



The Groves-Walker Bulletin

American Legion Post 346 Farmington, MI

September/October 2019 Issue



Vol. X Issue 1 ☆ Carol Hopson, Editor ☆ Proud Member of M.A.L.P.A.

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

Meeting Nights

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

248 - 478 - 9174

GrovesWalkerPost346@gmail.com

www.AmericanLegionPost346.org

LIKE us on Facebook!

Volunteer opportunities coming up!

Sep 11: 9/11 Ceremony. Contact Marya to help.

Sep 21: SAL Steak Fry. Contact Eric to help.

Oct 05: SAL Cornhole Tournament. Contact Eric to help.

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

2020 Membership Renewal

Legionnaires started receiving their 2020 membership renewal notices in July. Auxiliary notices are typically sent out in September, and SAL usually see their renewal notices arrive in August. Please renew early, and get it off your "To Do" list!

If you have already paid your dues, Thank You! **Please ignore duplicate renewal notices that may be mailed to you, DO NOT send duplicate payments.** These notices are automatically generated by the Department of MI office and may not reflect recent payments. If you have received your new membership card, you're all set! If you have paid but have not yet received your new card, you can send an inquiry to your membership chairman:

Legion \$50 - Dave Harmon (email: dharmon007@hotmail.com or call: 313-378-9197)

Auxiliary \$30, Jr. \$10 - Carol Hopson (email: GrovesWalkerPost346@gmail.com or call: 248-910-2586)

SAL \$25, Jr. \$11 - Eric Welter (email: salsquadron346@gmail.com or call: 248-895-6674)

Remember, your current membership expires December 31, 2019! Please renew before the end of the year or you may lose any continuous years of membership that you have accumulated. Your Post 346 leaders value and appreciate the membership of each and every one of you. Thank you

The LEGION Act signed into law!

As you may or may not have heard, the military service eligibility dates for joining the American Legion have been greatly expanded. This happened on July 30 when the LEGION Act (Let Everyone Get Involved in Opportunities for National Service) was signed into law. Instead of the 7 war eras previously used for eligibility for the Legion, Congress has now approved 2: April 6, 1917 to Nov. 11, 1918 (WWI) and Dec. 7, 1941 (WWII) until the U.S. is no longer at war, as determined by Congress. This is to recognize all those who fought in conflicts outside of the previously specified war eras. These dates also extend to family members who wish to join the Sons of the American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary. Other eligibility rules still apply, applicants need to have served at least one day of active duty and were honorably discharged or are still serving.

This will make millions of additional veterans and family members eligible to join our family. This could be a huge benefit to our membership numbers but it hasn't received much publicity. That's where we come in, it's up to us to spread the word about eligibility in the Legion. While new membership applications are being created, prospective members can write "other conflicts" in the eligibility date section of existing applications. Go to legion.org to find out more.

There are STILL Legion members who have not yet provided a copy of their DD form 214 to the Post. Copies to be kept on file must have your name, department, component and branch of service, and record of service dates, all other personal information may be blacked out. Please help us to be in compliance with IRS regulations. If you cannot locate a copy of your DD-214, please contact the Legion Adjutant.



Get out of the hot sun and relax in the Clubroom! Now, in addition to the 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.

When you talk, you're only repeating what you already know. But if you listen, you may learn something new. - Dalai Lama



Sep/Oct 2019 vol. X issue 1. 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 Friday Oct 18th for the November/December 2019 issue of the Bulletin.**

Chaplain's Corner Andy Machcinski

My Fellow Legionnaires,
First and foremost I wish to thank you and feel very humbled for giving me a chance and electing me to be your Chaplain. It was a pleasure to serve you as Jr Vice, but as with all good things, it is time for a change and to let someone else take that position. I know all of you will be more than glad to help in any way to make our Post proud and show our Legionnaire strength.

As your Chaplain I want to tell everyone at the Post that I am **your** Chaplain always and am available to help you through times of trouble, indecision or passing. As a Chaplain, and a vet, I am also available to any and all veterans and their families. If a need arises, please contact me by e-mail: machcski@yahoo.com or by phone: 248-794-2359.

