

# *Caledonia American Legion Memorial Post 305*

## **Serving Our Veterans, Their Families and the Community**

### **OCTOBER 2018**

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#### **FROM THE LEGION COMMANDER**

Hello Legion Family,

September was a great month for the Legion seeing a lot of our members returning from the summer months and joining us once again.

We had a few events this last month. We supported the Middleville Patriots Day program with a Firing Squad, 2<sup>nd</sup> was our Operation Help a Vet Program. This program was a great success and thanks to Gary Timmermans and Bill Van Port Fleet for all the hard work that went in to making it a overwhelming fund raiser in support of Veteran programs. Texas Holdem again was a success due to all the volunteers, and last but not least was SPUD's Steak Fry another great meal put on by our Sons of the American Legion.

The Legions Upcoming Event:

On October 5<sup>th</sup> please come out and support our Pulaski Days Meal. It is always a great meal and will be served from Noon till 7PM or runs out first. That same day is the TV raffle in support of Community Home Rebuilders, which provides housing to homeless veterans in the Grand Rapids area. The TV is displayed in the lounge and tickets are for sale. Please see the bartender for tickets.

October 20<sup>th</sup> the Veterans Home will be bring some Vets to our Legion for a fun day of Bingo, and a Fish Fry. This is always a great day supporting Veterans.

October 27<sup>th</sup> we will have our annual Trunk or Treat in the hall. We are still looking for a chairperson for this event and I will be asking for a volunteer at our General Membership meeting. We will have a barrel in the Lounge for donations of packaged candy for the kids. Please consider donating.

November 11<sup>th</sup> will be our Veterans Day program at 5PM. Please come out and show support to our Veterans and Celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the end of World War I.

We will have our next executive board meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> of October and our Legion General Membership meeting on the 3rd of October. Look forward to see you all there.

"Veterans Still Serving"

..... **Daniel Yablonski**

#### **FROM THE AUXILIARY PRESIDENT**

News from Your Auxiliary President, Penny Kirk!

We had our first meeting to kick off the year on Wednesday, 9/12/18. It went well but we had a lot to cover considering we haven't met since May. Thank you to all that attended and your participation! Look forward to our next meeting on Wednesday, 10/10/2018, with Happy Hour at 6pm and meeting at 7pm. We look forward to seeing all of you there!

Euchre Tournaments will begin again soon! The first Euchre Tournament is on Saturday, 10/6/2018, and will continue on the first Saturday of each month following. Please be there by noon to sign up and Euchre starts promptly at 12:30pm. Come and join in on the fun!

ALA is sponsoring an 8<sup>th</sup> Hour Class at Duncan Lake Middle School for children to learn more about the different branches of the Military, Veterans experiences, and what we do for our Veterans and Military. This will occur during their winter session at DLMS.

Save the Date: The American Legion Children's Christmas Party (Members Only) is scheduled for Saturday, 12/8/2018. More details to follow in the coming newsletters.

Save the Date: The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Wine & Beer Tasting Event is scheduled for Friday, 2/8/2019. More details to follow in the coming newsletters.

Our hearts and prayers go out to the family of Judith Rosendall of Middleville. She was one of our precious auxiliary members who lost her battle with cancer on 8/12/2018 at home with her family. She was active in our organization and will be missed!

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](mailto:penny.kirk@hubinternational.com) / Cell #616-914-2652

Thank you all for your support to our American Legion Post and hope to see you at the next Auxiliary meeting!

..... **Penny Kirk**



**FROM THE SAL COMMANDER**

Kick off to the fall season is in full swing at Post 305! It is a wonderful thing to walk in the lounge and see both baseball and football on the big screens. The last Sons meeting was held September 10<sup>th</sup> and I would like to report the meeting had many members with both new and old faces. Guest speaker William Van Port Fleet spent time talking about the Help a Vet program and answering finance questions from the SAL members. John Crisman ordered pizza from Paradise Pizza which members enjoyed after the meeting. Next meeting will be held October 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 sharp. Social time begins at 6:30. Spuds Steak Fry, sponsored by the Sons, held on September 28<sup>th</sup>. Music provided after dinner by Dr. Bobs One Man Band. Come for the Steak and stay for the entertainment!

There are far too many activities in October to list in my newsletter with karaoke and Halloween Parties so please make sure to look at the Legion website calendar to arrange your Post 305 fun.

