



Synepuxent Observer Winter 2016

Commander's Message

The Four Pillars of the American Legion do not change. It is the way they are ignored and attempted to be accomplished is being changed. They should be taken serious and given a top priority so the members of the American Legion Family have the proper direction to follow keeping the Four Pillars at the top of the agenda.

The past several years Post #166 has been following real close the guidelines to include the Pillars in all activities and will continue to do so. The updated information on all Four Pillars is shared to all officers to be passed on to the membership. Our monthly meetings always have a message regarding the Four Pillars. Attending these meetings is a great way to be up to date on what is going on in the American Legion Family.

For the Post to be kept informed on the welfare of our members we need to know also what is going on. When you know someone is sick etc please contact me, Chaplain Bernie Michels, Service Officer Bill Wolf or Adjutant Tom Wengert so the proper procedure can be followed.

Next month on Jan. 28th is our 70th Anniversary and there will be a dinner event at the Post. Please get the information from Page 2 of this issue of the Synepuxent Observer. FYI - It is noted there is a deadline for tickets in play and when you see it, you will say to yourself, "I think I read this someplace else".

The Post has had very good summer and fall months. New siding, new windows new HVAC system and next month a new floor behind the bar.

The very busy House Committee Chairmen Phil Ludlum Sr, Joe Salifia and Charles "Spaz" Spaziani are doing a great job with the operation of the Post. The Stewards Mike O'Malley and Ed Hansen are dedicated to their positions keeping things moving in a positive direction. The

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

dedication of this group is noticed and a great feeling is felt. Thanks.

Will someone please make it a nice Christmas for the Post and call me and say, "Hey Sarge, I wish to be the Chairman of the Bingo Committee." Would that be nice or what? My highest level of thanks goes to Paul Hawkins.

Rosie and I want to wish the entire Legion Family a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Please look at what the Legion has to offer its members and make a New Year Resolution. Get involved and make the Four Pillars a part of your everyday life.

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY.

Sarge Garlitz,

Commander

443-735-1942

commander166@msn.com

NOTE: THE BAR WILL CLOSE ON JAN. 10TH 2016 FOR A PERIOD OF 10-14 DAYS. THE FLOOR BEHIND THE BAR IS IN NEED OF REPAIR. PLEASE BE FLEXIBLE AND ADAPT TO THE CHANGE.



Email: alpost166@comcast.net 1

Happy 70th Birthday, Synepuxent Post 166

Our first Commander was
George Bert Cropper



Chartered
January 28, 1946



Current Commander Is
William "Sarge" Garlitz



Current Officers



Nelson Kelly
1st Vice-Comdr



George "Bo" Spicer
2nd Vice Comdr



Tom Wengert
Adjutant



Joe Salafia
Finance Officer



Bill Wolf
Service officer



Bernie Michels
Chaplain



Louise Michels
Historian



Jack Hyle
Judge Advocate



Glen Reely
Sgt-at-Arms

Come out and help us celebrate the 70 years of The American Legion Synepuxent Post 166 on Thursday January 28, 2016. The celebration starts at 3:00 PM with cocktail hour and fellowship, at 4:00 PM we honor our 70 years and at 4:30 dinner is served.

Synepuxent Post 166, Winter 2016

Sons of the American Legion



Joe Verdura
SAL Commander

Here we are going into 2016 and we do not have a 100% membership renewal as yet. Please remember our membership year runs from January 1st to December 31st. As of January 1st your membership is considered delinquent and

as of February 1st National will suspend your membership. It's always a good idea to pay your dues before the end of the year for the following year. New cards are issued starting in July of each year for the following year, this gives you almost 6 months to pay your dues before the new year starts. Please pay your dues today, you can pay in person at the Post or send a check for \$25.00 with your membership number to SAL Squadron 166, P.O. Box 63, Ocean City, MD 21843.

THANK YOU

Thanks to the following who participated in the ad program for the Wounded Warrior Gala II Program Book:

Harrison Group, Bank Of Ocean City, Casino at Ocean Downs, Ocean City Elks Lodge #2645, America Legion Riders #166, The Ocean City Cruzers, American Legion Auxiliary Unit #166, Worcester County Veterans Memorial, Vietnam Veterans of American Chapter #1091 OCMD, Burbage Funeral Home, Artic Heating & Air Conditioning, RYT Plumbing, Bahia Marina & Fish Tales, Pit & Pub, The Atlantic Hotel & Drummer's Café, Mid Atlantic Contracting Inc, The Original Greene Turtle, Fat Fish, Sunset Cycles, Casual Designs Unique Furnishings, Atlantic Dental, Island Canvas, Hastings Funeral Home, Ocean Breeze HVAC, Etch-Art Awards, Insurance Management Group Inc, Williams, Moore, Shockley & Harrison. LLP, Sunset Grille, Northern Building Restoration, Delaware Elevator, Coins Pub & Restaurant, Crush N Crab, American Legion Jr. Auxiliary Unit #166, Bill & Rose Berry, Post #166, 9 Ball Gang, R.J. Lock/Security, Cork Bar & Grill, Vinny's Pizza & Italian Grill, Hair Shack, Walk on Water, Fager's Island, Gary's Shore Service, Berlin Motors, Melanie L. McEntee, PHD, LCPC, Sinepuxent Auto Body, Taylor Bank, Headlines Salon, Avery Hall Insurance, Jimmy's Barber Shop, Buxy's Salty Dog.

Thanks to the following who were monetary donors:

Arlene Linn, Terrence Dwyer, Patricia C. Dwyer, Edith Denny, Billy Denny, Patricia Becker, Steve Becker, Nancy Casper, L. Earl Armiger, Peter L. Kashuba, Kateri Kashuba, Mary E. Richter, Sandra L. Howard, Judith Guinard, Avery Insurance, Toby Rhodes, Giustina Rhodes, Jeffrey R. Forwood, OCVFD, Mary T. Armiger, Jerry E. Shultz, Fay D. Shultz, George O. Grossnickle Sr, Bonfire Restaurant, Atlantic/Smith, Cropper & Deeley Insurance.

