



MI LEGIONNAIRE

Michigan Legionnaire & Wolverine Auxiliaire Vol. LXXXV No. 1

THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN FAMILY LEADERSHIP



SAL Commander Carvin Chapman



Department Commander Larry Money



Auxiliary President Ellen Jackson

During the 2016 Annual Summer Department Convention the delegates present elected and approved the new leadership for the 2016-2017 American Legion membership year. For The American Legion, Larry Money from Post 51 was elected as your new State Commander, The American Legin Auxiliary elected Ellen Jackson from Unit 108 as the State President, and the Sons of the American Legion elected Carvin Chapman of Squadron 377, Detachment Commander.

Remembershing DVSO Richard Morrison



No Return Postage Requested

Legionnaire and former Department Veteran Service Officer Richard Melvin Morrison, Age 92 from Escanaba, Michigan gently passed from this

world June 21, 2016, on the summer solstice under a strawberry moon. Everyone who ever received a jar of his homemade jam will agree this was a fitting time for him to go.

Richard was born on August 1, 1923 in Isabella to William Samuel Morrison and Rosa Landis Morrison. He married the love of his life, Audrey Menary, in Nahma, MI on November 26, 1949 and they made their home in

Isabella and in 1962 moved to Escanaba.

Richard exemplified service above self. In June of 1962, he was hired by the American Legion of Michigan as a Service Officer for the entire Upper Peninsula and served until he retired November 30, 1988. In 2014, Richard was honored to have the Service Officer's training center renamed the "Richard Morrison Higgins Lake Veterans Advocacy & Post Service Officer Training". In his acceptance of the honor he said, "I have spent my life honoring my country and our flag. I have always considered my service to be my duty and my honor. To have worked twenty-six years as a field service officer for the American Legion was more than a job to me. It was an opportunity to meet and hear the stories of many men and women and their families who helped to build this country. Their sacrifices deserved the

attention and guidance we service officers are able to provide."

He joined the American Legion in 1945 and continued active membership throughout his life. Upon his retirement, he was awarded an Honorary Lifetime Membership by Post 301. He washed many dishes at the Rapid River Post's pancake breakfasts. If a job needed to be done, he always stepped up. He was equally active as a Life Member in the Marine Corps League #444. His work with the Marine Corps League and their Toys for Tots kept him busy and involved in giving back to his community.

Richard loved his Detroit Tigers and American Legion baseball and was usually upset at the Lions. He was at every UP Honor Flight to honor the Veterans heading to Washington DC to the World War II Memorial and he was there to salute them upon their return.

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 2016- June 1, 2016
Circulation: 97,687
Printed: 7-1-16 · Mailed: 7-5-16

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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 news@michiganlegion.org or mail it to department attn: Roxanne Osga.

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.

**The Only Written Official Call
Annual Fall Conference
American Legion, Department of Michigan
September 23-25, 2016
Holiday Inn
Muskegon, Michigan**

State Commander Larry Money

Purpose: To implement plans for the new American Legion year and otherwise conduct the business of the American Legion, Department of Michigan, through meetings of the Department Executive Committee, taking reports from called Department Committees and Chairmen, presenting public recognition awards, and conducting a variety of applicable Schools of Instruction.

Aside from the Department Executive Committee, only the Department Committees and Chairmen listed below are called to officially participate in the Fall Conference. See Program Book for all specific locations.

Registrations • Registration fee of **\$15.00** will be charged to all delegates, alternates and guests.

Department Executive Committee Meeting: Friday, September 23rd, 4:30 p.m.

Called Department Committee Meetings – Friday, September 23rd- **meetings begin at 9 am** See schedule in the September Legionnaire or at www.michiganlegion.org (available soon)

- Americanism, Baseball, Boys State, Children & Youth, Economic, Education & Scholarship, Finance/Personnel, Internal Affairs, Leadership College, Legislative, Membership, National Security & Foreign Relations, Permanent Time and Place, Post Development, Public Relations, Reconnect, VA & R, and VAVS/VHVS

Schools of Instruction: Saturday, September 24th

Department Executive Committee Meeting: Sunday, September 25th, 9:00 a.m.

Chaplain

Eddie Brown, State Chaplain

“Reflection is Good for the Soul”



Greetings Legion Family! I hope everyone is enjoying the summer weather. Michigan is beautiful in any season but summer gives us much more to do outside in our parks and lakes. I hope everyone is inspired by both our State Convention and by the Independence Day celebrations. May we never forget from where we came, the dreams of our forefathers and the price of our freedom. We should keep those things in mind as we pursue our goals and support the Four Pillars of The American Legion this coming year.

It has been said that a lot of things are good for our soul such as confession and laughter. Another is reflection. George Santayanna once said, “those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.” We not only need to remember, we need to pass this information along to our youth so that they will know and understand. This is important. There is some misinformation out there and people who want to rewrite history to serve their

own purpose. They misuse our good nature and the laws intended to preserve our heritage.

I like and use social media but you have to be careful of what you read and repeat. There are some that try to engage you in mean spirited or inaccurate dialogue. As an example, someone tried to discredit this country’s Christian heritage by saying our forefathers were not Christian, but Deists. Deism, most popular in the 1700’s, basically says that even without organized religion, by observing nature a logical person would come to the knowledge of a Creator, who imparts to us reason. So, he discounted the Pilgrims’ story, the Puritans and establishment of colonies around churches, etc. Although some early Americans subscribed to the idea, most still retained their Christian beliefs and attended Christian churches. As we did, they fought for God and Country. General Orders issued in Washington’s camp on July 2, 1776 read, “The General hopes and trusts that every officer and man will endeavor to live and act as becomes a Christian soldier defending the dearest rights and liberties of his

country.” Our beliefs teach us to love our neighbor. And, our laws protect the right to religious freedom.

We can see our reflection in a mirror or in the still waters of a lake. In our minds eye we can reflect on what we have done in the past. We can observe, but the value of this is what we do with the observations. If I look in the mirror and my hair is messed up, I can comb it to look better. If I reflect back on my past, I can see what was good and what was less desirable. I can’t change the past, but I can change what I do in the future. Like Michael Jackson said in his song, “If you want to make the world a better place...start with the man in the mirror.” There is a popular passage in the bible often used at weddings that describes what is love. It also goes on to say, “For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror: then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known” 1 Corinthians 13:12. Dear Lord, help us to remember and help us to make ourselves, this Country and World a better place.

God Bless You All.

STATE OFFICERS

State Commander. Larry Money	Finance Officer. Roger Avie	Alt. National Executive Committeeman
State Adjutant. Ron Runyan	Historian Ernest Berry Tom Brown
1st Zone. Archie Chapell	Chaplain Eddie Brown	Immediate Past Commander
2nd Zone Catherine Buckley	Sergeant-at-Arms Bill Hilgris Michael Buda
3rd Zone Bob Bigham	Judge Advocate. Tim Hernandez	Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Director
4th Zone Neal Horning	National Executive Committeeman Gary Easterling
5th Zone. Gary Lane Roger Webster	Membership Director Barry Wood
		Public Relations Director Mark Sutton

Larry Money, State Commander

It Takes A Family



Larry Money
State Commander

It is truly and honor and privilege to have been elected as your Department Commander of the great State of Michigan at our 98th American Legion Convention held in Sault Saint Marie, Michigan.

During my year of campaigning I was able to attend every district except one. Which I continually had scheduling problems with, but that district hopefully will be the first one I visit for this coming year.

I want to thank my wife Barb and my family along with all Le-

gionnaires that have supported me and put their trust and confidence in me. I would be amiss to name them all, but you know who you are.

I look forward to representing everyone in the spirit of the American Legion. That involves working closely with the Veterans, their families, and the communities they live in. That includes the Auxiliary, Legion Riders and Sons of the American Legion. We as the American Legion Family need to work together to promote the principles and ideals that the American Legion is based upon.

As your Department Commander I look forward to working with all of you this year. My door is always open, feel free to contact me with any issues or concerns.

Headquarters

Ron Runyan, State Adjutant

Full Speed Ahead for 2017



Ron Runyan
State Adjutant

Congratulations to our new State Commander Larry Money from Buchanan Post 51 in the 4th District. Larry will do an outstanding job for our Department in this next year. He truly believes and lives “Duty, Honor & Country” and will be an outstanding spokesman for Michigan. Congratulations and welcome to the newest Vice Commanders in each Zone and District officers. I also want to thank everyone who recently attended our State Convention in Sault Ste Marie. The Department thanks all of you for being a part of this big human organization. We all have had to make hard decisions lately and we always do our best for the betterment of the Veterans and our Great Organization! If I or the staff can do anything for you, please contact us so we can assist you.

