

SSG MICHAEL A.
DICKINSON, II
POST 257
FAMILY

Newsletter



APR 2021

www.legionpost257.org

Phone: 269-224-6270

Chili Cookoff Exceeds Expectations!

Our Post's First Annual Chili Cookoff & Karaoke exceeded everyone's expectations! A big Thanks to everyone who pitched in to help make this a successful fundraising event!

Featuring some of the best chili this side of the Alleghenys, out talented chefs treated us to a tummy full of liquid heat.

Some great entertainment was provide to Chili diners by some very talented Karaoke singers as well.

Congratulations to 1st Place Winner Ed Jinks, 2nd Place Jeff Stout, and 3rd Place Pat Kinney!



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Farmers Market Kicks Off May 1st!

With less than a month to go, our Post Family's Farmers Market will officially Kickoff on Saturday May 1st! Running from May thru October, Farmers, Crafters, and Food Vendors will set up on the East side of our property from 9:00 AM—1:00 PM each week.

Word is getting out in the Farming Community, and several have expressed interest in our new Market.

The Farmers Market Committee has been hard at work

figuring out logistics, coming up with Fundraising Opportunities, as well as talking with local Community Leaders and businesses.

Join us every Saturday as we're sure you'll be amazed by all the seasonal selections of plants, vegetables, crafts, and good eats!

Please help us spread the word around the Community by sharing the flyer below!



FARMERS MARKET

SATURDAYS 9 AM - 1 PM
MAY 1 - OCT 30

SSG MICHAEL A DICKINSON, II
POST 257

7475 B DRIVEN

BATTLE CREEK, MI 49014

EMMETT CHARTER TWP



- HIGH TRAFFIC/VISIBILITY
- 4 ACRES OF OPEN SPACE
- SUN/SHADE MIX
- DAILY & SEASONAL RATES

RESERVE YOUR SPACE TODAY!

Call: 269-209-0293 or 269-579-6458

legionfarmersmarket@gmail.com

www.legionpost257.org





Blood Drives Continue to Support our Community

Our Post hosted two more Red Cross Blood Drives during the month of March. As part of The American Legion's National Security Pillar, these Blood Drives help maintain the vital supply of blood in our Community.

Thanks to everyone who pitched in, rolled up their sleeves, and helped provide this valuable resource!

During our latest Blood Drive, we were pleased to welcome our Post's newest member, Dave Eddy, into our Family!



Army Recruiters Welcomed by Department Commander

SSG Michael A Dickinson II Post 257 was honored to welcome Department Commander Barry Wood last month! Commander Wood addressed the US Army's BC Recruiting Company who were Training at our facility! Following his address, Commander Wood presented each Soldier with his coin, thanking them for their service to our Nation.

Hosting important events such as these is one way our Post reaches out to support our current Military Members.





Auxiliary Membership

Our Unit Goal for 2021 is 25 members. We are currently at 33 members strong - **132%** for membership. There are a few of you Ladies that have not paid your 2021/2022 dues. Technically your membership expired on January 31, 2021. You still have time to pay your

dues so you don't lose your continuous years of service. If your dues are not current, you are not eligible to hold a position on the Board. Please contact Penny Wright if you need assistance getting paid up.

Welcome to our newest Member Carrie Holdridge !

National Poppy Day

Poppy Day is celebrated in countries around the world. The American Legion brought [National Poppy Day®](#) to the United States by asking Congress to designate the Friday before Memorial Day, as National Poppy Day.

On the Friday before Memorial Day, wear a red poppy to honor the fallen and support the living who have worn our nation's uniform.

2021 Nominations and Elections

We will be accepting nominations for board members for the 2021/2022 year at our April 12, 2021 membership meeting.

Want to be nominated for a position? Tell someone! You will be educated and guided the whole time, the best way to learn is to get involved. During the election process in May 2021 all positions are open - nobody holds a board position until nominations and elections are completed. Please consider raising your hand and joining the Board!

