



The Groves-Walker Bulletin

American Legion Post 346 Farmington, MI

November/December 2015 Edition



Vol. VI Issue 2 ☆ Carol Hopson, Editor ☆ Member of M.A.L.P.A.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Chartered 1922 - For God and Country ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

The Wit & Wisdom of Jim...
Post 346 Commander
James Weston



Legionnaires, SAL & Auxiliary,

As I write this, I think it is safe to say good bye to the warm weather, although we've had a great summer. At the Post we are going out of sight with our rentals! Members whom I've talked to, that have been here 30 - 40 years, have been amazed at the good financial shape we're in at the present time. Let's keep up the momentum and keep moving forward!

Our November 11th Veterans Day Ceremony will start at 6:00 pm, and at its conclusion finger foods and beverages will be available. Remember to get your dues paid before the end of the year to avoid the upcoming increase. I would like to see attendance at upcoming meetings increase, a lot of important matters will have to be discussed and voted on by the membership, please try to attend. If anyone has any questions about anything, don't hesitate to call me personally at 248-469-7681.

Wishing all a Happy Thanksgiving and a Very Merry Christmas. Have a safe and happy holiday season. God Bless all of us, America and our troops in foreign lands.

Jim Weston, Commander

**Please Remember to attend the
Post 346 Veteran's Day Program
on Wednesday November 11th at 6:00 pm
There will be refreshments and
finger foods after the ceremony.**

***Annual Christmas Pot-Luck Party
in the Clubroom
Friday December 18th at 6:00pm
Bring a dish to pass and enjoy
the Holiday Cheer!***



**A Happy Holiday Season
to You from Post 346!**

Blue Eyes Blog...
Unit 346 President
Tamela Festian



Hello Ladies,

Wow! Do you believe how the weather has changed? One minute we're wearing shorts and T-shirts, now everyone is wearing jeans and jackets. But of course, I still have my shorts on, Ha Ha.

The Holiday season is here, so don't eat so much Turkey, dressing and pumpkin pie. Why do we eat so much, then fall asleep on the couch watching football? But isn't it funny if you change the channel, they wake up and say "I was watching that!" How... through your eyelids??

We will soon be having our Veterans Day service on Wednesday Nov. 11th at 6:00 pm downstairs at the Post. As we get into December, we will be doing our annual mitten tree at the December meeting (12/3), please don't forget to bring hats, gloves, etc. for those less fortunate. I also would like to say thank you to Darla Anderson and her friend Karen for getting items for the VA gift shop in Ann Arbor on behalf of our Unit. On Friday December 18th at 6:00 pm come down to the Post for some holiday cheer and our annual Christmas pot-luck get together in the Clubroom.

We will once again be collecting items for "care packages" for our troops (see the list on page 3). Please bring items to the Post and place them in the basket between the rest rooms downstairs. PLEASE Do Not leave these items in the Clubroom.

At this time of year everyone is busy running around for the holidays. But take a moment to remember all the men and women who are currently serving in the military keeping us safe. Have a Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas. May the Lord be with you. Have a safe and healthy New Year.

Tammy Festian, President

Please don't forget to bring donations of new or gently used winter hats, gloves, scarves, mittens, boots or any other cold weather accessories to the December meeting (12/03) for the Auxiliary's annual "Mitten Tree". These donations go to our local Goodfellows for distribution to families and individuals in need this winter. Thank You



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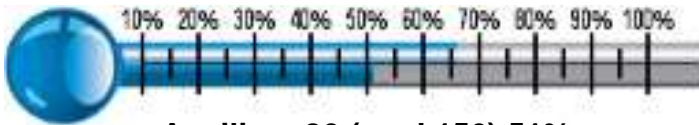
Looking forward to a warm and wonderful holiday season with our family and friends, hope you are too!

