

Newsletter

APR 2023

 **AMERICAN
LEGION**

**VETERANS STRENGTHENING
AMERICA**

**SSG MICHAEL A.
DICKINSON, II
POST 257
FAMILY**

7475 B Drive N

Battle Creek, MI 49014

www.legionpost257.org

Phone: 269-224-6270

THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY
SERVING THE COMMUNITY, STATE, AND NATION

 **AMERICAN
LEGION**



Post Elections Right Around the Corner!

NOMINATIONS



Our Post's Annual Election of Officers will be held during our May Meeting. **Nominations for the offices of Commander, 1st Vice-Commander, 2nd Vice-Commander, Finance Officer, Historian, Service Officer, and Sgt At Arms , and 3 Members-At-Large, will be accepted during our April Meeting.** Each position has a one year term of office.

Leadership in our Post is entrusted to all of us, and we encourage all our members to actively seek a position that will be enhanced by your talents and aspirations.

All Members of our Post are eligible to run for any office of our Post, and we hope you will consider taking on a leadership role to improve the overall success of our Programs and Community activities, and to steer our Post into the future.

If you are interested in any of these positions, all it takes is for you to talk to a fellow Post member and ask them to nominate you.

Post Commander Seeks Nomination to be next 3rd District Commander!



Hello my name is Dan Holdridge, and I am currently serving as your Post Commander and 3rd District 1st Vice. During the last year we had two different posts who were

on the verge of losing their charter and with the help of 3rd District Commander Sonja Patrick and myself we were able to help give a breath of life back to those posts and both currently are

sitting well above their membership goal. I have served as the District 1st Vice, 2nd Vice, and Post Commander with our post and the SAL squadron as the 2nd Vice, Adjutant, and then as the Squadron's Commander. I would like to continue serving my fellow veterans by helping to lead the 3rd district to be all that they can be by continuing to grow and surpassing our goals. As the 3rd District Commander I will do everything in my power to help the 3rd District to grow and succeed.

Join American Legion
Post 257 Today! Scan
the QR Code below



Post 257 Hosts 2nd Zone Oratorical Contest



On February 5th, 2023 the Post 257 Family hosted the 2nd Zone Oratorical Contest. We had quite a turnout and Paul Prokhorov a Senior out of the 2nd District was crowned the Winner. With Paul's victory he has moved onto the Department level Competition. Congratulations again Paul and Good Luck!

Post Ammo Raffle

The Post will be holding an Ammo Raffle at the Golf Outing on May 20th. We could greatly use your ammo donations the wagon is just about half full and we would like to fill it all the way to the top. Raffle Tickets will be getting printed shortly so stay tuned to your email or follow us on facebook for any further updates.



Past Post Commander Running for Department Commander!

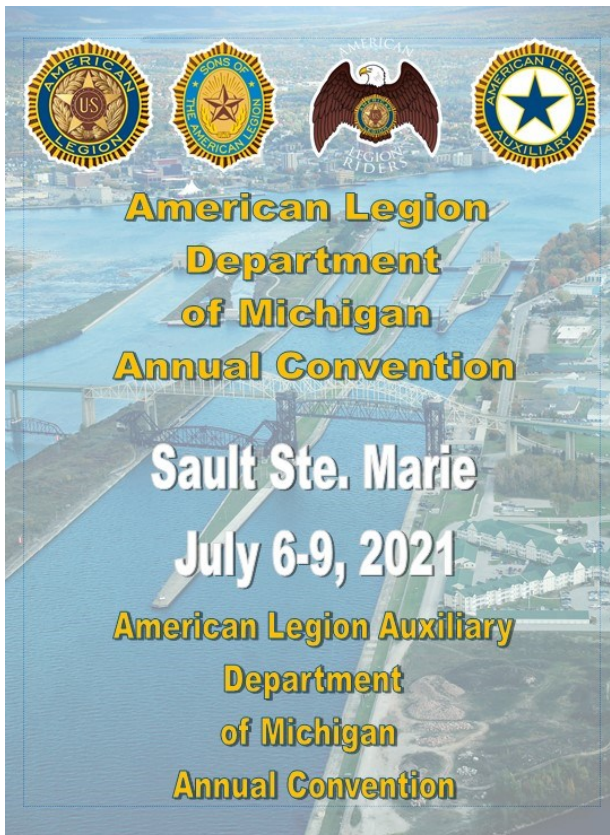


Our very own Past Post 257 Commander and Current 1st Vice Brian Mohlman is the leading candidate for Department Commander 2023-2024. Congratulations Brian on your nomination and Good luck on the election!

Department Summer Convention is Coming!



