

Edward C. Headman American Legion Post 217

“News & Views”

From the Biggest “Little” Post in Michigan and M.A.L.P.A. 3rd Place Newsletter Award Winner

Newsletter Editors - Bob & Cari Ann Salamon (newsandviews217@gmail.com)

March - April 2018 Issue

Member of M.A.L.P.A and N.A.L.P.A.

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Commander
Bob Salamon

Sr. Vice Cmdr.
Mike Huber

Jr. Vice Cmdr.
RoseAnn Rudisill

Adjutant
Jeff McGinnis

Financial Officer
Pete Kalil

Historian
Ed Gorecki

Chaplain
Wayne (Bud) Shoup

Sgt. of Arms
Don LaCroix

Judge Advocate
Bob Mayrand

Service Officer
Steve Mango

Past Commander
Ed Gorecki

Exec. Comm.
John Cook
Martin Gore
Norm Martin
Frank Simon
Doug Williams

--As you read this article, try to guess who wrote it and when. Was it someone currently or in the past? The answer is on page 3 of this newsletter. - Commander Bob.

RESPECT THE FLAG

When you see the Stars and Stripes displayed, son, stand up and take off your hat. Somebody may titter. It is in the blood of some to deride all expression of noble sentiment. You may blaspheme in the street and stagger drunken in public places, and the bystanders will not pay much attention to you; but if you should get down on your knees and pray to Almighty God, or if you should stand bareheaded while a company of old soldiers marches by with flags to the breeze, some people will think you are showing off.

But don't you mind! When Old Glory comes along, salute, and let them think what they please! When you hear the band play "The Star-Spangled Banner" while you are in the restaurant or hotel dining room, get up even if you rise alone; stand there and don't be ashamed of it either!

For of all the signs and symbols since the world began there is none other so full of meaning as the flag of this country. That piece of red, white and blue bunting means five thousand years of struggle upward. It is the full-grown flower of ages of fighting for liberty. It is the century plant of human hope in bloom.

Your flag stands for humanity, for an equal opportunity to all the sons of men. Of course we haven't arrived yet at that goal; there are many injustices yet among us, many senseless and cruel customs of the past still clinging to us, but the only hope of righting the wrongs of men lies in the feeling produced in our bosoms by the sight of that flag.

Other flags mean a glorious past, this flag a glorious future. It is not so much the flag of our fathers as it is the flag our children, and of all children's children yet unborn. It is the flag of tomorrow. It is the signal of the "Good Time Coming.: It is not the flag of your king--it is the flag of yourself and of all your neighbors.

Don't be ashamed when your throat chokes and the tears come, as you see it flying from the masts of our ships on the seas or floating from every flagstaff of the Republic. You will never have a worthier emotion. Reverence it as you would reverence the signature of the Deity.

Listen, Son! The band is playing the national anthem -- "The Star-Spangled Banner!" They have let loose Old Glory yonder. Stand up -- and others will stand with you.

This tribute to the flag is offered to the country in appeal to all men and women of all races, colors and tongues that they may come to understand that our flag is the symbol of liberty and learn to love it.



FROM THE COMMANDER

Well, this will be my last column as Commander of Post 217. It has been a great three years and I thank all who have supported me. Although, I may be stepping down as commander, I will still be here to work and assist those who are elected your new officers; if they so choose to ask for my help and services. We have accomplished a lot in the past three years, remodeling the Post inside and out. But I am most proud of the fact the Legion Family at our Post is working together again for the principles of the American Legion. All the Americanism Awards on the walls upstairs reflects the hard work and perseverance of all in support of the four pillars of the American Legion. Please, do not let my departure as Commander stop this post from continually supporting Veterans, the community and its children and youth. Thank you members for allowing me to be your leader. God Bless you all.

Remember, nominations for American Legion officers are at the March 21, 2018 meeting and elections are April 18, 2018. Your dues must be paid in order to participate.

