Country,

Randy Eicher

Central Region National Vice Commander 2013-14

ZONE 5 REPORT

Dwaine Verville

Another successful year comes to a close in the 5th Zone. We started the year in Menominee at the U.P. Summer Convention where we were joined by Commander Mike and Jacquelynn along with PDC Rodney and Wendy. Two weeks later we went to Dept. Convention in Sault Ste Marie and stopped by Wil-Win Lodge on our way home.

In September we attended the Fall Conference at Boyne Highlands and was able to present a Charter to Trout Lake Squadron #80 on my way home.

Gladstone Post #71, was the sight of the U.P. Fall Conference in October, were we once again held a meeting

with the squadrons that were in attendance.

I was not able to travel on the Mid Winter Tour of the U.P. in January but did hold a meeting with the squadrons in attendance at Post #50 in Iron Mountain.

I have been contacting and working with squadrons on membership and currently have 8 squadrons at 100% and 1 zero squadron. And as previously stated, one new squadron. I am certain there will be several more squadrons that will attain 100% before the end of the year.

I would like to thank all the squadrons for their hard work in helping the Posts, Veterans and the Community.

MIAP FINAL REPORT JULY/AUGUST 2014

We continue to locate the ashes of Veterans who were crimated, and no one has come forward to claim their Cremains. Once the cremains of a Veteran are discovered, it must then be established that the Veteran is eligible to be buried in a National Cemetery. When this has been confirmed, the Veteran can then be interned with Full Military Honors.

We Sons have been doing a good job in working with Veteran Service Organizations to help make it possible to help get these Heroes off the shelves of the Funeral Homes, and Mortuaries, that they have been sitting on for years

Members of the Dearborn Allied War Veterans Council have continued to honor the Cremains of Veterans with a Solemn Memorial Day

Ceremony.

Jeff Dold had been contacted by a widow of a Veteran, and wanted to know if he knew how she could get her husband interned in Holly National Cemetery. Jeff told her that he would contact the Cemetery and get the needed information.

Jeff Meulendyk was instrumental in locating four (4) forgotten Veterans in Wyoming, Michigan.

These are just some of the stories about Forgotten Heroes that have been located by members of our Detachment. Please let us continue to help discover the Cremains of these Veterans, and help them to be interned with their brothers and sisters.

These Veterans have Not been Forgotten,
Greg Price MIAP

HELLO FROM THE S.A.L 3RD ZONE

Harley (Butch) Maxwell, S.A.L 3rd Zone Commander

I hope everyone is getting through the winter just fine. Cabin fever is starting to set in with all the snow and cold weather. This is where we can help some of our veterans that cannot get out very easily. If possible try to help by maybe shoveling walks or drive-ways so they can get out. Or maybe drive them out to someplace they may need to go. Sometimes we take it for granted how easy it is for us to get out and do things, but some people just don't want to drive in this winter weather. This is a way we can help make someone's day. If you have not seen one of your regular members in a while call them they may want to get out but just can't.

Once again I must touch on membership we need to get that membership in the mail as soon as possible. Many squadrons in the 3rd zone are lacking membership. Do not hold on to those cards, get them in as soon as you can. Membership is what keeps us going.

I have had some interest in starting a 6th district but have not been very successful. I have contacted a few squadrons but not enough people interested in moving forward yet. In the month of February I plan on contacting every squadron in the 6th district to set up a meeting in March to get rolling and get started. If you are interested helping get this going please contact me as soon as possible, my contact information is cell 248 467 9295 e-mail butch2460@comcast.net.

SON'S GIVE GENEROUSLY

These are just some of the checks of donations given at the SAL Detachment Summer Convention 2014, to Wilwin, Homeless Veterans, and Fisher House.

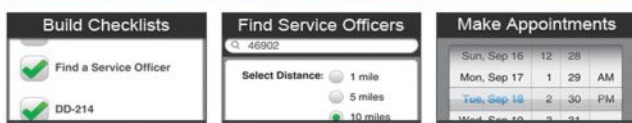


Veteran's Service

Claims Coach Mobile App



The American Legion Claims Coach provides step-by-step guidance to help you and your service officer through the process of filing.



Meet Tripp D. Cantwell, D.V.S.O



I have been raised as a military brat my entire life. My younger years were greatly influenced by my step-father, grandfather and all my uncles who were all Navy men. I got my rebellious side

from my mother, who joined the Army when I was seven. After living on the Presidio in San Francisco California for couple of years we moved to Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio Texas.

After graduation from Robert G. Cole High school on the base I joined the Army as a Military Policeman. My first duty station at Aberdeen Proving Grounds Maryland set the stage for my computer addiction. I was assigned to the response team for a testing facility that required me to sit ready in a small trailer with 8 other soldiers for 8 of our 10 hours shift. With all that free time I started taking college courses on base and began rewriting computer games

on my Commodore 64. I also develop a fascination with the patrol dogs that walked around our perimeter fence.

To get over my fear of dogs I applied to Patrol Dog Handler's school. I was accepted for school on my way to South Korea. While stationed in Korea I was accepted to Explosive Detection (bomb) Dog school and returned to Lackland AFB in San Antonio Texas. I completed my school with a 97.5% find rate and returned to South Korea with 2 Narcotic Detection Dogs and 10 Patrol Dogs and my Bomb Dog. As a Bomb Dog handler I was tasked with numerous missions in and around the Pacific Theater, but none more rewarding than the 1997 Pan Am Games and the 1998 Summer Olympics in Seoul.

