



Commander's Exclusive

"Ask not what your country can do for you. Ask what you can do for your country." John F. Kennedy. Some of us can still remember when President Kennedy said this, I was just a runny nose youngster.

So, allow me to make a few changes to this famous quote: by replacing the word country to The American Legion Neal E. Fonger Post #179.

Ask not what your American Legion Neal E. Fonger Post #179. Can do for you. Ask what you can do for American Legion Neal E. Fonger Post #179.

1. Ask not what your legion post can do for you:
Ask what you can do for your post.
2. Can do for you: but what we can do for our post and members of our Armed Forces serving today.
3. Ask what you can do: four are many forgotten veterans in the nursing home and who are dying on the street of our great nations homeless — or dying of diseases such as dioxin poisoning or better known as agent orange. And many more diseases.

(Continued on next page)

New Member Orientation

Maybe you are a new member, or maybe you have been a member for years. This orientation will outline what your membership is all about and answer all the questions you might have.

We like to call it "The 179". You will learn the benefits of your membership and how you can get involved in the many programs, events, and opportunities available at American Legion Post 179.

AMERICAN LEGION POST 179
2327 WILSON AVE. SW.
WALKER, MI 49534

November 5th, 2019 at 6 p.m.

OCTOBER MEETING DATES

S.A.L. Meeting Oct. 7 @ 7:00 p.m.
 Auxiliary Meeting Oct. 14 @ 6:30 p.m.
 Legion Meeting Oct. 15 @ 7:00 p.m.
 Clubroom Committee Mtg. . . Oct. 30 @ 6:30 p.m.
 Legion Riders Oct. 27 @ 12:30 p.m.
 Boy Scouts Every Tuesday @ 7:00 p.m.

5th District Meetings

November 12 @ 7:00 p.m. @ Post 208 (Kentwood)

OCTOBER

5 - Leadership College/Social Media Class...pg. 6
 10 - Benefit for Trevor & Nichole Iler.....pg. 4
 12 - 5th District Picnic Fundraiser Dinner....pg. 2
 20 - Commanders Coffee Hour.....pg. 6
 24 - Blood Drive.....pg. 5
 26 - Halloween Party in the clubroom.....pg. 8
27 - NEW CLUBROOM HOURS.....pg. 6

NOVEMBER

2 - Euchre Tournament.....TBA
 5 - New Member Orientation.....pg. 1
 10 - Marine Corps Birthday.....pg. 4
 11 - Veterans Day Ceremony.....pg. 2
 12 - Veterans Day Salute.....pg. 2
 Military Uniform Display.....pg. 2
 Vietnam Memorial Wallpg. 2
 Free Pizza Party.....pg. 2.
 Registration deadline for Oratorical.....pg.5
 13 - Operation Shoebox for Troops.....pg. 8
 15 - Hunters Widow Party.....pg. 6
 16 - MSU vs U of M Football Game.....pg. 8

DECEMBER

1 - Craft & Vendor Show.....pg. 3
 15 - Family Christmas Party.....
 31 - Post New Years Eve Party.....pg. 2

JANUARY

22 - Cornhole League Startspg. 6

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

See pages 5, 10 & 11

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Let us put it all together:

Ask not what we can do for our post, but what we can do for our American Legion, and all are members of the Armed Forces serving today. For our forgotten veterans in the nursing homes and for are homeless veterans living and dying on the street of our great nation. Or for our veterans who are dying of diseases such as dioxin poisoning, better known as agent orange. And many more diseases.

But instead, we sit around the post passing blame, by doing this, we are doing absolutely nothing to solve the problems at hand. So how do we fix this?

1. Do we continue to sit around, doing nothing?
2. Or do we sit down as a family and tried to fix this problem?
3. And, do we come up with ideas that we can all work on together as a family?

On Monday, September 23, 2019, at 6:30 PM I met with the following members of the legion Fifth District Commander Dan Cooper, Fifth District Auxiliary President Deb Weatherbee, and Fifth District Sgt. of Arms/Unit 179 President Sheila Manning. To fix some of the many issues surrounding the auxiliary, and legion, I felt that we had come one step forward in mending our relationship. Has the problem at hand been fixed? I do not know it is too soon to answer that question; I am trying.

