

**WALTER T. ROACH AMERICAN LEGION POST 182
165 WEST LINCOLN STREET - HUBBARDSTON, MICHIGAN. 48845
NEWSLETTER NUMBER NINETEEN, AUGUST SEPTEMBER, 2004**

Legion Officers

Commander - William Kruger
 Adjutant - Dan Heckman
 Vice Comdr. - Terry Fletcher
 2nd Vice Comdr., Newsletter - Bud Howard
 Sgt.-At-Arms - Leo McMillan
 Finance Officer - James Barker
 Service Officer - Murdo Wood
 Chaplain - James R. McGinn
 Historian - John Stoddard
 Trustees - Terry Fletcher, Bud Howard, Leo McMillan

Auxiliary Officers

President - Kelly Melton
 1st Vice - Tracey Ewalt
 2nd Vice - Membership - Lezlie Hauck
 Sec.-Treasurer - Tanya Mills
 Chaplain - Agnes Bradbury
 Historian - Joanne Howard
 Sgt.-At-Arms - Kim Brown
 Poppy Chairman - Carolyn Cunningham
 Girl's State Chairman - Sheila Thurston
 Sunshine Chairman - Carol Fitzpatrick

Sons of the American Legion Officers

Comdr. - Kurt White
 Adjutant - Bobby Ward
 1st Vice Comdr. - Neil Speckin
 2nd Vice Comdr. - Brian Stoudt
 Finance Officer - Dave Oistad
 Chaplain - Bill Cunningham
 Historian - Pat White
 Sgt. at Arms - Dale Richards

Calendar of Coming Events

August 8	Annual Chicken BBQ Dinner	12:00 Noon
	Dr. John Lattimer "Lindbergh"	3:00PM
	Tractor Pull	11:00AM
Sept. 25-26	Tractor Pulls	11:00 AM
Oct. 3	Sunday Breakfast	8:30-11:00 AM
Oct. 29	Halloween Dance	9:00 PM
	Costume Judging	10:30 PM
Nov. 7	Sunday Breakfast	8:30-11:00 AM
Nov. 12	Veteran's Day Celebration	9:00 PM
	Buck and Doe Dance	
Dec. 5	Sunday Breakfast	
Dec. 18	Children's Christmas Party	2:00 PM
Dec. 31	New Year's Eve Party	9:00 PM

**An Arkansas State trooper pulls over a pick-up truck on I-40 and says to the driver, "Got any I.D?"
 The driver says, "Bout what?"**

Renovations Beautify Post 182

In the May Newsletter we asked for volunteers to honor the memory of their loved ones by donating funds in their name to replace the three picture windows on the "Fish Creek View" side of the clubhouse. They have been installed and look terrific. Thanks to the generosity of the following members, their loved ones will remain in our memories for years to come. Jim and Cheryl Ward donated one window in memory of their deceased loved ones. Bob and Rita Cunningham Huhn and the Clifford and Vera O'Connell O'Grady families donated window number two. Harry Lee and Janette Bozung Sanborn, Jim and Suzie Peiffer Barker, Bud and Joanne Burns Howard. Bob and Katie Burns Cashen, Pat McCormick Baese, Gary and Terry Cunningham Lilly, Charlie and T. Ann Cunningham and Buck and Sharon Cunningham combined funds to donate window number three. Thanks to all of you thoughtful and generous people, another milestone has been achieved. Each time you look out on that beautiful scene toward the "River Fish," you can be proud of yourselves once again. **Special thanks to Katie Cashen, Yvonne Boomer, Kelly Melton and Sheila Thurston for their efforts** at organizing the fund-raiser and seeing it through to completion. We appreciate your time and hard work, and the results are beautiful.

