



The Groves-Walker Bulletin

American Legion Post 346 Farmington, MI

January/February 2018 Edition



Vol. VIII Issue 3 ☆ Carol Hopson, Editor ☆ Member of M.A.L.P.A.

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

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



Hello Legionnaires, SAL & Auxiliary,

The year has flown by and the holidays are behind us. Together, we have accomplished a great deal this past year and feel that we should be very proud of our Post accomplishments. I'm so excited what the coming months hold for this Post. We have numerous events in the planning stages and continue to be open on weekends for seasonal sports viewing, so keep your eyes out for the various activities and try to be involved if you are available.

With the help of our current members, we are bringing new members into our fold and I hope that everyone will make them feel welcome and assist them where you can. My goal in the coming year is to continue our "Early Bird" membership drawings for 2019. I think we did fairly well in regards to membership this year but we still have some people that have not yet renewed for 2018. If you haven't renewed your membership, it is not too late to get your dues in. Please send them directly to the Post in order to avoid delays with being counted and receiving your membership card.

As always, a very special thanks goes out to all of you that work in the background and prefer to be silent voices (you know who are) and my officers and committee chairpersons, for without your support and guidance, we could not have accomplished as much as we have. My request for each and every member of this Post, whether you are a Legion, Auxiliary, or SAL member; stay involved and let's make this a great year and showcase to the 18th District, Department and National who we are with pride. As always, I look forward to hearing your comments or criticisms in how we can make Groves-Walker Post 346 the best. May God bless America, our troops serving abroad, our veterans, and Post 346.

Dale Baxter, Commander

Service Not Self...
Unit 346 President
Leah Brancheau



Dear Members and Friends,

Hope everyone likes snow, guess we will have to get used to it. It's pretty, but I am NOT a snow lover. Our Dec. meeting helped our Farmington Goodfellows as we collected 50 pairs of gloves & mittens and also 20 hats. Not as much as previous years as the weather that night was against us. The Goodfellows were grateful for what we donated and they will be delivered to the less fortunate.

Thank you to all the shoppers who did a fine job purchasing gifts for our Christmas family in need. Gerry Galinet and Dianna Wagstaff are super shoppers. More people dropped gifts off at the Post anonymously. THANK YOU! Thanks to Jan Smart and Marian Bellaire for wrapping mounds of shirts to be delivered to the homeless vets (at MVF) for Christmas. Hopefully in the coming months we will have a luncheon for the MVF vets, date to be determined.

Please try to attend one of YOUR meetings the first Thursday of each month. We value your input. Wishing all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Feel free to call if you have a need or a suggestion at 248-478-9174.

Yours in Service,
Leah Brancheau, President

Auxiliary Unit 346 is sorry to report that following in the footsteps of the Legion, the Auxiliary will be raising the National and Department of Michigan portion of your dues as of 2019. Unit 346 has no choice but to raise our dues accordingly. Beginning July 1, 2018 (for the 2019 membership year) Auxiliary dues will be **\$30 per adult member and \$10 per junior**. We sincerely hope that this will not deter you from renewing your membership with the American Legion Auxiliary.

We all know what the American Legion stands for and what it does not only for our community but all across the nation. Our veterans past, present and future need the American Legion to help stand up for their benefits and rights. We are protecting and defending the benefits and respect veterans have earned. We sincerely thank you for your membership and would very much appreciate your continued membership with the American Legion Auxiliary. Together, we can make a difference.

Thank you,
Leah Brancheau, President Unit 346



Jan/Feb 2018 vol. VIII issue 3. The Groves-Walker Bulletin is published 6 times per year. Post 346 membership for the year 2016-17: Legion 244, Aux. 138, SAL 61. 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

Bulletin Editor, Post Website Administrator, Post PR, Carol Hopson

Happy New Year 2018! I hope everyone had a great holiday season with family and friends. Now let's all wish for an early spring!

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 may need to edit articles for length.*

The submission deadline for the Mar/Apr 2018 edition of the Bulletin is Friday February 16th.

Thank you, Carol Hopson, Editor

New Thursday meeting nights for 2018!

