

NEAL E. FONGER POST 179
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CURRENT RESIDENT OR

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
GRANDVILLE, MI
PERMIT NO. 44



1191
Members

Legion: 561
Auxiliary: 287
S.A.L.: 343



FONGER'S HIGHLIGHTER

APRIL, 2017

Member of M.A.L.P.A. • Ruth Buist, Editor

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FROM THE COMMANDER . . .

Legion Family,

We have been on one heck of a wild ride this past year as it nears an end. This is going to be a long letter so sit back, relax and kick up your feet.

I received three fifty-year and one sixty-year legion membership certificates and instead of mailing them out, my wife, Bonnie, and I drove to the homes of the members and presented them to the members. It turned out to be a lot of fun and gratifying. Unfortunately, one was not home and I did mail that one out with a letter.

Most of you know about the Dave & Busters issue, and I want you to know that it has all been worked out in a very positive way. Dave and Busters reps are working with our National level Riders and changing their policies.

The sound system is working in the hall now and a BIG shout out to the Ladies' Auxiliary for stepping up and sponsoring it. Our sewer system took a big hit when the pumps quit working and the system filled up and back flowed into the basement. This will cost us a lot of money to fix, which will drain our Building fund and some. We have to also keep in mind that we have three very old HVAC units that we keep having to patch up and are running out of patches. We need to find a way to replace them in the near future. That would also help tremendously with the utilities.

The April Legion meeting will start our nominations of Officers. I did not plan on running again for Commander. My intention was to mentor some up and comers and move on. That did not work, so if the membership wants, I will accept a 5th nomination and try to help and encourage other members to move up in the Legion Leadership. I assure you that if elected again, IT WILL BE MY LAST TIME. Next year I am retiring from my current work place and I want to do some other stuff.

ONE TEAM - ONE FIGHT

Mike Hawes, *Commander, Post 179*



FROM THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION COMMANDER . . .

Fish Fry is doing very well this year. We have been having great crowds of people coming in each Friday during this Lenten season. We can always use more volunteers, especially on Friday evenings. We start setup at about 4 P.M. and begin serving at 5 P.M. If you can't make it for the start but can come in later, we can always use your help for relieving some workers and for the cleanup when we stop serving at about 7 P.M.

Stop on by for some All you can eat Alaskan Pollock or Smelt or single trip Chicken tenders, with French Fries, Coleslaw, and a dinner roll all at the same price as last year - \$9.00 for adults, children under 12 \$4.50 and children under 5 are free. Fish Fry runs every Friday through April 14.

The April meeting will be held on Monday, April 3 at 7:00 P.M. The May meeting will be held on Monday May 1 at 7:00 P.M. Remember that the SAL meetings are held the First Monday of the month at 7:00 P.M.

Roger Meyers, *S.A.L. Commander, Squadron 179*

APRIL MEETING DATES

S.A.L. Meeting April 3 @ 7:00 p.m.
Auxiliary Meeting April 10 @ 7:00 p.m.
Legion Meeting April 11 @ 7:00 p.m.
Legion Riders April 23 @ 11:30 a.m.
Boy Scouts Every Tuesday @ 7:00 p.m.

FROM THE AUXILIARY PRESIDENT . . .

Hello Everyone:

Last month I gave the incorrect phone number for our membership chairman, Penny Costen. Please make a note that the correct phone number is 616-669-1579. If you have any questions regarding membership, please call Penny.

The Auxiliary is asking any knitting or crocheting members to help with the Warm Up America program. This organization is using knitting/crocheting blocks that we send in to put together afghans to give to our veterans. If you would like a copy of the patterns, please call me at 616-723-2398. Or, you can look up their website and read about them and get the patterns. Their website is: www.warmupamerica.org.

We are asking for desserts for the Fish Fry Auxiliary Dessert table. If you would like to donate a dessert, please drop it off Thursday or Friday and mark on the dessert Auxiliary Fish Fry. We really do appreciate your help in this fundraiser.

The Auxiliary will be having a table at the Craft & Vendor Show at the Post on Saturday, April 15. Linda Sanabria will be hosting our table with a fundraiser including Avon products and Rada Knives. Please stop in to the Craft & Vendor Show and support the vendors and check out our table. If you would like to see a Rada Knife catalog or place an order, please contact any officer.

