



The Groves-Walker Bulletin

American Legion Post 346 Farmington, MI

March/April 2019 Issue



Vol. IX Issue 4 ☆ Carol Hopson, Editor ☆ Proud Member of M.A.L.P.A.

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

Meeting Nights

- 1st Thur. of each month at 7:30pm: Legion & Auxiliary
- 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6:30pm: SAL
- 3rd Thur. of each month at 7pm: Home Board
- 4th Thur. of each month at 7pm: Exec. Committee

Clubroom Hours

- Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 2pm - 9pm
- Tuesday & Thursday: 4pm - 9pm
- Sunday & Sunday: Scheduled events only
- Open for viewing of most major sporting events

Contact Info

- Email: GrovesWalkerPost346@gmail.com
- Phone: 248-478-9174
- Website: www.AmericanLegionPost346.org
- LIKE us on Facebook!

Upcoming 18th Dist. Legion & Auxiliary meetings:

03/10/19, 2:00pm: Post 346 Farmington
04/28/19, 2:00pm: Homer Wing Post 172 Rochester, 18th Dist. Memorial Service

Upcoming 18th District SAL meetings:

03/07/19, 7:30pm: EF Oldenburg Squadron 216 Milford
04/04/19, 7:30pm: Christopher Columbus Squadron 354 Detroit, Nominations for 2019-20 Officers

Happy 100th Birthday!
American Legion
March 15, 1919 - 2019



SAL St. Patrick's Corned Beef & Comedy

Saturday March 9th

Dinner: 5:30 to 7:30 pm

With potatoes, carrots

Roll & butter and dessert

Advance dinner or show tickets:

\$15 each per person, \$20 each at the door



Comedy starts at 8:30 pm
Detroit's #1 Comedian-Magician

Ken Dumm

Featuring Hometown Favorite
Connie Ettinger



Let us know you're coming, use the sign-up sheet in the clubroom, email or call the post.

The Post is asking for donations of items for Care Packages (monetary donations will also be accepted). These packages will be sent to our sponsored military unit who are deployed to the middle-east. Please bring your donations to the post in the next few weeks, collection bins are in the hallway outside the basement restrooms. Below is a partial list of items that can be sent to our troops overseas.

Anything that can enhance MRE meals:

- Ramen noodles
- Seasoning salt
- Hot sauce
- Individual packets of condiments

Quick protein:

- Energy bars
- Beef Jerky/Summer Sausage
- Peanut butter

Small hard containers of:

- Pre-packaged, single-serving healthy snacks
- Non-perishable, single-serving food
- Trail mix, candy (no chocolate)

Instant coffee, tea bags, drink mix packets

Assorted sizes of zip-lock bags

Travel sized toiletries (no aerosols)

Pre-moistened wipes

Lip Balm

Lotion

Finger nail clippers

Q-Tips

Pain relievers

Feminine hygiene products

Eye drops

Foot care:

- Moleskin
- Medicated foot powder
- Athlete's-foot ointment
- Cotton socks

Sunscreen, sunglasses

Eyeglass cleaner, lens cleaning cloths

Writing supplies, stamps

Frisbees, balls

Cards

Word game/puzzle books

Journals (Pilot Precise is often requested)

Pre-paid phone cards

AA, AAA and D batteries

Work gloves

A note of thanks for their service

List from Military.com



Mar/Apr 2019 vol. IX issue 4. The Groves-Walker Bulletin is published 6 times per year. Post 346 membership for the year 2017-18: Legion 222, Aux. 138, SAL 55. Proud member of M.A.L.P.A. The Michigan American Legion Press Association.