We are going to be very busy for the start of this new Legion year. We start off by having the Golden Age Games in the Metro Detroit area from July 10 -14th. If you can make time to go watch these athletes or help please contact Alrico at the VA in Detroit at 313-576-1000 ext 64946. From there

we have our mandatory 30 Day Meeting on July 16th at 9:00 am at Department HQ. All new DEC members are required to attend, however, any member is welcome to join us. Shortly after, we will be taking a trip to Indianapolis for the National Membership Workshop July 28th - 30th. This year we would like the District Vice Commander or Membership Chairman to attend. It is important that this quality membership information be taken back to the Districts and used to help your local Post with gaining or retaining their members. Remember “**Renew, Recruit & Retain**”.

In early August the Detroit Tigers will be having a Veterans Appreciation Day on Aug 3rd, where they will be honoring the Veteran of the Year, and having the State Commanders of each organization on the field. We can see in the future our National Convention just over the horizon in August, which will be in Cincinnati, Ohio, Aug 26th thru Sept 1. This year we will have live music from Nashville country sensation the “Richard Lynch Band” performing for us all.

Thank you for being a part of The American Legion! Yes, you do matter! One way or another, you are having an effect on a veteran or their family which will make lives better.

2016 NATIONAL CONVENTION RESERVATION FORM

August 27 - September 1, 2016

Millennium Hotel

150 W Fifth St, Cincinnati, OH 45202

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
E-mail: _____ Cell # _____
Rooms (quantity): _____ king _____ double _____ handicapped
Arrival date: _____ Departure date: _____

Rooms are \$156.28 per night (tax included). First night's room deposit needs to be included with this form. More than 2 people in a room is an additional \$15/day. Rollaways are not available. Valet parking/\$22 day.

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. The Michigan Party will be Saturday, 8/27/16

Enclose check or credit card information for:

First room night deposit \$156.28 X # of Rooms _____ \$ _____
of Registrations \$25 each X # of badges _____ \$ _____
of tickets for Michigan Party \$25 each X # of tickets _____ \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Visa Mastercard CC# _____ exp. date ____/____

Signature: _____

RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED AT DEPARTMENT BY JULY 21, 2016 - Attn: Kim
No refunds after 7.22.16



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Membership

Increase begins January 1st, 2017

Department of Michigan Membership Dues Increase Approved at State Convention

Delegates at the 2016 American Legion Department of Michigan in Sault Saint Marie, Michigan approved a \$5.00 per capita dues increase at the department level. Previous dues were set at \$16, beginning January 1, 2017 department will raise to \$21.

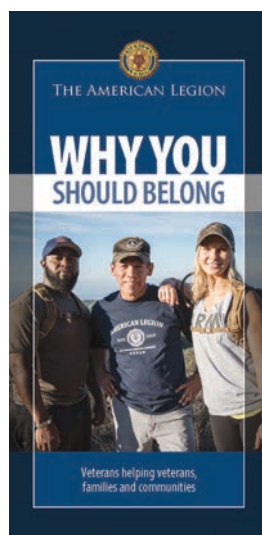
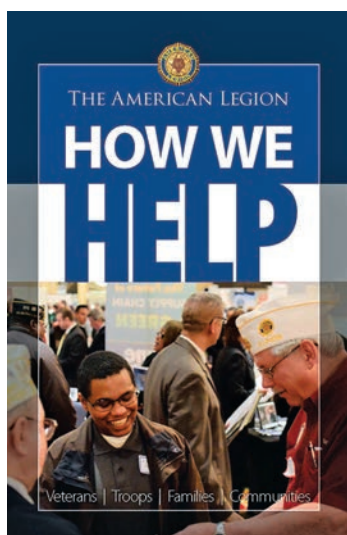
Transmittal to Department beginning Jan 1, 2017 will be \$39.50

Post Adjutants and Membership chairmen new transmittal forms will be sent out prior to January 1st to indicate the change, for processing.

If your membership dues do not cover the minimum \$39.50 transmittal to department then your post must ask your membership for a dues increase. The majority of Michigan American Legion Posts increased their dues last year to prepare for this increase.

Declining membership and an increase in expenses, even with department cost cutting measures over the years, has led to this increase. This is the first increase for department since 2007.

Get your membership materials to have on hand



Make recruiting and talking about the benefits of The American Legion easier by using the tools made available from the national headquarters. Membership applications, "How We Help", and "Why Should You Belong" brochures are available upon request. Contact Deanna at Department HQ to order, (517) 371-4720 ext 24.

If you have not already done so be sure to sign up for www.mylegion.org to make membership management easier for you this year. It is a great tool, make address changes or make members deceased online and don't worry about sending in a member data form. The Member Data Form is still needed for transfers. See who renewed online and find Post 225 members in your area.

2016 Convention Raffle Winners

\$4000	Ralph Harshberger	Union City, MI
\$1500	Edward Lesniak	St Clair Shores, MI
\$1000	Richard Kinnish	Sun City, AZ
\$500	Michael Sohn	Lakeland, MI
\$500	Roy Boudreau	Indian River, MI
\$500	Thomas Plotzke	Macomb, MI
\$250	Richard Hall	Tucson, AZ
\$250	Stanley Owen	Novi, MI
\$250	Robert Royer	Delton, MI
\$250	Raymond Brusseau	Farwell, MI
\$250	Craig Young	Port Huron, MI
\$250	Michael McKnight	Howell, MI
\$250	Robert Brown	Novi, MI
\$250	Peter Muniz	Lansing, MI
\$100	Leonard Hudock	Midland, MI
\$100	Harvey Weatherwax	St. Johns, MI
\$100	Paul Jones	Marshall, MI
\$100	Lawrence Kopek	Yorktown, VA
\$100	Charles Haskin	Lansing, MI

District Meetings

1st District

All meetings at Post 375, 19486 Sherwood, Detroit at 7PM
Dates TBD

5th District

Thursday, July 14th, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. - Location to be determined

District Executive Committee Meetings

All Executive Committee Meetings will begin at 7:00 p.m. with First Vice Commander Howard Christensen presiding. All District Executive Committee meetings will be conducted at: 2327 Wilson Ave. SW Grand Rapids, MI 49534 Neal E. Fonger Post #179 616-453-9861

6th District

September 11, 2016 - Jesse B. Cooley Post 235,10590 E. Grand River Rd, Brighton, MI 48116

Installation of Officers 11:00 am - Lunch 12:00 pm - Meeting 1:00 pm

November 6, 2016 - TBD

January 8, 2017 - Capt. Steven W. Frank Post 269, 1485 Haslett Rd., Haslett, MI 48840 Lunch 12:00 pm - Meeting 1:00 pm

March 5, 2017 - Pinckney Memorial Post 419, 9807 Whitewood Rd., Pinckney, MI 48169 Lunch 12:00 pm

- Meeting 1:00 pm

May 7, 2017 - TBD

7th District

August 21 - Mt. Clemens

October 9th - Sebewaing

January 8 - Lapeer

March 19th - Caro

May 21st - Lapeer

June 2017 Convention

10th District

Lunch at 12PM - Meeting at 1PM

September 10, 2016 - Harrison Post 404

November 15, 2016 - Mikado Post 254

January 14, 2017 - Oscoda Post 274

March 4, 2017 - Skidway Lake Post 370

May 7, 2017 - Bay City Post 18

June 3, 2017 - TBD

16th District

American Legion & Aux Meeting 7:30 PM

*Denotes Service Officer School 6:30 PM

** Memorial Service 6:30 PM

September 13 - Dual Taylor Post 200 313-388-2088

October 11* - Riverview 389 734-284-7166

November 8 - Flat Rock Post 337 734-782-2717

December 13* - Southgate Post 478 734-946-5398

January 10 - Stitt Post 232 313-274-9177

February 14* - Fort Dearborn Post 364 313-562-9090

March 14 - Wyandotte 217

April 11* - Trenton Post 426

May 9** - Lincoln Park Post 67 313-388-2088 Duel

June 13 - Garden City 396 313-381-2245

18th District

Meetings Convene at 2:00 PM

(Meeting for District Legion Only)

Dates TBD



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AUXILIAIRE



From the Desk of the President

2016 - 2017 Department President, Ellen Jackson

Ellen Jackson Voted 2016-2017 Department President



Thank you for allowing me this privilege of being your Department President in the world largest women's patriotic organization. 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 the honor of many great mentors in this organization and I thank them all and hope that they will continue to be there.

