

SSG MICHAEL A.  
DICKINSON, II  
POST 257  
FAMILY

# Newsletter



FEB 2021

[www.legionpost257.org](http://www.legionpost257.org)

## Post Gears Up for 2021

With 2020 still in our rear view mirror, the Ways & Means Committee is already busy planning a busy year of Fundraising & Community Events for 2021!

With their second meeting under their belt, the Committee is planning a Chili Cook-off coupled with Family Friendly Karaoke for March 6, which is sure to be a big draw from the Community.

Headed up by 2nd Vice-Commander, Samuel Gray, the Ways & Means Committee is always looking for good ideas and welcomes your input. The Committee meets on the 1st Tuesday of the month at 6:30 PM.

Plans are already well under way to establish a Farmer's Market at the Post. Beginning May 1st, and continuing each Saturday through the end of October, our Community will enjoy the conven-

ience of their own Farmer's Market.

We already have two Red Cross Blood Drives on the schedule, and we're in need of just a couple volunteers for each event. Both Drives are on the 26th of the month...one in February...and the other in March.



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## Free To ANY Veteran!

Are you, or a Veteran you know, in need of a new pair of Athletic Shoes?

A pair of Reebok Move DMX Max shoes has been donated to the Post for any Veteran who wears a Men's Size 9.

If the shoe fits, please call or email the Post at 269-224-6270 or commanderpost257@gmail.com



## Sons of The American Legion News

February finds our Sons Squadron screaming through the 2021 Membership Year! With a goal of 20 Members, there are currently 24 Members who have joined for 2021, or 120%. If you are one of the four Members who have yet to renew, please reach out via email to SALSquadron257@gmail.com to renew today!

The Sons were saddened to learn of the passing of SAL Member Matthew Peterson, Father of Tyler Peterson. Our Thoughts and Prayers go out to the entire Peterson Family.

The Sons are working with Misfits Car Club to organize a Car Show on Saturday, May 1, 2021. Details are still in

the works, but you won't want to miss this awesome event!





## GoFundMe Created



The Post has established a GoFundMe account to receive Community donations that will assist with Programs, expenses, and improvements in and around the Post Home.

With a cost of \$0, this free account has already netted donations in the amount of \$555 in just two day.

We wish to thank all those who have donated thus far in the campaign.

Donating is easy, and all you have to do is follow this link by clicking on it:

[DONATE NOW](#)

**PRIZES!**  
BEST FLAVOR  
WINS!

**FAMILY FRIENDLY KARAOKE!**

**FAMILY  
FRIENDLY!**



**Chili Cookoff**

**BRING A BATCH  
OF YOUR  
HOMEMADE  
CHILI TO ENTER!**

**Entries RSVP by  
Feb 27 to:  
Samuel Gray 269-  
209-0293**



**Saturday March 6, 2021  
11am – 2pm**

**SSG Michael A Dickinson, II  
American Legion Post 257  
7475 B Drive N  
Battle Creek, MI 49014**



## Meaning of Our Emblem

The American Legion Auxiliary Emblem.

The emblem of the American Legion Auxiliary is your badge of distinction and honor. It stands for God and Country and the highest rights of man. It consists of several parts, and each part has a meaning.

The rays of the sun that form the background stand for the principles of the American Legion Auxiliary, for Loyalty, Justice, Freedom and Democracy; dispelling the darkness of violence, strife and evil.

The unbroken circle of blue represents unity and Loyalty.



The field of white exemplifies the hope of Freedom.

The star of blue is the emblem of service in war; it is no less the emblem of service in time of peace.

The emblem of the American Legion Auxiliary is the emblem of Americanism.

As members of the American Legion Auxiliary, we must preach and teach principles of Americanism. Let us not forget that to each generation comes its patriotic duty and that upon your willingness to sacrifice and endure as those before you have sacrificed and endured, rests the hope of the nation.

## Membership

Our current membership is at 116% - which is a really great number. If you did not renew by December 31, 2020 your membership has expired. We can still get you engaged in the Unit and signed back up. Please go to

[www.alaforveterans.org](http://www.alaforveterans.org) and Renew today! You can also mail your dues (\$30) to the Auxiliary at 7574 B Drive N, Battle Creek, MI 49014, or stop by in person. We can also accept credit cards. Every member is valuable to us!!



## The ABC's of The American Legion Auxiliary

Avoid negativity- people, places and things  
 Believe in yourself  
 Consider things from every angle  
 Don't give up and don't give in  
 Enjoy life today  
 Family and friends - treasure them always  
 Give more than you planned to  
 Hang on to your dreams  
 Ignore those who try to discourage you  
 Just do it  
 Keep trying  
 Love yourself the most  
 Make new friends  
 Never make a bad deal  
 Open your eyes and see things clearly  
 Practice makes perfect  
 Quitters never win and winners never quit  
 Read, study and learn everything important  
 Stop procrastinating  
 Take control of your own destiny  
 Understand yourself in order to be better  
 Visualize it  
 Want it more than anything  
 Xerox and share smiles  
 You are unique; nothing can replace you  
 Zero in on your target and go for it

## Operation Pumpkin Patch 2021

Our seeds for the 2021 pumpkin  
 patch season have arrived!! This  
 year we have purchased 240  
 pumpkin seeds along with seeds

for some ornamental gourds.

