



The Groves-Walker Bulletin

American Legion Post 346 Farmington, MI

January/February 2017 Edition



Vol. VII Issue 3 ☆ Carol Hopson, Editor ☆ Member of M.A.L.P.A.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Chartered July 10, 1922 - For God and Country ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

From the Flight Deck...
Post 346 Commander
Dale Baxter



Hello Legionnaires, SAL & Auxiliary,
The year seems to have just flown by and the holiday season is upon us. I hope everyone had a good Thanksgiving and were able to share and spend time with family and friends. We have had some very successful events in the past month with the SAL steak fry, the wreath laying ceremony and the setting up of our post manager scene. I want to thank all that rolled up your sleeves to help out or participate with these events. A big thank you goes out to Andy for the coordination of the wreath laying ceremony. The Civil Air Patrol honor guard and Salvation Army buglers performed very nicely.

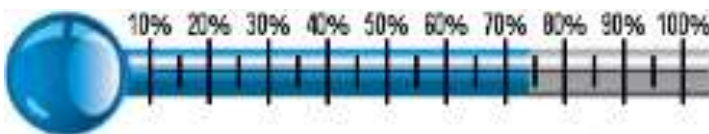
Membership is still a top issue and I'm working diligently with our District Commander and Department representatives to insure that we are not shown at the bottom of the barrel when it comes to membership renewals. As a Post, we are dealing with delays between what our Post shows as paid members versus what Department and National indicate. Rest assured, if you've paid your dues and received your membership card, you are a member in good standing regardless of the renewal notices that National automatically sends out. We are doing the best we can in dealing with this issue.

I'm also currently working on obtaining a license for a Cinco de Mayo raffle to be held on Friday May 5th but the particulars are yet to be formulated, so stay tuned for further details as the license process takes time. As always, I look forward to hearing your comments or criticisms in how we can make Groves-Walker Post 346 the best in the 18th District.

May God bless America, our troops serving abroad, our veterans and this Post.
Dale Baxter, Commander

2017 Membership

Legion 210 - goal 283 = 74%



Auxiliary 110 - goal 148 = 74%

If you know someone who has not yet paid their 2017 dues, please encourage them to do so!

Service Not Self...
Unit 346 President
Leah Brancheau



Hello everyone,
By now all the Christmas shopping, wrapping and delivering of your gifts is complete. I hope you had a great Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank you to all who brought mittens, hats and gloves for our annual "Mitten Tree". Your donations were delivered to the Farmington Goodfellows to be put in packages for needy children. The Auxiliary donated funds to provide a Merry Christmas for one needy family this year. There was dad, mom (who is being treated for cancer), and three children ages 8, 10 and 18. The packages were delivered the week before Christmas so they could find something under the tree Christmas morning. They were very grateful for our gifts.

Thank you to Paula, Gerry and Mark for their donation of "Monday Night Hot Dog" proceeds, you do a great job! When you see any of these people be sure to say "Thank You" for all their hard work every Monday night.

The MVF came with a truck and took all the donated items we have been collecting for them to their "home". **Included was a very generous donation of 40 blankets, Thank You Myrtle Granger.** We were told that some of the homeless vets there have never had a new blanket or pillow.

Our Christmas Pot-luck gathering in the Clubroom went very nicely. As always, plenty of great food. We have some great cooks among our ranks!

If you have not yet paid your 2017 dues (Legion, SAL or Auxiliary), NOW is the time! See you in the New Year,

Yours in Service,
Leah Brancheau, President

January is National Blood Donor Month

You are encouraged to give blood as part of the American Legion Blood Donor Program - a program that has existed since 1946 to help a life-saving cause, even more important during the harsh winter months. If you decide to donate blood at a blood drive or anywhere this month or during this coming year, please inform our Legion Adjutant or Aux. Secretary so that your donation can be included in our year end Consolidated Post Report.

There will be NO Legion or Auxiliary meetings for the month of January. Please be safe and stay warm, Happy New Year!



Jan/Feb 2017 vol. VII issue 3. The Groves-Walker Bulletin is published 6 times per year. Post 346 membership for the year 2015-16: Legion 262, Aux. 191, SAL 120. Proud member of M.A.L.P.A. The Michigan American Legion Press Association.

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Bulletin Editor, Post Website Administrator Carol Hopson

An apology to member Tom Ruge who let us know about the 100th birthday of a veteran. It was NOT HIS 100th birthday as I had posted in the last Bulletin.