I would like to thank the members of my unit Walter Fraser #108 for standing by and supporting me through this great adventure. What an honor to belong to not only this or-

ganization but my unit, thank you ladies of Unit 108. Also I would like to give a big shout out to the members of the Post and the SAL Thank you Legionnaires and Sons for all your support!

Next I thank my family for letting me do what I love in the ALA. A huge Thank you goes to my best friend my love, my Husband Carnie. He is always there to listen when I need to vent, pick me up when I fall but mostly give me his undying faith love and devotion! Love you!

The theme this year is Hats off to Our Veterans! We can never say thank you enough to those who gave so much to us! The project this year for the ALA Department of Michigan is Michigan's returning and wounded warriors. When my husband was State Commander for the American Legion in 2009-2010 they acquired the infamous

Wilwin Lodge and it was his goal to use the lodge for returning soldiers and their families as a retreat to rest and get to know each other again. Gary Tanner stepped up and through his program Michigan's returning and wounded warriors donated such things as paying for a daytrip to Mackinaw Island, and giving them shirts and souvenirs to remember their time at the lodge.

Because the Lodge is so near and dear to my heart what a better way to thank Gary Tanner and the program, Michigan's returning and wounded warriors is to raise monies so that they can continue doing the great things for our warriors. More information will follow at Fall Conference.

So this year - let us put our thinking caps on and work the programs of the ALA to keep this organization strong for our veterans and their families.

2016 Department Convention Memories - Sault Ste. Marie



**2016-17
DEPARTMENT OFFICERS
DISTRICT PRESIDENTS
AND COMMITTEES**

OFFICERS

President	Ellen Jackson	#108-18th
NEC	Sue Verville	#17-UPAA
1st Vice President	Deanna Cortright	#52-3rd
2nd Vice President	Deborah Williamson	#258-5th
Secretary-Treasurer	Bonnie Olson	#238-6th
Chaplain	Georgia Downs	#411-9th
Historian	Mary Dubay	#4-7th
Parliamentarian	Kim Champion	#377-18th

DISTRICT PRESIDENTS

1st District	Veronica Germany	#126
2nd District	Carol Burke	#557
3rd District	Lisa Bartlett	#48
4th District	Tangaline Hayes	#89
5th District	Christine Merlington	#287
6th District	Linda Wallace	#419
7th District	Anita Mennel	#16
8th District	Laurie Sweet	#380
9th District	Barbara Hoaglund	#76
10th District	Carolelynn Sutherland	#239
UPAA District	Anne Michell	#234
16th District	Kim Dold	#217
17th District	Linda Roman	#32
18th District	Shylynn Jones	#377
19th District		#

DEPARTMENT COMMITTEES

Administrative Advisory Board		
Chairman	Judy Lynch	#43-UPAA
Members	Judy Gregory Priscilla Kelsey Sue Verville	#557-2nd #184-1st #17-UPAA
Americanism		
Chairman	Pam Globke	#396-16th
Members	Ann Marie Stevens Susan Hilgris	#14-18th #158-6th
Auxiliary Emergency Fund		
Chairman	Linda Dick	#165-10th
Children and Youth		
Chairman	Kathleen Copeland	#4-7th
Members	Mary Tyler Binnie Price	#287-5th #170-4th
Community Service		
Chairman	Dawn Gramza	#514-2nd
Members	Ann Fenner Kay Bauer	#32-17th #16-7th
Constitution and By-Laws		
Chairman	Donna Fuelling	#409-16th
Members		
Distinguished Guest Chairman		
Chairman	Judy Lynch	#43-UPAA
Education		
Chairman	Susan Svacha	#8-7th
Members	Marjorie Scheffler Kim Lipman	#415-6th #14-18th
Finance		
Chairman	Sheila Maxwell	#216-18th
Members	Nancy Knox Kim Frazier Pat Lozano	#351-7th #232-16th #119-6th
Girls State		
Chairman	Beryl Robbins	#426-16th
Co-Chairman	Rysta Brown	#274-10th
Members	Rosemary Maciejewski Alexus Champion Diana Mella	#459-5th #377-18th #50-UPAA
Junior Activities		
Chairman	Connie Kovacs	#32-17th
Members	Missy Townes Kathie Hartman-Gleason	#287-5th #51-4th

Leadership			
Chairman		Marcy Jorae	#153-8th
Area Chairman			
Western		Peggy Nolff	#514-2nd
Southern			#-
Lower Northern		Marcia Moore	#300-9th
Eastern			#-
Upper Northern			#-
Legislative			
Chairman		Deanna Cortright	#52-3rd
Members		Bonnie Schuitema Alyssa Champion	#33-5th #377-18th
Membership			
Chairman		Loralee Nauta	#287-5th
Lower Northern		Mary Anne Yuncker	#287-5th
Upper/Upper Northern		Cyndi Hacker	#559-UPAA
Eastern		Angela Galbraith	#143-18th
Western		Deb Chambers	#287-5th
Southern		Laura Chappell	#232-16th
Music			
Chairman		Robin Basarabska	#57-8th
National Security			
Chairman		Deb Williamson	#258-5th
Members		Bobbie Yates Pat Bliss	#377-18th #108-18th
Past Presidents Parley			
Chairman		Mary Anne Yuncker	#287-5th
Members		Olive Hartman Dianne Knowles	#449-7th #382-7th
Poppy			
Chairman		Sheila Dittenber	#439-8th
Members		Margo Forrester Eli (Amanda) Martin	#459-5th #32-17th
Public Relations			
Chairman		Suzanne Knapp	#4-7th
Members		Cathy Merritt Lynn Tenure	#216-18th #459-5th
Resolutions			
Chairman		Sherry McKissen	#94-9th
Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation			
Chairman		Janette Brockway	#68-4th
Hospital Director		Bonnie Holt	#439-8th
Service to Veterans		Sharon Therrien	#108-18th
Homeless		Wendy Tolbert	#362-4th
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			
Representative		Artensia Wynn	#126-1st
1st Deputy			#-
2nd Deputy			#-
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 JaFolla	#50-UPAA
D.J. Jacobetti Home for Veterans			
Representative		Wanda Westman	#114-UPAA
1st Deputy		Diana Peterson	#44-UPAA
2nd Deputy		Lois Juchemich	#114-UPAA
3rd Deputy		Sheri Richard	#349-UPAA
Saginaw VAMC			
Representative		Bonnie Holt	#439-8th
1st Deputy		Laurie Sweet	#380-8th
Hon. Jr. President		Sabrina Townes	#216-18th

10 Things Every New Legion Member Should Know

The American Legion has a rich history over the past 97 years and as a current or new member of the Legion there are several things to know to understand the organization you are a member of.

1 The Preamble of our Constitution. The preamble is recited by all members before every Post, District, Department, and National meetings. It is one of the guiding stars of The American Legion.

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY WE ASSOCIATE OURSELVES TOGETHER FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES:

- To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America;
 - To maintain law and order;
 - To foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism;
 - To preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in the Great Wars;
 - To inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation;
 - To combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses;
 - To make right the master of might;
 - To promote peace and goodwill on earth;
 - To safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy;
 - To consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.
- The interpretation can be found here for more understanding. <http://www.legion.org/preamble>

2 What is the official uniform of The American Legion? The official uniform is the cap or cover of the Legion. Posts might have uniform requirements for their honor guards.

3 All uniform, U.S. Flags (Made in the U.S.A) and Legion, SAL, and Auxiliary items for sale can be found at emblem sales <http://emblem.legion.org> - all profits made are reinvested into the programs of The American Legion.

4 "DON'T FACE THE VA ALONE!" As a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces you may be entitled to benefits from the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs. The American Legion Department of Michigan have Department Veteran Service Officers on staff to help you with your claim

process. Call (313) 964-6640 to ask questions or find a DVSO near you.

5 What is the official membership year? The official opening of the new membership year is July 1st to June 30th of each year. The membership are not set by the date a member paid their dues it starts July 1st. If a member paid their dues in January of the year, they will receive a renewal notice in July.

6 Can current members renew memberships online? Yes, go to www.legion.org/renew, members may also set up automatic renewal also.

