

NEAL E. FONGER POST 179  
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CURRENT RESIDENT OR

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
GRANDVILLE, MI  
PERMIT NO. 44



1128  
Members

Legion: 497  
Auxiliary: 272  
S.A.L.: 359



# FONGER'S HIGHLIGHTER

DECEMBER, 2017

Member of M.A.L.P.A. • Ruth Buist, Editor

Vol. 27 • Issue 11

## FROM THE COMMANDER . . .

Legion Team:

I have been alluding to our situation in the past newsletters; now I will do my best to spell it out. As a Legion family member you must also think of yourself as a business owner.

With this in mind, you own a building and a clubroom that has utilities, heating and cooling, plumbing, etc. Your clubroom does not have to make a lot of money but it MUST at least break even. Our clubroom is not breaking even very often and OUR building needs repairs. And we have to pay utilities, tax, insurance, etc.

So as co-owners, we cannot just think about ourselves, but the entire family. Our dues are not enough to pay for all this, so we must think as a team how we can generate funds and not expect a handful of people to do it for us. So take a minute and ask yourself "what can I do to benefit my Legion, my business, my family?"

The clubroom has made and will make more changes, to at least hopefully be able to be open some, until we can rebuild it into an at least break-even operation. We are fighting to not close down the clubroom entirely. So again, ask yourself "what can I do?"

ONE TEAM - ONE FIGHT

Mike Hawes, *Commander, Post 179*

**NEW CLUBROOM HOURS:** Sunday: Noon to 7:00 p.m.  
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday: Noon to 9:00 p.m.  
Wednesday: Noon to 11:00 p.m.  
Friday & Saturday: Noon to 11:00 p.m.

## THANK YOU

I just want to take a minute to thank everyone who helped make Veteran's Day weekend a success! I can't thank you all enough from the bottom of my heart. Thank you for your dedication to the Post and for all that you did to make the event run smoothly all weekend. The Post could not have done this without all of you. Thank you to our sponsors Standale Lumber, Heritage Service Centre, Sandy's Doughnuts, The Dutch Bakery, Grand Rapids Bingo Supply, Post 179 Auxiliary, Post 179 S.A.L., Julie Postma for those amazing cupcakes (and much more), those who donated items for each meal and your time to serve the meals, West Michigan Military Round Table Association for the wonderful display, Custom Machining by Farley, and all other donations that made the event possible.

Thank you again!

Jena Wilmers, *Veteran's Day Salute Coordinator*

2017 cards expire December 31.  
Please renew now. Membership has value.

## DECEMBER MEETING DATES

S.A.L. Meeting . . . . . December 4 @ 7:00 p.m.  
Auxiliary Meeting . . . December 11 @ 7:00 p.m.  
Legion Meeting . . . . . December 12 @ 7:00 p.m.  
Legion Riders . . . . . December 17 @ 11:30 a.m.  
Boy Scouts . . . . . Every Tuesday @ 7:00 p.m.

## FROM THE AUXILIARY PRESIDENT . . .

Hello:

What a terrific month our Auxiliary has had with delivering over 400 dictionaries/reference books to third graders at seven schools in Grandville Public Schools. Thank you so much to everyone who gave their time going to all the schools helping with passing out the dictionaries/reference books. It was so much fun!

The Marine Gala Spaghetti Dinner was a huge success! Thank you to everyone who helped prepare, serve and clean up. Thank you to everyone who donated the food because this certainly would not have been successful without all our members!

The Children's Christmas Party is December 9 and lunch will be at Noon. Santa will be arriving after lunch. If you can help with bringing cupcakes for the cakewalk, it would be appreciated.

Our next meeting is our Christmas Potluck with a very short meeting. Spaghetti will be supplied, and please bring a dish to pass. Happy hour is at 6:00 and after the meeting, dinner will be around 6:30 p.m. If you would like to participate in the gift exchange, please bring a \$10.00 gift.

I would like to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Debbie Weatherbee, *President, Auxiliary Unit 179*

Visit our website & Facebook for more news and information:  
[www.americanlegionpost179.com](http://www.americanlegionpost179.com)  
[facebook.com/AmericanLegionNealeFongerPost179](https://www.facebook.com/AmericanLegionNealeFongerPost179)

## WILWIN QUILT PROJECT

We will not be meeting in December. Our next meeting is Sunday, January 21 at 2:00 p.m. We will be arranging blocks to complete the top. Please bring your machines and irons to the meeting. All are welcome! Donations of cotton or cotton blend fabric pieces are always appreciated.

Julie Postma



Printing of this newsletter provided by  
Cook Funeral and Cremation Services



## DECEMBER 2017 CALENDAR

### DAILY SPECIALS

**Big Beer Sunday:** 16 oz. cans \$2.25 / Chicken Ranch Wrap and Fries \$4.50

**Sunday, December 3:** Craft Show, Noon - 4 p.m.

**Sunday, December 10:** Grand Rapids Reptile Show  
10 a.m.-3 p.m., \$5 Adults, \$1 Children

**Sunday, December 10:** Clubroom open 12-6, closing early for Employee Christmas Party

**Sunday, December 24:** Christmas Eve - CLOSED

**Sunday, December 31:** New Year's Eve Party - Ray Townsend  
(Open to the Public)

**Monday Mania:** Regular Hot Dogs \$1.00, / Jumbo Hot Dogs or Polish Dogs \$1.50 / Free Shuffleboard

**Monday, December 25:** Christmas - CLOSED

**Philly Cheese Steak Tuesday:** Philly Cheese Steak \$4.00 / Canned Beer \$1.75 / Free Pool / Bingo, 10:30 a.m.

**Well Wednesday:** \$2.00 Well Drinks / Turkey Reuben \$4.00 / Karaoke with George Gregory 7-11 p.m.

**Taco Thursday:** Hard or Soft Tacos \$2.00 / Small Burrito \$5.50 / Large Burrito \$6.50

**Thursday, December 28** - Wine & Canvas, 6:30 p.m. in the hall

**Red Shirt Friday:** Chicken Strips with Fries \$5.00 / Red Shirt Day - 25¢ off all drinks when wearing a red shirt to support our troops / Bingo, 10:30 a.m. / Team Trivia

