



# The Groves-Walker Bulletin

American Legion Post 346 Farmington, MI

July/August 2016 Edition



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

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

My 2 Cents Worth...  
Post 346 Commander  
James Weston



Legionnaires, SAL & Auxiliary,

First and foremost, I want to thank the members of Post 346 for the privilege and honor of being your Commander for the past two terms. My congratulations to all of the new officers. I will work with them to keep our Post going forward.

Our Poppy Days went well, as did our Memorial Day parade, ceremony and open house. Thanks to all of you who assisted in making this happen.

Our Installation of new officers will take place on Sunday August 21st, 1:00pm. As always, the Installation takes the place of our August meeting, and at the September meeting (Thursday 9/8) we start a new year. I encourage everyone to attend the Installation, this gives you the opportunity to "meet and greet" your new officers.

Once again, thank you members of Groves-Walker American Legion Post 346 for the honor of being your Commander. God bless America and our troops in foreign lands,

Jim Weston, Commander

Blue Eyes Blog...  
Unit 346 President  
Tamela Festian



Well hello everybody, I do believe summer is here. So do enjoy. First I would like to say Thank You to all the ladies who helped with Poppy Days and all the donations that came back. But most of all the group up at the Farmers Market. We had a hot dog stand there and also offered Poppies, Great Job.

I must say Thank You to Jim Koponen for helping me to get a trailer for the parade. A huge success, everyone enjoyed being able to ride in it. Plus, Marya Davis helping me the night before to decorate it. Also the two ladies who were walking with our flags, Deb Brancheau and Jan Yount. This year Leah and myself had the pleasure of riding in a car! But most of all the beautiful talk we had. It takes a lot of people to organize a parade, it doesn't happen overnight, GREAT JOB!

You all have been so kind and generous and supporting throughout the year, someone came up to me and said, "sad to see you go." But remember one thing, if you didn't ruffle some feathers you didn't do a great job. See you in August at Installation. Welcome Leah Brancheau back as your new Auxiliary President. By the way don't worry, I will be still doing the casino bus trips and Poppy Days. I'm very grateful for each and every one of you ladies for making my years very successful, God bless you and Thank You. Signing off for the last time as your President. Have a safe and fun summer,

Tamela Festian, President

## Installation of New Officers 2016-17

**Sunday August 21**

1:00 - 2:00pm Cocktail hour

2:00 Installation Ceremony

Approx. 4:00pm Buffet Dinner

Please join your Legion Family as we install our 2016-17 Legion and Auxiliary Officers in their new posts.

Celebrate with a delicious dinner buffet, refreshments and the company of your friends at Post 346.

**2016-17 Legion dues are now \$50**

SAL \$25 - SAL Junior \$11

Aux \$20 - Aux Junior \$5

Legion member of 23 years, desperately looking for room and board, rent negotiable, prefer Farmington or Hills area. Contact Jim at 248-469-7681



Pres. Tammy Festian and her helper, Chaplain Paula Cotroneio, did a great job on our annual Poppy Days window at The Korner Barbers downtown.

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Bulletin Editor - Carol Hopson  
Groves-Walker American Legion Post 346  
31775 Grand River Ave. Farmington, MI 48336-4238  
GrovesWalkerPost346@Gmail.com 248-478-9174

## Bulletin Editor, Post Website Administrator Carol Hopson

Welcome to summer in Michigan! Wishing you a relaxing, happy and safe summer. Comments and content for both the Bulletin and the Post website are always welcome.

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 Sep/Oct 2016 edition of the Bulletin is Thursday August 18th.*

Thank you,  
Carol Hopson, Editor

## The Legion and Auxiliary have openings for various program chairmen:

Legion: Americanism, Community Service, and Scouting.

Auxiliary: Historian, Children & Youth, and Field Service/VA&R.

Please consider contributing to the Post by taking on one of these positions. This is YOUR Post, lets all get involved in our programs!



Farmington Hills held a SAFE (Suicide Awareness For Everyone) "Community Conversation" that also focused on veterans and PTSD on April 27th. Vice Commanders Tony Mallia and Andy Machcinski with Marya Davis (taking photo) manned a table for Post 346 presenting not only information on PTSD but also our Post and membership info for the American Legion.