1st Thurs. 7:30 pm: Legion/Auxiliary (no change)

2nd Thurs. 6:30 pm: SAL

3rd Thurs. 7:00 pm: Home Board

4th Thurs. 7:00 pm: Executive Committee

SAL Commander

Mark Moulds

I hope everybody had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. **We are going to hold a CPL course at the Post on a Saturday in late January early February, if you're interested please contact me. The cost will be approx. \$60 and the classroom portion will be held at the Post, you will be able to schedule your range time requirement at your convenience (cost is included) but you will pay for your own ammo.**

Exciting projects in the works for the new year include a Tom Petty tribute band show at the Post. On March 10th we are planning the annual Corned Beef & Cabbage Saint Patrick's Day dinner but with a comedy club show afterwards. Keep your eyes on your inbox and notices at the Post for more information.

Mark Moulds, SAL Commander
GrovesWalkerPost346@gmail.com

Life moves pretty fast.

If you don't stop and look around once in a while, you could miss it.

- Ferris Beuller



Legion Jr. Vice Commander Andy Machcinski

My Fellow Legionnaires:

Once again a new year is upon us and I want to wish everyone a healthy, happy NEW YEAR. Gone is the frenzy of Christmas and the fun of welcoming the New Year. So welcome to 2018 and another year of activities, ceremonies and issues for us at the Post.

I want to thank everyone for their help in making, in my mind at least, last year a success. We had good member participation, could have been better, and great support for all the ceremonies in 2017. The year before us is still a mystery as to what will happen, how things may change and how things will turn out. Being Legionnaires and veterans I know we will pull together as we always have and overcome any obstacle, situation or adversity.

As your Jr. Vice, I want to thank everyone for their help in making last year a great year and am looking forward to 2018 and to really making it outstanding!

Regards,
Andy Machcinski, Jr. Vice

Post 346 Scholarship Chairman, Boys State Chairman Mark Moulds

I am now the chairman of the Boys State and Post 346 Scholarship programs. The scholarship program awards two \$5,000 scholarships, one for a boy and one for a girl. The applicant's area of study must be in a STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Math) field, and they should have an interest in 3D printing technology. Don't you know of a student headed for college that could use an extra \$5000? Apply today at our website, scholarship tab.

The Boys State program this year is at Grand Valley State University, June 17 - 23, 2018. Each Post from around the state sends students to participate, the participants elect students to fill positions from Governor to dog catcher and form their own mock government. They also have the opportunity to meet and greet our government officials. This is a great program for students to learn how our government works. It can truly be "a week that shapes a lifetime". Contact me for further information on either program or if you're interested in sponsoring a student to attend Boy's State.

Mark Moulds, Scholarship & Boys State Chairman
GrovesWalkerPost346@gmail.com

The **Early Bird incentive** for paying your 2018 Legion dues early really paid off for three of our members! Please join us in congratulating these lucky Legion members:

September winner of \$100 was: **Paul Masciarelli**
October winner of \$100 was: **James Pearse**
November winner of \$100 was: **Robert Scarnickia**

The Officers of Post 346 for 2017-18
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



Souper Sunday Supper

Sunday January 14
Noon - 4:00 pm

\$5.00 for your first serving in a bread-bowl, \$1.00 for each additional cup



Serving lots of yummy varieties of soup, plus salad. Come on down, enjoy the playoff games in the Clubroom, have fun with friends and comrades, and have a delicious meal.

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.

THE AUXILIARY IS LOOKING FOR A FEW MORE VOLUNTEERS WILLING TO SUPPLY A CROCK-POT FULL OF YOUR FAVORITE FLAVOR OF SOUP, PLEASE CONTACT LEAH OR GERRY AT THE NUMBER ABOVE. THANK YOU!

*Be who you are
and say what you feel,
because those who mind
don't matter
and those who matter
don't mind.*

- Theodor 'Dr. Seuss' Geisel



January is National Blood Donor Month and Legionnaires everywhere are encouraged to give blood and host blood drives at Posts as part of the American Legion Blood Donor Program - a program that has existed since 1946 to help a life-saving cause that becomes even more important during the harsh winter months.

Posts and Departments that donate the most blood are honored at the National Convention in August each year. Departments are recognized in two areas: for Post participation and individual Legionnaire participation. The National Commander presents both awards at the National Convention. If you decide to donate blood at a blood drive or anywhere during this coming year, please inform our Commander or Adjutant so that your donation can be included in our Consolidated Post Report and we can receive credit for our Post and Department.