Please remember, the only way I can correctly list your birthdays and anniversaries here in the Bulletin is if you give them to me to publish.

Don't forget to send in articles for the next Bulletin, including photos if available. Anyone can submit an article for the Bulletin; *but remember, I may not have the room to print all articles and I reserve the right to edit articles for length. The submission deadline for the Mar/Apr 2017 edition of the Bulletin is Wednesday February 15th.*

Thank you, Carol Hopson, Editor

Clubroom News

I would like to thank our janitor Terrence for the floor painting in our clubroom, kitchen and bar area. I would also like to thank Leah Brancheau for all the help she gives me at the Legion. She is always there to let people in during off hours and doing any shopping that I don't have time to do. I appreciate it very much. I would also like to thank Paula for pitching in as bartender when Jan Smart left. She was filling in until a new bartender could be found. I would like to welcome back Denny, you can see him behind the bar on Mondays and Wednesdays during the day. Thanks again Paula. See you at the Legion,

Darla Anderson, Clubroom Manager

Congratulations to Carol Hopson, winner of the Auxiliary's hand-made quilt raffle! Her lucky ticket was drawn at the November Auxiliary meeting.



The Military Wallet is a personal finance website for military members, veterans and their families. Their goal is to help the military community better manage money and understand the variety of programs and benefits available to them. They can help you: replace military records, get a copy of your DD 214, replace military awards and decorations, obtain replacement dog tags, get a Cold War Recognition Certificate, and much more. On the web: <http://themilitarywallet.com> And on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/TheMilitaryWallet



Legion Junior Vice Commander Andy Machcinski

Hello!

Hard to believe that another year has gone by and 2017 is upon us. The last year in my humble opinion went "well" not as well as I had hoped, but well. Lots of activities, ceremonies, get togethers and just fun. Just wish more of us would participate, but I am not complaining, just a comment.

Thank you for the great Post team effort to assemble the manger on the front lawn of the Post, it looks great and really brings out the Christmas spirit. Although I gave up smoking 41 years ago another team effort enclosed the back patio of our Post for the Legionnaires that do and, as a side benefit, gives us a warmer area to grill at our next Steak Fry.

This New Year is bringing new challenges and opportunities to us all. It may be uncertain what is in the future for us, but we at Post 346 are a real team, and together there is nothing that will slow us down or get in our way, so bring it on! Also want to take this chance to again wish everyone a very HAPPY, HEALTHY NEW YEAR! See you at the next meeting.

Regards, Andy Machcinski, Jr. Vice Commander

A PARTY 100 YEARS IN THE MAKING!

Family, Friends and Post Members are invited!
On Sunday, Feb. 12, 2017, we will be celebrating
Joseph B. Nafe's 100th Birthday

The Party will be at Post 346, doors will open at 4 pm

A catered dinner will be served from 5 to 7pm

Open Bar, Party will end at 8:30 pm

Absolutely NO GIFTS!

PLEASE R.S.V.P. before February 5, 2017

Contact: George "Skip" Nafe

248-419-0000 SkipNafe@yahoo.com



Thanks to Art Mikkola, Gene Hatfield, Mike Williams, and Marya Davis, for enclosing our back patio for the winter. Observing and offering advice was Dale Baxter (it was his birthday so they didn't make him work). Photo: Marya Davis

The Officers of Post 346 for 2016-17

PRIVACY POLICY

We respect the privacy of our member's personal information, so we discourage the sharing of that information here on the public internet.

Those who wish contact information concerning Post Officers may call Post 346 at 248-478-9174 or email to GrovesWalkerPost346@gmail.com.

Thank you



Next time you clean out your basement, attic, garage, etc. consider making a donation to the Michigan Veterans Foundation Thrift Store.

All proceeds go to helping the veterans who seek help from the MVF. This help comes in many forms such as, transitional housing, food pantry, employment training, health care services, counseling, meals and clothing, support groups, substance abuse intervention, legal assistance, and benefits assistance. The store is located at 27294 West Warren (at Inkster Rd) in Dearborn Hts. 313-832-5500 <http://michiganveteransfoundation.org>



Michigan Veterans Foundation Executive Director Tyrone Chatman visited to our Nov. meeting to present a plaque and to personally thank Post 346 and our Auxiliary for all the generous donations we continue to make to the homeless veterans at the MVF. Photo: Marya Davis

Detroit Lions Game Pot-Luck

01/01 vs Green Bay at 1:00 pm

Come watch the Lions make their final playoff bid on our big screen TV! Come on down, support your Post and see who the guest bartender will be. Food and drink specials will be offered during the game only, no tokens will be given out. If you would like to volunteer to bring a pot-luck dish or bar-tend, sign-up sheets are in the clubroom. Let's have a great time cheering on the Lions!