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 (or some articles in their entirety).* **The submission deadline for the Jan/Feb 2016 edition of the Bulletin is December 18th.**

Thank you, Carol Hopson

Thank you to everyone who continues to participate in our "Tabs for Tots" program. Because of you we just turned in 465 pounds of tabs for aluminum recycling, so our Children and Youth fund is now \$236 richer.
Jim Koponen, Tabs for Tots Chairman

Membership: Legion 185 (goal 280) 66%



Auxiliary 80 (goal 156) 51%

2nd Annual Post 346 Raffle

1st prize: \$3000, 2nd prize: \$1000,
3rd prize: \$750, 4th prize: \$500,
5th/6th/7th prizes: \$250 each

Tickets - \$10 each, available in the Clubroom,
and from Chairman Skip Nafe

Drawing: January 30, 2016
at one of our delicious Spaghetti Dinners
Show your raffle ticket for ½ price dinner!

Raffle tickets have been mailed to members, please
support your Post by purchasing a Raffle ticket.

**Please return unsold tickets to the Post
so others can have the chance to WIN!**

SAL Member Reminder:

**Please pay your 2015-16 dues ASAP!
The rate is going up after Jan. 1, 2016!**

SAL Adjutant

Rob Holton

Hope this finds everyone doing well. Please remember this November 11 is Veterans Day. When you see a Veteran please shake his or her hand and say Thank You. Our Sunday Lions Football Parties have been going very well except for the games. We would like to thank everyone that have been coming and supporting our Post.

The SAL would like to wish everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving. Take this day to spend time with your family and give thanks for all that we have.

Have to say Congratulations to Grandma and Grandpa Rob Smart, their daughter and son-in-law welcomed a new baby girl. She was even born on Rob's Birthday! Please keep all our solders in your thoughts and prayers.

Rob Holton
SAL Adjutant

Detroit Lions Game Sundays

Pot-Luck Party Presented by the S.A.L.

11/15 vs Packers at 1:00pm
11/22 vs Raiders at 1:00pm
12/13 vs Rams at 1:00pm
12/27 vs 49ers at 1:00pm
01/03 vs Bears at 1:00pm



Come watch the Lions make their playoff run 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 dish to pass or bar-tend, sign-up sheets are in the clubroom. Let's have a great time cheering on the Lions!



Auxiliary Unit 346 Raffle

Of a Beautiful Handmade Quilt (size - full, color - forest green & white with a multi-color pinwheel pattern)

Tickets - \$5 each, available in the Clubroom
Drawing - November 2015 (specific date to be announced). Proceeds to benefit Post 346 building renovation projects.



Unit 346 Valentine Care Packages

Donations are once again being requested for military "Care Packages" to be sent overseas during February. Please bring all donations to the Post by **January 31st**. Please leave donations in the downstairs restroom vestibule. The Auxiliary would like to be able to send the following items to our troops overseas (men and women), all donations (including monetary donations) are GREATLY appreciated! Last year at this time we were able to send 12 LARGE boxes to military units stationed in the middle east. THANK YOU!



Small or travel sizes of: bars of soap, razors, deodorant, body spray, toothpaste & brush, mouthwash, dental floss, shampoo, conditioner.

Wet-wipes, antibacterial wipes, Alka-Seltzer 2 pack, Tums, Pepto-Bismol tablets, cough drops, Band-aids, sewing kit, suntan lotion, sun glasses.

Laundry detergent (single load packs), hand & foot warmer packs, writing supplies (pens, pencils, paper), phone cards, memory sticks & cards, puzzles, crosswords, Sudoku, travel size board games, deck of cards, paperback books.

Pringles, Lays chips, beef jerky, cookies, hard candy (NO chocolate please), Gatorade, other drink mixes (single serving size), instant coffee, tea bags.

Veterans Day Service Church of St. Paul

Please mark your calendars for the Veterans' Day Service at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (4800 Woodward Avenue Detroit, Michigan 48201) on Sunday, Nov. 8 at 4:00 pm. The emphasis of this service is thanksgiving – an expression of our profound appreciation for all who have served the pursuit of freedom and peace in service to their country, regardless of their race, religion or ethnic background. To this end we include all who have served in the armed forces of the United States, Canada and our Allied Nations. We also honor those who serve in state and local police and fire departments. Our guest speaker this year will be Major General Julian Burns, U.S. Army Retired.

