

The Groves-Walker Bulletin

American Legion Post 346 Farmington, Michigan November/December 2023 - Vol. XIV Issue 2



Chartered July 10, 1923 - For God and Country

Meeting Nights

1st Tue of the month 6:30pm: SAL 1st Thu of the month 6:30pm: Legion & Auxiliary 2nd Thu of the month 6:30pm: Legion Riders 3rd Thu of the month 6:30pm: Executive Committee And at 7:30pm: Home Board

Clubroom Hours

Monday - Friday: 4pm - 9pm Sunday: 1pm - 4pm

Contact Info

Clubroom: 248-478-9174 Information: 248-939-4910 GrovesWalkerPost346@gmail.com www.AmericanLegionPost346.org LIKE us on Facebook!

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

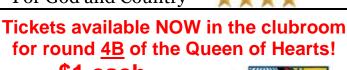
Upcoming 18th District meetings:

Jan 28, 2024 2pm: Stanley J Fons Post 374 2079 W 12 Mile Rd, Berkley, MI 48072

Problems with HVAC or plumbing? Contact Commander Marya first! She has a special contact that may provide drastic savings for veterans and their families.

Michigan's new Distracted Driving (Hands-Free) law went into effect on June 30th. Drivers cannot text, make calls or do anything else that requires them to physically hold a phone while driving. This includes while being stopped at a red light or stop sign. There are very few exceptions (such as to call 911 in an emergency). Remember, simply DO NOT TOUCH your phone while behind the wheel!

We are looking for a few good guest Chefs! If you are interested in being chef for one or more dinners at the Post please contact Eric.



\$1 each

Need not be present to win. More info and E-tickets at: 346Queen@gmail.com



Round 4A was just won by Alan Huet! The Queen was in envelope #11 for a jackpot of \$458! Round 4B starts next week.

Coming Up!

Nov 10 Fri: A group of Legionnaires will be visiting the veterans at American House Senior Living (24400 Middlebelt Rd Farmington Hills), 9:00 am.

- Nov 11 Sat: Post Veterans Day Program.
 11:00 am: Bloody Mary bar,
 12 noon: Short ceremony featuring Post Member of the Year presentation,
 Lunch: approx. 12:30 pm courtesy of Meni.
- Nov 23 Thu: Friendsgiving potluck. Doors open at 12 noon, dinner served approx. 2:00 pm. Come celebrate Thanksgiving with your friends.
- **Dec 02 Sat:** Annual Holiday Wreath Laying Ceremony at the War Memorial Monument downtown, 12 noon. Honor those who, while serving, never made it home for the holidays.
- **Dec 07 Thu:** Legion & Auxiliary meetings 6:30 pm Please bring donations for the annual AUX Mitten Tree (hats, scarves, gloves, socks, etc).
- Dec 09 Sat: Army/Navy game! Annual SAL Chili Cook-off (awards presented during half-time). Doors open at 1:00 pm, game starts at 3:00 pm.
- Dec 22 Fri: Annual Post Holiday Pot-Luck Party. Secret Santa (dollar store gifts please). Doors open at 4:00 pm, if bringing food please come at 3:00 pm.
- Dec 31 Sun: The clubroom will be open beginning at 1:00 pm on New Years Eve.



Nov/Dec 2023 vol. XIV issue 2. The Groves-Walker Bulletin is published 6 times per year. Post 346 membership as of 07/01/23: Legion 155, Auxiliary 93, SAL 90, Total 338

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Groves-Walker Bulletin Editor - Carol Hopson

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Anyone can submit an article for the next Bulletin, including photos (articles may be edited for length and/or content). Articles can be submitted at any time, please don't wait for the deadline of Thursday Dec 21st for the Jan/Feb 2024 issue of the Bulletin.

Fundraisers

Do you have kids or grandkids that have fundraisers coming up through their schools, scout troops, sports teams, clubs, etc? Bring their sign up sheets to the clubroom, we love supporting our kids and our communities!

The Best Kept Secret for helping Vets!