We would like to congratulate Melissa Wright, Auxiliary member and Post bartender, who recently achieved the Boy Scout Wood Badge award.

As you can see, the Auxiliary is busy each month. I would like to invite you to our next meeting on April 10 at 7:00 p.m.

Debbie Weatherbee, *President, Auxiliary Unit 179*



FISH FRY
5 - 7 P.M. Every Friday through
Good Friday, April 14

FROM THE CLUBROOM COMMITTEE . . .

It has been a very good March except for the septic system problem, which has been resolved! Thanks for your understanding. With your help, the clubroom has been doing well.

You can see from our events and entertainment list plus the remaining fish fries, that we have a lot going on at our Post. We have also purchased a high quality blender so that we can offer mixed and ice drinks to better serve you!

Thanks again for your suggestions and support!

Glenn Dys, *Clubroom Committee Chairman*



APRIL 2017 CALENDAR

DAILY SPECIALS

Sundays: 16 oz. beer \$2.50

Sunday, April 9: Great Lakes Reptile Show
10 a.m.-3 p.m., \$5 Adults, \$1 Children

Sunday, April 16: CLOSED FOR EASTER

Sunday, April 23: Boy Scouts Pig Roast & Dessert Contest

Mondays: Regular Hot Dogs \$1.00, / Jumbo Hot Dogs or Polish Dogs \$1.50 / Free Shuffleboard

Tuesdays: Bingo, 10:30 a.m. / Philly Cheese Steak \$4.00/ Canned Beer \$1.75 / Free Pool

Wednesdays: Turkey Reuben \$4.00 / Well Drinks \$2.00 Noon 'til 6 p.m. / Karaoke with **George Gregory 7-11 p.m.**

Wednesday, April 12 – National Grilled Cheese Day – \$2.50 Grilled Cheese & Soup

Thursdays: Small Burrito \$5.50 / Large Burrito \$6.50 / Hard or Soft Tacos \$2.00

Fridays: Bingo, 10:30 a.m. / Chicken Strips with Fries \$5.00 / Red Shirt Day - 25¢ off all drinks when wearing a red shirt to support our troops / **Fish Fry 5-7 p.m. thru April 14 / Team Trivia 7:30-9:30 p.m.**

Saturday, April 15: Craft & Vendor Show, Noon-7 p.m.

Saturday, April 22: Coin Show, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

FEATURED BEER OF THE MONTH

Bells Oberon • Perrin no Problems Session IPA
Pacific Coast Cider (Strawberry)

HAPPY HOUR 3-6 P.M. MONDAY-FRIDAY!

Happy Hour is real time, not bar time

\$5.00 Pitchers / **\$2.00** Well Shot & Pop /

\$2.00 Glass of Wine / **\$2.00** 16 oz. Miller Lite, 16 oz. Coors, 16 oz. Coors Light, 16 oz. Bud & 16 oz. Bud Light

SAVE THE DATE . . .

- May** 5 – Cinco de Mayo Party – Bike Night Kick-off / Jacks Label Maker Band 7-11p
- 13 – Coin Show 9a – 3p
6-pak 7-11p (Open to the Public)
- June** 3 – Riders Veterans Memorial Ride Fundraiser (Open to the Public)
- 11 – Great Lakes Reptile show
- 17 – Coin Show
- 24 – Stamp Show
- August** 12 – Post Picnic

FROM THE 179 RIDERS . . .

Greetings from ALR 179! We are excited about the return of Bike Nights this summer! Our first bike night will be on May 5, so mark your calendars! We can't wait to see you there! It will be a Cinco de Mayo celebration! Come join the fun! We will also be presenting open mic nights on the 3rd Friday of each month, with our very own Nate Broene heading it up! If you would like to sing or play, please let him know.

We are still looking for sponsors for our 3rd Annual Veterans Memorial Ride, on June 3rd. If you would like to be a sponsor, know of someone who would, or would just like more information, you can contact our Director, Joe Moschetti, at jmoschetti@gmail.com. We have had great success these past two years and want it to be even bigger and better than before! And remember, all money raised from sponsorships and the event will go directly to veterans in our community.