The Son's have helped in packing for the troops and helped with a donation in mailing them. we would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a safe New Year. On February the 14th, Valentine's Day we are having a steak dinner at the Post. It's \$15.00 a person and it includes a 8oz. New York steak with baked potato, veg & salad. Hope to see you there.

For God and Country **SAL Commander**

Joe Verdura



MEMBERS OF THE POST COLOR GUARD WANTED

Sgt-at-Arms Glen Reely the leader of the Post's Color Guard is looking to fill the ranks of the Color Guard. Participation has dropped off and for the mission to be first class as it has been for several years, members are needed.

Martin Price the Armor and Safety Officer has training classes for all members to keep up to date on weapon safety. It is also a practice session for upcoming events. Contact Glen Reely at 443-783-0489.

Synepuxent Post 166, Winter 2016

VETERANS DAY 2015



Post #166 Chaplain
Bernie Michels



Post #166 Service Officer
William Wolf



Cathy Kline President
Auxiliary Unit #166



OC VFW Post #8296
Chaplain George Hamaty

OPENING
INVOCATION AL Post #166 Chaplain Bernie Michels
PLEDGE OF ALLIEGENCE Life Scout Troop #261 John Hanley
AI POST #166 Service Officer Bill Wolf
FEMALE US NAVY VETERAN Post #166 Historian Louise Michels
AL UNIT #166 AUXILIARY President Cathy Kline
AL UNIT #166 CHAIR VA&R Past President Rosie Garlitz
SAL SQUADRON 1#166 Commander Joe Verdura
AL RIDERS CHAPTER #166 Co Director Ed Hansen
OC VFW #8296 Commander Robert Shiffner
OC VFW Unit #8296 Auxiliary President June Kelley
1ST STATE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE Past Commandant Fred Wise
OC VIETNAM VETERANS #1091 President Nelson Kelley
US COAST GUARD OCMD BMCM Timaree Sparks
OCEAN CITY ELKS #2645 Past Exalted Ruler Ed "Pete" Peterson
OCEAN CITY LIONS CLUB Troop Support Chair Ben Dawson

SPECIAL GUEST COMMENTS

Mayor Rick Meehan Delegate Mary Beth Carozza
 Senator Jim Mathias

PLACING OF THE WREATHS

Jr Unit #166 & BSA Troop #261 Sabrina Pecora Kort Leinemann
 Boy Scout Troop #261 Ben Pielstick John Brinks

CLOSING PRAYER OC VFW #8926 Chaplain George Hamaty
RIFLE SALUTE Sgt-at-Arms Glen Reely Post #166 Color Guard
TAPS AL Post #166 Bugler Eric Nilsson
GOD BLESS AMERICA Rosie Garlitz



Nelson Kelley President of
the Vietnam Veterans of
America Chapter #1091
OCMD



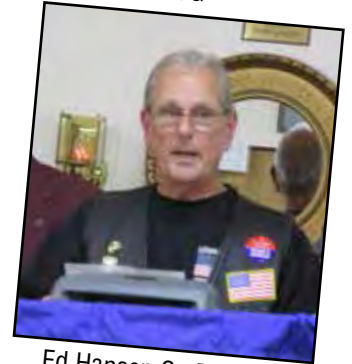
June Kelley President
of VFW Auxiliary #8296



Sgt at Arms Glen Reely
Post #166
Color Guard Leader



BMCM Tamaree Sparks
USCG



Ed Hansen Co Director
Chapter #166
American Legion



SAL Commander
Joe Verdura
Squadron #166



Edward "Pete" Peterson
Veterans Rep of Ocean City
Elks Lodge #2645

Synepuxent Post 166, Winter 2016



Richard Tanner of the First State Marine Corps League



Ben Dawson Chairman of the Ocean City Lions Club Comfort Warrior Program

In 1971, Mrs. Michael Hoff, the wife of a U.S. military officer listed as missing in action during the Vietnam War, developed the idea for a national flag to remind every American of the U.S. service members whose fates were never accounted for during the war.

The black and white image of a gaunt silhouette, a strand of barbed wire and an ominous watchtower was designed by Newt Heisley, a former World War II pilot. Some claim the silhouette is a profile of Heisley's son, who contracted hepatitis while training to go to Vietnam. The virus ravaged his body, leaving his features hallow and emaciated. They suggest that while staring at his son's sunken features, Heisley saw the stark image of American service members held captive under harsh conditions. Using a pencil, he sketched his son's profile, creating the basis for a symbol that would come to have a powerful impact on the national conscience.

By the end of the Vietnam War, more than 2,500 service members were listed by the Department of Defense as Prisoner of War (POW) or Missing in Action (MIA). In 1979, as families of the missing pressed for full accountability, Congress and the president proclaimed the first National POW/MIA Recognition Day to acknowledge the families' concerns and symbolize the steadfast resolve of the American people to never forget the men and women who gave up their freedom protecting ours. Three years later, in 1982, the POW/MIA flag became the only flag other than the Stars and Stripes to fly over the White House in Washington, D.C.

On August 10, 1990, Congress passed U.S. Public Law 101-355, designating the POW/MIA flag:

"The symbol of our Nation's concern and commitment to resolving as fully as possible the fates of Americans still prisoner, missing and unaccounted for in Southeast Asia."



Robert Shiffner Commander OC VFW Post #8296



Mary Beth Carazza House of Delegates



Post #166 Historian Louise Michels



Senator Jim Mathias



Kort Leinemann Troop #261 and Sabrina Pecora Unit #166 layed a wreath



Ben Piesick and John Brinks layed a wreath



Commander Sarge Garlitz



Unit #166 Rosie Garlitz

A NOTE FROM THE POST SERVICE OFFICER

Did you know that you may be eligible for free Health Care through the VA? It doesn't cost anything for you to apply, just complete VA Form 10-10EZ, either online through www.va.gov, or call 1-877-222-VETS (8387), or you can download a copy, fill it out and mail it to "Health Eligibility Center, 2957 Clairmont Road, Suite 200, Atlanta, GA 30329-1647". If you do not have internet access, you will be able to pick up a copy at a membership meeting (there will be some when you sign in).