It's easy to request your military service records from the National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) online, by mail, or by fax.

Includes DD 214 separation documents, personnel records, replacement medals, and/or medical records. Just go to: www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records and follow the instructions. Same day service may be available for emergency requests (for example, medical procedures or funerals).

Generally there is no charge for basic military records provided to veterans, next-of-kin and authorized representatives from Federal (non-archival) records. If your request involves a service fee, you will be notified as soon as that determination is made. However, archival Official Military Personnel Files (OMPF) are subject to the NARA fee schedule that authorizes the Agency to collect fees from the public for copies of archival records (44 USC 2116c and 44 USC 2307).

A routine OMPF of 5 pages or less: \$25 flat fee

A routine OMPF of 6 pages or more: \$70 flat fee (most OMPFs fall in this category)

Response time for records requested from the NPRC varies. While the NPRC works actively to respond to each request in a timely fashion, the Center receives approximately 4,000 - 5,000 requests per day. They are responding to requests for separation documents within 10 days about 92% of the time. However, requests that involve reconstruction efforts due to the 1973 fire, or older records which require extensive search efforts, may take 6 months or more to complete.

We know how hard it is to remember everything you need to take care of when a loved one passes away, and even harder to know what benefits a deceased veteran may be entitled to.

This is one reason why the American Legion has Service Officers, to help the deceased veteran and his or her family receive all the benefits they are entitled to. Always remember, and tell your loved ones -

- 1) Know where your DD-214 is. An American Legion service officer can help you get a replacement copy if lost. Also see above.
- 2) Tell your funeral director that the deceased was a veteran.
- 3) Contact your Post (or the nearest American Legion Post if your loved one was not a member), and not only can you receive the help of a Service Officer but, the Post's Honor Guard can help with a military funeral service. Other benefits might include a free burial plot, headstone, survivor benefits, burial expenses, and an American flag to drape the casket.

Fools stand on their island of opportunities and look toward another land. There is no other land, there is no other life but this. - Henry David Thoreau





Adjutant Marya Davis receives Legionnaire of the Year Honors from Commander Dale Baxter at the 2017 9/11 Patriots Day Remembrance Ceremony. Photo: Carol Hopson



Commander Dale Baxter presented Police and Firefighter of the Year Honors to Farmington and Farmington Hills finest at the 2017 9/11 Patriots Day Remembrance Ceremony. Photo: Carol Hopson

- Please -

If you have email access, allow me to send your Bulletin to you via email. We can help save the Post the costs of printing and postage. If you do not care to receive the Bulletin at all, perhaps you live out of state, please contact me to discontinue receiving the Bulletin.

Please email Carol Hopson at:
GrovesWalkerPost346@gmail.com

- Thank You -

Some people come into your life as blessings.
Others come into your life as lessons.
- Mother Teresa



If you have paid your 2018 dues, Thank You!

Dues renewal notices first go out in July of each year, then approx. every two months thereafter until paid. Please ignore duplicate renewal notices that may be mailed to you, **please DO NOT send duplicate payments.** These notices are automatically generated by the Department of MI office and may not reflect recent payments. The surest way to make sure your payment is recorded quickly and correctly is to mail it directly to the Post.

If you have received your 2018 card, you are all set! If you have paid but have not yet received your new card, please send an inquiry to your membership chairman:

Legion - Dave Harmon

Auxiliary - Cheryl Fierk

SAL - Eric Welter

call: 248-478-9174

email: GrovesWalkerPost346@gmail.com

Remember, if you have not paid your 2018 dues (Legion \$50, Aux. \$20, Aux. Jr. \$5, SAL \$25, SAL Jr. \$11) yet, your membership is now delinquent and you may lose any continuous years of membership you have accumulated. Post 346 appreciates each and every one of you and values your membership with the American Legion.

Thank you,

Dale Baxter, Legion Commander, Post 346

Leah Brancheau, Auxiliary President, Unit 346

Mark Moulds, SAL Commander, Squadron 346

You may not be aware of all the great **discounts** you can take advantage of as a member of the American Legion! For more information go to - www.legion.org/benefits/all

Lots of discounts are available out there just for being a veteran. Go to our website, click on the page below and scroll to the bottom of that page - www.americanlegionpost346.org/links.html

Hopefully you joined the American Legion because the organization means something to you, because you care about helping our active service-members, veterans and their families.