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

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 Wednesday April 17th for the May/June 2019 issue of the Bulletin.**



Nominations for new 19-20 Legion, Auxiliary & SAL Officers will be held during April meetings. Elections will be held during May meetings. Please try to attend these meetings, make your voice heard and your vote count! **Absentee ballots (Legion & Auxiliary only) will be available on 04/08 upon request at the clubroom or by email.**

Legion Jr. Vice Commander
Andy Machcinski

My Fellow Legionnaires:

With the weather we had in Jan and Feb and are still having, it is hard to believe that spring is on the way! It really is and in just a short time we will be having the opening day of Farmers Market, Poppy Days, Flag Day and of course the Big event, Memorial Day. All this, and warm weather is not too far away. This summer, no matter what the temperature is, remember this winter so not a word about the heat!

Along with the Legion and Post activities, elections are coming up soon and all of us as Legionnaires should make a statement for ourselves and the Legion and vote for the best officers for the Post. I ask everyone to read our award winning newsletter and stay informed on activities in the clubroom, and Post. It is very well written and informative whether you read a hard copy or get yours via email. Extra copies are also available in the clubroom, so stay informed and be active in our Post.

Regards, Andy

Never look back unless you are planning to go that way. - Henry David Thoreau



Legion Adjutant
Marya Davis

The latest information from the latest meetings:

Get ready to vote for your new Post Officers! Nominations will be at the April 4th meeting, final vote at the May 2nd meeting. Official Absentee Ballots will be available Monday April 8th at the Post or by request via email: Groveswalkerpost346@gmail.com Ballot will clearly state: If you write-in a nominee, you need to notify them that they must be present at the May 2nd meeting to accept the nomination or provide written acceptance. Only official absentee ballots will be accepted and must be received prior to the start of the 7:30 pm meeting Thursday May 2nd. Emailed ballots must be received before noon on May 2nd.

Beware of scams! There's recently been an increase in the number of fraudulent telephone calls from individuals claiming to represent Social Security and the IRS. They have actually replicated official Gov't phone numbers that will display on your caller ID. Remember, both the IRS and SSA will NEVER contact you by phone. All correspondence will be by official US mail.

Unclaimed Property. You don't know what you may be missing! I just received a check from the State of Michigan for several previously uncashed checks by myself and my deceased parents. Check the site for family members as well. The process is easy, but it may take a few months for them to process a claim.

<https://unclaimedproperty.michigan.gov> Unclaimed property is abandoned financial assets such as checking and savings accounts, unpaid wages, securities, life insurance payouts, uncashed checks, and the contents and/or proceeds of safe deposit boxes that are without activity for a certain period of time (does not include real estate).

Plans have been submitted to approve an outdoor liquor license. Great for the patio and maybe even summer outdoor events. This license is for consumption only, there will be no outdoor bar service provided.

Lotto: We are getting closer. The mountains of paperwork and signatures take time. A pull tab machine is in the clubroom just waiting for our official license. The Keno machine will be installed upon approval of the license.

Do you also volunteer in our community? Pick up a Consolidated Post Report Worksheet and document your efforts so we can document how we all contribute in and around town!

May all your troubles last as long
as your New Year's resolutions.

A Thank You!

We would like to thank SAL member Richard Lerner and the Farmington Goodfellows for their generous donation of tables and chairs. This will add to the new chairs the Home Board recently purchased for the basement. These new tables and chairs will ensure that everyone can seat as many guests as they need.

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



Soon post officer elections will be upon us and my hope is that all members, whether you're an American Legion, Auxiliary, or SAL member, to please take the responsibility of voting seriously. Because there is nothing worse than someone that just chooses to grumble about the post rather than doing something about it. We still have some holes to fill regarding vacancies for the officer positions of senior vice and chaplain and my hope is that these will be filled during the upcoming elections. Please don't hesitate to help our family fill these voids if you are able and have the time. Stay tuned to future announcements regarding absentee ballot voting in the event that you cannot be present at the May meeting. Thank you Marya for your coordination of that effort. (Read her article on page 2)

I continue to work with the spouses of the 601st Engineering Unit that recently deployed to Afghanistan and work is in progress to send care packages to the deployed members. We are sponsoring this unit and will be the focal point of care packages in the coming months. If you can contribute to this effort in order to make our deployed service members feel a bit more comfortable while deployed, I would greatly appreciate it. I look forward to working with this unit again upon their redeployment.

