

★ ★ ★ AMERICAN LEGION POST 166 ★ ★ ★

Synepuxent Observer Fall 2017



Commander's Message

As summer is coming to an end, I would like to thank everyone who made this year a great success starting with the Legion Convention and ending with the Jeep Raffle. Without the help of the many volunteers this could never have happened. It was really nice seeing old friends and making many new friends along the way. Many good things have happened between July and the end of September.

July started off with the Legion convention where Synepuxent Post 166 brought home seven awards. The best newsletter was won by Sarge Garlitz and the best webpage was won by Bill Wolf. Thanks guys for a job well done. The month of July ended with the Riders holding their annual crab feast. They do have the best crabs for an all-you-can-eat crab feast. Thank you Buster Slaton, Ed Hansen and all the Riders who volunteered their time making it a huge success. This is one event that sells out almost before the tickets are printed.

The Queen of Hearts is still going strong thanks to Rosie Garlitz and Jack Hyle. Stop on by, it only takes one ticket to win. The cost is only five dollars and that could turn into a winner worth thousands.

A special thanks must go out to our Chaplin Ben Dawson because he has the hardest job of all. Many of our brothers and sisters have passed on to Post Everlasting these past three months and it is a difficult job visiting the sick and also the families of those that have lost their loved ones and best friend. Let's not forget all who have gone before

[Http://www.ALPost166.org](http://www.ALPost166.org)

us and all those who are still missing. Someday we will all be together again as one.

A POW/MIA ceremony was held here at the Post on September 15th with two very special guest speakers. Senator Jim Mathias and State Delegate Mary Beth Carozza spoke about the importance of never forgetting our POW/MIA's that are still unaccounted.

Bike week, as usual, was a huge success here in Ocean City. The Riders had their Poker Run on Saturday the 16th and as I understand it went very well. About 100 riders participated in this year's run. Joann and I personally manned the station at the Lions Club and they wanted to thank everyone who stopped by and had something to drink and eat.

The Ladies Auxiliary will surely be glad when September 24th comes and goes because it has been a difficult time trying to get volunteers to man the booth to sell raffle tick-

ets on the boardwalk for the Jeep raffle. It was a difficult job but the reward will be great. Thank you Tina Preziotti and Paul Hawkins for a job well done.

Joann and I would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. If you know of someone who is by themselves invite them to share with you and your family so they won't be alone on a holiday.

May God Bless You and May God Bless America.

Tom Wengert,
Commander

Email: alpost166@comcast.net 1



Captain Alesia Hughes of the Recruiting Command present a plaque to Synepuxent Post #166 for outstanding support.



THE AMERICAN LEGION

Centennial Celebration

COMING SOON:

The 100th Anniversary of The AMERICAN LEGION

PART I - EARLY AMERICAN LEGION HISTORY;

The American Legion, Inc. is a U.S. wartime veterans organization formed in Paris, on March 13-15, 1919, by three officers of the American Expeditionary Forces. The American Legion was chartered by the U.S. Congress on September 16, 1919. It is headquartered in Indianapolis, Indiana and has a legislative office in Washington, D.C.. The American Legion played a major role in drafting and passing the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944 otherwise known as the "G.I. Bill."

In addition to commemorating events, volunteer veterans operating through the American Legion support activities and provide assistance at Veterans Administration Hospitals and clinics. The American legion is also active in issue-oriented U.S. politics. Its primary political activity is lobbying on behalf of interests of veterans and service members, including support for veterans benefits such as pensions and the Veterans Health Administration. The veterans organization has also promoted AMERICANISM and opposed communism in the United States.

FOUNDERS: Theodore Roosevelt - Franklin D'Olier - Eric Fisher Wood.

ELIGIBILITY: Veterans who served at least one day of active duty during wartime or are serving now, are potentially eligible for membership in the American Legion. Members must have been honorably discharged or still serving honorably. Merchant Marines who served from December 7, 1941 to December 31, 1946 are also eligible.

WAR OR CONFLICT: _____
FROM: _____ TO: _____
Southwest Asia & Global war on Terrorism. Aug. 2 ,1990 — present day
Panama: Dec. 201 1989 — Jan. 31, 1990
Lebanon & Grenada: Aug. 24, 1982 — July 31, 1984
Vietnam War: Feb. 28, 1961 — May 7, 1975
Korean War: June 28, 1950 — Jan. 31,1955
World War I: April 6, 1917 — Nov. 11,1918
World War II: Dec. 7, 1941 — Dec. 31, 1946

NOTE: The last World War I Veteran died in 2011. His name was Frank Buckles.

MEMBERSHIP: Membership peaked for the American Legion after World War II, when enrollment doubled from 1.7 million members to 3.2 million members. After the Korean War there were 2.5 million Legionnaires. As the "Baby Boomers" joined, the membership increased to 3.1 million in 1992.

However, membership has been decreasing since then. In 2014, the American Legion reported 2.3 million members.

TO BE CONTINUED - NEXT ISSUE



SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

HALLOWEEN

Saturday Oct. 28th Wear your costume and come to the Post 1900hrs



THANKSGIVING

Thursday November 23rd Turkey Dinner 1400hrs - 1700hrs



CHRISTMAS PARTY

Sunday December 24th Join us for our annual party 1300hrs-?



NEW YEARS EVE

Sunday December 31st Bring a dish or snack 2000hrs (DJ Andy)



NEW YEARS DAY

Monday January 1st Bring your left over snack etc 1300hrs

Synepuxent Post 166, Fall 2017

Awards Given to Synepuxent Post #166



Sarge Garlitz and Nate Pearson part of the 18 Delegates of Post #166 attended the 99th Convention for all 3 days. Sarge Garlitz was elected the Commander of the South Eastern Shore District.

Sarge Garlitz receives the John Sloan Newsletter Top Award for the Best Newsletter covering Legion programs and activities with posts having 751 - 1000 members from Department Commander James P. Marchinke. Commander Marchinke also presented the George W. Harrison Memorial Award for the Best Electronic Website and Electronic Newsletter. Bill Wolf is the Webmaster for Post #166.

Other Awards received:

- The PPDC Robert W. Neal Award SESD Best Sons of the American Legion Squadron
- The Earl B. Wright Memorial Service Officer Award for the Outstanding Service officer in the South Eastern Shore District (Bill Wolf)
- The Charles A. St. Clair Special Olympics Memorial Award for the Post with 751-1000 members for excelling in Special Olympic Programs.
- The John Chilcote Memorial Award for having the Greatest Percentage of Post Rehabilitation Reports filed with the Department Headquarters.
- The John Sloan Award for the Best Newsletter for the Post with 751-1000 members. (Sarge Garlitz, Editor & Minuteman Press Publisher).
- George W. Harrison Memorial Award for Best Website and Electronic Newsletter (Bill Wolf, Webmaster & Sarge Garlitz, Editor).
- Department of Maryland's Recognition and Appreciation Award for having Outstanding American Legion Programs and hosting the February 19, 2017 Department Executive Committee meeting.



Department Commander James P. Marchinke presents to Commander Tom Wengert the Charles A. St Clair Special Olympics Top Award for the Best Special Olympics Programs in the Department, with posts having 751-1000 members.



SPEAKER PROGRAM GETS A SCOUT

Ben Pielstick a Life Scout member of Troop #261 was the speaker at Post #166's September 25th meeting. He shared with the membership his recent experience at Boys State this past summer. Ben is a few months away from becoming an Eagle Scout. He will urge other Scouts to attend this worth while program of the American Legion.



**VETERANS WILL BE ABLE TO BUY AT THE
BASE AND POST EXCHANGES STARTING**

November 11, 2017.

Check out & sign up www.vetverify.org





Nate Pearson, Historian

DID YOU KNOW...

VETERANS DAY-2017

**THE MILITARY VETERAN PERFORMS NOTEWORTHY SERVICES
AND MAKES SIGNIFICANT SACRIFICES
FOR THE UNITED STATES.**

While we at home enjoy a restful nights sleep in our own beds , the “G.I.” must grab a quick nap in some remote location on this earth.