The Michigan Veteran's Trust Fund has helped veterans, their spouses and dependents, of every wartime era overcome unexpected expenses ranging from utility bills to home repairs to mortgage assistance and get back on their feet financially.

To apply for emergency funds from the MVTF, veterans should fill out and submit an Emergency Assistance form here:

https://www.michigan.gov/mvaa/forms/emergencyassistance-form.

Call MVTF: 1-800-MICH-VET or click for more info: <u>https://www.michigan.gov/mvaa/other-benefits-and-resources/panel-state/panel-content</u>

The MVTF can also help the many veterans who are struggling to manage their finances or overcome crippling debt. The goal is to help veterans gain financial stability. Veterans interested in the free financial counseling can call the Michigan Veterans Resource Service Center at 1-800-MICH-VET (642-4838).

Friday November 11, 11:00 am – 1:00 pm Veterans day Celebration at the Costick Center

Event includes honor guard ceremony, recitation of veteran's names and a special luncheon. Veterans that live in Farmington & Farmington Hills attend at no charge but must register at the front desk or by calling 248-473-1830 by <u>Nov. 2nd</u>. No walk-ins, space is limited. Non-resident fee \$12 / \$15

The Costick Center is located at 28600 W. 11 Mile Rd Farmington Hills, MI 48336

Spotlight on our members: Anthony "Bill" Horton

Bill Horton has been a member of Post 346 since 1959 and is currently a Paid-Up-For-Life (PUFL) member. Bill was born on December 6, 1923 which makes this year his 100th Birthday!! In honor of his birthday the Post mailed him a Continuous



Membership Certificate, personal letter from the Commander, a copy of this Bulletin and a birthday card.

Let me tell you a little about Bill's service in the Army during WWII. He served in France, Germany, Belgium and Holland and was part of the D-day Invasion with the 5th Armored Engineering Division. Bill was in the Army Corps of Engineering from 1943 to 1946. He designed, built and blew up bridges. Bill served under General Patton during the Battle of the Buldge. Bill obtained the rank of Sergeant but took a demotion to Private to be able to stay with his Unit.

To Bill and all the brave men and women who served during WWII, a sincere and heart felt, Thank You for your service to our nation.

Every day, memories of World War II are disappearing from living history. According to US Dept. of Veterans Affairs statistics, 119,550 of the 16.1 million Americans who served in World War II are alive as of 2023. Even the youngest are now in their 90's. We currently have five WWII veterans (including Bill) who are members of Post 346.

Hopefully you joined the American Legion because the organization means something to you, because you care about helping our active duty service-members, veterans and their families. Hopefully you joined our Post because it means something to you; a place to meet, share, donate, contribute to our community, have fun with your comrades, to see the big game, relax with friends and family 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!

Please don't forget to send in your 2024 dues soon! For our Junior members: those born on or <u>after</u> January 1, 2006 are still Junior members for 2024. If born <u>before</u> January 1, 2006, these members are now considered adults and will be charged adult dues from Department HQ.



If you are given the gift of growing older, accept it with grace, because not everyone gets it.

Commander's Corner... Post 346 Commander Marya Davis



Time is drawing near to make a decision on our new home. While the primary objective is to buy our own building, it looks as though

we are going to have to take a short-term lease on a smaller property such as in a strip mall. The good news is, that saves us money in the long-run and provides us with the opportunity to do some serious fundraising. Both lease sites that we are looking at have huge parking lots where we could do car shows and cookouts. Anything to bring people in.

I hope everyone is looking forward to the coming year-end gatherings. We know that the holidays can be a tough time for many of us, please remember the Legion is also your family and we care about you.

In Service, Marya Davis, Commander



Mustache Mike D'Arcangelo ran in the Detroit Free Press 1/2 Marathon on Oct. 14. He proudly represented both the Army and Post 346.



God has seen fit to allow us all to remain together, within our American Legion family, to "Serve God and Country" a little longer. No deaths of Post members have been reported to me during the past 2 months.