We are working with the Grandville Parks and Rec Department on the 4th of July celebration. There will be a car and bike show at the Post as part of the festivities. If you would like to enter the show, or know someone who would, please let us know! And we are looking to share this opportunity with the entire Post! We are looking for volunteers to help out during the afternoon at the event! Let's all work together – One Team, One Fight!

Joe Moschetti, Director, 179 Legion Riders

CLUBROOM HOURS: Sunday: Noon to 8:00 p.m.

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday: Noon to 10:00 p.m.

Wednesday: Noon to 11:00 p.m.

Friday & Saturday: Noon to Midnight

NEWS FROM THE BOY SCOUTS . . .

You are invited to the Boy Scout troop 281 PIG ROAST and DESSERT AUCTION – Sunday, April 23rd from 3-6 P.M.

Cost is \$9 and add dessert for an additional \$1.

We are REQUESTING that if you have the means and the will, to donate a dessert that will be AUCTIONED to the highest bidder.

We also will be having a judged friendly competition between the various Neal Fonger American Legion Post groups. Commander Mike thinks he has a chance against the Ladies' Auxiliary . . . what he forgot is that the Boy Scout leader is a three-time Camp Gerber Iron Chef winner. The Venture Crew leader is no slouch on dessert either. We don't know whether the Riders or the Sons have any baking experience, but it should be interesting.

All profit will be helping the Scouts go to the Northern Tier High Adventure in the boundary waters between Canada and Minnesota (10 days of canoeing in the wilderness).

Scoutmaster Ron Martell

FROM THE SERVICE OFFICER . . .

VETERAN TOWN HALL: The Wyoming VA Health Care Center will hold a veterans town hall meeting on Wednesday, April 19, 2017 from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the center's Army Conference room 1P103/1P104. Staff will be on hand to answer questions about the Choice Program, Veterans Benefits, Mental Health Services, Post 9-11 Veterans, Access and general questions. They need your comments, ideas and concerns. For additional information contact the Battle Creek VA Medical Center at (269) 966-5600 ext 36212.

Lois Parker, Service Officer

FROM THE BAR TEAM LEADER . . .

Hi, Everyone,

There seems to be a lot of confusion about the drink tokens and what they are worth. To eliminate any more confusion we updated the stickers on some of the drink tokens. The tokens are matched to the pour spouts on the bottles – meaning if you have a red token it is good for one drink from a bottle with a red pour spout (or one well drink). If you have further questions please ask your bartender and they will be glad to help you.

I would also like to send out a big THANK YOU to a couple of people who have really gone out of their way to help the Post in the last month. First, is Kathy Slawson! Thank you for helping us behind the bar a few times, even when you came in to enjoy yourself. We really appreciate you. Secondly, Bob Huey & Jonathon Huey – these two gentlemen worked all kinds of hours to keep this place up and running. I appreciate you coming in early to get things ready and staying late to finish the job. Lastly, but not least – to the bar staff. I can't thank you enough for being the faces of our establishment and working hard as the Post continues to grow. I can't say enough about how proud I am that all of you work hard even when things get busy.

Jena Wilmers, Bar Team Leader

CUB CORNER . . .

March has been a great month for cub scouting! Our pack is continuing to help with the poppy fundraiser. It is so nice to have a pack of boys so excited and ready to help others.

On another note I would like to introduce myself to everyone. My name is Laura Ferguson and I am so honored to be taking over as cubmaster. It has been such a great experience to be able to help all these boys as they head on their journey through cub scouts. In March we had an amazing time working in the Pinewood Derby. Each boy gets to make his own car and race against other boys. The boys had so much fun!

Laura Ferguson, Cub Scout Pack 281 Cub Master

~ CLUBROOM ENTERTAINMENT ~

Karaoke Every Wednesday -

George Gregory 7-11 p.m.

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**FRIDAY NIGHTS**

**Team Trivia 7:30-9:30 p.m.**

**SATURDAY NIGHTS • 7-11 P.M.**

**April 1 - Joe Lach**

**April 15 - Nathan Douglas & Marty Fine**

**April 29 - Kevin & Fred**