While we at home enjoy a delicious dinner at home or at a fine restaurant, the veteran may eat either C-rations or K-rations in the field.

While we at home enjoy a nice stroll through the local park, the veteran will be taking a 20 mile forced march with full field equipment.

While we at home live a free and carefree life, the veteran runs the risk of becoming a POW and suffering pain and imprisonment .

While we at home live a life of peace and tranquility, the veteran may experience the horror and chaos of the Battlefield.

We at home live a relatively unrestricted life while the veteran must comply with the rules, regulations and restrictions of the military service.

At home, we wear any type clothing, but the “G.I.” must wear the uniform of the day.

We at home engage in the career that we trained for while the veteran trains for battle in defending and protecting our freedoms.

One enters the military service in good physical condition, classified as 1-A , but may leave the military with physical scars and mental scars resulting from the experiences endured.

The military veteran makes significant sacrifices in service to this nation. Ones career may be interrupted; ones education may be interrupted; ones life is interrupted.

The American Veteran represents fewer than one percent of the American population. Their sacrifice and service is noteworthy, special and significant.

By Nate Pearson , American Legion - Post 166 Historian

SINEPUXENT - SYNEPUXENT: OOPS

Most American Legion Posts are named for the town in which the post is located, or named for a Veterans I HERO from that post, or for some noteworthy geographical feature near that Post. Our Post 166 was named Synepuxent Post 166 because of its location near the Sinepuxent Bay near the town of Ocean City, Maryland.

SYNEPUXENT became a new and accepted name even though it was mis-spelled on our 1946 Charter. Everyone now accepts Synepuxent Post 166 as the official name for our post.

We were named for the Sinepuxent Bay which is west of the Assateague Barrier Island. At one time Sinepuxent or Sinepuxent Town was

a small village in Worcester County, Maryland, located on Sinepuxent Neck. The small village of Sinepuxent was destroyed by a hurricane in the year 1818 and was never rebuilt. Its location arose in large part for its convenience to ocean going ships. An inlet once called - Sinepuxent Inlet allowed access through Assateague Island from the Atlantic Ocean to the Sinepuxent Bay and the town of Sinepuxent until it was closed by the same hurricane that destroyed the village of Sinepuxent.

It should also be noted that Sinepuxent Town was the birthplace of U.S Navy officer - STEPHEN DECATUR in 1779.

By Nate Pearson , American Legion - Post 166 Historian



Synepuxent Post 166, Fall 2017
CAMP RICHIE/ FORT RICHIE. MARYLAND
“THE RICHIE BOYS” - AMERICAN HERO’S

During the rise of Nazism in Germany, many young German Jewish Boys Left Germany and sought refuge in the United States. Many joined the United States Army. They were also joined by other German born men who were citizens and spoke German.

Because they were fluent in the German language, approximately 2,000 of these German Jews were assigned to Camp Richie to be trained as intelligence officers. When their training was completed their task was to Interview recently captured German soldiers seeking intelligence information.

Camp Richie located in Frederick County, Maryland in the Cotoctin Mountains was established in 1930 as a training Base for the Maryland National Guard. It was also used by regiments of the 29th Division of the United States Army as a training base. The name was later changed to Fort Richie. This base is now closed.

The German born Jews who were part of “THE RICHIE BOYS,” are unsung heroes for the part they played in the World War II victory. They were also one of Americas best kept secrets. Typically, following their training they were assigned to teams and attached to forward units of the US Armed Forces. These were high risk units. Because of the cruel German treatment of Captured Jewish soldiers, many changed their names and did not have the religious symbol H(Hebrew) on their dog tags. Because they were with FORWARD UNITS, many were killed in Action.

During the interrogation process, “THE RICHIE BOYS” knew what they were doing. It was a mind game and they were able to get valuable information following their interviews with POWS without using force or torture. They used four basic techniques during their interrogation

1. Superior Knowledge
2. Bribery
3. Finding a common interest.
4. Use of fear - ie.- sending them to Russian POW Camps

They were very successful in getting valuable information about German War Plans. It has been estimated that 60% of all European Intelligence was provided by the “Richie Boys.” Following the German surrender, they served as translators at German Concentration Camps and also at the Trials of the Officers of NAZI GERMANY.

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

The national Defense Service Medal is a service medal of the United States Armed Forces established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953. The medal was first intended to be a blanket campaign medal awarded to service members who served honorably during a designated time period of which a National Emergency had been declared, during a period of war or conflict.

Currently, the National Defense Service Medal is the oldest service medal in use
by the Armed Forces.

The oldest continuously issued combat medal is the “**THE MEDAL OF HONOR**”.

ELIGIBLE PERIODS: The National Defense Service Medal is authorized for the following periods:



Korean War.....June 27th 1950 to July 27th 1954
Vietnam War.....January 1, 1961 to August 14, 1974
Persian Gulf War.....August 2, 1990 to November 30, 1995
Global War on Terrorism.....Sept 11, 2001 to present



NOTE: The NDSM ranks eleventh out of the twenty nine in the order of precedence of service medals.

Obverse: Shows the American Bald Eagle, perched on a sword and palm. Above this, in a semicircle is the inscription-“National Defense”.

Reverse: Shows a shield, taken from the Coat of Arms of the United States; it is half encircled below with an open wreath, the right side of oak leaves and laurel leaves the left.

Ribbon: The ribbon has a wide yellow strip in the center, flanked by narrow stripes of red, white, blue, white and wide red stripes.

NIGHT OF THE FOURTH

It was the night of the Fourth
and all seemed calm, along the line
The only thing we feared
was the movement of Viet Cong

It was the night of the Fourth
and deep within, we all kept our fright
For we all knew that by the End of Night
we would be in one long and lasting fight

We dug our Foxholes straight and deep
some went off to try and sleep
others laid on there sides
and tried hard not to weep.

I sat thinking why am I here
and the picture of the boy
with his body pecked and tore
told me this is the why

I started to drift deeper into thought
then my ears heard, what my mind had fought
first it was faint, almost a whisper
Then it was loud, louder and deeper

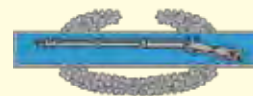
The Viet Cong were there, inside of the wire
breaking the night, with the sound of AK fire
We fought hard, We fought very long
The Viet Cong knew they were fighting the strong

It wasn't long after the battle Grew
That they knew, they would never get through
As there ranks diminished to only a few
There bodies turned slowly and withdrew

As night became quiet
with the peace we once knew
we all sat around and started anew
thinking of the home we all once knew

The Fourth was over, it was past midnight
We all said a prayer and retired for night
The Fourth was over, it was past midnight
The fireworks were over for one more night.

Written by Steve Ingwersen



UNIT 166 EXCELS AT DEPARTMENT CONVENTION

This past July American Legion Auxiliary was the leader of awards at the 96th Department Convention in OCMD. They accepted the following awards;

- AMERICANISM** - 1ST Place, Eileen Salafia-Chair
- CHAPLAIN** - 1st Place, Teddie Rozzano-Chair
- CHILDREN & YOUTH** - 3rd Place, Dottie Thomas-Chair
- COMMUNITY SERVICE** - 1st Place, Rosie Garlitz-Chair
- CANCER CONTROL** - 1st Place, Rosie Garlitz-Chair
- EDUCATION** - 3rd Place, Dottie Thomas 3rd Place-Chair
- JUNIOR ACTIVITIES** - 1st Place, Rosie Garlitz-Chair
- NATIONAL SECURITY** - 1st Place, Rosie Garlitz-Chair
- PAST PRESIDENT PARLEY** - 1st Place, Rosie Garlitz, Chair
- MISS POPPY** - Kendahl Parsons Junior Auxiliary (State Level)
- POPPY POSTER CONTEST** - 3rd Place, Kendahl Parsons (State Level)
- POPPY REPORT SENIOR LEVEL** - 2nd Place, Bonnie Hansen, Chair
- PUBLIC RELATIONS** (*Best All Around Work*) Jeanette Deskiewicz, Chair
- PRESS BOOK** - 2nd Place, Jeanette Deskiewicz, Chair
- VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION** - 2nd Place, Carol Rose, Chair
- FIELD SERVICE/SERVICE TO VETERANS** - 1st Place. Greta Rolland
- HOME SERVICE** - 1st Place, Greta Rolland, Chair
- GOLD STAR** - 2nd Place, Lois Barstis, Chair
- LEGISLATION** - 3rd Place, Lois Barstis



JOINT COLOR GUARD IS GOOD DUTY

Sgt-at-Arms Glen Reely is the go to person with the Joint Color Guard. The question that comes up often is, "what is a Joint Color Guard"? The answer is as follows: In order to fulfill the requests that Post #166 receives they do not have the manpower to meet the need. To make the requests happen, members of Boggs-Disharoon Post #123 and Duncan-Showell Post #231 both of Berlin are enlisted to our ranks.

