



HEART OF THE LAKES

POST 1008

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COMMANDER: Mark Woods SR VICE COMMANDER **Bill Storm** JR VICE COMMANDER Mike Jackson QUARTERMASTER **Bob Benson CHAPLAIN** George Smith **1ST YEAR TRUSTEE** Mike Kerr 2ND YEAR TRUSTEE Mike Roy **3RD YEAR TRUSTEE** Jon Kellner

VOICE OF DEMOCRACY

& PATRIOT'S PEN

The Annual Awards Banquet for the Patriot's Pen and Voice of Democracy was held on Sunday, January 5th at Post 7573.



This Annual event offers students and teachers the

opportunity to become involved in the democratic process through written essays. We applaud and recognize those teachers who support this

March - April 2020



initiative and we congratulate those students who entered their essays.

Both teachers and students have the opportunity to receive a cash award for their efforts.

The entries this year that were sponsored by VFW Post 1008 were:

John Stillman, 8th Grade, Our Lady of the Lakes Aiden Papke, 7th Grade, Our Lady of the Lakes Lindsey Steinke, 12 Grade, Brighton High School Angela Clark, 1st & 2nd Grade Teacher, St Paul Lutheran

Super Bowl Sunday

Well you can't have a Super Bowl party without a cake! It doesn't matter who you were rooting for, in the end everyone eats cake and life is good!





NATIONAL LEAGUE OF POW/MIA FAMILIES

Respectfully submitted by Tom LaForge







<u>Accountability:</u> At the end of the Vietnam War, there reportedly were 2,583 unaccounted-for American prisoners, missing or killed in action/body not recovered. As of January 21, 2020, the Department of Defense lists 1,587 Americans as missing and unaccounted-for, 90% of them in Vietnam or in areas of Cambodia and Laos where Vietnamese operated during the war. A breakdown by year of recovery for the <u>996 Americans accounted for from Vietnam War-related losses post April 30, 1975 follows:</u>

1965-1974	War years: (recently identified)	2	
1974-1975	Winding down USG effort	28	
1976-1978	US/SRV normalization negotiations	47	
1979-1980	US/SRV talks break down	1	
1981-1985	1st Reagan Administration	23	
1985-1989	2nd Reagan Administration	168	
1989-1993	George H.W. Bush Administration	129	
1993-1997	1st Clinton Administration	327	
1997-2001	2nd Clinton Administration	57	
2001-2004	1st George W. Bush Administration	64	
2004-2008	2nd George W. Bush Administration	62	
2008-2012	1 st Obama Administration	51	
2012-2016	2 nd Obama Administration	27	
2016-2020	Trump Administration	10	



These have to be the best Corn Hole boards in town! This is yet another reason for you to stop in at the Post during these cold winter months. We are adding Corn Hole to our activity list to go along with Shuffleboard and our puzzle board. There is no reason to sit home being board when we have so many fun things happening at *your* Post. You have been duly challenged!!



CLUB MANAGER'S REPORT

Looks like we have survived what Mother Nature had to offer this winter and most are more than ready to move on to spring. Let's hope no one ticks her off and we breeze on in to warm weather and sunny skies!

Shuffleboard is alive and well on Sundays in the Clubroom! The competition is strong and the atmosphere is fun! Sunday the doors open in the Clubroom at noon and the games begin at 1:00. We also have all the televisions on for golf, football (yes there still is football), basketball or whatever sport you would like to watch.

Trying something a little different for our St. Patrick's Corned Beef dinner this year, we're having it on a Sunday afternoon, March 15 at 3:00. Donation will be same as last year \$12.00. Clubroom will open at 12 noon and we will be offering a special or two. Might want to mark this one on your calendar, it's always a great meal and the food goes fast!

Grand Slam tickets are on sale now! You can purchase one from the bartenders in the Clubroom, or better yet, stop in to get a packet of 5 or 10 tickets to sell! Grand Slam is our largest fundraiser each year! Only 250 tickets are sold at \$50.00 each! Get in the Early Bird drawing on April 2 and have a chance to win \$500 and still be eligible for the big draw on April 25! The night of the big draw is always a fun night at the Post too!