I have had 3 jobs since leaving the Army, all 3 IT related until I was hired as a service officer in 2008 by the American Legion. Two years later, Vera Jones named me as her replacement as National Trainer of Compensation for the American Legion. Now this year I have been promoted to the Assistant Director of VA&R.

Department Service Officer in UP

ESCANABA -- More veterans across the Upper Peninsula will have access to one-on-one consultations regarding claims and benefit issues. Starting next month, a certified service officer representing the American Legion will be assigned to the U.P.

This service will be available to ANY veteran in need of guidance. The service officer will be in the U.P. the third full week of every month. He travels to seven different locations throughout the peninsula. With nearly 30,000 vets up here, the goal is to touch the lives of as many vets, and their widows, as possible.

"We just don't talk to veterans, we change veterans lives by how we do our claims and what we do for veterans," said department service officer Patrick Kline. "That's what it's all about."

If you have any question call Kline at (989) 280-3009 or (313) 964-6640.

Department Service Officer's U.P. schedule:

Every third full week each month:

Monday: AM: Manistique

PM: Rapid River

Tuesday: Menominee-County Veteran Office

Wednesday: LAnse

Thursday: AM: Marquette

PM: Munising

Friday: Newberry- American Legion

Vietnam Veterans: Claim Your High School Diploma



school diploma.

If you are an honorably discharged Vietnam veteran who served between Feb. 28, 1961, and May 7, 1975, you may apply to your school district to obtain a high school diploma, just like veterans of World War II and the Korean War have been able to

A new Michigan law allows Vietnam veterans who didn't graduate before entering military service to obtain their high

do. Any veteran or a family member of a veteran who served during this time may complete the application, which is available online at www.michigan.gov/veterans, and submit it to the school district the veteran attended.

An estimated 79 percent of all Vietnam War soldiers had completed high school prior to their service, the highest rate of high school graduation of any previous war.

For more information, visit www.michiganveterans.com or call 1-800-MICH-VET.

American Legion Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation

Our staff is dedicated to providing the very best veterans' advocacy to Michigan Veterans and their families. They can assist with Claims Preparation, Presentation and appeal counsel in Veterans' benefits services. Assist you and your Dependents in getting the Benefits that you have earned by your service to your country.



Gary Easterling
Director

American Legion Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation

Mr. Gary Easterling, Director

Patrick V. McNamara Federal Building Room 1210

477 Michigan Avenue Detroit, MI 48226

Office Phone (313) 964-6640 or (313) 964-5697

e-mail - Gary.Easterling@va.gov

Monday thru Friday 8:00 am to 4:00 pm

Erna LaBeau, Director's Secretary - ernawati.laueau@va.gov

Lannie Thomas, Department Service Officer - lannie.thomas@va.gov

Tripp Cantwell, Department Service Officer - trip.cantwell@va.gov

Tom Kaiser, Department Service Office - tom.kaiser@va.gov

Call the Detroit office for Field Service Officer Schedule

Job Fair For Veterans in Southfield, MI



You might already know, but I just wanted to spread the word about an upcoming Hire Our Heroes Hiring Event in Southfield, MI on the 22nd of July at the Southfield Pavillion:

26000 Evergreen Rd Southfield, MI 48076

There will be employment workshops starting at 8:30 am, and the Job Fair will commence from 10am to 1pm.

We hope to be able to get many job seekers to this event, and we are relying on your support in reaching out to the veterans out there.

Flyer can be found at http://www.hiringourheroes.org/sites/default/files/SOUTHFIELD.0714.FLYER_.pdf - Thank you.

Opportunity Detroit Quicken Loans Post #13

On June 20th, 2014 Department Commander Ray Moore, PDC Dick Chatman, PDC Ken Dittenber, and Post



Development Chairman PDC Al Ford met at the Quicken Loans office in the Chase building in downtown Detroit. Waiting on the 9th floor of the building was 18 veterans who work at the Quicken Loans Company. QL has over 200 veterans who have self identified working in the company.

Over the course of time veterans within the company have been meeting together, over lunch and at special events, but there was no formal structure. Through the efforts of a couple of Quicken Loans employees who are Legion members, Beverly List (current Americanism Department Chairperson) and Christopher Vervaet (who is Senior Vice Commander of Post 235) have worked to talk about the advantages of the a Legion Post to

the veterans on staff. On June 3rd, 2014 an information meeting was held at Quicken Loans HQ in Detroit and 18 veterans at-

tended and committed to the formation of a new Post.

At the Posts first organizational meeting on June 20th, 2014 43 veterans had applied for membership in to Quicken Loans Post 13. Starting July 1st, 2014 Michigan will have a new Post, Beverly List was elected as the Posts first commander and new officers were sworn in to positions.

The company has a slogan posted all over the building and around Detroit talking about "Opportunity Detroit", how right that is and how big of an opportunity this is for the Legion to associated with such a great company. We look forward to seeing the growth and achievements of Post #13.

Who said 13 was an unlucky number?



New Post Cmdr Beverly List holds the Posts Temporary Charter.



Members sign the application for charter

Classifieds

"The contents of advertisements which appear in the Legionnaire are solely the responsibility of the advertisers. Appearance of any advertisement in the Legionnaire does not constitute either a recommendation, nor an endorsement of the goods and services offered therein."

