THE AMERICAN LEGION

Campbell-Richmond Post #63 - Clarkston, Michigan

Proudly Serving America and our Community

June / July 2018

Newsletter: Dean Lambouris

post63newsletter@comcast.net

Post Officers

Legion

Commander: Kim Lambouris
1st Vice: T. J. Phipps
Adjutant: Dale Elkins
Finance Officer: Don Davis
Sgt. At Arms: Don Carter
Service Ofcr: Jerry Grzywinski
Trustee: Wayne Fisher
Trustee: Barney Schoenfeld

Auxiliary

President: Amy Laboissonniere
1st Vice: Sue James
2nd Vice: Cher Jones
Secretary: Sandy Hoose
Treasurer: Sue Battishill
Sgt. At Arms: Deanna Perysian
Chaplain: Paula Collier
Membership: Judy McCutcheon

S.A.L.

Commander: Brian York
1st Vice: John Ousnamer
2nd Vice: Jim Battishill
Adjutant: Charlie Zimmer
Finance Officer: Frank Sanders
Sgt. At Arms: George Vihonsky
Historian: Charlie Zimmer
Chaplain: Don Lewis

IVMHA

President: Don Carter

Clubroom Chair: Wayne Fisher
Hall Rental Chair: Paula Collier

Campbell-Richmond
American Legion Post 63
8047 Ortonville Road,
Clarkston MI 48348
248 625-9912
www.legion63mi.org

Commanders' Corner

Commander Kim Lambouris:

Well, we've been busy the past several months. We held our annual elections and there are a couple of changes with officers that will take place in June when everyone gets sworn in at their membership meetings. Tommy Phipps, our 1st Vice Commander will be stepping down. I want to thank Tommy for his many years of service and selfless dedication to our post.

Thanks to everyone who stepped up to help with poppies this year. We can accomplish so much when we work together as a team. We are once again sponsoring a little-league baseball team this year with opening Day Saturday, June 2 2018 at 10:00 am at Clintonwood Park. We had a sponsor table that promoted our post and engaged a number of people who asked questions about The American Legion. Our Color Guard led the *Parade of Players* and posted the colors. It was great to watch the kids on opening day and to talk to parents and spectators about what the American Legion has to offer.

Unfortunately we're in need of two members to Chair and Co-Chair our Highway Clean-Up. This community service project is done 3x a year; April, July and October. Jim Ward was our Chair and recently passed away. If interested, contact Commander Kim Lambouris at (248) 910-6769 or at klambo2@comcast.net.

We'll have Karaoke with Dale and Patrice Elkins in the clubroom on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month.

The Old Farts & Fluffs Dinner is June 13th at 6 pm $10/person RSVP in the clubroom or contact me and I will put your name on the list. We're also sponsoring a Red Cross Blood Drive on July 26th from 1 pm to 7 pm, call (313) 530-0375 or go to redcrossblood.org and use sponsor code: **amerlegion** for an appointment. Below is information about an upcoming town hall meeting regarding VA experiences.

American Legion Invites Veterans to Share VA Experiences at Detroit Town Hall Meeting

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The American Legion, the nation's largest and most influential veterans service organization, invites all Southeast Michigan area veterans and their family members to a town hall meeting to discuss their VA care.
The meeting will be held at Monday, June 4, 7pm at The Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 4800 Woodward Ave., Detroit, MICH 48201.

The town hall is one of many such events that the Legion will conduct around the United States this year. The Legion hosts these events to hear feedback from veterans about the quality of health care they receive at their local VA facilities.

Representatives from The American Legion Department of Michigan, The American Legion National Headquarters office in Washington, D.C., and representatives from VA and members of the Michigan congressional delegation will be in attendance.

A flyer for this event can be downloaded here: https://tinyurl.com/y88jggp7

Contacts:
Ron Runyan, State Adjutant, (517) 371-4720 ext. 14, adj@michiganlegion.org

About The American Legion
With a current membership of over 2 million wartime veterans, The American Legion was founded in 1919 on the four pillars of a strong national security, veterans affairs, Americanism, and youth programs. Legionnaires work for the betterment of their communities through more than 13,000 posts across the nation.

