

In the late summer of 1936 several ex-service men with overseas service during the World War endeavored to form a Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Post at Wayne. However, it was not until Bernard F. Domanke and Peter P. Urbaniak as well as several others really took hold that our organization got under way in earnest. This small group was ably assisted by Commander L. F. Hale and comrade Charles Benner of Ypsilanti Post No. 2408.

Several informal meetings were held at the Cady School, two miles north of Wayne, and many eligible veterans contacted and finally on the evening of August 28th, 1936 fourteen prospective members were present at a meeting and organization plans were completed.

There was considerable discussion as to the name to be chosen for our post, there being three names of deceased World War veterans proposed - comrades Joseph T. Urbaniak, Jay W. Harris and Charles J. Kehrner. Upon being brought to a vote it was elected to name our post Harris-Kehrner Post. The following is a short sketch of the military services of these two comrades who have answered the last roll call:

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS JAY W. HARRIS enlisted in the United States Army at Detroit, Michigan June 28th, 1918 and was sent to Camp Custer, Michigan, where he was assigned to duty with Company C, 310th Engineers. Soon after his enlistment he sailed for overseas duty with his regiment, going first to England and thence to Northern Russia where he saw service at Archangel. Comrade Harris returned to United States in July 1919 and was discharged from the service at Camp Custer July 25th, 1919. He was fatally injured in an automobile accident near Wayne in August 1932 and was buried at Michigan Memorial Park, near Flat Rock, by Wayne Post No. 111, The American Legion.

CORPORAL CHARLES J. KEHRER was born at Detroit, Michigan November 25th, 1895. He enlisted in the United States Army at Detroit November 20th, 1917 and was sent to Camp Custer, Michigan where he was assigned to duty with Company I, 339th Infantry, which later was to be known as the Polar Bears. He served at Camp Custer until July 1918 when the Division sailed for overseas duty, going first to England and a month later to Northern Russia, serving at Archangel, Seletshoe, Pologda and on the Railway Fronts. Comrade Kehrner returned to United States June 30th, 1919 and was discharged from the service at Camp Custer July 7th, 1919. Following his discharge comrade Kehrner resided on a farm near Wayne until his untimely death March 26th, 1935. He was interred in St. Mary's cemetery at Wayne, Michigan, final military honors being rendered by Ford-Dearborn Post No. 1494, Veterans of Foreign Wars of United States.

On this same evening, August 28th, 1936, the following comrades were selected as officers of the new post:

Bernard F. Domanke	Commander
Charles H. Carpenter	Senior Vice Commander
Peter P. Urbaniak	Junior Vice Commander
Albert B. Harris	Adjutant
Herbert Vivian	Quartermaster
Alcide St. Jacques	Officer of the Day
Ernest F. Fuelling	Chaplain
Clarence D. Schindorff	Guard
Ernest F. Fuelling	Trustee (6 months)
William Tutching	Trustee (12 months)
Rollo W. Reiser	Trustee (18 months)

Our temporary organization completed, arrangements were made for an elaborate parade followed by installation of the post at Wayne High School auditorium the evening of October 2nd, 1936.

This was a grand parade through town, headed by the massed colors of several nearby Veterans of Foreign Wars posts and Wayne Post No. 111, the American Legion. Ford-Dearborn Post No. 1494's champion Drum & Bugle Corps provided the music.

Following the parade we assembled at the high school auditorium and preliminary talks were given by Honorable John Lesinski, Member of Congress from our District, Frank Hutchinson, President of the Wayne Kiwanis Club and Matthew H. Tinkham, President of the Wayne School Board.

The meeting was then closed and ceremony of initiation of members and institution of the post proceeded with, the mustering in being in charge of Victor B. Galloway, Council of Administration member of the Eighth District. The long form ritual was exemplified by the National Champion ritual team of Wolverine Post No. 171 of Detroit, the following recruits being inducted into our organization:

Bernard F. Domanke	Charles H. Carpenter
Clarence D. Carnahan	George F. H. Eib
John R. Frye	Russell H. Bradley
Ernest F. Fuelling	Albert B. Harris
William J. McDowell	William Tutching
Herbert M. Haynes	Gaspar Alfano
Edward Lomas	Rollo W. Reiser
Alcide St. Jacques	Peter P. Urbaniak

Following initiation, the officers of the post were installed, and the following distinguished guests were introduced, several of whom gave interesting talks:

Elmer J. Hanna	Department Commander
Harry G. Parsons	Dept. Senior Vice Commander
Charles J. Pastor	Dept. Junior Vice Commander
Arthur W. Thomas	Department Adjutant
Glenn H. Stiff	Department Quartermaster
Len C. Merchant	Dept. Chief of Staff
Fred W. Beard	Dept. Welfare Officer
C. B. Vauris	Commander, Post 2170
William DeLaurier	Commander, Post 552
Ralph Jarrendt	Commander, Post 1136
Edwin Teevin	Commander, Post 1494
Dr. H. B. Kinyon	Commander, Post 1888
Arthur Greig	Commander, Post 2222
L. F. Hale	Commander, Post 2408
Floyd Stoeckle	Commander, Post 423
Joseph Christianson	Commander, Post 823
Edward Bishop	Commander, Post 171
Frank Willard	Commander, Post 3158

Following these ceremonies we adjourned to the Square Deal Hall at Garden City and enjoyed refreshments until the early morning hours. We received \$20.00 from the Department towards paying for this party and the post officers made up the deficit out of their personal funds.

Our first meeting following mustering in of the post was held on October 16th, 1936 at Urbaniak Hall, north of Wayne, the use of this building being donated by comrade Peter Urbaniak. At this meeting our annual dues were placed at \$3.00.

Our charter bearing the following names was received and very handsomely framed by our good comrade Peter Urbaniak:

Russell H. Bradley	William J. McDowell
Oscar L. Burns	Harry D. McFall
Charles H. Carpenter	Justin J. Perrin
Clarence D. Carnahan	Rollo W. Reiser
Bernard F. Domanke	Paul C. Robinson
George F. H. Eib	Kenneth B. Rowe
John R. Frye	Clarence D. Schindorff
Ernest F. Fuelling	Walter H. Scott
Gaspar Alfano	Joseph M. Shellhaas
Glenn Hargraves	Dale A. Shettleroe
Albert B. Harris	Howard S. Swope
Herbert M. Haynes	Alcide St. Jacques
Ernest Johnson	William Tutching
Edward Lomas	Peter P. Urbaniak
	Herbert Vivian

In October 1936 a large old family bible was presented to the post by comrade Albert Harris and small ceremonial stands were built and presented by comrade Peter Urbaniak.

Our first Armistice Ball was held at the Square Deal hall in Garden City on November 11th, 1936, which was a real successful affair from which we realized approximately \$55.00 for the post.

On November 24th, 1936 we held our first Feather Party at Urbaniak Hall and cleared approximately \$40.00. We had a far larger crowd in attendance than could be accommodated and had we had larger quarters would have made much more. There was a large number of people who came but were unable to get into the building.

The annual Department Pow-Wow was held at Lansing, December 5th and 6th, 1936, and was attended by Commander Domanke, Junior Vice Commander Urbaniak and Quartermaster Vivian. At that time our post was awarded a Department citation for our efforts in securing memberships and Commander Domanke was given a special prize for his personal efforts.

In December 1936 comrade Rollo Reiser presented the post with some chairs. Previous to this time it had been our custom to borrow chairs from the Gady School and carry them about a block for every meeting.

In December 1936 comrades Reiser, Harris, Carpenter, Urbaniak and Lomas were appointed a committee to seek larger quarters. After making considerable investigation it was recommended that we remain where we are until we are better able to secure a larger hall, having in mind comrade Urbaniak will not accept any rent for the use of his building.

In December 1936 comrade John R. Frye was appointed Post Historian and comrades Joseph M. Shellhaas and Ernest Johnson were appointed Color Bearers.

At the same time comrades William J. McDowell and Harry D. McFall were appointed color guards.

In December 1936 due to comrade Schindorff not attending meetings, comrade William J. McDowell was appointed Guard in his place.

At Christmas time 1936 we contributed \$5.00 from our Penny Collection Fund to the home at Eaton Rapids.

In January 1937 comrade Russell H. Bradley was appointed Employment Chairman.

In January 1937 we contributed \$10.00 from our small general fund to start an Entertainment Fund and comrade Ernest F. Fuelling was appointed Entertainment Chairman.

In January 1937 comrade Ernest F. Fuelling was appointed Chairman of the Relief Committee.

