

NEAL E. FONGER POST 179
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CURRENT RESIDENT OR

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



1128
Members



Legion: 482
Auxiliary: 270
S.A.L.: 324



FONGER'S HIGHLIGHTER

JULY/AUGUST, 2018

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

Vol. 28 • Issue 7

FROM THE COMMANDER . . .

Happy July everyone,

I hope this newsletter finds you all well as we move into the second half of the year (yes, unfortunately it is the second half of 2018 already!).

I recently attended my first Department Convention June 21st-24th and I was left with many great memories. I learned so much information and I was deeply honored to be a delegate to the 100th convention of the American Legion.

Out-going Commander Brett Holt's farewell speech was moving and very insightful. Commander Holt's words as he bid Department farewell encouraged all Posts and the entire American Legion Department of Michigan, not to be afraid of change.

Commander Holt said, "Change can be a difficult thing for some of us to go through, but thinking that just because something has always been done a certain way, doesn't mean that it is still the best way".

Every organization grows, evolves and adapts to the world around it. As we continue to expand on the mission of the American Legion, and the mission of Post 179, remember that your Post cannot be successful without your help.

We are all lucky to be a part of this historic organization that turns 100 years old next year, but we are also very fortunate to have so many dedicated volunteers throughout this Post. I am always humbled when I see how hard you and other members of Post 179 work in the service of one another and the good we accomplish when we come together.

New and exciting fundraisers are on the horizon, the resurrection of American Legion programs and new opportunities to serve Veterans and our community are happening now. Stop into the Post, call or email your Post officers to find out how you can help support your Legion!

Scott Mullarkey, Commander, Post 179

BREAKFAST AT POST 179

Did you know we have a breakfast one Sunday a month? This is a Post Family fundraiser to get the appearance of the hall updated. This is a volunteer opportunity for each group to get a crew of 4-6 for preparing breakfast once a month, and have fun! Two crackpots, Julie Postma and Sheila Manning, will take care of buying food and bringing supplies! Proceeds from sale will go toward new paint, curtains to hide flaws of the hall, trim, flooring, round tables. Let's all work together to get the hall to be the income earner we all know it can be!

Eggs, Sausage Links, Potato Cubes, and Pancakes
with Juice, Water and Coffee.

ADULTS - \$7.00 • KIDS UNDER 10 - \$3.00

The next Breakfast is Sunday, September 23 - 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

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

POKER ROOM NEW HOURS:

11:30 a.m. - 11:30 p.m. starting Monday, July 9th
Cash Tables with Tournament starting at 7:00 p.m.

JULY MEETING DATES

S.A.L. Meeting July 2 @ 7:00 p.m.
Legion E-Board Meeting July 10 @ 7:00 p.m.
Legion Riders July 29 @ 11:30 a.m.
Boy Scouts Every Tuesday @ 7:00 p.m.

AUGUST MEETING DATES

S.A.L. Meeting August 6 @ 7:00 p.m.
Legion E-Board Meeting August 14 @ 7:00 p.m.
Legion Riders August 26 @ 11:30 a.m.
Boy Scouts Every Tuesday @ 7:00 p.m.

FROM THE AUXILIARY PRESIDENT . . .

Hello Auxiliary Unit 179! I am Sheila Manning, the new Auxiliary President for 2018-2019. As of this writing, the Annual American Legion Auxiliary Convention has just happened. Unit 179 submitted items and narratives for awards for our programs. We came home with five awards: One Historian award; Two education awards - Most Outstanding Unit Education Program and Give 10 to Education; Two Public Relations citations! Check out pictures on the unit Facebook page - MI American Legion Auxiliary Unit 179.

The two outstanding delegates the unit sent to Girls State also did amazing things! At American Legion Auxiliary Girls State, high school female students who have completed their junior year are competitively selected to participate in a seven-day mock government program where they learn about civics and American government in a fast-paced, interactive program of campaigning, debating, voting, and electing mock local and state leaders. One delegate was voted a Supreme Court Justice, and the other was voted in as a member of the House of Representatives. We are looking forward to the girls coming to a meeting to tell us of their week, will keep you updated.

Don't forget to mark your calendars for Saturday, July 28, at 10:00 a.m. for the Carnival at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans. The Carnival is a gathering where many Veteran geared organizations get booths to give residents things they may need. Music, games, food, is what makes the atmosphere of a Carnival! The outpouring of support that is given to our Veterans is heart warming. This is an awesome way to spend a few hours helping the residents visit booths at this event, so please consider volunteering at this event.

Our Post Picnic is Saturday, August 18, 1:00 to 6:00 p.m. Grilled Chicken (light & dark meat) & hot dogs will be available from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

I would enjoy meeting our members who haven't attended a monthly meeting in a while on September 10 at 7:00 p.m. in the hall! Let's see what we can accomplish together!

Feel free to contact me for any questions or concerns via Facebook, messenger, email, or even smoke signal!

Sheila Manning, President, Auxiliary Unit 179
auxpres@americanlegionpost179.com



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JULY/AUGUST 2018 CALENDAR

DAILY SPECIALS

Sunday: \$5 Meal Deal: Meal of the day with 1 Well Drink or 12 oz. Can of Beer

Sunday, July 8: Grand Rapids Reptile Show 10 a.m.-3 p.m., \$5 Adults, \$1 Children

Sunday, August 12: Grand Rapids Reptile Show 10 a.m.-3 p.m., \$5 Adults, \$1 Children

Monday Madness: 16 oz. Beer \$2.25 / Jumbo Hot Dogs or Polish Dogs \$1.50 / Free Shuffleboard

Taco Tuesday: Free Pool / \$1.50 Margaritas / Hard or Soft Tacos \$2.00 / Small Burrito \$5.50 / Large Burrito \$6.50 / Bingo, 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday, July 3 – Beer, Bands and BBQ Event, Downtown Grandville, 4-11 p.m.