My 2 Cents... Unit 346 President Carol Hopson

Greetings AUX members,

A short one this time... A great big thank you to all our regulars for not only taking the time

to come down to the Post to socialize and have fun, but also help us by donating most of the Post's everyday needs such as TP, paper towel, cleaning products, paper plates, plasticware, bar snacks, etc. We couldn't stay open without you!

Come on down for our regular weekly get-togethers such as dinner on Mondays with the Queen of Hearts drawing, and Joker Poker on Fridays (we have way too much fun to just call it BINGO).

Please send in your dues for 2024 soon. The membership year is from January 1 to December 31. Wishing you a safe, happy and relaxing fall season, and a great time with family and friends for the holidays!

That's my 2 cents worth, I'm always willing to hear yours, Carol Hopson, President



New Auxiliary member Deborah Ploski is shown at an Action Shooting event on 09/17 proudly wearing our Aux 346 logo on her uniform. Deb belongs to the US Pistol Shooting Assn. (USPSA.org). We are so proud to be included with her other sponsors!



Creativity lies in the everyday. The great ideas come when you're washing the dishes. - Jim Parsons



If you have not yet renewed your membership, please remember that it will expire on Dec. 31, 2023.

There are lots of easy ways to renew!

1) Renew online using your credit card: Legion: www.legion.org/renew Auxiliary: www.alaforveterans.org/renew Sorry, SAL cannot yet renew online.

2) Mail a check to the Post.Attn: (LGN, AUX, SAL) membership.Legion: \$50, please make check payable to:American Legion Post 346.

Auxiliary: \$40, Aux. Jr. \$12, please make check payable to: American Legion Aux. Unit 346. SAL: \$30, SAL Jr. \$15, please make check payable to: Sons of the American Legion Squadron 346.

3) Come to the Post and drop off your dues in person anytime the Clubroom is open. We accept cash, check or credit cards in the clubroom.

4) Come to the next meeting and give your dues to your membership chairman in person.

5) Use the renewal form that was mailed to you from Department headquarters.

Your dues must be paid in full to receive the benefits of membership in our American Legion Post such as service of alcoholic beverages in the Clubroom, a vote on Post issues, or a copy of the Bulletin emailed to you. Don't let the next issue of the Bulletin be your LAST issue, please make sure your 2024 dues are paid.



You may recognize the first line of this poem but, have you ever read it all?

If you can keep your head when all about you Are losing theirs and blaming it on you,

If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you, But make allowance for their doubting too;

If you can wait and not be tired by waiting, Or being lied about, don't deal in lies,

Or being hated, don't give way to hating, And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise:

If you can dream and not make dreams your master; If you can think and not make thoughts your aim; If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster

And treat those two impostors just the same; If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken

Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools, Or watch the things you gave your life to, broken,

And stoop and build 'em up with worn-out tools:

If you can make one heap of all your winnings And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss, And lose, and start again at your beginnings And never breathe a word about your loss; If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew To serve your turn long after they are gone,

And so hold on when there is nothing in you Except the will which says to them: 'Hold on!'

If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue, Or walk with Kings—nor lose the common touch, If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you, If all men count with you, but none too much; If you can fill the unforgiving minute With sixty seconds' worth of distance run,

Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it, And - which is more - you'll be a Man, my son!

- Rudyard Kipling

January is National Blood Donor Month

Legion members everywhere are encouraged to give blood 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. If you decide to donate blood anywhere during the year, please inform our Commander or President so that your donation can be included in our Consolidated Post Report (CPR) and we can receive credit for our Post and Department.



Alan Huet won \$458 on Oct. 23rd by finding the Queen of hearts! Round 4B will begin next week with a new deck!



Dave Kelly was named Recruiter of the Year by Commander Marya Davis at the September meeting.



The "Legiondales" really work had to earn their tips! All tips given on Tuesdays (Riders Bartender Nights) goes to the Legion Riders charitable giving.