In February 1937 comrade Paul C. Robinson was appointed Americanism and Publicity Chairman.

On February 5th, 1937 we held a Pre-Lenten dance at the Square Deal hall at Garden City, designating this dance as a benefit for our "Post Colors Fund", and cleared approximately \$70.00.

Early in February 1937 when flood waters in the Ohio River Valley laid waste a large part of our country and made many people homeless, we contributed \$10.00 from our meager treasury to the American Red Cross for flood relief work, and later on in the same month received a Department Citation, a certificate of merit, dated February 5th, 1937, for our participation in flood relief work.

At our meeting of February 26th, 1937 after considerable discussion we granted permission for the formation of an Auxiliary Unit.

In order to give our Adjutant some assistance in his manifold duties, in February 1937 comrade Russell H. Bradley was appointed Sergeant-Major.

In March 1937 comrade Dr. Clarence J. Carpenter was appointed Post Surgeon.

In March 1937 our Americanism Officer made arrangements for an essay contest on "The Flag, Its Significance" among the pupils from the seventh to twelfth grades in all schools in Nankin Township, arranging for prizes as follows:

First prize	\$10.00
Second prize	5.00
Third prize	3.00

On March 19th, 1937 a special meeting was called of those eligible to membership in an Auxiliary Unit. However, the response was not great enough at that time to form an Auxiliary.

On April 9th, 1937 another Post Colors Fund dance was held at the Square Deal hall at Garden City, which cleared approximately \$125.00. This was a very successful dance and those who attended were shown a good time. Advertising space was sold in a program, our rates being very low, but the returns were very satisfactory.

At this time the members of the Harris and Kehrer families, after whom our post is named, expressed their desire to assist us in the procurement of our colors, the Kehrer family contributing \$55.00 and the Harris family \$30.00.

At this dance on April 9th, 1937 a door prize of \$5.00 was given and when the drawing was made the prize was won by Mrs. Charles J. Kehrer, the widow of one of the boys after whom this post was named. Upon being given the award, she immediately insisted that we accept it as a further contribution towards the purchase of our colors.

In April 1937 we adopted a resolution in connection with the observance of the 150th anniversary of the adoption of our Constitution and copy was forwarded to the United States Constitution Sesquicentennial Commission.

Members of the post appointed to this committee were Rollo W. Reiser, Chairman, Clarence J. Carpenter, Herbert Vivian, Albert B. Harris and Russell H. Bradley.

In April 1937 it developed that the widow of comrade Charles Kehrer and seven children were in rather dire circumstances and the post contributed \$10.00 to purchase some coal and groceries. Comrade Rollo W. Reiser, however, furnished the coal at less than half price, thereby leaving more money with which to purchase groceries.

In the latter part of April 1937 ceremonial badges were purchased for the post officers.

In April 1937 comrade John R. Frye was appointed a committee of one to investigate and make full report on securing rifles, ammunition and helmets to outfit our color guard and a firing squad. After an extensive investigation we decided to purchase .45/70 caliber Springfield Cadet model rifles. Six such rifles, rifle slings, cartridge belts, four metal helmets and 300 rounds of blank ammunition were purchased at an approximate cost of \$50.00.

Having accumulated sufficient funds with which to purchase our colors, they were secured on May 16th, 1937 having been manufactured by John Magni of Detroit at a cost of \$140.00.

In May 1937 comrade Ed Lomas made a contribution of \$20.00 to the post, suggesting this be used as a nucleus for a post building fund.

In May 1937 we arranged to secure a Government headstone for the grave of an overseas veteran who is buried in Romulus cemetery. This was for comrade John W. Poet, Jr., serial number 261989, who enlisted at Detroit, Michigan, June 19th, 1917 in Company D, 31st Michigan Infantry, which later became Company D, 125th Infantry, 32nd Division. Comrade Poet sailed for overseas duty on February 9th, 1918 and served with his regiment through various engagements with the enemy until August 4th, 1918 when he was killed by shrapnel in the Pismes Sector.

At our last meeting in May 1937 delegates and alternates to the Department Encampment at Saginaw. June 18th, 19th and 20th, 1937 were elected. Commander Domanke automatically became a delegate and the following comrades were elected:

Albert B. Harris	Delegate
Rollo W. Reiser	Delegate
Herbert Vivian	Delegate
Ernest F. Fuelling	Alternate
Peter P. Urbaniak	Alternate
John R. Frye	Alternate

Buddy poppies were sold on May 28th, 1937, the sale being in charge of comrade Peter Urbaniak. We disposed of 500 and could have sold many more. This cleared approximately \$45.00. However, as this was our first experience, we considered we did very well and another year know we will dispose of many more.