7 How can a new member start to learn about The American Legion organization? The American Legion has an American Legion Extension Institute available for members to take. The cost is \$4.95 and is an online based course. A Legionnaire need only sign up once to take it and when complete a certificate and pin will be sent to the member. If a member does the course in one sitting it will take 3-4 hours to complete. When a login account is made the course will save where the member left off. Find the ALEI course at www.legion.org/alei

8 Find information about the Legion and follow the American Legion here:
www.legion.org
www.michiganlegion.org
www.facebook.com/the.american.legion
www.facebook.com/TheAmericanLegionDepartmentofMichigan

9 Does The American Legion Department of Michigan sell member names to advertisers? No, however, a requirement of being a 501 C 19 non-profit organization with the IRS, we are required, "To provide insurance benefits for its members or dependents of its members or both". The Legionnaire Insurance Trust (LIT) is the provider of those benefits and from time to time mail information about the benefits offered from themselves or their provider AGIA. The national organization also uses USAA Bank to provide other benefits.

10 There are many opportunities to volunteer to help veterans and to support the many programs of The American Legion. From Boys State, Legion Baseball, to Oratorical contests. Our programs change the lives of veterans and the youth of this great country. To learn more on how you can help your local community through the American Legion just ask your local post or call 517-371-4720.

Memorial Day 2016



Grand Rapids Memorial Day Parade - Photos courtesy of Wanda Torres, PR Chairlady



He was accompanied by Post Member John Myroniuk and Peter Olsen (not shown)

Past Post
351 Com-
mander
Michael
Weaver
placing
American
Flags on
Veteran's
Graves at
St. Lawrence
Cemetery,
Shelby
Twp. MI.



2016



State

Convention



Sault Ste. Marie



Highlights from the 2016 State Convention

U.S. Marine Amir Hekmati Delivers the Keynote Address



U.S. Marine Corps Veteran Amir Hekmati visited his grandmother in Iran after coming out of his military service and before beginning his studies in college. However, during his visit the Iranian government arrested Amir and

sentenced him to 10 years in prison. After more than 4 years in an Iranian prison Amir was released and headed back home to Michigan. The American Legion Department of Michigan invited Amir to speak to the delegates at the summer convention and presented Mr. Hekmati his Paid Up for Life membership card.

Legionnaire is Recognized for Two Milestones at the 2016 Summer Convention



Commander Buda and Legionnaire Larry Money took a point of personal privilege to recognize Legionnaire Walt Garrett of American Legion Post 89 in Allegan, MI for two milestones he was

celebrating during convention. The first was 70 years of continuous membership and he celebrated his 90th birthday on Friday. He enjoyed the moment with his entire family and was surprised that his son was able to take leave from the U.S. Navy to attend.

2nd Annual Michigan Legacy Ride Raises over \$8500 for the National Legacy Scholarship Fund



On Friday morning at American Legion Post 396 in Garden City, Michigan approximately 75 Legion riders mounted their bikes and headed north. They arrived at American Legion Post 3 on Saturday afternoon, just before the rain, in Sault Saint Marie, as the U.P. Association Party began. The unofficial tally upon arrival was \$5000 collected along their 440 plus miles of travels. At the Legion Rider meeting held Saturday night PDC Jim Wallace presented a \$3500 donation on behalf of the ALR of Post 419 in Pinckney, Michigan.

Judge Deborah Thomas, Wayne County Circuit Court Addresses the Convention



Judge Deborah Thomas spoke to the Delegates present on Thursday night about the efforts within Wayne County Court and other courts who have created and run special Veteran's Court proceedings. These courts seek to help veterans charged with violations to seek help for treatment for problems they may have because of the military service. In partnership with volunteers and the VA system they seek to give veterans a hand up not a hand out in their time of need.

Past National Sergeant of Arms Robert Mayrand Named Honorary Past Department Commander



Legionnaire Robert Mayrand from American Legion Post 217 in Wyandotte, MI was named an Honorary Past Department Commander for his lifelong dedication and service to The American Legion.



2016 Boy State Northwood University



Veteran Service

**APPLICATION 2016 VETERANS ADVOCACY TRAINING
HIGGINS LAKE DNR RALPH A. MACMULLAN CENTER
SEPTEMBER 9, 10, 11, 2016**

PLEASE PICK FROM THE FOLLOWING

Package "A" - 2 Nights Lodging & 6 Meals - () \$195.00

Package "B" - No Lodging 6 Meals - () \$120.00

Handicap Rm () 1st Time Student () 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

Retiree Appreciation Day Camp Grayling, Grayling, MI



Are you a military retiree, retired from the military, or a family member with a valid military ID Card? If you answered yes to any of these questions, you're in luck!

Please join us for a one-day informational workshop with subject-matter experts on Friday, August 19,

To RSVP, please email

SFC Tom Poddig at

Thomas.l.poddig.mil@mail.mil

or call

O: 517-481-8349 C: 517-481-9867



Topics and services will include:

- Family Assistance Centers
- Tricare and Transition Assistance
- Department of Veterans Affairs
- Personal Financial Counselor
- Survivor Outreach Services
- Pay & Personnel Issues Investigation
- Military Funeral Honors
- The MI NG Retired Association
- Survivor Benefit Plan Education
- I.D. Cards (bring two forms of photo ID and other family documents)
- Education Benefits

The event will be held at the All Ranks Club off 4th Street (between Kitchen Rd and Soldier Dr.) on Camp Grayling

Please RSVP No Later Than: 3 p.m. on 8/10/2016

Upper Peninsula Association of American Legion Posts Summer Convention

On June 11th and 12th the UPAALP had their 96th Annual Convention, held at American Legion Post #27, Bessemer, Michigan.

Past State Commanders Bill Hafeman and Al Ford were in attendance as well as Gary Lane, UP Membership Director, Jim Wash, 11th District Commander, Carl Morrison, 12th District

Commander and Stan Kennedy, 5th Zone Commander.

The Auxiliary was headed up by the Department President, Sue Ver-ville. The SAL was headed up by Commander Fred Ruttkofsky and 5th Zone Commander Bill Germain. Incoming SAL Commander Carvin

Chapman was also in attendance.

A parade was held on Saturday featuring Marty's Goldenaires Senior Drum and Bugle Corps and at the conclusion of the parade they entertained the Legion Family and the public on the grounds of American Legion Post 27.

During the Saturday evening banquet The UPAALP bestowed upon Legionnaire Wayne Roy the Upper Peninsula Legionnaire of the Year Award. Also receiving special recognition was Legionnaire Tom DeCarlo, who was attending his 66th consecutive summer UPAALP Convention.



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.

American Legion Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation
Mr. Gary Easterling, Director
Tripp Cantwell, Assistant Director
Patrick V. McNamara Federal Building Room 1210
477 Michigan Avenue Detroit, MI 48226
Office Phone (313) 964-6640 Fax (313) 964-5697
e-mail - al.vbadet@va.gov
Monday thru Friday 8:00 am to 4:00 pm



Gary Easterling
Director

Call the Detroit office for Field Service Officer Schedule

Visit us on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/MichiganVAR

Post 143 Presents Awards to Post Law Officers and Firefighter of the Year



Left: Oakland County Sheriff Deputy Gary Alexander with B.J. Arnold. Middle: Auburn Hills Police Officer Martin Mikolaszcak with Rodney Galbraith. Right: Auburn Hills Fire Fighter Brian Shambeck with Angela Galbraith.

