

Caledonia American Legion Memorial Post 305

Serving Our Veterans, Their Families and the Community

JANUARY 2019

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FROM THE LEGION COMMANDER

Hello Legion Family,

I hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas! December was another great month for our Legion. We started out by providing a color guard for the Caledonia Christmas Parade and a big thanks to all that participated. The annual Christmas party on Dec 8th was a success as always and a big thanks to Santa Claus and the Grinch for their guest appearances. The food basket deliveries were another event that our Legion supports and this year it provided to over 60 families in our community. A very Big Thank You to the Sons of the American Legion for putting together this event and allowing us to be part of helping support it.

Our first go around of Texas Hold'em is this month. I thank all the volunteers for their time in supporting this endeavor and raising money for our Veteran Programs.

New from the American Legion. The American Legion has sent forward legislation to Congress to allow all Veterans from the date of December 7, 1941 to present to be allowed to join the Legion. If this passes we hope that we will be able to recruit new members into our ranks that in the past could not join due to their period of service. If and when this is passed we will get the information out to the community and surrounding areas.

Upcoming Events for the Legion:
February 16th Chili Cook-off and Corn Hole Tournament
March 8th will be the first Fish Fry of the Lent Season

On behalf of Kelly and me, we wish the entire Legion Family a Happy New Year!

..... *Daniel Yablonski*



FROM THE AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

News from Your Auxiliary President, Penny Kirk!

Hope you all had a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Looking forward to great things to come in 2019!

The Auxiliary Christmas Party will be on Wednesday, 1/9/2019, so there will not be a regular meeting the month of January. We will gather for happy hour at the American Legion at 6pm and dinner will follow at Fricano's at 7pm. There is a sign-up sheet in the bar by the door. Look forward to celebrating with you all!

We will be celebrating our 10th Annual Wine & Beer Tasting Event on Friday, 2/8/2019, from 5-9pm. We are looking for volunteers to help. The sign-up sheet is in the bar by the door. We are asking Auxiliary members to bring appetizers for the event and to have them there by 3pm that day. Sponsors this year are: Cascade Winery, Henry Fox, and Schmohz Brewery. If you are interested in being on the committee, please give me a call (phone number below).

We have a Schwan's fundraiser starting. Details will be posted on our Auxiliary Face book page. Please visit our website for more information and details about our upcoming events.

Euchre Tournaments continue every first Saturday of the month. Please sign up by noon and Euchre starts promptly at 12:30pm. Come join in on the fun!

All Auxiliary membership renewals should be renewed by 1/1/2019. If you haven't renewed, please contact Jenny Baisch at 616-308-9848. The bartenders will not serve anyone that has not renewed so please have your cards with you. As of our last meeting on 12/12/2018, the ALA had 109 renewals (includes 4 juniors) and 12 new members (Includes 1 junior) processed for 2019. Just a reminder that if you have been a member for over 40 years, the ALA pays for your membership.

Our next Auxiliary meeting will be on Wednesday, 2/13/2019. Happy hour at 6pm with meeting at 7pm. Hope to see you all there!

Please feel free to reach out to me anytime with any questions, concerns or ideas. Contact Information is:
Penny Kirk (President):
penny.kirk@hubinternational.com / Cell #616-914-2652.

Thank you all for your support to our American Legion Post 305!

God Bless you, our Military and Veterans!

..... *Penny Kirk*



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 calmlegion@yahoo.com.

FROM THE SAL COMMANDER

It's that time again to say "Happy New Year fellow Sons members and Post 305 members and friends". First thing I need to mention is to make sure that you renew your 2019 membership. \$30.00 before the end of the year, or \$35.00 thereafter. The bartenders and staff will be checking so please make arrangements to update and continue to support the Post.

Next, a big thank you to Tom and Lisa Hyde and all of the Post members who made the Holiday Basket project a success. Over 60 local families received a helping hand this year. This is one of the best projects of the year, as so many members ask to help both physically and financially. Thanks to all who lent a helping hand.

The December 10th meeting had a very high attendance and we all were rewarded with two different kinds of homemade lasagna and garlic bread along with wonderful cookies, made by Maria Kemp. The members discussed providing a donation to the Santa Girls along with another local family in need. Voting was unanimous and Kirk will make the payment along with a donation to, Wreaths Across America, for veterans to receive wreaths at their gravesites around West Michigan.

Tickets for a wonderful meat bundle, provided by Caledonia Packaging, are available in the lounge. Be sure to buy early and often. Tickets are \$1.00 per ticket or 6 tickets for \$5.00. Also highlighting the meat bundle is an Otto turkey. Drawing will be Super bowl Sunday. The next Sons meeting will be January 14th. Social time begins at 6:30 and the meeting starts at 7:00pm sharp. I hope to see you all there.

See you at the Legion,

..... **Tony Huver**

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEES

If your membership card reads 2018, 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 2019.

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 861 members we have at the Post. You play a great part in saving volunteer time each month (3-4 hrs.), Money-Postage (\$0.17.5), Printing (\$0.51). For the 541 of you that receive the newsletter and calendar by email, you saved the Post \$2,012.80 this past year. If you should have problems

FROM THE POST MANAGER

Hoping you stay warm in January,

Look at all the interesting food items being served shown on the calendar this month. Thanks for coming in and partaking in our meals and drinks. It's nice to see that people enjoy taking time out to spend with friends and family here. We appreciate all patrons and volunteers. Eugene, our Legion chef, is doing a Prime rib dinner again January 24th; 5-8pm. Pre-sale tickets for this dinner are on sale now till Jan 13th. Come on in and ask your server if interested. Sorry, but no door sales. Sunday Jan 13th will be open 12-6pm.

We are now serving pizza when kitchen is closed. Crackers n Cheese, Peanuts and chips also may be purchased. As always, fresh hot popcorn is available too. Outside food may be brought into the lounge when kitchen is closed. Goodie Bags are available for purchase. Thanks for your support! If anyone can donate individual wrapped items to put in bags, we are accepting crackers, cookies, candy, etc. All monies raised goes to helping purchase lounge needs.

Bada Bingo & Karaoke will be held Jan 11th and Karaoke Jan 25th 9pm to midnight. Bring in some friends for fun and show your support.

January 28th 12-7pm come on in and give the gift of life. Open to members and the public. Michigan Blood Drive could use your donation during this holiday season. Look at your Legion calendar, web site, Facebook and whiteboard in lounge for all up and coming specials, activities and events. Interested in renting legion hall and kitchen? Big events and small, call and ask for post manager. *"One chapter of your life has just finished and another chapter has just begun. Enjoy the New Year and have a blessed 2019"*

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. Contact the Post for questions. 616-891-1882.