We use Commander Vince Holloway and Walt Dennis of Post #123 along with Past District Commander Larry Duffy and Worcester County Commander Kenneth Morris of Post #231 to fill our Ranks. Without these four volunteers we would not be able to fill the requests received.

The Joint Color Guard for the past several

years has been requested to participate in the Post Everlasting Service during the Department of Maryland's Convention. For the past two years the Joint Color Guard had to reach out to the American Legion Riders of Post #166 to have the manpower needed for the request. That included: John Granite, Larry Smith, Ron Engle and C.C. Cartwright. Bill McGarle of the OC Pipe and Drum Corps. was also involved in the Service. The Joint Guard of Honor performed outstanding.

The active members from Post #166 are as follow: Glen Reely, Earl Hewitt, Johan Nykuist, Bo Spicer, Sarge Garlitz and Robert Brennam. It is known what you are thinking as you read this: " I bet the Color Guard needs some help". You are correct and you can call Glen Reely at 443-783-0489.

SERVICE OFFICER REPORT ON VETERANS LEGISLATION

This month I want to report on the Veterans Legislation passed so far this year. Some of these Bills are to improve the VA and others improve Benefits used by all Veterans. Bills S-544 and S-114 extend and provide funding for the Choice program for at least 6 months (*it is expected that Congress will be working on a replacement for the Choice program during that time*). Vietnam Veterans were officially recognized with a Federal Holiday on March 29th of each year.

The Bills are as follows:

March 28, 2017: S. 305 - "Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act of 2017"

This bill adds National Vietnam War Veterans Day (March 29) as a holiday upon which the American flag should be prominently displayed.

April 19, 2017: S. 544 - "An Act to amend the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 to modify the termination date for the Veterans Choice Program, and for other purposes"

This law extends the "Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014," eliminating its August 7, 2017 sunset date and allowing it to function until the money in the Veterans Choice Fund is gone. It also makes the VA the primary payer for "medical care relating to non-service connected disabilities" and allows the VA to share medical information with non-VA agencies providing medical services to veterans.

June 23, 2017: S. 1094 - "Department of Veterans Affairs Accountability and Whistleblower Protection Act of 2017"

This law gives the agency's leaders the ability to fire inept employees and protect those who uncover and report wrongdoing at the VA.

August 12, 2017: S. 114 - To authorize appropriations and to appropriate amounts for the Veterans Choice Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to improve hiring authorities of the Department, to authorize major medical facility leases, and for other purposes

Aiming to increase transparency under this new law, the Department of Veterans Affairs must report back to Congressional panels each year

about bonuses given to its regional leadership.

August 16, 2017: H.R. 3218 - Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017

Also known as the "Forever GI Bill," this law expands opportunity for veterans to use their educational benefits, most prominently getting rid of a 15-year time limit on using educational benefits for veterans who left active duty in 2013 or later. It also makes it easier for veterans to find schools that give them priority enrollment. It passed unanimously in the House and Senate.

August 23, 2017: H.R.2288 - Veterans Appeals Improvement and Modernization Act of 2017

The Veterans Appeals Improvement and Modernization Act is designed to "streamline the lengthy process that veterans undergo when appealing their claims for disability benefits" with the Department of Veterans Affairs. The Improvement and Modernization Act will, at least in theory, help veterans navigate the VA system and challenge rejected benefit claims. It is also intended to reduce the appeals backlog with new approaches for veterans seeking benefits. VA says it will take 18 months to setup the new appeals system.



Bill Wolf

Bill Wolf

Post Service Officer

VA Certified Veterans Service Officer



AUXILIARY NEWS



Message from Auxiliary President Marie Gilmore



**Marie
Gilmore**

Now that summer is behind us, we begin meeting again on the third Tuesday of the month. Much has happened since we last met. Our new officers were installed, Convention has come and gone and many volunteers spent many hours on the Boardwalk selling Jeep raffle tickets. The success of the Jeep raffle means that we will have the needed resources to help our veterans and our community. We thank you for returning your tickets and supporting the raffle and the programs the raffle supports.

As usual, Convention time is busy at the Post and busy for those attending. Our Unit shined at Convention. Junior Auxiliary member Lindsay Birckhead-Morton was introduced as the Honorary Junior President for the Department of Maryland. Lindsay's mom Col Janeen Birckhead-Morton was honored as "Military Person of the Year" and our Junior Auxiliary members won the coveted "Greenbelt Trophy" for Best Juniors Unit in Maryland, for the third year. Our Unit

came away from Convention with many First and Second Place certificates for our service to community and veterans. This summer we served watermelon to the residents of the Berlin Nursing Home and some of our members volunteer to work Bingo there. Other members continue to work Bingo at our Post on Thursday nights.

And now, we are off to a good start, collecting school supplies for our schools, welcoming our wounded warriors at the Seas the Day event at Bayside, remembering the First Responders of 9/11 at the Firefighters Memorial in Ocean City and honoring all POW's on POW/MIA Remembrance Day.

I am looking forward to an active year with our members doing much to help our veterans. We have a lot of talented ladies among us, who are willing to give their time in service to others. I hope you will join us at our meetings where we enjoy friendship and you will have the opportunity to help us in our mission of service.

President

Auxiliary Membership At A Glance



Tina Preziotti

It is now September and time for our first auxiliary meeting for the 2018 membership year. We look forward to seeing you at the meeting. As a reminder, our Auxiliary meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month with the social hour starting at 6:00 p.m. and the meeting starting at 7:00 p.m. So come join us and meet fellow members and let's get to know each other better!

To date our membership count is 122 members -- of which 4 are our Junior members. Our goal for 2018 is 337.

As you know, we started collecting for the 2018 membership year in July. Senior member dues are \$25.00 and Junior dues are \$5.00. If you have not done so already, please send your renewal in as soon as possible. We welcome new members -- so encourage your daughters, grand-daughters, eligible friends and relatives to join and partici-

pate in our auxiliary activities.

By the way, if you have not kept your membership current and want to keep your continuous years of membership, it is not too late. Give me a call any time and we can discuss how. Whether or not you have taken part in the activities of our Unit, you have by your enrollment and payment of dues contributed to the achievements of the Auxiliary during the past year.

We try and reach out and keep our members informed by email as well as regular mail. Please let me know if you have an email address, if your email address has changed or if your mailing address has changed. This will help me keep records up-to-date and notify the Department of any changes.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me or email me at Tinaauxunit166@aol.com.

1st Vice President, Unit 166



AUXILIARY NEWS

POST #166 LEGIONIAIRE RECEIVES TOP STATE AWARD

US Army Colonel Janeen Birkhead a member of Post #166 received the Department of Maryland Auxiliary's Top Active Duty Female of the Year. The award was presented to her at the Annual Convention this past July in Ocean City.