Wanted

- Old Fishing Tackle
- Small Outboard Motors (1-5 H.P.)
- Successful Deer Hunter Licenses
- Bag Tags
- Hunting Badges

Please Call Bill Wazelle at 1-734-728-7313

Buying Legion, Auxiliary, SAL, 40/8, VFW, DAV, Masonic, and FOE medals, badges, pins, caps, bars, membership cards, and Stamp Collections. Contact **Craig R. Wotring**, PO Box 1743 Owosso, MI 48867, 989-725-9728 Legion Member

2014 NATIONAL CONVENTION RESERVATION FORM

August 22 – 29, 2014
Hampton Inn Charlotte Uptown
530 E Martin Luther King Jr Blvd, Charlotte, NC 28202

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

E-mail: _____ Cell # _____

Rooms (quantity): _____ king _____ double _____ handicapped

Arrival date: _____ Departure date: _____

Rooms are \$142.91 per night (tax included). First night's room deposit needs to be sent to Department. More than 2 people in a room is an additional \$10 per day. Rollaways are complimentary (limited) and parking is complimentary.

Roommate(s): _____ (LEG/AUX/SAL)

_____ (LEG/AUX/SAL)

_____ (LEG/AUX/SAL)

_____ (LEG/AUX/SAL)

Special Room Requests: _____

Registration Fee: \$25 each LEGION _____ AUX _____ SAL _____
(Note: If you are an Auxiliary or SAL delegate, do not include your registration fee)

Michigan Party: Tickets are \$25 each. This will be Adjutant Lafferty's last Michigan Party so let's make it special! Plan ahead and bring stories, photos, gag gifts, etc.! The Michigan Party will be Saturday evening.

National Commander's Banquet: Tickets are \$45 each. The banquet is Tuesday 8.26.14.

Enclose check or credit card information for:

First room night deposit	\$142.91	X	# of Rooms	_____	\$	_____
# of Registrations	\$25 each	X	# of badges	_____	\$	_____
# of tickets for Michigan Party	\$25 each	X	# of tickets	_____	\$	_____
# of tickets for Natl Comm Banquet	\$45 each	X	# of tickets	_____	\$	_____
TOTAL ENCLOSED					\$	_____

Visa Mastercard CC# _____ exp. date ____/____

Signature: _____

RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED AT DEPARTMENT BY JULY 18, 2014 – Attn: Kim
No refunds after 7.21.14

WWW.USAA.COM

Carry the card that gives back to The American Legion.