On November 21, 2015 I held a Veterans Benefits Seminar at the Post and it was well attended. In the two hour seminar I presented all the Veterans Benefits available through the VA, and you can contact me to find out if you might be eligible for some of them. Vietnam Veterans especially may be eligible for not only Health Care but may be able to file for disability compensation because of Agent Orange used in Vietnam. Please file for Health Care and compensation if you were a Vietnam Veteran and suffer from any of the following diseases: AL Amyloidosis, Chronic B-cell Leukemias, Chloracne, Diabetes Mellitus Type 2, Hodgkin's Disease, Ischemic Heart Disease, Multiple Myeloma, Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma, Parkinson's Disease, Peripheral Neuropathy, Early-Onset, Porphyria Cutanea Tarda, Prostate Cancer, Respiratory Cancers (includes lung cancer), Cancers of the lung, larynx, trachea, and bronchus.

Through the Vietnam Veterans of America I have been able to take a course of study that enabled me to become a VA certified Service Officer (just as the Department Service Officer for the Legion). I can not only help you with filing your paperwork, but I can also follow up through the appeals process if necessary. Starting in January 2016, I will be holding office hours at the Post from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM each Thursday for any veteran who wants to file for Compensation or health care. You can also call me at 443-366-2994 to set up an appointment or email me at serviceofficervva@gmail.com.

Bill Wolf
Post Service Officer



NEW YEARS EVE AT THE POST
DJ ANDY STARTS AT 2000HRS
BRING A COVERED DISH
AND YOUR FAVORITE SNACKS



A few of our Post members took a few minutes from their annual Christmas Party held at the Post for a photo op with Santa (Fireman George Lee) L-R Jake Manire, BMC Nathan Loopnow, EPO James Metclaf, E2 Zachary Alber, and Master Chief Sparks.



**LEGION FAMILY MEMBERS
AT THE OC ELKS**

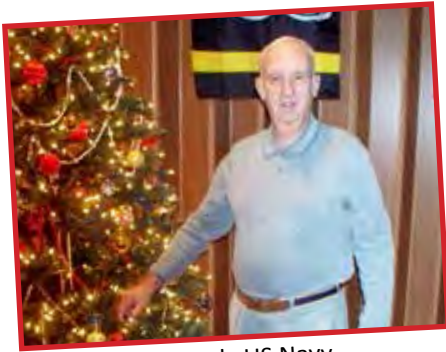
The Ocean City Elks Lodge #2645's Leading Knight Susan Caldwell present Elks of the Month for October 2015. The three Elks are members of the Synepuxent Post #166 American Legion Family and the Elks Veterans Committee. L-R (SAL) Pat Riordan, Chairman of the Hometown Heroes Boardwalk Banner program, (AL)PER Ed "Pete" Peterson and Chairman of the Elks Veterans Committee Sarge Garlitz.



ANNUAL TRIM A TREE PARTY

Christmas spirit was taking place on the Island of Ocean City on Oct. 5th. The Ocean City Christmas Parade was at 1100hrs. Following the parade there was a ton of festivities taking place in town. Post #166 was on the top of the list of Christmas events taking place such as the Annual Trim a Tree Party.

At 1300hrs Egg Nog was the drink of choice and the signature cookies that were put together by our cook Phil Ludlum Jr. were plentiful. Then the process of placing of the Legion Family special ornaments on the tree began. The following are those who placed an ornament and the category is listed.



Glen Reely US Navy



Pam Flynn
American Legion Riders



Ed Hansen US Marine Corp



Rita Villani
Support the Troops



Gary Adams US Army



Emilie Beall Korean War



Kit Federico-God Bless America



Linda Beall For God and Country



Linda Colquhoun - God Bless America



Rosie Garlitz
American Legion Auxiliary



Sabrina Picora
USCG & Junior Auxiliary Badge



Tom Colquhoun - Vietnam Veteran

AUXILIARY NEWS



Cathy Kline

Happy New Year from myself and the Officers of ALA 166. Hope you all had a very Happy Holiday Season.

My wish for the New Year is that we all have a wonderful year and that we get a lot more involved. The feeling of helping do good is one that can't be explained unless you actually do it. With that said, the Auxiliary has been busy as usual with fund raising and helping our Veterans, Community and children.

Congratulations Pat McCoy for winning the Quilt Raffle. Home of the Brave and Perry Point were visited by our Past President Rosie Garlitz with gifts made by our Juniors. A clothing drive was done for McVets and we also bought extra things that were needed for our troops as well as helping with the postage. 300 lbs of food was donated to Shepards Crook

Food Pantry that was collected at the Fall Conference in addition to the 75 lbs collected by our unit members.

Several of our Auxiliary members took time out of their busy schedule to deck the hall on November 29th. They were Jeanette Deskiwicz, Rosie Garlitz, Dottie Grimes and Lori Arillo.

Past President Bonnie Hansen has been busy with the Children and Youth program and hosted the Worcester County Developmental Party that was held at the Post on Saturday December 12th. Fun was had by all. I would like to send a special thanks out to Adjutant Tom Wengert for playing Santa and his 2 Elves played by our Junior Auxiliary members Carly Herl and Sabrina Pecora. I would also like to thank our Sons Commander Joe Verdura, our Stewart Ed Hansen and Phil Ludlum Jr for all the great food and Bonnie Hansen, Lois Bartis, Judy Yokum and Joann Wengert for all their hard work in setting up the hall. I would also like to thank all those that attended the annual Auxiliary Xmas party on Tuesday December 15th. Another great time was had by all with lots of good food, a secret Santa and many door prizes.

In closing, may all your New Year Wishes come true.