On September 20, 2019, Linda and I left for the fall conference: we attended many classes within the time frame allotted.

On Tuesday, September 24, 2019, Jena and I attended the Rosie the riveter Celebration at Wedgwood Park Granville Michigan, organized and put together by Jena of the American Legion Post 179, the city of Granville along with other sponsors. I will also like to thank Sue Potter, who gave a history on how Rosie played a role in the war effort after the bombing of Pearl Harbor as one of the Rosie the riveter in attendance, would also like to thank the members of our posts that were in attendance.

The commanders coffee hour was a success once again, October's coffee hour will be the last one until spring unless those members that have attended would like for me to continue and are as committed as I am. Please let me know.

American Legion baseball recap: I'm going to be moving forward with this endeavor; however, this is not a one-person job this requires the help of the entire post. Therefore I am reaching out for the whole family to come aboard no excuses will be accepted except for a simple yes we can or no we cannot help. Please put your answers in writing. As always may are heavenly father bless you all keep, you safe see you soon.

Jesús Sanabria, Commander, Post 179
Commander@AmericanLegionPost179.com



Ceremony: 11:00 A.M.

Keynote Speaker: Department Commander Barry Wood

Tuesday, November 12th, 2019

Displays 3:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.

West Michigan Military Round Table

A uniform, weapons, and equipment display that is a spectacular exhibit you won't want to miss. Take the journey and learn how the military evolved over the years though these amazing time pieces and artifacts.



Michigan Vietnam Memorial Wall

This memorial is dedicated to the 2,661 men & women of the State of Michigan who lost their lives during the Vietnam war.



DINNER 5:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.

Pizza, pasta salad, and dessert. **Free** to Veterans and their families.

Please RSVP to 616-588-0636 with the number of the guests.



WWW.AMERICANLEGIONPOST179.COM

Sons of the American Legion Commander's Exclusive

Fall is upon us and with the cooler weather on the weekends, it is time to stop on in to the Clubroom and enjoy some college and professional football. Stop on in and enjoy the Michigan vs Michigan State game November 16th. Check the web page for additional information on that specific game. Also any Hunting widows check out the special 2nd Annual Hunters Widow event planned for Friday, November 15.

Due to a lack of SAL College Scholarships turned in this year we will not be awarding any Scholarships.

Remember that the SAL meetings are held the First Monday of the month at 7:00 PM and our next meeting will be Monday, October 7 at 7 PM. The November meeting will be Monday, November 4, 2019.

Roger Meyers, S.A.L. Commander, Squadron 179
SalComm@AmericanLegionPost179.com

FROM THE 179 RIDERS...

October 10th is the benefit for Trevor and Nichole. It's a spaghetti dinner with an open bar. It's from 5 to 7 in the Hall and will include raffles and 50/50s. I hope all Riders will make an effort to attend and support them.

There's one month left to ride before the time will come to put the bikes away for the year. Let's try to steal a plaque before we have to use cages.

As always...

be safe out there.

Jerry Wasson, Riders Director, Post 179
Director@AmericanLegionPost179.com



Thank you to all of those who came out to The dedication of the Rosie the Riveter Rose Garden on Tuesday, September 24th, 2019 at Wedgwood Park in Grandville. It was a beautiful ceremony honoring the amazing women who went to work and held their own.

From The Auxiliary President...

Hello fellow Auxiliary members! I've noticed some leaves turning color, that means fall is right around the corner. Our Unit has already been busy, Fall Conference was a success and the Dine and Donate at Applebee's was also successful! The Unit also had the Flag Retirement Box redone to clearly announce its purpose to all. The box is located outside the clubroom entrance on the south side of the building.

Big thanks to Sue Wagner-Americanism Chairman, Southwest Sandblasting from Grand Rapids and Scott's Signs from Grandville for their help in bringing this project to completion.

Upcoming events are Veterans Day celebration, sometime in November or December we will have Dictionary distribution and December we will have our Christmas Party.

Keep up on events through the newsletter or our Unit Facebook Page. As always, I will be in my patriotic hat when at the legion and let's continue to support our posts events and activities because together we can accomplish great things. I can still be contacted by Facebook, Messenger, email, or smoke signal!




