

March 2025

Greetings Legionnaires:

Again, it is my sad duty to report that **Legionnaire David Randolph** has been called from our midst and now serves the Commander of All of us in the Post Everlasting.

Burger night is on Wednesday, April 9th due to spring break, from 4:30 to 6:30 pm.

The 76th birthday party celebration was a success. Thanks to **Bill Woods** and the committee for organizing it so well.

Donation containers for Post projects will always be accessible at the bar, as well as at the table during Burger Night when meals are being paid for.

The Post is adding more events to the Post. Please support these events by attending. The Post has a fixed cost and these events help toward this cost.

The Post has vacant officer positions. Members are invited to attend a Legionnaire Meeting to be nominated and sworn into an available position or simply to participate in a meeting.

The initial round of nominations for officers for the 2026 membership year took place on March 17th, with a second round scheduled for April 21st. Members are encouraged to consider running for office.

The Post has an Honor Guard that performs grave sites or memorial services for deceased Legionnaires. Please inform your family if you wish to have the Honor Guard. The Honor Guard also provides the same service for any veteran with an honorable discharge. Have the funeral home contact **Carl Krause** at 269-769-8294.

The Post is still in need of a Sergeant-at-Arms.

The Honor Guard is currently recruiting new members. Participation is flexible to accommodate various schedules. Prospective members are required to purchase black pants and shoes; the remainder of the uniform will be provided by the Post.

Our next Legionnaire meeting will be on Monday April 21st, 2025, at 5:30 pm.
The Executive Board Meeting will be on Monday April 14th, 2025, at 5:30 pm.
The Bar Committee Meeting will be on Tuesday April 15th, 2025, at 5:30 pm.

Legionnaires are welcome to attend meetings for input or involvement. In a good month we might have five members attend.

To our whole Legion Family, thank you for being part of Stevensville American Legion Post 568.

Have a wonderful day.

God Bless the USA.

---- **Doug Jenkins**, Commander

MESSAGE FROM THE ADJUTANT:

Welcome to the new Member:

Bruce Biddinger, who lives in Berrien Springs and was in the Navy during the Vietnam War Period.

Transferring Member:

Darrell Hansel who lives in Saint Joseph and transferred from Post 0225 and was in the Air Force during the Gulf War and Global War on Terror Period.

The 2025 membership cards are available at the Post. Please pay your membership dues promptly. The Legion membership year 2026 starts July 2025.

As of March 17, 2025, there are 275 paid members at the Department of Michigan. The membership goal for 2024 is 302 members, which means the Post has achieved 91% of the goal.

Legionnaires have yet to pay their 2025 dues. 30

- New Members 9
- Transferred in 6
- Transferred out 2

Paying dues contributes to the Post and veterans. The Legion advocates for benefits that may be affected by budget cuts. Benefits such as Agent Orange and the Pact Act are supported by the Legion. Increased membership strengthens support for veterans' needs.

As of March 17, 2025, the following Legionnaires have unpaid dues for 2025, and several have not paid their 2024 or 2025 dues. Failure to pay may reset your continuous membership to one year. Dropped members must reapply as new members.

1. Amber Becker
2. James Burke
3. Jeffrey Buss
4. Peter Chenosky
5. Chad Clement
6. Trinidad Corona
7. Dennis Dobbins

8. Tom Embrey
9. Maria Fay
10. Ashley Geuther
11. Ted Hollacher
12. Sam Hybels
13. Caryn Kervel
14. Larry Kuball
15. Scotty Lee
16. Larry Kuball
17. Scotty Lee
18. Phil McDannell
19. Rick Mead
20. Dennis Peterson
21. Steven Peterson
22. Tommy Rauls
23. Mark Spitzer
24. John Stephens
25. Matt Swab
26. Nicholas VonKoenig
27. Jeremy Warren
28. Burt Weisberg
29. Jordan Winans
30. Alan Worker

- **If you have your membership card and receive a notice indicating unpaid dues, you can disregard the notice and dispose of it.** It is not necessary to mail a copy of your dues notice with the check number to the Post, if you have the current membership card.

1. **To avoid receiving unpaid notices after obtaining your membership card, please ensure early payment either at the Post, via mail, or online. You also have the option to renew your membership online for up to three years at a time.**

Exception to above. Pay during the grace period you will receive dues notice.

Even if you paid your dues at the Post or by mail, the State and National may not be aware. The Post may send payments monthly, and the State can take up to two weeks or longer to process them.

If a Legionnaire does not pay for membership for one year, their continuous years of membership will reset to one year, regardless of the number of years they previously had. The missed dues must be paid to recover the years owed.