The 2023 Annual Department Convention is coming up in July from the 6th - 9th in Sault Ste Marie, Michigan. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend. During the Annual convention the Delegates will elect our 2023-2024 Department Officers as well as other important business of the Department. The Annual Convention is an amazing experience with lots of great training opportunities.





Post 257 Heroes Golf Outing



POST 257

HEROES GOLF TOURNAMENT

PRIZES - 50/50 RAFFLE - PARTICIPANT GIFTS - AMMO RAFFLE - FUN/GAMES

Saturday, May 20 2023

9:00 AM - Shotgun Start



WHERE

Cedar Creek Golf Course

14000 Renton Rd

Battle Creek, MI 49015

● **\$75/Person - 4 Person Teams**

● **Includes 18 Holes/Cart/Lunch**

● **Six Sponsorship Levels**

● **Sign Up: www.legionpost257.org/golf**



Proceeds Benefit Improvements to the SSG Michael A Dickinson, II Post 257 Community Center

SSG Michael A Dickinson, II Post 257**7475 B Drive N**Battle Creek, MI**49014

Phone: 269-224-6270 Email: bamohlman@comcast.net

REGISTRATION FORM

Please make Checks payable to: American Legion Post 257

Team Captain: _____ Phone: _____

Confirmation Email Address: _____

Player 2: _____

Player 3: _____

Player 4: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____ Please Mail or Deliver to: **American Legion Post 257**

7475 B Drive N, Battle Creek, MI 49014

Save the Date!



OUR FAMILY, YOUR FAMILY

The American Legion Family welcomes you to a special **Legion Family Play Day**. We will provide games for families with children of all ages, as well as refreshments and drinks.

Time:
12 PM - 4 PM

Date:
April 29, 2023

Place:
7475 B Dr N
Battle Creek, MI
49014

What to bring:
Friends & Family

Contact:
269-224-6270





Ways & Means Report

American Legion Fundraising

Every service organization in America is involved in raising monies to serve their constituencies. The American Legion is no different and makes major contributions to their local Post communities to provide not only a place for veterans and their families to congregate and share common interests, but also to make things better for the for those we serve. Every Legionnaire serves his country twice, once when wearing the uniform, and again after she/he leaves military duty, most usually in their later years. This need to continue serving can be found in both the Legion charter, and in the Preamble to the American Legion.

Is American Legion Fundraising Necessary?

With so many non-profit organizations and charitable causes, why should the American Legion be on your list of priorities? First of all, you must understand what exactly the American Legion does in order to feel compelled to give. The American Legion was founded by

Congress in 1919 to help and equip veterans and their families who need a leg up in a variety of different ways. Known within the legion as "mutual helpfulness", this patriotic organization is a not-for-profit community service group, and makes a difference in the lives of approximately 3 million legion members across the country.

With this being said, like many non-profits in this country, funding is limited, and expenses often go beyond the cash available. Fundraising is essential to each American Legion post (there are 15,000 of them), as they work hard to assist every veteran and his/her family members who walk through their doors.

The Ways and Means Committee will start meeting on the 4th Monday of the month. Our next meeting will be on April 24th, at 6:30pm. The SSG Michael A. Dickinson Post 257 American Legion success depends entirely on active membership, participation, and volunteerism.

**Samuel Gray, 2nd Vice-Commander
Ways & Means Chair**

Post Family Meeting Schedule

The Post & Auxiliary meet the Second Monday of each month @ 6:30 PM, and Sons of The American Legion Squadron 257 meets the 1st Tuesday of each month @ 6:30 PM.

We welcome your attendance and participation, and extend an invitation to all who are interested in membership in the SSG Michael A. Dickinson, II Post 257 Family!



Membership Report

Congratulations to all of you who have worked so hard to get all our renewals and new members in the

system! As of today, we have reached 101.15% of our 2023 Membership Goal of 260 members.

If you have yet to renew, there are always three options to choose from.

Simply Go to:

www.legionpost257.org/renew

www.legion.org/renew

Or stop by the Post with a check, cash, or credit card payment

Your continued membership helps your local post, as well as providing resources at the Department and

National levels to continually advocate for Veterans causes and benefits.

Brian Mohlman, 1st Vice-Commander

Membership Committee Chair

100%

Michael's Market Place Set for 3rd Season

With just over a month to go, Michael's Market Place will officially Kickoff its 3rd season on Saturday May 13th! Running from mid May thru October 1. We are calling all Crafters, Bath and Body products, baked goods, home décor, jewelry, clothing, garage sellers, and more.

The Market place will run from 9:00 AM—2:00 PM on the second Saturday of every month.

Join us every second Saturday as we're sure you'll be amazed by the selection of vendors that you will find.