Stay tuned as planting season  
 begins in the early Summer  
 months.



## Connecticut Field Pumpkin Seeds

### **Largest Carving Pumpkin**

Treat yourself to some really big jack-o'-lanterns next Halloween! Hefty orange-gold fruits weigh 15-20 lbs. and have a

flattened bottom to keep them from tipping. Noted for dependable yields



## Large & Small Gourd Seed Mix

### **Great ornamental gourd mix**

Arts-and-crafts ideal mix—wide range of sizes, shapes and colors.





## Legion Training Saturdays Continues!

With a successful month of training behind us, the Post will offer valuable Legion Training each week.

With subjects ranging from American Legion History, Programs, Membership, Post Operations, and Officer Training, we're sure you'll find this information interesting and rewarding.

Join us each Saturday at 10:00 AM, immediately following Coffee at the Post, as we present the latest segment of



training in the main hall/meeting room.

## American Legion Riders Chapter News



The First meeting of the Legion Riders got off to a good start. Director did well for his first meeting, with the help of Brian and Penny.

At the draft of this letter, we have 5 paid members. So anyone who has not paid their dues, please do so ASAP.

As a reminder, we also need copies of license and Insurance for your bikes.

Our email address is:

[alriders257@gmail.com](mailto:alriders257@gmail.com)

Any questions or general correspondence can be directed there.

Meetings will be held on the first WEDNESDAY of each month at 18:30 at the post.

Del Kilbourne

Director



# Post Membership Report

Higher and Higher, Baby... It's a living thing!

Forgive my use of words from an ELO song, but I'm wondering just how much higher we can go! Sorry if you have the song stuck in your head now, but it seems as we just keep growing bigger and bigger every month!

As of 26 Jan 2021 the Department report had us at a total of 171 members paid for 2021 membership. That is 21 more than our goal, and 14 percent higher! Thanks to each and everyone of you that have renewed, and help spread the word of our awesome post!

For those of you that do renew, I try to ensure that your new membership card is in the mail to you within one week. If you don't get it that soon, please reach out to me to make sure I didn't miss something. I've read that many other posts get complaints that it takes too long to get their new card... I don't want us to be, and strive for us not to be, one of those posts.

However, there are a few of you that

have not renewed. Over the holidays I found some time to send each of you that have not, a request to please renew. If you didn't see it, please check your junk e-mail folder.

If you have not renewed, it's easy, and you will help us reach be the highest number of current members by the deadline of 3 May 2021. The department has lucrative prizes for posts that exceed the goals, and we are in the running!

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](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

## 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!

Feb 26 - Red Cross Blood Drive

Mar 26 - Red Cross Blood Drive

## 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

**SSG MICHAEL A. DICKINSON, II**  
**POST 257**

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Battle Creek MI 49014

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MichaelDickinsonPost257MI

**SSG MICHAEL A. DICKINSON, II**  
**AUXILIARY UNIT 257**

7475 B Drive N

Battle Creek MI 49014

Phone: 269-838-8902 E-mail: alaunit257@gmail.com



MichaelDickinsonPost257MI

**SSG MICHAEL A. DICKINSON, II**  
**SAL SQUADRON 257**

7475 B Drive N

Battle Creek MI 49014

Phone: 269-274-6574

E-mail: SALsquadron257@gmail.com



MichaelDickinsonPost257MI

# Valentines Day Dinner

Sunday February 14, 2021  
2pm & 5pm

Chicken Alfredo Gourmet Burger  
Reservations Required by February 10  
Please Call: 269-838-8902  
Email: alaunit257@gmail.com

\$15/Plate Donation



SSG Michael A Dickinson, II  
Post 257  
You & Your Guest

Social Distancing will be in effect  
This is a Post 257 Family Event

**SUNDAY FEBRUARY 7  
5:00 PM**

*Bring A Dish to Pass  
&  
Beverage of Your Choice!*



**SSG MICHAEL A DICKINSON, II  
POST 257  
7475 B DRIVE N  
BATTLE CREEK, MI 49014**



**POST 257  
FAMILY & GUESTS**



American Legion Post 257

# February 2020

Feb 2021 (Eastern Time - Detroit)



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
		6:30pm - Ways & Means	6:30pm - Riders Meeting	8am - Dept Service Officer	7am - Coffee @ Post 10am - Post Training	
5pm - Super Bowl Party	6:30pm - Post & Auxiliary		8am - Dept Service Officer	8am - Dept Service Officer 4pm - Chili Cookoff Meeting	7am - Coffee @ Post 10am - Post Training 3pm - SAL Meeting	
2pm - Valentines Dinner 5pm - Valentines Dinner		6:30pm - Farmers Market	8am - Dept Service Officer	8am - Dept Service Officer 6pm - Blue Star Mothers	7am - Coffee @ Post 10am - Post Training	
			8am - Dept Service Officer	8am - Dept Service Officer	10am - Blood Drive	7am - Coffee @ Post 10am - Post Training
		6:30pm - Ways & Means	6:30pm - Riders Meeting	8am - Dept Service Officer	7am - Coffee @ Post	