On Memorial Day, Sunday, May 30th, 1937, we made our first appearance with our new colors by joining with the Sixteenth District of the American Legion in memorial services at Michigan Memorial Park. This was a great gathering of veterans and their friends, there being approximately 3,000 present at the services. There was a short parade through the park to the memorial flag staff and plaque dedicated to the memory of all veterans of the Sixteenth Congressional District, where a firing squad from Headquarters Company, Second U. S. Infantry from Fort Wayne fired a salute to the dead.

Then, on Monday, May 31st, 1937 we participated jointly with Wayne Post No. 111, The American Legion, in Memorial services at Wayne, having our colors in the parade and furnishing the color guard for the massed colors. Before the parade services were conducted in the high school auditorium where our new colors were formally presented to us by Superintendent Charles L. Butterfield of the Wayne Schools on behalf of the Harris and Kehrer families.

At these same ceremonies we presented the awards to the winners of our essay contest on "The Flag, Its Significance", as follows:

First prize \$10.00	Miss Virginia McCarty 11th Grade, Wayne
Second prize \$5.00	Miss Mary Piscopink 12th Grade, Wayne
Third prize \$3.00	Miss Jessie M. Schafer 12th Grade, Wayne.

This contest brought forth a total of seventy eight essays, the majority of which were very good and gave the judges some difficulty in selecting the winners. Judges of this contest were Miss Isabelle Coomer, Mr. Mantous Uht and Mr. Clarence Whistler.

At our meeting of June 9th, 1937 comrade Fuelling's term as Trustee having expired, he was re-elected for a six months term.

At the same time comrade Oscar L. Burns was appointed Chairman to handle distribution of Vv license plates for 1938.

A Spring Dance was held at the Square Deal hall at Garden City, June 11th, 1937, which produced \$72.00 net. The advance sale of tickets was pretty good, tickets being 25¢ for the ladies and 35¢ for gentlemen and not only admitted the bearer to the dance floor but also gave a chance on a \$25.00 1938 model Philco table radio. While there was a good crowd in attendance, it was not exceptionally large.

We also handled the bar and the sale of beer, pop and sandwiches was good, being ably assisted on the lunch counter by several of the ladies who are struggling to start an Auxiliary Unit. Also, several of the ladies waited on tables and due to not enough post members turning out to help it was necessary to employ other waitresses to take care of the tables.

This Spring Dance was handled by comrade Bradley who introduced several novelties which were accepted with great enthusiasm by the dancers. Also, as an incentive for post members to sell tickets, a prize of a gold membership button was arranged for the one who sold the most tickets. This was won by comrade Joe Shellhaas, but comrades Charles Carpenter and Harry McFall were close behind him.

In the Spring of 1937 we very thoroughly went into the matter of holding a carnival but due to being unable to locate a suitable grounds and there being some question as to getting enough post members out to work we decided to not sponsor such an affair this year.

The Eighteenth Annual Encampment was held at Saginaw June 18th to 20th, 1937 and all of our delegates were present. The annual parade was extended over a route six miles long and comrades Vivian and Frye carried our colors the entire route of march.

At our meeting of June 25th, 1937 there was considerable discussion as to purchasing a building site and by vote of

the post the Commander appointed the following members of a Building Committee with full power to purchase a desirable site: Rollo W. Reiser, Chairman, Albert B. Harris, George F. H. Fib, John R. Frye, Peter F. Urbaniak, Thomas E. Sullivan and Joseph M. Shellhaas.

The committee immediately went into action, searching for a suitable location. One site investigated was near the corner of North Wayne Road and Cady Street, which was 80 by 240 feet in size. The committee took an option on this place at a price of \$500.00, but finally negotiations were broken off when the owner decided he wanted considerably more for the lot.

On the evening of July 12th, 1937 a pot-luck dinner at Riverside Park for members and their families was arranged, which did not prove to be a very successful affair, as a heavy rainstorm came up that evening. However, five families did eat their dinner before the storm broke.