God Bless Us, God Bless Our Troops and God Bless America

Cathy Kline
Auxiliary President



Tom Wengert and Joann Wengert
President Cathy (in the back)



Paul and Chris Hawkins

AUXILIARY NEWS

The Auxiliary Unit #166 sponsored their Annual Christmas for the Worcester County Developmental Center at the Post on December 5th.



Santa getting help sing "Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer".



Santa and his helper Carly Herl.



Santa getting everyone ready to sing "Jingle Bells"



The host Bonnie Hansen making sure the food is good to eat



Santa and his Elves getting ready to leave.



UNIT #166 JUNIOR AUXILIARY ROCK

Our Juniors have been busy collecting money for their Jr. projects scoliosis, saving metals tabs from cans for seriously ill children of Casey Cares. Empty plastic bottles are collected to be decorated and sent to veterans in VA hospitals across the state. With the decorated bottle, is a personal note expressing their gratitude for the military service of the Veteran.

On Veterans Day Sabrina Pecora advanced the wreath to the Remembrance Wall honoring our Veterans. In addition she offered Poppies to those in attendance. At the Trim a Tree Party she placed the "Support the Troops" ornament on the tree. On Sunday Dec 6th she was on the team that sorted the items to be shipped to the troops for the Support the Troops program at the Post.

Welcome aboard goes to Lindsay Birkhead a new member of our Juniors. She has participated

in our Coupon Clipping program and on December 6th she helped with the packing of the boxes that were sent to the troops. Her interest in the Pillars of the Legion is high and is undertaking the signing up of new members for the Auxiliary.

Junior, Kendahl Parsons has kept herself busy with the Pop Warner Cheerleading Squad of Berlin Intermediate School. The Squad won the Eastern Regional's and went to Florida for the National Cheerleading Championship. Congratulations to the Squad they came in 6th in the country.

To all the Juniors of Unit #166 I wish you a very Merry Christmas and I am looking forward working with you in 2016. Happy New Year.

Rosie Garlitz,
Junior Advisor

AUXILIARY NEWS



This is Kendahl Parsons a Jr. Auxiliary member and the Cheerleader that was mentioned in Rosie's Jr. Auxiliary Column with her mother Jessie Parsons, a member of Unit #166 Auxiliary.



Jr Auxiliary Advisor Rosie Garlitz presented Carly Herl her Senior Auxiliary membership pin. Carly had been in the Jr. Unit for several years and turned 18 years of age last month transferring to the Sr. Unit.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE GOES TO OC ELEMENTARY



On December 9th Rosie Garlitz the Chair of Unit #166's Education Committee delivered mini cupcakes and cuttie oranges to the Ocean City Elementary School. This was to show appreciation to the seventy two teachers and aides for what they do for our youth.

VA&R HAPPENINGS

Perry Point Veterans Medical Center had their Gift Wrapping Program on November 30th. Members of the Auxiliary through out the Department of Maryland attended this years annual event. Lori Arillo and Rosie Garlitz represented Unit #166 to assist Veterans in choosing gifts and wrapping them. The gifts then would be sent to their family members.



LEGION RIDERS CONT.

Post #166 Legion Riders with our Coasties were part of the Kitchen Crew at the Wounded Warrior Gala that was held on Oct 17th



left to right: SAL Pat Sharkey, BMCM Timaree Sparks, BM2 Jacob Manire, SN Casey Brutus, MK3 Steven Martinez, SN Nana Kusi, MK2 Buck Wheatley. 2nd Row SAL Russell Slaton, SAL Phil Ludlum, AL Mike O'Malley ,AL Joe Salafia, ALA Gretetta Rolland, SAL Joe Verdura, ALA Bonnie Hansen, AL Bo Spicer, SDHS CC Maxx Spicer, AL George Barstis, and AL Ed Hansen



**3rd Annual Legion Riders/Worcester County
Rec. Dept Golf Tournament**



Lois Barstis, Judy Yokum and Tom Wengert taking a break during the tournament

Riders enjoyed a day off golfing and participating in our 3rd Annual Legion Riders/Worcester County Rec. Dept Golf Tournament at Bayside. This year again over \$4000.00 was raised for the children here in Worcester County. Money raised goes to snacks or meals and after school activities and other things that have not been in the budget and were done without until this tournament started. Special thanks to all the work done by Kelly Rados of Worcester County Recreation Department for her continuous hard work on this program. Money raised affects over 400 students every year. Well done spreading funds that far. Thank you to our Riders, Auxiliary, Sons and Legion for your support in our community.

ARMORY PROCEDURES A PRIORITY

Martin Price the Armorer of Post #166 is seen securing one of the rifles used during the Veterans Day Program on November 11th in the safe. All of the rifles, ammo and accessories are secured in the weapons safe. The 2nd Monday of each month Armorer Price holds a procedure meeting of the Color Guard. This includes weapon safety, proper weapons maintenance and transporting safety of the rifles. The monthly meeting will also cover Color Guard practice for upcoming events.



American Legion Post #166 Junior Shooters Program

The American Legion Post #166 in Ocean City, MD, will be offering another session of its Junior Shooting Sports Program beginning on Wednesday, January 13, 2016. Classes will be held every Wednesday at Post #166 from 5:30 to 7:00pm for 8 weeks through March 2, 2016.

The Junior Shooting Sports Program (JSS) is a gun safety, education and marksmanship program that encompasses the basic elements of safety, education, enjoyment and competition. Participants in JSS are young men and women between the ages of 9-18; disabled youth are encouraged to join. The course teaches gun safety and marksmanship fundamentals through a balanced mix of short lectures or discussions, followed by hands-on activities. All course materials, safety gear and equipment are provided by Post #166. Junior Shooters use the .177 caliber pellet air rifle.

Parents of JSS participants are encouraged to attend the sessions to see first hand how the program is taught and to be reassured by the strict emphasis on gun safety. In the greater Ocean City area, community support has been positive and is growing among parents of interested young adults. Post #166 Shooting Instructors include Charles Hahn and Kenneth Ingram.

