

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS: If you have not paid your 2019 dues you are no longer a member.

#### **Commander's Exclusive**

The month of November was filled with surprises, some good, and some not so good. December was not far behind however, we all survived.

Remember 2019 brings elections of officers and a revision of the by-laws. Some may remember our current by-laws were amended February 14, 2017, but need to be improved. Please jot down any suggestions or changes, you may have and let me know.

In accordance with the by-and laws ARTICLE II - Organization Section 2 (C) Nomination of officers, delegates, executive committeemen and clubroom, and building committee members shall be conducted at the April meeting and prior to the election to be held at the May meeting. It is vital to think about your candidates and choose them wisely, as they are the people, you are entrusting with the operation of the post.

Check the post calendar and kiosks, or is this newsletter for upcoming events.

If you have not been down to the banquet hall in some time, you will want to check it out, operation Facelift was organized by two members of the Auxiliary, President Sheila Manning, and Second Vice President Julie Postma. However, they did not act alone, they rallied many volunteers, some members of the post, and some non-members! Thank you for your hard work and dedication.

The Department of Michigan Post Development Committee and members from Post 179 gathered at the post on December 15, 2018, to go door-to-door to speak with Legion 225 members. Members of the ghost post are not attached to a local post in their area when they signed up online for membership. As a result, we were able to transfer over 30 new members to our post. As a reminder for every married legionnaire who has transferred to our post, that is a possible new auxiliary member and/or sons' member. Therefore, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Post Development Committee and all the members who volunteered to go door-todoor, Thank You.

Some of you are old enough to remember a quote that Pres. John F. Kennedy said, "Ask not what your country can do for you... ask what you can do for your country." At the time I was too young to realize what he was talking about. Until I became of age and was sent to a place called Vietnam and I witnessed first hand the horrors of war. The American Legion was founded for

| JANUARY MEETING DATES |
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| S.A.L. Meeting        | January 7 @ 7:00 p.m.     |
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| Auxiliary Meeting     | January 14 @ 6:30 p.m.    |
| Legion Meeting        | January 8 @ 7:00 p.m.     |
| Clubroom Committee Mt | tg January 9 @ 6:30 p.m.  |
| Legion Riders         | January 16 @ 11:30 a.m.   |
| Boy Scouts I          | Every Tuesday @ 7:00 p.m. |

#### 5th District Meeting: January 10 @ 7:00 p.m. @ Post 179

#### Commander cont.

that reason to help our fellow brothers and sisters returning from the horrors overseas. So, let me turn that around and say ask not what your post can do for you... Ask what you can do for your post. Remember it's not about me or you, it's about <u>all</u> the members. I ask you to please step up to the plate and volunteer to show some support for our post.

We need to stop living in the past by saying "well its always been done this way." We need to look forward to the future and make 2019 a better year.

> Jesús Sanabria, Commander, Post 179 commander@americanlegionpost179.com

# PLAY BINGO TUESDAY & FRIDAY MORNINGS Sales start at 9:30 • Play starts at 10:30

#### Sons of the American Legion Commander's Exclusive

Hope all are ready for an exciting new year. The informational meeting for the 2019 fish fry will be January 27 at 2 p.m. If you're interested in the opportunity to help, this should answer your questions.

There have been some great ideas for increasing revenues discussed. Ideas are good, but they need to be acted on. The same few cannot do it all. Please consider what you can do to get your idea activated! Please support the efforts coming up. Trivia has started, the Corn Hole tournament is back, an 8 ball pool tournament, and Comfort Food Friday's is a great way to enjoy a delicious lunch. The next meeting is January 7 at 7 p.m. Upcoming meetings are February 4 and March 4.