Apply Today: 1-877-699-2654 | usaa.com/legioncc



2013 - 2014 Committee Awards

PROGRAM	WINNER NAME	UNIT NAME	UNIT #	District	CONTEST NAME
Americanism	Linda Wallace	Pinckney Memorial	419	6	Eva Spaulding Citation-Unit with the most outstanding program in Department
Americanism	Georgia Downs	Thomas Richard Annis	411	9	Eva Spaulding Citation-Unit with the most outstanding program in Department
Americanism	Marjorie Knapp	Glenn Hill	287	5	Eva Spaulding Citation-Unit with the most outstanding program in Department
Americanism	Marjorie Knapp	Glenn Hill	287	5	Mary Ripley Citation-Unit having the greatest percentage of activity in Americanism
Americanism	Benjamin Meyer	Frankenmuth	150	8	National Americanism Essay Contest- Class 1st Place
Americanism	Ariel Poupore	Tony Revord	244	UPAA	National Americanism Essay Contest- Class 1 2nd Place
Americanism	Sarah Keinath	Frankenmuth	150	8	National Americanism Essay Contest- Class 2 1st Place
Americanism	Lily Young	Durkee-Seager	550	2	National Americanism Essay Contest- Class 2 2nd Place
Americanism	Saoirse Conley	Durkee-Seager	550	2	National Americanism Essay Contest- Class 3 1st Place
Americanism	Noah Merriman	Charles A. Conklin	28	2	National Americanism Essay Contest- Class 3 2nd Place
Americanism	Ben Schuler	Frankenmuth	150	8	National Americanism Essay Contest- Class 3 3rd Place
Americanism	Mia Sanchez	Durkee-Seager	550	2	National Americanism Essay Contest- Class 4 1st Place
Americanism	Landon Duke	Durkee-Seager	550	2	National Americanism Essay Contest- Class 4 2nd Place
Americanism	Emma Rietveld	Gilbert Karsten	33	5	Department Americanism Essay- Junior Class 1st Place
Americanism	Johannah Momence	Durkee-Seager	550	2	Department Americanism Essay- Junior Class 2nd Place
Americanism	Alyssa Champion	Chief Pontiac	377	18	Department Americanism Essay- Senior Class 1st Place
Americanism	Jaycee Faccio	Tony Revord	244	UPAA	Department Americanism Essay- Seniore Class 2nd Place
Chaplain		Lynn C. Weeman	514	2	Leona Pitman Citation for the Unit with the most outstanding report
Chaplain	Helen M. Pardo	Myron H. Beals	32	17	Service to God and Country Program for the Unit Chaplain for the best Service to God and Cuontry program.
Children & Youth	Richard M. Jopling		44	UPAA	Lynn D. Allen Citation-Best all-around program
Community Service	Lillian Page	Walter W. Cole	301	UPAA	Patricia Jewel Award- Unit with less than 200 members for the most outstanding single program that benefited the Community
Community Service	Lorraine Mcinckak	Lamond-Frank	478	16	Earl L. Stewart Cup to a Unit with less than 50 members for the most Outstanding Report
Community Service	Kim Frazier	Carl E. Stitt	232	16	Lida Murphy Award-Greatest number of hours reported by a Unit
Community Service	Donna Anderson	Edward C. Headman	217	16	Wilbur M. Brucker Award-Unit with the best all around written report
Community Service	Ann Fenner	Myron H. Beals	32	17	Betty Cline Award-To the Unit, with 200 members or more, for the most outstanding single program that has benefited the Community
Education	Deborah Williamson	Furniture City	258	5	Virginia VanCoverden Citation-Best all round report by a Unit
Membership	Lora Lee	Nauta		5	Elizabeth Lyons Citation-District with highest percentage of increase
Membership		Birch Run	125	8	Doyle Citation-Unit having the highest percentage of goal by April 1st
Membership	Lora Lee	Nauta	5		Ethel Stitt Citation-District with greatest numerical increase
Membership		Birch Run	125	8	Gladys Taylor Citation-Unit having the highest percentage
Membership		Mackinaw City	159	19	Esther V. McCoy Citation-Unit with highest percentage of increase over last year
Membership		Charles A. Conklin	28	5	Patricia Donaldson Citation-Unit of 200+ members-greatest numerical increase
Membership	Kathleen Edwards	Charles A. Conklin	28	5	Top Membership Recruiter by May 1st, 2014
Membership	Rosemary Truskowski	Myron H. Beals	32	17	Special Award- Senior Narrative
Membership		Lynn C. Weeman	514	2	Special Award- Unit Narrative
National Security	Betty Shaw	Richard M. Jopling	44	UPAA	Agnes Dunn Citation to Unit with Best all-around report
National Security				Imogene	Cowgill Citation to the Unit with the Best Crime Prevention Program
Poppy	Levi Mills	Merritt-Lamb	102	5	Class I - 1st Place
Poppy	Aleigha Houghton	Hill-Gazette	143	18	Class 1 - 2nd Place
Poppy	Cynthia Palm	Geroux	11	UPAA	Class 1 - 3rd Place
Poppy	Emma Bowen	Gilbert Karsten	33	5	Class II- 1st Place \$50.00
Poppy	Summer Robinson	Marysville	449	7	Class II - 2nd Place
Poppy	Kara Durns	Geroux	11	UPAA	Class II - 3rd Place
Poppy	Marianna Osentoski	Marysville	449	7	Class III- 1st Place \$50.00
Poppy	Jacob Ely Gerszewski	Geroux	11	UPAA	Class III - 2nd Place
Poppy	Lian Colbry	Charles A. Conklin	28	5	Class III-3rd Place
Poppy	Chole Kurant	Caledonia	305	5	Class IV- 1st Place \$50.00
Poppy	Brynn Bishop	Marysville	449	7	Class IV- 2nd Place \$25.00
Poppy	Jacob Lane	Geroux	11	UPAA	Class IV- 3rd Place \$15.00
Poppy	Xiu Yang	Caledonia	305	5	Class V- 1st Place \$50.00
Poppy	Kai Mourich	Geroux	11	UPAA	Class V - 2nd Place \$25.00
Poppy	Shelby Dear	Caledonia	305	5	Class VI- 1st place \$50.00
Poppy	Miranda Jones	Hill-Gazette	143	18	Class VI- 2nd Place \$25.00
Poppy	Jake Ringsmuth	Geroux	11	UPAA	Class VI- 3rd Place \$15.00
Poppy	Charles Sanford	Charles Hammond	8	7	Class VII- Special Needs \$50.00
Poppy	Leah Mae Daniels	Chief Pontiac	377	18	Junior Miss Poppy Ages 6-12
Poppy	Taylor Houghton	Hill-Gazette	143	18	Senior Miss Poppy Ages 13-18
Poppy	Deborah Williamson	Furniture City	258	5	Best Unit Poppy Program
Public Relations	Pat Lozano	Linden	119	6	Ivy Lee Reinhardt Award-Unit with the best all-around press book
Public Relations	Lillian Page	Walter W. Cole	301	UPAA	Alma Viergever Citation- To Unit under 75 members with most inches of publicity in all papers
Public Relations	Chris Moore	Northeastern	459	5	Viola Starkey Citation- To the Unit with the best "Unit of the Month" article
Public Relations	Martha Brown	Neeley-LaBar	158	6	Best Unit "Letter Style" Newsletter
Public Relations	Chris Moore	Northeastern	459	5	Best Unit/Post Publication
Public Relations	Deborah Williamson	Furniture City	258	5	Best Unit Publication
Public Relations	Pamela McVeigh		5		Best District Publication
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation	Patsy Galvin & Kara Bond			Cole Briggs 48 3	Nan Shepard Citation for most referrals to Legion;contibutions and most outstanding activities
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation	Bernadette Lamb & Linda Roman	Myron H. Beals	32	17	Dorothy Pearl Citation for greatest participation in the Department Program
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation	Lynn C. Weeman	514	2		Jackis Skinner Citation for Unit Reporting greatest participation in homeless vets. Initiatives

2014 – 2015

DEPARTMENT OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

OFFICERS

President	Nancy Knox	#351-7th
First Vice President	Susan Verville	#17-UPAA
Second Vice President	Ellen Jackson	#108-18th
Secretary-Treasurer	Bonnie Olson	#225-Dept.
Chaplain	Deanna Cortright	#52-3rd
Historian	Deborah Williamson	#259-5th
Parliamentarian	Carrie Bowerman	#42-3rd
National Executive Committeewoman	Sandra Snyder	#32-17th