The siding on the addition has been matched with an exterior refinishing on the original brick section of Post 182, known to those in the area as "The Langdon Mansion," (although it wasn't built originally by the Langdon's) in a beautifully classic shade (until I find out the actual tint) of Bailey's Irish Crème. It looks elegant and Country Painters under Mr. Jegla did a super job. How fortunate we are to have in our midst, these master craftsmen under the direction of Doug Cusack and Bill Cunningham and others of whom I am not aware, with the expertise to guide us to the newest, most durable and exciting materials latest on the market. It's difficult to start adding names, since I'm sure to leave a vital person out. Needless to say, we are breathing easier and

enjoying the results of a much-needed expansion and superior updating on Post 182. You can't miss the new 'Barbecue Center' which has been enlarged and redone on the interior as well as exterior by the SALS, as I am told. Checking it out last week, I was amazed at just how fantastically things are moving along. I guess carpeting (interior and entrance) and "the kitchen" will be next on the agenda. What we need is someone with an asphalt company to pop in and say, "How would you like to get that parking lot paved for a 'song?" I think Comdr. Bill Kruger and the SALS would say, "Which song and how loud would you like it?" Anyway, hopefully we can find a manageable solution to the parking and the parking lot problem. When we have food that is "out of this world" we have to expect lots of people and that means space for cars. But **"so many people" is a problem, we love to ponder!** Thanks to Jim Barker, Leo McMillan, Mark and Delores Fletcher Schmitt, the Judy's, and all of the officers and members involved in this endeavor and all of the fund-raisers, our club is spacious and beautiful.

Two guys were discussing popular family trends on sex, marriage and values. Stu said, "I didn't sleep with my wife before we got married, did you?" Leroy replied, "I'm not sure. What was her maiden name?"

Driver s License Heads Up

You no longer have the month of your tags expiration date to renew. They **must be renewed on or before the first day of the month** they expire or you pay a \$10 tag late fee.

If you receive an OUIL citation, not only do you have to pay your fine, a new \$40 surtax and license reinstatement fee, but you will also be getting a \$1000 bill each year for the next two years courtesy of Public Act # 165.

A doctor examined a woman, took her husband aside, and said, "I don't like the looks of your wife at all." "Me neither, doc," said the husband. "But she's a great cook and really good with the kids."

We Look Back 60 Years

Normandy, France D Day, June 6, 2004

As the President of the U.S. concluded his speech, silence overtook the spell-bound audience. The stillness spoke infinitely louder than parades or victory cheers. **Fred Morris of Lake Odessa was one of the hundreds of World War II veterans** in the crowd at

Colleville Sur Mer...Morris and his wife were welcomed by director Steven Spielberg, actor Tom Hanks, Tom Brokaw, Andy Rooney, and were interviewed by cable channel HBO for its "Sands of Remembrance" series. "It was nice to be in a country and celebration when people treated you as dignitaries," said Morris. "You felt so appreciated..." When the couple visited Utah Beach where Morris's unit of Aviation Engineers of the Ninth Army Air Force landed on June 6, 1944, they paused to reflect on a frightening time in their lives.

Morris, a maple syrup farmer outside Lake Odessa since 1947, was a 21 year-old dairy farmer when he enlisted in the U.S. Army on February 2, 1942. He attended basic training in Tucson, Arizona for eight weeks before being shipped by rail to camps in Pendleton, Oregon, Wendover, Utah and Fort Dix, N.J. After his final training - five days at Fort Dix, he was loaded on a troop ship headed for Great Britain. After initially landing in Glasgow, Scotland, his job as a heavy equipment operator was to help construct emergency fighter landing strips all over Europe...Gen. Montgomery briefed Morris' unit prior to the invasion saying, "It's going to be the greatest show of the century; worth risking your life to see."...For U.S. World War II veterans like Morris, all over the country as well as in Hubbardston, the 60th Anniversary of Normandy offered a peaceful closure to a desperate time of strife long ago. The veterans were honored publicly for their sacrifices long ago on foreign lands, but the impact of all of our veterans brave actions will resonate forever.(**Johathon Kollnot, Sentinel Standard, 7/6/04**)