**Saturday, December 9:** Children's Christmas Party, starts at Noon

**Saturday, December 16:** Coin Show, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. (Open to the Public)

**Saturday, December 30:** Carl Webb

### HAPPY HOUR 3-6 P.M. MONDAY-FRIDAY!

*Happy Hour is real time, not bar time*

**\$5.00** Pitchers / **\$2.00** Well Shot & Pop /

**\$2.00** Glass of Wine / **\$2.00** 16 oz. Miller Lite, 16 oz. Coors, 16 oz. Coors Light, 16 oz. Bud & 16 oz. Bud Light

## FROM THE 179 RIDERS . . .

Greetings and Happy Holidays from the 179 Riders! As the year is wrapping up, we look back on some wonderful things from this year. We had a visit, at our November meeting, from the K9 Companion Club. We donated the money to have a fence installed for a Veteran family. We are always truly honored and humbled to be able to help Veterans in our community.

We were also proud to have helped distribute the dictionaries for all of the 3rd grade students in Grandville! This project was headed by the Ladies' Auxiliary, and we were proud to have been able to contribute to this, and to help further the education of young minds in our community.

We will be holding elections in December, and we have a great slate of nominees that are going to help to keep moving us in a positive direction. Following that meeting, on December 17, we will be having a potluck dinner in the clubroom for all to enjoy. So come on up and have some of the turkey dinner with us!

The Ride Committee is diligently working on planning the 4th Annual Veterans Memorial Ride in Memory of Doug DeRidder. This ride will take place on June 2, 2018. If you would like to help or become a sponsor, please let us know. We want to make this ride even bigger and better than before, and together as a Legion family, we can do it! One Team, One Fight!

We hope that you have the safest and happiest of Holidays!

*The 179 Legion Riders*

## FROM THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION COMMANDER . . .

It is time to renew your membership for 2018. Please write legibly and include your phone number, email (if you have one) and your birth date. National is asking us to collect the birth dates for determining the average age of members and for the potential of establishing a lifetime membership and any costs that may be associated.

This year's celebrations for Veteran's Day and the two days preceding, were really fantastic, and if you missed partaking in any of the activities at the Post you really missed out. A big thank you can be given to Jena for her tireless efforts in organizing the activities over the three days.

As we enter this 2017 Holiday season, be safe in all your travels. Have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Remember that the S.A.L. meetings are held the first Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. and our next meeting will be Monday, December 4, 2017. The first S.A.L. meeting of 2018 will be on Monday, January 8, 2018, due to New Year's Day being on a Monday.

**Roger Meyers, S.A.L. Commander, Squadron 179**

## CHRISTMAS BLESSING FAMILIES

We are collecting items for the following to bless these families at Christmas time. We are looking to provide each family with a ham, or turkey, along with items to make a complete christmas dinner. We also will be collecting items for the families as follows:

### Family 1 - 3 adults

**Male, Age 70**

Top size: L / Bottom size: 34x28

Want(s): Indoor BBQ you can plug in (George Foreman)

Need(s): blue jeans, brown leather gloves. \*Needs help financially with a gas bill - \$100 behind.

### Female, Age 58

Top size: L / Bottom size: Large Long

Want(s): Slippers, 8.5 shoe - broke her ankle a couple of weeks ago and would like something to easily slip on.

Need(s): blankets, groceries

### Male, Age 19

Top size: L / Bottom size: L

Want(s): Basketball shorts, hoodies

Need(s): shirts, socks size 10, blanket while away at college.

### Family 2 - Army for 12 years Transportation and VIP Chauffeur & food service.

Female, Age 60

Top size: 12/14 Lg or XL / Bottom size: 14

Favorite color: Blues, Turquoise, Yellow, Coral, Red

Want(s): Cash to help with financial, toys for dogs, shirts and pants / Has two dogs, cocker spaniels 14/15 years old

Need(s): vehicle

### Family 3 - 2 adults 1972-1978 Vietnam Veteran (Marine)

**Male, Age 65**

Top size: Med / Bottom size: 35/36

Favorite color: Burgundy & Teal

Want(s): Loves Music but doesn't have a listening device

Need(s): blankets

### Male, Age 38

Top size: Large / Bottom size: 34 L 36 belt

Favorite color: Blue

Want(s): Gift card for dinner/movie

Need(s): undershirts, socks, underwear

### Family 4 - 1 adult

**Male, Age 84**

Top size: XL

Need(s): 12/13 size socks, shirts, shoes that have Velcro across the top, groceries, and gift cards.

**PLAY BINGO TUESDAY & FRIDAY MORNINGS**  
**Sales start at 9:30 • Play starts at 10:30**