



VooDoo News

American Legion Post 4 News
Issue 59 Spring 2024

**Post 4 Officers
2023—2024**

**Post 4 Commander
Tim Shosey (586) 808-2580**



Commander

Tim Shosey

1st Vice Commander

Rich Poole

2nd Vice Commander

Dennis Rosta

Adjutant

Augie Miele

Finance Officer

Jerry Stalker

Chaplain

Dan Litz

Historian

Dave Dutcher

Sgt. at Arms

Mike Parr

Executive Committee

Kenny Miller

Don Onyskow

Tony Price

Dan Litz Jr.

**Judge Advocate/
Service Officer**

Doug Carignan

SAL Commander

Doug Carignan

ALR Director

Mark Kolatski

Happy Spring. It has once again been a great year as your Commander. We have worked well together the past year and I would like to thank the Membership, Executive Board, the Sons of American Legion (S.A.L), the American Legion Riders and the Employees for all the hard work and support, and I look forward to the upcoming year.

Two special days are coming up soon. Memorial Day Services will be on May 26th, starting at 9:00am with coffee and donuts. Post wreath services at 10:00am, and then at Harry Ollrich's grave site at Clinton Grove Cemetery at 10:30am, and 11:00 am. at the Veterans section in Clinton Grove,

then over to the Mt. Clemens Fire Station for services at the Veterans Memorial area. On Sunday June 9th at 1:00pm, at Post 4 our flag retirement ceremony for retired flags takes place. When a flag is in such bad condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, it should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning. If you have never attended, it is worth seeing. The Naval Sea Cadets and our Post put on quite a fitting ceremony for the retirement of old flags. Thank again for supporting your American Legion and I'm looking forward to serving as your Commander for one more year! Hope to see you around the Post.

American Legion Post 4

401 N. Groesbeck Hwy., Mt. Clemens, MI 48043

Lounge/Hall (586) 469-9271

Email: amlpost4@gmail.com

Website: americanlegionpost4mi.com

Post 4 Adjutant
Augie Miele (586) 202-0646



Election of officers for 2023-2024

At the General Membership Meeting held March 25, 2024, nominations and acceptance for new Officers for Post #4 were held, they are as follows: Commander Timothy Shosey, First Vice Commander Richard Poole, Second Vice Commander Dennis Rosta, Adjutant August Miele, Finance Officer Gerald Stalker, Historian David Dutcher, Sergeant at Arms Michael Parr, Chaplin Daniel Litz and Executive Committee: Anthony Price,

Donald Onyskow, Dan Litz, Jr. and Kenneth Miller.

Since there is no opposition, the Adjutant August Miele will cast one unanimous vote for all candidates at the General Membership meeting on April 27th.

The American Legion Membership year goes from June to June. I am proud to proclaim that Post 4 has reached **100%**.

As always, looking forward to seeing you at a meeting.

Post 4 Judge Advocate / Service Officer
Doug Carignan (586) 484-4354



.From the Judge Advocate

The Lounge Committee recently discussed and made a change in the Lounge Committee Rules. This change was passed by the Executive Board and moved forward to the Post membership at the March meeting and was passed. The change was made in the following:

ARTICLE VIII – HALL PRICING and RULES

SECTION 3: The reserving parties will be responsible for obtaining their own catering (if applicable). All catering companies must be licensed and insured. Catering companies will not be allowed the use of the hall kitchen for any reason.

As with any of our Constitution and By-Laws, Standing Rules, Lounge Rules, you can have an officer of the Post to print you a copy, or on the Post 4 web-site under the heading of "Constitution and By-Laws, Standing Rules".