Please help us spread the word around the Community!

Michael's Market Place

Second Saturday of each month

Starting on May 13, 2023

9am - 2pm

We are calling all Crafters, Bath and Body products, Baked Goods, Home Decor, Jewelry, Clothing and Garage Sellers and more.

Vendors:

Spaces approximately 12x12 and only \$15/day (Saturday only)
Please call to make a reservation for a spot at 269-209-0293

Come on out and discover all kinds of treasures!



Location:

SSG Michael A. Dickinson American Legion Post 257
located at 7475 B Drive N., in Battle Creek, MI 49014.



On March 29, 2023 Auxiliary Unit 257 will be celebrating 5 years since our Charter was signed. What a great job the Auxiliary has done to support this Post Family! Make sure you wish each of them a "Happy Birthday" when you see them!!!



Auxiliary Membership for 2023 has already reached **122%**! With a few more members to get renewed we are making great progress. Thank you to all that have renewed, rejoined, or recently joined.

We appreciate you all!



Happenings.....

Happy Easter

April 9, 2023



Thank you for everyone that donated your Family Fare (Spartan) receipts towards our *Direct Your Dollars* Fundraiser. Unfortunately, Spartan Nash has discontinued the program as of 3/1/2023 so we will no longer be collecting receipts.



We will be conducting our annual elections at our May meeting. If you are interested in any of the board positions have someone nominate you at the meeting. When the election process starts, all positions are available. Elected positions will be: President, 1st Vice-President, 2nd Vice President, and Treasurer. Appointed positions awarded by the President are: Secretary, Sergeant-at-Arms, Chaplain, and 3 members of our Executive Board. Please consider a Board position during the elections. Great way to learn more about the ALA and the Mission.

Purple Up! For Military Kids Day



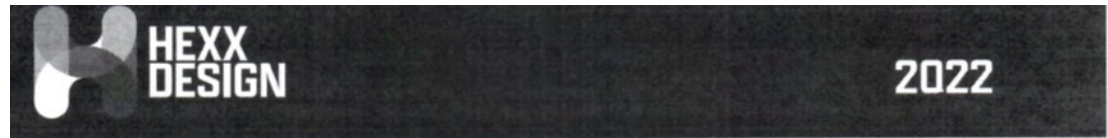
The entire month of April is designated as the [Month of the Military Child](#), but April 15th has a special place in that observance. April 15 brings a special dread for some because it is traditionally the day federal income tax filings are due at the IRS.

But there's a happier and more encouraging aspect to April 15th each year in the form of an observance among military families, military family support communities, and others worldwide in the form of **Purple Up! For Military Kids Day**. Held on April 15th of each year, "**Purple Up! For Military Kids**" is a day for Department of Defense Education Activity communities to wear purple to show support and thank military children for their strength and sacrifices.

Purple Up! Day will be celebrated on Friday, April 15, 2022.



American Legion Family Logo Wear



PRICING LIST

No color restrictions | No minimums

T-SHIRTS

Standard T-Shirt Front Print	-----	\$19+Tax
Standard T-Shirt Front and Back Print	-----	\$22+Tax
Premium T-Shirt Front Print	-----	\$20+Tax
Premium T-Shirt Front and Back Print	-----	\$23+Tax
<i>Sizes 2X and above are an extra \$5</i>		

LONG SLEEVE T-SHIRTS

Sizes 2X and above are an extra \$5

SWEATERS

Sizes 2X and above are an extra \$5

HOODIES

Sizes 2X and above are an extra \$5

Standard T-Shirt

- M&O - Gold Soft Touch T-Shirt
- 5 oz./yd² (US) 8.1 oz./L yd (CA), 100% cotton preshrunk jersey, 23 singles
- Heather & Safety colors are 50/50 cotton/polyester
- Taped neck and shoulders
- Double needle sleeve and bottom hem
- Double needle cover seamed neck
- Tubular construction
- Quarter-turned body
- Tear away label

Premium T-Shirt

- LAT- Fine Jersey
- 4.5 oz. 100% combed ring spun cotton fine jersey, 30 singles
- Topstitched ribbed knit collar
- Shoulder-to-shoulder self-fabric back neck tape
- Double needle sleeves and bottom hem

BULK ORDER T-SHIRTS

Order of 50 to 99 T-shirts

Standard T-Shirt Front Print	-----	\$16+Tax
Standard T-Shirt Front and Back Print	----	\$19+Tax
Premium T-Shirt Front Print	-----	\$17+Tax
Premium T-Shirt Front and Back Print	----	\$20+Tax

Order of 100 T-shirts or More

Standard T-Shirt Front Print	-----	\$11+Tax
Standard T-Shirt Front and Back Print	----	\$14+Tax
Premium T-Shirt Front Print	-----	\$15+Tax
Premium T-Shirt Front and Back Print	----	\$18+Tax

Name Brand available upon request

Contact us at Customerservice@hexxdesignco.com
for any customized order needs.

