



Post 219 Legion News

April - May 2010

Commander's Corner

Family members it's that time of month again! First off, Pancake Breakfast will be on Easter Sunday this year and the Legion has the Easter Bunny showing up for the kiddies. We have upcoming Arts and Craft show the day before Mother's Day, so check your calendars for the date and time. The ALR put on a rib dinner and a St. Patrick's Day dinner, both were a success. Thank you to all who made these dinners possible.

In regards to our suggestion box, all the inputs have been read at the meetings and are as follows: Numerous suggestions as to moving the big table and the decision was made to leave the table as is. To hang the suggestion box, the box is now hung in the hallway. To move the card players to the hall side, to put a set of recliners in along with an x-box, and to get rid of named bartenders. These are just a few of the suggestions put in the box. Keep in mind that ALL suggestions are addressed at the meetings, even though no actions were taken.

Nominations for elections are coming up again. If you have anyone in mind to fill a position, put the name and position in a sealed envelope, addressed to "Legion Nominations", and give to any bartender.

Until next month be safe, God Bless, and enjoy the upcoming weather.

Yours,
Clinton Martin, Commander

Auxiliary Activities

Happy Spring fellow Auxiliary Members. Spring means that our Officer Election is right around the corner. The Offices open are; President, 1st & 2nd Vice, Chaplin, Treasurer, two Sgt at Arms positions, Historian, and three Trustees. The Auxiliary President appoints the Secretary. As of this writing no one has expressed interest in running for any of these offices. To hold office in the Auxiliary you must be a member in good standing and be prepared to pay your 2011 Dues before you are installed as an officer. Elections take place in May and Installation in June. If you are interested, or know of anyone who is interested in running for an office contact one of election committee members, Fran Butler, 231-267-5468, Barb Magel, 231-879-4694 or Cindy Magel, 231-499-9945; before General Membership meeting on May 12, 2010.

Attention to all new members: During our April, 10th meeting we will be conducting our initiation ceremony for all new members and for those who have not been initiated. It is a wonderful and moving ceremony. If you are new member or an uninitiated member and plan on attending please contact me at 231-499-9945 or Dawn Gilbert, our 1st Vice at 231-879-3066. Refreshments will be served after the meeting.

What does it mean to be an American Legion Auxiliary Member? The American Legion Auxiliary was formed to aid the American Legion in carrying out its Aims and Accomplishments. Auxiliaries work with their Posts to promote the following: for the caring of Veterans, active duty or not; work with Child and Youth Organizations to help maintain a good family foundation and good family values; work with various community organizations for the betterment of the community; disaster relief; for Peace and Security; and for The Auxiliary Ideas and Principles, meaning the Ideals on which this Country was founded and for which American blood has been, is and will continue to be shed. The Auxiliary works to promote the understanding of what Patriotism and what being a responsible citizen is, as a part of everyone's life.

As Auxiliary Members let's be part of the Solution. Too few Auxiliary members are doing the work of many. Your input and willingness to contribute your time and effort is required in order for us to become what we can be.

God Bless our Troops here at home and abroad and especially those deployed in harm's way.

Cindy Magel, President, Fife Lake American Auxiliary,
231 499 9945, redwingnut24@live.com

SON'S SECTION

Hello SAL members

Spring has arrived in Fife Lake and your SAL is busy with the monthly EZ meals, Music Sunday, membership drive, and various community projects.

We recently contributed to the NEO NATAL unit at Munson Hospital as a special project to remember the loss of a child belonging to the Ellis family of Fife Lake. Any SAL member interested in contributing to the unit is encouraged to send a donation of any amount to the SAL in Fife Lake. We'll send it on to the Munson facility. Thanks to the many SAL members who did make contributions.

Membership dues are now getting seriously overdue. Please send your \$15.00 annual SAL dues to the clubhouse as soon as possible. You'll get your card promptly by return mail. Your dues help make it possible for us to budget for our various community projects, including the food pantry, adopt-a-family Christmas project, and the several requests that we typically receive throughout the year.

Special thanks to Ed Hungness and his crew who donate lots of time each month to host the EZ meal. This is an important part of our activity and we need to be sure to compliment the crew for their efforts. Thanks to all involved. Please consider giving a helping hand if you can.

If you do not get email from your SAL, please be sure that I have your correct Email address. Email me at: tom@fsdesigninc.com and I'll get you on the list.

Tom Freiwald, Vice Commander
Membership Chairman

An Open Letter to the Members of Post 219

"What can the American Legion do for me?" my WWII Vet father-in-law asked me. I was shocked, but then again it made me think of our own Post and members. I composed myself and answered his question with very optimistic attitude. "Why the Legion can provide a multitude of avenues to help in many different aspects..." but I then stopped and really thought deeply about what exactly our Post not only does for itself but also for the community. But for some reason the answer to that question eluded me.

