



NEWS LETTER

HEART OF THE LAKES VFW POST 1008

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On behalf of the LaForge family, we would like to extend a warm “thank you”, to everyone who donated their time and monetary gifts that helped make “Claus Cause” a huge success! This is how we show,

“We are more than just a bar” It takes a village... or a really great VFW! 30 hours of toy shopping, 7 hours at the bowling event and a long 9 hr day packing toys. Let’s not forget your donations at the Claus Cause, because it provided over 115 children and 1 service dog, with a magical Christmas. We helped 19 bucket of love kids (at risk area youths), 77 veteran children (61 families), 7 kids with cancer (2 families), and 11 outside families in need (6 Families).

Kim Masters should be recognized for all of her efforts (shopping & packing) as well, on behalf of the NOCMCL #570 Detachment. Kim is funded by the Oakland County Marine Corps, and together with Claus Cause, is what makes this program work. Kim’s father (Oil Wright, NOCMCL #570) and the Oakland County Marine Corps #570 League, were responsible for bringing us into Post 1008 VFW. They are also the founders of the toy portion of this program.

Respectfully yours - The LaForge Family



Commander's Column

George Navarrette

We hosted our first Texas Hold'em tournament in January. It was a great success. I would like to thank Bill Whitten and Kevin Ogg for all their help in organizing the event. We did everything needed to meet the new rules set by the state Gaming Commission. We need more dealers for these games. Presently we have ten; we would like to have fifteen. It is fun to deal and the players appreciate our efforts to bring tournaments to Waterford. The kitchen staff served hamburgers, hot dogs and pizza slices. Thanks to Donna Kelley and all of her staff. Bartenders and servers did a great job in filling players bar orders. Again thanks to all who's hard work made this a success. The next Texas Hold'em is February 27th.

The subscription drive for Newsletter sponsorship is doing well. We have 20 sponsors who have renewed. The remaining six have verbally committed to renew. The cost is \$120 per year. We would like to add five more sponsors for 2016. If you know a local business owner ask them to consider sponsorship. A paper copy of the Newsletter is available from the office to show them our format. Email addresses are still needed to keep the member contact list current.

I received notification from the National V.F.W. that a member was removed from his board position because he had renewed his membership late (January 4th.) Remember to renew you dues or look into becoming a life member.

Super Bowl Sunday (February 7th) we will be open with food, The Game, raffles and prizes. Volunteers please contact Jerry Beseau, or if you can supply a prize. This event will be lots of fun. I hope to see many members on Game Day.

The House Committee powers have been approved by the Board. The House Committee helps the Manager run the bar and hall. The House Committee is developing a renter's evaluation to help the Post and Manager enhance the marketing and utilization of the banquet hall. We are hopeful feedback will increase hall rental.

The Grand Slam is one of our major fundraisers. Bob Rambo is the chair and will work with Donna Kelley to distribute all of the raffle tickets. The cost is \$50 per ticket with only 250 tickets to be sold. If you are interested in buying a share of a ticket check with a Post bartender. Last year we sold all 250 tickets. Let's achieve that goal again. Early Bird drawing will be March 17th; the Final Drawing will be April 16th at 6PM.

We will again have a St. Patrick's Day Dinner on March 17th at 5:30, cost \$12.00 per person. Tickets may be purchased at the door. First come first served until food is gone.

Post nominations for new officers will be held at the March General Meeting. If you are a member in good standing you are eligible to run for any available office. New blood is always welcome. Remember this is your Post and the future of it is in our member's hands.

To all our snowbirds keep warm and healthy. See you in the spring.

George Navarrette
Commander

PLEASE READ IMPORTANT POST NEWS

**Need to send us an email? Contact us now with our new email address
(post1008vfw@gmail.com)**

THANK YOU—Pontiac Academy For Excellence

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1008, Waterford Michigan wants to thank KIM KOILPILLAI and the students at “Pontiac Academy For Excellence” for the wonderful letters they sent during Veterans Week. It was greatly appreciated and many comments made by our members that someone remembered the Veterans on their special day November 11. We want to thank the school and the students who sent many thank you letters. It is wonderful for Veterans to be remembered by so many of our youth and teachers. Once again THANK YOU !

Our Post is looking for (poker chips). If you have some old poker chips laying around home and your not using them, bring them in and give them to **Donna!** We can use them at the post for the quarter auction.

WE NEED YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS

WE ARE CLEANING UP OUR FILES AND WOULD LIKE EVERYONE WITH AN EMAIL ADDRESS TO SEND THEIR EMAIL ADDRESS TO VFW587@GMAIL.COM. I WILL UPDATE OUR RECORDS AND MAKE SURE YOU RECEIVE A NEWSLETTER

At the 5th District Meeting on February 21st, at our Post, the Auxiliary will be presenting Teddy Bears to the police from Oakland and Macomb County for their distribution to children in emergency situations. There is a collection box in the clubroom for anyone wanting to donate to this worthy program. Thank you in advance for your donations.

Attention!!!! Our wooden round tables are for sale! It is a first come first serve basis. Starting January 1st \$20.00 each

FEBRUARY 20 & 21ST

Ice Golf Outing at the White Lake Inn at 12 noon to 1800. Volunteers needed to run various games at this function.



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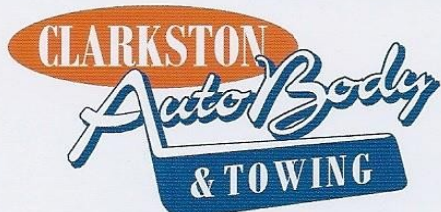

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Teresa Fortino
Valerie Vengas

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GRAND SLAM RAFFLE

Saturday, April 16, 2016

7:00 p.m.