Col. Birkhead, her daughter Lindsay Birdkhead-Morton (Vice President of Unit #166 Junior Auxiliary and President of the Department of Maryland's Junior Auxiliary) and Fannie Birkhead mother of Colonial Birkhead and a member of Unit #166 Auxiliary.



Col. Birkhead with Colleen Mulroney the Chair of the Department of Maryland American Legion's Women's Veteran Outreach Committee prior to introducing her at the Legions Convention this past July.



Colonel Janeen L Birkhead

COL Birkhead received her commission as a second lieutenant, after completing Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) at Hampton University as a distinguished military graduate. She completed Chemical Officer Basic Course and her first assignment was with a chemical detachment in the U.S. Army Reserves. In 1994, she received an appointment to the Maryland Army National Guard and was assigned to the 29th Support Center and later as Aide de Camp to The Adjutant General. COL Birkhead has served in staff and command assignments at every level. COL Birkhead was mobilized in support of OEF/OIF 2004 – 2005, serving as the Tiger Team Leader and Designated Military Officer for the Office of Administrative Review for the Detention of Enemy Combatants.

In 2011, she deployed as the Deputy, Current Operations, Security Partnering, International Security Assistance Force Kabul, Afghanistan where she was responsible for supporting the implementation and coordination of plans to grow and field Afghan National Security Forces. While deployed, she attended the Counter Insurgency Leaders Course at Camp Julien, Kabul, Afghanistan. Upon redeployment, she was assigned to the Joint Forces Headquarters (JFHQ) as a Division Chief, Logistics (G4), where she was responsible for developing, coordinating and implementing MDARNG logistics policies and procedures and directs the development of the logistics support plans and guidance for units, organizations, and activities. For the past 36 months Colonel Janeen L. Birkhead has served as Commander of the 70th Regiment (LDR), Maryland Army National Guard. Colonel Birkhead currently serves at the Chief of Legislative Affairs for the Maryland National Guard.

During her tour in Afghanistan, COL Birkhead continued with her community service extended her self to help a school in Kabul. COL Birkhead led a team of volunteers who collected donations for the school in addition to reading and visiting with the students on a regular basis.

Among COL Birkhead 's military decorations awards is the Defense Meritorious Service Med-

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AUXILIARY NEWS

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al, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, NATO Medal, Overseas Service Ribbon, Army Reserve Components Overseas Training Ribbon, and Afghanistan Campaign Medal.

In her civilian capacity she serves as the Oversight, Compliance and Accountability Manager (Civil Rights), Department of the Interior; Washington, DC where she is responsible for policy; guidance, direction, and oversight of the equal opportunity; equal access, and diversity programs for the Bureau Of Indian Affairs.

She volunteers in her community and has participated in the Relay For Life thru the American Cancer Society for several years. She and her family have participated in the Maryland Adopt A Highway program for over 12 years.

Colonel Birckhead has Graduated with honors from Hampton University with a Bachelor of Science in Political Science. She holds two Masters Degrees, one from the University of Maryland University College and the other from the U.S. Army War College (DL).

COL Birckhead and husband Craig Morton reside in Crownsville, MD. They have two children Craig Birckhead-Morton and Lindsay Birckhead-Morton.

JUNIORS SHINE



l-r Lindsay Birckhead-Morton, Delaney McDaniel, Rosie Garlitz, Addison McDaniel, Kendahl Parsons

ident Kendahl Parsons was titled Junior "Miss Poppy" for the State of Maryland. She also received Third Place in the Poppy Poster Contest. Junior Unit 166, Vice President Lindsay Birckhead-Morton was awarded Junior Auxiliary Member of the Year for the Department of Maryland 2016-2017. All active members of Unit #166 served as pages at this convention: Addison and Delaney McDaniel, Kendahl Parsons and Lindsay Birckhead-Morton. Following the convention the girls have attended camp, vacationed and taken time to just relaxed before school started. The Junior year for 2017-2018 begins on Sunday Sept 10th at 2PM at the Post. All Juniors are asked to bring a friend who may be able to join.

Rosie Garlitz,

Jr. Advisor

The American Legion Senior Convention for the Department of Maryland was held in July. It brought continued recognition for Juniors of Unit 166. Pres-



GOLD STAR SISTER RECOGNIZED



Lois Barstis(L) the Chair of Synepuxent Unit #166's Gold Star Programs recognized Dorothy Morse (R) with a gift at their Sept 19th meeting. Dorothy's brother's Paul Sr., Joseph, and Andrew Cascio were fighting in the South Pacific during the Korean War at the same time. Andrew returned to the States at the end of the conflict. Joseph Cascio was KIA and Paul Sr. was a POW for 28 months. Paul was returned to the States after being released by the North Koreans. Unit #166 will never forget.

Boardwalk Jeep Raffle a Humongous Success!



Mark Sautter & Buddy Jones



Boh Beauchamp



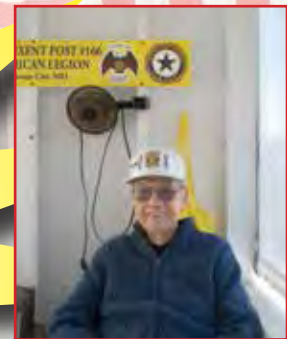
Glen Reely



Tom Devaux



Lonny & Aldeth Pacana



Nate Pearson



Rose Felty & Judy Yocum



Tina Preziotti, Rosie Garlitz, Marie Gilmore and Chris Hawkins prepares the Drum for the draw



Bob and Marie Gilmore



Mayor Rick Meehan draws the winning ticket



Unit #166 Jeep Raffle Committee with the 2107 Winner. L-R: Chris Hawkins, Tina Preziotti, Ken & Connie Waltemire and Rosie Garlitz



Addison McDaniel, Lindsay Birkhead-Morton, Kendahl Parsons and Delaney McDaniel prepare the empty bottles with messages and decorations to our Veterans in the VA Hospitals.

Synepuxent Unit 166's Education Program Donates School Supplies



Synepuxent Unit 166's Education Program donated and delivered School Supplies to OC Elementary, Showell Elementary, and Stephen Decatur Middle School. Supplies were delivered by Unit 166 Chair Barbara Plotner and Rosie Garlitz.

Supplies were also delivered to Diakonia Veterans Outreach Program for children of homeless Veterans. The photo is Committee Member Rosie Garlitz making one of the deliveries. In the photo L-R is Valencia Hawkins Program Manager, Rosie Garlitz and Diakonia's Executive Director.



EARN NATIONAL COMMANDER'S FAMILY RECRUITING PIN

American Legion National Commander Denise H. Rohan will award her national commander pin to any Legion member who obtains three new members into the Legion.

A new member is any eligible person joining for the 2018 membership year who was not a member of The American Legion during the 2017 membership year.

Each member listed must be eligible for membership in The American Legion. Forward names of Sons of The American Legion or Auxiliary members to your detachment or unit for use in their respective incentive programs.

To maintain the integrity of the national commander's pin incentive program, only one pin will be awarded per individual.

Upon receipt, national membership staff will confirm the names and mail the pin directly to the person who earned it. Commander Rohan's incentive program will end June 30, 2018, or when supplies are exhausted.

www.legion.org/commander/pin

[Http://www.ALPost166.org](http://www.ALPost166.org)



Unit 166 had their 2017-2018 Junior Election on September 10th and the results were. President Kendahl Parsons, Vice President Lindsay Birkhead-Morton, Chaplain & Historian Addison McDaniel and Sgt-at-Arms Delaney McDaniel.

Email: alpost166@comcast.net 13

QUEEN OF HEARTS IS THE FAVORITE GAME IN OC

The Queen of Hearts Raffle is over 2 years old and still very popular. The weekly drawing with cash prizes is still held at 1630hrs at the Post every Sunday. This is the place to be on a weekly basis.

Rosie Garlitz is joined by Poppy Granite leading the many in attendance with the 1980's hit by Juice Newton, "Queen of Hearts" at 1625hrs. It is a great song and fits the mood of our raffle drawing.