Anyone interested in having their child participate in the JSS may contact Ken Ingram at 410-208-4803 or by e-mail at ken.lois@mchsi.com with any questions or for more details.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Kenneth Ingram Jr.*

Worcester County Veterans Memorial Volley Salute



l-r Bob Deickman, Post #123 Commander Vince Holloway, C.C. Cartwright, Walt Dennis, Eric Nilsson, Johan Nykuist and the Leader of the group Post #166's Sgt-at-Arms Glen Reely.

On November 11th at the Worcester County Veterans Memorial the Volley Salute was performed by a joint American Legion Color Guard from Boggs-Disharoon Post #123 Berlin, Md. and Synepuxent Post #166. The two Color Guard Units have served together in the past on the Posting of the Colors and a funeral.

ADJUTANT'S CORNER

I would like to start off by thanking everyone that participated in our in house Fall Bowling League. It was a huge success with 12 participants having a fun night out with friends for about 2 hours every Wednesday evening. We are winding down now and everyone is looking forward to our Winter Games Nite which will be starting on January 20, 2016. Again sign-up sheets are now posted on the bulletin board by the Men's room. Looking forward to seeing some new people participating this year. So if you are interested in a fun night out with friends, come on in an sign up and you will not regret it. On a serious note, Membership is doing rather well. As of this date we now have 775 members who have renewed for 2016 leaving us some 113 shy of our goal of 888 members. So if you know of anyone who has not renewed, remind them that the dues go up as of January 1, 2016 to \$35.00. I know we are all looking for bargains, so renew now and save \$10.00 this year. Signing off I would like to wish everyone a very *Merry Christmas and a Happy Safe and Healthy New Year.*

Tom Wengert
Post Adjutant

2016 LEGION BASEBALL BEING PLANNED

Planning sessions for the 2016 Ocean City Marlins American Legion Baseball Team are over a month old. The team will be registered with the National American Legion the first part of January for the 2016 season. On January 16th at 1000hrs the next meeting will take place at Dorchester Post #91 in Cambridge, Md. The six teams that participated last year in the Eastern Shore League are expected to return.

The Baseball Committee will be led by Jack Hyle and Charles "Spaz" Spaziani with Bo Spicer and Bench Coach Richard Pennington. The Spring addition of the Observer should have all the information needed to get 2016 season started.

Our inaugural season last year had excellent support from our members and the community. The support is starting up now with several pledges made. George & Lois Barstis will donate a dozen of baseball (\$120.00), Bob Rose will also donated a dozen. As will Sarge & Rosie Garlitz. George and Bob are Alumni of American Legion Baseball. Barry & Patti Hughes and Bob Rose will sponsor a case of drinking water for each game.

On the pledge list is Gator Aid, power snacks, fruit and baseballs. If you want to be a supporter



etc please contact Commander Sarge Garlitz 443-735-1942 commander166@msn.com if there are any questions or you want to pledge. Donations are also accepted for insurance, equipment and uniforms etc. Mail to PO Box 63 OCMD 21943.

Last years Manager Otis Elzey will be returning for the 2016 season. Manager Elzey and the Baseball Committee will be organizing a recruiting program to take effect in February. The Eastern Shore has been known for its baseball and Post #166 has caught the baseball fever. Go Marlins.



TROOP #261 COURT OF HONOR

On December 5th Commander Sarge Garlitz and Rosie attended the Annual Boy Scout Troop's Winter Court of Honor. It is held each year to recognize the Scouts who advance in rank and earned Merit Badges.

Gabriel L. Bradley - Star Scout/Swimming, Emergency Preparedness, Environmental Science, First Aid. Anerew Busko - Second Class. Michaelson J. Capuano - Camping & Cooking Badges. Matthew A. Coleman - First Class/Fishing, First Aid. Sawyer J. Coleman - First Class/Fishing, First Aid. Sawyer Ellis-Gaal - Swimming, Kayaking, Indian Lore, First Aid. Alex O. Ingersoll - Camping, Swimming, Fishing, environmental Science. Samuel E. Ingersoll - Swimming, Indian Lore, Photography. Kurt U. Leinermann - Soil & Water Conser-



vation, Wood Carving, Communications, Forestry, Lifesaving. Jeremey Novak - Metal-work. Benjamin R. Pielstick - First Aid, Jackson W. Pielstick - Game Design. Collin Terlizzi - Star.

In his comments to the Scouts, Commander Garlitz related to them some of his experiences as a Scout in Troop #26 in Lonaconing, Md. He said he could relate to them and going back in his memories of 60 years plus and he was 100% with them tonight. He further stated that he has, "been there and done that".

Congratualtions was given to Brandon McKenzie for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout this year. On another note, Brandon was a Charter and a key player on The Ocean City Marlins the American Legion Baseball team sponsored by Post #166.



**WELCOME HOME
VIETNAM AND ERA VETS**



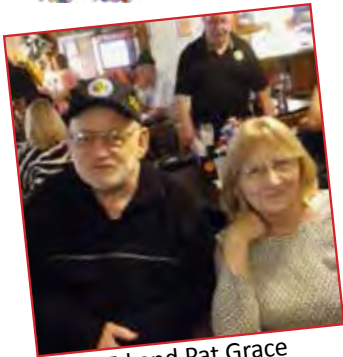
We would like to invite you to become a member of Ocean City Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1091. If you were in country between February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975 or any duty station between August 5, 1964 and May 7, 1975 - you are eligible for membership. Applications are available by Post sign in book. Dues are \$20 a year with a Life membership available for \$100 until Dec. 31. We have a great group of people, most of whom are very active with Post #166. Our meetings are on the first Monday of the month at 6:00PM with social gathering at 5:30PM. Bring application to meeting w/ DD-214 + dues check, mail it to our P.O. Box address on application or leave it at Post 166. We would appreciate having you.