## Legion Junior Vice Commander Andy Machcinski

Your editor must apologize to both Jr. Vice Andy and you, my readers. Andy dutifully submitted his article for this month's Bulletin via email... and I then promptly, ACCIDENTALLY, deleted it. Andy had by then left on a trip to the mountains of Colorado so I could not get in touch with him to ask him to re-send it. So sorry, this **almost never** happens... really! Please be sure to read Andy's column in the next Bulletin.  
Carol



Our Annual Flag Day Flag Retirement Ceremony (June 14) went well this year. Assisting Post officers were the Farmington K of C Color Corp., Miss Farmington 2015 Sidney Schrand and her court, and several Civil Air Patrol Cadets. Refreshments and cake followed the ceremony, thank you to all who helped make the evening a success.

## Legion Poppy Chairman Skip Nafe

Hello my fellow members,  
Well another Poppy Year has gone by. We have had another good collection, although down from last year, it was still good, \$5,897.00 gross. Street collections from eight members totaling \$3,260.00, and mail-in donations so far of \$2,437.00.

A BIG thank you to the eight members who collected on the streets. In order of their collection totals: Art Mikkola, Skip Nafe, Jim Koponen, Bill Croitori, Jim Weston, Jim Forbes, Claudette Calka and Marya Davis.

Art Mikkola set a new Post record by turning in \$1,656.55! Art broke a 2nd record, by being the first to receive a \$100 bill on the street! We had one other record broken, with the mail-in donations, we received a check for \$1,000.00! A very big THANK YOU for that! You know who you are. Rewards will be given out at the September meeting.

Skip Nafe, Poppy Chairman  
248-419-0000

Physical Therapist, Susan Haynes  
will give free physical therapy  
treatments to veterans.

Call 810-623-2450  
(please leave a message)



**THE OFFICERS OF POST 346  
FOR 2016 - 2017**

**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](mailto:GrovesWalkerPost346@gmail.com).  
Thank you





A BIG Thank You!! to the following people for volunteering at the Post 346 Coney Dog Booth opening day of the Farmington Farmers Market (May 14). Dortha and Dale Baxter, Marya Davis, Carol Hopson, Andy Machcinski, Tom Seamark, & Wells Werden and his son Winston. ***Volunteering with the Legion is a great opportunity for school aged children to earn Community Service Hours!***

And helping at the May 21st Farmer's Market were Doug Anderson, Dale Baxter, Marya Davis, Tammy Festian, Andy Machcinski, Pam & Art Mikkola, and Tom Seamark. The hot dogs and poppies were going like hotcakes! And a BIG Thank You to Market Manager Walt Gajewski, and for donations from Buschs Fresh Food Market, Peterlins Restaurant, and Wright Design Card Co. Art Mikkola, Chairman

Blue Star Banners are still available! This traditional window display that symbolizes 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



Tears appeared in his children's eyes Monday as **John Jordan** was honored as a one of the first African Americans to serve in the then-segregated U.S. Marine Corps more than 70 years ago. **U.S. Sen. Gary Peters** said Jordan, 90, of Farmington Hills is a "true American hero" and handed him a Congressional Gold Medal and certificate for his World War II service during a ceremony at the **Groves-Walker American Legion Post 346** in Farmington.

When Jordan was drafted in 1943, black recruits at Montford Point, N.C., slept in huts and used mud tracks for roads compared with the permanent barracks and paved roads for white recruits at Camp Lejeune. "They were not welcomed by the city or their fellow Marines. They were forced to work longer hours and train harder than their white counterparts," Peters said. "But even in the face of hostility and racism, the Montford Point Marines went on to serve their country with honor and distinction." Jordan said he was one month from finishing high school in Flint when he was drafted. "I wanted to go with the Marines because there were no black people in the Marine Corps," he said. He served in Hawaii during the war, working on maintenance and loading and unloading airplanes. "I'm really proud of him," said his daughter, Beverly Jordan-Murphy, 65, on Monday. "All the time that I was growing up, he talked about how he was a Marine."

The ceremony occurred 70 years after Jordan was discharged. In 2012, the U.S. Congress authorized the Congressional Gold Medal for the 20,000 Montford Point Marines. Honorably discharged on May 11, 1946, Jordan got a job working for General Motors in Flint, and went on to work 31 years for the automotive company. He also went back and got his high school diploma. The veteran, who now uses a walker, said it was "wonderful" to receive the award. "I never thought anything like that would happen," By Robert Allen, Detroit Free Press 5/17/16

### *Did You Know...?*



The Auxiliary National HQ Audit report revealed that **90%** of every dollar we receive goes toward our mission and purpose. **OUTSTANDING!**

# Monday Dinner at the Post

6:00 - 8:00pm

A different selection each week  
Mondays until Labor Day  
Great Prices, Great Food!