In July 1937 one of our newer members, comrade Clarence Bepton, was taken to the hospital suffering from tuberculosis, the indications being that he will have to remain in the hospital for quite some time.

At our meeting of August 13th, 1937 representatives from 310th Engineers Post in Detroit were present and extended a special invitation for our post to meet with them at some time in the near future. We accepted the invitation and early this Fall such a joint meeting will be held.

Comrade Albert Harris was elected delegate from the post to the National Encampment at Buffalo, New York, August 29th to September 3rd, 1937 and comrade John R. Frye was elected Alternate.

Both of these comrades attended the convention and carried our post colors in the annual National parade. Comrades Harry McFall and Herbert Vivian also attended the convention.

In September 1937 an inventory of our post equipment developed we owned approximately \$300.00 worth of equipment and as a protection against loss from fire the equipment was insured for a period of three years.

At our meeting held September 24th, 1937 we arranged to incorporate under the name of Harris-Kehrer Memorial Home Association in order to take title to our property in that name.

At this same meeting comrade Harry McFall was appointed Legislative Officer.

Due to certain changes being made in the National Constitution and By-Laws, providing that post officers will take office in April instead of in the Fall, as at present, at our meeting of September 24th, 1937 our present officers were nominated to serve the short term, ending next April.

The Building Committee continued its search for a location for our proposed home, securing an option on a 40 by 125 feet lot facing on North Wayne Road near the intersection of Sunset Avenue, and two additional lots each 50 by 127 feet facing on Sunset Avenue at a price of \$350.00 less back taxes amounting to more than \$100.00. Arrangements were made to take title to this property as soon as the matter of back taxes are taken care of.

On October 1st, 1937 we held our first anniversary ball at the Square Deal hall at Garden City, all arrangements being in charge of comrade Russell Bradley. There was a good crowd in attendance and the advance sale of tickets was good, they being sold at our usual price of 25¢ for the ladies and 35¢ for gentlemen. In addition to admission to the dance, each ticket gave a chance on a \$30.00 pair of blankets. Comrade Harry D. McFall was the champion ticket seller, disposing of 136 and thereby winning the prize offered by the dance committee, this being a gold lapel button.

This was one of the most successful dances we ever held, final returns showing a net profit of \$123.00.

Early in October 1937 comrades Rollo W. Reiser, Albert B. Harris and John R. Frye were appointed a committee to handle to a conclusion the incorporation of our Memorial Home Association.

At the close of our first year's existence we had slightly more than \$300.00 in our treasury and a paid up membership of thirty-eight. In looking back over the year just passed, we feel we have accomplished much in that short space of time and look forward to many more successful years.

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In October 1937 we received small metal plates for attaching to our flag staffs, attesting the fact we had our colors in the annual parade during the National Encampment at Buffalo, New York in August 1937.

In September 1937 comrade Tutchings's term as Trustee having expired, he was re-elected for a twelve months term.

At our first meeting in October 1937 arrangements were made to incorporate a Memorial Home Association for the purpose of acquiring title to property we recently purchased and to handle the affairs of the Association. Comrades Reiser, Harris and Frye were appointed a committee to handle the incorporation details. This committee after going over incorporation papers of other posts finally secured the able service of W. Verne Snyder, a member of Wayne Post No. 111, The American Legion, who handled the completion, refusing to accept any fee for his services. The cost of incorporation was \$15.00.

On October 22nd, 1937, the date of our joint meeting with the 310th Engineers Post of Detroit, only six post members showed up for the meeting. Then, instead of a joint meeting being held, we simply played the part of guests of the 310th Engineers for the evening.

On November 4th, 1937 we had representation present at the Eighth District rally at Lincoln Park.

Early in November 1937 we made an initial payment of \$101.82 on the three lots we secured for a home site. This payment represented the back taxes due on the lots, the balance to be paid in installments. The total purchase price was \$350.00.

In November 1937 our post was assigned fifteen Vv license plates in series 3323. Plate Vv-3323 was reserved for Commander Domanke and the membership at large drew lots for assignment of the other numbers.

On November 23rd, 1937 we held our second annual Thanksgiving Keno party at Urbaniak Hall and had far more present than we could accomodate. A net profit of \$60.00 was realized, but would have been considerably larger had we had more space to seat the crowd.

On November 4th, 1937 all of the then present post officers were re-elected for the short term to April 1938.