If dues are unpaid at a Legion Post for three years, rejoining requires filling out a new member application and submitting a DD214, driver's license with veteran's designation, VA medical card, or military ID. You will retain your Legionnaire number.

- Regarding deceased Legionnaires: please inform your family to notify the Post of your passing. Notify the Post directly if an individual outside the family, such as a friend or another Legionnaire, passes away. We were informed that a Legionnaire on the unpaid dues list passed away in 2023 and have had a few other Legionnaires. **In the absence of notification, the following will not occur for the Legionnaire.**
- The names of our deceased Legionnaires are read aloud, and a candle is lit in their honor. This practice occurs from one Post Birthday Party to the next. The Post does not include names from previous time periods.
- A deceased member notification is completed by the Post Adjutant and sent to the 4th District Chaplain for the 2025 membership year, which runs from July 1st, 2024, through June 30th, 2025. The 4th District reads the Legionnaires' names and lights a candle.
- The State convention holds a memorial service for our deceased Legionnaires
- The National convention holds a memorial service for our deceased Legionnaires
- Our SAL Commander has attended the Birthday Party, 4th district. Additionally, attend the State and National conventions and observe the Memorials.

Post Adjutant

Carl Krause

Cell Phone number: 269-769-8294

Email: clkjr@hotmail.com

Service Officer:

Berrien County Veterans Service Office 2025 Event Schedule



March 29th

10:00am St. Joseph Michigan (outdoor event)
Vietnam War Memorial Monument on the Bluff

April 10th Dine & Discover — Compensation Claims — How to maximize a new or claim increase.

6-8pm American Legion Post 331 — 4241 Legion Street, Bridgman, MI 49106

May 9th

Visit us at the Area Agency on Aging Senior Expo 10-3pm
The Mendel Center — Lake Michigan College

June 6th

Veteran Stand Down

10am-2pm Lake Michigan Gardens 2584 E. Napier Ave, Benton Harbor, MI

Wednesdays

Benton Harbor Farmers Market June 18-September 24th 10am-3pm
Dwight P Mitchell City Center Park

June 21nd

Visit our tent at the Let's We Forget — The Sandbox Wars
9am-2pm 275 Upton Drive, St. Joseph MI

August 11-16th Visit our tent at the Berrien County Youth Fair — Berrien Springs, MI

September 9th Dine & Discover — 15 Things Every Veteran Should Know

9-3pm Berrien County Conference Room 2149 East Napier Ave, Benton Harbor, MI

September 20st Be the Light — Suicide Awareness & Prevention — Locations Countywide

October 2nd

Thursday Evening - 9 week course LIMITED TO 30 VETS AND THEIR PARTNER 5:30-7pm 701
Main Street, St. Joseph MI

November 1-12th Operation Green Light — Shine a GREEN LIGHT to tell veterans they are appreciated!

For registration and to learn more contact Berrien County Veterans Service Office

269-983-7111 ext 8224 or veterans@berriencountyeorg



Sign up for VIBE to get event notices

Veterans in Berrien
ENGAGE!

AUXILIARY NEWS: "In the Spirit of Service Not Self for Veterans, God and Country."

We are sending a prayer to any member and their families that are currently facing difficulties.

Trolling with the Troops will be June 20 for dinner and June 21 for the fishing trip.

Just a reminder that April and May are the election of officers. June we will be installing the new officers. If you are interested in a position, or would like to nominate a member, please come to April and May's meetings. All positions are open.

If you would like to volunteer for any of our events, please contact **Mary Schmidke** at 269-208-7290 with your name and phone number.

We say **Thank You** to all that donate their time, energy, and baked goods!

Next Taco Night is April 15, 2025, from 4:30pm to 6:30pm. We will be selling Salsa and Cookbooks as a fundraiser.

Poppy day is May 16, with the rain date of May 17, at the village corner, please contact **Linda Steinberger** at 269-429-6485, if you would like to help sell Poppies.

There will be a sign-up sheet at the bar entrance in April. Also, containers at the bar for donations and a poppy.

Thank you to everyone that supports the Auxiliary and Legion. Without your help we cannot continue to serve our Veterans.

Our next meeting will be April 1, 2025, at 6:00pm.

Jennifer Kickles-President

Auxiliary Membership News:

If you get a statement and have paid your dues already, please ignore it and throw it away. If you need to renew your membership, please either drop off your \$35.00 off at the legion or mail your dues to me at: **Ann Dailey**, 1580 Greg Road, Stevensville, MI 49127. Any questions please contact me at 269-930-7274 or ann.dailey@sbcglobal.net.

Respectfully,

Ann Dailey - Membership Chairperson

JUNIORS NEWS:

We dropped off another \$48.57 worth of tabs for the **TABS FOR THE RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE PROJECT**. Thanks to all who contributed. Please continue to save your pop and beer tabs and drop them off at Post 568.