DISTRICT PRESIDENTS

1st District	Jacqueline Bennett	#375
2nd District	Peggy Nollf	#514
3rd District	Nancy Ritchey	#360
4th District	Binnie Price	#170
5th District	Loralee Nauta	#287
6th District	Susan Hilgris	#158
7th District	Kathleen Copeland	#4
8th District	Barbara Basarabska	#57
9th District	Ruth Gott	3001
10th District	Caroleynn Sutherland	#239
UPAA	Krystal Oberle	#290
16th District	Laura Chappell	#232
17th District	Ann Fenner	#32
18th District	Angela Galbraith	#143
19th District	Lisa VanMaile	#317

DISTRICT 1st VICE PRESIDENTS

1st District	Lavette Quick	#375
2nd District	Carol Burke	#557
3rd District	Carrie Bowerman	#42
4th District	Carol Parks	#362
5th District	Margo Forrester	#459
6th District	Linda Wallace	#419
7th District	Melanie Zick	#8
8th District	Bonnie Holt	#439
9th District	Sharon Reynolds	#10
10th District	Dora Freeborg	#416
UPAA	Diana Bancroft	#50
16th District	Pam Globke	#396
17th District	Linda Roman	#32
18th District	Sandra Carter	#20
19th District	Merilee Walter	#281

Department Committees**Administrative Advisory Board**

Chairman	Judy Lynch	#43-UPAA
Members	Judy Gregory	#557-2nd
	Betty Cline	#8-7th
	Sandra Snyder	#32-17th

Americanism

Chairman	Robin Puckett	#377-18th
Members	Pam Globke	#396-16th
	Marcia Moore	#3000-9th

Auxiliary Emergency Fund

Chairman	Linda Wallace	#419-6th
----------------	---------------------	----------

Children & Youth

Chairman	Sherry Losinski	#94-9th
Members	Sandra Carter	#20-18th
	Christine Merlington	#287-5th

Community Service

Chairman	Harriet Sturim	#459-5th
Members	Bonnie Burdette-Wood	#108-18th
	Vivian Avery	#274-10 th

Constitution & By-Laws

Chairman	Diana Bancroft	#50-UPAA
Members	Krystal Hall	#557-2nd
	Mary Tyler	#154-5th

Distinguished Guest

Chairman	Mary Anne Yuncker	#287-5th
----------------	-------------------------	----------

Education

Chairman	Janice Hafeman	#224-UPAA
Members	Reina Svacha	#351-7th
	Barb Keif	#426-16th

Finance

Chairman	Sharon Schulte	#347-1st
Members	Norma Wojak	#52-3rd
	Jacquelynn Boughner	#233-18th
	J. Barbara Hoagland	#76-9th

Girls State

Chairman	Beryl Robbins	#426-16th
Co-Chairman	Rysta Brown	#274-10th
Members	Rosemary Maciejewski	#459-5th
	Alexus Champion	#377-18th
	Marie Jackson	#216-18th
	Veronica Finch	#419-6th

Junior Activities

Chairman	Darlene Jones	#377-18th
Members	Missy Townes	#287-5th

Kathy Hartman Gleason

#51-4th

Leadership

Chairman	Leona Puckett	#377-18th
Members	Linda Dick	#165-10th
	Bonnie Schuitema	#33-5th

Legislative

Chairman	Sue Verville	#17-UPAA
Members	Beverly Ruttkofsky	#300-9th
	Bobby Jean Yates	#377-18th

Membership

Chairman	Kimberly Champion	#377-18th
Lower Northern Chr.	Georgia Downs	#411-9th
Upper Northern Chr.	Anne Michell	#349-UPAA
Eastern Chr.	Mary Dubay	#4-7th
Western Chr.	Lisa Bartlett	#48-3rd
Southern Chr.	Frances Babbage	#409-16th

Music

Chairman	Phyllis Corner	#258-5th
----------------	----------------------	----------

National Cemetery

Fort Custer Delegate	Eleanor Shelley	#465-3 rd
Fort Custer Alternate	Katherine Andersen	#298-xxx
Great Lakes Delegate	xxx	
Great Lakes Alternate	Pauline Bickersteth	#3342-6th

National Security

Chairman	Ellen Jackson	#108-18th
Members	Anita Mennel	#16-7th
	Shari German	#154-5th

Past Presidents Parley

Chairman	Suzanne Knapp	#4-7th
Members	Nancy Sagorski	#358-5th
	Brenda Spolarich	#212-8th

Personal Scrapbook

Chairman	Tammy Knox	#351-7th
	Stacy King	#351-7th

Personnel

Chairman	Nedra Beal	#479-7th
Members	Lynn Terhune	#459-5th
	Theresa Wheeler	#2-5th

Poppy

Chairman	Margo Forrester	#459-5th
Members	June Holley	#141-6th
	Kay Bauer	#16-7th

Public Relations

Chairman	Marcy Jorae	#153-8th
Member	Olive Hartman	#449-7th
	Cathy Merritt	#298-18th

Resolutions

Chairman	Priscilla Kelsey	#184-1st
Members	Delores Fuller	#528-5th
	Sheilah Dittenber	#439-8th

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation

Chairman	Janette Brockway	#68-4th
Hospital Director	Bonnie Holt	#314-8th
Field Service Director	Sharon Therrien	#108-18th
Homeless Veterans	Wendy Tolbert	#362-4th
Service Coordinator		