- Kim Lambouris, Commander
kmlambou@oaklandcc.edu

Howdy all!

We are currently collecting items for our annual rummage sale which you can drop off to the garage behind the post. Remember, all donations to the post are considered "charitable" and you're entitled to a receipt for tax purposes. The Rummage sale is being held August 2nd, 3rd and 4th.

Amy Laboissonniere
President Unit 63 Auxiliary
adtdsb@gmail.com

1st Vice Commander T J Phipps:

Hello Legion Members,

This will be my last newsletter article as I will not be running for office again this year after 25 plus years as an officer, nine years as Commander, and up to now 1st Vice Commander. I think it is time to move on, we have a great Post but everyone needs to get involved to keep it that way. First of all, you need to keep up your membership up do to date since the American Legion is the largest veterans organization in the world and you are a part of it. So please do your best to keep up your membership updated.

It won't be long before National will be sending out dues notices for next year, so be prepared. I've enjoyed my years at the Post but I won't be disappearing soon, I will still be involved. Have a great summer.

T J Phipps
1st Vice Commander
tjphipps@hotmail.com

SAL Commander Brian York:

Greetings to all,

Spring is half over and summer is quickly approaching which means that the SAL will not meet again until the 2nd Monday in September. At that time, Jim Battishill will take the reins as the new Commander. I have chosen to step back to 1st vice and will be doing the membership renewals so plan on getting them in early in September. Bruce you can pay for 2020 at that time. All members can get involved by attending a meeting, supporting the club room, or working an event. We have the July 4 parade among other special events coming up during the summer.

It has been a pleasure serving as SAL Commander for the past 4 years. We have a great core group of officers and our membership stands at about 80.

For God and Country,

Brian York
SAL Commander
yorkboy50@yahoo.com

VETERANS

LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD

Do you have questions about the service you receive at the Detroit VA Medical Center?

The American Legion believes that the Veterans Administration is a **System Worth Saving**.

The specialized care that veterans receive is unparalleled.

In order to help the VA deliver the best possible care The American Legion will hold a town hall meeting June 4.

Legion leadership will conduct a site visit to identify problems, challenges and solutions June 5 and 6.

Come share your VA experience at our next event:

SYSTEM WORTH SAVING TOWN HALL MEETING

THE AMERICAN LEGION

Monday June 4, 7 PM

The Cathedral Church of St. Paul
4800 Woodward Avenue
Detroit, MI 48201

Free parking, enter from Warren Ave. first driveway.

2018 Members of the Year

From L-R: Auxiliary President Amy Laboissonniere with MOY Sue Battishill, S.A.L. Commander Brian York with MOY Dean Lambouris and Legion Commander Kim Lambouris with MOY Don Carter.

Highway Cleanup Crew

From L-R: Don Carter, Monnie Fritz, Dave Fett, Bill Seykula, Cher Jones, Judy McMcCutcheon, Paula Collier, Deanna Perysian, Don Davis, Ethan.

2018 OPENING DAY—INDEPENDENCE TWP. PARKS

L-R: Don Davis, Rick Thompson, Bob Long, Doniven Dunaway and Don Carter

Saturday, April 28, 2018
Campbell-Richmond American Legion Post 63
Great Lakes National Cemetary Headstone Clean-Up
About 35 degrees - Cold plus wind

L-R: Don Carter, Kim Lambouris and Rick Thompson at the state capitol representing Post #63 for the Senate Memorial Ceremony honoring fallen soldiers.

JUNE 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27 8am Memorial Day F 1pm Flaming Pistons 2pm Club Hall Rente	28 9am Memorial Day F 12pm Memorial Day	29	30	31	Jun 1	2 Hall Rental 8am Baseball Opentr 7pm Karaoke
3	4	5	6 7pm Legion Member	7	8	9
10	11 7pm SAL Meeting	12 7pm Aux. Meeting	13 6pm Old Farts & Flut	14	15	16 Hall Rental 7pm Karaoke
17	18 FOP	19	20 7pm E-Board Meetin	21	22	23 8am Coin Show
24 1pm Flaming Pistons 2pm Club Hall Rente	25	26	27	28	29	30