I have noticed that even people who claim everything is predetermined and that we can do nothing to change it, still look before they cross the road.

- Stephen Hawking



A big Thank You to Pharmacist Ameer Patel and Danielle Cayer from Walgreens on Orchard Lake Rd in Farmington Hills for making November's Coney Night/Flu shot clinic a success. *And to Dorothea Baxter for allowing me to print her picture!* Many came to the Post on Nov. 7th to enjoy a delicious Coney dog and get their flu and/or pneumonia shots, "very convenient!" said many attendees. So next year, why wait in long lines at the drug store or make a special appointment with your doctor? Come on down to the Post, enjoy a Coney for dinner and get your shot. Easy, convenient and free for most veterans. Most major insurance plans also accepted.

If you have already paid your 2017 dues, Thank You!

Please ignore duplicate renewal notices that may be mailed to you, and please **DO NOT** send in more money. These notices are automatically generated by the national office and may not reflect recent payments. If you have received your new membership card, you are all set! If you have paid but have not yet received your card, please send an inquiry to your membership chairman:

Legion - Tony Mallia

email: amnovi1@gmail.com or call: 248-310-4190

Auxiliary - Cheryl Fierk

email: cher1318@yahoo.com or call: 734-525-2906

SAL - Leah Brancheau

email: lbranc5054@aol.com or call: 248-207-2812

Please remember that if you have not paid your dues (2016-17: Legion \$50, Aux. \$20, Aux. Jr. \$5, SAL \$25, SAL Jr. \$11) by December 31st, your membership is delinquent and you may lose any continuous years of membership that you have accumulated. Not to mention all the other benefits that come with your membership. Dues renewal notices first go out in June of each year, then approx. every two months thereafter until paid. Please remember to pay your dues early. Post 346 appreciates each and every one of you and values your membership with the American Legion.

Thank you,

Dale Baxter, Legion Commander Post 346

Leah Brancheau, Auxiliary President Unit 346

Rob Smart, SAL Commander Squadron 346



Coming up in March 2017
Another **Life Line Health Screening** event!

Veterans Day 2016



Dale Baxter, Andy Machcinski and Carol Hopson presented personalized appreciation certificates to the honored veteran residents of Regent Street assisted living facility in Bloomfield Hills.

Like us on Facebook!

www.facebook.com/
www.AmericanLegionPost346.org
Page created by SAL member Phil Carlisle



Veterans Day 2016 found our officers and members all over our community honoring our veterans. From the Honor Guard performing a ceremony at a local school to honoring veteran residents of an assisted living facility, Post 346 was a visible presence in our community on this special day.

The evening culminated in our annual Veterans Day ceremony at the Post. A traditional ceremony, thoughtful speeches, a Champagne toast and finishing with Myrtle Granger singing God Bless America.

Photos: Carol Hopson



Darts! Play Free!

We have an electronic dart board in our Clubroom. Darts are available from the bar-tenders, as well as a pamphlet showing various games for the more adventurous. Please return darts & pamphlet when finished. Come down to the Clubroom, have some fun and support your post.

I know a man who gave up smoking, drinking, sex, and rich food. He was healthy right up to the day he killed himself. - Johnny Carson



TAPS

Mary R. Bennett (nee Laslo)
September 9, 1923 - October 18, 2016

Age 93 of Farmington Hills. Beloved wife of the late Tom. Loving mother of Rudy, Mickey and the late Gary (Rosemarie), dear grandmother of three. Mary was a 20 year member of Groves-Walker American Legion Auxiliary Unit 346. A memorial gathering was held in December. Funeral arrangements: Howe-Peterson Funeral Home & Cremation Services Dearborn. Memorials suggested to Wounded Warriors Project.



Nicholas Poleschuk
October 20, 1929 - December 12, 2016

Age 87, of Farmington, a proud veteran of the US Army, and 7 year member of American Legion Post 346 in Farmington. He was born in Hamtramck, MI, the son of Nicholas and Rose (Sawicki) Poleschuk. He married Joan L. (Crettol) in 1954, in Wheaton, IL. Nicholas is survived by his beloved wife of 62 years, Joan; devoted sons, Nicholas (Mary) and LeRoy (Judy); six grand-children; and one great grandson. Funeral arrangements: Heeney-Sundquist funeral home, Farmington. Reverend Fr. Mario Amore, Associate Pastor at Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church, Farmington presided. Memorial contributions are suggested to the American Legion Post 346, Farmington.