2015

PROGRAM	WINNER NAME	UNIT NAME	UNIT #	District	CONTEST NAME
Americanism	Marjorie Knapp	Glen Hill	287	5	Donna Baley Citation-District Chairman-Most outstanding Americanism program
Americanism	Linda Rosema	Cassard	208	5	Eva Spaulding Citation-Unit with the most outstanding program in Department
Americanism	Jack Howell	Charles Fulton	382	8	Mary Ripley Citation-Unit having the greatest percentage of activity in Americanism
Americanism	Alex Smith	Durkee-Seager	550	2	National Americanism Essay Contest- Class 1 1st Place
Americanism	Jakob Gilleylen	Gilbert Karston	33	5	Class 2 1st place
Americanism	Greta Burton	Pinckney Memorial	419	6	Class 3 1st place
Americanism	Lauren Deland	Durkee-Deager	550	2	Class 4 1st place
Americanism	Wyett Poquepte	Menominee	146	UPAA	Class 5 1st Place
Auxiliary Emergency Fund		T. W. Atwood	7	7	Class Special Needs 1st Place
Auxiliary Emergency Fund		Robec Hosler Sweet	227	19	Margaret Rohrer Citation for Most Money Donation in 6 Membership Classes Group 1
Auxiliary Emergency Fund		Allen Park	409	16	Margaret Rohrer Citation for Most Money Donation in 6 Membership Classes Group 2
Auxiliary Emergency Fund		St Helen	416	10	Margaret Rohrer Citation for Most Money Donation in 6 Membership Classes Group 3
Auxiliary Emergency Fund		Edward C. Headman	217	16	Margaret Rohrer Citation for Most money Donation in 6 Membership Classes Group 4
Chaplain	Isabel Luther	Robert Vroman	122	19	Margaret Rohrer Citation for Most money Donation in 6 Membership Classes Group 5
Chaplain	Diane Hughes	Manchester	117	2	Service to God and Country Program for the Unit Chaplain for the best Service to God and Country program.
Children & Youth					Leona Pitman Citation for the Unit with the most outstanding report
Children & Youth	Dawn Pietrusza		26, 832	5	Supporting Military Children
Children & Youth					Helen Hodges Citation-Largest contribution to the Children & Youth Department Special Project
Children & Youth	Joan Beaudoin	Pinckney Memorial	419	6	Youth Hero Award
Children & Youth	Gail Goudy	Neely-Labar	158	6	Unit or District Chairman submitting a mid-year report
Children & Youth	Pam Lajewski-Pearson	Richard M. Jopling	44	UPAA	Louise Ferguson Citation for best children & youth program in the month of April
Children & Youth	Rae Klobucher	Engadine	290	UPAA	Louise Ferguson Citation for best children & youth program in the month of April Honorable Mention
Children & Youth	Pam Lajewski-Pearson	Richard M. Jopling	44	UPAA	Lynn D Allen Citation for the best all around program
Children & Youth	Rae Klobucher	Engadine	290	UPAA	Lynn D Allen Citation for the best all around program Honorable Mention
Children & Youth	Bonnie L McJennett	Dunkee Seger	550	2	National Entry Unit Chairman Award Best all around program
Children & Youth	Cathy Merritt	Ernest F. Oldenburg	216	18	Outstanding Unit Children & Youth Program Honorable Mention
Children & Youth	Dawn Gilbert	Dale H. Wheeler Fife Lake	219	9	Outstanding Unit Children & Youth Program Honorable Mention
Community Service					Outstanding Unit Children & Youth Program Honorable Mention
Community Service		Pinckney Memorial	419	6	Unit with the most Outstanding Promotion of Community Service
Community Service					Giving Tuesday Award Chairman's Challenge at Fall Conference
Community Service	Fona Brown	Ypsilanti	282	2	Earl L. Stewart Cup to a Unit with less than 50 members for the most Outstanding Report
Community Service	LoraLee Nauta	Glen Hill	287	5	Patricia Jewel Award-For the most Outstanding Report for a Unit Under 200 Members
Education	Lynn Terhune	Northeastern	459	5	Wilbur M. Brucker Award-Unit with the best all around written report
Education		Tony Rivord	244	UPAA	National Outstanding Veterans In the Classroom Program
Education	Shyllynn Jones	Chief Pontiac	377	18	National Outstanding Veterans In the Classroom Program Honorable Mention
Education	Carla Pohl	Durkee Seager	550	2	National Most Outstanding American Education Week Program
Education		Reino	21	UPAA	National Most Outstanding American Education Week Program Honorable Mention
Education					National Most Outstanding Literacy Program
Education					Most Outstanding Scholarship Program
Education	Shyllynn Jones	Chief Pontiac	377	18	National Honoring the Service of our Military (Promotion of Education for Military Children)
Education	Deborah Williamson	Furniture City	258	5	Million Member Award- To the Unit with Increase in Membership through Education
Education	Barb Liubakka	Lillian Larson	114	UPAA	Virginia VanCoverden Citation-Best all round report by a Unit
Education		Tony Rivord	244	UPAA	Give 10 to Education
Education		Menominee	146	UPAA	Give 10 to Education
Education	Shyllynn Jones	Chief Pontiac	377	18	Give 10 to Education
Historian	Beverly Holmes			UPAA	Best Written Report Honorable Mentin
Junior Activities	Taylor Houghton	Chief Pontiac	377	18	Tina Sutherland Award-Most outstanding work in Auxiliary Programs
Junior Activities	Leah Daniels	Chief Pontiac	377	18	Leona Puckett Citation
Junior Activities	Lynn Terhune	Grand Rapids	459	5	Amelia Muth Citation for the unit program of the year
Junior Activities	Taylor Houghton	Chief Pontiac	377	18	Victoria Betz Award-Outstanding work as an officer
Junior Activities					National Award for Junior Service not Self Award-Honorable Mention
Junior Activities	Leah Daniels	Chief Pontiac	377	18	Junior Member of the Year
Junior Activities	Emma Damouth	Buchanon	51	4	Patch Participation Certificate
Junior Activities	Madison Muller	Walter Fraser	108	18	Patch Participation Certificate
Junior Activities	Angelina Bailo	Walter Fraser	108	18	Patch Participation Certificate
Junior Activities	Aurora Rathnow	Walter Fraser	108	18	Patch Participation Certificate
Junior Activities	Raegan Fletcher	Walter Fraser	108	18	Patch Participation Certificate
Junior Activities	Taylor Townes	Glen Hill	287	5	Patch Participation Certificate
Junior Activities	Shamar Shqair	Glen Hill	287	5	Patch Participation Certificate
Junior Activities	Sabrina Townes	Glen Hill	287	5	Patch Participation Certificate
Junior Activities	Mackenzie Townes	Glen Hill	287	5	Patch Participation Certificate
Junior Activities	Liberty Smigiel	Glen Hill	287	5	Patch Participation Certificate
Junior Activities	Destiny Smigiel	Glen Hill	287	5	Patch Participation Certificate
Junior Activities	Aleigha Houghton	Chief Pontiac	377	18	Patch Participation Certificate
Junior Activities	Abigail Jones	Chief Pontiac	377	18	Patch Participation Certificate
Junior Activities	Taylor Houghton	Chief Pontiac	377	18	Patch Participation Certificate
Junior Activities	Lillian McCloud	Glen Hill	287	5	Patch Participation Certificate
Junior Activities	Sherry Tichelaar	Northwestern	459	5	Patch Participation Certificate
Junior Activities	Emily Tuhune	Northwestern	459	5	Patch Participation Certificate
Junior Activities	Vivian Hankinson	Glen Hill	287	5	Patch Participation Certificate
Leadership					Leadership Mentoring Award for Special Recognition of someone who Mentored and Guided me
Leadership					Mentoring Award
Leadership	Mary Anne Yuncker	Glen Hill	287	5	Best Overall Leadership Program
Leadership		Patrick Leo Hanlon	55	3	Distinguished Unit Award
Leadership	Marcy Jorae	Edwin T. Stiles	153	8	Leadership Development Award
Leadership	Fran Babbage	Allen Park	409	16	Leadership Development Award
Leadership	Dorothy Shanks	Patterson-Dawson-Crawford-Arnold	57	8	Leadership Development Award
Leadership	Kimberly Frazier	Carl E. Stitt	232	16	Leadership Development Award
Leadership	Donna Price	Carl E. Stitt	232	16	Leadership Development Award
Leadership	Laura Chappell	Carl E. Stitt	232	16	Leadership Development Award
Leadership	Deborh Holton	Edward C. Headman	217	16	Leadership Development Award
Leadership	Cathy Merritt	Ernest F. Oldenburg	216	18	Leadership Development Award
Leadership	Pamela Globke	Otto B. Miller Jr.	396	16	Leadership Development Award
Leadership	Rosemary Maciejewski	Northeastern	459	5	Leadership Development Award
Leadership	Bonnie Holt	Jastrzemski-Lelo	439	8	Leadership Development Award
Leadership	Carolelynn Sutherland	John K. Fowler	239	10	Leadership Development Award
Leadership	Laura Schmidt	Edwin T. Stiles	153	8	Leadership Development Award
Leadership	Nancy Moeggenberg	Edwin T. Stiles	153	8	Leadership Development Award
Leadership	Lynne Priester	Edwin T. Stiles	153	8	Leadership Development Award
Leadership	Robin Basarabska	Edwin T. Stiles	153	8	Leadership Development Award
Leadership	Karen Vanderlin	Edwin T. Stiles	153	8	Leadership Development Award
Leadership	Dawn Peterson	Edwin T. Stiles	153	8	Leadership Development Award
Leadership	Nicole Brzak	Edwin T. Stiles	153	8	Leadership Development Award
Leadership	Lynn Cech	Edwin T. Stiles	153	8	Leadership Development Award
Leadership	Nancy Roll	Edwin T. Stiles	153	8	Leadership Development Award
Leadership	Shari German	Roger B. Chaffee	154	5	Leadership Development Award
Leadership	Jan Hafeman	Tony Rivord	244	UPAA	Leadership Development Award
Leadership	Margo Forrester	Northeastern	459	5	Leadership Development Award
Leadership	Mary Dubay	Harry Ollrich	4	7	Leadership Development Award
Leadership	Jan M. Johnson	Audie Johnson	211	10	Leadership Development Award
Leadership	Mary Kay Fournier	Marysville	449	7	Leadership Development Award
Leadership	Olive Hartman	Marysville	449	7	Leadership Development Award
Leadership	Margaret A Sleeper	Patrick Leo Hanlon	55	3	Leadership Development Award
Leadership	Linda Ciemnicki	Edward C. Headman	217	16	Leadership Development Award