Texas Hold'em is Friday, March 27 and Saturday, March 28. Another fun night at your Post and another fundraiser that is essential to your Post's continued success. Cards start at 7:00 on Friday and 1:00 on Saturday. Don't sit at home and be bored, come share in the action!!

Another major fundraiser for the Post is assisting in the parking lot at the Antique Show in Davisburg the first weekend in May and October. Rain or shine our crews have been there working and the Post has been rewarded very well for the effort. Sign-up sheets for the May dates are in the Clubroom! Please stop by and sign up, the task is much easier if we have more support!

Remember, your Clubroom is open Tuesday through Friday, 3:00 to 10:00, Saturdays 12 to 10:00 and Sundays 12 to 6! Stop in and see our great staff of bartenders! Our beers are some of the coldest around!! Hope to see your smiling faces soon!!

Donna Kelley, Club Manager







Post 1008 Auxiliary Column Judy Coe, President - Post 1008 Auxiliary



Well the year is almost over; this one seems to really have passed by in a flash.

March brings our Auxiliary dinners on the 5th and 26th from 5 to 6:30pm. Cost is \$7 per person. The menus will be posted in the Clubroom. On the 18th of March the Auxiliary will have its monthly meeting at 7pm, hope to see you there. March is the month that we visit the Ann Arbor VA Medical Center. The 18th is the tentative date at 10am. We leave the post at 8:30am. Come out and help us bring cheer to the patients in the hospital. A blast will be sent out if information on this event changes. There will be Texas Hold'em on Friday the 27th and Saturday the 28th. On Friday doors open at 6pm and play starts at 7pm. On Saturday doors open at noon and play starts at 1pm.

Grand Slam tickets will be available for sale in March.

Auxiliary dinner will be held on April 2nd from 5pm to 6:30pm. Grand Slam Early Bird Drawing will also happen this evening.

April 11th is the Easter Egg Hunt for the children from 11am to 1pm. This is a great time for all; help is needed to make this a success.

April 15th is the Auxiliary meeting. This meeting is important to attend as it is election of officers for the year of 2020-21. All positions are open, come make next year a success.

Auxiliary dinner is on April 23rd from 5pm to 6:30pm.

Grand Slam Drawing is on Saturday, April 25th, come down and have a good time - you may be a winner.



Please support our advertisers



VA updates the disability rating schedule for infectious diseases, immune disorders and nutritional deficiencies

As of Aug. 11, (2019) the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) updated portions of the <u>VA Schedule for Rating Disabilities</u> (VASRD, or Rating Schedule) that evaluate infectious diseases, immune disorders and nutritional deficiencies.

The collection of federal regulations used by the Veterans Benefits Administration helps claims processors evaluate the severity of disabilities and assign disability ratings.

"VA is in the process of updating all 15 body systems of the VASRD to more accurately reflect modern medicine and provide Veterans with clearer rating decisions," said VA Secretary Robert Wilkie. "By updating the rating schedule, Veterans receive decisions based on the most current medical knowledge of their condition."

The complete list of updates to the rating schedule is available <u>online</u>. Claims pending prior to Aug. 11, will be considered under both the old and new rating criteria, and whichever criteria is more favorable to a Veteran will be applied. Claims filed on or after Aug. 11, will be rated under the new rating schedule.

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Post 1008 Commander's Column

Comrades & Auxiliary members,

It's been another busy month here at our fine Post. Most recently we have again hosted the Fifth District meeting on Sunday the 16th of Feb. 1008 had an amazing turn out. A lot of people turned their heads to the yellow shirts when I announced that we had 18 people representing our Post. Good feeling.

The Executive Committee has voted along with membership to replace the oven in our kitchen and at the same time replace the seating in our bldg. Both very necessary for the continued rating we get for our rental facilities.

Our \$200 donations are starting to come in, which will be a great help. The August Beer Fest is starting to shape up, we'll know in about 45 days if it will be a go or not, depending on committed sponsors and such.

Euchre is going well, we now have Corn Hole that can be played indoors in this kind of weather and Shuffleboard is starting to shape up.

Donna Kelly will have thirty years of service to this Post this coming April.