Any organization is only as strong as it's weakest link, its survival depends on the determination and cohesiveness of not just the few but of us all. We, as former military, should understand that better than anyone, our comradeship goes deeper than just saluting the Flag, our lives have been forever changed by our service to our beloved country and our brotherhood has been forged to be stronger than steel.

How many of you can actually say you've been to a meeting in the last 3 months, 6 months, or even the last year? Are our lives so busy that 2 hours a month is too much to ask? How many can say they volunteered their time or even brought ideas to the meetings to help make their Post better? Many of us have attended the Fish Fry or Pancake Breakfast thinking that their being there has accomplished their support of the Post. The attendance is important but we, as a whole, can accomplish so much more than we do. When you do go to the functions, does it seem that the volunteers working are the same ones you see time after time? And those volunteers should be applauded for the selflessness and their devotion to help wherever and whenever they can, but wouldn't it be better to be able to NOT have to count on the same people over and over again? And the best thing volunteering doesn't cost you anything!

How many have sat at the club drinking their drinks (at cheaper prices than the local establishments) with ideas on how the Post could better itself or help our the local area, but never propose those ideas past that glass of beer or well drink? Now is the time to voice those ideas or your opinions to the membership, not just the ones tossing a few back with you! Our post consists of over 700 members of our combined groups, over 700!!! That number should make us an awesome power in our area, but does it? Do you hear of our post being mentioned as a factor in helping our area? We can change that, we can wield our combined power and actually bring change to our local communities and perhaps ourselves.

One of America's greatest statesman, Patrick Henry, included this quote in his last public speech two months before his death, but it's meaning still resonates and maybe even means more today than when he uttered that famous phrase, "United we stand, Divided we fall!" Your Post needs you so we can grow and become more than we have been and surpass what many think we are, but without you and the participation of everyone we will never achieve what we can!

Perhaps the next time my father-in-law asks me that question I can answer him with conviction, honesty, and pride of what the American Legion can do for him, but I will also ask him "What can you do for the American Legion?"

Doug Welbes, Second Vice Commander



April 10

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Easy Meal 5:00- ? pm	2 Fish Fry 4:30-7PM	3
4 Pancake Breakfast 8:00-Noon	5	6	7	8 Easy Meal 5:00- ? pm	9	10 Saddle & Tack 6:30 - 9:00
11	12	13	14 Legion/Aux Meetings 7:30 pm	15 Easy Meal 5:00- ? pm	16	17
18	19 <i>Health Commodities 1:45PM</i>	20	21	22 Easy Meal 5:00- ? pm	23	24
25 Music/Snacks 2-5PM	26	27	28 E-Board Meeting 7:30 pm	29 Easy Meal 5:00- ? pm	30	

Post Phone 231-879-4475

Club Tuesday - 4:00 PM
 Thursday - 4:00 PM
 Room Friday - 1:00 PM
 Opens Saturday - 1:00 PM
 Sunday - 1:00-6:00PM

Gift Certificates Available!!!

Want to buy a friend dinner for the Fish Fry and not able to attend with them? Need a good gift idea? You can now purchase Gift Certificates for the Fish Fry and Pancake Breakfast from the Bar. Just ask your Bartender they are happy to help.

<p align="center">Tournaments</p> <p>Pool: 2nd Sunday Shuffleboard: 3rd Sunday</p>
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<p>EUCHRE</p> <p>Tue - Thur - Fri at 7:00 pm Saturday at 2:00 pm</p>
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NEW LEGION MEMBERS
 Franklin Dallavalle, George Dickinson, Michelle Kagarise, Robert McNair, Carl Sickles, Paul Smith, John Wischman

NEW AUXILARY MEMBERS
 Janet Daniels, Amy Faber, Geri Gallagher, Sondra Howell, Mary Krager, Trisha Pratt, Zelma Shepardson

NEW S.A.L. MEMBERS
 No Report



Taps



May 10

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6 Easy Meal 5-7 P.M.	7 Fish Fry 4:30-7P.M.	8 Craft Show 10am - 4pm
9 Pancake Breakfast 8:00-Noon	10	11	12 Legion/Aux Meetings 7:30PM	13 Easy Meal 5-7 P.M.	14	15
16	17 <i>Commodities 1:45PM</i>	18	19	20 Easy Meal 5-7 P.M.	21	22
23	24	25	26 Legion/Aux E-Board 7:30 pm	27 Easy Meal 5-7 P.M.	28	29
30 Music/Snacks 2-5PM	31 Memorial Day Ceremonies					

Return Service Requested

<p>NONPROFIT.ORG U.S. POSTAGE PAID FIFE LAKE MI PERMIT NO. 22</p>
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Fife Lake American Legion
 10283 M-186
 Fife Lake, MI 49633