

Caledonia American Legion Memorial Post 305
Serving Our Veterans, Their Families and the Community
JANUARY 2018

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FROM THE LEGION COMMANDER

Hello Members,

Welcome to the New Year, 2018. I hope that Christmas was happy for you and your family.

On Saturday December 2nd our Color Guard led the Caledonia Christmas Parade down Main Street. Then on Friday Dec. 15th we provided the Color Guard during the National Anthem at South Christian High School for the Varsity Basketball game against Caledonia High.

Thank you to the Auxiliary for the Legion family Children's Christmas Party on Dec. 9th. There was Sock Snowman building (provided by Larry Zuverink), cookies to decorate and plenty of food to enjoy. And how excited the kids were when Santa, Rudolph and the Elf appeared at noon. There was even live Christmas music by the Caledonia Strings Players. Got everyone in the Holiday spirit.

Congratulations Sons, for your successful Holiday Gift Basket Distribution on Sat. Dec 16th. Families were provided a large box of food, plus extras to make a few meals. Volunteers from the Legion Family delivered to over 70 homes in Allegan, Barry, and Kent Counties. Fantastic job!

January is starting out busy. The E-Board meeting is on the Tuesday Jan. 2nd at 7pm followed by the General Meeting on Weds. Jan 3rd with Social at 6:30pm and the Meeting at 7:30. The 5th District Commander Eric Nelson will be our guest for the meeting. So please be there to meet him and show that the southeastern most Post in the Mighty Fifth is doing a great job.

Remember our All-you-can-eat Breakfast Buffet on Saturday, Jan. 6th. Great way to see friends and neighbors in the New Year.

Our Post will be hosting a bus of 12-15 Vets from the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans on Saturday, January 13. They will probably arrive around 11am for lunch and bingo. Be at the Hall at 10:30 to set up and to wheel them in when they get here.

Around the Post, I would like to welcome our new cook Eugene. He is doing great. And we all wish bartender Rhonda a speedy recovery from a car accident.

Hope everyone has a Happy New Year.

..... **Wally Brodock**

FROM THE AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

Happy New Year Auxiliary Members,

The Legion Family Children's Christmas Party was on Dec. 9th. Vice Pres. Penny and her crew did a wonderful job. The Caledonia String Players started off the event with cheerful Christmas music. The kids loved listening to and watching the musicians while decorating Christmas cookies and adorning rice-sock Snowmen. Thank you Larry Z. for "building" and donating the snowmen. At noon, to the excitement of all, Santa Claus accompanied by Rudolph entered the Hall with a jolly "Ho, Ho, Ho, Merry Christmas!" Santa was assisted by a cute Elf in handing out gifts and candy canes to the anxious boys and girls. Throughout the day, everyone enjoyed hot dogs, sloppy joes, veggies, chips and dips, and hot cocoa with marshmallows. Smiling faces were seen everywhere. What a heartwarming day it was!

Our December Unit meeting had to be cancelled due to bad weather. Please sign up to attend our Auxiliary Christmas Party on Wednesday, January 10. Social at 6:30, order dinner at 7pm. At either Fire Rock Grille or Cascade Roadhouse. Each member will pay her own bill. The location will be posted on the sign-up list in the Legion lounge, or call the club at 891-1882 to have your name added, right away. There will only be reservations for 25-30.

On Saturday Jan. 13, our Legion will be hosting a lunch and bingo for 12-15 Veterans, from the Home for Vets. We need desserts provided by the Auxiliary. With the Scouts, Military Moms and our Legion Family members working the event, we will need desserts for 45-50 people. Drop them off Friday evening or by 10:30 a.m. Saturday.

Our Annual Wine and Beer Tasting fundraising event will be Friday, February 9th. Lots of help is required. We need donations of prizes for the gift baskets, and many appetizers. Workers for set up, food prep, ticket sellers, wine station workers, and clean up crew. Look for the sign-up sheet in the lounge. Penny has a planning committee, if interested in joining, contact her.

Remember Euchre Saturdays, on Jan 6th and Feb 3rd. Sign up at noon and play begins at 12:30. Bring in snacks to share.