There is more but I have limited space. See ya at the Post.



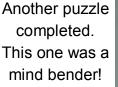
Mark Woods, Commander

Meetings held third Thursday monthly @ 7:30 PM.





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



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Shuffleboard 1pm	Clubroom Closed	Euchre 7:30		DINNER 5PM		
8	9 OCC OXBOW 7:30	10	11 Canteen Com 6pm	12 Marine Corp	13	14 PC/PP BANQUET
Shuffleboard 1pm	Clubroom Closed	Euchre 7:30	Board Mtg 7pm	League		FRASER 1PM
15 St Pat's Dinner	16	17 St. Pat's Day	18 Post & Aug Momborphin	19	20	21
3pm Shuffleboard 1pm	Clubroom Closed	Euchre 7:30	Membership 7pm	American Legion		
22	23 SOA Warren	24	25	26	27	28
Shuffleboard 1pm	7:30p Clubroom Closed	Euchre 7:30		DINNER 5PM	TEXAS	HOLD'EM
29	30	31	Г	MARCH	1 2020	1
				MANCI	1 2020	
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Shuffleboard 1pm Sun	Clubroom Closed Mon	Euchre 7:30 Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Sun		Tue	Wed 1			Sat 4
Sun	Mon	Tue	1 8 Canteen Com	Thu 2 Grand Slam Early Bird	Fri	4 11 EASTER EGG
Sun	Mon PRIL 2020	Tue	1 8	Thu 2 Grand Slam Early Bird DINNER 5PM 9	Fri 3 10	4 11
Sun A I 5	Mon PRIL 2020	Tue	1 8 Canteen Com 6pm	Thu 2 Grand Slam Early Bird DINNER 5PM 9 MCL DONNA 30TH	Fri 3 10	4 11 EASTER EGG HUNT 11am-
Sun Al 5 Shuffleboard 1pm 12 EASTER -	Mon PRIL 2020 6 Clubroom Closed 13 OCC ROYAL OAK 7:30	Tue 7 7 Euchre 7:30 14	1 8 Canteen Com 6pm Board Mtg 7pm 15 Post & Aug Membership 7pm 22 Administrative	Thu 2 Grand Slam Early Bird DINNER 5PM 9 MCL DONNA 30TH ANNIVERSARY 16 American	Fri 3 10	4 11 EASTER EGG HUNT 11am- 1pm 18 25
Sun Al 5 Shuffleboard 1pm 12 EASTER - CLOSED	Mon PRIL 2020 6 Clubroom Closed 13 OCC ROYAL OAK 7:30 Clubroom Closed	Tue 7 7 Euchre 7:30 14 Euchre 7:30	1 8 Canteen Com 6pm Board Mtg 7pm 15 Post & Aug Membership 7pm 22	Thu 2 Grand Slam Early Bird DINNER 5PM 9 MCL DONNA 30TH ANNIVERSARY 16 American Legion	Fri 3 10 17	4 11 EASTER EGG HUNT 11am- 1pm 18 25
Sun Al 5 Shuffleboard 1pm 12 EASTER - CLOSED 19	Mon PRIL 2020 6 Clubroom Closed 13 OCC ROYAL OAK 7:30 Clubroom Closed 20	Tue 7 Euchre 7:30 14 Euchre 7:30 21	1 8 Canteen Com 6pm Board Mtg 7pm 15 Post & Aug Membership 7pm 22 Administrative Professionals	Thu 2 Grand Slam Early Bird DINNER 5PM 9 MCL DONNA 30TH ANNIVERSARY 16 American Legion 23	Fri 3 10 17	4 11 EASTER EGG HUNT 11am- 1pm 18 25 GRAND SLAN



A word from the VFW Post 1008 Honor/Color Guard.

The VFW Post 1008 Honor/Color Guard activity has been rather slow the last couple of months.

We have only had 4 funerals, maybe, for three good reasons.

- 1. We haven't lost any of our comrade Brothers or Sisters lately.
- 2. Slow due to the weather conditions and arctic blast we have had lately.
- 3. Although, this could mean, we might have a busy spring as the weather turns favorable with cremations.