From the Service Officer

The Department of Michigan Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation office in Detroit has a new phone number **(833) 648-3826 press 1** for the Legion. This new number will help to get you to the right VSO, as the VVA, VFW, and the DAV are all in the same office. The Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation office also have a website; **www.miveteranbenefits.org**

I will post the new flyer on the board in the Post. **The PACT Act** is a law that expands VA health care and benefits for Veterans exposed to burn pits, Agent Orange, and other toxic substances. This law helps us provide generations of Veterans—and their **survivors**—with the care and benefits they've earned and deserve. And starting **March 5, 2024**, we're expanding VA health care to millions of Veterans—years earlier than called for by the PACT Act.

This page (**www.VA.gov**) will help answer your questions about what the PACT Act means for you or your loved ones. You can also call us at **(800) 698-2411 (TTY: 711)**. And you can file a claim for PACT Act-related disability compensation or apply for VA health care now.

SAL Commander

Doug Carignan (586) 484-4354



The Squadron would like to thank those who helped making the Mexican Dinner/Euchre night a success. The food was awesome. So a big thank you to Mark K. and his crew who cooked and served. Thank you to Scott H. and Greg C. for running the euchre program upstairs.

The Squadron Adjutant would like you know that when paying your membership dues if you can pay them at the Post or mail to:

SAL Squadron 4
401 N. Groesbeck Hwy
Mt. Clemens, MI 48043

Dues are \$30.00 for over 21, \$15.00 under 21

Please drop your dues in the SAL mail box.

The Adjutant would also like you not to pay online, it takes a while for the Squadron to get paid from Lansing, thus in you getting your membership card.

In March we had our nominations of officers for the coming year. They are as follows:

Commander – Kevin Clinton

1st Vice Commander – Michael Tances

2nd Vice Commander – Bill Wilson

Adjutant – Scott Hudolin

Chaplain – Frank Kolatski

Historian – Steve Wright

Sgt.-at-Arms – Greg Charbineau

Mike Seaton

Voting will take place on Monday, April 15, 2024

Voting will only be for the office of Sgt.-at-Arms

It was an honor to serve the Squadron as its Commander this past year, and I wish the incoming officers the best of luck. Congratulations.

Always remember that we are the proud possessors of a priceless heritage. We are male descendants of United States military veterans and associate ourselves together as the "Sons of the American Legion" to assist in carrying on for God and Country!



Support your lounge and enjoy all that it has to offer.

Cold Beer anyone? Come check out our daily specials.

Food is available everyday until 1 hour before closing time.

DAILY SPECIALS



Daily: 18oz Domestic Draft \$1.75 (4:00p - 6:00p)

Tuesday: Wine & Well Drinks \$1.75

Wednesday: Mug Day - 24oz Domestic Draft \$3.00

Thursday: Domestic Beer \$1.50



Post 4 Patriot Team Honor Guard Commander **Mike Parr (586) 612-9780**



We are a volunteer group honored to give tribute to our fallen Comrades. Every Veteran is entitled to our services. While ceremonies may vary somewhat according to the needs of the loved ones, each includes a reading, the folding and presentation of the United States Flag, Rifle Volley, and TAPS. We are flexible and will travel out of Macomb County. There is no fee for our services, but we do accept donations. You can reach us through a funeral director or by calling Mike Parr at (586) 612-9780.

Interested in becoming a member of the Patriot Team Honor Guard? Any member of Post 4 qualifies as long as you are willing and able to serve in all types of weather. All current members are trained and certified with the Department of Defense as an Authorized Provider in the Military Funeral Honors Program. We meet at Post 4 on the third Thursday of each month at 5:30 PM. We encourage you to attend a meeting for more information.