For other World War Two veterans, the dedication of the Memorial in Washington over Memorial Day Weekend, 2004 marked the culmination of a long-time goal, spear-headed by Sen. Robert Dole who raised \$175 million for the Memorial plus another \$15 million for its perpetual care. The movement was certainly motivated by the release of the film, "Saving Private Ryan" and the ensuing fund-raising efforts of Tom Hanks and Steven Spielberg. **The National WWII Memorial** is today complete in all of its glory at the National Mall in Washington DC. and welcoming visitors by the thousands. **The American Legion donated \$4.4 million dollars to the effort as well as \$520,000 by the KC 4th Degree Councils** throughout the country. Post 182's veteran adjutant **Edwin Bradbury** is listed on that register as a Seabee in the Pacific Theatre of War as are other veterans whose families donated funds for the memorial.

A big city lawyer went duck hunting in rural Tennessee, shot a bird and it fell across the fence in a farmer's field. As he climbed over the fence, an elderly farmer drove up and said, "This is my property and you can't come over here." The indignant lawyer said, "If you don't let me get that duck, I'll sue you and take everything you own." The old farmer smiled and said, "In Tennessee we settle disagreements like this with the "Three Kick Rule." "And what's that?" said the lawyer. "Well, the dispute is on my land so I get to kick you three times and then you can kick me three times until someone gives up." The lawyer looked at the old codger and said, "Fine!" The farmer walked over and smashed his steel toe boot in the lawyer's groin and dropped him. Before he could move, he kicked him in the midriff and sent the lawyer's last meal gushing. With the lawyer on all fours, the farmer's third kick to his rear end sent him face-first into a fresh cow pie. Summoning every ounce of energy he had left, the lawyer got to his feet and said, "Okay, you old fart. Now it's my turn." The old farmer smiled and said, "Naw, I give up. You can have the duck."

Have you read Hubbardston Genealogy, plus "A Bit of History" and "A Bit of Blarney, Too!" by Peter Burns and Joanne Burns Howard (your Auxiliary historian)? Reader response has been absolutely wonderful and sales terrific. This book makes a perfect gift with information on our local military heroes as well as family histories, immigrant shipping records and the genealogy of the first 147 families to the sixth generation in most cases. Plus, 10% of all profits go to the new Hubbardston Area Historical Society. The Celtic Path (989-981-6066) carries the book or it can be ordered for \$39.95 at mjh655@pathwaynet.com or 989-584-3803.

Baked Stuffed Chicken

6-7 lb. whole chicken, 1 cup melted butter, 1 cup stuffing (Pepperidge Farm is good), 1 cup uncooked popcorn (Orville Redenbacher's Low Fat), salt and pepper to taste.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Brush chicken with butter. Fill cavity with stuffing and popcorn. Place in baking pan with the neck end towards the back of the oven. Listen for popping sounds. When the chicken's butt blows the oven door open and the chicken flies across the room, it is done. And you thought I couldn't cook!!!!

A little old lady was running up and down the halls in a nursing home flipping up her nightgown and yelling, "Supersex." She went up to an old guy in a wheel chair, flipped her gown and said, "Supersex." He sat quietly for a minute and then said, "I'll take the soup."

Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Arlington, Va.

We all remember **Robert "Bobby" Burns** from Hubbardston; son of Robert (Scorp) and Zona Martin Burns and **brother of Bill (deceased), Patricia (deceased), Judy Rocke, Nancy Speckin, and Mary Esch.** Until his death about two years ago, most of us did not know that during his service life **he had served as a guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.** 'Bobby' was so quiet; he seldom had much to say, but "spick and slick" he was in uniform, making a perfect 'sentinel' during his duty hours. We have records of so many of our Hubbardston area lads who made us proud in so many ways and in so many places. Consider for a moment if you will, the significance of every move 'Bobby' made at the tomb.