From the solemn procession accompanied by bagpipes and organ, to the bugler's playing of taps and last post, to the concluding hymn, you'll find this service both moving and inspiring, and a fitting tribute to all who have served our country. A reception with light refreshments follows the service. All are welcome. Grace and peace,

The Very Reverend S. Scott Hunter, D.Min.
Dean, Cathedral Church of St. Paul
www.detroitcathedral.org

LCDR Robert W. Prout, USNR Retired
Chairman, Veterans' Service Committee



Jr. Vice Commander

Joel Storchan

On Friday September 11th, at the Farmington Sundquist Pavilion, we had a marvelous, Patriot Day ceremony. The best attended event we have had for Patriot Day, since I joined the Legion six years ago. The Police and Fire Chiefs of Farmington and Farmington Hills were honored by our event, they could not share their appreciation more for the presentation that we set up for them. We had a military Honor Guard, our Post Honor Guard, the Fire and Police Dept. Honor Guards, and Boys Scout Troop 179 Honor Guard in attendance. We had a bag piper for the presentation of the Honor Guards and their fallout. We had an excellent bugler from Buglers Across America. Our Master of Ceremonies from the Farmington City Manager's Officer presently herself flawlessly. The Legion members who attended and supported the event gave great honor to our Post. We had a well-honed team that made everything happen. I thank all of our members who gave their time and effort for the event.

On Veterans Day **Wednesday November 11th at 6:00pm** we will have an event for all Post members and veterans that want to attend. Veterans that want to share their thoughts of their time in service at the event, are welcomed to do so. We would like representatives of all wars and conflicts from 1942 until today to speak. We want to make sure we honor all those who served our country. We will have some finger foods and refreshments after the event.

Joel Storchan, Jr. Vice Commander

A gofundme request for George & Doreen Panaretos

Over the last few years, Doreen's health has declined. George has been Doreen's primary care giver along with the help of friends and family. Doreen now needs more care than George can provide. This fundraiser will help cover a portion of the cost of home care and related expenses. And now we understand that George has just suffered a stroke and is in the hospital.

Everyone who knows George and Doreen Panaretos know how special they are and how much they do for others. George and Doreen have always given of themselves, but today they need our help. Maybe you know George and Doe from the Four Leaf Clovers bowling league, American Legion, or the Casino trips they arranged. George and Doe were involved in several organizations and touched many lives.

If you are unable to help financially, you can still brighten their day by preparing a meal or visiting them. Anything you can do will be greatly appreciated. To help please go to: <https://www.gofundme.com/en6fs24f>

Pick battles big enough to matter,
small enough to win. - fortune cookie

TAPS

Eleanor Farrell

June 17, 1924 - September 23, 2015

Age 91, of Farmington. Surviving is her son, Dale (Dianne) Farrell; daughter-in law, Sue Farrell (the late Jerry); grandchildren, June (Dave) Schwartz, Todd (Melissa) Farrell, Tiffany Farrell, John (Shannon) Farrell and Damon (Shelia) Farrell; 7 great grandchildren, and 1 great-great grandson. Sadly, Eleanor was preceded in death by her husband of 44 years, Gerald (Jay 1987). Eleanor was a 45 year American Legion Auxiliary member of Unit 346. Funeral arrangements: Heeney-Sundquist Funeral Home, Farmington. Interment: Oakland Hills Memorial Gardens, Novi.



Unit 346 recently received a lovely Thank you letter and the photo above from Victoria Balaga, one of our sponsored participants at this year's 75th annual Girls State Program which took place in June.

Domenic Cordisco

November 28, 1920 - August 23, 2015

Age 94 of Farmington Hills. Beloved husband of the late Mary. Dear father of Catherine Cordisco, Joseph (Pamela), Donna Cordisco and Paul (Deborah). Grandfather of Angela (Sean Stowell) Cordisco. Mr. Cordisco was a member of the American Legion Farmington Post 346 and a member of the Piemontese Social Club and Past Secretary for many years. He served in the United States Army during World War II. Dominic was known for having the most highly polished shoes in his battalion.