Because our Post means something to you, a place to meet, share, donate, have fun with family & friends, somewhere to see the big game, or enjoy delicious dinners.

Please show you care about our Post and the American Legion by coming to monthly meetings and contributing your voice to ours, your hands to ours, a bit of your time to ours.

Become an ACTIVE member of Post 346!

TAPS

Gordon E. Ross

August 15, 1940 - January 25, 2016

Gorden was a resident of Livonia, MI. Gorden served in the U.S.Army in the 82nd Airborne Division and was a retired Farmington Hills Police Officer. Gorden was also a 34 year member of American Legion Post 346. He was married to Linda. Funeral Service by R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home Livonia. Memorial contributions may be directed to Angela Hospice.

Janet R. (Gugel) Czerwinski

October 27, 1934 - May 2017

Janet was the second daughter of Fred and Mable Gugel. Janet graduated with six other students from Western High School in 1951; having completed a commercial course. She met and married her husband Ted in 1954. They raised two children: Daughter, Ruth Hoffman and James (Toni). They were blessed with two grand-daughters and three great granddaughters. Survived by Sister, Barbara Naum, three nieces, one nephew and seven great nieces and nephews. Janet was a 54 year member of American Legion Auxiliary Unit 346. Funeral service was May 22, 2017 at the Hope Lutheran Church West Bradenton, FL. Donations in Janet's Memory can be made to Hope Lutheran Church.

Terry A. Roberts

December 1, 1946 - November 4, 2017

Loving husband of Ann for 49 years. Dear brother of Ernie, Floyd, Billy, Jim and Margaret. Dear brother-in-law of Charles Herman who had been a caregiver to Terry for several years. Terry was a former Commander of the Wixom V.F.W. and a 37 year member of the American Legion. He was also an avid golfer and loved his wife and his dog Rascal. He will be missed by all those who knew and loved him. Internment at Great Lakes National Cemetery will occur at a later date.

We would like to express our sincerest condolences to Legion member William (Bill) Ford on the passing of his wife Marian on October 20th.

A Simple Thank You Says A Lot.

If any of our members obtain a donation for the Post from an outside source, toward one of our programs, functions, etc. we would like to sincerely thank the source of that donation with a Thank You card, letter or Certificate of Appreciation from Post 346. Please contact Dale Baxter, Leah Brancheau, Mark Moulds or Carol Hopson to send out a suitable thank you for a generous donation to our Post. A little appreciation can go a long way toward our public image and future donations.



Shown taking part in our annual Holiday Wreath Laying Ceremony are Miss Farmington 2017, SAL Commander Mark Moulds, Finance officer Dave Harmon, Honor Guard Captain Ray Barry and the Civil Air Patrol Honor Guard. Photo: David Buckshaw



Shown taking a break after putting up the Post's annual Christmas manger scene are (L to R) Gene Hatfield, Kevin Griswold, Jim O'Keefe and Burt David. Organizer and photographer: Jim Koponen



Auxiliary and friends gather to wrap a multitude of gifts for the Auxiliary's adopted Christmas family. (L to R) Tammy Festian, Ginny Morris, Virginia, Leah Brancheau, Ann Mellert, Carol Hopson, Miss Farmington 2015 Sidney Schrand, Janet Kurkie, Marya Davis, Lois, Gerry Galinet, and photographer Jen Chinn.

Don't find fault, find a remedy. - Henry Ford

<p><u>January Birthdays</u></p> <p>01 Margaret Buckner 01 Juanita Belanger 01 Dorothy Purdy 03 Dan Heffernan 04 Gary Brewer 08 Helen Currie 09 Jarrett Lott 09 Jim O'Keefe 13 Barbara Piotrowski 13 Judy Sackett 14 Julie Gogowski 15 Ken Balcom 16 Glenn Griffin 17 Susan Duquette 18 David Schwartz</p>	<p>20 Brian Jankowski 21 Dan Festian 22 Tina Gould 23 Libby Christensen 23 Andrew Lysak 24 Marty Chinn 25 Laureen Gogowski 29 Donald Sofferin 29 Elizabeth Dopkowski</p> <p><u>January Anniversaries</u></p> <p>01 Mike & Toni Hughes</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 a veteran who might like to join our Post! Applications are ALWAYS available in the Clubroom.</p>	<p>ADVERTISE IN THE BULLETIN!</p> <p>For more info contact Carol Hopson at: GrovesWalkerPost346@gmail.com</p> <hr/> <p>Members and their guests enjoy free</p>  <p>WiFi in the Clubroom!</p>
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Want to see your name above?
Please contact Carol Hopson at:
GrovesWalkerPost346@gmail.com