Post 346 Legion Chaplain Andy Machcinski

My Fellow Legionnaires:

The long golden days of summer are now behind us, and the season of Thanksgiving and the joy of Christmas are just a breath away! Let us rejoice and thank God for all the days that are to come! With the season



also comes the hope of spring and of rebirth for nature and us all! In preparation for this season let us all remember that it is not what we buy and give as gifts but the love and caring we give, which is much more valuable and lasting! As material things fade, our love for each other, family, friends, fellow Legionnaires and all the devoted women and men who serve in uniform will last forever, never tarnish, and bring HOPE to all! Below is a short prayer:

Dear God, today's a new day, a chance for a new start. Yesterday is gone and with it all regrets, mistakes, or failures I may have experienced. It's a good day to be glad and give thanks, and I do. Thank you for today, a new opportunity to love, give, and be all that you want me to be. Amen.

Regards, Your Chaplain, Andy



The "Legiondales" are Rich Dickson (Gadget) and Dan Jenkins (Newt). Join them on most Tuesday evenings for a fun night!

Patriot Day 9/11 Ceremony



Members of our Legion Riders Chapter 346 were in attendance and looking sharp.



Commander Marya presents Officer of the Year awards to our brave Firefighters, Police and Public Safety Officers.



Post Honor Guard members (L to R) Dan Jenkins, Rich Higginbottom, Phil Carlisle and Captain Ray Barry always put their best foot forward and make us proud.



As always our Auxiliary songbird Myrtle Granger sounds lovely leading everyone in singing "God Bless America".

An inspiring sight. I realize it looks As if the flag is flying upside down (signal of distress) in this photo. But it was, in fact correct per US flag code. Hanging vertically with the field of stars uppermost and to the observer's left. It simply became very windy at the end of the evening as the flag was carefully lowered into the waiting arms of volunteers.





SAL Trunk or Treat 10/14

The bad weather didn't stop us from having a great event indoors (with the help of The Johnny Weekend Co. Vape Shop) for about a hundred of our neighborhood kids!







Our Auxiliary officers have been busy at the Farmers Market downtown letting the public know about the Legion, our Post 346, our upcoming events, selling Queen of Hearts tickets and offering poppies for donations. A big Thank You to <u>Dorothea Baxter, Sue Duquette</u>, Summer Ploski, and Gerry Galinet.

New T-shirts Now Available!



See samples in the clubroom, long sleeves, asst. colors and sizes, \$25 each

The world is filled with nice people. If you can't find one, be one.

Post 346 Membership **Eligibility**



Legion membership eligibility. Veterans or active duty military who have served at least one day of active duty in the US Armed Forces any time after Dec. 7, 1941 AND have been honorably discharged or are still serving. Potential member must present a valid DD-214 (DD-217, DD-256, or DD-257) with membership application.

Auxiliary membership eligibility. 1) Relationship to veteran: Grandmother, mother, sister, daughter, granddaughter, male or female spouse, or self (for female veterans). Per IRS regulations, step-relatives are not eligible. The IRS only allows two degrees of a blood line, so great granddaughters and beyond are not eligible. Potential member must present a valid DD-214 (DD-217, DD-256, or DD-257) of the related veteran with membership application.

2) a) Potential member must be related to a LIVING veteran by one of the relationships stated AND veteran is a current member of the American Legion. b) OR, potential member is related to a DECEASED veteran who served at least one day of active service during eligible time periods (Apr. 6, 1917 to Nov. 11, 1918 and any time after Dec. 7, 1941) AND was honorably discharged. Deceased veteran does not have to have been a member of the American Legion.

Sons of the American Legion membership eligibility.

1) Relationship to veteran: All male descendants adopted sons, and stepsons. Potential member must present a valid DD-214 (DD-217, DD-256, or DD-257) of the related veteran with membership application.

2) a) Potential member must be related to a LIVING veteran by one of the relationships stated AND veteran is a current member of the American Legion. b) OR, potential member is related to a DECEASED veteran who served at least one day of active service during eligible time periods (Apr. 6, 1917 to Nov.11, 1918 and any time after Dec. 7, 1941) AND was honorably discharged. Deceased veteran does not have to have been a member of the American Legion.



Post 346 merchandise makes great gifts! Show your support of our military & veterans

Bracelets are \$5 each, available in the clubroom. Stylish for men and women!