Chairman Jack Hyle with Rosie Garlitz take the lead with ticket sales. Buddy Jones and Matt Newberger are still involved with ticket sales. Tom Devaux promotes the Queen as he is AKA the King of Hearts. Have a few drinks and look at this guy your will laugh and buy a few more tickets. Help is still needed in ticket sales at peak times. Please contact Jack and get involved in this popular fund raiser for Post #166.

Many thanks to Sherri our Sunday Bartender for keeping the customers in a very festive mood all day long. Her promoting of the Queen of Hearts every Sunday is awesome and comments are very high. Thanks Sherri.

Since the last Observer our winners have been the following: Lori Merris #32) \$100.00, "Fuzz" (#51) \$150.00, Ronny Platts (#29) \$100.00,

Joe Verdura (13) \$100.00, Mark Schuler (#14) \$100.00, Rick Johnson (#43) \$100.00, Mark Sautter (#35) \$100.00, Rick Johnson (#48) \$100.00, Angie Kaufman (#52) \$150.00, On August 20th Brady Bowman hit the Queen of Hearts for \$10,500.

A new game was started on August 27th and the pot is increasing every week. The tickets are \$5.00 each and if you are living out of the OC area send a check to the Post and we can enter you in the weekly drawing. Include with your check 3 or 4 of your favorite numbers between 1-54 and you will be in. Mail to Post #166 PO Box 63 Ocean City, Md. 21843 Attn: Jack Hyle. Good Luck.



Poppy Granite and Rosie Garlitz leads Juice Newton's "Queen of Hearts" song at our weekly Queen of Hearts drawing every Sunday at 1625hrs.

HOUSE COMMITTEE

After years of debates the Post decided it's time for an electronic sign. The existing sign will be retrofitted with electronic ballasts, led lights and a electronic message board. The installation will take place in October.

We have a few projects that we hope to have completed in the coming months. We recently hired Chesapeake Roofers to make repairs on our metal roof due to constant leaks.

The rear steps leading to the to the 2nd floor office are over due for replacement. We are in the process of getting bids to have them replaced. The ladies and men's room in the rear hall need a face lift.

A Committee has been formed to gather information for Solar Panels on the roof. Our electric bill is rather high and if money can be saved would be great.

The Post will not be closed for the any of this work.

- Paul Hawkins, Chairman
- Phil Ludlam
- Charles Spaziani
- Bill Wolf



Brady Bowman the Queen of Hearts winner of \$10,500.00 receives the check from Chairman Jack Hyle



Tom Devaux a Post Volunteer is AKA "Stumpy" the real King of Hearts

BREAKING COLORS

Many members of the American Legion Family have heard the words "Breaking Colors" and many appear confused by what it means. The following is shared by one of our members, Scott Clark, a Past 1st Vice Commander from the Department of Idaho.

HALLOWED GROUND

Why you don't walk between the colors (Breaking Colors)

**Between these flags that proudly fly
let no man dare to stand,
For here our fallen Comrades lie,
We call it Hallowed Ground.**

**A symbol, yes, but mark it well;
Here let us ever humbly pause
In memory of the lad who fell
In fighting for our sacred cause.**

**On sea or land these buddies died.
Some lie beneath a foreign sod
In graves caressed by winds and tide,
In spots unknown to all but God.**

**And so, this place is Hallowed Ground.
And it shall be forever blest
As though it were a grassy mound
Beneath which gallant heroes rest.
Be ever watchful,**

**Of those two flags which signify
That we should guard this spot with bare
Where our departed comrades lie.
And, if a man should dare to tread
This spot where lie our gallant brave.
He desecrates those noble dead
As though he walked upon their grave.**

Breaking the "Colors" is not a violation of the United States Flag Code. The American Legion, Sons of the American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary has developed a tradition and meaningful custom in which one does not pass between the US Flag, POW/MIA, Md. State and the Flags or Banner of the Legion Family listed above. This custom of preserving "Hallowed Ground" shows honor and respect to our fallen veterans. This is strictly a tradition. **APPROACHING THE PODIUM** Always approach the podium around the U. S. Flag and stop to salute it before passing behind it. When leaving the podium, if at all feasible, exit around the Legion Flag or Banner, stopping to again salute the U. S. Flag when clear of the Legion Flag or Banner. If it is necessary to exit around the US Flag, again salute it before continuing around it. When the American flag is properly posted during a meeting or ceremony, anyone approaching or passing by or near the flag should render a salute when wearing an authorized Legion cap (e.g., Legion, Auxiliary, S.A.L. only). If a person is not wearing an authorized Legion cap, then that person should place their hand over their heart instead.



care.givers



Atlantic General Hospital Community Flu Clinic & Health Fair



Friday November 10th 10am-1pm
*13years & older

FREE Clinic held at:

*Holy Savior Catholic
Church*

*1701 Philadelphia Ave.
Ocean City, MD*

**Blood Pressure
Carotid
Wound Care
Bone Density
Dermascan
& More!**



BASEBALL COMPLETES 3RD SEASON

The Eastern Shore American Legion Baseball League has completed its 3rd season. Post #166's Ocean City Marlins finished with a record of 9 wins and 5 losses. The league winner this year was Talbot/Caroline County they went to Cumberland, Maryland for the State Tournament.

Our Legion team will start its recruiting for the 2018 season after the first of the year. We will be looking for high school players and if you know of any players, the age of this league is 15-19 years old. Contact Jack Hyle or Spaz Spaziani.

Our manger Otis Elzey will be managing the Post #166's team in the Fall Pony League and will also have a spring schedule. This is a great opportunity to look at the younger area players prior to being eligible for the American Legion program

POST SPEAKER PROGRAM DOING FINE



On Monday September 18th Martin Weinstein, President of Eastern Shore Physical Therapy was the guest speaker at the Post's meeting. He shared with the members present how Physical Therapy can benefit those with aches and pains. His presentation was very informative and was well accepted by the members.

On Thursday November 9th at 1700hrs Eastern Shore Physical Therapy will host a Veterans Appreciation Day. This will be held for all area Veterans in appreciation for their military service. There is no charge for the food and drink that will be available.

NATIONAL MIA/ POW RECOGNITION DAY IN THE US

This Remembrance Day is observed across the nation on the third (3rd) Friday of September each year • Many Americans take time on this date to remember those who were prisoners of war (POWs) or those who are missing in action. The United States Congress passed a resolution in July, 1979 AUTHORIZING National POW/MIA Remembrance. It is Not a federal Holiday but is a National Observance.

NUMBERS: The Department of defense ESTIMATES THAT this nation has 83,000 members of the Armed Forces who are MISSING IN ACTION in all wars. Think about that number. It represents over four US Army Divisions. For those who were lost at SEA, we may never recover their remains.

World War II - 73,000 MIA'S with 809 FROM Maryland.
Korean War- 7,700 MIA'S with 137 from Maryland.
Vietnam War - 1,600 MIA'S with 23 from Maryland.

THE MIA/POW FLAG: was created by Mr. Hiesley, using his sons facial profile for the flags center. The flag features a white disk bearing the black silhouette of a man's bust.; a watchtower with a guard on patrol; and a strand of barbed wire. WHITE LETTERS WITH MIA I POW, with a white five pointed star in between in between are typed above the disk. Below the disk is a black and white wreath above the motto - " YOU ARE NOT FORGOTTEN." Written in white capital letters.

Special thanks to one of our members, this flag now flies over the State House and all state buildings in Maryland.

Prepared by Nate Pearson, Historian



South Eastern Shore District Commander Sarge Garlitz opened this years program



Bob Gilmore narrating the POW/MIA Lone Table



Senator Jim Mathias related to those in attendance how important it is for this Recognition Day.



Historian Nate Pearson and Chaplain Ben Dawson tell the POW/ MIA Story, Chaplain Ben Dawson read the names of the 23 Marylanders who are unaccounted for from the Vietnam War



House of Delegates member Mary Beth Carozza shared her feelings on the POW/MIA Recognitions Day.

