

CARL A. JOHNSON POST #2

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BITS AND PIECES

Our Veterans and Auxiliary
Serving Veterans
Since 1919



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Jan 28 Post E Board virtual meeting 7 pm - 8:30 pm

Projected for February Bits and Pieces, we will reflect the response to Who or what is a Military Veteran? and we will Toot the Horn for some members that have Past Away; their contribution and what it means to be a Legionnaire. Among them the McDonald family. Welcome all to this wonderful New Year 2021. It needs to make up for the Down Fall of 2020. May each of us think of others and assist when there is a need but you must take care of yourself first or you will not be able to help others. Stay Safe and Well one and all.



**together with our Annual New Year's Dance Party.
God Bless one and all.**

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Have you ever asked yourself, who or what is a Military Veteran?

I read this today: To obtain a Veteran Health Identification Card: Veterans Eligibility is for the purposes of VA health benefits and services, a person who served in the active military service and who was discharged or released under

**We Pray that all had a good and safe Christmas.
Please, all be safe when bringing in the New Year.
From the Carl A. Johnson Post 2, Boat and Canoe, we Are sorry that this new year was or will not be Brought in**

conditions other than dishonorable is a Veteran.

WOW, is that all a Veteran is? We should know, what is written here is not really what or who a Veteran is but a condition that must be meant or a qualifying condition to get the card representing a Military Veteran Benefit authorized a person.

Is a Veteran someone that has served their Country and should be recognized as someone special? Today we reflect that a Law Enforcement Officer, a Fire responder, or Medical responder and many more professions that people work are special. Here is a little something to think about: A farmer goes into the field with heavy equipment. He or she spends the day working so many can eat. What would we do without food? Guess we would not need to worry or concern ourselves with having Freedom. So, the question is, is a Farmer someone Special? A farmer is a form of a Veteran after working the fields or raising livestock; their time and knowledge, their work with heavy dangerous equipment should qualify them as Veterans. I assume we call them Veteran Farmers.

Today's Military Veteran is normally a person that volunteered to serve our country. They have sworn to put their life on the line to maintain the Country's Freedom against foreign and domestic threats AND today they often do much more for our Country. In times of disaster, or community violent eruption they

may be called to assist those that normally handle such.

I'm a Veteran. I have my answer of who I was before, during, and after my time in service. What about you?

Who or What is a Military Veteran? Please, send me your answer to the question. If you are not a Veteran, please also feel free to respond. Do not be like me and write a book but be as clear and short as possible with your answer. Those that send me their answer are also authorizing me to publish all or part of their response. Note, in your response, if your name can be shared. I assure you; I will keep your name private if that is your wish. Let us share our story, ideas and or facts to the question.

At The Boat and Canoe

Many of you know that SAL #258 Commander and Bar Council Delegate, Sam Ashendorf, died unexpectedly on December 3rd. Sam's contributions to the Club are immeasurable, leaving a tremendous void in our organization and in our hearts.

Activities at the club are still on hold, best I know. Be safe one and all so we can meet again and Hopefully soon.

Did You Know?



Theresa Robinson, Eric Nelson, Kim Lang, and our own Jim Antrim.

I call these our Fantastic Four. They are always up to something. Here they are delivering goods to the Veterans Home in Grand Rapids. We are surrounded with District Veterans that are doing good things for others all the time. Mask or no mask they ride on.

“Hi-yo, Silver! Away! “



The Lone Ranger

As generally depicted, the Lone Ranger conducts himself by a strict moral code based on that put in place by Striker at the inception of the character. It read:

I believe that to have a friend,
a man must be one.

That all men are created equal
and that everyone has within himself
the power to make this a better world.

That God put the firewood there
but that every man
must gather and light it himself.

In being prepared
physically, mentally, and morally
to fight when necessary
for what is right.

That a man should make the most
of what equipment he has.

That 'this government,
of the people, by the people
and for the people'
shall live always.

That men should live by
the rule of what is best
for the greatest number.

That sooner or later...
somewhere...somehow...
we must settle with the world
and make payment for what we have taken.

That all things change but truth,
and that truth alone, lives on forever.

In my Creator, my country, my fellow man

(A touch of history for all. A truly respectful
television show in my opinion.)

Auxiliary News

BITS & PIECES – January 2021

We hope that everyone is safe and healthy during this pandemic. It's difficult, especially during the holidays, to change our celebrations with family and friends as we have done in the past, but in the long run it's the safest thing to do. With the vaccine currently being released, we hope that those that want to take it will do so to help us see the slowing or end of this terrible disease.

As reported recently on the news, the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans has experienced 45 residents testing positive from November 27 to December 10, along with six residents passing away. I believe those figures have since increased. There are 160 residents at the Home and they have all been quarantined to their rooms since March. Please pray for them as they deal with their isolation. Hopefully, the

vaccine will soon be available for them to start the process of returning to normalcy.

Our membership in the Auxiliary is currently at 65 against a goal of 68, and we have two dues pending to be sent in. All we need is one more new member to reach our goal. We don't know at this time when we will be able to start meeting again, but we'll keep you informed as soon as we have more information. Feel free to call me if you have any questions.