Bob Salamon - Commander

SR. VICE COMMANDER

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

I am sure we are all waiting for warmer weather so we all can say Good bye to Winter!! I hope you all have kept busy with family and friends ... Myself, I have been very busy with our family and grandkids... Grandchildren have a way to keep you humble.. like, papa your beard is getting whiter and why do you always ask us where your glasses are!!! But reality is, I Love it!! I know I have stayed busy this winter with my duties with the Legion Family. My greatest Honor is to serve with the Wyandotte Veterans Honor Guard, this will be my 3rd year I am grateful for the great mentorship from fellow Honor Guard members, with their leadership I have studied every role and performed where ever I am needed, it is very humbling to perform our service for a departed comrade, I am very proud to be a part of this group who puts their heart & soul into every Service they attend!! Another part of the Legion family that I am honored to be a part of is the Americanism Team headed up by Ed Gorecki... I enjoy the events we do from visiting a Senior home and presenting a flag to our WWII Veterans to visiting our local schools and doing the 13 fold flag ceremony and answering questions from the kids is always a good day!!! Lets always remember to check on our neighbors and friends... just remember Spring will be here soon and so will Opening day for the Detroit Tigers!!! (March 29th).

God Bless,

Senior Vice Commander - Mike Huber

JR. VICE COMMANDER

I would like to thank Commander Salamon and his executive committee for having the confidence to appoint me as the Jr. Vice Commander. I am excited to start working with this team to accomplish our goal of "Veterans helping Veterans". I would like to say a special thanks to the Ladies Auxiliary for their donations to a homeless Veteran. Hopefully he will soon have his own place. Thank you Ladies. Also to Pete Kalil and Janet Onesian for the donation of a flat screen T.V for Mr. Ron Bryant. Ron lost all his possession in a fire in Flat Rock recently. And to all of you Post 217 Family members who donated money toward Ron. Thank You - Thank You - Thank You!!!

RoseAnn Rudisill
Jr. Vice Commander

Chaplain's Corner

Fellow Comrades:

We are closing out the winter season looking forward to some sunshine in the future; soon the snowbirds will be returning home. We pray for safe travels for all of them, welcome home once again! Our Post is still here to greet you back.

We are in the Lenten season and soon we will be celebrating Holy week and the Easter on April 1, praise God for the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We pray for all of those serving this day, Lord keep them in your safe keeping. We pray for the wounded may they soon be healed. For the missing in action may soon be accounted for their remains returned to their beloved Homeland and their families. We pray for those who've paid the supreme price for our freedom, may we never, never forget. Thank you so much to our beloved warriors!

We pray for our Post 217 for continued membership growth, we also would encourage our membership to attend our monthly meetings for this post belongs to each of us, may we encourage one another. May the Lord bless you all!!

For God and Country,
Chaplain - Wayne (Bud) Shoup



American Legion Family,

Winter is coming to an end and spring is in the air. The Ladies Auxiliary is making a Easter Basket to be raffled off on March 30th. We will be having a breaded pork chop dinner on March 11th from 3-6.

Our coupon program has changed a little bit. On the first Monday of the month from 4pm-6pm we will be helping Lois cut coupons and sorting them, then 3rd Thursday from 1pm-3pm. All you need to do is bring your own scissors or cutting knife.

Went to Winter Conference for the American Legion and learned a few new things. We even learned how to make a poppy. There was a police officer there named David Zanin who taught self defense to all of us. I recommend to the ladies to take a self defense class. I learned many things I am doing wrong. If you can make it to the meeting in March or April I will show you a few things I learned.

The Poppy mail will be going out in April so watch for it. There is a larger than usual need for funds to help our veterans. We have a Fisher House coming to Ann Arbor soon and our wounded and returning warriors need our help. Please be generous if you can to help support our poppy program.

Inclosing, Easter is April fool's day so don't tell someone your coming over for dinner and then not show up and say April fools not funny, lol. AS always thank a veteran for your freedoms.