☎ (269) 358-8089

📍 482 W. Michigan Ave. Battle Creek, MI 49037

✉ customerservice@hexxdesignco.com

🌐 www.hexxdesignco.com

Logo wear for the Post Family
can be ordered from Hexx Design.
Shop Local, Support Local.



We held our annual elections at our April meeting. Our new commander is Del Kilbourne, 1st vice is Andrew Mohlman, 2nd Vice Brian Mohlman, Finance Officer Terry Lindaeur, Chaplain Brian Mohlman, Historian Jack Carlsen, Sergeant At Arms Terry Favorite

Membership Report

The squadron is currently at 76 % of our annual goal. Just a friendly reminder if your membership card doesn't look like the one below then your membership has expired but its not too late to renew your membership visit us online or stop into the post and renew your membership today!





Who are the American Legion Riders at Post 257? We currently have 21 members consisting of 10 Veterans, 5 Auxiliary Members, and 6 SAL Members. We all have a passion for riding motorcycles and supporting Veteran and Community causes.

Do you qualify to be an ALR member?

Members must hold membership in and be in good standing with The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary or Sons of The American Legion.

Members must be legally registered motorcycle owners or be the legally registered owner's spouse within the state of registration.

Have you noticed the candy machine by the front doors? It's a fund raiser for the ALR. Purchase some candy & support the ALR while you satisfy that sweet tooth at the same time. It's only 25 cents for a handful.





Have you had the opportunity to join us on a Wednesday evening for our fresh sloppy joes? They are fantastic! All monies raised on Wednesday nights is being donated to the BCVA Medical Center for the PTSD Fund. This is your way to help support the cause and help our Veterans in need. \$6 will get you a sloppy joe, chips, pickle, and a drink. Serving time is 4pm – 7pm. We can even make your order to go. Many thanks to all Post Family Members and the Community that have participated in this weekly event. And of course, a GIANT thank you to our volunteers that show up week after week to support this cause. We can't do this without out all the support!!



LOOK TWICE



SAVE A LIFE

Spring is here and we are ready to dust off the bikes and rack up some miles. We are watching out for you, please do us a favor & watch out for us. Safe riding is a top priority for us and our fellow riders.



The ALR frequently is requested to stand a flag line for a deceased Veteran. This can be done at a funeral home, a private ceremony, or even at Fort Custer National Cemetery. It is our honor to pay last respects to each Veteran that has served.



Chapter 257 Board Members

Del Kilbourne – Director

Terry Favorite – Assistant Director

Terry Lindauer – Treasurer

Penny Wright – Secretary

Brian Mohlman – Chaplain & Judge
Advocate



Reach out to any of these members if you have questions about the American Legion Riders at Post 257.



Post/Auxiliary/SAL

Volunteer Opportunities!

The Post, Auxiliary, & SAL have several opportunities to volunteer in the Community and to support our Military in the near future! Now is the time to pitch in and help make a difference for our Veterans and our Community!

April 22 - Adopt-A-Highway

April 29 - Legion Family Day

May 20 - Post 257 Heroes Golf Outing

Officer Directory

Post

Commander - Dan Holdridge
 1st Vice-Commander - Brian Mohlman
 2nd Vice-Commander - Samuel Gray
 Adjutant - Robert Dirmeyer
 Finance Officer - Sherilyn Williams
 Judge Advocate - Rick Frantz
 Service Officer - Ed Jinks
 Sergeant At Arms - Pat Kinney
 Chaplain - Bill Hohman
 Historian - Cindy Dawson
 Members-At-Large:
 Mike Mooney, John Howe, Jim Hoglen

Auxiliary

President - Penny Wright
 1st Vice-President - Jessica Earl
 2nd Vice-President - Melody Carlsen
 Treasurer - Katherine Philo
 Secretary - Carol Langley
 Sergeant At Arms - Cleo Keyes
 Chaplain - Julie Kilbourne
 Historian - Carrie Holdridge
 Executive Committee Members:
 Vicki Dickinson, Kim Siedelburg, Glea Anthonissen

SAL

Commander - Del Kilbourne
 1st Vice-Commander - Andrew Mohlman
 2nd Vice-Commander - Brian Mohlman
 Adjutant - Dan Holdridge
 Finance Officer - Terry Lindaeur
 Chaplain - Brian Mohlman
 Historian - Jack Carlsen
 Sergeant At Arms - Terry Favorite

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