Now that September is here, I would like to ask every one of us to not see Labor Day and Patriot Day only as days off but what the two days represent. Labor Day represents and recognizes our work and "can do" ethic learned at home and during our days in service. Patriot Day is very special as it commemorates the only time when the United States was directly attacked with a loss of over 3,000 civilian and first responder lives who passed and are still passing due to the poisonous atmosphere on 09/11/01. I ask every one of us to stop on that day and remember, attend a ceremony, or at home with your family, take just a moment to remember their sacrifice.

Looking forward to being your Chaplain. Regards, Andy

The two most important days in your life are the day you were born, and the day you find out why. - Mark twain



2019-20 Legion officers: (L to R back row) Historian Claudette Caulka, Chaplain Andy Machcinski, Finance Dave Harmon, Adjutant Dale Baxter, Service Officer Andrea Fields, (seated) Sgt-at-Arms Jim Forbes, Commander Marya Davis, and 1st Vice Commander Mike LaFave.



2019-20 Auxiliary Officers: (L to R back row) Chaplain Melinda Partridge, Treasurer Dorothea Baxter, Sgt-at-Arms Fran Skaisgir, (middle row) 2nd Vice President Leah Brancheau, President Carol Hopson, (seated) 1st Vice President Lorraine Christensen, former Secretary Carol Thompson, current Secretary Judy Mau.

Also installed as 2019-20 SAL officers were: Commander Eric Welter, 1st Vice Commander Kevin Griswold, and Sgt-at-Arms Mike Griswold.

Labor Day, a national holiday since 1894, honors the American labor movement and the contributions that American workers have made to the development, growth, endurance, strength, security, prosperity, productivity, sustainability, persistence, structure, and well-being of the country.



Commander's Corner...

Post 346 Commander

Marya Davis



The Groves Walker American Legion Family has dedicated significant time and effort to collect donations for the Poppy Fund. Yet over the past years, we've had the opportunity to assist only a handful of individuals. We react to those occasional phone calls but, how can we be more proactive? Is there more we can do to help those in need be "set up for success"?

Our **New Poppy Plan** is to partner with Farmington area service organizations to target veterans who are using their services who don't yet know about us. And in turn, for those that find us for one-time assistance, as in helping with a utility bill, connecting them to these organizations for longer term resources.

We are working to partner with: **C.A.R.E.S** - Comprehensive support services for individuals and their families in and around the Farmington Hills area that are in need or have limited access to everyday necessities due to insufficient financial resources (<http://caresfh.org>).

Neighborhood House - Affiliated with the Goodfellows. Provides assistance with paying rent and utility bills, food from its food pantry, counseling services referrals, and referrals to other resources (like us!).

Heartfelt Harvest - Includes **Operation Combat Boots** - sending care packages to our deployed troops. What a great way to distribute those donated items we collect!

Team RWB (as in Red White and Blue) - Team RWB's mission is to enrich the lives of America's veterans by connecting them to their community through physical and social activity (<https://www.teamrwb.org>). As we look for ways to gain more members for the Legion, maybe they have an answer on how to attract the newest generation of veterans!

If you are interested in helping connect with these organizations to seek out fellow veterans in need, please contact Mike LaFave or myself. It takes a village – and we are uniting to make that happen!

In service,
Marya Davis, Commander

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 on a wood dowel with hanging cord). Please contact Lorraine Christensen at 248-474-8554.



My 2 Cents...

Unit 346 President

Carol Hopson



Greetings Auxiliary!

I hope everyone's summer has been exactly what you had hoped for while enduring last February's freezing temps! First I'd like to give a great big THANK YOU to all the members who helped make installation such a great event. I think we may keep on having it in the lower hall from now on, I believe it worked out very well. Great idea Marya!

Now that September is here, it's time to get back to work. If you have any ideas for fund raisers, know of a person or family that could use our help, or have ideas to help usher the Auxiliary into the next century and attract new members, please come to the next meeting or contact me. If anyone knows of a family in need that we can "adopt" so we can help them have a merry Christmas this year, please let me know.

