



The Groves-Walker Bulletin

American Legion Post 346 Farmington, MI

July/August 2019 Issue



Vol. IX Issue 6 ☆ Carol Hopson, Editor ☆ Proud Member of M.A.L.P.A.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Chartered July 10, 1923 - For God and Country ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Meeting Nights - NEW SAL Night

- 1st Wednesday of each month at 6:30pm: SAL
- 1st Thur. of each month at 7:30pm: Legion & Auxiliary
- 3rd Thur. of each month at 7pm: Home Board
- 4th Thur. of each month at 7pm: Exec. Committee

Clubroom Hours

Monday - Friday: 2pm - 9pm Saturday: 12noon - 6pm
Open some Sundays for viewing of sporting events

Contact Info

GrovesWalkerPost346@gmail.com
LegionRental346@gmail.com
248-478-9174
www.AmericanLegionPost346.org
LIKE us on Facebook!

Upcoming 18th Dist. Legion & Auxiliary meetings:

See you in September

Upcoming 18th District SAL meetings:

See you in September

Now Available!

You can now pay your dues, your bar tab, or hall rental fees with your debit or credit card at the Post! Complete details and restrictions available in the clubroom.

Remember

Legionnaires should start seeing their 2020 membership renewal notices arriving in the mail soon. Auxiliary notices are typically sent out during September, and SAL usually see their renewal notices arrive in August. Please pay early, and get it off your "To Do" list!

Happy 96th Birthday Post 346!



...to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow, and his orphan.
- Abraham Lincoln



Volunteer opportunities coming up!

- July 6:** SAL Hot Dog booth at the Farmer's Market 8am - 2pm. Contact Eric to help.
- Aug. 11:** Installation ceremony. Contact Marya to help.
- Sept 11:** Patriot Day ceremony downtown. Contact Marya to help.
- Sept. 21:** SAL Steak Fry. Contact Eric to help.

Keep an eye on your email for volunteer requests from the Legion, Auxiliary and SAL. Thank you!

Attention all Post 346 members

The Groves-Walker Post 346 annual **Installation of Officers** will take place on **Sunday Aug. 11th** Legion, Auxiliary, and SAL officers will be installed by the 18th District Ritual Team and the 18th Dist. Aux. Past Presidents.



- 1:00 pm:** Post doors open, downstairs (cash) bar will be open.
- 2:00 pm:** Installation ceremony will begin (upstairs bar will open at the conclusion of the ceremony).
- 4:00 pm:** (approx.) Buffet dinner will be served.

Please come down to show your congratulations and support for our new 2019-20 officers! **FREE meal**, open bar, friends, fun, and camaraderie!

The Post would like to sincerely thank all those who donated to or helped with the raffle baskets for the Memorial Day open house. Not to mention all the volunteers helping to organize the event, wetting whistles behind the bar, manning the kitchen, grilling all those hot dogs, and helping to set up and clean up after the open house. Another successful Memorial Day. Thanks to all your tireless efforts the Post raised almost \$1000 in donations that day! **THANK YOU!**



Get out of the hot summer sun and relax in the Clubroom! Now, in addition to our dart board, we have a **foosball table** for your entertainment. PLUS the Post's new Michigan Lottery Pull Tab dispenser. Try your luck at winning up to \$500!

License and house rules posted in clubroom.

July/Aug 2019 vol. IX issue 6. The Groves-Walker Bulletin is published 6 times per year. Post 346 membership for the year 2018-19: LGN 193, AUX 123, SAL 88 = 404. Proud member of M.A.L.P.A. The Michigan American Legion Press Association.

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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 room to print all articles and I may need to edit for length.* Articles can be submitted at any time, **please don't wait for the deadline of Sunday Aug 18th for the September/October 2019 issue of the Bulletin.**

Flag Day 2019



Leading this year's Flag Retirement Ceremony was new Commander Marya Davis. She was joined by Mike LaFave, Dale Baxter, Phil Carlisle and Jim Forbes, along with the Civil Air Patrol Honor Guard and Miss Farmington 2018 Megan Cromwell who sang our national anthem.



One of our favorite Boy Scouts, Taliy Koponen played taps at the conclusion of the ceremony.



Our members were all over our community this Flag Day! Shown at left is member Ken Reynolds showing his patriotism at American House.

Below Phil Carlisle and Jim Koponen assisted our local Elks chapter with their Flag ceremony.