Our thanks go out to Auxiliary member Linda Scott for working the Taco Tuesdays and raising funds for our Auxiliary. We also want to give credit to her sidekick Post Commander Don Fletcher for his help on the seven Tuesdays when they raised the money. It's difficult, especially during these current times, to have any fundraising activities, and we appreciate the time and effort that they put into helping our Unit.



January 2021 Birthdays:

- 4 Marie Rose Hopkins
- 14 Katlyn McVeigh
- 16 Darva Boot
- 18 Juanita Mulligan
- 30 Elizabeth Granstra

Pamela McVeigh, Secretary/Treasurer
(616) 452-6311
email: p.mcveigh@comcast.net

Adjutants Corner

Attention Post 2 Members:
As of midnight December 31 your 2020 Legion **membership card** will be **expired!** Renew Today to stay current! You can do so by going

online at Legion.org or snail mail to our Post Office Box: Carl A. Johnson Post 2 P.O. Box 104 Comstock Park, MI 49321.

Here is our latest membership Goal Report: Goal is 137 and we are at 64.23 percent of that goal. We need to be at 80 percent by 11 January 2021. We have a way to go. A Big Thank You to those that have already paid. We are looking for new members and current members to fill Officer and Committee positions in the Post. Contact Commander Fletcher or Adjutant Palczewski if interested.

CORRESPONDANCE:

D.A.V. Chapter 2, Kentwood, MI. requesting one of our members to work with them being an advocate for all veterans benefits. Any volunteer to do this would be representing Post 2 and sharing any information we have with them and they with us. Call Don if your interested 616-802-0806.



POST January BIRTHDAYS

- | | | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|--------------|----------|
| 1 | Dennis Manza | Army | Vietnam | 01/20 |
| 2 | Craig Schwarz | Army | Persian Gulf | 01/26 |
| 3 | Richard Heft | Air Force | WWII | 93 01/29 |
| 4 | Steven Albert | Navy | Vietnam | 01/29 |

Please submit any announcements or items for the newsletter to Don Fletcher, Editor. Requests must be received by the 15th to be in the next newsletter. (616)802-0806 cajohnsonpost2@gmail.com



History is made and is everywhere.

Fran Striker and George W. Trendle drew up the following guidelines that embody who and what the Lone Ranger is:^[16]

- The Lone Ranger was never seen without his mask or some sort of disguise.
- He was never captured or held for any length of time by lawmen, avoiding his being unmasked.
- He always used perfect grammar and precise speech devoid of slang and colloquialisms.
- Whenever he was forced to use guns, he never shot to kill, but instead tried to disarm his opponent as painlessly as possible.
- He was never put in a hopeless situation; e.g., he was never seen escaping from a barrage of gunfire merely by fleeing toward the horizon.
- He rarely referred to himself as the Lone Ranger. If someone's suspicion were aroused, either the Lone Ranger would present one of his silver bullets to confirm his identity or someone else would attest on his behalf; the latter happened at the end of most episodes when someone would ask, "Who was that masked man?" as the Lone Ranger departed. His decision to adopt the moniker of Lone Ranger was inspired by Tonto; following the ambush at Bryant's Gap, Tonto observed him to be the only ranger left—in other words, he was the "lone" ranger.
- Though the Lone Ranger offered his aid to individuals or small groups facing powerful adversaries, the ultimate objective of his story always implied that their benefit was only a byproduct of the development of the West or the country.
- Adversaries were rarely other than American, to avoid criticism from minority groups, with some exceptions. He sometimes battled foreign agents, though their nation of origin was generally not named. An exception was his having

helped the Mexican [Benito Juárez](#) against French troops of [Emperor Maximilian](#), as occurred in the radio episodes "Supplies for Juarez" (18 September 1939), "Hunted by Legionnaires" (20 September 1939), and "Lafitte's Reinforcements" (22 September 1939).

- The names of unsympathetic characters were carefully chosen so that they never consisted of two names if it could be avoided. More often than not, a single nickname or surname was selected.
- The Lone Ranger never drank or smoked, and saloon scenes were usually shown as cafes, with waiters and food instead of bartenders and liquor.
- Criminals were never shown in enviable positions of wealth or power, and they were never successful or glamorous.

Past Post Cmdr. Walter McVeigh 1979-80



Past Post Cmdr. Dale Gould 1980-81



DRIVE WITH US



Our Volunteer Freedom Drivers Make a Difference

There are gaps in our transportation system that leave our servicemen and servicewomen disconnected from the pillars of a secure life. We want to give them more. We want to do better.

The West Michigan Veterans Coalition is giving a lift to the military-connected individuals in Kent County, MI. Join our force of Freedom Drivers as we provide critical rides to veterans, caregivers, and immediate family members:

- » Grocery Store/Food Pantry
- » Social Supports/Activities
- » Medical Appointments
- » Employment/Employment Services



What We Ask:

- » Maintain a current driver's license, vehicle, auto insurance, and smartphone
- » Complete our background check

What You Get:

- » Training to support your volunteer experience
- » Safety procedures and supplies to minimize risk
- » Mileage reimbursement
- » An opportunity to be a hero to our heroes

1.) APPLY ONLINE.

2.) COMPLETE OUR ONBOARDING PROCESS.

3.) DRIVE WITH AN AMAZING TEAM.



idriveforfreedom.org

616-600-6834