Carlos Quezada
March 26, 1928 - November 17, 2016

Carlos was born in Detroit, the son of Miguel and Maria (Reyes) Quezada. He was the beloved husband of the late Susanne (d. 2015); beloved father of Linda Quezada and Carmen (Michael) LaBrie; loving brother of Miguel Jr. (Virginia), Ramon, the late Elena and the late Roman (Olga); cherished grandfather of five; and great grandfather of two. Carlos has been a member of American Legion Post 346 for 2 years. Funeral arrangements: Heeney-Sundquist Funeral Home, Farmington. Interment at Great Lakes National Cemetery, Holly. Memorial tributes suggested to American Legion Post 346, Farmington.



Frank Powell

Our sincerest condolences to the family and friends of 71 year Post member Frank Powell (of Lupton, MI) who passed away on August 29, 2016.

Keep an eye on your email inbox for announcements of upcoming dinners and events at Post 346!



Taking part in our annual Holiday Wreath Laying ceremony were Ray Barry, Dale Baxter, Dave Harmon, Marya Davis, Grant Gallinet, Carol Hopson, Miss Farmington 2016 Grace Murphy and event organizer Andy Machcinski. We would also like to thank Civil Air Patrol cadet honor guard and Salvation Army buglers for their participation. Photos: Andy Machcinski

The lessons we remember are the lessons we learn the hard way. - Seth Godin

January Birthdays

- 1 Margaret Buckner
- 1 Juanita Belanger
- 1 Dorothy Purdy
- 3 Dan Heffernan
- 4 Gary Brewer
- 8 Helen Currie
- 9 Jarrett Lott
- 9 Jim O'Keefe
- 13 Barbara Piotrowski
- 13 Judy Sackett
- 14 Julie Gogowski
- 15 Ken Balcom
- 16 Glenn Griffin
- 18 David Schwartz
- 20 Brian Jankowski

- 21 Dan Festian
- 22 Tina Gould
- 23 Libby Christensen
- 23 Andrew Lysak
- 25 Laureen Gogowski
- 29 Donald Sofferin
- 29 Elizabeth Dopkowski

January Anniversaries

- 1 Mike & Toni Hughes



The American Legion believes membership applications are something that every Legionnaire should carry in his or her wallet at all times. You never know when you may run into a veteran who might like to join our Post! Applications are ALWAYS available in the Clubroom.

ADVERTISE IN THE BULLETIN!

Contact Carol Hopson at: 248-910-2586 or email to: GrovesWalkerPost346@gmail.com

Members and their guests enjoy free



in the Clubroom!

Don't see your name above?
Please contact Carol Hopson at:
 248-910-2586 or email to:
 GrovesWalkerPost346@gmail.com

January 2017



Chinese New Year of the Rooster

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Lions Football Potluck vs Green Bay 1:00pm New Year's Day	2	3 Exec. Committee Meeting 7:00pm	4	5 NO Legion or Aux. meetings this month	6	7
8	9 Coney Night 5:00 - 7:30pm	10	11 SAL meeting 7:30pm	12	13	14
15	16 Coney Night 5:00 - 7:30pm Dr. Martin Luther King Day	17 Home Board meeting 7:00pm Operation Desert Storm began 1991	18	19	20 Inauguration Day	21
22	23 Coney Night 5:00 - 7:30pm	24	25	26	27	28 Coast Guard Birthday US-Vietnam ceasefire 1973 Chinese New Year
29	30 Coney Night 5:00 - 7:30pm	31 Exec. Committee Meeting 7:00pm	1 February Freedom Day	2 Legion and Aux. meetings 7:30pm Groundhog Day	3	4