Thanks

Nelson Kelly, President VVA Chapter 1091



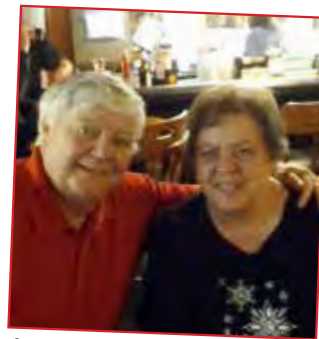
**The Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter #1092
had their Christmas Social at the Post on Dec 14th.
Many were camera shy and some were not.**



Ed and Pat Grace



Ben and Gloria Dawson



Membership Chairman Bob
Gilmore and Marie

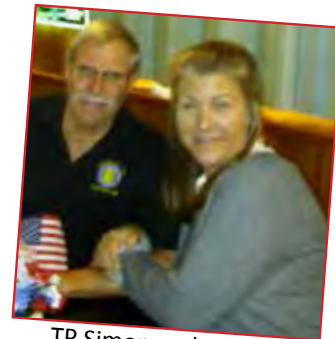


Treasurer/ Service Officer
Bill Wolf

**TET OFFENSE #48
48TH ANNIVERSARY
OF TET OFFENSE
WORCESTER COUNTY
VETERANS MEMORIAL
JAN. 31ST • NOON
*followed by a reception at Post #166***



Sgt-at-Arms Jack Hyle



TP Simon and Beverly

Wounded Warrior Gala

On October 17, 2015 Synepuxent Post 166 hosted the second annual Wounded Warrior Gala at the post to honor our veterans who were wounded in the Gulf Wars. The Warriors were from Walter Reed National Military Medical Center and were accompanied by Colonel Debra Malone who also was the guest speaker. The Gala and scheduled events were not only to honor these fine warriors, but to give them and their families a respite from their everyday rounds of surgery and rehabilitation.

They arrived in Ocean City on Thursday afternoon and were guest at Taylors Restaurant in Ocean Pines for Dinner. Transportation to Taylors and back to their Harrison Group hotels was provided by Shore Transit. Friday morning the Warriors had breakfast and lunch with the US Coast Guard at their station in South Ocean City. The treat of the day was a boat ride on

the Coast Guard Boat and then were transported to the Life Saving Museum on the Boardwalk for a tour. After this event they had free time exploring Ocean City. Saturday morning the Ocean City Bus picked the Warriors up at their hotels the Quality Inn Boardwalk and the Hilton Suites to transport them to the Old Pro Golf Course in North Ocean City. They spent the morning playing golf at the courtesy of Old Pro Course. Saturday evening they attended the Gala here at the Post and returned to Walter Reed on Sunday.

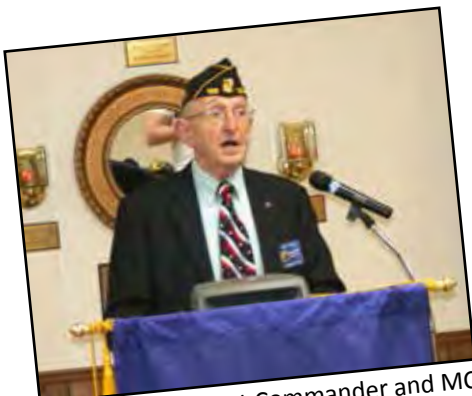
Below are a few of the pictures of the gala, if you want to see more then go to <http://www.alpost166.org> and click on "Photo Gallery", then click "Wounded Warrior Gala 2015".



Reporter Kara Hallissey from OC Today interviews one of the Warriors and his family. Cute kids!



More wounded warriors and their families



"Sarge" Garlitz Post Commander and MC



Colonel Debra Malone our guest speaker and head of Nursing at Walter Reed Hospital



John Quinn, SAL 166, Chairman of Wounded Warrior Gala Committee

Wounded Warrior Gala



Mayor Rick Meehan presents the Ocean City Proclamation naming October 17, 2015 as Wounded Warrior Day to warrior Oscar Guerra USA.



State Senator Jim Mathias says a few words in honor of our Warriors who have served and the ones still serving.



Members of the Ocean City Coast Guard came to help serve the attendees.



Post 166 Chaplain Bernie Michels gives the invocation.



VSCOA Director Jerry Black has a few words to say about our Warriors.



AL Dept. of MD Commander Lewis Trott has a few words



Sabrina Pecora, Unit 166 Jr. Auxiliary helps Rosie Garlitz at the ticket table

FLORIDA MEMBER WINS MOTORCYCLE

The winner of the Boardwalk Raffle for 2015 is Harold T. Whitlock of Naples, Florida. Harold has been a member of Post #166 for over 35 years.

The net profit for this joint project with Unit #166 Auxiliary was \$22,598. Many thanks to John Granite who took the lead with the scheduling of the volunteers to man the boardwalk booth. The participation from the Legion Family for this year was very low and many shifts went unattended. However, the team that worked the boards was great and we thank you.

The Synepuxent 2015 Team is as Follows: George and Lois Barstis, Emilie Beall, Gary Costello, Richard & Vera Crotsley, Bob Deickman, Jeanette Deskiewicz, Ron & Mina Engle, John Feuersein, Sarge & Rosie Garlitz, Bob & Marie Gilmore, John & Poppy Granite, Billy & Mary Greenwood, Dick & Carol Hafer, Ed & Bonnie Hansen, Bob & Pam Harbaugh, Steve Hargrove, Paul & Chris Hawkins, Bud & Connie Heflin, Mary Herl, Joe Hook, Frank Hoover, Jack Hyle, Ken & Loin Ingram, Steve Ingwerson, Linda Rutter, Buddy Jones, Chris Jones, Cathy Kline. C. Kuhn, Phil

Ludlam Sr, Phil Ludlum Jr, Bob Marriott, Lee & Louette McLafflin, Dorothy Morris, Eric Nilsson, Stan & Pat, Richard Pennington, V. Pointer, Glen & Jean Reely, Joe & Eileen Salifia, Jim Saulnier, John Shipley, Buster Slaton, Jeff Speranzella, Bo Spicer, Tina Preziotti, Ray Kudobeck, Ed & Jackie Weitzell, Tom & Joann Wengert, Bill Wolf and Judy Yocum. FYI Auxiliary Unit #166 has the Boardwalk in 2017



BINGO CHAIRMAN & HELP NEEDED

Black Thursday is known for the sadness Post #166 feels with the resignation of Bingo Chairman Paul Hawkins. Bingo Paul has done an excellent, outstanding, great, and better job than any for the Bingo program at Post #166. He will be missed more than words can describe.