The 2019 membership year is still in full swing and the Dept. of Michigan commander has offered incentives for those posts that meet Department membership goals. Members can still pay their dues online in an attempt to streamline the process and from what I've heard, the system is working well. I would also encourage those members who do not have computer access, please continue to send your dues directly to the post in order to avoid delays and get your new membership card sooner.

I will be stepping down as your commander at the end of this term but I would like everyone to know that my door will continue to be open, even if I'm not at the post on a regular basis, so drop me a note and know that it'll get my attention and be addressed. 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 Post 346.

Dale Baxter, Commander

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 month 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, each month. - Carol

My 2 Cents... Unit 346 President Carol Hopson



I want to thank everyone for their sympathy and well-wishes during a very difficult time for me, the passing of my father Jim Hopson. My dad was a good man, a terrific father and a great Legionnaire. The programs he helped to advance, the lives he touched, are all better for having known him. Everyone who knew dad thought the world of him. Thank you all so very much. Keeping it short and sweet this time. That's my 2 cents worth, I'm always eager to hear yours,
Carol Hopson, President

In Recognition of Our Volunteers

Many members from Post 346 know little or nothing about all of the members who volunteer their time and efforts to promote the programs of the American Legion at Post 346 and in the community. These members do not give their time to these programs for kudos or recognition, they do it to further the purposes of the American Legion, help our veterans, strengthen our American values, and to promote the good in the world.



Here at Post 346, we're very fortunate with the arrival of a new Legion member, **Andrea Fields**. She joined this past August, having served in the Army from 1978 to 1983. But she's a very special addition to our Post. Recently, she completed her extensive training as a Veteran Service Officer. She now works in this position full time at the McNamara building in Detroit. As a VSO, she's in a position to let you know about any veteran's benefits you may be entitled to and how to apply for them. She can also help with problems you may be having in dealing with the VA.

You can contact Andrea concerning veteran matters at her office by calling: (313) 964-6640. You can also email to: al.vbadet@va.gov. It's a rare post that has a VSO as a member, so we should feel fortunate. Andrea is at the Post quite often on Monday evenings, so stop by. This would also be a great opportunity for you to support Monday Coney Nights and be able to discuss VA matters with Andrea informally.

Roger Hane, Exec. Committee Member-at-large

It's never too early to let friends and family members (neighbors, co-workers, anyone!) know about [Boy's & Girl's State](#) and the [Post 346 Scholarship program](#) for 2019. Visit our website for more details!





James E. Hopson
July 1920 - January 2019

Age 98, of Redford Township, passed away peacefully Jan. 14th, at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, Livonia. He had been seriously ill for two weeks. Jim was born in July of 1920, in Detroit, to the late Edward E. and Minnie Hopson. He married his beloved wife, Harriet, in Nov. of 1944, at Grace Methodist Church in Detroit. Sadly, Harriet passed away in Aug. of 2013, after nearly 69 years of marriage. In addition to his wife, Jim was preceded in death by his eldest son, James A. (Rayna) Hopson; his sister, Marguerite Hopson, as well as an infant granddaughter, Allison Ann Esmacher. Surviving him are devoted children, Gary (Sue) Hopson and **Carol Hopson**; grandchildren, Jennifer (Scott) Colbert, Timothy (Jessica) Hopson, Krista (Tim) Boyer, Mathew Hopson, and Danielle (Brian) Jankowski; and seven great-grandchildren.



Funeral arrangements: Heeney-Sundquist Funeral Home, Farmington. Internment: Oakland Hills Memorial Gardens, Novi. An American Legion Memorial Ceremony as well as military honors were performed. In lieu of customary remembrances, those who wish to further honor Jim's memory are invited to consider contributions to Groves-Walker American Legion Post 346, Farmington.