On November 26th, 1937 the officers were installed in office by comrade Ralph W. Trotter, Past Department Commander and Past National Inspector-General. Comrade Otto Herpich, Department Inspector and Aide to the National Commander-in-Chief, was also present.

In December 1937 we arranged to do some welfare work and gathered up a number of old toys and clothing for distribution to the needy. We arranged for a "pound day" and had receptacles in various stores to receive contributions of canned goods, etc. This produced a lot of foodstuffs but the coin boxes placed in beer gardens for welfare contributions brought forth very little response.

These donations together with approximately \$40.00 contributed by the post permitted us to deliver on Christmas Eve ten large baskets of food to needy families. Also, three large well filled baskets were delivered to post members who were in rather straightened circumstances.

In January 1938 thirty-seven copies of the book "The Story of the Constitution" were distributed in the schools in Nankin Township as well as placing three copies in the Wayne Public Library.

In January 1938 we were offered three lots facing on North Wayne Road near the intersection of Crown Street in exchange for the lots we previously purchased near Sunset Avenue. As these lots are 40x125 feet, making 120 feet frontage on Wayne Road, we arranged the exchange.

In January 1938 a delegation from the post called on comrade Clarence Becton at Maybury Sanatorium at Northville and presented him with his 1938 membership card.

In January 1938 comrades Harris, Domanke and Reiser were appointed a committee to draft a set of by-laws for our Memorial Association.

In January 1938 a large number of signatures were secured to petitions "Keep America Out of War."

Also, in January 1938 the organization of an Auxiliary Unit was turned over to Mrs. Harry D. McFall who arranged to go ahead and organize a Unit.

In January 1938 incorporation of our Memorial Home Association was completed and charter issued under date of January 19th, 1938. Mr. Verne Snyder of Wayne handled all details.

On February 4th, 1938 comrade Vivian suffered the loss of his wife and a large delegation from the post attended the funeral, the post sending a large floral piece.

On February 4th, 1938 we had a Pre-Lenten dance at the Square Deal Hall at Garden City, which was well patronized but only produced approximately \$25.00 clear for our work.

At a meeting on February 11th, 1938 it was arranged to allow our Welfare Chairman 4¢ per mile for distance traveled in handling post business.

On February 25th, 1938 we held another dance at the Square Deal Hall at Garden City, and sustained a net loss of approximately \$4.00. This was principally due to being required to allow the Square Deal people 10% on the concessions as well as there being a large number of people out of employment at that time.

In March 1938 we arranged to hold a dance on May 5th but account continued depressed business conditions this proposed dance was postponed indefinitely.

Through the courtesy of Wayne Post No. 111, The American Legion, we held our April 8th, 1938 meeting in their hall, at which time a class of eight recruits were given the long form ritual by Detroit North End Post No. 140 Ritual Team. Department Commander Harry G. Parsons honored us with his presence, as also were present Victor Galloway, C. of A., David Journavaz, Department Poppy Chairman and a number of post commanders of nearby posts. The exemplification of the ritual work was very impressive and following that election of officers for the ensuing year was proceeded with, the following being elected:

Commander:	Comrades R. W. Reiser and A. B. Harris were nominated, comrade Reiser withdrawing and then comrade Harris was elected unanimously.
Senior Vice Commander:	Comrade Peter F. Urbaniak was elected unanimously.
Junior Vice Commander:	Comrade Harry McFall was elected unanimously.
Quartermaster:	Comrade Joseph M. Shollhaas was elected unanimously.
Chaplain:	Comrade Ernest F. Fuelling was elected unanimously.
Post Surgeon:	Comrade Dr. Clarence J. Carpenter was elected unanimously.
Trustee, 18 months:	Comrade R. W. Reiser was elected.

On April 22nd, 1938 the new post officers were installed in office by Past Department Commander Ralph W. Trotter, our Auxiliary Unit being guests. The following comrades were appointed by Commander Harris to fill the respective offices:

Adjutant:	John R. Frye
Officer of the Day:	Charles C. Benner
Guard:	Alcide St. Jacques
Post Advocate:	Chas. E. Carpenter
Legislative:	Edward Lomas
Historian:	John R. Frye
Patriotic Instructor:	Thomas E. Sullivan
Service:	Bernard F. Domanke
Entertainment:	Edward Lomas
Welfare and Relief:	Ernest F. Fuelling

At this time Past Commander Domanke was presented with a gold V. F. W. emblem ring in small appreciation of services rendered during his term of office.