PROGRAM	WINNER NAME	UNIT NAME	UNIT #	District	CONTEST NAME	
Leadership	Priscilla Williams	Oalsley-Traynor	64	6	Leadership Development Award	
Leadership	Mary Anne Yuncker	Glen Hill	287	5	Leadership Development Award	
Leadership	Sandra Carter	Cook/Nelson	20	18	Leadership Development Award	
Leadership	Angela Galbraith	Hill-Gazette	143	18	Leadership Development Award	
Leadership	Julie Kaleyta	Carson City	380	8	Leadership Development Award	
Leadership	Kay Maki	Carson City	380	8	Leadership Development Award	
Leadership	Eileen McKenna	Carson City	380	8	Leadership Development Award	
Leadership	Tammy Prentler	Carson City	380	8	Leadership Development Award	
Leadership	Judy Adams	Carson City	380	8	Leadership Development Award	
Leadership	Misty Johnson	Carson City	380	8	Leadership Development Award	
Leadership	Laurie Sweet	Carson City	380	8	Leadership Development Award	
Leadership	Patricia Lee Sleeper	Patrick Leo Hawlon	55	3	Leadership Development Award	
Leadership	Judith L Root	Patrick Leo Hawlon	55	3	Leadership Development Award	
Legislative					Unit Legislative Award	
Legislative					Romaine Roethel Citation-Best year-round report submitted	
Membership		Pinckney Memorial	419	6	Orlene Penning Citation-Unit having the most new Juniors	
Membership		Grand Haven	28	5	Chloe O'Neal Citation-Unit having the greatest numerical increase	
Membership				19	Elizabeth Lyons Citation-District with highest percentage of increase	
Membership		Captain Naomi	70	1	Doyle Citation-Unit having the highest percentage of goal by April 1st	
Membership				5	Ethel Stitt Citation-District with greatest numerical increase	
Membership		Sebewaing	293	7	Gladys Taylor Citation-Unit having the highest percentage	
Membership		Charlotte	42	3	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				UPAA	District with the largest number of goal units by May 1st, 2016	
Music	Mary Anne Yuncker	Glen Hill	287	5	Unit Chairman submitting the best monthly reports of the year regarding music activity	
Music	Rose Scharphorn	Northwestern	459	5	Hildegard Korff Citation to the District Chairman for the best monthly music reports	
National Security	Betty Shaw	Richard M Jopling	44	UPAA	Agnes Dunn Citation to Unit with Best all-around report	
National Security	Denise Warden	Linden	119	6	Imogene Cowgill Citation to the Unit with the Best Crime Prevention Program	
National Security					Phyllis VanHill Citation to the Unit with the Best Fire Prevention Program	
Past President's Parley	Linda Wolven	Edward H Ewing	76	9	Unit Member of the Year	
Past President's Parley					Service Woman of the Year	
Past President's Parley		James E Yenor	193	2	Trudy Anderson memorial Citation for the Most Outstanding Parley Report	
Poppy					Poppy Poster Contest:	
Poppy	Audrey Przybylski	Lynn C Weeman	514	2	Class I - 1st Place	\$50.00
Poppy	Alyssa Fortney	Gilbert D Karsten	33	5	Class II - 1st Place	\$50.00
Poppy	Penny Moore-Caskey	Carl E Stitt 232	16		Class II - 2nd Place	\$25.00
Poppy	Audrey West	Oakley-Traynor	64	6	Class II - 3rd Place	
Poppy	Jadyn Morgan	Lynn C Weeman	514	2	Class II - 4th Place	
Poppy	Chole Cooney	Charles Hammond	8	7	Class II - 5th Place	
Poppy	Emersyn DeVos	Louis Teistler	47	5	Class III - 1st Place	\$50.00
Poppy	Allison Richer	Rheaume-Knauf	438	UPAA	Class III - 2nd Place	\$25.00
Poppy	Avery Harriger	Loiuis Teistler	47	5	Class IV - 1st Place	\$50.00
Poppy	Sara A Clark	Rheaume-Knauf	438	UPAA	Class IV - 2nd Place	\$25.00
Poppy	Alyssa Cunningham	Lynn C Weeman	514	2	Class IV - 3rd Place	
Poppy	Elle Blamton	Oakley-Traynor	64	6	Class IV - 4th Place	
Poppy	Sarah Zube	Sebewaing	293	7	Class V - 1st Place	\$50.00
Poppy	Tyler Knott	Caledonia	305	5	Class V - 2nd Place	\$25.00
Poppy	Olivia Clement	Rheaume-Knauf	438	UPAA	Class V - 3rd Place	
Poppy	Laury Cluckey	Lynn C Weeman	514	2	Class V - 4th Place	
Poppy	Eriona Achterhof	Caledonia	305	5	Class VI - 1st place	\$50.00
Poppy	Noah Howell	Rheaume-Knauf	438	UPAA	Class VI - 2nd Place	\$25.00
Poppy	Nathan Harvey	Charles Hammond	8	7	Class VII - 1st Place	\$50.00
Poppy	Sarah Easterling	Charles A Conklin	28	5	Class VII - 2nd Place	\$25.00
Poppy					Junior Miss Poppy Ages 6-12	
Poppy					Poppy Unit Display- Display about Poppy Program in a store, school or library	\$10.00
Poppy	Cherri Mieras	Furniture City	258	5	Unit Poppy Chairman Award	
Poppy	Jackie Cook	Merritt Lamb	102	5	Most Outstanding overall poppy program	
Public Relations	Cathy Merritt	Ernest F. Oldenburg	216	18	Gladys Lee Citation-Unit with the most inches of publicity in a weekly newspaper	
Public Relations	Pat Lozano	Linden	119	6th	Alma Viergever Citation- To Unit under 75 members with most inches of publicity in all papers	
Public Relations	Pat Lozano	Linden	119	6th	Viola Starkey Citation- To the Unit with the best "Unit of the Month" article	
Public Relations	Lynn Terhune	Northeastern	459	5th	Viola Starkey Citation - Best narrative describing outstanding effort projecting image or programs	
Public Relations	Chris Moore	Northeastern	459	5th	Outstanding PR Program	
Public Relations	Chris Moore	Northeastern	459	5th	Best Media Coverage	
Public Relations	Chris Moore	Northeastern	459	5th	ALA Brand Ambassador	
Public Relations	Pat Lozano	Llinden	119	6th	Kanaby Broadcast Citation--Best radio or TV script by Unit	
Public Relations	Cathy Merritt	Ernest F. Oldenburg	215	18	Ivy Lee Reinhardt Citation--best all-around press book	
Public Relations	Donna Fuelling	Allen Park	409	16	District letter style newsletter - district newsletter in form of a letter	
Public Relations	Carla Pohl	Onsted	550	2	Unit letter style newsletter	
Public Relations	Deb Williamson	Furniture City	258	5	Unit best newsletter	
Public Relations	Pam McVeigh	Carl Johnson	2	5	District Best Newsletter	
Public Relations	Debbie Stewart	Ernest F. Oldenburg	216	18	Best Unit/Post Joint newsletter	
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation	Betty Smith	Linden	119	6	Nan Shepard Citation for most referrals to Legion;contibutions and most outstanding activities	
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation	Lynne Terhune	Northwestern	459	5	Dorothy Pearl Citation for greatest participation in the Department Program	
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation	Marg Downey	Richard Jopling	44	UPAA	Dorothy Pearl Citation for greatest participation in the Department Program	
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation		Menominee	146	UPAA	Dorothy Pearl Citation for greatest participation in the Department Program	
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation	Wanda Westman	Lillian Larson	114	UPAA	Dorothy Pearl Citation for greatest participation in the Department Program	
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation					Jackie Skinner Citation for Unit reporting greatest participation in Homeless Veteran initiatives	
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation					Nursing Home Citation	
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation					Unit Donation Citation	
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation					Unit Citation	
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation	Pat Lozano	Linden	119	6	Unit Most Outstanding Overall VA &R Program	
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation	Linda Roman	Myron H Beals	32	17	Unit Most Outstanding Overall VA &R Program	
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation	Peggy Nolf	Lynn C Weeman	514	2	Unit Most Outstanding Overall VA &R Program	
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation		DW Cassard	208	5	Unit Most Outstanding Overall VA &R Program	
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation	Peggy Nolf	Lynn C Weeman	514	2	Certificate for Being Thereand Helping our Homeless Veterans	
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation	Betty Smith	Linden	119	6	Certificate for Most Outstanding Event that Honors and recognizes our veterans	
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation	Krystal Hall	Dexter	557	2	Recognition to representatives and deputies	
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation	Ethel Putala	Beasley-Zaleshy	212	17	Recognition to representatives and deputies	
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation	Barb Parks	Larue Messenger	26	4	Recognition to representatives and deputies	
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation	Carol Parks	Coloma	362	4	Recognition to representatives and deputies	
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation	Christine Reed	Simmonds-Williams	484	4	Recognition to representatives and deputies	
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation	Artensia Wynn	Fred W. Beaudry	126	1	Recognition to representatives and deputies	
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation	Glendora Trotter	Glough-Lambrix	389	16	Recognition to representatives and deputies	
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation	Marie Miller	Carl E Stitt	232	16	Recognition to representatives and deputies	
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation	Wanda Westman	Lillian Larson	114	12	Recognition to representatives and deputies	
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation	Diana Peterson	Richard M. Jopling	44	12	Recognition to representatives and deputies	
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation	Lois Juchemich	Lillian Larson	114	12	Recognition to representatives and deputies	
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation	Sheri Richard	Morton-Guntley	349	12	Recognition to representatives and deputies	
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation	Sarah Brooks	Crispus Attucks	59	5	Recognition to representatives and deputies	
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation	Pamela McVeigh	Carl A. Johnson	2	5	Recognition to representatives and deputies	
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation	Judy Jones	Northeastern	459	5	Recognition to representatives and deputies	
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation	Dorohy McCarthy	Furniture City	258	5	Recognition to representatives and deputies	
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation	Veronica Germany	Fred W. Beaudrt	126	1	Recognition to representatives and deputies	
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation	Anna Flowers	Tom Phillips	184	1	Recognition to representatives and deputies	
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation	Barar Larson	Uren-Cooper-Johnson	50	12	Recognition to representatives and deputies	
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation	Deb JaFolla	Uren-Cooper-Johnson	50	12	Recognition to representatives and deputies	
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation	Bonnie Holt	Jastrzemski-Lelo	439	8	Recognition to representatives and deputies	