I'd like to congratulate our returning officers and welcome a newcomer to our ranks. Melinda Partridge has been installed as our new chaplain, and she has already proven herself to be of tremendous help during events and a good friend to many. Paula gladly turned over her duties as chaplain so she could slow down and relax a bit more.

New Legion membership eligibility dates (see page 1) mean more people than ever are eligible to join our Legion family, spread the word! Coming up in the next Bulletin you will be able to read all about our next spaghetti dinner happening in November. We will be teaming up with the SAL for another one of their great comedy night shows. That's my 2 cents worth, I'm always eager to hear yours,

Carol Hopson, President

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

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 your 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.

You can't talk your way out of a situation you behaved your way into.





The good Lord has seen fit to allow us all to remain together, within our American Legion family, to "Serve God and Country" a little longer.

No Post member deaths have been reported to me during the past 2 months.

Did you know? Have you lost or do you need to replace a worn DD-214? Form DD-215 is used to correct errors or make additions to a DD-214, in order to assure that veterans have accurate discharge documentation, any new awards available are also included. This form is critical to assist veterans and their family members, in establishing eligibility for benefits, compensation, healthcare, home loans, education, tax benefits, burial benefits, and much more.

Tabs for Tots donations now go to Ronald McDonald House Charities. Keeping families with sick children together and near the care and resources they need. RMHC is helping millions of families with sick children find comfort and support when they need it most.



Please join us for the 18th Annual Patriot Day Ceremony at the Sundquist Pavilion Downtown Farmington Center

Date: Wed. 09/11 Time: 6:00 - 7:00p
Please bring lawn chairs, light refreshments after the ceremony.



Join us to honor the nearly 3000 citizens and first responders who perished as a result of the terrorist attacks on 09/11/01. Farmington & Farmington Hills Police, Fire and Public Safety officer of the year awards will also be given. We encourage you to attend and show your support.

Many members would like to see us organize a Legion Riders Chapter here at Post 346! Interested? Please send an email to the Post: GrovesWalkerPost346@gmail.com to contact Sonny Sahu. Sonny has been an SAL member since 2016 and like a lot of us, loves to ride!



Pick battles big enough to matter, small enough to win. - Jonathan Kozol



Our new Post 346 leadership team for 2019-2020, Legion Commander Marya Davis, SAL Commander Eric Welter and Auxiliary President Carol Hopson wish all Post officers and members a great, cooperative and productive year!

SAL STEAK FRY

Saturday Sept. 21st
5:00 to 7:00 pm
Adults \$15 per plate
Children \$10 per plate (under 13)
With Potato, Salad & Dessert



Please let us know you're coming by using the sign-up sheet in the clubroom, emailing to: GrovesWalkerPost346@gmail.com or by calling the Post at: 248-478-9174.

SAL Cornhole Tournament

Saturday Oct. 5th
\$20 per person
\$40 per team
Single players welcome, will be teamed up
1st, 2nd, 3rd Place prize winners
Food & drinks, raffles



Contact Eric for registration form
Teams are forming fast, sign up today!

It's the rough side of the mountain that's the easiest to climb; the smooth side doesn't have anything for you to hang on to.

- Aretha Franklin



September Birthdays

01 Leah Brancheau
 06 Donal Stanton
 08 Joyce Frankford
 14 Charlotte Vaughn
 14 Paula Cotroneio
 16 Mike Benefiel
 17 Glenda Ann Gould
 22 Robert Cooper
 22 Steven Koponen
 22 John Shalhoub
 24 Mary Gould
 26 Tim Sheahen
 27 Kevin Kokko

September Anniversaries

18 John & Elaine Dull
 22 Art & Pam Mikkola
 24 Mike & Susanne
 D'Arcangelo



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 rear door. Ronald McDonald House


