



## HEART OF THE LAKES

POST 1008

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## August - September 2019



Karla Meadows-La Forge  
POW/MIA COMM. OF MICHIGAN,  
National League of POW/MIA Families,  
Post #1008 Auxiliary, Heart of the Lakes

The National League of Families of American prisoners and missing in Southeast Asia, just had our 50th Anniversary annual meeting June 19-23, 2019. This was a monumental accomplishment / milestone, considering the struggle this issue has endured since the beginning of our Charter in 1970. For me personally this was my 41st annual meeting.

Current standings of the missing as of June 14, 2019 - 1,588 Americans are now listed by the DOD (Department of Defense) as missing and unaccounted for - KIA (killed in action) / BNR (body not returned) from the Vietnam War: Vietnam - 1,246 (VN-443, VS-803) 90% ; Laos - 287; Cambodia - 48; People's Republic of China territorial Waters - 7.

A total for the accounted since the end of the war in 1975 is 995. A breakdown by country of these 995 Americans is: Vietnam - 672, Laos - 278, Cambodia - 42, and the PRC - 3. In addition, 63 US Personnel were accounted for between 1973 and 1975, the formal end of the Vietnam War for a grand total of 1,058.

The great state of Michigan began with the original "77" POW/MIA's. Since then our number is down to 48 still missing, unaccounted for, or BNR. Since 1970 we have accounted for 29 Michigan missing. And for anyone who's interested, we happen to have one right from our own Township of Waterford, - SMSGT. Douglas V. Daily, USAF-12/13/68, LAOS.



I hope we can show our support for this issue on September 20, 2019 which will be National POW/MIA Recognition Day at Oakland Hills Cemetery, Novi.

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George Smith

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Mike Roy

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Jon Kellner



The identification and internment of CDR James B Mills, USN, brother of Ann Mills-Griffith, President of the National League of Families took place at Arlington National Cemetery the day after the close of the annual meeting. Those with proper credentials were allowed to attend the internment. Karla LaForge was among those attending and shares these photos of the internment. She writes, 'this was truly chilling and an awesome experience'.



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## CLUB MANAGER'S REPORT

Hope everyone has been surviving the heat and enjoying what is left of the summer. If you haven't been to the Post, the Clubroom is cool, the beer is cold, and the natives are friendly!

Euchre is back on September 3rd, 7:30pm! Come on in for a friendly evening of cards! We will be re-opening on Sundays for football season beginning on September 8th, 1-7pm. The Sunday shuffleboard tournaments will begin in October. Watch Clubroom for details.

Lots of good times await you at your Post, come on in and see what you have been missing!

Donna Kelley

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### AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP

If you are an annual member of Auxiliary 1008 your dues of \$25 for the 2020 year are now due. Please send a check to the Post, 1690 Airport Road, Waterford, Michigan 48327.

Remember, our strength is in numbers, we need new members. Ask your friends if they are related to an eligible Veteran (does not have to be a member, only eligible to be). Suggest they join and be a part of this great organization!

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**Young Members Needed!** Membership is the life blood of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Many of our members are getting up in age. Not many WWII Vets left. Korean Vets are close in age with the aforementioned group. Most Vietnam Vets are retired, or close to it. To remain a viable defender of earned veteran benefits, we must remain strong through many members. So, spread the word about the good works of the VFW.

To our future members: if you don't think the VFW can help you, do it for your fellow Vets that may be in desperate need of help from battlefield injuries to their physical and mental health. If you know of a young Veteran that needs some help, please refer them to our Post's Service Officer, Don Roach

*Remember: approximately 22 Veterans commit suicide every day!*

Spread the word.....Author Unknown

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# Quartermaster's Report

Comrades,

As your new Quartermaster, I must say the first month was really hectic. However with the people in our organization help is only a request away. We went through our first audit without any issues.

We are turning the efforts this month to membership. I have two to process and four awaiting information. Do you know someone that might want to become a member? Bring them in! Remember, new people are our life line.

**Bob Benson**

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## Post 1008 Auxiliary Column

*Judy Coe, President - Post 1008 Auxiliary*



Well, another year begins. We are still having the Thursday night dinners on the 1st and 4th Thursday of the month from 5 to 6:30pm. Watch for blasts and flyer in the Clubroom as to what is on the menu. Help and desserts are always needed and appreciated.

The Quarter Auction is scheduled for October 12th. Letters for donations will be available soon so lets make this another success.

Michigan Days at National Home is August 4th. National Home is in Eaton Rapids and serves Veterans and/or their families with a place to live and adjust to life. Camp Trotter Family Day is August 17th and is located in Newaygo. This is a great camp offering a week of camping and fun for the kids. These are both gems of the VFW and Auxiliary, both located in Michigan and both worth the visit.

Help is needed for the following events, please sign up to volunteer in the Clubroom.

- 8/11 - Air Show at Oakland Airport; we sell hot dogs, chips, water & soda. This is a great fundraiser.
- 9/25 -Soup & Salad 5-7pm. Bring a soup, salad or dessert to share and have a great meal.
- 10/4 & 10/5 - Parking Lot at Oakland County Fair Grounds. Have fun while you park cars, another great fundraiser.

