



THE AMERICAN LEGION **POST 179**  
**FAMILY**  
 Newsletter

**Commander's Exclusive**

November came in like a roaring lion. As you know, we had our Veterans Day Celebration at Post 179.

The Department(State) Commander Barry Wood, Â Fifth District Commander Dan Cooper, Rep. Bill Huizinga, Commissioner Mr. Dan Kent from theÂ Mayor's office of the city of Walker. Maranda from WoodTV 8 did a love segment showcasing the Veterans Day Student Education Program. I would like to give some shout outs to some organizations that aided in making Veterans Day a wonderful event. The Kent County Mounted Unit, The Michigan Vietnam Memorial Traveling Wall, The West Michigan Milistyr Round Table Association's Uniform Display,Â Applebees for providing lunch for all of the volunteers, Sue Potter for playing Rosie the Riveter, I would also like to say thank you to all the committee members who work so hard to make this a reality. Most of all to, the Neal E. Fonger Post 179, Post Adjutant / Senior Fifth District Vice Commander, Jena Wilmers, her endless....

*(Continued on next page)*

**DECEMBER 2019**

**NOVEMBER MEETING DATES**

- S.A.L. Meeting ..... Dec. 2 @ 7:00 p.m.
- Auxiliary Meeting ..... Dec. 9 @ 6:30 p.m.
- Legion Meeting ..... Dec. 10 @ 7:00 p.m.
- Clubroom Committee Mtg. . . Dec. 18 @ 6:30 p.m.
- Legion Riders ..... Dec. 22 @ 12:30 p.m.
- Boy Scouts ..... Every Tuesday @ 7:00 p.m.

**5th District Meetings:**

- Legion - Jan 9@ 7:00 p.m. @ Post 179 (Grandville)**
- Auxiliary - Jan. 21 @ 6:30p @ Post 47 (Comstock Park)**

**DECEMBER**

- 1 - Craft & Vendor Show.....pg. 3
- 14 - Army vs Navy Football Game.....pg. 7
- Christmas Party/Ugly Vest Contest.....pg. 9
- 15 - Family Christmas Party.....pg.10
- 31 - Post New Years Eve Party.....pg. 11
- 19 - Wine & Canvas.....pg. 2

**JANUARY**

- 16 - Blood Drive.....pg. 6
- 22 - Corn hole League Starts .....pg. 6
- 25 - 5th District Four Chaplains Service.....pg. 4

**FEBRUARY**

- 14-16 Winter Conference in Flint, MI .....pg. 6
- 28 - Fish Fry's Begin

**MARCH**

- 4 - Cornhole League Tournament .....pg. 6

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devotion: above and beyond the call of duty, has demonstrated the real meaning of a legionnaire working for veterans in our community. Thank You, Commander Jesús Sanabria.

By now, you should've have heard the **Clubroom** is closing, **not the Post 179**. The post business will continue to operate as always. For instance, post-meetings and activities, hall rentals and events in the hall will remain the same.

A resolution was made at the October meeting to pass a resolution to amend the quorum for E-board Meetings and Legion Meetings:

Monday, October 14, 2019. A motion was made to amend the quorum for the E-Board, By Past Commander Winkle from eight (8) members to five (5) members. Motion passed. Also, a motion was made to amend the quorum for the general meeting, By Past Commander Winkle from Fifteen (15) members to Seven (7) members. Motion passed.

The motions outlined above will be presented at the December meeting and if passed will take effect immediately.

A friendly reminder in April 2020, membership meeting, we are going to be conducting nominations for the elections of new officers. To be voted on in May, so think about your candidates and choose them well; the operation of the post depends on those elected candidates.



**Jesús Sanabria, Commander, Post 179**  
[commander@AmericanLegionPost179.com](mailto:commander@AmericanLegionPost179.com)



**WINE & CANVAS**  
**DECEMBER 19th, 2019**  
**6p - 8p**



Exclusive to businesses and nonprofits, the Gordon GO! rewards program is our way of saying 'thank you for your patronage'. We value your contributions and want you to earn rewards for doing what you're already doing: shopping with us regularly.

**Did you know you letting the cashier know at checkout you want your points to be added to the American Legion Post 179 points total? Doing this helps us reach our point goal of 96,000 points which the post can cash in for a \$1,000 donation from Gordon Foods!**

[WWW.AMERICANLEGIONPOST179.COM](http://WWW.AMERICANLEGIONPOST179.COM)

## Sons of the American Legion Commander's Exclusive

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to one and all as we approach the end of 2019 and prepare to welcome in 2020.

It is time to reflect and remember that the Neal E Fonger American Legion Post 179 is more than just a clubroom to consume adult beverages. We are a family of individuals who gather to support our veterans. Activities in the Hall will continue to be held.