Arrangements: O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, Novi. Service: St. Gerald Catholic Church Farmington. Donations in Mr. Cordisco's name may be made to Angela Hospice.



Post 346 Officers for 2015-16: Chaplain Vern McBride, guest 18th District Commander Cheryl May, Jr. Vice Commander Joel Storchan, Adjutant Dale Baxter, Sr. Vice/Service Officer/Membership Tony Mallia, Commander Jim Weston, and Finance John Grossman.

Paul Dabish

November 3, 1943 - September 21, 2015

Age 71, of Farmington, MI. Beloved husband of Janet for 31 years. Dear father of Sandi Carothers and Tracey (Stephen) Aho. Proud grandfather of Duncan. Dearest son of Mary and the late Salman Dabish. Loving brother of Kenneth, predeceased by brothers Robert and Mark. He was a 9 year member of American Legion Post 346. He is loved and missed by many family and friends. Arrangements: McCabe Funeral Home, Farmington Hills. Funeral: Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, Farmington. Interment: Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the American Legion Post 346 of Farmington.



Auxiliary Unit 346 Officers for 2015-16: Finance/ Membership Cheryl Fierk, Secretary Carol Thompson, Sgt-at-ArmsCarolynn Mallia, Aux. Executive Board Darla Anderson, Aux. Exec. Bd. Carol Hopson, Chaplain Paula Cotroneio, President Tammy Festian, and 1st Vice President Leah Brancheau.

Don't let this issue of the Bulletin be your **LAST** issue, please make sure your 2015-16 dues are paid.

Thank you!



November Birthdays

3 Dale Mauck
 5 Ann Mellert
 6 Ralph Philp
 7 Robert Watts
 9 William Robertson
 10 Judith Mau
 12 Orville Roberts
 13 Carl Steen
 14 Jan Smart
 15 Charles White
 16 Dale Farrell
 16 Bridget Lynch
 19 John Berling
 19 Lily Waara
 21 Dawn Dupon

22 Ann Roberts
 23 Michelle Pitt
 24 Claudette Calka
 25 Stephanie Kettwig
 25 Kevin Clarke
 27 Jean Herren
 28 Harvey Lenz
 30 Gerald Hoskins

November Anniversaries

5 Peter & Carol Larion
 7 Dan & Tammy Festian
 11 Mr & Mrs Don Crisman
 12 Donald & Judy Sofferin
 18 Ted & Kitty Podsiadly



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 BULLETIN!

Contact Carol Hopson at:
 248-910-2586 or email to:
 info@americanlegionpost346.org

Members enjoy free



In the Clubroom!

Don't see your name above?
Please contact Carol Hopson at
 info@AMERICANLEGIONPOST346.org
 or 248-910-2586

November 2015

Happy Thanksgiving!
 November 26

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|------------------------------------|---|--|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| 1 <u>All Souls Day</u> Daylight Savings Time Ends | 2 Coney Night 5:00 - 7:30 pm | 3 Exec. Board Meeting 7:00pm Election Day | 4 | 5 Legion & Aux. meetings 7:30pm | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 Coney Night 5:00 - 7:30 pm | 10 <u>Auxiliary Birthday</u> Marines Birthday | 11 Veterans Day Program 6:00pm Veterans Day | 12 | 13 | 14 Farmington Winter Market 10am - 2pm |
| 15 SAL Lions Game Party 1:00pm Sadie Hawkins Day | 16 Coney Night 5:00 - 7:30pm | 17 Home Board meeting 7:30pm | 18 | 19 | 20 Heeney-Sundquist Appreciation Ceremony 7pm | 21 Farmington Winter Market 10am - 2pm |
| 22 SAL Lions Game Party 1:00pm | 23 Coney Night 5:00 - 7:30pm | 24 | 25 | 26 Thanksgiving Day | 27 Black Friday | 28 Farmington Winter Market 10am - 2pm |
| 29 | 30 Coney Night 5:00 - 7:30pm | 1 Exec. Board Meeting 7:00pm December | 2 | 3 Legion & Aux. meetings 7:30pm | 4 | 5 Farmington Winter Market 10am - 2pm |