For God and Country, Darlene Walker, President



Dear Auxiliary Members;

I want to thank all of our Auxiliary members who have paid their dues, as of our last meeting we were 89%, our goal is 100%. National sent out 2nd notices for 2018, if your dues are not paid, please do so as soon as possible.

Some members say they have not received their notices, this article will serve as a reminder for Unit 217 Auxiliary members. For the Auxiliary members that have not yet paid their 2017 dues, your security entry card is no longer active.

For God and Country,
Linda Ciemnicki - Auxiliary Membership Chairman

Attention Veterans:

If you need to file a claim with the Veterans Administration, the American Legion has a Veterans Service Officer to assist you, located at the Downriver Community Conference – John D. Dingell Building, 15100 Northline Road, Southgate, Michigan 48195. Effective March 1, 2017, hours are every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8:00 am – 4:00 pm in Room 100 (park in the west parking lot / enter through the Michigan Works Entrance). Bring a copy of your DD 214 paperwork, or for WWII Vets, bring a copy of your discharge paperwork. - 313-964-6640 - Ask for the Southgate Office.

ANSWER: ALVIN M. OWSLEY, PAST NATIONAL COMMANDER, THE AMERICAN LEGION 1922-23

TAPS

The Wyandotte Veterans Honor Guard performed 28 funerals in 2018. Anyone wanting information on becoming a member of the Wyandotte Veterans Honor Guard - please call 734-341-3307.



TABS FOR TOTS

We are again going to list all donors to the Tabs for Tots program bi-monthly. If you donate tabs, please sign list located by the Tab Drop Box on the landing going upstairs. Please print legibly. Proceeds for Tabs for Tots goes toward pediatric items at Henry Ford Wyandotte Hospital.

Michael Prato	Jerry Thomas	Mike Gyolai
Stacy & Linda Ciemnicki	Captain Dave Terry 2,509 Tabs	Rob Gury - Our Lady of Mt. Carmel
Rich & Linda Swetz	Eileen Houser	Al Starzec (2x)
Ellen Thon	Pat Parin & Tony Jozeink	Leona Dezzi
Bill Payne (2x)	Mike & Peggy Prato	VFW1136

Once again Riders are challenging themselves to ride 100,000 miles. There has to be a minimum of three members riding for mileage to count. Individual mileage does not count, which makes this challenge so unique. Last year we raised nearly \$6000 between this challenge and our annual Comedy Night. All of this money went to our Veteran Outreach programs supporting Michigan Veterans Foundation (MVF) our "Boots on the Ground" as well as to Downriver for Vets.

This year is no different; we have secured sponsorship of one penny per mile from the Post and \$500 from the Ladies Auxiliary. We are also chipping in one penny per mile ourselves. If interested, please drop me a note at the Post or drop a check with your contribution and in Notes section annotate 100K challenge. These can also be left at the Post, at the bar asking them to put it in the Riders envelope.

Our nominations and elections are coming up in March and April to match the rest of the other Legion family. We look forward to having new members in our Officer Corp.

I'm proud of our Chapter's accomplishments and our striving challenge to keep the Riders an asset to the Post. We have picked up approx 7 new members solely based on the fact we ride. . . A LOT. Everyone is welcome to ride with us and we like when other Riders from various Posts join in on our fun and camaraderie.

Martin "McFly" Gore

Director Downriver Chapter Post 217

The 16th District Meeting will be held at our Post on Tuesday, March 13, 2018. The Post Lounge will be closed during the meeting. The American Legion Riders Meeting will still take place upstairs.



Post 217 Memories

March 15, 2018, we will be celebrating the 99th birthday of the American Legion. The editors will be printing past photos in each edition of the newsletter as we begin to celebrate the 100th birthday on March 15, 2019. Any and all comments on pictures are welcomed at newsandviews217@gmail.com.