Ann Arbor VAMC

Representative	Krystal Hall	#557-2nd
1st Deputy	Ethel Putala	#112-17th

Battle Creek VAMC

Representative	Barbara Parks	#26-4th
1st Deputy	Carol Parks	#362-4th
2nd Deputy	Christine Reed	#484-4th

Detroit Vamc (Dingall)

Representative	Artensia Wynn	#126-1st
1st Deputy	Glendora Trotter	#389-16th
2nd Deputy	Marie Miller	#232-16th

Grand Rapids Home For Veterans

Representative	Sarah Brooks	#59-5th
1st Deputy	Pamela Mcveigh	#2-5th
2nd Deputy	Judy Jones	#459-5th
3rd Deputy	Dorothy McCarthy	#258-5th

Hamilton Nursing Home

Representative	Veronica Germany	#126-1st
1st Deputy	Anna Flowers	#184-1st

Iron Mountain VAMC

Representative	Barbara Larson	#50-UPAA
1st Deputy	Deb J Folla	#50-UPAA

Jacobetti Home For Veterans

Representative	Wanda Westman	#114-UPAA
1st Deputy	Diana Peterson	#44-UPAA
2nd Deputy	Grace La Valley	#44-UPAA
3rd Deputy	Lois Carlson	#114-UPAA

Saginaw VAMC

Representative	Bonnie Holt	#314-8 th
1 st Deputy	Linda Laux	#416-10th

Help a Hero from the State of Michigan

Lt Col. Matt Urban on ANC Notable List



LTC Matt Urban

The Matt Urban Memorial Committee (MUMC) is asking for the support of the members of The American Legion in placing the name of LTC Matt Urban on the Arlington National Cemetery "Notable Graves List". LTC Matt Urban gallantly performed during WWII: was wounded seven times and is the recipient of twenty-nine combat medals including the Congressional Medal of Honor, Silver Star with oak leaf cluster, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal with "V" (valor) and two oak leaf clusters, Purple Heart with six oak leaf clusters (he refused three other Purple Hearts because he believed that the wounds received were not serious enough), plus multiple other decorations and awards. During the Normandy Campaign, he led his troops "from the front", and although seriously wounded refused evacuation while his troops were under pressure from the enemy.

What is the Michigan Connection?

LTC Matt Urban was born in Buffalo, New York, but the family moved to Holland, Michigan shortly after and family members still live in Michigan.

The MUMC is co-chaired by Major General (ret) Marvin G. Back and Colonel (ret) Chester J. Szcotka. On behalf of the Committee, we are asking all members of The American Legion to help us in our cause by going to our website at <http://matturbanmemorialcommittee.us> and send an e-mail to the Arlington National Cemetery History Department, requesting that the name of LTC Matt Urban be added to the "ANC Notable List". The officials at the History Department have told us that they will respond to every e-mail that they will receive. We also have been told that LTC Matt Urban is high on the list for consideration of the honor which has been accorded to such legendary figures of WWII as Audie Murphy, Gen. Omar Bradley, Gen. George Marshal, Pappy Boyington, Joe Louis and others. We also have a facebook page at MUMC, <http://facebook.com/matturbanmemorialcommittee>.

LTC Matt Urban's military records were "lost" at the end of WWII, which is why he had to wait almost thirty-five years before receiving his Congressional Medal of Honor and other awards. He received his CMOH from then President Jimmy Carter before a large crowd of individuals including generals, admirals, commissioned and non-commissioned officers and soldiers from

his 9th Infantry Division. At that time, President Carter called him "the greatest soldier in the history of the United States, and the Guinness World Records called him "the most combat decorated soldier of WWII"....Yet, so few of us know of him.

Will you help us in this mission to honor an American Hero, "soldier's soldier" who led from the front and was the "follow me" leader. We would greatly appreciate that you would use our WEB Link and forward this appeal to your family, friends, other members of the American Legion and members of other veteran organizations. For that we would be deeply grateful. MUMC is also planning to conduct a Wreath Laying Memorial Ceremony near the gravesite of LTC Matt Urban at the ANC, where he is interred, on 23 August 2014. There, among many invited folks, will be representatives from Embassies of Great Britain, Belgium, Canada, France and Poland, plus military from Pentagon. We ask that the members of the American Legion will also be there with us.

Thank You,
MG (RET) Marvin G. Back
COL (RET) Chester J. Szcotka
Co-Chairmen, MUMC

Commander Moore and the Detroit Tigers Mascot at Veterans Night 2014



PDC Dick Chatman along with other dignitaries from Detroit Businesses and local leaders held a press conference to announce the new plans for the War Memorial at the Michigan State Fair Grounds area.



American Legion Riders from Post 8 attended the 2014 Senate Memorial Service



Members of Post 229 brought the colors to the 2014 Senate Memorial Service at the State Capitol Building



Post 147 Commander Dennis Strikulis, State Senator Patrick Colbeck, and VA&R Director Gary East-erling. Senator Colbeck held a Veterans Town Hall on the front lawn of Post 147 to bring information to local area veterans and their families.

Are You Looking for Flags

“Made in the U.S.A.?”

Buy your flags from The American Legion, all profits stay within the Legion Family to support the great programs of the Legion. Visit www.americanlegionflags.com or call 1-888-453-4466

American Flags by American Legion

Right Price. Right Purpose.



Order Today!