Official Post 346 Bottle Koozie \$5 each, asst. colors, zippered, available in the clubroom



Post 346 Ball caps \$25 each, one color, adjustable size, available in the clubroom

Blue Star & Gold Star Banners Show pride in your family members who are serving now or were KIA. \$5 each, in the clubroom. Banners are available with 1 to 5 Blue Stars (one per family member) or 1 Gold Star (for deceased). Banners measure 14" x 8". Also available from Carol Hopson.



Is it time to replace your old US flag? Don't forget about the Post's flag drop box located at the front of our parking lot. Ensure our US flags are properly disposed of with dignity, patriotism and honor when they reach the end of their serviceable career.



If you would like to obtain hard copv(s) of one (or more) of the Past Commander or Past President photos on display at the Post, they are available for \$10 per 8x10 glossy. Please ask in the clubroom or contact Carol Hopson.



Please report your changes of name, address, phone or email; also member deaths, to your LGN, AUX, or SAL membership chairperson, **Commander or President.**



Request a copy of your DD-214 discharge paperwork here

November Birthdays

03 Dale Mauck 05 Ann Mellert 13 Dan McGrath 14 Mike LaFave 16 Dale Farrell 16 Bridget Lynch 21 Dawn Dupon 22 Gary Fierk 23 Michelle Pitt 24 Claudette Calka 25 Philip Carlisle 25 Stephanie Kettwig 28 Dave Harmon 28 Harvey Lenz

Want to see your name above?



We believe membership applications are something that every Post member should carry with him or her at all times. See membership eligibility requirements on page 7. Legion, Auxiliary and Sons of the Legion applications are ALWAYS available in the clubroom.

ADVERTISE IN THE BULLETIN!

For more info contact Carol at: GrovesWalkerPost346 @gmail.com

TABS FOR TOTS

Please save the aluminum (non-magnetic!) tabs from all your beverage and pulltab containers. Drop off your tabs at the rear door. Funds benefit Ronald McDonald House Charities

National Veterans and

Want to see your name above? Please contact Carol at:			1	2022	National Veterans and	
GrovesWalkerPost346@gmail.com			vember 2023		Military Families Month	
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30 Dinner at the Post 5:30 -7pm Queen Drawing 7:15	31 Halloween	1 All Saints Day	2 Legion & Auxiliary meetings 6:30pm	3 Joker Poker in the clubroom	4
5 Daylight Savings Time ends	6 Dinner at the Post 5:30 -7pm Queen Drawing 7:15	7 SAL meeting 6:30pm Election Day	8	9 Riders meeting 6:30pm	10 Joker Poker in the clubroom Marine Corps <u>Birthday</u> National Auxiliary Birthday	11 Veterans Day Ceremony Beginning at 11:00 am Veterans Day
12	13 Dinner at the Post 5:30 -7pm Queen Drawing 7:15	14	15	16 Exec. Committee <u>meeting 6:30pm</u> Home Board meeting 7:30pm	17 Joker Poker in the clubroom	18 Warthogs Euchre Tournament Registration 3 pm Play 4 pm
19	20 Dinner at the Post 5:30 -7pm Queen Drawing 7:15	21	22	23 Friendsgiving potluck dinner Approx. 2 pm Thanksgiving	24 Joker Poker in the clubroom Black Friday	25
26	27 Dinner at the Post 5:30 -7pm Queen Drawing 7:15	28	29	30	1 Joker Poker in the clubroom December	2 Wreath Laying Ceremony downtown 12 noon





YOU HONORED US WITH YOUR SERVICE. Now let us honor you.



Join us for a complimentary meal and pre-planning briefing to learn about VA burial benefits available. For more information, contact Anthony.Lauri@DignityMemorial.com or 248-804-8493.

We're proud to partner with the Department of Michigan American Legion



Our sincere thanks to the Xemplar Club for their generous donations to the American Legion Boys State & Girls State programs of Michigan!



www.xemplarclub.org

Special Thanks to LaGrasso Bro. Produce for always helping to make Post 346 Dinner Events a delicious success!



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Heeney Sundquist

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> Mark Ziegler President

248-474-5200

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