As always, I'm looking for advertising sponsors to help the Post offset the costs of publishing the Bulletin. The current donation level for a 1/6 page ad is \$20 per issue or \$120 per year. Other sizes also available. I can copy a business card, use information from your website or create a unique advertisement just for you! Remember, your ad here is seen by hundreds of Legionnaires, Auxiliary, SAL members, and their friends and families. - Carol

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.

- Margaret Mead

A Simple Thank You Says A Lot

If any of our members obtain a donation for the Post from an outside source, we would like to sincerely thank them with a Thank You card, letter or Certificate of Appreciation. Please notify the Commander or President so a suitable thank you for a generous donation can be sent. A little appreciation can go a long way toward our public image and the possibility of future donations.



Commander's Corner...

Post 346 Commander

Marya Davis



Team 346, we are off to an amazing start. Flag Day was a wonderful celebration as the community came together. Our Legionnaires together with Knights of Columbus, Civil Air Patrol, Miss Farmington and even our favorite Boy scout, Taliy Koponen, playing taps, what a great cast! And the guests from our community, including police officers and many friends from the Elks, Auxiliary and the SAL, and even Legionnaires that I have not seen in a while made a great showing.

My theme this year is inclusion and transparency. It takes a village.

I have already seen so many more members pitching in and that is what's really going to make a difference for us. I hope to see more members at the monthly meetings. You know I like to have fun and you'll get to hear my rally cries as I do tend to get passionate about what we do and what we can do. I also hope to see our meetings take on more of a discussion structure. I know you have entrusted the management and running of the Post to the Executive Committee, yet we can amplify our efforts and achievements by getting everyone involved and having candid and frank discussions about what we need to promote the welfare of our members and other veterans.

We need a strong foundation in order to help others. That includes both the building and our spirits. Not sure where you can help out? Well, I also intend to have a volunteer opportunity list posted on the Clubroom bulletin board. Actually, it is a project board. You will be able to see the progress of various projects for the Post and additional opportunities for you to help out.

You have entrusted me to lead this Post, so speak out and step up and together we can do amazing things.

In service,
Marya Davis, Commander



You have to love a nation that celebrates its independence every July 4, not with a parade of guns, tanks, and soldiers who file by the White House in a show of strength and muscle, but with family picnics where kids throw Frisbees, the potato salad gets iffy, and the flies die from happiness. You may think you have overeaten, but it is patriotism. - Erma Bombeck

Blue Star Banners are still available! This traditional window display that shows you have a loved one proudly serving in the US Armed Forces during war or hostilities are only \$6.00 each (made of printed fabric and wood). Please contact Lorraine Christensen at 248-474-8554.



My 2 Cents...

Unit 346 President

Carol Hopson



I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the Auxiliary members of Unit 346 for once again helping to fulfill the mission of the ALA this past year. I could not ask for a better, harder working, more dedicated group of women to be associated with. I thank each and every one of you for your membership in our Unit. That being said, my greatest wish for the coming year would be to see even more wonderful women step up and join us in our continuing mission to support the aims and goals of the American Legion and Auxiliary.

Please consider coming to the Post for our next meeting, or dinner some evening, or the Installation ceremony. Come down, bring your friends, your sisters (related or not), your daughters, and hang out with us. Bring your ideas, your ideals, your causes, your gripes, your energy, and your passion. When we come together as strong, intelligent women, I believe there's nothing we can't accomplish.

I'd also like to thank the Legion and SAL for being such good friends and partners in all our endeavors. Looking forward to continuing our successful partnership for many years to come. Only 12 more to match Leah's record!

Remember, the Auxiliary has NO meetings in July or August, but I'll see you at the September meeting (Thursday Sept. 5th), ready to get back to work! As always, keep your eye on your email inbox for announcements of upcoming dinners, volunteer opportunities, clubroom get-togethers and good times here at Post 346. That's my 2 cents worth, I'm always eager to hear yours,

Carol Hopson, President



Before heading up to MSU in E. Lansing for this year's ALA Girls State program, our Auxiliary's sponsored girls got together with Chairman Judy Mau to prepare for what could be one of the most memorable weeks of their lives. We are hoping that these young women can come to a future meeting to give us a report on their experiences.

**THE OFFICERS OF POST 346
FOR 2019 - 2020**

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 for Post Officers may call Post 346 at: 248-478-9174 or email to: GrovesWalkerPost346@gmail.com
Thank you



Memorial Day 2019



The Honor Guard (Dale Baxter, Mike LaFave, Ray Barry, Jim Koponen) getting ready to start the parade with bagpiper Todd.



Our Auxiliary members rode in the parade in a Parks Division wagon adorned with the names of 145 female soldiers who gave their lives during the war on terror.