August 18th is the District 5 Meeting at Post 1146 in St. Clair Shores at 10am. Come and support our own district Commander.

September 11th is our quarterly visit to the patients at the Ann Arbor VA Hospital. We leave the Post at 8:30am, anyone can come. It is worth the trip.

September 26th-28th is the Fall conference at Boyne Highland — a great learning experience and a fun time.



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**Meetings held  
 third Thursday  
 monthly @ 7:30 PM.**

**"The soldier is the Army. No army is better than its soldiers. The Soldier is also a citizen. In fact, the highest obligation and privilege of citizenship is that of bearing arms for one's country."**

**- George S. Patton, Jr.**

# Post 1008 Commander's Column

Comrades & Auxiliary members,

We have had a pretty good two months. We have scheduled the replacement of our heating and cooling units on the rooftop with a savings below what the body had agreed to invest. Any additional donations for the rooftop units would be great and would allow us to replace the monies used for the project.

On July 27<sup>th</sup> we are having a (hopefully) very large party here focused on the vets, children of all ages and the public will be welcome. Again, Sam's club is sponsoring and supplying all food and drinks all the way down to the charcoal for Mouse to cook on. We will have a Bounce house and Sidewalk Chalk for the kids and horseshoes and other games for adults.

We have received a grant from Walmart (Sam's club ) for new LED lighting for all areas of the building that have not been updated.

The proposed By-Law changes are hanging on the bulletin board by the bar. Please take a minute to review them.

I would like all to know, that ALL meetings at this post are open to the membership with the exception of disciplinary action and like actions. Please come. I want all to know what's going on in their Post.

Mark Woods

Commander



## ABOUT

Helmets to Hardhats is a national, nonprofit program that connects National Guard, Reserve, retired and transitioning active-duty military service members with skilled training and quality career opportunities in the construction industry. The program is designed to help military service members successfully transition back into civilian life by offering them the means to secure a quality career in the construction industry.

<https://helmetstohardhats.org/>



**Make sure you never miss an issue of our newsletter. Send your name and email address to [vfwpost1008@yahoo.com](mailto:vfwpost1008@yahoo.com) to receive your newsletter via email (its environmentally friendly too).**



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <i>Clubroom Closed</i>	2 <i>Clubroom Closed</i> <b>LABOR DAY</b>	3 <i>Euchre 7:30</i>	4 <i>House Com 7pm</i>	5 <i>DINNER 5PM</i>	6	7
8 <b>CLUBROOM RE-OPENS SUNDAYS</b>	9 <i>OCC Post 1008 7:30</i> <i>Clubroom Closed</i>	10 <i>Euchre 7:30</i>	11 <i>Board Mtg 7pm</i> <i>Ann Arbor VA Hosp Visit 10a</i>	12 <i>Marine Corp League</i>	13	14
15 <i>Gold Star Mothers Post 4659 1pm</i>	16 <i>Clubroom Closed</i>	17 <i>Euchre 7:30</i>	18 <i>Post &amp; Aug Membership 7pm</i>	19 <i>American Legion</i>	20 <b>POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY OAKLAND HILLS 6PM</b>	21
22	23 <i>SOA Warren #9021 7:30p</i> <i>Clubroom Closed</i>	24 <i>Euchre 7:30</i>	25 <i>Soup &amp; Salad 5 - 7p</i>	26 <b>NO DINNER</b>	27	28
29	30 <i>Clubroom Closed</i>	<div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <b>SEPTEMBER 2019</b> </div>				

## DID YOU KNOW ?????

There are many people to thank in the historical background of Post 1008. With the various mergers over the years, it presents an interesting history. Post 1008, founded on February 7, 1950 as Water Wonderful Post 1008. At this point, the Post was meeting in the American Legion Hall on Paddock and Pike.

Members of VFW Post 1370 formerly met in the basement of a local bar located on Saginaw and Rapid St., owned by Paul Parks. Several members of Post 1370 would later transfer to Post 1008 to bolster the ranks of the Post. I

In 1964, the David Belisle Post 4102 of Drayton Plains merged with Post 1008. Stanley Stewart was the Commander of Post 4102 and served as the interim Commander until the post-election of 1965. The merged posts merged under the number 1008, opened on October 15th, 1967, and elected Clell L. "Mutt" Morse as its first Commander.

The purchase of the current post building is a true story of dedication and faith in the importance of Post 1008. Five members stepped forth and determined to give Post 1008 a home of its own. Clell "Mutt" Morse, George Pappas, Dixie White, Kenneth Gilmore and Robert Almas risked everything when they collateralized their homes to take a 25 year mortgage on the property at 1690 Airport Road. With the money secured, they also helped to renovate an old airframe machine shop into a rental hall and Veterans of Foreign Wars post. No member of Post 1008 will ever forget the level of commitment these individuals exhibited.