We are fast approaching the Annual Fish Fry for the post with the first Fish Fry of the 2020 season being Friday, February 28, 2020. We will again begin serving at 5PM. Fish Fry is always looking for volunteers to assist with this endeavor, so let Roger know if you are interested in participating.

Don't forget to renew your membership. Save \$5.00 by renewing before January 1, 2020. SAL memberships go up to \$30.00 on January 1, 2020 so save some money and beat the Year End rush.

Remember that the SAL meetings are held the First Monday of the month at 7:00 PM and our next meeting will be Monday, December 2 at 7PM. The January meeting will be Monday, January 6, 2020.

**Roger Meyers, S.A.L. Commander, Squadron 179**  
SalComm@AmericanLegionPost179.com

## February 28th, 2020



## FROM THE 179 RIDERS...

Hello, American Legion 179 Riders and fellow American Legion Family members:

As we enter the season of goodwill towards man, I usually look forward into the coming month. But I want to look back to our accomplishments during November 2019. We congratulate our Auxiliary's Dictionary Project, which was wildly successful. It was our honor to support their efforts. We congratulate Jena Wilmers and the entire American Legion Post 179 volunteers for putting on a wonderful days-long celebration of this year's Veterans Day. If you don't know, these events received National recognition for our support of Veterans. Our Legion family successfully coordinated efforts with the Grandville Chamber to prepare and send 199 shoe boxes to currently deployed soldiers. The goal was to stuff 179, so another job well done.

The Riders are once again supporting this year's efforts of Love INC's Christmas giving for children. We also want to thank everyone for their generous donations for the Homeless Veterans. These donated items were presented to them when we cooked and served a Thanksgiving turkey dinner on Friday, November 22nd, as a way of saying thank you and to show our support. In addition, the Homeless Vets are asking for food donations so they may cook a Christmas dinner for themselves. I went last year, and it was great! Please let us once again show them our support!

We have diligently been working on several fundraising projects throughout the past year, primarily the 5th Annual Veterans Run honoring the memory of Doug DeRidder. We are very proud to have donated to our Legion and its veterans a total of \$11,000.00 from all our efforts.

I know that we are looking forward to a great number of challenges soon. Please let us all band together and show our support of our veterans and Post 179.

Merry Christmas and goodwill to all.

## From The Auxiliary President...

Hello fellow Auxiliary members! I hope everyone had a blessed Thanksgiving. As your President, I am truly thankful and appreciate all the hard work and dedication that our members do to support for our veterans, our veteran's family's and our community. Unit 179 members are rock stars!

The Dictionary Project is in the books for 2019. 523 third grade students plus teachers at Hudsonville Public School district received a book and an "Our Country's Flag" comic book. Special thanks go to Applebee's who share in the Auxiliaries promotion of literacy and education to our community's children and youth.

I also want to give a thank you the individuals and the Post 179 family who were able to contribute to the fundraising. We were on a very tight schedule for book distribution this year, thank you to those who were available for that phase. None of this would be possible without your support, I appreciate all of you!

The 5<sup>th</sup> District Chaplains Workshop was a success! The theme of "Integrating spiritual needs from service member to veteran", is an important aspect of chaplain's duties. Another workshop in is the works for 2020. It is an outstanding class for all legion family chaplains and members to attend to help our new generation of incoming veterans. Keep an eye out for more information.

**\*\*ATTENTION\*\*** Monthly meeting on December 9<sup>th</sup> will be social hour at 6:00, a short meeting at 6:30 followed by our Christmas party. Bring a dish to pass and an optional gift for exchange. Monthly Auxiliary meetings on the second Monday of the month at 6:30 pm will continue to meet in the clubroom. We will operate business as usual to continue to support or veterans, their families and our community. Make plans to join us and find a project that tugs at your heart.

Upcoming events:

- Christmas Gift Shop at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans is Tuesday December 3 – Wednesday December 4.
- Family Christmas Party is Sunday December 15 at 2:00-6:00.
- New Years Eve Party December 31.

Looking back at a successful year for Unit 179, I am excited for the opportunities the new year brings for us! I wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year.

*Sheila Manning, President, Auxiliary Unit 179*  
[AuxPres@AmericanLegionPost179.com](mailto:AuxPres@AmericanLegionPost179.com)



# The American Legion 5th District Four Chaplains Service

**January 25, 2020**

**Noon - 2 p.m.**

Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum  
303 Pearl Street, Grand Rapids, MI 49504



Presented by:  
American Legion Post 459

COME FOR THE  
**ARMY/NAVY GAME**  
 STAY FOR THE  
**UGLY CHRISTMAS  
 VEST CONTEST**  
 AT THE  
 CHRISTMAS PARTY  
 SATURDAY  
 DECEMBER 14  
 POST 179 CLUBROOM  
 3 PM UNTIL CLOSING