ALR Director

Mark Kolatski (586) 567-8964



Greetings Post 4 family. Spring has sprung, Michigan style anyways. So what have the Riders been up to since we last wrote. Well, we've had our monthly Breakfast, which have been well attended. Thank you for all that have come by. We hope you walked away full. For those that haven't had a chance to attend one of our monthly Breakfast you are missing out. You still have one more chance to come on by. Our last Breakfast of the season is Sunday April 7. We serve from 8:00am to Noon. The cost, a mere \$10 for all you can eat. A couple of our Riders attended Honorary Junior President Abby Jones charity fundraiser for Guardian Angel Dogs where we presented checks from the Riders and SAL Squadron 4. Her goal is to raise money to place 2 dogs with those that need it, approximately \$25,000 is needed. She's raised over half of that already. Listening to the stories of those that have received a dog for this charity are truly heartwarming. We also had 4 riders at-

tend our friends from Leslie Post 491 Polar Bear Run which benefits Make a Wish Foundation. The weather was sketchy but the cause and the chance to visit with other Legion Riders and visit other Posts was great. What up next for our Legion Riders? Well our 4th Annual Blessing of The Bikes is April 28, 2024. This is the biggest event of the year at Post 4. Though out the year we have several in the motorcycle community ask us when is next years event? We are developing quite a reputation for throwing a great event. We already know there's no party like a Post 4 party. This event wouldn't be possible without all the volunteers that help out. Once again, we will be calling on the Post 4 family to help out. We will be having a meeting for those that would like to volunteer coming up soon. Keep an eye out for that if you'd like to help. As for the rest of the Spring we will continue to seek out events and rides that support the causes we hold dear to our hearts, plus throw in a few rides just to ride.

Welcome

New Post 4 Legion Members

Russell Aelo	Steven Grank	Duane Michno	Arthur Rucinski
Shawn Barton	Rudolf Knoedl	Anthony Tocco	Sam Leonardi
Richard Botimer	Sherry LaFrance	Vince Ellavich	Frank Leonardi
Gregory Callis	Dennis Myers	Roger Oxie	Joseph Zutz
Charles Charbeneau	Joseph Pietzyk	Mathew Duke	Mathew Hays
Val Condar	David Riviera	Nicholas Rowland	Daniel Skover
Martin Costa	Johnnie Patterson	Dennis Shagena	James Patrick
Timothy Denlong	Douglas Pavlick	John Snodgrass	Garrett Hoffor
Charles Dettloff	Douglas Polancih	John Probst	William Potts
Dennis Denton	Robert Thomas	Raymond White	Raymond Lafave
Douglas Faucher	John Skok	David Pilon	Zigmund Stancavage
Michael Frontera	Ronda Warren	Jacques Smith	Henry Denlof
Larry Gilbert	Lewis Weathers	Steven Smith	Evan Morales
Frank Lannotti	William Weir	Keith Koegner	Gary Zmudczynski

New Post 4 SAL Members

Joe A Arnold Jamey Gunter Nigel Dew Robert Lindsay Frank Perzanowski

Post 4 Chaplain
Dan Litz



We are looking forward to sunny skies and warm days. I hope all had a warm winter and stayed healthy so far.

We will have a lot going on this year so keep up with reading the VooDoo News.

Please thank God for your blessings during our difficult times. Don't complain about what we don't have.

President John Adams once said;

"There is no such thing as human wisdom; all is the providence of God:

May the good Lord bless us all!

May the strength of God sustain us;

May the power of God preserve us;

May the hands of God protect us;

May the way of God direct us;

May the love of God go with us forever

Post 4 Historian

Dave Dutcher (248) 930-5682



Helping the Homeless Community

Mr. Don Onyskow, a U.S.Navy veteran, administers a backpack program for the homeless community focusing primarily on veterans but not a single person is turned down in their time of need. This labor of love is run out of his basement all for the love of his fellow man. Don Onyskow does not ask for nor look for any recognition for this endeavor. In fact, he has constantly fought against having any praise thrown at him. Don does this out of love for his brothers and sisters of this great nation who have fallen on tough times through no fault of their own or have chosen to live homeless by choice.

Don praises the entire volunteer corps that help him keep the program moving forward. The program relies and depends on donations of products, monetary funds, and time. The volunteers pack the bags in an assembly line style operation in Don's basement. Each pack contains approximately seventy-five articles that a person would need from personal hygiene products to items that keep the mind active like crossword puzzle books.