POW/MIA NATIONAL RECOGNITION DAY

On Friday September 15th was National POW/MIA Recognition Day at Post #166. Sarge Garlitz led the program by introducing Post #166 Chaplain Ben Dawson to offer the Invocation followed by VVA #1091 President Nelson Kelley leading the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Bob Gilmore presented the POW/MIA Table by explaining the reason for each item on the Lone Table. Then Post #166's Historian Nate Pearson gave the History of the POW/MIA Story. Following the Story, Chaplain Ben Dawson read the 23

names of Marylanders still unaccountable from the Vietnam War with Sarge Garlitz tolling the bell..

Guest for the program were Delegate Mary Beth Carozza and Senator Jim Mathias of Maryland's General Assembly. Both expressed their views on how important it is to have total accountability of our POW/MIA's of all Wars and Conflicts.

Chaplain Dawson gave the Benediction, Glen Reely of the Color Guard played TAPS and Rosie Garlitz led with God Bless America.

MIA REMEMBRANCE DAY-SEPT. 15, 2017 — 2:00 PM



TABLE: set for one and is small, symbolizing, the frailty of one isolated prisoner. The table is round, representing everlasting concern on the part of survivors for their missing loved ones.

TABLECLOTH: Is white, symbolizing the purity of their intentions to respond to their country's "Call to Arms."

BLACK NAPKIN: Represents the emptiness these warriors have left in the hearts of their families and friends

SINGLE RED ROSE IN A VASE: Signifies the blood that many have shed in sacrifice to ensure the freedom of our beloved United States of America. This rose also reminds us of the family and friends of our missing comrades who keep the faith while awaiting their return.

THE RED RIBBON: (*Yellow for the Air Force.*) Represents the love of our country which inspired them to answer the nation's call.

SLICE OF LEMON: On the bread plate represents the bitter fate of the missing.

SALT: Sprinkled on the bread plate, symbolizes the countless fallen tears as they wait.

INVERTED GLASS: Represents the fact that the missing cannot partake.

THE BIBLE: Represents the spiritual strength and faith to sustain those lost from our country.

THE LIT CANDLE: Reminiscent of the light of hope which lives in our hearts to illuminate their way home, away from their captors to the open arms of a grateful nation.

EMPTY CHAIR: The missing and fallen are not present.

LEGION RIDERS NEWS & ACTIVITIES

American Legion Riders Crab Feast



Boss Man - George Pickrell, Mina & Ron Engle, Billy & Mary Greenwood, Chris Jones, Bryan Adams, Eileen & Joe Salafia, Charlie & Kim Herbert, Matt & Vickie Newberger, Judy Yocum, Joe Vendura, Sherrie Dennis, Joe Hook, Lois & George Barstis, Tony Tomaini, Buster Slaton & Pam Flynn, Jim Quillen, Tom & Joann Wengert, Bo Spicer, Rose Felty, Tina Preziotti, Ray Kudobeck, Ben Nilsson, Joe & Greta Rolland, Mark & Kate - Kitchen, and Mary - Bartender.



RIDERS AND AUXILIARY SPONSOR A WATERMELON PARTY



There was a watermelon party at the Berlin Nursing Home on Friday July 21, 2017. Attached are some pictures. Volunteers included Bob & Marie Gilmore, Addison & Delaney McDaniel, Ray and Georgie Bieber, Ed & Bonnie Hansen, Judy Yocum, John Granite, Matt & Vickie Newberger, Ron Tuturice, and Rosie Garlitz.

LEGION RIDERS NEWS & ACTIVITIES



First and foremost, Our Hearts and Prayers go out to the Veterans, their families, and all affected by the Hurricanes in Texas and Florida. The Riders have sent money to the 22nd District American Legion in Houston which has been helping our Veterans and Families with 100% of all monies going to them. We had funds raised by a site manager at Hoopers to add \$800 to send also. God be with them in their time of need.

As for the Legion Riders of Post #166, We hosted our Annual Crab, Chicken and Corn Feast on Thursday of Legion Week, Sold out early and lots of happy Legionaires.

We provided Honor Guard at the Convention Center for Legion week under instruction of Past Commander Sarge Garlitz.

We provided and assisted with Motorcycle Escorts for:

Gold Star Mothers here in Ocean City, Operation Seas The Day in Bethany, and Operation Comfort Warriors from Vienna to Ocean City.

Our Honor Guard opened Thursday and Fridays venue with Colors at the inlet for Bikefest for the Nation Anthem.

We have been on the boardwalk with our Legion Family selling Jeep raffle tickets. I hope we know the winner.

We have been riding most Sundays to different locations in support of fund raisers to the community and veteran's groups. Thank you Manny Perez, Tony Sack and Joe Hook for keeping our Chapter on the road. You present our Riders in a very professional manner to the Eastern Shore.

We will be hosting our 5th Annual Golf Tournament at Ocean City Country Club on October 5th. All funds raised goes to Worcestor County Recreation Dept. for food, after school activities and equipment. Thank you to Rider Kelly Rados for doing a great job.

So much to say, so little space.

I would like to thank the best Legion Riders Group in the country for their dedication and efforts in everything we do.

I am proud to be your Director!

God Bless You All and Thank You Again For Your Dedication To Making A Difference.

From myself, and all the Legion Riders Officers a **"BIG"** Thank you to our devoted members that help put up and take down the tent at Camp Alamo. To those that manned the tent for 4 days and contributed food. To those that manned the Poker Run stops, to our Riders Honor Guard that opened with Colors for Thursday and Friday at the BikeFest Tent at the Inlet and to those that

sold all types of raffle tickets. I would like to thank all those that did not Forget 9/11 and represented our Legion in Parade of Brothers on the boardwalk on 9/11.

I can not tell you all the complements I received from other Legions members that were here for BikeWeek and told how organized we were and thought we had hundreds of members as they saw us everywhere.



1st place Poker run winner Renee Mrowczynski



Ticket Stub is for the 60/40 Winner Karl Browning



2nd Place Poker run winner Kim McDermott

Respectfully *Russell "Buster" Slaton*
American Legion Riders Director Post #166



SUPPORT THE TROOPS PROGRAM TO KICK OFF

Support The Troops Program at Post #166. The tubs are out waiting for items to fill them up. Other locations than Post #166 will be Boggs-Disharoon Post #123 in Berlin, Bank of Ocean City in West Ocean City and the Branch on 59th Street in OC and Minuteman Press of OC at 120th Street in Ocean City.

Items needed this year are as follows:

- POWERED DRINK MIXES (cold or hot)
- READY TO EAT MEALS
- CANDY & GUM (no chocolate)
- PACKETS OF: ketchup, relish, mustard, seasoned salt, hot sauce (small packets only)
- SNACKS (small hard containers of: pretzels, chips, nuts, (no bags), snack cakes, cheese crackers & cookies)
- Energy bars, tuna fish, sardines, non perishable beef jerky labels USDA Beef
- Personal Care And Clothing Items
- Small, Travel Size Containers of Personal Hygiene Items (No Aerosol Cans)
- TOILETRIES- Toothbrushes, tooth paste, dental floss, cotton swabs, shaving lotion, disposable razors, shampoo, individually wrapped packaged tissues
- PERSONAL CARE- Individually packaged baby wipes, eye drops, lip/balm, lotion, aspirin or other pain relievers, feminine hygiene products
- FOOT CARE- moleskin, medicated foot powder, athlete's foot ointment
- DISPOSABLE HAND WARMERS
- GOGGLE SIZE SUNGLASSES
- FINGERLESS GLOVES
- STOCKING CAPS
- 100% COTTON SOCKS AND UNDER WEAR (Shorts and long)
- READING MATERIAL - Paper back books, current magazines or comic books, Cross word puzzles, word searches, jigsaw puzzles
- GAMES_ Foam footballs, basketballs, Frisbees, hacky sacks, playing cards, yo yos
- ELECTRONICS- Portable DVD, CD players, DVDs & CDs
- DISPOSABLE CAMERA
- WRITING MATERIAL - Paper, envelopes, pens, pencils
- REMINDERS OF HOME - Cards, children's Art Projects, home made cookies in air tight containers.

