



CARL A. JOHNSON POST #2

1971 E. Beltline NE 106 #213, Grand Rapids, MI 49525
401 North Park St., Grand Rapids, MI. 49525

William Palczewski, Adjutant

David Thrasher, Commander

BITS AND PIECES

Post meetings held the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at
401 North Park St NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49525

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Aug 01	Home Board Meeting	7:00 p.m
Aug 17	Vietnam era Veterans Dinner	5:00 – 7:00p.m.
Aug 19	Roast Beef Dinner @ Club	12pm
Aug 25	Bar Board	7:30p.m.
Aug 28	Post E-Board Meeting	7:00p.m.
Aug 28	United Veterans Council @ Post 154	7:00 p.m.
Aug 29	Bar Board Meeting	7:00 p.m.



NOTE: **NO Post meeting** for the month of July and August
Friday, July 27, from 5:30 until 7:00

Grilled burger, homemade coleslaw, BBQ Baked Beans, and potato chips for \$6.00 a plate. Get a Johnsonville brat instead of a hamburger for \$4.00!
Hope to see you there...

WHAT'S HAPPENING

August (We have the Building Duty this month).

2nd Kids Day at the Zoo Don't miss WGVU Kids Day.

There will be booths, give a ways, games, characters, and admission to the Zoo is only \$4.00 per person!

4th Anyone wishing to attend a **FREE CONCERT**

at **Wilwin** Aug 4th, 4PM. There are hotels in the area but you can also pitch your TENT. No bathrooms or water source but there are lots of trees. The Concert is free to all, there will be food to purchase or bring your lunch. Last year was so much fun, so drop what you're doing on Aug. 4th and join the fun.

25th Post Audit

26th Post Planning Meeting 1400 We will be planning the next year to meet Pillar and Post goals and include events. Take some time and provide input. Soon, Our Post will be 100 years in existence and we need not stop now in supporting our fellow Veterans. Help us help others. Your input is requested, call or text Don 616-802-0806 prior to the 26th.

September

A **POT LUCK Dinner** will be before the meeting on **12 September meeting**. As noted in the Auxiliary portion of this newsletter, we are having a Potluck on the 12th, social at six and eat at six thirty. Ending the summer months and a start of cooler and fresh less humid air is always wonderful when shared with friends. Please, let us know that your coming and how many in your group. **Call or text** me at 616-802-0806, leave a message if I don't pick up. Now days, we don't answer if we don't recognize who is calling. Sad isn't it? ☹

Boat and Canoe

Great News, Final prep is being worked to replace the cement work and drain barrels around the Club house. Also for those that use the kitchen for activities, the dollars to replacement of the grease trap has been approved and should be done soon. Our goal is to insure we have a safe and great place

to work and enjoy. Thanks to all for what your doing.

17 August



Vietnam Veterans Thank You Dinner

Please join the Sophie deMarsac Campau Chapter, NSDAR
For our Fourth Annual 50th Anniversary Vietnam War
Commemorative Event
To honor and thank those Veterans from the Vietnam War

Friday, August 17th, 2018
5 - 7 PM

The Boat & Canoe Club
401 NE North Park St
Grand Rapids, MI 49525

Vietnam Veterans and their spouse are welcome FREE OF CHARGE

All other guest \$5.00
No RSVP is required



Special thank you to the Carl Johnson American Legion Post 2 for their sponsorship of the room

**All Post 2 members are invited to this event also,
We are co-hosts.**

**19 Aug Roast Beef Dinner @ Club 12 pm.
24 Aug Steakfry
25 Aug Dance with music by Just Fred**

Auxiliary News

We are pleased to welcome new Auxiliary member Kristin Gray.

We hope to see many of you at the September 12 meeting. There will be a joint potluck dinner prior to the meeting. We will also hear from the Girls State delegates that the Auxiliary sponsored and learn of their experiences during their session at Michigan State University.

August birthdays:

5 Barbara Smith
18 Chelsea Sampson Russell
23 Jaime Lightfoot

Adjutants Corner

We have opened the **2019 membership year**, I have processed 15 memberships already, their cards are now in the mail. State has not posted membership goal's for 2018 yet, but we need to grow our post.

The latest Post information can be found online at:

Post Web page: www.alpost2.org

Facebook: American Legion Post 2 Grand Rapids Mi.

And Mylegion.org

myLegion.org is a **FREE** website designed to connect members of The American Legion to their Post and Department leadership,

Membership

2018 Membership renewals have closed; 2019 memberships is open July 2, 2018. Renew your membership early and bring a friend into the Post. Dues are only \$43 a year.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Francis Rollo	Aug 6
Desree Bartrum	Aug 18
Arthur Grasmeyer	Aug 25
Raymond Henkel	Aug 29
William Palczewski	Aug. 31



Volunteers

The Post is always up and doing something that is in need of volunteers. Add your name and likes to our Volunteer list. Give Don a jingle at 616-802-0806. 90-95% of what we do is for Our Veterans and their families.