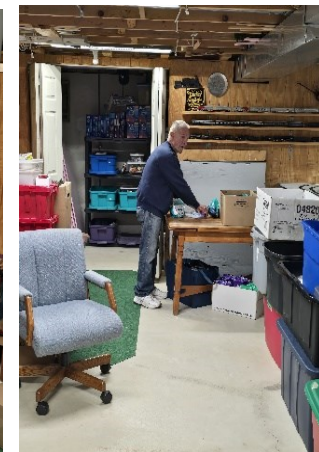
In the last 2.5 years, 330 backpacks have been issued out of the basement and transported to the distribution center by Mr. Walter Setters.

The genesis of the project was Don's daughter-in-law, Christy Onyskow. During the Covid-19 outbreak, Christy was handing out backpacks from her own vehicle but was told to cease and desist due to security concerns about her handing out backpacks from her trunk. Don told her that he would take over and assume the responsibility for getting the backpacks to the masses that needed relief with his network of community contacts. As stated earlier, Don does not wish for the recognition but deflects it to the myriad of team members that donate their time and labor.

What made this a Labor of Love for him was getting to see the impact of his efforts first hand and seeing how much this act of generosity and kindness had on one veteran with his own eyes.

Thank You Don Onyskow and to those that donate to this program. I know that it makes it a little easier to manage on a day-to-day basis for our brothers and sisters.

The pictures of the volunteers in this article are just a sample of the volunteers that show up and help. There are too many names to put in this article for acknowledgement.



Upcoming Events

Jack of Spades Drawing Every Tuesday @ 7:30p
Euchre Every Thursday @ 1:00p & 7:00p

April

- 1 6:30p - ALR Meeting
- 3 11:00a - 6:30p - Spaghetti Dinner
- 7 8:00a - 12:00p - ALR Breakfast
- 8 5:30p - Executive Board Meeting
- 11 5:30p - Lounge Comm. Meeting
- 15 6:30p - SAL Meeting
- 16 7:30p - Final Drawing for Jack of Spades
- 18 5:30p - Honor Guard Meeting
- 20 5:00p - Steak Out
- 22 7:00p - General Membership Meeting
- 28 10:00a - 4:00p - Blessing of the Bikes

May

- 1 11:00a - 6:30p - Spaghetti Dinner
- 6 6:30p - ALR Meeting
- 9 5:30p - Lounge Comm. Meeting
- 13 5:30p - Executive Board Meeting
- 16 5:30p - Honor Guard Meeting
- 18 5:00p - Steak Out
- 20 6:30p - SAL Meeting
- 26 9:00a - Memorial Day Services
- 27 7:00p - General Membership Meeting

June

- 3 6:30p - ALR Meeting
- 5 11:00a - 6:30p - Spaghetti Dinner
- 9 1:00p - Flag Retirement Ceremony
- 10 5:30p - Executive Board Meeting
- 13 5:30p - Lounge Comm. Meeting
- 17 6:30p - SAL Meeting
- 20 5:30p - Honor Guard Meeting
- 24 7:00p - General Membership Meeting

**Let Post 4 be the host for your next event.
Our newly redecorated halls can accommodate from
20 to 150 people.
Call for our hall rental and catering prices
(586) 469-9271**



From the Web Coordinator

The VooDoo News is published quarterly by the American Legion Post 4. Members receive this publication as part of their dues. To insure you keep receiving your copy, make sure we have a current email address on file. If your email address has changed notify the post by calling or email at: **amlpost4@gmail.com**. For those people that don't have access to the internet, copies of the VooDoo News are also available at the post.

Please visit our website for additional information and events happening at the post. Please note that the "Upcoming Events" are subject to change due to conflicts and scheduling changes. For the most up to date calendars, visit the website and click on the "Event Calendar" tab. The website address is: **www.americanlegionpost4mi.com**