The real world challenge is to find a replacement for Bingo Paul. He was so good at this Bingo Chair, it may take 3-4 Legion members to replace him. Come on Legionnaires it is time to be a huge part of a very successful program at Post #166.

December 17th was the last Bingo for 2015. A change will take place starting off 2016. It was decided to take a winter furlough until March 3rd.

The plan is to have a Bingo Chairman or Chairmen before the Executive Committee on January 18, 2016. This way Bingo Paul will have time to train the new team stepping up to the plate leading the Bingo Challenge.

We will also be seeking kitchen help bingo night. Many of the kitchen help have been working EVERY THURSDAY and are requesting some relief. This is where members of the Legion Family can step up and take a very important part of this program: working the kitchen, selling the bingo packets etc and helping to get through the Thursday Bingo night.

If you will please give this memo some consideration it will be greatly appreciated. Contact Sarge at 443-735-1942, commander166@msn.com



DELMARVA BLOODBANK HAS CHANGED THE GAME



There is no longer dues payable to the Delmarva Blood Bank to be a member. Now it is required to donate a pint of blood or pay \$30.00 each year. To make an appointment and get registered call 1-888-825-6638



CHAPLAIN'S PAGE



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

DUTIES OF A CHAPLAIN

PURPOSE: To help veterans grow in their relationship with God and one another.

HIS WORK: To serve and minister where there is a need. Being on the Staff of the Commander is to serve and minister as a spiritual advisor for all members of Post #166. Which will also include any veteran in need. The Chaplain gives invocation and benediction at all meetings and gives memorial prayers at Post Everlasting Services. "Service to God and Country"

Chaplain Bernie Michels captbernie3049@gmail.com 443-366-5852

IMMORTAL 4 CHAPLAINS SERVICE

At noon on Sunday February 7th there will be a Four Chaplain's Service at the Post. The first Sunday in February is designated for this service. This will be another first for Post #166 and it is felt to be a very important event. If you have not heard of these immortal heroes hit the Goggle on your PC and you can read the info. Once that is done please pass the info to your friends.



The Four Immortal Chaplains, from left to right are Reverend Fax, Reverend Poling, Father Washington and Rabbi Goode.

The Four Chaplains known later as the "Immortal Chaplains" departed New York on January 23, 1943 aboard the USAT Dorchester. The designation for the 900 on board was Greenland.

Off the Newfoundland, a German submarine U-223 torpedoed the Dorchester disabling the electrical system leaving the ship in darkness. The Four Chaplains sought to calm the men as they organized an orderly evacuation of the ship and helped the wounded to safety.

As the life jackets were passed out to the men, the supply ran out before each man had one. The Four Chaplains removed their own life jackets and gave them to others as they were helping as many as they could into the life boats. They then linked their arms as they were saying prayers and singing hymns as they went down with the USAT Dorchester in the North Atlantic.



A LETTER TO THE COMMANDER

Hi Sarge,

Aileen and I wanted to take a moment during all the hustle bustle of the Holiday Season to express a personal thank you to you and Rosie for all that you and your huge family at Post 166 have done for VSCOA and our PAWS program. Sarge, I don't know how to tell you how much it meant to us that everyone at Post 166 continues to support us. I never know when I am going to see the Legion Riders coming down our driveway or when the Auxiliary and SAL of 166 are holding an event to support us. When I will get a phone call from you or Rosie asking, "how can we help" is when I really know there are real friends in Ocean City . I guess my point is whenever I need help I know I can always count on everyone at Post 166 to be there for us.

Just briefly I wanted to let you know that we are still working with Senators Mathias and Eckardt and Secretary George Owings of MDVA to find a new source of operating capital to replace the VA who left us high and dry with no warning this past July. There hasn't been anything clearly identified as of yet but they are hopeful and continue to support us in this effort. We have however, successfully transitioned 8 veterans from Camp Royal Oak since the termination of our contract by the VA. While the VA no longer refers veterans to us, we have been getting walk-ins off the street from our local community. Our capabilities are very limited as you can imagine but the bottom line is that we are still serving our rural veteran community. Please say a prayer for us in the hopes that the State will step up to right this terrible wrong and put the funding in place to bring Camp Royal Oak back on line.

On an even brighter note we have been invited by Nick Callazzo, the Executive Director of Victory Village at Boxwood Manor in Middletown, DE to bring our PAWS program up there to be part of the services that they offer their homeless veteran community. Nick's organization recently renovated a 27 bed facility that is located on 5.5 acres and has offered to build kennels, a training center and provide beds for the PAWS understudies that would be enrolled in our program. He has seen the results of our PAWS therapeutic programing and wants to be able to offer it to the veterans suffering from PTSD at Victory Village.

Sarge, I would like to put the word out that we are looking for a suitable facility near Ocean City to open a PAWS Canine training center. I don't know what the future holds in store for Camp Royal Oak but I do know that we can't let our life saving PAWS program go by the wayside for the veterans of our beautiful Eastern Shore. The training center will be available to all of our veteran community and will allow us keep a foothold should we lose Camp Royal Oak.

One last thought - would you please ask everyone who desires to make a donation to VSCOA to leave the donation there at the Post? I think that would make it easier for everyone and provide me with a very good reason to drop by and say Hi.

Aileen and I wish everyone at Post 166 a very Merry Christmas and a truly blessed New Year!