On another note, our rifle stock upgrade is coming along for our M1 Grand rifles. They are looking great, and it will improve our appearance during Honor Guard activities. Do they shoot better? That may be determined later!

The VFW 1008 Honor/Color Guard has been recognized as a Top-notch Honor Guard team in the State of Michigan. I want to thank all members of our team for the sacrifice and support they have all provided to receive this honor and for keeping us looking great for the services we provide for our community and fallen Brothers and Sisters. We always need volunteer help. You could be a member of this elite team by stepping forward to serve with honors. Contact myself, Ron Seaman or Mark Woods at the Post. Look forward to see you there!

Ron L Seaman VFW 1008 Honor Guard Captain











Comrades,

FROM THE DESK OF THE QUARTERMASTER: The Commander sent out a letter requesting financial support from the membership. Hopefully we get good response on that request so we can implement the changes we need to cut costs, improve our rental facility and make it more attractive to potential renters. This will improve our bottom line.

For those of you that asked if there is a list of new members, I have made one up and posted it on the bulletin board.

Good news! We have brought in 8 new members into our membership which resulted in achieving our 100% goal. Post 1008 is now at 103.56%. We have 2 potential new members in the wings for this month. A Big THANK YOU! to all those who had any hand in making this happen.

I sure enjoy working for this great team.

Bob Benson



The Marine Corps League 570

Meetings held second Thursday monthly @ 7:30 PM.

Greetings Marines,

If you are interested in joining a long established Detachment, please reach out to our Commandant, Pat Gibbons or myself at the numbers below.

Regular meetings are usually held at Heart of the Lakes VFW Post 1008 at 1690 Airport Rd., Waterford, MI 48327. Those occur the second Thursday of the month at 1930 hours (7:30 p.m.). I recommend you verify with one of us if you are planning on attending. We sometimes attend dinner meetings by invitation.

Commandant: Pat Gibbons 248.238.2083

Don Roach, Sr. Vice Commandant 248.794.7773



Service Officer Letter:



My fellow Veterans, Auxiliary Members, and other friends, I'd like to thank you all for making me your Veteran of the Year. That was a real stunner. I failed to notice my own Brothers in the audience. I will try to live up to my responsibilities as your Service Officer and fellow member.

Our Post was well received at the 5th District meeting this February. It scored high marks in retention of members, humanitarian projects and recruitment of new members. The latter are our lifeblood. Like those whom have gone before us, we have the job of being the examples to newer members. We need to be present at monthly General Meetings, to ask questions of our Officers should we have any, and to cast our votes on agenda items raised. This is how the VFW expects us to keep our mission of aiding veterans and their families operating.

Our elected Officers must have our support. If we don't bother to hear what they have to tell us; we are the weak links in this organization.

I am presenting copies of information on benefits that come from the Oakland/Macomb Service Officers monthly meetings. As I come by them, I will place such on the Information Rack in our Bar area. They are for your use. Read them over before coming to me with questions. Then, I will be happy to answer your questions. As always, if I don't have the answer at hand, I will get back to you.

If you have been receiving VA benefits, and have noticed worsening of your condition, let's get together and review your options regarding a possible increase in your compensation. As a Board Member of the Oakland County Servicemen's Relief Fund, I need your help in getting the word out that there is **emergency** financial aid available to Veterans. Life sometimes throws us curves we may not have anticipated. This Fund is designed to help with utility shutoff notices, food allowance, and the like. It does not cover mortgage or car payments. Those would fall under the Michigan State Veterans Relief Fund. I can advise in either case.

Don Roach Cell: 248.794.7773 Email: droach0311@gmail.com



Our Loved Ones Corner

Share the story of your loved one in uniform by sending a picture with a brief description



Send a picture of your loved one in uniform with a brief description to vfwpost1008@yahoo.com to be included in the next newsletter.

Leigh S. Brewster, Ph.D., M.S.W.

Licensed Psychologist Board Certified Diplomat Social Worker

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Save the date - Texas Hold'em March 27th & 28th



Don't miss out on Euchre! Every Tuesday 7:30pm





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Come Check Us Out/



Don't miss out on Shuffleboard. Every Sunday 1pm. Some games are real hangers....

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