Frederick L. Troke
December 1932 - January 2019

Age 86, of Milford, passed away January 31. Fred served his country from 1952 to 1956 in the US Navy (in Korea) as well as serving as a Navy Seabee. After completing his military service Fred became a professional clown, performing in parades and at children's birthday parties. He also dressed as Santa Claus in local Christmas parades as it was a great passion of his. Fred was a part of many organizations including holding the post of Past Commander of Groves Walker American Legion Post 346 where he was honored with a Life Membership, a member of the YMCA, a member of the Redford Clown Club and the Clown Club of America.



Fred was preceded in death by his sister, Amy Sherman (d. 2004) and is survived by his **sister, Joyce Frankford**; 2 nephews and many extended family members and dear friends. Funeral Service: Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, Milford. Memorials may be made in Fred's name to the American Heart Association.

Current 2019 membership:
Legion: 172 (79% of goal)
Auxiliary: 114, SAL: 53



David Duquette
Passed away on January 20, 2019



Dave was an Air Force veteran who served in Vietnam, and has been a American Legion Post 346 member since 2008. Please remember Dave's family during this difficult time, including his wife **Sue Duquette**, daughter **Jennifer Chinn**, and son-in-law **Marty Chinn**. A memorial service is planned for a future date.

SAL Sr. Vice Commander
Eric Welter

I would like to thank everyone who participated in football Sundays and the Super Bowl party at the Legion. In my opinion the Legion had a successful year, this Lion's season who knows? But the Legion is a good hang for sure.

The SAL will hold elections at the April meeting (04/10) please get your nominations in ASAP. You can also email nominations to: salsquadron346@gmail.com. Elections will be held during our May meeting (05/08). **YOU MUST BE PRESENT AT THE MAY MEETING TO VOTE AND/OR ACCEPT A NOMINATION FOR OFFICE, ABSENTEE BALLOTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

Please join us at the Legion Saturday, March 9th for Corned Beef, Cabbage & Comedy, our entertainment will Comedian-Magician Ken Dumm. Advance tickets for dinner & show are \$15 each or \$20 each at the door. You can contact me for tickets or info at: (248) 895-6674 or stop by Grand Tuxedo across from the Post.

I will try and keep this part short. When I first started here I said to myself, Self, how can I get involved at the Legion? Speaking with Jim Koponen, he invited us (my lovely wife Tammy and myself) to help on Memorial Day. Once we got here it seemed like everything was running smoothly and there was nothing for us to do. When the parade was over and it was time for the free hot dogs and beer, I wandered upstairs to see Jim Weston (God rest his soul) trying to pour beer by himself with an onslaught of beer drinkers headed in his direction. So, I jumped behind the bar and helped out Jim, my wife Tammy helped with the soda and water. That was my intro 101 into helping at the Post. Since then I can be seen volunteering behind the bar on Sundays for Lions games and in the kitchen on Coney nights (thank you for the invitation Gerry Galinet). So, if you find yourself reading this asking yourself, how can I help? Find out what you may be good at, you may have "A particular set of skills", so come down to the Post and help out. Who knows, you just might meet some interesting people. I did, I think you will too. I'm totally plagiarizing JFK: "Ask not what your Post can do for you, ask what you can do for your Post" Please feel free to contact me if you are interested in volunteering or would like to join us at a meeting.