Our lovely Auxiliary leadership (Lorraine Christensen, Carol Hopson, Leah Brancheau) with our favorite parade chaffeur Donna.



SAL member Marty Chinn takes his turn at the grill cooking up all those free hot dogs for the open house, with a little help from a friend.



Some of our officers and vets got to ride in some pretty sweet cars, right Dave (Harmon)?
Memorial Day photos courtesy of Norm Pranger



Our out-going Commander Dale and Poppy Chairman Mike LaFave make handsome bookends for Miss Farmington 2018 Megan Cromwell and her court during the open house.





John E. Randolph
January 1924 - November 2018

Age 94, of Farmington Hills, Michigan. John was born to Olive and John Edward Jones. John is survived by; daughter Jo Anna Randolph; grandchild Shannon Bedore. John was preceded in death by his wife Marjorie Randolph; daughter Jane (Robert) Will; father John Edward Jones Sr. and mother Olive. John was a WWII Navy veteran and a 14 year member of American Legion Post 346. You may also remember John as the owner of Randolph Fence Company. Funeral services: Harry J Will Funeral Home, Livonia, Michigan. Contributions in John's memory may be made to Yankee Air Museum, 47884 D St., Belleville, Michigan 48111. Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at: www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com for the Randolph family.



Frank J. Mellert
April 2019

Post 346 SAL member Frank Mellert passed away on April 19, 2019. Frank leaves behind many loved ones including siblings Annie Mellert, Chris Barnes and Marilyn Kasper. Frank has been an SAL Squadron 346 member since 2009. Frank is probably best remembered for his work at Post BINGO nights.



An Empty Chair

We have an empty chair today, down at our Legion Post. It was always filled by our buddy, the guy we liked the most.

He served us long and faithful, he played it straight and true. He played it by the book, and he played it honest too!

We salute you comrade, and know how much you'd care, To be right here beside us, and fill that empty chair.

by Glen Griffin - 1977

Monday Dinner at the Post

5:00pm - 7:30pm
in the clubroom
Memorial Day to Labor Day,
while the Coney Monday team
takes a summer vacation.
Different selection each week,
including everyone's favorite,
Jan's Taco buffet!



Things to remember when a veteran dies

We know how hard it is to remember everything you need to take care of when a loved one passes away, so here is a list that may be of help to you and your family when the inevitable comes.

- 1) Contact the funeral director of your choice to arrange for internment. Burial at the National Cemetery is free to the veteran and spouse.
- 2) Contact the pastor of your choice to arrange for the services you desire.
- 3) Bring the funeral director a copy of the veteran's DD-214, Discharge Separation Notice, Veterans Administration claim number (if there is one), Social Security Number and life insurance policy.
- 4) The funeral director will apply for the amount allowable from the VA toward burial expenses and also the allowance from Social Security for burial. Some counties also provide a burial expense for veterans.
- 5) Funeral directors can also apply for a flag to drape the casket.
- 6) If the veteran is a member of a veteran's organization (like the American Legion), they should be contacted for a ritual service, honor guard, casket bearers, etc. if needed and/or desired.
- 7) If the veteran had G (Government) insurance, contact the County Veterans Service Officer (or veteran's organization Service Officer) for assistance in completing the forms. If the veteran had commercial insurance, contact the agent of that company.
- 8) Obtain from the funeral director several extra copies of the veteran's death certificate for transfer of titles of ownership for autos, home, bank accounts, etc.
- 9) The County Veterans Service Officer (or veteran's organization Service Officer) will assist the spouse and children in obtaining any benefits to which they may be entitled such as, survivor's death benefits from the VA and headstone if the burial is in a private cemetery. Bring to the Service Officer the following information when applying for benefits:
 - a) Copy of the deceased veteran's service record and Honorable Discharge Certificate (DD-214).
 - b) Social Security numbers of the deceased veteran, spouse, and any dependent children.
 - c) G.I. insurance policies, if any.
 - d) Information as to marriage, birth certificates of children, and if any prior marriages existed, the information regarding when, where and how the marriage was dissolved (death or divorce).
 - e) VA claim number, if there is one.
 - f) Copy of death certificate of veteran.

Veterans - The smart thing to do is to compile as much of this information as possible in advance. Put two copies in safe places and advise your family as to their locations. If you keep one copy in a safe deposit box, keep the other at home (very few people pass away during business hours).

Please keep a copy of this list with your records.