The Plaintive Route for the Tomb

The guard takes 21 steps during his walk across the tomb which alludes to the 21 gun salute, which is the highest honor given to any military or foreign dignitary. He does an 'about face' and hesitates exactly 21 seconds before his return walk for the same reason. He wears white gloves which are wet to prevent him from losing his grip on the rifle. He carries his rifle on the shoulder away from the tomb. After his march across the path, he executes an 'about face' and moves the rifle to the other (outside) shoulder. Guards are changed every 30 minutes, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Qualifications of Guards for the Tomb

They must be between 5'10" and 6'2" tall and their waist size cannot exceed 30 inches. They commit **two years of their life** to guard the tomb, live in barracks under the tomb and **cannot drink alcohol on or off duty for the rest of their lives.** They cannot swear in public or disgrace the uniform (fighting) in any way. **After two years, the guard is given a wreath pin** that is worn on their lapel signifying they have served as guard of the tomb. **There are only 400 presently worn. The guard must obey these rules for the rest of his life or give up the wreath pin.** The shoes are made with very thick soles to keep heat and cold from their feet. There are metal heel plates that extend to the top of the shoe in order to make a loud click as they come to a halt. There are no wrinkles, lint or folds on the uniform. Guards dress for duty in front of a full-length mirror. The first six months on duty, the guard cannot talk to anyone, nor watch TV. All off-time duty is spent studying the 175 notable people laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery. A guard must

memorize who they are and where they are interred. Every guard spends five hours a day getting his uniform ready for guard duty.

Recently, the US Senate/House took two days off because of an expected Hurricane approaching Washington DC. The military members guarding the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier were given permission to suspend the assignment. They respectfully declined. "No way, Sir. Guarding the tomb is not just an assignment. It is the highest honor that can be afforded to a service person," was their response. The tomb has been patrolled 24/7 since 1930.

Interred recently at Arlington National Cemetery was Col. Nick Geller's wife, Mary from Carson City. As the wife of an officer she has the privilege if she so chooses. A delegation of friends and legionnaires accompanied her body there for burial about two years ago.

Everything is always okay in the end. If it's not – then it's not the end.

Taps

Bernard F. "Ben" Schafer

Agnes Schafer Bradbury, Senior Post 182 Auxiliary member and Gerald Schafer, life member of Post 182 lost their brother in May of this year. He had fought a long and gallant battle against cancer. He married Jean Wirt, of Lansing at St. John the Baptist Church in Hubbardston with best friend Norwood Tabor as his 'best man.' Jean asked Joanne Burns to be her maid-of-honor and the ladies dressed at "Joe and Eve's house, as many of the brides did at this time. (No parish hall with facilities available!) Ben lived all of his remaining years in the Lansing area.

Bernard F. "Ben" Schafer, 77, devoted husband, father, and grandfather passed away Wednesday, May 12, 2004 in Lansing. He was born September 4, 1926 in Hubbardston, Mi., the son of Henry and Veronica Bierstetel Schafer Welsh. Bernard had to leave school early to help support the family. He was a veteran of WWII, serving in the U.S. Army Infantry. He attained his G.E.D. later in life. He became a 'Millwright,' achieving journeyman status, retiring from General Motors after 38 years of service. Bernard was a member of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish and past member of the Moose Lodge and Liederkrantz Club. He was preceded in death by his brother

Paul. Surviving are his loving wife, Lavonna Jean; six children, Bernard K., Mike (Mary), Kevin, Pam (Robert) Schafer-Brown, Mark (Sherry) and Doug; five grandchildren, Valerie, Jonathan, Natalie, Meagan, and Tyler; sisters Mary Ann, Rita, and Agnes (52 year member of Post 182 Auxiliary); brother Thomas (Helen) and Gerald (PUFL member of Post 182).

The funeral was celebrated Monday, May 17 by Fr. Gerald Gawronski. Entombment was at St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society in memory of Ben Schafer.

JoAnn Marie Fernholtz

Our condolences to long-time Post 182 members Mark and Delores Schmitt in the loss of Delores's sister, Jo Ann, in early June. Her funeral was a beautiful ceremony with Father Mel Fox giving a very touching tribute to her and her caring vitality throughout her life.