Eric Welter, SAL Sr. Vice Commander

Dogs look up to you, cats look down on you. Give me a pig!
He looks you in the eye and treats you as an equal.
- Winston Churchill

<p><u>March Birthdays</u></p> <p>01 Robin (Bytner) Harding 01 Denny Lis 03 Richard Dillinger 04 Ed Purdy 05 Robert Rossi 05 Virgil Thill 06 Rebecca Watts 08 Mary Seng 10 Dorothea Baxter 13 Cheryl Fierk 19 Virginia McBride 25 Reva Money 26 Frank Marino 28 Gerald Lynch 28 Raymond E. Dutton</p>	<p><u>March Anniversaries</u></p> <p>27 Ed & Dale Vecchio</p> <p>Remember, birthdays and anniversaries will only be listed here upon request.</p> 	 <p>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.</p>	<p>ADVERTISE IN THE BULLETINI!</p> <p>For more info contact Carol Hopson at: GrovesWalkerPost346@gmail.com</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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Want to see your name above?
Please contact Carol Hopson at:
 GrovesWalkerPost346@gmail.com

March 2019

Welcome Spring!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
24	25 Coney Night 5:00 - 7:30pm 	26	27	28 Exec. Committee meeting 7:00pm	1	2
3	4 Coney Night 5:00 - 7:30pm	5  Seabees Birthday	6 Ash Wednesday	7 Legion & Auxiliary meetings 7:30pm 	8 International Woman's Day	9 SAL Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner - Comedy Show dinner 5:30 pm show 8:30 pm
10 18th District meeting 2:00pm  Daylight savings time begins	11 Coney Night 5:00 - 7:30pm	12	13 SAL meeting 6:30pm  Michigan K-9 Veteran's Day	14	15  American Legion 100th Birthday	16 Liberty Day
17  Saint Patrick's Day	18 Coney Night 5:00 - 7:30pm	19 Operation Iraqi Freedom began 2003	20  Spring Begins	21 Home Board meeting 7:00pm 	22	23
24 /	25 Coney Night 5:00 - 7:30pm National Medal of Honor Day	26	27	28 Exec. Committee meeting 7:00pm 	29  Vietnam Veterans Day	30
31						



April Birthdays

01 Norman Goers
 01 Robert Holton
 02 John Dull
 04 Raymond Barry
 04 Harry Loewengruber
 04 Alexander Stabrava
 05 Gerry Goetzke
 07 Walter Zelony
 08 Bernice Bodell
 08 Jim Forbes
 10 Marsha Boschma
 17 Adam Gentile
 18 Harvey Ketchen
 21 James Leflar
 22 Edward Heidelbach

April Anniversaries

16 Gerald & Karen Lynch
 28 Dave & June Schwartz



Coming up in May

02 Legion & Aux. meetings
 Elections for new officers
 05 Cinco de Mayo
 08 V-E Day 1945
 12 Mother's Day
16,17,18 Poppy Days
 18 Armed Forces Day
 24 National Poppy Day
27 Memorial Day



MONDAY CONEY NIGHTS!

Monday evenings
 in the Clubroom
 5:00 pm - 7:30 pm
**GOOD FOOD,
 GREAT PRICES!**

**Members and their
 guests always
 enjoy free WiFi
 in the clubroom**

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

April 2019

Watch your email for details
 on upcoming events!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1 Coney Night 5:00 - 7:30pm  April Fools Day	2	3	4 Legion & Auxiliary meetings 7:30pm Nominations for new officers	5	6  U.S. enters WWI
7	8 Coney Night 5:00 - 7:30pm	9	10 SAL meeting 6:30pm 	11	12	13  Thomas Jefferson's Birthday
14  Palm Sunday	15 Coney Night 5:00 - 7:30pm Tax Day	16	17 Submission deadline for May/June Bulletin	18 Home Board meeting 7:00pm 	19 Good Friday	20
21  Easter	22 Coney Night 5:00 - 7:30pm Earth Day	23	24 Administrative Professionals Day	25 Exec. Committee meeting 7:00pm 	26  Arbor Day	27
28	29 Coney Night 5:00 - 7:30pm 	30 Vietnam War ends 1975	1 May	2 Legion & Auxiliary meetings 7:30pm Elections for new officers	3	4



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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

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Downtown Farmington

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

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Veterans Helping Veterans, Their Families and the Community, Since 1923

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www.AmericanLegionPost346.org



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.

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