JULY 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Jul 1 Hall Rental	2	3	4 7pm Legion Member 8pm TVMHA Meeting	5	6	7 7pm Karaoke - Clubr
8 Hall Rental	9 7pm SAL Meeting	10 7pm Aux. Meeting	11	12	13	14 Hall Rental
15	16 FOP	17	18 7pm E-Board Meetin	19	20	21 Hall Rental 7am Karaoke - Clubr
22 1pm Flaming Pistons 2pm Club Hall Renta	23	24	25	26 Red Cross Blood D	27	28 Hall Rental
29 Hall Rental	30	31	Aug 1 7pm Legion Member	2 Rummage Sale	3	4

Hundreds jump into Normandy in honor of D-Day airborne operations

SAINTE-MERE-EGLISE, France — Tracing the same route over the English Channel and over the fields and dense hedgerows of coastal Normandy, hundreds of NATO paratroopers paid tribute to jumps by the 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions on the "Day of Days," June 6th, 1944.

Paratroops move from the landing zone as others fall from the sky during an airborne jump near Sainte-Mere-Eglise, France, Sunday June 3, 2018.

Starting from an airfield near Cherbourg, France, 575 soldiers from the U.S., France, Germany, the Netherlands and Romania jumped out over the course of about half an hour in chalks of twelve from eight C-130s and C-160s on a nearly-cloudless day near the town of Sainte-Mere-Eglise, just where U.S. paratroopers landed 74 years ago.

"It was pure emotion – we were about 300 feet off of the water, we could look out and see fishing trawlers," Brig. Gen. Robert Cooley, commander of the 353rd Civil Affairs Command, an airborne unit that supports operations in Europe and Africa. "Everyone has their own story, everyone was in their own thoughts, really trying to understand what it meant to them."

Susan Eisenhower, granddaughter of Gen. Dwight Eisenhower, planner of the invasion, was present to see his plan replicated in the pastureland of Normandy.

"It's a really iconic spot for all sorts of reasons," she said. "Because of the heroism of the people who landed here, but also for the beginning of an important alliance between the U.S., Great Britain and France and other countries who participated here today, so it had real geopolitical significance and human and historical importance."

Thousands of spectators were gathered to watch the jump, which was also punctuated with a low flyover by a pair of A-10 Warthogs from the Michigan Air National Guard's 127th Wing.

It was Spc. Jesslayn Fuentes' first jump in Normandy. The paratrooper from the 173rd Airborne Brigade, based in Vicenza, Italy, said it was a bit of a change from the unit's normal jumps.

"Usually the way we jump is (mass tactical) into combat so this is my first "Hollywood" jump since airborne school," she said. "I was in the fourth pass, sixth jumper, but once I knew it was coming up, it was a wrap, there was no hesitating."

2018's jump marked the first time Romanian soldiers participated. In World War II, Romania fought alongside Germany until it was overrun by Soviet forces in 1944. But the country is now a NATO member on the alliance's eastern flank.

"I think the thing that's most significant about it is we're getting more players on the team," said U.S. Army Europe Command Sgt. Maj. Robert Abernethy. "You look around here and see all the different uniforms of all our allied partners coming together, it's tremendous."

Abernethy said he was thinking of a mentor, Command Sgt. Maj. (ret.) Kenneth "Rock" Merritt, who fought with the 82nd Airborne in Normandy, as he prepared to leave the plane.

Following the massive airborne operation, paratroopers and guests attended a ceremony at Normandy's famous "Iron Mike" statue, commemorating the battle for the La Fiere bridgehead from June 6-9, 1944.

"Anywhere, anytime, all the way - that's the airborne creed," said Gen. Curtis Scaparrotti, commander of U.S. European Command and Supreme Allied Commander, Europe.

"On La Fière causeway, these paratroopers did not fail. Today, let us not fail them. Let us honor their valor, their sacrifices."

Sunday's jump, Iron Mike ceremony and parade through the streets of Sainte-Mere-Eglise marked the high point for the 74th anniversary commemorations. Next year's event, marking the 75th anniversary, should be even larger.

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To:

E-Mail is the preferred method of delivery.

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Legion Family TAPS 2018
Memorial to a post #63 family member recently lost.

Jim Ward

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