Sheila Manning, President, Auxiliary Unit 179
AuxPres@AmericanLegionPost179.com

SAVE THE DATE
10.10.2019
Spaghetti Dinner to Benefit
Trevor & Nichole Her
5 PM to 7 PM at AL Post 179
COSPONSORED BY
THE AMERICAN LEGION
Post 123 Kent City
AND
Post 179 Walker




Homemade spaghetti
Garlic breadsticks
Salad
Dessert

THE AMERICAN LEGION POST 179 2327 WILSON AVENUE WALKER, MI 49534 616.453.9861



Marine Corps 244th Birthday
November 10th, 2019
5 p.m. in the clubroom



THE AMERICAN LEGION POST 179
2327 WILSON AVE. SW. | WALKER, MI | 49534



Exclusive to businesses and nonprofits, the Gordon GO! rewards program is our way of saying 'thank you for your patronage'. We value your contributions and want you to earn rewards for doing what you're already doing: shopping with us regularly.

Did you know you letting the cashier know at checkout you want your points to be added to the American Legion Post 179 points total? Doing this helps us reach our point goal of 96,000 points which the post can cash in for a \$1,000 donation from Gordon Foods!

FAMILY FARE
SUPERMARKETS

Shopping at Family Fare can help you give back to Post 179. All you have to do is turn in your receipt after your shopping trip and VIOLA!
Once the post has collected \$150,000 in receipt totals we can turn them into Family Fare for a \$1,000 donation!

WWW.AMERICANLEGIONPOST179.COM

Oratorical Scholarship Program

A Constitutional Speech Contest

Open to all high school students The American Legion Oratorical Contest exists to develop deeper knowledge and appreciation for the U.S. Constitution among high school students. Since 1938, the program has presented participants with an academic speaking challenge that teaches important leadership qualities, the history of our nation's laws, the ability to think and speak clearly, and an understanding of the duties, responsibilities, rights and privileges of American citizenship. To date the National American Legion has awarded more than \$3,000,000 dollars to students who have participated in The American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship Program.

Each year The American Legion Department (state) of Michigan holds an annual contest at the Gerald R. Ford Museum in Grand Rapids, Michigan. The winner of this contest moves on to the national level to compete for up to \$18,000 in scholarships.

If you would like to participate in this scholarship program please email American Legion Post 179 at info@americanlegionpost179.com. Deadline is November 12th, 2019

Boys & Girls State June 14th - 20th 2020

Boys/Girls State is an educational program sponsored by the American Legion Departments across the country to help young men & women learn about government and how it works. Our motto is "Learn by Doing." The Boys/Girls State education staff's goal is to facilitate the learning process by giving the citizens of Boys/Girls State an opportunity to govern themselves, and to run their own state.

Boys/Girls State is LEARNING.

Delegates have the opportunity to learn more about their city, county, and state government in one week at Boys State than in an entire semester in a formal classroom setting. Boys/Girls Staters meet with elected and appointed officials to learn more about the duties and responsibilities of a variety of positions in government from people on the "inside." Additionally, in Boys/Girls State, each citizen has the opportunity to learn for himself that his government is just what he makes it.

Boys/Girls State is POLITICS.

The first half of your Boys/Girls State experience will expose you to the world of politics. You will nominate candidates for partisan and non-partisan offices on the city, county, and state level. You will also, no doubt, be exposed to the "seamy" side of politics ... the wheeling and dealing, the promises that cannot be kept, the vote trading and the cajoling, to give a candidate or a party that "extra advantage."

Boys/Girls State is GOVERNMENT.

When the dust has settled from the conventions, campaigns, and elections, Boys/Girls State needs to be governed for four days by its elected and appointed officials. Boys/Girls Staters will find themselves performing exactly the same functions as real office holders in the everyday world. Education and University Boards must make policies for their areas of responsibility. City councils, county commissions, and the state legislature must make ordinances and laws for their constituencies. Executive departments and other administrators must see that laws and policies are properly interpreted.

Boys/Girls State is FRIENDSHIP.