The Ladies Auxiliary Soup/Chili Cook off was a great success. We had 10 participants which allowed for a \$50 First Place for Soup to Cari Ann Salamon and \$50 First Place for Chili to Jim Zang. There was a lot of slurping of soups and delicious aromas of chilis in the Lounge. Don't forget the Ladies Auxiliary Pork Chop Dinner - March 11, 2018 from 3 - 6pm for \$10.

March 17, 2018 - The Bar Committee will be hosting a Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner from 1 - 7 pm

Booster Club Members - Thank you all for your donations for this issue of the newsletter. Those that have donated in previous issues, your names are displayed on the computer screen in the Post Lounge.

In Memoriam of John Mongelluzzo

In Memoriam of Vern Moffet

In Memoriam of Bob Reichelderfer

In Memoriam of Jack Sutherby

In Memoriam of Donald "Putts" Henderson

In Memoriam of Bob Crandall

In Memoriam of Thom Rushing

Daniel Orta

Patricia Moffett

Colleen Billings

Vic & Mary Nevin

Joe and Marianne Wright

John and Linda Easley

In Memoriam of "Huck"

Sherry and Bob Wotta

Caitlin & Zachary Wotta

Linda Tysowski

John Steichen

Melanie Charles

Richard & Barbara Boutain

In Memoriam of Elizabeth Boutain Patterson

There isn't a dollar price per line. Whatever you wish to donate to help defray the cost of the newsletter is appreciated.

MARCH						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1			1	2	3
4	5	6 <i>Honor Guard Rifle Club 10 am</i>	7 <i>Legion Exec Comm Mtg 6 pm</i>	8 S.A.L. Mtg 7pm	9	10 Watkins Day 11:30 until Sold out No Carry Outs 
11 Ladies Pork Chop Dinner 3 - 6pm \$10	12	13 Legion Riders Mtg. 7pm Nominations ***16th District Mtg. Post Closed at 7pm	14 Auxiliary Meeting 7 pm	15 American Legion 99th Birthday Party - join us for cake	16	17 St. Patrick's Day - Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner \$12
18	19	20	21 Legion General Membership Mtg. 7pm - Nominations	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30 Ladies Aux Basket Raffle	31

***The 16th District Meeting will be held at our Post on Tuesday, March 13, 2018. The Post Lounge will be closed during the meeting. The American Legion Riders Meeting will still take place upstairs.

APRIL						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Easter Sunday - Lounge Closed	2	3 <i>Honor Guard Rifle Club 10 am</i>	4 <i>Legion Exec Comm Mtg 6 pm</i>	5	6	7
8	9	10 Legion Riders Mtg. 7pm Election	11 Auxiliary Meeting 7 pm	12 S.A.L. Mtg 7pm	13	14 Watkins Day 11:30 until Sold out No Carry Outs 
15	16	17	18 Legion General Membership Mtg. 7pm ELECTION	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

American Legion Post 217



Will be hosting a bus trip to



**MT. PLEASANT, MI
THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 2018**

Depart Post at 9:00am - A.L. Post 217, 2817 Van Alstyne, Wyandotte, MI 48192

Depart Casino at 4:30 p.m. Arrive Back to Post: Appr. 7:30 p.m.

COST \$40.00 PER PERSON

Trip Includes: Beer on Bus and Pizza at the Post
Casino Slot Play.....\$15.00
Dining Voucher.....5.00
Bingo Bucks.....10.00
Total.....\$35.00

Earn 200 points-get \$15.00 Bonus. Earn 600 points get \$10.00 Bonus

*******NO REFUNDS UNLESS YOU HAVE A REPLACEMENT*******

Make checks Payable to: American Legion Post 217. Put "Casino Trip-Apr 2018" on the memo line.