The Alderman-Luce Memorial Home Association, Bronson American Legion Post 259 presented a \$500.00 Scholarship to Brtonson High School graduate Zakee VanHorn. This year's scholarship is in memory of long time Ladies Auxiliary member and past president, Rose Mecklenburg who recently passed away. Pictured are (from left to right): Association Vice-president and American Legion Vice-Commander Joe Dow, Association President and American Legion Adjutant Don Marks, recipient Zakee Van Horn, Association Treasurer and American Legion Commander Leonard Kolcz and Association Secretary and Ladies Auxiliary President Barbara Haley. The Alderman-Luce Bronson American Legion has presented a scholarship every year for the past 15 years.



Every organization is often challenged to "go the extra mile," or "give 110%". Sometimes it works and sometimes it doesn't. This year it worked tenfold for SAL #27 from Bessemer, Michigan in the Upper Peninsula. In past years the squadron gave out a \$250 scholarship to a deserving student from A.D. Johnson high school in Bessemer. But this year the scholarship committee was able to give out five scholarships for \$500 each. Squadron Commander Marcus Re said that it was a perfect storm of the squadron, the community and local businesses coming together to raise the money. (L to R) Scholarship Chairman of SAL #27 Myron Re presenting the scholarships to the five students of A.D. Johnson high school in Bessemer, Michigan.



Cottages Available at Higgins Lake, Michigan

Camp Curnalia is a community of 405 cottages located on the north shore of Higgins Lake with easy access from I-75 and Highway 127. The community abuts the North Higgins Lake State Park. All cottage owners are guaranteed lake access, dock access, and boat slip-page on Higgins Lake.

All 405 cottages are connected to the Higgins Lake Utility Authority sewer system.

Only Honorably Discharged veterans with a DD214 are eligible to purchase available cottages.

Visit www.ccoa.net or call (989) 390-4208 for available cottages and more information.

939 Third Street Muskegon, MI 49440

FALL CONFERENCE 2016

Group rates will be valid: 3 days before and after of the convention dates of September 22nd, 23rd & 24th



Rates:

Single King Room (3 max per room): \$94.99

Double Queen Room (5 max per room): \$ 94.99

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

All reservations must be made on or before August 22nd, 2016 to receive group discount. Reservations made after this date will be subject to prevailing hotel rate and availability.

Reservation Information

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

* Check in times is 3:00pm; Check out time is 11:00am

* Reservations may be cancelled 24 hours in advance without penalty

* For direct reservations please call our front desk 231-722-0100x3 and reference American Legion Conference



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

Wilwin Updates

The Board of Directors convened for their annual meeting at the annual convention at the Kewadin Casino and Hotel in Sault Ste. Marie on Friday, June 24th for the purpose of selecting officers for the upcoming year. It was approved to keep the same officers in place for another year, which includes Steve Striggo, CEO and Chairman, Dan Crisp, Secretary, Garrett Viehl, Vice Chairman, and Bill Hafeman, Finance Chairman. Other officers on the board include John Kinzinger representing the American Legion; Harley "Butch" Maxwell, Sons of the American Legion; Merilee Walter, Auxiliary; Earl Ruttkofsky, Legion Riders. Contact numbers for all Board members are listed on our website: Wilwin.org.

Earl and Beverly Ruttkofsky are the current caretakers of Wilwin at Cygnet Cove. Bill Hafeman is caretaker for Wilwin at Trout Lake when Veterans and Scouts are present.

Significant progress has been made in redesigning Wilwin at Cygnet Cove to accommodate our disabled veterans. The handicapped ramp to the Veteran's residence has been completed; a new stairway to the loft residence above the garage has been constructed with landings for those who have a difficult time climbing stairs. Plans have been approved and a builder's permit taken out to construct a fully handicapped residence and laundry facility in an unused garage (which

is directly below the loft apartment). Plans for a Veteran's village South and East of the lake have been submitted to the necessary municipalities for approval and should be approved within the next 3 months.

A horse corral will be constructed in the near future to accommodate horses used in equine therapy for our PTSD and TBI Veterans. Wilwin at Cygnet Cove is located closer to the equine therapist than Trout Lake and will be utilized as needed on a more continuous basis, rather than once or twice per year. Plans are also being developed to erect a storage facility nearby to accommodate furniture, equipment, new items donated, and those brought down from Wilwin, Trout Lake. Plans are that the storage facility will be turned into a recreational hall once items are relocated.

The Board of Directors' next meeting will be on Thursday morning, September 21st, the day before the Fall Conference at Muskegon. Gates will be open and Legionnaires attending the Conference are encouraged to view the facilities on this date. Anytime that any Veteran is in the area of Custer, please call Earl or Beverly and let them know you are coming so they can be available for your visit. Directions to Wilwin at Cygnet Cove are on the Wilwin website.

Please note that no outside watercrafts are allowed on the lake. Wilwin has a pontoon boat, several paddle boats, canoes and kayaks that are available. These will be furnished to veterans who wish to go onto the lake. There is a sand beach for swimming; however, all children must be tended to by their parents as no life guard will be present and we will not take responsibility.

Wilwin has been fortunate that there have been more Veterans at Cygnet Cove than at Wil-

win Trout Lake so far this year in comparison to date to other years. The new location has been a significant factor in more Veterans getting to the facility in a much shorter time and not having the stress of traveling 300 or 400 miles. Wilwin, Trout Lake has accommodated 19 Afghani War Veterans for a reunion in May and approximately 25 girls from Engadine for a two day outing. Several scout troops are scheduled to use the facility during the summer and the Midwest/Ontario mini jamboree involving about 600 scouts will be held in September, 2016 with a possible move to Wilwin Cygnet Cove in 2017 where there will be more room to accommodate more scouts.