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

September 2019

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1  Operation New Dawn began 2010	2 Labor Day	3	4 SAL meeting 6:30pm	5 Legion & Auxiliary meetings 7:30pm 	6	7
8  Grandparents Day	9 Monday Coney Nights are Back! 5:00 - 7:00pm 	10	11 9/11 Ceremony downtown 6pm  Patriot Day	12	13	14
15	16 Monday Coney Night 5 - 7pm American Legion Day	17 Constitution Day Citizenship Day	18  Air Force Birthday	19 Home Board meeting 7:00pm 	20  POW/MIA Recognition Day	21 SAL Steak Fry 5:00 - 7:00pm International Day of Peace
22	23 Monday Coney Night 5 - 7pm  Autumn begins	24	25	26 Exec. Committee meeting 7:00pm 	27	28
29  Gold Star Mother's Day Rosh Hashanah begins	30 Monday Coney Night 5 - 7pm	1 October	2 SAL meeting 6:30pm 	3 Legion & Auxiliary meetings 7:30pm	4	5 Child Health Day



<p><u>October Birthdays</u></p> <p>02 Edward Laird 05 Lauren Williams 06 Paul Brancheau 07 Patricia Rodgers 07 Terry A. Roberts 08 Rob Smart 08 Grechen Heldenbrand 09 Myrtle Granger 10 Dick Joslyn 10 Kenneth Monberg 11 Dale Vecchio 14 Robert Hanson 14 Susan Franzen 15 Kelly L. Walker 16 John Miller</p>	<p>21 Harold Wilson 28 Kim Jaske 28 Rosemary Berger 28 Hannah Durham 31 Fran Skaisgir</p> <p><u>October Anniversaries</u></p> <p>03 Dale & Diane Farrell 08 Matt & Michelle Pitt 10 Bob & Sharon DeWitt 12 Tom & Christina James 15 Dale & Laura Mauck 19 Donal & Claudia Stanton 28 Dan & Pam Heffernan</p>	<p><u>Coming up in November</u></p> <p>01 All Saints Day 03 Daylight savings time ends 05 Election day 06 SAL meeting 07 Legion & Aux meetings 10 Auxiliary Birthday 10 Marine Corps Birthday 10 Sadie Hawkins Day 11 Veteran's Day 28 Thanksgiving Day (29 Black Friday) 30 Small Business Sat. 12/02 Cyber Monday 12/03 Giving Tuesday)</p>	<p>MONDAY CONEY NIGHTS!</p> <p>Monday evenings in the Clubroom 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm GOOD FOOD, GREAT PRICES!</p> <hr/> <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

October 2019

Watch your email for details on upcoming events!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>29</p>  <p>Gold Star Mother's Day Rosh Hashanah begins</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Monday Coney Night 5 -7pm</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p> <p>SAL meeting 6:30pm</p> 	<p>3</p> <p>Legion & Auxiliary meetings 7:30pm</p> 	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>SAL Cornhole Tournament</p> <p>Child Health Day</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Monday Coney Night 5 -7pm</p> <p>Operation Enduring Freedom began 2001</p>	<p>8</p>  <p>Yom Kippur</p>	<p>9</p>  <p>Leif Erikson Day</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>13</p> <p>Navy Birthday</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Monday Coney Night 5 -7pm</p> <p>Columbus Day</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>  <p>Boss' Day</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Home Board meeting 7:00pm</p> 	<p>18</p> <p>Submission deadline for Nov/Dec Bulletin</p>	<p>19</p>  <p>Sweetest Day</p>
<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Monday Coney Night 5 -7pm</p> 	<p>22</p>  <p>Navy Day</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Exec. Committee meeting 7:00pm</p>  <p>United Nations Day</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Monday Coney Night 5 -7pm</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>  <p>Halloween</p>	<p>1</p> <p>November</p>	<p>2</p>



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FAX: (248) 478-6007
Cell: (248) 521-1134



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

HEENEY SUNDQUIST

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Walter Sundquist
1926 - 2013

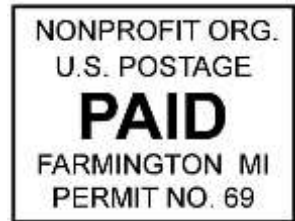
Mark Ziegler
President

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



The Groves-Walker Bulletin

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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



LegionRental346@gmail.com for more info!

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

248 - 478 - 9174
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