Well Wednesday: \$2.00 Well Drinks / Chicken Teriyaki Sandwich \$4.00 / **Karaoke 6-10 p.m.**

Wednesday, July 4 – Car & Bike Show, Noon-4 p.m. – Open to the Public

Thirsty Thursday: \$1.00 Drafts (Excludes Tap A & B)

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.

Friday, July 13: Bike Night / Greg Poltrock, 7-11 p.m.

Friday, July 27: Fred Kacos, 7-11 p.m.

Friday, August 10: Bike Night / Charlie Rockits, 7-11 p.m.

Friday, August 24: Carl Webb, 7-11 p.m.

Saturday, July 14: Coin Show, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Saturday, August 11: Coin Show, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Saturday, August 18: Post 179 Picnic, 1-6 p.m.

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

Raffle Tickets go on sale soon for the Jack of Diamonds Progressive Card Raffle.

You can read the house rules online at www.americanlegionpost179.com/raffle



JOIN US FOR A GREAT TIME AT THE POST 179 PICNIC

SATURDAY, AUGUST 18

1:00 P.M. TO 6:00 P.M.

(Grilled Light & Dark Chicken & Hot Dogs available 1:00 'til 4:00)

Please bring your favorite dish to pass.

GAMES FOR ALL AGES, ENTERTAINMENT, RAFFLES MUSIC 2-6 P.M.

MEMBERS AND IMMEDIATE FAMILY WELCOME! PLEASE RSVP BY AUGUST 10 (SEE BELOW)

Please contact Melissa at 616-438-5645 if you would like to donate any items for the raffles.

PICNIC RSVP – PLEASE REPLY BY AUGUST 10 IN THE CLUBROOM OR ON OUR WEBPAGE – www.americanlegionpost179.com/RSVP

Member's Name _____

Legion Auxiliary S.A.L. Number attending _____

FROM THE COMMANDER . . .

Legion Family!

July is starting off with a Bang!

I want to thank all of our volunteers who have worked so hard to run our fireworks tent this year! Your efforts have raised a lot of money for Post 179 and the Boy Scouts!

We have 2 huge events July 3rd and 4th as we work with the community on Grandville's annual Beer, Bands and BBQ. Your Legion family will be serving up beer in the Beer Tent all day long. Stop out and support your Post!

July 4th, we have the second annual car show at the Post. Stop out and see what amazing cars and trucks we have at your Post this year!

July 14th will be an exciting day as we host another Commander Takeover! Your Commander, along with the Veterans at the Johnson-Brower Foundation are working together to put on a day of entertainment at your Post. All tips and donations from this event will go to the Johnson-Brower Foundation. This local non-profit provides specialized therapy, counseling and coaching for Veterans in the West Michigan area. Come out Saturday the 14th and have the Commander serve you a drink!

Are you a member of this Post with a passion for an American Legion program that you want to see run here at Post 179? Do you know or work with a great Veteran's charity that you can connect with our Post? Email me at Commander@americanlegionpost179.com and let's work on it together.

Our Post can only be what we make it and we will only get out of the American Legion what we put into it. Your Post officers are here to help work with every member to make this Post the best it can be. I hope to work with you all soon!

Scott Mullarkey, Commander, Post 179

Visit our website and Facebook for more news and information:

www.americanlegionpost179.com

facebook.com/AmericanLegionNealEFongerPost179

TO OUR VALUED CLUB MEMBERS OF POST 179,

The Clubroom Committee has been working very hard to improve the clubroom for your enjoyment. Some of the improvements and changes are necessary to incur profit to be able to keep the clubroom open to continue to serve you.

Effective July 1st, 2018 the clubroom will be increasing prices. You may have questions as to why this increase is occurring. Our answer to you is this:

- Minimum Wage has increased \$2/hour in the last two years and will continue to go up.

- Our suppliers have increased the cost of goods to account for their increased labor costs. Post 179 did not increase their prices to balance out these increases, which are federally mandated. Due to this, the clubroom has needed financial assistance from the Legion to stay afloat.

In an effort to ensure the future of this Post, and to continue to serve you, these changes are necessary. If you would like more information, please consider attending a Clubroom Committee Meeting on the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at the Post.

We hope you have a great day.

Sincerely,

The Clubroom Committee (Glenn Dys, Brian Beaty, Mardi VanFarowe, Roger Meyers, & Diane Hamilton)

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.

FROM THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION COMMANDER . . .

Summer is here and that means that it is time for the Annual S.A.L. College Scholarship application process. Scholarship applications for the 2018-2019 academic year will be available August 1, 2018, from the bartender. Scholarships must be returned to the S.A.L. Commander by August 31, 2018, for consideration.

Don't forget to volunteer for the Post picnic coming up in August. The summer picnic at the Post is always a good time and is a great time to renew your membership for next year. So come on out, enjoy the picnic, renew your membership, and avoid the year end rush for membership renewal.

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, July 2, 2018. The August meeting is Monday, August 6, 2018.

Bruce "Bones" Postma, S.A.L. Commander, Squadron 179