Our next meeting is on Valentine's Day. Social at 6:30, with meeting at 7pm.

Have a very Happy New Year!

..... Terri Brodock



FROM THE SAL COMMANDER

Greetings Fellow SAL Members and Friends

I would like to start off the New Year with a hearty "Happy New Year" and a big thank you to Post 305 cooks, bartenders and waitresses. This past year the service has been outstanding and the new menu certainly has people talking and wondering what special is next. Also, I would like to give a shout out to Cami for hiring such a talented, helpful and friendly staff.

I would like to pass on a thank you on behalf of Tom Hyde and friends for the help with the annual Holiday Basket Program. So much work goes into the gathering of food and items and contacting families for delivery of baskets that help out so many people. I would like to express appreciation for those that have donated money for this program. Red Bull Distribution donated fresh Otto turkeys to help raise money to finance the Holiday Baskets.

A quick reminder, keep February 9th available for the always popular Ladies Auxiliary Wine Tasting event. Volunteers are always needed and appreciated. This is a great fundraiser for the Post so be sure to bring friends out and a driver to get you safely home.

The Sons Grille raffle will start shortly so be sure to buy your tickets early and often. We have some upcoming events being planned. Stop in the next meeting on January 8th to find out how to help. Thanks to all who attended and participated in the Sons meeting held December 11th.

In closing, I would like to express my thank you to my fellow Sons officers for all the help I have received with my first few months as Sal Commander. Also, thanks to all of the members who always raise their hands to volunteer for any new project or show up when help is needed. I offer big handshake, a smile, and a pat on the back. You are truly appreciated. of good cheer! From our family to yours, we wish you a Merry Christmas.

Post Script: As you sort through the new clothes, jackets and such from Christmas morning please consider donating your gently used adult clothing items to help Homeless Veterans. We have a drop in the back hall for the donated items. Remember, under britches and tee shirts have to be new still in packages. Thank you.

See you at the Legion,

..... Tony Huver

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEES

If your membership card reads 2017, this will be your last newsletter. Please help your respective membership team of Bill White-Legion, Jenny Baisch-Auxiliary and Daryl Penfold-Son's. Please renew now while you are thinking about it. Thank you to all that have renewed for 2018.

FROM THE WEBMASTER

Hope your Holiday Season was a Happy and Joyous time.

I would like to thank all of you who are receiving these newsletters via email of the 873 members we have at the Post. You play a great part in saving volunteer time each month (3-4 hrs.), Money-Postage (\$0.17), Printing (\$0.33). For the 486 of you that receive the newsletter and calendar by email, you saved the Post \$2,187.00 this past year. If you should have problems with either the newsletter or monthly calendar please let me know.

If you wish to stay current on the activities of the Post, consider signing up to receive the newsletter by email. You will normally see the newsletter 1 week prior to members that receive it in the US Mail. To request email delivery, send your request to calmilegion@yahoo.com.

FROM THE POST MANAGER

Happy New Year!

Kitchen serving times—Monday -Friday 12-6:45pm
Open menu and Daily specials

Thursdays each week we provide a set special advertised on calendar, serving 12-6:45pm.

Pot luck or delivered foods may be brought into the lounge area Saturdays and Sundays open.

Bring enough to share

Very grateful always for the friendly faces in our members, staff and volunteers! Thank You!

Breakfast Buffet "All you can eat" First Saturday of every Month serving 8-10:30am Open to Public

All are Welcome to come eat and take part at Legion Functions!

In the hall once a month is the Michigan Blood Drive Jan 22nd 12-7pm. It is a great thing to be able to give the gift of life this Holiday season. All are welcome to come in talk with staff provided and donate.

Hall rental is available. Call the post and ask for Cami for information when needed.

Look at your Legion calendar, web site, Face book and whiteboard in lounge for all up and coming specials and activities.

Happy Holidays to Everyone!

Cami Sterken

BRICK WALL OF SUPPORT

Bricks may be purchased by anyone wishing to show support of our Post, you do not need to be a member of the Legion, SAL or Auxiliary. Bricks may also be purchased in memory of friends or family who have or are serving in the military. Call the Post at 616-891-1882 for details.