In 1993, the Post merged yet again, this time with the David Belisle Post 1008 and Heart of the Lakes (Keego Harbor) Post 2706. In a symbolic act of unification, the family of David Belisle gave permission for the name of the post to change to Heart of the Lakes to welcome the new membership from Post 2706, while keeping the Post 1008 number. The first Commander of the newly unified post was *Richard Coe*.

Undoubtedly, many people have strived to keep Post 1008 open and thriving so that it can continue to serve the needs of our veteran community.

## Honor Guard News



The Honor Guard has been more than busy the last couple of months, especially June. During June we performed approximately 22 funerals with 8 being on one day as we acted as the Great Lakes VSO. My thanks to the crew who were present to handle all of these.... busy month!



July has started out pretty much the same way with the exception of us not volunteering to be the VSO for Great Lakes again. However, we have been contacted by the director of GLNC to come out on Saturday August 17<sup>th</sup> to perform mock funeral rituals for the open house crowds that will be wandering about. This will include flag foldings and firing with a squad of 3 while someone narrates the ritual. Could be fun to observe and see what we do. Mark Woods



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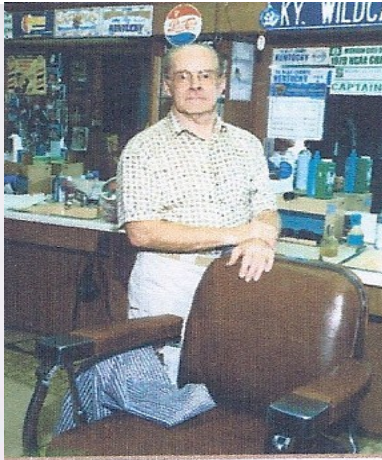


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An unnamed source captured this photo showing  
what Commanders do in their off time.



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# **The Marine Corps League 570**

Meetings held second Thursday monthly @ 7:30 PM.

North Oakland Marines Detachment 570

**Greetings Marines,**

Detachment 570 is looking for members to fill its ranks. Marines are used to getting by in few numbers, there is reduction in effectiveness when this occurs. Know a Marine? Get him in to see us.

Meetings are the second Thursday, monthly, at 1930 hours here at 1008.

Don Roach, Sr. Vice Commandant

248.794.7773



## **Service Officer Letter:**

Medical Records:

For general information about types of records maintained at the National Archives Records Administration (NARA), go to:

<http://www.archives.gov/st-louis/militarypersonnel/other-medical-records.html>

For specific instructions on requesting records, go to the NARA's web page for National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) at:

<http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/>

Hope that helps for those whom asked.

Requests for financial aid from our Oakland County Servicemen's Relief Fund are way down this year. Is that a good thing, or have we failed to get the word out to more recent veterans?

As of this month, the VA has not published any guidelines for Vets who want to use local medical facilities in lieu of VA Hospitals and Clinics. Should you wish to try doing so, please telephone your Primary Care Office and request approval. In an emergency, you have but 24 hours to do so. You must not offer any other medical insurance card to the facility. The VA will handle negotiations of that bill and then use your recorded policy to settle.

Don Roach

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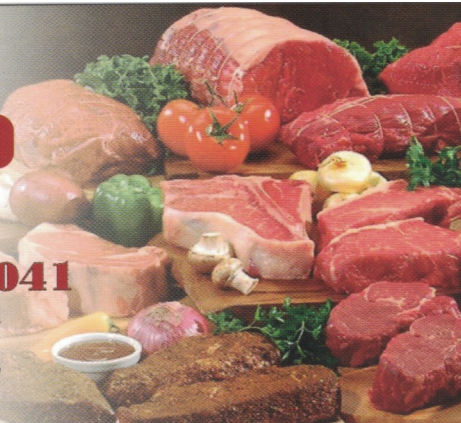
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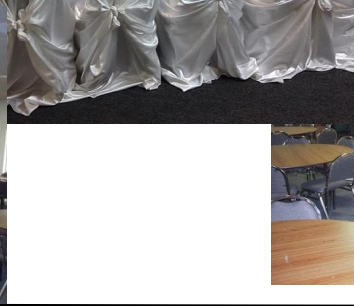
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The Huron  
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looking for artwork from Active Duty, Veterans and First Responders for the Art Show to be held in conjunction with the *OUR HEROS* concert on November 16, 2019 at Lakeland High School. Any interested Active Duty Military, Veteran or First Responder can contact Diane Woods at 248-417-9010 for more information.

## Our Loved Ones Corner

Three of the Lawler brothers unite in Pearl Harbor while on duty during WWII. From left to right Clifford, Ken, and Al Lawler - Ken Lawler is the father of Diane Woods.



Send a picture of your loved one in uniform with a brief description to [vfwpost1008@yahoo.com](mailto:vfwpost1008@yahoo.com) to be included in the next newsletter.



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"The willingness with which our young people are likely to serve in any war, no matter how justified, shall be directly proportional to how they perceive the Veterans of earlier wars were treated and appreciated by their nation."

*George Washington*

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