The first annual meeting of our Harris-Kehrer Memorial Association was held on May 2nd, 1938, at which time a Board of Directors was elected.

At this same meeting we elected Delegates to Wayne County Council.

At our meeting of May 13th, 1938 delegates and alternates were elected to the Department Encampment at Kalamazoo.

Buddy Poppies were sold on May 27th, 1938 with the aid of our Auxiliary Unit. 750 poppies were disposed of, realizing approximately \$48.00 net for our welfare fund. Comrade Peter P. Urbaniak was chairman in charge of the sale.

In connection with this Poppy sale there was considerable discussion as to what portion should go to our Auxiliary Unit in appreciation of their services in the sale. The Commander finally ruled it was up to the Auxiliary to assist without expecting a financial reward. However, we did vote the Auxiliary Unit \$10.00 from our General Fund.

Memorial Day 1938 was appropriately observed, we joining with Wayne Post No. 111, The American Legion, in ceremonies and parade. Following these ceremonies, Veterans of Foreign Wars ritual ceremonies were held at comrade Charles J. Kehrer's grave with a large number of people present. Then, in the afternoon similar services were held at comrade Jay W. Harris' grave at Michigan Memorial Park.

On June 23rd, 1938 we arranged to hold a post picnic at Nankin Mills on August 28th.

At this same meeting we elected comrade Harry McFall delegate and commander Harris alternate to the National Encampment at Columbus, Ohio.

In order to raise some money we arranged for the sale of punchboard chances, each board to net the post \$5.00. However, this effort did not prove very successful.

On July 22nd, 1938 comrade Benner resigned as Officer of the Day and commander Harris appointed comrade Ernest G. Boettger in his place.

Our picnic was held at Nankin Mills on Sunday, August 28th, 1938, various concessions having been arranged for.

While we paid \$30.00 rental for the grounds. they were very unsatisfactory, buildings being in poor condition and it was necessary for us to erect very near all the stands we used. However, a large number of post members turned out to help. Our Auxiliary Unit sold lunches.

It had been our aim to promote this picnic as a medium for the various candidates of both parties to air their political views. A program was arranged with space for sale, and which did not produce as much revenue as we had anticipated. The consensus of opinion was that the advertising of this picnic as a political rally done more harm than good. All in all, we gained some valuable experience and approximately \$180.00 in money.

At our meeting of October 14th, 1938 comrade Peter P. Urbaniak was voted a life member of the post without further payment of dues in small appreciation of the valuable aid given the post since our organization. The resolution making him a life member reads as follows:

"Whereas, the social and financial success of any post is predicated wholly on the whole-hearted support of its membership, and

"Whereas, comrade Peter Paul Urbaniak, one of the principal organizers of Harris-Kehrer Post No. 3325, Veterans of Foreign Wars of United States, has at all times exemplified this principle and rendered untiring and valuable service to his post, and

"Whereas, comrade Urbaniak has not only contributed generously of his time and labor for the promotion of all of our activities, but, in addition thereto during the first two years of our existence as a post provided post quarters at no expense to our organization, and

"Whereas, undoubtedly this contribution of quarters, at no expense to the post, in which to hold our many and varied activities, will continue for quite some time to come,

"Therefore, be it resolved by Harris-Kehrer Post No. 3325, Veterans of Foreign Wars of United States, in regular meeting assembled this Fourteenth day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand nineteen hundred and thirty-eight, as a small token of our esteem and respect and in appreciation of the many favors extended the post with no thoughts of any possible material reward, declare comrade Peter Paul Urbaniak a member in good standing in this post until such time as he may be called upon to answer the final roll call of the Supreme Command.

"Be it further resolved, that the Adjutant be, and hereby is, directed to spread this resolution on the minutes of the proceedings of this meeting, in order that action taken may be preserved for all time in the records of our organization. Also, that comrade Urbaniak be furnished with copy of this resolution."

Our meeting of October 14th, 1938 was held jointly with our Auxiliary Unit and after a short business meeting a social time was had.

At this time we received a life membership in the National Home at Eaton Rapids, account our \$12.00 contribution from the Penny Fund at the Post Officers Pow-Wow October 1st at Lansing.