July Birthdays

02 Gail Williams
 06 Kevin & Mike Griswold
 08 Dylon Williams
 09 Catherine Arthur
 10 Jen Chinn
 11 Mike D'Arcangelo
 13 Paul Fitzpatrick Jr.
 17 Beth Gentile
 18 Arlene Popp
 21 Stan Packard
 28 Jim Pearse
 28 Doug Christensen

July Anniversaries

10 Greg & Arlene Popp
 18 Rob & Pattie Holton
 19 Steven & Sandra
 Koponen
 22 Ed & Jean Purdy
 25 Vasillie & Joanne
 Croitori



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 someone who might like to join our post! Applications are ALWAYS available in the clubroom.

ADVERTISE IN THE BULLETINI!

For more info contact Carol Hopson at: GrovesWalkerPost346@gmail.com

TABS FOR TOTS

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

Want to see your name above?
 Please contact Carol Hopson at:
 GrovesWalkerPost346@gmail.com

July 2019

Remember, birthdays and anniversaries will only be listed here upon request.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	1 Monday Dinner at the Post 5:00 - 7:30pm	2	3 NO SAL meeting	4 NO Legion or Auxiliary meetings  Independence Day	5	6 SAL Hot Dog booth at the Farmer's Market 8am - 2pm
7	8 Monday Dinner at the Post 5:00 - 7:30pm	9	10  96th Birthday of Post 346	11	12	13
14	15 Monday Dinner at the Post 5:00 - 7:30pm	16 Ramadan	17	18 Home Board meeting 7:00pm 	19	20  Man first sets foot on the moon 1969
21	22 Monday Dinner at the Post 5:00 - 7:30pm	23	24	25 Exec. Committee meeting 7:00pm 	26	27  Korean War Armistice 1953
28  Parent's Day	29 Monday Dinner at the Post 5:00 - 7:30pm	30	31	1 NO Legion or Auxiliary meetings August	2  Operation Desert Shield began 1990	3



<p><u>August Birthdays</u></p> <p>02 Brett Hall 03 James Templin 05 Alan Huet 08 Anita J. Martell 10 Peter Larion 11 Martin Kozicki 13 Joanne Dopkowski 13 Tom Grossman 16 Joyce Strong 16 Robert Walters 19 Gil Naylor 20 Virginia Martin 20 Jan Yount 22 Fran Goers 24 George Berling</p>	<p>27 Gloria Brooks 27 Thomas James 27 Robbie Smart 28 Cindy Walton 29 Janice Heldenbrand 31 Diana Lis</p> <p><u>August Anniversaries</u></p> <p>26 Norm & Fran Goers</p> 	<p><u>Coming up in September</u></p> <p>01 Operation New Dawn began 2010 02 Labor Day 05 Legion & Aux. meetings 08 Grandparent's Day 09 Coney Night is BACK! 11 Patriot Day 16 American Legion Day 17 Citizenship Day 18 Air Force Birthday 21 SAL Steak Fry 21 POW/MIA Recognition Day 23 Autumn begins 29 Rosh Hashanah begins 30 Gold Star Mother's Day</p>	<p>MONDAY CONEY NIGHTS!</p> <p>On Vacation in the Clubroom See You in September</p> <p>Members and their guests always enjoy free WiFi in the clubroom</p> 
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Want to see your name above?
Please contact Carol Hopson at:
GrovesWalkerPost346@gmail.com

August 2019

Watch your email for details on upcoming events!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28  Parent's Day	29 Monday Dinner at the Post 5:00 - 7:30pm	30	31	1 NO Legion or Auxiliary meetings	2  V-J Day 1945	3
4  Coast Guard Birthday	5 Monday Dinner at the Post 5:00 - 7:30pm	6	7 SAL meeting 6:30pm  Purple Heart Day	8	9	10
11 Installation of 2019-20 Officers	12 Monday Dinner at the Post 5:00 - 7:30pm	13	14	15 Home Board meeting 7:00pm 	16	17
18 Submission deadline for Sept/Oct Bulletin	19 Monday Dinner at the Post 5:00 - 7:30pm Aviation Day	20	21  Senior Citizen's Day	22 Exec. Committee meeting 7:00pm 	23 2019 National Convention 23rd - 29th, Indianapolis 	24
25	26 Monday Dinner at the Post 5:00 - 7:30pm Woman's Equality Day	27	28	29	30	31



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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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Walter Sundquist
1926 - 2013

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

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Rent at Groves-Walker Post 346!

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

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



Please contact Post 346 for more information.

The American Legion
Groves-Walker Post 346
Veterans Helping Veterans,
Their Families
and the Community,
Since 1923

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