1-888-453-4466
AmericanLegionFlags.com

2014 Catalog



TABS for TOTS in action - 19th District Commander George Bolinger presents a check to the Wolverine Fire Chief Dan Mattson and President of the Wolverine Fire Board Gloria Pierson.

Patriot Fund In Need of Help

Dear Legion Family,

The American Legion Department of Michigan maintains a line item called the “Patriot Fund” and it is up to your Reconnect Committee to use those funds to help veterans and their families in need. Many times the Legion becomes the last line of help for veterans who fall through the cracks of other programs. They are still veterans and they still deserve our help. We have purchased groceries, auto repairs, gas, helped older veterans who did not have a working furnace, and many more. Some say the economy is getting better, but unfortunately it is not for all and the past couple of years have seen tremendous need.

Will you sacrifice one specialty coffee or one super value meal for one day for a veteran?

The Patriot Fund has been doing its job, but it is nearly depleted and in need of an infusion of donations. The need is great and I know your hearts are big, that’s why I am coming to you, with so many things to give to I am asking, “Would you consider skipping a Venti-Mocha one day or brown bagging it to work, instead of buying a super-value meal?”

100% of Patriot Fund donations go to the needs of veterans, no administrative fees, no banking fees, no nothing fees, all of it goes to the fund and its tax-deductible.

Please consider my request and send just \$5 to The Michigan Legion at 212 N Verlinden Ave, Lansing, MI 48915, place Patriot Fund in the memo line. If everyone one receiving this paper gave just \$5 we could raise over a half-million dollars to our needy veterans.

Thank you for your time and attention,

Gary Tanner, Reconnect Chairman



The Michigan Patriot Fund Needs your Help!

Gary you can count me in to help my fellow veteran.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Email: _____

For the cost of a venti cup of coffee together we can have a huge impact on our veterans.

Skip a day at Starbucks and give 5 Bucks



Plachta, Murphy Announces 3rd Annual Veteran Scholarships Program

GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.—The law firm of Plachta, Murphy & Associates, P.C., understands the obstacles and concerns that are presented to our community's veterans that now dedicate themselves to a new cause—obtaining a degree. One of the biggest problems faced is the cost of tuition, books, and the cost of living. Many vets will pull full time duty with work, raise a family, and then attend classes in the evening. In an effort to support our student veterans with the rising costs of college tuition and to honor their dedication to their country, the law firm of Plachta, Murphy & Associates, P.C. announces its 3rd annual Veteran Scholarships Program.

Plachta, Murphy & Associates' goal is to provide Veterans with assistance in funding their higher education. Any veteran attending a local West Michigan college or university may be eligible for our scholarship. There are certain qualifications for eligibility.

- Applicant must be attending a Michigan college or university
- Provide copy of student ID
- Must be a veteran of the US Armed Forces with Honorable Discharge
- Submit copy of DD 214

- Must be Michigan resident and provide a copy of State Identification
- Application (see below for application contact)
- A brief essay (300-500 words) on why you joined the military, how it affected your life, and what your plans are after graduation.

Two scholarships are offered annually and are one-time only scholarship awards per person. Veterans that are interested in applying need to fit the criteria above. Both scholarships will be decided by a panel of community veteran advocates. Application deadline is July 31st, 2014 and scholarships will be awarded on or around August 29th, 2014. Each Scholarship award is for \$500 and will be given directly to the veteran.

"In addition to the legal services we provide our veterans, these scholarships are one small way for our law firm to thank our veterans for their service to our country" stated Plachta, Murphy's VA Accredited attorney, Miles J. Murphy III.

For a complete application form contact Jeremy M. Johnson at 616-458-3994 or jjohnson@pmaalawpc.com



Holiday Inn Muskegon Harbor
939 Third Street Muskegon, MI 49440

Ph. 231-722-0100
Fax: 231-722-5118

2014 FALL CONFERENCE September 26, 27 & 28, 2014

Rates: Single King Room (3 max per room): \$89.99 Double Queen Room (5 max per room): \$89.99

* Rates are subject to applicable sales and hotel taxes, currently 11%.

All reservations must be made **on or before August 25th, 2014** to receive group discount. Reservations made after this date will be subject to prevailing hotel rate and availability.

Reservation Information

* For reservations please call the hotel at 231-722-0100 and reference American Legion Conference *

* Hotel cannot guarantee that group rooms will be located near each other

* Check in times is 4:00pm; Check out time is 11:00am

* Reservations may be cancelled 24 hours in advance without penalty

Meeting Registration: Registration badges are required for attendance at all meetings.

SEND \$15 REGISTRATION (PER PERSON), MADE PAYABLE TO:
AMERICAN LEGION POST No. 9, INC., PO Box 4186, Muskegon, MI 49444

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	LEGION/AUXIL/SAL	POST/UNIT/SQUAD

Number of registrations _____ x \$15 = _____ Total Enclosed

APPLICATION 2014 VETERANS ADVOCACY TRAINING HIGGINS LAKE DNR RALPH A. MACMULLAN CENTER SEPTEMBER 5-6-7-2014

PLEASE PICK FROM THE FOLLOWING

Package "A" - 2 Nights Lodging & 6 Meals - () \$185.00

Package "B" - No Lodging 6 Meals - () \$110.00

Handicap Room () 1st Time Student () District Service Officer ()

Quit Room () County Counselor () Post Service Officer ()

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Post # _____ District # _____ e-mail address _____

I wish to share a room with _____

Check the package of your choice, send in corresponding payment by check made payable to
The American Legion Department of Michigan - Higgins Lake

Send to

American Legion VA&R Division

477 Michigan Ave Room 1210 ATTN: Debbie D.

Detroit, MI 48226

October 26th- 31st, 2014 in Indianapolis, IN NATIONAL AMERICAN LEGION COLLEGE

The American Legion Department of Michigan is looking for an enthusiastic and motivated Legionnaire who would like the opportunity to learn more about the whole American Legion Organization. Every year the national headquarters hosts a 1 week program called Legion College. Students from departments coast to coast are selected to attend this 1 week program. There, students learn about all of the 23 programs the Legion supports. Classes on resolutions, revitalization, technology, and membership drives and improvements will fill the time. Students learn team work; meet fellow Legionnaires from many departments, and make friends for life; along with learning how to be a better leader for your Post, District, and Department.