January 2018

The Clubroom will be open for all weekend NFL playoff games!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1  New Years Day	2	3	4 Legion & Auxiliary meetings 7:30pm 	5	6
7	8 Coney Night 5:00pm - 7:30pm	9	10	11 SAL meeting 6:30pm 	12	13
14 Aux. Soup'er Sunday supper Noon - 4:00pm 	15 Coney Night 5:00pm - 7:30pm Martin Luther King Jr Day	16	17  Operation Desert Storm began 1991	18 Home Board meeting 7:00pm 	19	20
21	22 Coney Night 5:00pm - 7:30pm 	23	24	25 Exec. Committee meeting 7:00pm 	26	27
28  Coast Guard Bday US - Vietnam Ceasefire 1973	29 Coney Night 5:00pm - 7:30pm	30	31	1 Legion & Auxiliary meetings 7:30pm February	2 Groundhog Day	3



<p><u>February Birthdays</u></p> <p>01 Chris Wasilewski 09 Colleen Pirko 09 Ted Podsiady 13 Tammy Festian 13 Joe Nafe 13 Robert Gould 14 Carol Thompson 20 Dave Franzen 23 Curtis Steelman 24 Christina Gould 25 Aiyana Allen 28 John E Pirko 29 Mike Williams</p>	<p><u>February Anniversaries</u></p> <p>03 Marian & Belaire 20 Gil & Mary Naylor 23 Jim & Debbie Brancheau</p> 	<p><u>Coming up in March</u></p> <p>01 Legion & Aux. meetings 05 Seabee's Birthday 08 Intnatl Women's Day 11 Daylight Savings time begins 13 MI K-9 Veteran's Day 15 American Legion Bday 16 Liberty Day 17 Saint Patrick's Day 20 Spring begins 25 Natl Medal of Honor Day Palm Sunday 29 Vietnam Veterans Day 30 Good Friday</p>	<p>MONDAY CONEY NIGHTS!</p> <p>Every Monday evening in the Clubroom 5:00 pm - 7:30 pm GREAT PRICES! NO Reservations Needed!</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

February 2018

Happy Groundhog Day!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29 Coney Night 5:00pm - 7:30pm	30	31	1 Legion & Auxiliary meetings 7:30pm Freedom Day	2  Groundhog Day	3
4 Clubroom Open!  Superbowl Sunday	5 Coney Night 5:00pm - 7:30pm	6	7	8 SAL meeting 6:30pm 	9	10
11	12 Coney Night 5:00pm - 7:30pm Abraham Lincoln's Birthday	13  Mardi Gras	14  Ash Wednesday Valentine's Day	15 Home Board meeting 7:00pm Susan B. Anthony Day	16 Submission deadline for Mar/Apr Bulletin Chinese New Year of the Dog	17
18	19 Coney Night 5:00pm - 7:30pm President's Day	20	21	22 Exec. Committee meeting 7:00pm George Washington's Birthday	23  Flag raised on Iwo Jima 1945	24
25	26 Coney Night 5:00pm - 7:30pm 	27	28 Persian Gulf War Ceasefire 1991	1 Legion & Auxiliary meetings 7:30pm  March	2	3



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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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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

January/February 2018 Edition



Groves-Walker American Legion Post 346

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

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 at: 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.

Meeting Nights

1st Thur. of each month at 7:30pm: Legion & Auxiliary
2nd Thur. of each month at 6:30pm: SAL
3rd Thur. of each month at 7:00pm: Home Board
4th Thur. of each month at 7:00pm: Exec. Committee

Clubroom Hours

Monday, Wednesday & Friday: 2pm - 9pm
Tuesday & Thursday: 4pm - 9pm
Saturday & Sunday: Closed
(open for scheduled events only)

Contact Info

Email: GrovesWalkerPost346@gmail.com
Phone: 248-478-9174
Website: www.AmericanLegionPost346.org
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