A district dance was held at the Garden City Civic Club on October 22nd, 1938, which cleared approximately \$5.00 for the District. This was an instance of the District pushing over something on our post for practically all the work fell to us and in addition to that it spoiled the ticket sale for our own Armistice dance.

Our Annual Armistice Day Ball was held at Garden City Civic Club hall on November 11th, 1938 on which we cleared approximately \$48.00.

In November 1938 we purchased twenty Historical Art Calendars for distribution in our local schools.

During the fall of 1938 there was a great deal of discussion on purchasing an old barn, moving it onto our lots and remodeling same for post quarters. However, no action was taken as it was felt the cost would be greater than the value.

In November 1938 we purchased 50 sets of V. F. W. Booster plates for attaching to automobile license plates and arranged for distribution of same to all members upon payment of their dues.

Our Annual Thanksgiving Keno party was held in Hunt's dance hall November 22nd, 1938. Good prizes were offered and we had a fair sized crowd, but we also had serious competition from the political organization at Wayne County Good Roads who held a raffle on the same evening. However, we cleared \$60.00 and also added approximately \$7.00 worth of equipment to the post's property.

In December 1938 a safety deposit box was rented in the local bank for the storage of comrade's discharge papers and other valuable documents of the post.

On December 17th, 1938 we cooperated with Wayne Post No. 111, The American Legion, in a Goodfellow Paper Sale, the proceeds going to local charity organizations to provide baskets of food for needy families.

Our meeting of December 23rd, 1938 was designated "Pound Day" and all members requested to bring some food stuffs for distribution to needy families. This brought in a considerable amount of staple of groceries which were turned over to relief organizations.

On December 24th, 1938 we joined with Wayne Post No. 111, The American Legion, and assisted in the distribution of baskets to needy families. We also arranged for baskets for several of our post members who were in rather dire circumstances.

Booster license plates were secured for 1939 and given to all post members upon payment of their 1939 dues.

In January 1939 we arranged for the showing of the Trailer Film "The Star Spangled Banner" at the Wayne Theater.

In February 1939 comrade L. W. Geier had the misfortune to lose his home and household goods by fire and the post assisted him to the extent of \$10.00.

On February 4th, 1939 a dance was held at St. Raphael's church at Garden City and although no refreshments were sold approximately \$27.00 was cleared.

In February 1939 we purchased three V. F. W. Citizenship medals for awarding to a boy in each of the three Boy Scout troops in Wayne.

In February 1939 we had a small silk flag placed in each of the front windows of our quarters.

In March 1939 the sum of \$10.00 was given our Auxiliary Unit in appreciation of their good services in the Poppy Sale in 1938. We also arranged to have our Auxiliary Unit assist in the sale this year on a 50-50 basis.

In March 1939 a special mattress was secured and given to comrade Clarence Becton who is confined at Maybury Sanatorium at Northville, Michigan.

In March 1939 work was started on our annual picnic to be held July 9th at Beech Grove Park, plans being made for a very elaborate affair, which will be gone into detail later.

During February and March 1939 there had been much discussion on the formation of a Bicycle Safety Club along the lines set up by National Headquarters, commander Harris being very desirous of carrying out the program locally. However, committee appointed to carefully investigate the matter reported it to be almost impracticable to carry such a program out successfully at the present time and no further action was taken.

At our first meeting in April the result of poll taken relative to changing our meeting dates from the second and fourth Fridays each month to the second and fourth Thursdays was announced, the majority of those voting desiring to continue meeting on Friday evenings.

On April 14th, 1939 our annual election of officers was held, the following comrades being elected to the various offices:

Commander

Harry McFall	16 votes (elected)
Peter P. Urbanisk	3 votes
Charles E. Carpenter	1 vote
John R. Frye	Withdrew
Bernard F. Domanke	Withdrew

Senior Vice Commander

Walter I. Carpenter	14 votes (elected)
Ernest G. Boettger	5 votes
Peter P. Urbanisk	Withdrew
Thomas E. Sullivan	Withdrew

Junior Vice Commander

Glen O. Bagby	Elected unanimously
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Quartermaster

Joseph M. Shellhaas	Elected unanimously
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Chaplain

Thomas W. Andresen	Elected unanimously
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Advocate

Ernest G. Boettger	Elected unanimously
John R. Frye	Withdrew

Surgeon

Dr. Clarence J. Carpenter	Elected unanimously
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