Synepuxent Post 166, Fall 2017



NEW COMMANDER INSTALLS POST OFFICERS

On Friday July 14th following the 99th Department Convention newly elected Department of Maryland Commander James P. Marchinke installed the officers for 2017-2018 of Post #166. From left to right: Commander Tom Wengert, Adjutant Paul Hawkins, Service Officer Bill Wolf, Sgt-at-Arms Glen Reely, Historian Nate Pearson, Executive Committee Sarge Garlitz, Chaplain Ben Dawson, Executive Committee Rick Witte, Executive Committee Charles Spaziani, Executive Committee Phil Ludlum.

POST EVERLASTING REPORT

The following members transferred to Post Everlasting since July 1, 2016.

George F. Mangan Jr.	Robert J. Nealon Sr.	Richard F. Meehan
Arthur E. Palmer	Charles Ludwig Sachs	Paul Yates
Orbin Gray	Harold Whitlock Sr.	Steven Ingwersen
Joseph J. Curran	Edward "Pete" Peterson	Ronald C. Smith Sr.
Allan Darrow	Frank Billings	John S. Richardson Sr.
John Garrett	Julian B. Williams Jr.	Thomas Hannon
Charles H. Brinkman III	Joseph C. Sangermano	Samuel Fogarty
	Charles Rummel	

OFFICE	NAME	PHONE	EMAIL
Commander	Tom Wengert	(443) 994-2513	television9153@yahoo.com
1st Vice Commander	Bob Smith	(443) 614-2503	rls.terps22@gmail.com
2nd Vice Commander	Bo Spicer	(410) 422-9447	gspicer8805@comcast.net
Adjutant	Paul Hawkins	(443) 523-2973	ocpaul@hotmail.com
Judge Advocate	VACANT		
Service Officer	Bill Wolf	(443) 366-2994	wthwolf@msn.com
Treasurer	Joe Salafia	(443) 614-0960	jnesalafia@verizon.net
Historian	Nate Pearson	(410) 641-8427	npearson2947@yahoo.com
Chaplain	Ben Dawson	(410) 603-2205	bendawson@beachin.net
Sgt-at-Arms	Glen Reely	(443) 783-0489	glenreely@gmail.com

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Phil Ludlam	(410) 390-2190	ludlamsrl@aol.com
Charles Spaziani	(610) 329-5816	cspaz@comcast.net
Rich Witte	(410) 641-6187	rich.witte@yahoo.com
Nelson Kelly	302-236-4171	nelsonkelly11@comcast.net
Sarge Garlitz	443-735-1942	firstsgt166@msn.com

ADJUTANT'S REPORT

Our membership goal this year is 869. As of this writing 558 people have either renewed, transferred in or joined our Post as a new member. The Department of Maryland passed a Department Per Capita dues increase of \$3.50 per member at the Convention this year. The effective date is Jan.1, 2018. After Jan.1, 2018 our Post will have to sub-



Paul Hawkins

mit an additional \$3.50 per member to the Department of Maryland. So please if you can, renew before the end of the year.

It's nice to see new faces showing up at our monthly General membership meeting. Remember, Social hour 6:00p.m with free lite fare and \$1.00 beers. Guest speaker 6:30p.m to 7:00p.m and the meeting begins at 7:00p.m. Hope to see you there.

Paul Hawkins, Adjutant

CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE



Ben Dawson

Heavenly Father, We thank you that we live in a country where we are free to choose. We also thank you that there are those who would choose to leave their families behind and give their lives to fight for freedom. For those who are wounded in battle, we ask for strength and wisdom to carry on.

Amen

Welcome Comrades to the 3rd season, the season of Fall, that is. Seems as though we just experienced Memorial Day and then summer before we blinked and here we are. I seem to be spending more time around the Post and enjoying it more each day. No lack of like minded folks to talk with. Getting to know more of our members each day. In the event you don't get to your Post as much as you would like and have difficulty getting here because of physical or transportation problems, give us a call and hopefully we can make arrangements to get you here, at least for meetings or a bit of socializing. Always something going on. The toughest part of my job as Chaplain is sending out sympathy cards and/or providing the Posts condolences to family of recently deceased members. We had several of our Comrades transferred to Post Everlasting since our last communication. Robert Deickman, Joseph Sangermano, Samuel Fogarty, Steve "Bulldog" Ingwersen, Ronald C. Smith Sr, John S. Richardson Sr. and Thomas Hannon Sr. Let's continue to lift up their family members in prayer.

I also ask you to pray for the healing of those who have lost so much in the recent, devastating natural disasters around the world. There are so

many out there who are suffering. I believe that most of us are Blessed to be here on Maryland's Eastern Shore.

As always, I would appreciate a call if you know of one of our members on sick call. My telephone number is 410-603-2205 or bendawson@beachin.net. I look forward to seeing you at the Post, especially at our meetings, where, by the way, food is served.

I continue to hope that your Fall season is filled with blessings and good health.

Regards and God Bless, — Ben

BINGO IS THE GAME
WHEN & WHERE - Thursdays @ Post #166 American Legion
TIMES - Doors open 4:30PM Kitchen opens 5:15PM (specials)
CARDS & GAMES: 5:30PM until 6:30PM Bingo Starts 6:30PM
VOLUNTEERS NEED TO HELP WITH TICKET LINE, KITCHEN HELP & WORK THE FLOOR



American Legion License Tags - How To....

The Department of Maryland, in conjunction with the Motor Vehicle Administration, offers all paid up members in good standing the opportunity to obtain The American Legion organizational license tag for their vehicle. Any Department of Maryland American Legion member, who has a vehicle (cars, trucks or SUV's, not including trailers) registered in their name may qualify for the tag, (subject to MVA regulations). The procedure for obtaining a license tag is:



1. Send Department Headquarters a letter along with a copy of the registration of the vehicle to be tagged, a copy of your membership card and \$2.00 for processing. Either the owner or co/owner must be a member in good standing (current dues paid) with their post. If in doubt, contact your Post Adjutant for specific information and instructions.
2. Upon receipt of the letter with a copy of the registration and membership card, plus \$2.00 Department Headquarters will complete the application, assign a tag number, and return the application to the member.
3. Once the member receives the application paperwork back from Department, fill it out and they can get their tags in one of three ways:

The Motor Vehicle Administration one time fee charge of \$25.00 must be accompanied with the application when taken or mailed to The Department of Motor Vehicles.

METHOD 1 - Completed applications taken directly to the DMV in Glen Burnie (2nd Floor, Window 104, Organizational Tags) will receive their tags at that time. This is the quickest way. Once at the MVA it takes only a few minutes for the tags to be issued.

METHOD 2 - Completed applications taken to a MVA satellite office will have the tags mailed to them by the MVA.

METHOD 3 - Completed applications mailed to the MVA will also have their tags mailed to them by the MVA.

 **MAKING STRIDES** 
AGAINST BREAST CANCER
OCEAN CITY, MARYLAND
OCT. 21, 2017

Come together with survivors, caregivers, men and women from all walks of life who are passionate about saving lives from breast cancer. Inspire others to carry on and take comfort in the knowledge that because of your dedication, no one walks alone.

You can choose to run or walk but either way you are helping those who are fighting breast cancer. Registration begins at 7:30 AM on the boardwalk at the inlet.(730 S. Atlantic Ave.) Opening ceremonies begin at 8 AM, the run begins at 9 AM, and the walk begins at 9:15 AM. Donations are accepted at registration, however, Legion Family Members have been included by a donation from The Sons of the American Legion Squadron # 166. Sign up for the American Legion Team at registration.