December Birthdays

- 1 Jimmy Brancheau
- 2 Diana Sweeten
- 3 Dale Baxter
- 3 Walter Dogonski
- 6 A. (Bill) Horton
- 15 Kricia (Grossman) Doescher
- 17 Mike Peters
- 19 Vasillie (Bill) Croitori
- 19 Connie Crissman
- 19 Tracey Smart
- 20 Kathy Bradley
- 23 Robert Chambers
- 24 Mike Hughes
- 26 Joel Storchan

- 27 Doreen Panaretos
- 28 Andy Lingner
- 31 Fred Troke
- 31 Kenneth Young
- 31 Wendy Keene

December Anniversaries

- 1 Wally & Lorraine Christensen
- 1 Terry & Ann Roberts
- 9 Charles & Helen Scott
- 23 John & Colleen Pirko
- 26 Dave & Cathy Franzen

Coming up in January

- 1 New Year's Day
- 7 Legion & Aux Meetings
- 18 Martin Luther King Day
- 28 Coast Guard Birthday



MONDAY CONEY NIGHTS!

Every Monday in the Clubroom 5 pm - 7:30 pm
GREAT PRICES!
 NO Reservations needed!

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.

Don't see your name above?
Please contact Carol Hopson at
 info@AMERICANLEGIONPOST346.org
 or 248-910-2586

December 2015

Winter Begins!
 December 22

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|--|-----------------------------------|---|--|---|
| 29 | 30 Coney Night 5:00 - 7:30pm | 1 Exec. Board Meeting 7:00pm | 2 | 3 Legion & Aux. meetings 7:30pm | 4 | 5 Farmington Winter Market 10am - 2pm |
| 6 Hanukkah begins | 7 Coney Night 5:00 - 7:30pm Pearl Harbor Day | 8 | 9 SAL meeting 7:30pm | 10 Human Rights Day | 11 | 12 Farmington Winter Market 10am - 2pm |
| 13 SAL Lions Game Party 1:00pm | 14 Coney Night 5:00 - 7:30pm | 15 Home Board Meeting 7:30pm | 16 | 17 | 18 Submission deadline for <u>Jan/Feb Bulletin</u> Christmas Pot-luck Party, Clubroom 6pm | 19 Farmington Winter Market 10am - 2pm |
| 20 | 21 Coney Night 5:00 - 7:30pm | 22 Winter Begins | 23 | 24 Christmas Eve | 25 Christmas Day | 26 Farmington Winter Market 10am - 2pm Kwanzaa Begins |
| 27 SAL Lions Game Party 1:00pm | 28 Coney Night 5:00 - 7:30pm | 29 | 30 | 31 New Year's Eve | 1 January 2016 New Year's Day | 2 |



GG's boutique♥



Ladies Apparel,
Accessories,
Handbags, Jewelry,
& Gifts

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

23350 Farmington Rd. Downtown
Next door to Merle Norman Cosmetics
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



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established 1850



*Proudly supporting
the Veterans of
Groves-Walker Post #346*

In Honor of
American Legion Life Member
Walter Sundquist
1926 - 2013

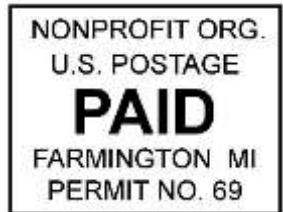
Mark Ziegler

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

November/December 2015 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

- 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: INFO@AMERICANLEGIONPOST346.org
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 Board - 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)

For contact information for Post officers or hall rental information, call **(248) 478-9174**
Visit our website at
www.AMERICANLEGIONPOST346.org
Email the Post, Officers or Bulletin editor at
INFO@AMERICANLEGIONPOST346.org

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