> **Bruce "Bones" Postma** S.A.L. Commander, Squadron 179

**Thank You** to Sheila Manning & Julie Postma for chairing Operation Facelift. Thank you to all of volunteers who donated their time or resources to revitalize the hall. <u>Comfort Food Fridays 12 p.m. 2 p.m</u>. – stop by the post and enjoy a delicious taste of home cooking for lunch, offered by many of our very own fabulous cooks. Selections will range from sloppy joe's, to goulash, to beef stew, to chicken fajitas & tasty desserts. Donations for meals are greatly appreciated.

## Cornhole League starts January 30th 6:30 p.m.

This 6 week league, Every Wednesday is open to the community. Registration fee is \$20/team per week. You can register online through the FB event or contact Scott Pennell at 616-460-7042

### FROM AUXILIARY PRESIDENT...

Happy New Year to all my fellow Auxiliary members! The holidays are in the past, the winter solstice has passed so the longest night is over and we will be adding daylight each day now. January brings our monthly meeting on Monday, January 14 at 6:30 in the hall. Tuesday, January 15 is the 5<sup>th</sup> District meeting starting at 6:00 pm at Unit 47, 3811 W River Dr. NE, Comstock Park. All are invited to attend to see what the ALA is working on or planning events for our programs at the district level.

If you're a member who hasn't stopped by the post in a while, I invite you to come on in! Operation Facelift of the hall is making progress, take a look when you come in. I will continue to wear a patriotic hat when I'm at the post so if I don't see you come in, please stop and introduce yourself.

Let's all continue to support our posts events and activities because together we can accomplish great things. I can still be contacted by Facebook, Messenger, email, or smoke signal!

> Sheila Manning, President, Auxiliary Unit 179 auxpres@americanlegionpost179.com



## 8 Ball Tournament January 5th 12 p.m.

Registration is at noon and play begins at 1p. Teams will be drawn and will play two on two. Participation is limited to 24 players. \$5 entry fee.

## FROM THE 179 RIDERS...

Fellow 179 Riders, Happy New Year All! The American Legion Post 179 Riders are pleased to announce our 2019 Officers Elect as follows:

| Director:           | (BBQ) Jerry Wasson      |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Assistant Director: | Bruce (Bones) Postma    |
| Chapter Secretary:  | Barb (Hugger) Wasson.   |
| Treasurer:          | Penny Costen            |
| Historian:          | Frank Kaleta            |
| Chaplin:            | Rick Broene             |
| Road Captain:       | Rick (Peanut) Bradham   |
| Safety Officer:     | Dave Rios               |
| Membership Officer: | Deb DeRidder            |
| Judge Advocate:     | Jerry Costen            |
| Sargent-of-Arms:    | Jesus (Diablo) Sanabria |
|                     |                         |

Our officers elect will be sworn in at our next meeting, January 27, 2019 @ 12:30 pm. We are looking forward to an exciting yearlong Centennial Celebration with numerous exciting events planned throughout the New Year. The following is a partial listing of proposed rider activities for 2019:

- 1. Continued Clubroom support and advertising.
- 2. The Fifth Annual Doug DeRidder Memorial ride.
- 3. A February Chamber of Commerce luncheon food concession. Chaired by Jerry and Barb
- 4. Support for a new Corn Hole League Season.
- 5. A proposed Motorcycle swap meet.
- 6. Possibly hosting a proposed band fund raiser in the back hall.
- 7. Possible continued support of a Fireworks Concession Tent.
- 8. The 4<sup>th</sup> of July Car show.
- 9. Possible continued support of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Jennison-Grandville Chamber Beer Tent.
- 10. The State of Michigan Legacy Run support and participation.
- 11. Sunday / Funday weekly rides and Plaque Raiding Parties.
- 12. Continued Veteran and Family Hardship Support.
- 13. VA Home Summer ride visits.
- 14. Please feel free to Chair any new projects that you may like to see the riders take on.
- 15. Continued Membership expansion.

Please join in by motivating, inspiring and pushing each other to achieve all that we can be.

Jerry Wasson, Riders Director, Post 179