Toot your horn Let me know what your doing during the month so we can recognize those that help support Veterans in need. By doing so, we can also assist our Adjutant in completing the Post Annual Report which reflects what we have done and hours spent assisting our Veterans, the Community, and Our Country.

Did you Know

God gave man two ends . . . one to sit on and one to think with. Man's success depends on the one he uses most.

Something is wrong in the life of any individual who constantly sees wrong in others . . . HELP EACH OTHER.

The above taken from Veterans Facility News dated Dec. 1965



History is made and is everywhere.

A Veterans Home News article about our Auxiliary spending an evening with the Home Members but on coffee break in the below picture December 1965. ☺ Our Aux is still going strong at the G.R. Veterans Home.



FLANDERS PHOTO

CARL JOHNSON POST AND AUXILIARY No. 2 of the AMERICAN LEGION entertained our members with a delightful evening of fun and diversion with plentiful game prizes and attendance awards. Choice refreshments were served following the entertainment.

Arrangements were in charge of Mrs. Robert Witvoet for the Auxiliary and Donald Leys for the Post.

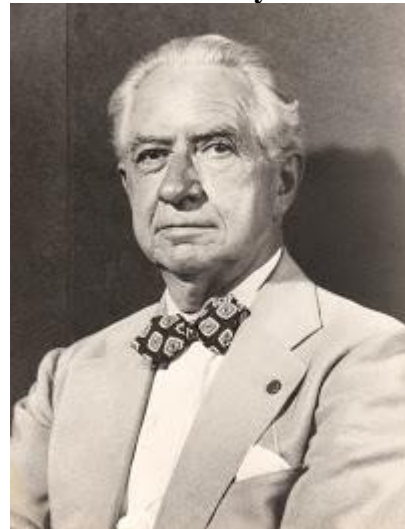
Shown during the coffee-break are Mr. and Mrs. Robert Witvoet, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Leys, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Cunningham, Mr. and Mrs. Serle Fournier, Mrs. Norma Mastenbrook and Mrs. Melissa McNee.

(**As can be seen by the picture a good time was had by all M.V.F. Members and the Volunteers).



Past Post Cdr.

Harold R. Smedley 1923-1924



Past Post Cdr.

Stephan W. Collins 1924-1925

VA reviewing World War II mustard gas claims

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is reviewing previously denied claims from World War II Veterans who participated in full-body testing for [mustard gas](#) or [Lewisite](#) in the 1940's. The claims are being reconsidered as part of Public Law 115-48, Section 502.

The law extends a presumption of exposure to mustard gas or Lewisite to those previously denied Veterans who served during WWII at one of the 22 specified sites or any other site VA determines is appropriate, and such service is consistent with the places, types, and circumstances of service of the Veteran.

FACILITY NEWS	NON PROFIT	PLACE
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The law added six new sites to the list of DOD identified locations where full-body testing took place. The added locations are: Fort McClellan, Alabama; Huntsville Arsenal, Alabama; Fort Detrick, Maryland; Horn Island Installation, Mississippi; Camp Crowder, Missouri; and Tooe Army Depot, Utah. In addition, VA has added Camp Howze, Texas, to the list.

“We are firmly committed to finding those World War II Veterans who participated in full-body mustard gas or Lewisite testing and ensuring that they have an opportunity to file a claim for related disabilities,” said Paul R. Lawrence, Ph.D., VA’s under secretary for Benefits.

VA has contacted identifiable World War II Veterans with a previously-denied claim for exposure to mustard gas or Lewisite to re-adjudicate those claims.

World War II Veterans who were previously denied benefits for mustard gas or Lewisite exposure and have not been contacted by VA, should call (800) 827-1000 to request that their claim be reviewed.

For more information go to www.benefits.va.gov/COMPENSATION/claims-postservice-exposures-mustard.asp



HONORING VETERANS

Purchase an engraved brick to be placed in the Veterans Memorial Garden on the grounds of the Boat and Canoe Club. Consider buying one to honor a family member or friend, or for yourself.

Payment is due at the time of application. Please make your check payable to: The American Legion Boat & Canoe Club Council and note “Veterans Memorial Garden Brick” in the memo line. Application and payments may be turned in to the Boat & Canoe Club office, given to the bartender, or mailed to: 401 North Park Street NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49525-2583

I want to purchase a 4 x 8 brick for \$40. My check/cash is enclosed.

I want to purchase an 8 x 8 brick for \$70. My check/cash is enclosed.

Your name:	_____
Address:	_____
City/State/Zip:	_____
Phone:	_____
Cell:	_____
Email address:	_____

===== SEE BACK FOR INSCRIPTION INFORMATION =====

If you wish to add a **Honoring Brick** to the Club Veterans Memorial Garden, stop in at the club and get a form to complete or give me a call, Don (616)802-0806

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