Do you want to know how The American Legion can be used as a resource to support your fellow veterans and community? Do you have a drive to be a leader in your Post and District?

Applications are available at www.michiganlegion.org/fyi, email info@michiganlegion.org or call Mark Sutton at 517-371-4720 ext 16. Deadline is July 18th, 2014

Note applicants must have completed the American Legion Extension Institute to apply. The course can be taken at www.legion.org/alei

Around the State...



Ron Mexicott is a member of my American Legion Post # 253, Royal Oak. He's a real go-getter. His Piquette Square Honor Guard has come a loooooooooong way since he began it.



Post 8 celebrated the 95th year of the Legion on March 1st, 2014 (L-R) SAL Det Cmdr Mike Boughner, Post 8 Chaplain Ray Carrier, Post Cmdr Dave Johnson, Dept Cmdr Ray Moore, 3rd Zone Cmdr Augie Miele



PDC/PNVC Milt Lobstein (L) joined Almont Legion Post #479 members in placing new American flags on military veteran's graves at a local cemetery. Milton has four close military veteran's buried there.

NOW AVAILABLE
RENEW ONLINE!

WWW.LEGION.ORG/RENEW



Now you can renew your American Legion membership online! Simply visit the web address shown below and follow the easy instructions. You'll be able to renew your membership and even print out a temporary membership card.

LifeLock
Relentlessly Protecting Your Identity™



Endorsed by Your Department
of The American Legion

Identity thieves want to become you. Protect your identity with LifeLock.

LifeLock is the industry leader in identity theft protection. With LifeLock service, you can have peace of mind knowing your identity is protected. LifeLock offers two levels of protection.

LifeLock Identity Theft Protection

- Alerts of potential threats—both credit and noncredit related*
- Replacement of lost or stolen debit or credit cards
- Advanced Internet monitoring for exposure of your personal information
- And more! Visit LifeLock.com for a full list of product features.

LifeLock Ultimate™ Protection

- Includes all services in the standard LifeLock plan, plus:
- Expanded checking and savings account application and bank account takeover alerts*
 - Daily monitoring of all three credit bureau reports for new credit inquiries
 - 24/7 Online access to your annual TransUnion credit report and monthly scores
 - And more! Visit LifeLock.com for a full list of product features.



\$1 Million Total Service Guarantee*

If you become a victim of identity theft while you are a LifeLock member, LifeLock will spend up to \$1 million to hire lawyers, investigators, consultants and whoever else it takes to restore your name and help your recovery.

Special Promotion for Legionnaires!

30 Days FREE*
+ 10% OFF LifeLock Enrollment

Protect Yourself Today.

1. Visit LifeLock.com or call 1-800-LifeLock (543-3562)
2. Use promotion code **LIT3**
3. Complete enrollment by providing the required information

1-800-LifeLock • LifeLock.com

* At the end of the 30-day trial period your credit card will be billed automatically (\$9.00 mo./\$99.00 yr. plus applicable sales tax for standard LifeLock identity theft protection or \$22.50 mo./\$247.50 yr. plus applicable sales tax for LifeLock Ultimate) unless you cancel within the 30-day trial period. You can cancel anytime without penalty by calling 1-800-LifeLock. LifeLock is for new members only.
* Network does not cover all transactions and scope may vary.
* The benefits under the Service Guarantee are provided under a Master Insurance Policy underwritten by State National Insurance Company. As this is only a summary please see the actual policy for applicable terms and restrictions at LifeLock.com.



"It's Not Just A House.....It's Your Home...."

19575 Rich Drive
Clinton Twp, MI 48038
(586)909-9798

parkplacerealestate@att.net

Real Estate Home Benefit Programs
Building Better Lives for Our Clients and America's Veterans
12 Locations to Serve Our Clients

This is to inform you that Park Place Real Estate is the program provider for Real Estate Home Benefits **American Legion DAV & VFW and AARP**. Real estate home benefits programs for Michigan and Associations, Organizations and Memberships, Military, Veterans

New highlights are sellers and buyers get rebates of **\$4 per thousand of the cost of their home** and rebate off of their closing costs on loans for **themselves**. You can get up to **three rebates seller, buyer, and mortgage at one time**.

These special rebates are for any type of loan or refinance we also do VA and Special VA refinance loans and Cash out cover their immediate families, sons and daughters. Up to 3 Rebates per transaction per family. Nobody beats our deals.

we also handle leases and property management, investment properties, service land contracts loans we are here to serve the Organizations, Memberships and Associations and their families. We hire Veterans for all positions.



Park Place Real Estate is a Service Disabled Veteran Owned Business
Member of the VFW & DAV, American Legion, AARP
101st Airborne Association

(586)909-9798