The Board of Directors wants to give a special thank you to American Legion Post 46, Ann Arbor, for a donation of \$15,000 to be used for a rustic veteran's cabin that will be named in honor of their Post. Donations in the reserve account for a cabin include Steve Cobble, Post 233 and Bonnie Pond of Brooklyn in memory of SSGT Lee Przytulski. Bonnie fundraises for Wilwin through her annual golf outing. Any Post, group, or individual who wishes to contribute \$15000 for a rustic Veteran's Cabin or \$25000 for a fully equipped cabin will have a cabin in their name or honoree's name. Fully equipped cabins include bathroom and full kitchen facilities and will be used as family reconnect centers.

Please keep your donations coming to Wilwin. There are a lot of maintenance and repair and operating expenses that need to be paid. Thanks, American Legion, Auxiliary and Sons of the American Legion for all your support in the past.

Bill Hafeman, PDC and Director
American Legion Wilwin Lodge
d/b/a Wilwin at Cygnet Cove

Department NEC Report

Roger Webster, NEC

Thank you for the confidence in me to represent the Department of Michigan as your NEC.

I believe that many positive changes are taking place between National and the departments. In the communications I am pleased to see that they are now sending copies of all the fund raisers to National Executive Committee Members for their review so they are aware of fund raisers that are being promoted by National. It is also good news that each department now receives a percentage of their department's financial efforts.

As we move forward to reach our membership and strategic planning goals it is essential in our mission to educate and offer guidance and leadership for our members. I would like to commend the membership team who have worked so diligently this past year in achieving these goals. Membership continues to be a challenge as we not only seek new members but focus on retention of current members.

In many departments they have been successful in implementing 1st and 2nd Vice positions to assist in membership and other needs of the department, allowing the incoming Commander a year of working with the Membership Chairman and Zone Commanders in dealing with the membership issues.

I would like to suggest Michigan follow this idea and have the office of 1st Vice who would have a year of experience in membership before becoming Commander. Of course this would involve changing our bylaws to add this position to the slate of officers.

I realize this would mean additional expense for department but I believe it would be money well spent.

2016 Department Americanism Awards

The Department Americanism Committee selects the award won based on consolidated post reports (CPR's). Awards will be presented to respective committeeman at the 30 Day Meeting for local presentaion.

- Giles A Reeve Award (Best Post Community Service/cpr) Post 44 Marquette
- Clarence W Taylor (Best Post Americanism Program/cpr) Post 81 Concord

2016 Department Children & Youth Awards

The Department Children & Youth Committee selects the award won based on consolidated post reports (CPR's). Awards will be presented to respective committeeman at the 30 Day Meeting for local presentaion.

- 40 & 8 Plaque (Outstanding Post Children & youth Services in Community) Post 459 Grand Rapids
- Louis Schneider (Best District CPR Reports) District 16
- Whitney A. Smart (Best District Children & Youth Program) District 10
- Stanley A. Kolodziej (Outstanding Post Child Welfare Program Relative to Post Size) Dist 11
- Clark W. Wilbur (Best Post Child Welfare Program) Post 4 Mt. Clemens
- Red Passen (Outstanding Americanism Program from a Post and District) Post 108, Dist 18

Many Michigan Posts Have Unclaimed Property

You may have unclaimed property waiting for you. Don't let the name fool you; when it comes to the Michigan Department of Treasury's Unclaimed Property Section, the term **property** refers to money, stock or safe deposit box contents – not land. Did you have a bank account that you don't recall closing, was there a paycheck that wasn't cashed, did you purchase stock years ago and lose track of it? These are only a few examples of the one hundred different types of properties that can be turned over to the Unclaimed Property Section every day as abandoned. The funds are then held in custody until the owner or, if the owner is deceased, the owner's heirs come forward to claim the property.

In fiscal years 2014 and 2015, Unclaimed Property staff worked diligently to return over \$100 million to property owners or their heirs in each of those years. No fees are ever charged to return property to the rightful owners – this is a service provided by the State of Michigan to ensure individuals, organizations and businesses do not permanently lose touch with the funds they are entitled to. Finding out if you have any unclaimed property is as simple as entering your name on the Michigan Money Quest searchable website, accessible through michigan.gov/unclaimedproperty or you can call the claimant customer service line at 517-636-5320 between 9:00 am and 4:00 pm Monday through Friday.

Feel free to include this information in any newsletter or facebook status shared with your members

Greetings Comrades,

The American Legion is a continuous learning experience for every year we learn new things and new skills, there's one skill that we should all learn to do which is to Encourage one another cause by doing this our members will want to continue to be more active in doing things that need to be done, like for instance Public Relations!

Many Times our members get discouraged all due to the fact that some other members have not been very tactful and say that they did not do a good job, but there is no wrong way of doing Volunteer Service! For we do this out of the kindness of our hearts and the will to serve others without expecting anything in return. But, then we wonder why our Members do not want to do anything? This is the reason why we need to Stop criticizing and being judgmental of our members after all we are all in the same Team we do this For the Good of the American Legion, so let's begin Encouraging one another and I am sure that if we do this we will see a mayor change in our Members morale and willingness to continue on Serving. I hope you all have a safe summer full of fun activities to do but most of all, Let's Do PR!

For God & Country

Wanda Torres

Dept. PR Committee Chair Lady



1st Annual Department of Michigan *ROMP*, Oscoda, MI
August 5th-7th, 2016

Pre-Registration Form

Registration is \$40.00 if received by **June 17, 2016**. After that date, and up to the event date itself, the registration fee will be \$45.00.

Registration includes: A specially prepared dinner at the American Legion Post 274 on Saturday afternoon, live entertainment featuring Abe Brown and his Knuckle Draggers, an event-T-shirt, access to beautiful Lake Huron located adjacent to our Legion Post, and special activities including guided rides of our famous Au Sable region and surrounding community.

Pre-Registration postmarked by June 17, 2016 - \$40.00 per person.

After June 17th, 2016 registration - \$45.00

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Email: _____

ALR Post # _____

Spouse/Guest Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

T-shirt

Male _____ Size _____ Female _____ Size: _____ (XXL & larger + \$2.00) \$ _____

Total Due: \$ _____

Make checks payable to

American Legion Riders Post #274

Or send pre-registration forms and payment to: American Legion

349 S. State St., Oscoda MI 48750

Questions or email: Julie A. Easton jeaston-protect-allflooring.com Phone: (248)-752-0424

MILEGIONNAIRE

YES! I would like to view the Legionnaire online at www.michiganlegion.org instead of receiving it through the mail. Please permanently remove me from the Legionnaire mailing list. This option will not effect any other Legion mailings.

Name: _____

Member ID #: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zipcode: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Signature: _____

Around the State...



(Left to Right) New Squadron Commander Mike Peterson, Ruth Linneman of the Haslett Community Food Bank, Outgoing Squadron Patrick Kalil. Squadron officers present 2016 donation to the local community food bank in the amount of \$3,673. This Squadron is an integral partner with their local food bank, raising over \$24,400 over the last six years through bowling and golf events



Kingsley Michigan Post was present at the Evergreen Cemetery Memorial day event



Memorial Day Celebration at the GR Veterans Home



SAL Squadron 244 in Powers, MI on June 4, 2016 served over 300 Legion riders at Veterans Memorial park in Powers. All riders were very pleased how the event went. This was the second year doing this. It is a wonderful experience giving back to our Veterans.



At First & Main of Metro Village pinning ceremony to Veteran residents by State Representatives



Post 298 perform a flag ceremony



Haslett Post 269 Sons of the American Legion presents \$1,000 donation to the Injured Soldiers Organization. the I.S.O. provides recreation opportunities, free of charge, to wounded military veterans of all eras as a "Thank You" for their service, and to aid in the recovery from physical and emotional injuries sustained during conflict deployments. In addition to their commitment to Veterans and their community, the S.A.L. Post 269 Squadron recently shipped 50 "Care Packages" consisting of snacks, toiletries, socks, and other goods to the unit of a soldier from their community currently serving in the Middle East



At the Lynn C. Weeman Post 514, The American Legion presented Wilfred Scheuer with a 50 year continuous membership certificate. From left is Roger Younglove, newly elected Commander; Steve Engel, newly elected Director of the American Legion Riders; immediate past Commander Barbara Weimert; and Wilfred Scheuer. Four motor cycles led the parade up Wilfred's driveway. Wilfred is going to be 91 in June and remembers his WWII service as if it were yesterday.



On June 6th American Legion Blumfield Post 229 in Saginaw County presented the American Legion School Award to two students at Frankentrost Immanuel Lutheran School in Blumfield Township. The honor went to students Silas Kaul and Kendra Weber. In the picture (L-R) Sr. Vice Commander Virgil Norris, Silas Kaul, Commander Ray Sylvester, Kendra Weber and Legionnaire Gary Dietrich