I would like to thank Former Sons Chaplain Randy Eggers for his service the past year. Randy is a former commander and a great mentor and leader for the Sons. Randy has other commitments and has stepped down from the position. Stepping up to fill the Chaplain position is former SAL commander Tom Hyde. We thank Tom for his continued involvement with the Post and look forward to his leadership and input as always.

In closing, I would like to thank all the volunteers that make Post 305 a special place. If you would like to become more involved contact any Legion member, Ladies Auxiliary member or Sons member and we will certainly welcome help with open arms.

Please make a point to see Daryl Penfold at the legion and renew your 2019 dues. Help us by renewing early. Fee is still \$30.00.

See you at the Legion,

..... **Tony Huver**

Polish Meal Oct.5, fundraiser to support local homeless veterans Community Rebuilders Program, serving noon-7PM or gone; fresh kielbasa, cabbage roll, sauerkraut, pierogies, rye bread. \$9.00



**FROM THE ALR DIRECTOR**

Hi Riders,

Our Never Forget Ride was a very nice Day. We had 24 Bikes and when on an 80 mile ride. All had a great day. We have a short time to ride as the days are getting cooler. So ride when you can. Our weekly rides are still going on. Check the board at the Post for which day we ride. Thanks to all that helped on the ride. Next meeting is on the 13<sup>th</sup> of October at 10 AM at the Post. So be safe out there. By the way, the 2018 Legacy Run raised \$1,256,930.43 for the "Legacy Fund".

..... **Wally Brodock**

**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEES**

Thanks to all of you that have renewed your 2019 membership. Look at your membership card, if it does not say 2019 at the top center, you need to renew. It certainly makes our jobs a whole lot easier. If you have not renewed, please consider doing so. Legion membership renewal is \$45.00, Auxiliary Is \$30.00 and SAL \$30.00. It would be great for the Post to have all memberships at 100% by year end. Help us get the job done. Thank you.

**FROM THE WEBMASTER**

On a monthly basis I receive informational newsletters concerning VA benefits and pending legislation in Congress. If you wish and have email, I can forward you a copy. It can be downloaded in an Adobe PDF format. Simply send me an email at the address below with your request.

Every so often I receive phone calls or emails concerning Veterans DD214. This document is of much importance when the time comes for a Veterans funeral arrangements. Headstones, US Flag and a monetary amount towards funeral arrangements are provided by the US Government. If you cannot find a Veterans DD214, one can be requested from the following website; <https://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records>

If you have a desire to put something in our newsletter (Birthdays, Anniversaries, Weddings, Deaths in the family etc.) or on the website, please contact the Post at 616-891-1882 or the email address below.

And thanks to all of you for receiving these newsletters via email. You play a great part in saving volunteer time each month (3-4 hrs.), Money-Postage(\$0.17), Printing(\$0.33). Of the 825 newsletters that go out each month 478 or 58% of membership go out by email. For the 429 of you, thank you for saving the Post \$1,644.50 this past year. If you should have problems with either the newsletter or monthly calendar please let me know at [calmilegion@yahoo.com](mailto:calmilegion@yahoo.com). **Please consider receiving the newsletter by email.**

**FROM THE POST MANAGER**

This fall, Sundays will be open 12-6pm for Detroit Lions home games. October 7<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>.

Pot luck or delivered foods may be brought into the lounge area when kitchen is not in service. If able bring enough to share : )

Our menu is going through some minor changes to assist in Legion needs. We will have a slight price increase on certain items. This is all due to rising costs that we are accruing as well. There will be new dinner specials on Thursdays and Fridays. We will be incorporating "Combo Meals" Details at Lounge.

Lots of things coming up for fun!!

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

Please encourage people to come in and take part of our food menu and specials. Eat in or take out. The more the merrier! Craft Event "Wooden Sign painting" in Hall October 16<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm, all are welcome to participate \*Look for advertisement via all the above places listed.

Our Legion is proud to host monthly the Michigan Blood Drive. October 22<sup>nd</sup> 12-7pm. It is a great thing to be able to give the gift of life. Come on in and give your donation, Hall rental is available. Just call Cami Sterken at post for information when needed.

Job opportunity available for a part time bartender – waitress needed \*Apply within

"Giving hands never stay empty"

THANK YOU, volunteers, staff and patrons whom have given their support in helping the Legion to succeed. We are constantly trying and achieving to reach our goals to continue to help our vets.

**Cami Sterken**