More information can be obtained at www.makingstrides.acsevents.org. You may also call Poppy Granite at 302-494-7973.



**POST #166 TAKES A
MOMENT FOR 9-11**

A moment was taken in the Post's bar area on September 11, 2017. Unit #166 member Lisa McDonald introduced Post #166's Chaplain, Ben Dawson. Chaplain Dawson offered a prayer for those who were lost and their Families of 9-11.



SESD
“XMAS DINNER”



December 9, 2017

Cocktails at 2:00 PM / Dinner 3-5 PM

For Tickets See Paul Hawkins

WHERE:

Wicomico American Legion Post #64

**1109 American Legion RD., Salisbury
Maryland**

Synepuxent Post 166, Fall 2017

DONATIONS FOR LEGION YEAR HIT \$128,760.00

Post 166 has donated to the following organizations so far this year - 2017.
Bo Spicer, Chairman of the Donations Committee and Finance Officer Joe Salafia
submitted the Slot Machine Charity Report for July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017.
Serving with Chairman Spicer on the Donations Committee are Earl Hewitt,
Sarge Garltiz and John Granite.

**Ocean City Rec. Dept. • Ocean City VVA • NABVETS
Air Force • Security Forces Eagle Chapter • Coastal Hospice
Mid Atlantic Symphony Orchestra • MCVET
Delaware Breast Cancer Research • Delaware Special Olympics
Michael Strange Foundation Supporting Gold Star Mothers
After Prom Party - Stephen Decatur Snow Hill and Pocomoke
High Schools • Worcester County Technical High School USA
Skills Program • American Legion Dept. of Md.
Baseball Program • American Legion Boys State
Eastern Shore • Police Association Camp ESPA • Christian
Shelter Salisbury • Worcester County Veterans Memorial
Fisher House • Ocean City Life Saving Museum
Ocean City Downtown Association • Southern Md. Fish Fry
Dept. of Md. • 4 Steps Riding Therapy Program • Joan Jenkins
Foundation • American Legion National Emergency Fund
Believe in Tomorrow • Ocean City Volunteer Fire Company
Berlin Post 123 Auxiliary's Scholarship Fund
Duncan Showell Post 231 Auxiliary Charity Fund Cambridge
VA Clinic • Saint Mary's Star of the Sea Catholic Church
Pocomoke VA Clinic • Heroes to Hometown
American Legion Operation Comfort Warriors
Diakonia Homeless Veteran's Program Ocean City Lions Club
Community Church Ocean Pines • Salvation Army Salisbury
DAV Salisbury • St. Paul's by the Sea • Ocean City Boy Scouts
Troop 261 • Ocean City Cub Scouts Pack 261 • Atlantic
General Hospital • Delaware Maryland Boy Scout Council
Cricket Center • St. Peter's Lutheran Church Soup Kitchen
Casey Cares • Bishopville Volunteer Fire Company
Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Co • Showell Volunteer Fire Co
Women Supporting Women
Worcester County Youth and Family Counseling**

Donations to these organizations totaled approximately \$128,760.00



Quarterly Calendar FALL 2017



OCT	NOV	DEC
<p>Date Event</p> <p>2nd VVA meeting 1800hrs</p> <p>8th Jr. Aux meeting 1400hrs</p> <p>9th SAL meeting 1900hrs</p> <p>16th AL Exec meeting 1800hrs</p> <p>17th ALA meeting 1900hrs</p> <p>23rd AL SESD meeting Post 145 1400hrs</p> <p>24th AL meeting 1900hrs Food 1800hrs Speaker 1830hrs</p> <p>28th Halloween Party 1900hrs</p>	<p>Date Event</p> <p>5th Hall Decorating 0900hrs Jr Aux meeting 1400hrs</p> <p>6th VVA meeting 1800hrs</p> <p>11th VETERANS DAY WCVM 1100HRS POST #166 1700HRS</p> <p>13th SAL meeting 1900hrs</p> <p>20th AL Exec meeting 1800hrs</p> <p>21st ALA meeting 1900hrs</p> <p>23rd Thanksgiving Post Open TURKEY 1400HRS -1700HRS</p>	<p>Date Event</p> <p>2nd Trim a Tree Party 1300hrs Prepare Boxes to Troops 1400hrs</p> <p>3rd SUPPORT THE TROOPS 1000HRS (pack boxes)</p> <p>4th BOXES TO BE MAILED</p> <p>4th VVA meeting 1800hrs</p> <p>7th PEARL HARBOR DAY</p> <p>9th ALA Christmas Party for the Worcester Cty Developmental Ctr SESD Christmas Party Post #64 1400hrs</p> <p>9th SAL meeting 1900hrs</p> <p>18th AL Exec meeting 1800hrs</p> <p>19th ALA Christmas Party 1900hrs</p> <p>24th Christmas Eve Party 1300hrs til ?</p> <p>25th MERRY CHRISTMAS NO POST MEETING</p>
 <p>31st ALR Meeting 1900hrs</p> 	 <p style="text-align: center;">THANKSGIVING</p> <p>26th Hall Decorating 0900hrs</p> <p>26th AL SESD meeting Post #123 1400hrs</p> <p>27th AL meeting 1900hrs Food 1800hrs Speaker 1830hrs</p> <p>28th ALR meeting 1900hrs</p>	 <p>26th ALR meeting 1900hrs</p> <p>31st NEW YEARS EVE PARTY 2000HRS</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">Jan 1st New Years Day Party 1300hrs (bring your left over snacks)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">FLAG DISPOSAL SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER 18TH</p> <p>On November 19th at 0900hrs at the Worcester County Veterans Memorial will be the annual flag disposal program. This year it will be a joint effort with Duncan-Showell Post #231 and Boggs-Dishroon Post #123 will join up with Synepuxent Post #166. The unserviceable US Flags will be burned by Boy Scout Troop #166, Cub Scout Pack #261 and Junior Auxiliary Unit #166. Old Flags may be dropped off at the American Legions involved or bring them to the WCVM prior to 0900hrs on the day of the program.</p>		

Synepuxent Post 166, Fall 2017

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**For all of you that have computer access
to the Internet there are some places
you may want to visit:**

- <http://www.legion.org> - Legion National Web Site
- <http://www.mdlegion.org> - Department of Maryland
- <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/evetrecs/index.html> - request copies of military records
- <http://www.mdva.state.md.us> - MD Department of Veterans Affairs
- <http://www.va.gov> - US Dept. of Veteran's Affairs
- <http://www.opvets.com>—Worcester County Veterans Memorial at Ocean Pines

PHONE NUMBERS IMPORTANT TO VETERANS:

- Baltimore VA Medical Center.....1-800-463-6295
- Charlotte Hall Veterans Home.....1-800-522-8387
- Perry Point.....1-800-949-1003
- Maryland Veteran's Cemetery.....1-410-943-3420
- Pocomoke City VA Clinic.....1-866-441-0287
- Elsmere VA Hospital.....1-800-450-8262
- Cambridge VA Clinic.....1-877-864-9611

ATTENTION ACTIVE DUTY MEMBERS

Post #166 is proud and honored to have you as a member of our Legion Family. Many of you have been a member for several years. We send packages to those of you which have a current address on file.

At times our communications to your address on file is returned. Please get back at us so we can update our records.

Email us: alpost166@comcast.net

RENEW MEMBERSHIPS

at <http://www.legion.org/renew>

ALL Active Duty Members should submit their 8"x10" Photos to American Legion Post 166, P.O. Box 63, Ocean City, MD 21843 to replace the current Active Wall at Post 166.

Contact Sarge Garlitz
at (443) 735-1942 or firstsgt166@msn.com

Hey you Internet surfers, we not only have a web site at <http://www.alpost166.org>, we also have our own "Face Book" Page at <http://www.facebook.com/alpost166> and if you "Like" us you will receive news as it happens. Look for some "Drink & Food Deals" coming over Face Book. Also, send us your email to receive an electronic copy of the Observer.