Come on, you know you want to!





The Poppy

After World War I, the poppy flourished in Europe. Scientists attributed the growth to soils in France and Belgium becoming enriched with lime from the rubble left by the war. From the dirt and mud grew a beautiful red poppy. The red poppy came to symbolize the blood shed during battle following the publication of the wartime poem "In Flanders Fields." The poem was written by Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, M.D. while serving on the front lines. On September 27, 1920, the poppy became the official flower of The American Legion family to memorialize the soldiers who fought and died during the war. In 1924, the distribution of poppies became a national program of The American Legion.

Led by the American Legion Auxiliary, each year members of The American



Legion Family distribute poppies with a request that the person receiving the flower make a donation to support the future of veterans, active-duty military personnel and their families with medical and financial needs.

April is the Month of the Military Child

In recognition and celebration of these children and their sacrifices, April was designated as Month of the Military Child by U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger in 1986. Purple Up! Day — April 15 this year — is part of the month-long celebration. To show support for military children and raise awareness

about their sacrifices, people wear purple on this special day.

Purple symbolizes a combination of the colors of each branch of the U.S. military: Army green, Navy blue, Air Force blue, Marine red, and Coast Guard blue.



PURPLE UP!
for military kids



Heights Construction's Got Us Covered!



Thanks to an extreme amount of generosity, Heights Construction removed and installed a new roof on the hall and pole barn!

Owned by SAL Member and Riders Director, Del Kilborne, Heights Construction's crew arrived early on Tuesday March 23rd with tools in hand. The old roof was removed in under a day, with Post Family Members pitching in to clean up the debris.

The new roof was completely installed the next day with time to spare!

This generous gift will keep our Post Home dry for years to come, and we would like to express our most sincere Thanks to Heights Construction for this over the top donation!!





Post Elections are Just Around the Corner!

Our Post's Annual Election of Officers will be held during our May Meeting. **Nominations for the offices of Commander, 1st Vice-Commander, 2nd Vice-Commander, Finance Officer, Historian, Service Officer, and Sgt At Arms, and 3 Members-At-Large, will be accepted during our April Meeting.**

Each position has a one year term of office.

Leadership in our Post is entrusted to all of us, and we encourage all our members to actively seek a position that will be enhanced by your talents and aspirations.

All Members of our Post are eligible to run for any office of our Post, and we hope you will consider taking on a lead-

ership role to improve the overall success of our Programs and Community activities, and to steer our Post into the future.

If you are interested in any of these positions, all it takes is for you to talk to a fellow Post member and ask them to nominate you.



American Legion Riders Chapter News

Our Facebook site is up and running... After a couple hic ups, It is finally up and running. Thank you Brian Mohlman for your help. Facebook site name is – AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS CHAPER 257. Please like our page and you will be able to follow our adventures.

Hello to our new member Dean New-some.

This makes our total Charter members 11.

I am really excited about our first ride, planned to visit other Posts and make our way back to our Post Home. Legion member Pat Kinney and I will have our final route put together by the end of

April. If anyone would like to join us please let Del, Penny, or Terry know. Or you can send us an email alriders257@gmail.com. After riders next meeting this month we hope to have a date set for the ride.

THANK YOU to everyone who worked so hard to get this Riders Chapter going.

Del

Assistant Director: Jim Hoglen

Treasurer: Terry Lindauer

Secretary: Penny Wright

Judge Advocate/Chaplain: Brian Mohlman



Post Membership Report

How strong has our voice grown?

The American Legion sets the annual recruiting year from 1 July of each year, and runs through 30 June of the next, and the Department puts goals on us on what we should strive for. However, while we keep our eye on goals that the Department sets on us each year, I find it good to look at just how far we have come based on what we started the year off with, and just how much our voice has grown for local veterans in the local community, in our state, and in our nation.