**BRING A  
 DISH TO PASS**



**WEAR  
 AN  
 UGLY VEST**  
 CONTEST STARTS AT 7



YOU SAY YOU DON'T HAVE ONE? WELL, OUR OWN KATHY KALETA IS OFFERING HER SEWING TALENTS TO ALL WHO WANT ONE. FOR A MERE \$20 (PROCEEDS WILL GO TO THE HOMELESS VETS), YOU CAN JOIN IN THE UGLY VEST CONTEST. SHE HAS MATERIAL AVAILABLE ALONG WITH SEVERAL SIZED PATTERNS. THE VEST IS REVERSIBLE WITH A PLAIN COLOR ON THE ONE SIDE. SO YOU CAN DECORATE IT AS GAUDILY AND UGLY AS YOU WANT. CASH PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED TO THE TOP THREE VESTS (\$50, \$30, \$20).

**TO ORDER OR FOR MORE INFORMATION,  
 CONTACT KATHY AT 616-581-3973**

THE AMERICAN LEGION POST 179 2327 WILSON AVENUE WALKER, MI 49534

[WWW.AMERICANLEGIONPOST179.COM](http://WWW.AMERICANLEGIONPOST179.COM)

# Karaoke



**WEDNESDAY'S**  
6p - 10p



AMERICAN LEGION POST 179  
2327 WILSON AVE. SW.  
WALKER, MI 49534

# TRIVIA OF THE MINDS

6:30p - 9p FRIDAYS

# CHRISTMAS PARTY

Saturday, December 14th, 2019



## 7PM TIL CLOSING

# Ugly Vest Contest

1st Prize, 2nd Prize, and 3rd Prize will be awarded

## BRING A DISH TO PASS



AMERICAN LEGION POST 179  
2327 WILSON AVE. SW.  
WALKER, MI 49534

# LET IT SNOW CRAFT & VENDOR SHOW

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1ST, 2019  
12 PM - 4 PM



American Legion Post 179  
2327 Wilson Ave. Sw.

**FAMILY CHRISTMAS PARTY**

**SUNDAY, December 15th @ 2pm**

**\$2 per person**  
\*13 and up

**AMERICAN LEGION POST 179**  
2327 Wilson Ave. Sw., Walker, MI 49534

**FOOD ~ SANTA ~ DOOR PRIZES**

**NEW TRADITIONS**

**FAMILY UGLY SWEATER CONTEST**

**CHRISTMAS COOKIE DECORATING**

**PHOTO BOOTH**

**JOIN THE FUN!**

Once your RSVP is filled out you can drop it off in the clubroom, at an auxiliary meeting, or mail it to Attn: Family Christmas Party, P.O. Box 306, Grandville, MI 49468. Deadline for RSVP's is December 5th, 2019. If you have further questions please e-mail [trmilt1@aol.com](mailto:trmilt1@aol.com).



**\$2 per person**  
\*13 and up  
**RSVP by Dec. 5th**

## FAMILY CHRISTMAS PARTY RSVP

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_ # of Adults: \_\_\_\_\_

Children 11 yrs - 17yrs: \_\_\_\_\_ # of Boys \_\_\_\_\_ # of Girls

Children 10 & under:

Boys: \_\_\_\_\_ Ages: \_\_\_\_\_

Girls: \_\_\_\_\_ Ages: \_\_\_\_\_

# CELEBRATE NEW YEARS 2020 HAWAIIAN STYLE

**TUESDAY  
DECEMBER 31, 2019  
AT POST 179  
DRESS FOR THE  
OCCASION...OR NOT**

Cocktails at 5:30  
Dinner at 6:30

Tickets available on Facebook and  
in the Clubroom

Includes cash bar, draft beer, dinner,  
entertainment, party favors,  
and champagne at midnight

The American Legion Post 179 2327 Wilson Ave SW Walker, MI 49534 616.453.9861



**\$30** Per Person

## CORNHOLE LEAGUE



**STARTS JANUARY 22<sup>ND</sup>, 2020**



AMERICAN LEGION POST 179  
2327 WILSON AVE. SW.  
WALKER, MI 49534



**American  
Red Cross**

THURSDAY  
**16**  
January

**2 P.M. - 8 P.M.**

**BLOOD  
DRIVE**

**1 PINT OF BLOOD SAVES  
3 LIVES!**

GIVE  
THE GIFT  
OF *life*



**AMERICAN LEGION POST 179**  
2327 Wilson Ave SW, Walker, MI 49534

To make your appointment by pre-registering visit <https://www.redcrossblood.org>  
Click [GIVE BLOOD], then Click [FIND A BLOOD DRIVE]. Enter post179gr in the search press [ENTER]. Click [SEE  
TIMES] and schedule a time for you to donate blood IT'S THAT EASY!