Jo Ann Marie Fernholtz, age 67, of Ionia passed away on Monday, June 7, 2004. She was born February 5, 1937 in Portland, the daughter of Harold and Marguerite Fernholtz. JoAnn was a member of Ss. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Ionia and she had deep spiritual beliefs as well as a strong personal relationship with God. She loved her work as well as volunteering at the Ionia County Commission on Aging and Family Independence Agency. Preceding her in death are her parents and grandmother, Minnie Fedewa. Surviving are her brother, Paul (Elizabeth) Fernholtz of Muir; sisters, Delores (Mark) Schmitt of Hubbardston, Sandra (Joe) Meyers of Ionia and Janice (Jim) Maynard of Ionia; and many nephews, nieces, aunts and uncles.

The Mass of Christian burial was celebrated on June 10, 2004 by Fr. Melvin Fox at Ss. Peter and Paul Church and committal was at Portland Cemetery. Pall Bearers were Jason Meyers, Larry Fedewa, Daniel Fedewa, Steven Fletcher, Justin Maynard and Michael Fox. Memorial contributions may be made to Ionia Area Hospice, Ionia County Commission on Aging or Sts. Peter and Paul Educational Trust Fund, in memory of Jo Ann Fernholtz.

A man spoke frantically into the phone, "My wife is pregnant and her contractions are only two minutes apart!"

"Is this her first child?" the doctor asked.

"No," the man shouted. "This is her husband."

They are the Gold Star children, war's innocent victims and their pain shimmers across the years pure and undimmed. They pass through life with an empty room in their hearts where a father was supposed to live and laugh and love. All their lives they listen for footsteps that will never fall and long to know what might have been. (Lt. Gen. Howard Moore, Vietnam)

Police had good luck with a robbery suspect in a lineup. When detectives asked each man to repeat the words, "Give me your money or I'll shoot," the man shouted, "That's not what I said!"

Wartime Letter Brings Memories

When **Edward Loudenbeck** was serving with the U.S. Army during WWI, he received a letter from his pastor back home in **Carson City, Mi.** While going through Edward's Bible recently, his daughter came across that letter..."It was written in 1918 but the message is timeless," states Max Loudenbeck, Edward's son who lives in St. Johns, Mi. Edward has been dead for 32 years and the letter dated November 26, 1918 was only recently found.

To Private Edward H. Loudenbeck.
Somewhere in France
November 26, 1918

Very Dear Brother,
Just a line to let you know you are not forgotten by "the little church" in North Shade. I am writing to "my boys" including you and my own son who also is "somewhere in France." No doubt you hear from loved ones here, who give you the "News," so I will not attempt that. But I wanted you to know that you have a place in our heart and prayers also. There are great days in the making of History and our hearts beat in patriotic pride, as we think of "Our Boys" who have so nobly shown to the world what the "Sons of Free People" can do. We rejoice in the prospect of coming Peace, and the hope of seeing "Our Noble Lads" soon again at home. Be true to your Country and your God, no matter where duty calls. May God abundantly bless and keep you. We are "keeping the home fires burning" and looking forward in cheer and love to the time when the "safety of Humanity" will permit you to worship with us again at the "home altars."

Affectionately your Pastor, John S. Beers

It has been 86 years since those words were written. Edward was in France when the armistice was signed. The conflict in Iraq may not be a World War but it involves persons from nearly every corner of the globe in one way or another. "Our Noble Lads and Women" are once again risking their lives to defend freedom and the American way of life. While many may not agree with the conflict, the fact remains that the American people support the troops and will continue to do so with prayers, thoughts, letters and whatever it takes. (Sue Lounds, Clinton County News)

"They fought for us; for us they fell...Only the solemn pride of having given more than all the rest is theirs who live to weep. But all the world, because of what they gave, is debtor to them." (Military Prayer Service)