You may arrive at Boys/Girls State knowing no one else. However, one of the fringe benefits of Boys/Girls State is how easy it is to get to know people, many of whom may remain your friend for the rest of your life.



NEW HOURS

Sunday - 12 p.m - 8 p.m
 Mon. & Tues. - CLOSED
 Wednesday 2 p.m. - 10 p.m.
 Thursday - 2 p.m. - 9 p.m.
 Friday & Saturday -
 12 p.m. - 10 p.m.

OCTOBER 27, 2019

Fall/Winter Hours of Operation

LEADERSHIP COLLEGE

BASIC COURSE
 LEARN WHAT THE AMERICAN LEGION IS ALL ABOUT



SOCIAL & DIGITAL MEDIA WORKSHOP

LEARN ABOUT USEFUL TOOLS AVAILABLE TO MAKE REACHING YOUR MEMBERSHIP BASE EASIER

OCTOBER 5TH 2019

AMERICAN LEGION POST 179
 2327 WILSON AVE. SW.
 WALKER, MI 49534

CORNHOLE LEAGUE




STARTS JANUARY 22ND, 2020



AMERICAN LEGION POST 179
 2327 WILSON AVE. SW.
 WALKER, MI 49534

THURSDAY
24
 OCTOBER

2 P.M. - 8 P.M.




American Red Cross

GIVE THE GIFT OF *life*

BLOOD DRIVE

1 PINT OF BLOOD SAVES 3 LIVES!



AMERICAN LEGION POST 179

2327 Wilson Ave SW, Walker, MI 49534

To make your appointment by pre-registering visit <https://www.redcrossblood.org>
 Click [GIVE BLOOD], then Click [FIND A BLOOD DRIVE]. Enter post179gr in the search press [ENTER]. Click [SEE TIMES] and schedule a time for you to donate blood IT'S THAT EASY!

THE AMERICAN LEGION POST 179'S
 2nd ANNUAL

HUNTERS' WIDOWS' PARTY

AND

Pre-Holiday

Craft / Vendor Extravaganza

11 • 15 • 19

PARTY STARTS at 3 PM with the CRAFT/VENDOR EXTRAVAGANZA
 INCLUDING THE MUSIC OF

Sweet Jonny KNOX

PLUS

Drink Specials 50/50s Door Prizes

Public Welcome

THE AMERICAN LEGION POST 179 NEAL E. FONGER
 2327 WILSON AVENUE WALKER, MI 49534 616.453.9861

COMMANDER'S COFFEE HOUR

3rd Sunday of the Month

**October
20th, 2019
10 am to 11am**



EVERY CUP COUNTS

American Legion Post 179
Walker, MI

JOIN THE COMMANDER FOR A CUP OF COFFEE AT THE POST

NO AGENDA. JUST A CONVERSATION
WITH MEMBERS ABOUT WHAT
MATTERS TO THE POST



AMERICAN LEGION POST 179
2327 WILSON AVE. SW.
WALKER, MI 49534

**Last Coffee Hour
Until Spring!**

American Legion Department of Michigan Program Dates and Application DEADLINES

- Nov 19, 2019 - Oratorical Registration Deadline
- Jan 1, 2020 - Baseball registration opens baseball.legion.org
- Jan 10, 2020 - Law Officer of the Year Submission Deadline
- Jan 10, 2020 - Firefighter of the Year Submission Deadline
- Jan 13, 2020 - Brewer Scholarship Application Submission Deadline
- Jan 13, 2020 - Wilson Scholarship Application Submission Deadline
- Feb 10, 2020 - All Zone Oratorical Contests complete
- Mar 2, 2020 - Eagle Scout of the Year Award Submission Deadline
- Mar 7, 2020 - Oratorical State Contest at Gerald R. Ford Museum
- Apr 3, 2020 - Teacher of the Year Submission Deadline
- Apr 17-19, 2020 - National Oratorical Contest, Indianapolis
- May 15, 2020 - Baseball insurance purchase deadline
- May 18, 2020 - Student Trooper Application Submission Deadline
- May 26, 2020 - Boys State Application Submission Deadline
- June 1, 2020 - Final day for baseball teams to register
- June 14-20, 2020 - Boys State Program, Grand Valley State University
- July 3, 2020 - Robert Turner Baseball Submission Deadline
- July 12-17, 2020 - Student Trooper Program, MSP in Lansing
- July 22-26, 2020 - Class AA Baseball State Tournament, Midland
- July 26-Aug 2, 2020 - Class A Baseball State Tournament, Marquette

Get more information at www.michiganlegion.org/scholarships or by calling 517-220-2754 or email legion@michiganlegion.org.