<p><u>February Birthdays</u></p> <p>1 Chris Wasilewski 9 Colleen Pirko 9 Ted Podsiadly 13 Tammy Festian 13 Joe Nafe 13 Robert Gould 14 Carol Thompson 20 Dave Franzen 23 Curtis Steelman 24 Christina Gould 25 Aiyana Allen 28 John E Pirko 29 Mike Williams</p>	<p><u>February Anniversaries</u></p> <p>20 Gil & Mary Naylor 23 Jim & Debbie Brancheau</p> 	<p><u>Coming up in March</u></p> <p>1 Ash Wednesday 2 Legion & Aux meetings 5 Seabee's Birthday 12 Daylight savings time begins 13 MI K-9 Veteran's Day 15 American Legion Bday 16 Liberty Day 17 Saint Patrick's Day 19 Operation Iraqi Freedom began 2003 20 Spring begins 25 National Medal of Honor Day 29 Vietnam Veterans Day</p>	<p>MONDAY CONEY NIGHTS!</p> <p>Every Monday in the Clubroom 5 pm - 7:30 pm GREAT PRICES! NO Reservations Needed!</p> <hr/> <p>TABS FOR TOTS</p> <p>Please save the aluminum (non-magnetic!) tabs from all your beverage and pull-tab containers. Drop off your tabs at the Post's rear door. Children & Youth fund</p>
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Don't see your name above?
Please contact Carol Hopson at:
248-910-2586 or email to:
GrovesWalkerPost346@gmail.com

February 2017

"Babe... I got you babe... I got you babe.
That's right, woodchuck-chuckers, it's...
GROUNDHOG DAY!"

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30 Coney Night 5:00 - 7:30pm	31 Exec. Committee Meeting 7:00pm	1 Freedom Day	2 Legion and Aux meetings 7:30pm Groundhog Day	3	4
5 Superbowl Sunday	6 Coney Night 5:00 - 7:30pm	7	8 SAL meeting 7:30pm	9	10	11
12 Joe Nafe's 100th Birthday party 4:00pm Abraham Lincoln's Birthday	13 Coney Night 5:00 - 7:30pm	14 Valentine's Day	15 Submission deadline for Mar/Apr Bulletin Susan B. Anthony Day	16	17	18
19	20 Coney Night 5:00 - 7:30pm Presidents Day	21 Home Board Meeting 7:00pm	22 George Washington's Birthday	23 Flag raised on Iwo Jima 1945	24	25
26	27 Coney Night 5:00 - 7:30pm	28 Exec. Committee Meeting 7:00pm Persian Gulf War ceasefire 1991 Mardi Gras Shrove (Fat) Tues.	1 March Ash Wednesday	2 Legion and Aux meetings 7:30pm	3	4



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Next door to Merle Norman Cosmetics
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Best Wishes from Ray Okonski

Member of Post 346 since 2001
I Co. 309th Bn. 78th Div.
3 Battle Stars



WWII Purple Heart
Last battle was at the
Ludendorff Bridge
Rhine River, Remagen Germany



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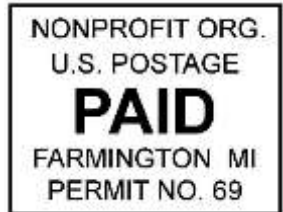
Mark Ziegler
President

248-474-5200

Farmington Road,
Just N of Grand River
Downtown Farmington



Groves-Walker American Legion Post 346
31775 Grand River Ave.
Farmington, MI 48336-4238



The Groves-Walker Bulletin

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Groves-Walker American Legion Post 346

Veterans Helping Veterans, Their Families and the Community Since 1922

Rent at Groves-Walker Post 346!

Rent by the hour, or by the month, reasonable rates. We have two banquet rooms, kitchen space, tables, chairs and storage space for almost any need. Floor plans, photos and more information available on our website at: www.AmericanLegionPost346.org/hall-rental.html

- Meetings
- Businesses
- Game Nights
- Fund Raisers
- Church Groups
- Fitness Classes
- Dances / Parties
- Special Occasions
- Classes / Seminars
- Community Groups

Please contact Post 346 at: 248-478-9174
or email to: GrovesWalkerPost346@gmail.com
for more information.



Meeting Nights

Legion & Auxiliary - 1st Thur. of each month at 7:30pm
SAL - 2nd Wed. of each month at 7:30pm
Home Board - 3rd Tues. of each month at 7:00pm
Executive Committee - Tues. before Legion & Auxiliary meetings at 7:00pm

Clubroom Hours

Monday, Wednesday & Friday: 2pm - 9pm
Tuesday & Thursday: 4pm - 9pm
Saturday & Sunday: Closed
(open for scheduled events only)

Contact information for Post officers and hall rental information available by calling: **248-478-9174**
Visit our website at: www.AmericanLegionPost346.org
Email the Post, our Officers or the Bulletin Editor at:
GrovesWalkerPost346@gmail.com
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