21st Michigan Infantry regiment-Civil War

This great regiment was recruited from 19 Michigan counties in 1862 and organized in Ionia, Mi with most of the field and staff officers being from Ionia. Under Gen Buell and Sheridan at Perrysville, Gen McCreery at Chickamauga and Chantanooga and finally under Gen Sherman on his March to the Sea, the 21st was finally in Savannah with most of its members killed or wounded in action. Of the 350 Ionia County men who served, only 138 returned home safely and unharmed June 22, 1865. Listed from North Plains in this unit are : 1st Lt. Oliver Townsend, Truman Brown, 1st Lt. Albert Russell, 2nd Lt. Daniel Cuff, Cpl. Charles Dickenson, Cpl. Edward Reed, Cpl. Charles Stuck, Henry Holbrook, Orrin Reed, Albert Stuck, Columbus Sanborn, William Mattison, and Porter Carver. Many men are listed from Ionia and could easily be North Plains men. (William Delp, Belding, Mi. 1991)

Why Men Are Just Happier People

Your last name stays put. You can be president. Car mechanics tell you the truth. The world is your urinal. Same work, more pay. Wrinkles add character. A five-day vacation requires only one suitcase. Your underwear is \$8.95 a three-pack. The same hair-style lasts for years, maybe decades. You can play with toys all of your life. One wallet, one pair of shoes, one color, all seasons. You do your nails with a pocket knife. You can do Christmas shopping for 25 relatives on December 24th in 45 minutes.

What Retired People Do

I went into the store the other day for about 5 minutes and when I came out a city cop was writing a parking ticket. "Come on Buddy," I said. "Give a guy a break." He ignored me. I called him a Nazi; a piece of cow dung. That was two tickets. I abused him some more and ticket three was written. I didn't care. My car was parked around the corner. I try to have a little fun each day. It's important at my age.

Legion Members Presently Serving in Iraq

On June 11, 2004, I received this letter.

Dear Bud,

Thanks for remembering me and sending the Legion Newsletter. I enjoy it and it keeps me up to date with activities back home. Tell everyone hello and I am anxious to get this over and be back home with my friends and family.

Tammie Court
251 TC CO
Camp Spearhead
APO, AE, 09305

Also serving is Scott Hiner. His address is:

Cpl. Scott Hiner
1439th Eng. Det. FF
FOB Ridgeway
APO – AE 09381

I've included these addressed for your convenience. I'm sure both Tammie and Scott would appreciate a note from their friends and neighbors back home. If you know of others serving, let me know. Ed.

“Come on boys and grab your sabers. Come on boys and ride with me. Give the cry of ‘Gary Owen.’ Make your place in history.” (call to battle used by the boys in Vietnam, 1965. Gary Owen was an Irish hero)

A certain little girl when asked her name would reply, “I’m Mr. Sugarbrown’s daughter.” Her mother told her this was wrong and she should say, “I’m Jane Sugarbrown.” The Vicar spoke to her in Sunday School and said, “Aren’t you Mr. Sugarbrown’s daughter?” She replied, “I thought I was, but my mother says I am not.”

Annual Chicken Barbecue

Walter T Roach Post 182
Hubbardston, Mi.

Sunday, August 8, 2004
Serving from 12:00 Noon to 3:00 P.M.

Special Guest Speaker
Dr. John Lattimer M.D. Sc.D.
of Columbia University, N. Y.

Author of Kennedy-Lincoln, Comparisons
of their Assassinations
Will offer a Lecture and
Slide Presentation on
“Lindberg”

At the conclusion of dinner, about 3:00 P.M.

Dr. John Lattimer
Top Army Surgical Specialist-
World War II
August 8, 2004 – Post 182

Professor Emeritus, Author of three best
sellers and over 300 Medical Research
Papers

PUFL Member of Post 182 –
Hubbardston Native Son

Charter Member of the
Hubbardston Area Historical
Society

Attending Physician – Nuremberg
Trials in Germany
The public is invited to attend



Walter T. Roach Post 182
Bud Howard
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