We started off on 1 July 2020 with 148 current members, and throughout the year some members do leave our post for various reasons, but more seem to stay. It's each of you renewing your membership, transferring from other posts, or totally new member to The American Legion that makes us strong. I am happy to say that that, as of 29 March that voice is 180 members strong!

So what is the breakdown of the 180? We did lose 7 members for various reasons this year, and 27 members that have not renewed. The good news is

that we had 32 members transfer in, 22 totally new members, and with all of you that renewed brings us to the 180 strong!

If you have not renewed, it is easy. And you will help us have an even stronger voice!

You can renew online at The American Legion My Legion website at the renewal tab. Here is the direct link : https://www.members.legion.org/CGI-BIN/lansaweb?webapp=MYLRENEW+webtrn=wr_memberdata+ml=LANSA:XHTML+part=TAL+lang=ENG#legion-org

You can also stop by our post that is usually open every day from 10 am till 4 pm. The post location is 7475 B Drive North, Battle Creek, MI 49014.

David Whynot, 1st Vice Commander and Chair, Membership Committee
Membership257@gmail.com

Post Family Meeting Schedule

The Post & Auxiliary meet the Second Monday of each month @ 6:30 PM, and Sons of The American Legion Squadron 257 meets the 2nd Saturday of each month @ 3:00 PM

We welcome your attendance and participation, and extend an invitation to all who are interested in membership in the SSG Michael A. Dickinson, II Post 257 Family!



Post/Auxiliary/SAL

Volunteer Opportunities!

The Post, Auxiliary, & SAL have several opportunities to volunteer in the Community and to support our Military in the near future! Now is the time to pitch in and help make a difference for our Veterans and our Community!

April 24 - Adopt-A-Highway 9:00 AM @ Firekeepers Casino Gas Station

Officer Directory

Post

Commander - Brian Mohlman

1st Vice-Commander - Dave Whynot

2nd Vice-Commander - Samuel Gray

Adjutant - Robert Dirmeyer

Finance Officer - Robert Dirmeyer

Judge Advocate - Jack Carlsen

Service Officer - Ed Jinks

Sergeant At Arms - Brad Langley

Chaplain - Bill Hohman

Historian - Dave Whynot

Members-At-Large:

Dean Newsome, John Howe, Chris Jenney

Auxiliary

President - Penny Wright

1st Vice-President - Jessica Earl

2nd Vice-President - Open

Treasurer - Penny Wright

Secretary - Carol Langley

Sergeant At Arms - Renee Dickinson

Chaplain - Lee Dirmeyer

Historian - Open

Executive Committee Members:

Vicki Dickinson, Kim Siedelburg, Lisa Simon

SAL

Commander - Andrew Mohlman

1st Vice-Commander - Del Kilbourne

2nd Vice-Commander - Open

Adjutant - Ken Nierman

Finance Officer - Ken Nierman

Chaplain - Robert Dirmeyer

Historian - Brian Mohlman

Sergeant At Arms - Terry Favorite

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MichaelDickinsonPost257MI



American Legion Post 257

April 2021

Apr 2021 (Eastern Time - Detroit)



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
				8am - Dept Service Officer	7am - Coffee @ Post	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		6:30pm - Ways & Means	8am - Dept Service Officer 6:30pm - Riders Meeting	8am - Dept Service Officer	7am - Coffee @ Post 3pm - SAL Meeting	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	6:30pm - Post & Auxiliary	6:30pm - Farm Market Mtg	8am - Dept Service Officer	8am - Dept Service Officer 6pm - Blue Star Mothers	7am - Coffee @ Post	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
		SSG Michael Dickinson II	8am - Dept Service Officer	8am - Dept Service Officer	7am - Coffee @ Post 9am - Adopt-A-Highway @	
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
			8am - Dept Service Officer	8am - Dept Service Officer	7am - Coffee @ Post 9am - Farmers Market @	