FAMILY CHRISTMAS PARTY

SUNDAY, December 15th @ 2pm

SAVE THE DATE

More details TBA

AMERICAN LEGION POST 179

2327 Wilson Ave. Sw. , Walker, MI 49534

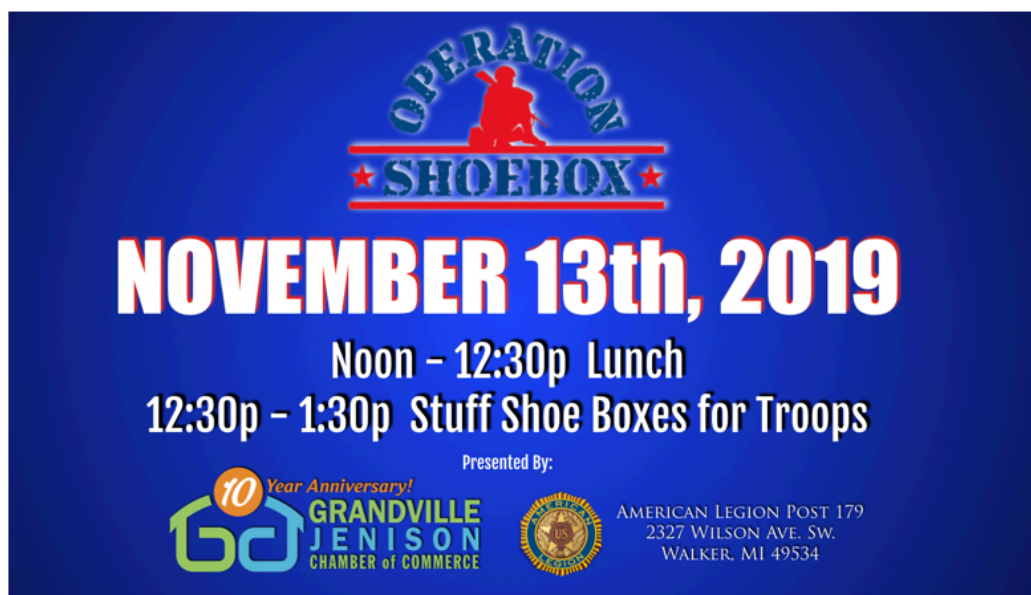


FAMILY UGLY SWEATER CONTEST



CHRISTMAS COOKIE DECORATING

NEW TRADITIONS



1st Annual Operation Shoebox - Grandville, Michigan

~ Wednesday, November 13th, 2019 ~

You can help us reach our goal to stuff 150 shoeboxes for troops. Then we will ship the boxes overseas just in time for Christmas to boost troop morale!

Items not shipped will be donated to the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans.

If you want to **participate** you can join us on Wednesday, November 13th, 2019 for lunch at Noon and then help us pack the boxes shortly after.

ITEMS NEEDED TO GO IN THE BOXES

Coffee - Instant	Ziploc - Quart & Gallon	Frisbees	Duct Tape
Coffee Creamer	Tissue Paper	Playing Cards	Flashlights (mini/mag lite, extra bulbs)
Sugar Packets	Packing Tape	Games (travel size)	Batteries AA, AAA, C, D
Ramen Noodles	Granola Bars	Crossword Puzzles	Fly Swatters
Bars (Cliff or Balance)	Gum	Sudoku Books	Fly Strips
Pop Tarts	Beef Jerky or SlimJims	Sunscreen	Monkey Butt Powder
Tuna Kits	Ravioli (pop top cans)	Socks	Gold Bond Powder
Oatmeal	Feminine Hygiene Products	Baby Wipes	Small Fan - Battery Powered
Deodorant	Travel size unscented Hand Lotion	Q-tips	Razors (disposable)
Shampoo	Tylenol (individual packets)	Chap Stick	Gift Cards
Paper	Envelopes	Pens/Pencils	Postcards

Please drop items off at American Legion Post 179 or Florentines

COLLECTING UNTIL NOVEMBER 1st, 2019

WWW.AMERICANLEGIONPOST179.COM



American Legion Post 179 will be hosting a Halloween Party.
There will be a **Costume Contest** and a **Scariest Snack Contest**.
Party starts at 6:30 P.M.