BAR NEWS:

The Post 568 Bar will be closed on **Easter Sunday**, April 20th.

Sunday Fun Day!

Bloody Mary Bar



**April 6th
noon - 3pm**

\$5

**Enjoy a
Bloody Mary
at Post 568!**



**PROGRESSIVE
TOURNAMENT**

SUNDAY!

SUNDAY, APRIL 6TH

**REGISTER AT 12:30PM * PLAY STARTS AT 1PM
\$5 ENTRY**

Stevensville American Legion Post 568



BURGER NIGHT

Wednesday, April 9th
from 4:30 - 6:30pm

Burger & Fries \$8

Double Burger & Fries \$12

Public Welcome!

Stevensville American Legion Post 568
3093 Johnson Road * Stevensville, MI 49127
(269)429-7101



TACO NIGHT

Tuesday, April 15th
4:30 - 6:30pm

**DESSERTS
AVAILABLE FOR
A DONATION!**

**Drink
Special! \$5
MARGARITAS!**

Public Welcome!



**(3) Tacos - Hard or Soft Shell
Beef, Chicken or Refried Beans
with Chips & Salsa**

OR

**Nachos
Beef, Chicken or Refried Beans
with Chips & Salsa**

\$10

Stevensville American Legion Post 568 * 3093 Johnson Road, Stevensville, MI 49127 * (269)429-7101

**Stevensville American Legion Post 568
will be closed on
April 20th**

Easter Sunday



Regular Hours will resume on Monday, April 21st.

***Thirsty
Thursday***



Drink Specials!

Every Thursday at Post 568!



**Teams drawn at 5:45pm
Games begin at 6pm
\$5 Entry per Person**

Play every once in a while, or better yet, every week!

Please support all the upcoming activities and events at the Post

SONS NEWS:



Thanks to all of those that turned out for our annual **Legion Birthday Party!!** We appreciate everyone's support and for the SAL Members who helped set up the tables and for bartending the event.

The donation boxes have been completed. With the donations collected in these boxes, the SAL will be able to use those funds to donate to several of the organizations that we support. B We would like to thank **Roger Schermer** for taking the time to make the boxes for us.

Don't forget to get your orders in for your Easter Pork Loin. Contact Ron Wyatt to place your order, 269-208-0886.

We had a Member announcement, We had a Lakeshore Senior, **Cole Lausch**, receive the Michigan Legion Scholarship, Guy M Wilson (1 of 5) , he and his family were present, Ron stated that he would announce this at the Birthday party. "Congratulations!!!!"

Mike discussed the fact that the Blue Star Mothers local chapter may have to shut down, they lack new members.

Nomination for Officers starts in April (one round is required for SAL)

Two new members: Steven **Moncrief** and **Lloyd Cates**, paperwork is in order. **Mike Hoover** motioned to Approve both and **Peachy** seconded, Vote passed.

#202 – Name drawn was Arthur Stolte (Not Present)

Next SAL meeting is **Monday April 14, 2025, at 7 pm**, hope to see everyone there.

For God and Country!

Respectively,

---Jeff Bradford – SAL Adjutant

BASEBALL NEWS:



The Legion Baseball Season is just around the corner. Please plan to support our team.

Post 568 will be hosting the 2025 American Legion State Baseball Tournament. More information to follow.

LEGION RIDERS NEWS:



“Legion Family First, Riders Second”

We are happy to report that our first dinner of the year on Friday, March 14th was successful. We served 70 meals and sold all our extra pork loins.

Our next dinner will be on Friday, May 9th 4:30-8 pm at Post 51 Buchanan.

It was reported at our March meeting that we had one renewal. Making our paid membership at 16. We are still looking for more members.

Our meetings are held on 4th Sunday of the month at 11 am at Post 51, Buchanan.

We've recently purchased a 65 inch flat screen TV for one of the raffle prizes for the upcoming benefit ride in August. We also have contacted the Berrien County Sheriff's Department to escort our ride on August 23rd.

We are still looking for new or used cylinder type charcoal smokers to be donated or possibly purchase to replace or recondition our old ones (Brinkman or Gourmet) models. Thank you for any help in this endeavor.

April is just around the corner and more opportunities to ride... be safe out there! Look high in steering, keep your eyes moving, leave yourself an out, make sure they see you and use your lights, signals and horn.

A Blessed Easter to all our Legion family and friends. Keep our service men, women and their families in your thoughts and prayers.



Don't ride faster than your Angels can fly.

Until we meet again... Faith, Family, Freedom"

**For God & Country,
Mike Hoover
A.L.R. Director**

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