Many of our members do not come to meetings or dinners at the Post simply because they lack transportation or are unable to drive on their own anymore. **Please call Commander Jim Weston at 248-469-7681 and volunteer to give another member a ride.**

## Memorial Day Parade & Ceremony May 30



2016 Parade Grand Marshalls (L to R) James Hopson, Army Air Corp. WWII; Norman Goers, Marines WWII & Korea and Glenn Griffin, Coast Guard WWII. Together over 170 years combined membership at Post 346!



Out-going Auxiliary President Tammy Festian and President-elect Leah Brancheau snagged a ride in a HOT Mustang convertible!



This year's student Americanism award winners. Program organized by SAL member Steve Koponen (not shown).



Auxiliary members and local VFW members took a break from marching and shared a fun hayride wagon!



Parade Chairman and Post SAL member Kevin Hammer was the MC for the ceremony that followed the parade. Fantastic job organizing the parade, ceremony and open house this year Kevin, CONGRATULATIONS on a difficult job well done!



# TAPS

Phillip M. McQuiston

May 4, 1943 - May 18, 2016

Age 73, of Farmington Hills, died following a May 9th heart attack after playing golf. Born in Detroit, the son of Robert and Evelyn



(Kowalske) McQuiston. He married his beloved wife of almost 45 years, Diane, in 1971. Phil is the proud dad to Melanie (William) Barker, Maureen (Charles) Pinter and Michael (Gina); dear brother of Patricia Page, Karen (Ronald) Grohoski and Edward (Linda); and cherished Grandpa of 6. Phil was a 27 year member of American Legion Post 346. Arrangements: Heeney-Sundquist funeral home. Gravesite with military honors, Glen Eden Memorial Park, Livonia. Memorial donations suggested to American Legion Post 346.

Edward T. Donoghue

1924 - May 26, 2016

Age 92, of Farmington, beloved husband of 64 years to late Virginia; dear father of Thomas (Betty) and Mark; loving grandfather of 3; great grandfather of 2; and brother of the late Audrey Huth. Ed was a 4 year member of American Legion Post 346.



Arrangements: Heeney-Sundquist Funeral home. Interment: Parkview Memorial, Livonia. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions suggested to the Donoghue family to fund a future memorial at Our Lady of Sorrows.

Norman B. Granger

February 19, 1933 - June 15, 2016

Norman was born in Iron Mountain, MI, the son of Vincent and Edythe (Brynolf) Granger. He married Myrtle Sharp on July 26, 1952. Norm was a 19 year member of Groves-Walker American Legion Post 346 in Farmington. Norman is survived by his wife of nearly 64 years, Myrtle; children, Michael (Vera) Granger, Cathy Arthur and Theresa (Michael) Knittel; 8 grandchildren, 7 great grandchildren; and siblings, Keith (Genean), Terry (Gail) and Judy. Sadly, Norman was preceded in death by his children, Thomas, Carol and Tim and siblings, Joyce and Dar.



Arangements: Heeney-Sundquist funeral home. Funeral Mass: June 24 at St. Sabina Catholic Church Dearborn Heights. Internment: Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Southfield. Memorial tributes in Norman's name may be directed to the Alzheimer's Association or St. Sabina Catholic Church.

Our sincerest condolences go out to member Orville Roberts on the passing of his son Robert Roberts (also a Post 346 member) on June 2, 2016.



## 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 great help to you and your family when the inevitable comes.

- 1) Contact the funeral director of your choice to arrange for internment. Internment 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 Admin. 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), the commander 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) Spouse should contact the local Social Security Office to file for benefits that may be available for self and for any children of the veteran.
- 9) 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.
- 10) 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 veterans service record (DD-214).
  - b) Copy of Honorable Discharge Certificate.
  - c) Social Security numbers of the deceased veteran, spouse, and any dependent children.
  - d) G.I. insurance policies, if any.
  - e) 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).
  - f) VA claim number, if there is one.
  - g) 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 banker's hours). Please keep a copy of this list for your records.

