

## Polish Legion of American Veterans visit veterans home

The Polish Legion of American Veterans SSgt. Clem Bykowski Post 169 in Sterling Heights made its annual trip to the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans on Palm Sunday.

“We have been making this annual trip there for over 50 years, except for the past two years where the coronavirus pandemic prevented us from keeping up this annual tradition,” Richard Yandora said.

He said the PLAV’s mission is to “enlighten, inspire, entertain, show we care, and thank the veteran residents.”

“Over the years, we have donated the equivalent of over \$125,000 in gifts, not counting the cost of renting a 50-passenger bus to take us there. In many of the past years, we had to rent two busses to transport our musicians, gifts, donated items, members, and guests to the veterans home,” he said.

Volunteers who made the trip this year included Therese Wrobel, past National Commander of the PLAV, Ron Roznowski, current PLAV State Commander, Joanne Myers, president of the PLAV Auxiliary, and Gary Mruk, commander of Post 169.

Yandora credited the Clem Bykowski family as being “always a significant contributor of prizes, gifts, and cash donations to the veterans at the Grand Rapids Home.”

“There are 120 veterans housed in this newly built vet home and 30 are housed in the old building, but only 39 of them opted to join us in the bingo game that we hosted,” Yandora said. “Our staff aided the veteran home employees in transporting 36 of the bingo players to the central game room.”

The home is funded and managed by the State of Michigan, as is the new facility called Michigan Veterans Homes located in Chesterfield Township. *Send news of service clubs and veterans service organizations to Linda May at [lindamay@ameritech.net](mailto:lindamay@ameritech.net) or call landline 586-791-8116.*



The Polish Legion of American Veterans sent volunteers bearing gifts and games to the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans. They included Gary Mruk, Frank Vittese, Barbara Kolasinski, Joanne Myers, Ron Roznowski, Daniel Ostrowski, Therese Wrobel, Richard Yandora, Richard Kolasinski and Linda Zepke.

COURTESY RICHARD YANDORA



Linda  
May