WWW.AMERICANLEGIONPOST179.COM



Student Trooper/Youth Cadet Law Enforcement Program

Do You Know a high school student, 16 to 18 years old interested in a law enforcement career?

Michigan State Troopers and Law Enforcement Officers from around the State will show you what their life is like every day on the job. They bring their personal experience to the teachings of the day.

You will learn:

- ~ Proper gun safety while live-firing handguns under the supervision of Michigan State Police firing range officers.
- ~ How to work as a team
- ~ Self defense Techniques
- ~ The adrenaline rush of underwater rescue and recovery in the training center pool
- ~ Basic "CSI- Crime Scene Investigations"
- ~ First aid
- ~ Crash site investigation
- ~ Intense physical training (Yes, you will run!)

Top Student Trooper of the week wins a \$1,000 College Scholarship 3 other categories win \$500 each

Class is being offered: **July 12-17, 2020 (Application deadline May 18, 2020)**

William D. & Jewell Brewer Scholarship

Do you know a high school/ college student who is the descendent of a war-time era veteran?

Who will be attending any nationally accredited college or university?

- Scholarship available to only Michigan residents who are attending high school or college – no bachelor's degree,
- Who are a son, daughter, grandchild or great-grandchild of a war-time veteran planning to or are attending any nationally accredited college or university.
- Selection is based on a student's G.P.A. of 2.5 or higher, financial need, parent's or grandparent's honorable active war-time military service, goals and intentions.

Scholarship form along with requested information must be **received** in the American Legion Department of Michigan office by the **deadline date of January 13, 2020 (not postmarked by)**.

www.michiganlegion.org/scholarships

The scholarship award amount is \$500 and not renewable.

Guy Wilson Scholarship

Do you know a high school/ college student who is the descendent of a war-time era veteran?

Who will be attending a Michigan accredited college or university?

- Scholarship only available to Michigan residents attending high school and
- A son, daughter, grandchild or great-grandchild of a war-time veteran planning to attend any Michigan accredited college or university.
- Selection based on a student's G.P.A. of 2.5 or higher, financial need, parent's or grand- parent's honorable active war-time military service, goals and intentions.

Scholarship form along with requested information must be **received** in the American Legion- Department of Michigan by the **deadline date of January 13, 2020 (not postmarked by).**

www.michiganlegion.org/scholarships

The scholarship award amount is \$500 and not renewable.

American Legion Legacy Scholarship

Do you know a child of a fallen 9/11 service member? OR

Do you know a child of a VA-rated, post 9/11 veteran with a combined disability rating of 50 percent or higher?

Since the inception of The American Legion Legacy Scholarship in 2001 following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, The American Legion has offered its support to the children of fallen post-9/11 service- members through this scholarship. Beginning with the 2017 award year, The American Legion expanded the scholarship to include children of VA-rated, post- 9/11 veterans with a combined disability rating of 50 percent or higher. Our organization remains committed to honoring the memory and service of our fallen and disabled comrades by ensuring their children are afforded the best possible educational opportunities.

Financial Aid Offered

The total amount of Legacy Scholarship money to be awarded varies based on the amount of donations received each year and the total amount of income derived from interest on the trust each year. Fifty percent of each amount is made available for awards each year – beginning with the 2017 award year. Each award made is good for one year and may be up to \$20,000. The amount of each award is determined by the financial need of that student as determined by fiscal information provided by the applicant during the application process. Depending on the amount of total money available for award, the number of applicants and the total need in a given year, all applicants might not receive an award. However, The American Legion will strive to offer as many awards as possible.

To learn more and apply visit:

<https://www.legion.org/scholarships/legacy>