July Birthdays

8 Stacy Cromie  
 9 Catherine Arthur  
 10 Jen Chinn  
 11 Mike D'Arcangelo  
 13 Paul Fitzpatrick Jr.  
 16 Jim Hopson  
 17 Beth Gentile  
 18 Arlene Popp  
 20 Van Bytner  
 21 Stan Packard  
 23 Alfred Freude  
 25 Mitchell Swoboda  
 28 Jim Pearse  
 28 Doug Christensen

July Anniversaries

10 Greg & Arlene Popp  
 16 Tim & Jan Yount  
 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 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

July 2016

Happy Birthday  
 Post 346!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27 Dinner at the Post 6:00 - 8:00 pm	28	29	30	1	2 Post 346 Hot Dog booth at the Farmers Market 9:00am - 2:00pm
3	4  Independence Day	5 Exec. Committee Meeting 7:00pm	6	7 NO Legion & Aux. meetings	8	9
10  Post 346 94th Birthday	11 Dinner at the Post 6:00 - 8:00 pm	12	13 SAL meeting 7:30pm	14	15	16
17	18 Dinner at the Post 6:00 - 8:00 pm	19 NO Home Board meeting	20	21	22	23
24  Parents Day 31	25 Dinner at the Post 6:00 - 8:00 pm	26	27	28	29	30



<u>August Birthdays</u> 2 Brett Hall 3 James Templin 8 Anita J. Martell 10 Peter Larion 11 Martin Kozicki 11 Joseph Seyuin 13 Joanne Dopkowski 13 Tom Grossman 14 Norma Goers 15 Wally Christensen 16 Joyce Strong 16 Robert Walters 18 Ashley, Janice & Katherine Faucher 18 Ted Czerwinski	19 Gil Naylor 20 Virginia Martin 20 Jan Yount 22 Fran Goers 24 George Berling 27 Thomas James 27 Robbie Smart 28 Cindy Walton 29 Janice Heldenbrand 30 Tony Mallia  <u>August Anniversaries</u> 5 William & Theresa Warren 26 Norm & Fran Goers	<u>Coming up in September</u> 2 V-J Day 5 Labor Day 8 Legion & Aux. meeting 11 Patriot Day 11 Grandparents Day 16 Rosh Hashanah begins 16 POW/MIA Recognition Day 17 Constitution Day 17 Citizenship Day 18 Air Force Birthday 21 International Day of Peace 22 Autumn begins 25 Yom Kippur begins 25 Gold Star Mothers Day	<b>Monday Dinner at the Post</b> 6:00 - 8:00pm A different selection each week Mondays until Labor Day <b>Great Prices</b> <b>Great Food!</b> ----- <b>TABS FOR TOTS</b> 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
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**Don't see your name above?**  
**Please contact Carol Hopson at:**  
248-910-2586 or email to:  
GrovesWalkerPost346@gmail.com

# August 2016

Please come to Installation  
on Sunday August 21

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1 Dinner at the Post 6:00 - 8:00 pm	2 Exec. Committee Meeting 7:00pm	3	4 NO Legion or Aux meetings  Coast Guard Day	5	6
7	8 Dinner at the Post 6:00 - 8:00 pm	9	10 NO SAL meeting	11	12	13
14	15 Dinner at the Post 6:00 - 8:00 pm	16 Home Board Meeting 7:30pm	17	18	19 Submission deadline for Sep/Oct Bulletin  Aviation Day	20
21 Installation of New Officers 1:00 pm	22 Dinner at the Post 6:00 - 8:00 pm	23	24	25	26  Womens Equality Day	27 National AL Convention Cincinnati, OH 8/27 - 9/1
28	29 Dinner at the Post 6:00 - 8:00 pm	30	31	1  September	2  V-J Day	3





# GG's boutique♥



Ladies Apparel,  
Accessories,  
Handbags, Jewelry,  
& Gifts

248-919-9721

Open Mon.-Sat. 10-7 Sun. 11-4

23350 Farmington Rd. Downtown  
Next door to Merle Norman Cosmetics  
[www.facebook/GGsBoutique](http://www.facebook/GGsBoutique)

## 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



## You've Got a Friend in the Real Estate Business!



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REALTOR®  
Email: [holton04@aol.com](mailto:holton04@aol.com)  
Website: [Century21Hartford.com](http://Century21Hartford.com)

**CENTURY 21 Hartford**

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Cell: (248) 521-1134



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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

## July/August 2016 Edition



### 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](http://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](mailto: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 7:30pm  
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](http://www.AmericanLegionPost346.org)  
Email the Post, our Officers or the Bulletin Editor at:  
**GrovesWalkerPost346@gmail.com**

**Please share your Bulletin, let others know about public functions at our Post!**