Tickets \$50.00

Only 250 Tickets Sold!!!

1st Prize \$2000

2nd Prize \$1000

3rd/4th/5th Prize \$500

Every 25th Ticket Drawn \$25.00

Every 50th Ticket Drawn \$50.00

Early Bird Drawing

March 31, 2016 * 7 pm

Prize \$500

Less than 250 Tickets sold, prizes will be adjusted

License #C27413

GRAND SLAM RAFFLE

Tickets are available in packets of 5 or 10 tickets. Please stop by the post to pick up the tickets to sell to your friends and family. This is a major fund raiser for Post 1008 as well as a very fun and enjoyable evening.

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51st district veterans court graduation, February 28, 2016

The Veterans are so grateful that Judge Jodi Debbrecht Swatalski chose the path to walk with us on this journey back to life. We can never thank her enough for the help, guidance and light she has given us in this program.



(LtoR) Pat Kittle, Donna Kelly, John Scott, Judge Jodi, Julie Brown, Commander Navarrette



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FEBRUARY

2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6 Work Bee
	S	AG		W		
7 Super Bowl	8	9	10 7:00 BOARD MTG	11	12	13
	S	AG		MCL / W		
14 Valentines Day	15	16	17 POST & AUX MTG	18 A LEGION	19	20 1200 to 1800 ICE GOLF White Lake Inn
	S	RENTAL AG		W		
21 1200 to 1800 ICE GOLF	22	23 Agent Orange	24	25	26	27 Texas Holdem
5th District at Post 1008	S	AG		W		
28	29					
	S					

MARCH

2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5 Work Bee
		AG		W		
6	7	8	9 Board Mtg	10	11	12
RENTAL	S	AG		MCL / W		
13	14	15	16 POST & AUX MEETINGS	17 ST PATS DINNER \$12.00 At the Post	18	19 Texas Holdem
	S	RENTAL				
20	21	22 AGENT ORANGE	23	24	25	26 EASTER EGG HUNT
RENTAL	S	AG		W		
27 POST CLOSED	28	29	30	31 1900 EARLY BIRD DRAWING		
	S	AG		W		



Meetings held
third Thursday
monthly @ 7:30 PM.



Meetings held
fourth Tuesday
monthly @ 7:30 PM.

Service Officer Column for Newsletter

This month I would like to discuss Service Connected Compensation for Agent Orange. This will apply to you if you served in Vietnam between January 9, 1962 and May 7, 1975 or you served in Korea along the DMZ between April 1, 1968 through August 31, 1971. If you have any of the following health conditions, you should contact me as soon as possible so we can discuss a possible claim with the VA for you. The health conditions associated with Agent Orange are: Chloracne, Porphyria Cutanea Tarda, Soft-tissue Sarcoma, Hodgkin's disease, Multiple myeloma, Respiratory cancers (lung, bronchus, larynx, trachea), Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma, Prostrate Cancer, Acute and Sub Acute Peripheral Neuropathy, Type 2 Diabetes, Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia, Ischemic Heart Disease, B Cell Leukemia, ALS or Parkinson's Disease. Please call me if you have any questions. Just received notice that bladder cancer and/or diesel fuel exposure is now service connected due to Agent Orange exposure.

Bill Coleman
Post 1008 Service Officer
248-666-4929



Robert J. Bucko
PRESIDENT

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Post 1008 Auxiliary

None this month

Quartermaster Report

None this month



The Marine Corps League

Meetings held second Thursday monthly @ 7:30 PM.

The new year, 2016, is upon us and we Marines are excited at our fund raising prospects. The Ice Golf program is in the works for February; hoping White Lake will freeze as well as last year. Watch for posting of a flyer at the Post entrance.

You golfers who missed our 2015 outing at Selfridge Air National Guard Base are offered the chance to have some fun with us this year and enjoy a fine dinner to boot.

2015 saw three new members added to our roster. We welcome them aboard. I am certain their interest in continued service to this community will be well appreciated. 2016 recruitment has begun. The League is open to Honorably Discharged Marines and Fleet Marine Force Corpsmen. No age restrictions at all.

Questions, comments, and suggestions are welcome and can be discussed with the Commandant.

Sincerely, Don Roach—Commandant

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IMPORTANT

MONDAY FEBRUARY 29 7:00pm SENATOR KOWALL AND LYNN O'BRIEN WILL VISIT OUR POST AND PIN ALL VIETNAM VETERANS. IF YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED A VIETNAM PIN WE ASK THAT YOU ATTEND THIS VERY IMPORTANT RECOGNITION BY OUR STATE FOR ALL VIETNAM VETS.



Commander Navarette, Bill Storm, Bob Mutter, Bill Coleman and Mark Woods attended the Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans celebration at Holy Spirit Catholic Church. Members who attended were recognized and pinned with a Welcome Home Vietnam Pin. We encourage all Vietnam Veterans to be at the Post 1008 at 7:00pm on February



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Christmas Baskets For Our Veterans

Once again this year Christmas Baskets were made for Veterans and their families who needed help. It is a wonderful opportunity to show our community and our Veterans that our Post 1008 really cares about our men and women who have served our country. There are many who worked on this project and we especially want to thank Bob Mutter for all of the food and turkeys collected and to _____ for all of the toys and other items collected to brighten up each family.



Donna—Bob Mutter—Commander—Sr Vice

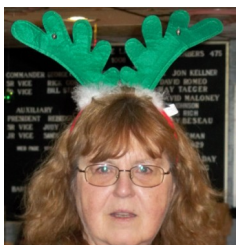
67 Baskets were prepared with toys



Auxillary sorted and distributed toys



Just a few of the many workers who helped



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(LtoR) Kate, Dr. Stacer, Megan, Denise,
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