For more information: Bob Salamon @ (734) 658-0408. **Deadline: April 4, 2018**

Name: _____ D.O.B. _____ Phone: (____) _____

Address: _____ City: _____ ST ____ Zip _____

Name: _____ D.O.B. _____ Phone: (____) _____

Address: _____ City: _____ ST ____ Zip _____

Name: _____ D.O.B. _____ Phone: (____) _____

Address: _____ City: _____ ST ____ Zip _____

Name: _____ D.O.B. _____ Phone: (____) _____

Address: _____ City: _____ ST ____ Zip _____

All information must be filled out for this trip

Post Use Only: Paid In Full ____ / ____ / ____ Check # ____ / Cash _____

Character Traits

O	L	U	F	T	H	G	U	O	H	T	G	E	R
E	C	C	M	C	M	E	L	A	O	L	C	V	E
C	K	P	F	O	V	N	R	V	T	A	E	A	S
A	E	E	A	M	W	G	E	N	R	Y	C	R	P
R	V	V	I	P	I	E	K	G	A	O	N	B	O
I	I	I	R	A	S	N	T	M	I	L	E	W	N
N	T	T	N	S	E	T	S	O	T	O	I	T	S
G	A	C	E	S	V	L	R	W	A	N	T	H	I
N	R	A	S	I	I	E	E	R	E	O	A	I	B
E	E	O	S	O	G	T	S	P	K	E	P	N	I
L	P	R	S	N	R	R	P	I	I	O	T	K	L
C	O	P	O	A	O	A	E	F	N	A	R	S	I
L	O	F	T	T	F	M	C	T	D	K	R	U	T
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SMART
 COMPASSIONATE
 RESPONSIBILITY
 SWEET
 LOYAL
 THINK
 THOUGHTFUL
 COOPERATIVE
 CARING
 FORGIVE
 MEAN
 FAIRNESS
 KIND
 PROACTIVE
 RESPECT
 PATIENCE
 TRAIT
 WISE
 GENTLE
 BRAVE

Booster Club Form

Our Booster Club members are very special people. They help us continue to publish this newsletter. If you would like to join the Booster Club, please complete the form and provide your donation. We will add your name to the list that will be published in the current issue.

PLEASE fill out this form, make your check or money order payable to the American Legion Post 217 and send it to:

American Legion Post 217
 ATTN: News Editor
 2817 Van Alstyne Blvd.
 Wyandotte, MI 48192

DATE: _____

Name(s): _____

I have enclosed : \$ _____

Post 217 Change Information Form

Member of: Legion ____ Aux ____ SAL ____

Name _____

New Address _____

Email Address: _____

Name is spelled incorrectly please change the spelling to:

I am reporting the death of a member

Date of Death: _____

Name: _____

Please fill out any pertinent information and return to the appropriate Membership Committee: (ie.. Legion, Auxiliary or Sons of American Legion)

American Legion Post 217
 2817 Van Alstyne
 Wyandotte, MI 48192

PLEASE MARK THE FOLLOWING IMPORTANT DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR

SERVICE OFFICER HOURS	FIRST MONDAY OF EACH MONTH	5:00 PM TO 8:00 P.M.
	THIRD MONDAY OF EACH MONTH	1:00 PM TO 4:00 P.M.
POST EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING	1 ST WEDNESDAY	@ 6:00 P.M.
AUXILIARY UNIT MEMBERSHIP MEETING	2 ND WEDNESDAY	@ 7:00 P.M.
POST GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING	3 RD WEDNESDAY	@ 7:00 P.M.
SAL MEETING	2 ND THURSDAY	@ 7:00 P.M.
RIFLE CLUB MEETING	1 ST TUESDAY	@ 10:00 A.M.
LEGION RIDERS MEETING	2 ND TUESDAY	@ 7:00 P.M.

Steve Mango, our Service Officer, will be out of town enjoying the sunny weather. If by chance you need any help with Service Officer business, please do not hesitate to call him. He will do all he can to provide you the help and direction. He can be reached at 734-626-3552.



Time Sensitive Material - Please Expedite Delivery To:

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The American Legion
Edward C. Headman Post 217
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Wyandotte, MI 48192
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