Thank you all,

Jerry & Aileen Black

Founders VSCOA Inc.

VSCOA



Wounded Warriors Gala

WOUNDED WARRIOR GALA II VOLUNTEERS

Many thanks to the Volunteers from the Post #166 American Legion Family.
They were outstanding again.

FRIDAY SET UP CREW

Rosie Garlitz, Lori Arillo, Eileen Salafia, Gretta Rolland, Rita Valani, Kit Federico, Jack Hyle,
Bill Wolf, Ron Engle, Mina Engle

☆☆☆

KITCHEN

Ed Hansen, Jack Hyle, Pat Sharkey, Mike O'Malley, Russell Slaton, George Barstis, Bo Spicer, Rich
Witte, Joe Salafia, Richard Pennington, Ron Engle, Pam Flynn, Ray Kudobeck.

☆☆☆

BUSSING TABLES

Kenny Correll, Wibby Garlitz, Maxx Spicer.

☆☆☆

SERVERS

Gretta Rolland, Rita Valani, Eileen Salafia, Mina Engle, Judy Yockum, Sabrina Pecora, Rose Felty,
Bonnie Hansen, SN Casey Brutus USCG, SN Nana Kusi USCG, BM2 Buck Weatley USCG,
Jacob Manire USCG, BMCM Timaree Sparks USCG.

☆☆☆

PARKING CARS

Bo Spicer, Richard Pennington, Wibby Garlitz, Kenney Correll, Rich Witte,
Maxx Spicer SDHS CC

☆☆☆

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Bill Wolf, Martin Price, Barbara Price, Chaplain Bernie, Louise Michels

☆☆☆

SILENT AUCTION

Tom Wengert, Joann Wengert, Linda Beall, Rosie Garlitz

☆☆☆

TICKET TABLE

Lois Barstis, Sabrina Pecora, Rosie Garlitz

☆☆☆

PROGRAM ADS

Bill Wolf, Tina Prezotti, John Quinn, Rosie Garlitz



Support the Troops team packed over 100 boxes for our troops

On Sunday Dec 6 the Support the Troops team packed over 100 boxes for our troops. They were mailed on Monday Dec 7th. Many thanks to the Hogs to Heroes members—Joe & Irene Sapp, Jim “Shooter” Kyle, and Hammer Smoot for their help. Another huge thank you goes to the Auxiliary Unit #166 who had the numbers present: Eileen Salafia, Lois Barstis, Marie Gilmore, Gretta Rolland, Emilie Beall, Linda Beall, Rita Vallani, Sherrie Dennis, Judy Yocum, Barbara Price, Nancy

Miller, Yvonne Crumlish, Lori Arillo, Rosie Garlitz and Tina Preziotti. Pat Sharkey, Ray Kudobeck, BJ and Pat Sharkey represented the SAL and a big thanks to them. The Legionnaires also get a big thank you for those who stepped up to pack the boxes and they were: Mark Schuler, Kenny Correll, Steve Ingwersen, TP Simons, Bob Gilmore, Dick Tanner, Manny Perez, Rich Witte, Nelson Kelley and Sarge.



Dick Tanner



Sherrie Dennis loading boxes for the troops



Jr. Auxiliary member Lindsay Birkhead with Fanny Birkhead



Rosie Garlitz received a donation from Manny Perez of Sunset Cycles to help with the shipping cost for the Support the Troops Program

CHILI COOK-OFF
 SPONSORED BY SOUTH EASTERN SHORE DISTRICT SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION CHARITIES

Where	When	Menu
First Round Am. Legion Post 166 Ocean City, MD	Saturday Jan 16, 2016 12pm-4pm	Chili Hot Dogs Cornbread Salad
Second Round Am. Legion Post 218 Sharptown, MD	Saturday Feb 27, 2016 12pm-4pm	Cheese Bread Draft Beer Soda
Final Round Am. Legion Post 16 Crisfield, MD	Saturday Mar 26, 2016 12pm-4pm	

2 Challenge Cook-Offs

Cooks Sign Up \$10.00

Cooks: call Rich for application & rules
 Deadline: 10 days before challenge
 Up to 15 Cooks at Each Event.
 Top 5 from first two rounds will move on to final challenge!

For Tickets Call
 Rich 301-481-0078
 Ray 410-215-8354
 Leon 443-359-4506

Advance Tickets \$15.00
 \$20.00 at the door



TP Simon with Bo Spicer and Sherri



Kenny Correll, Lori Arillo, Eileen Salafia and Lois Barstis issuing the Customs Forms






Ray Kudobeck briefs his packing team Tina Preziotti, Judy Yocum and Emilie Beall on the procedure for packing the boxes

American Legion - Synepuxent Post 166 Quarterly Calendar Winter 2016

January

February

March

<p>1st Bring left over snacks 1300hrs </p> <p>4th VVA Meeting 1800hrs Social 1730hrs</p> <p>10th POST CLOSED</p> <p>11th SAL Meeting 1900hrs HH 1800hrs</p> <p>16th SESD SAL Cook Off Post #166</p> <p>18th AL Executive Meeting 1800hrs</p> <p>19th Unit #166 Meeting 1900hrs Social 1800hrs</p> <p>25th AL Meeting 1900hrs Meal 1800hrs Speaker 1830hrs</p> <p>26th AL Riders Meeting 1900hrs Social 1800hrs</p> <p>29th 31st SAL DEC Events</p> <p>31st TET Offense Program NOON Worcester County Veterans Memorial</p>	<p>3rd VVAOC Chapter Meeting 1800hrs Social 1730hrs</p> <p>7th Four Chaplains Service Noon</p> <p>7th Super Bowl Tail Gate 1500hrs</p> <p>8th SAL Membership Meeting 1900 hrs. Social 1800hrs</p> <p>14th SAL Steak Night 1600hrs- 2000hrs</p> <p>15th AL Executive Committee Meeting 1800 hrs.</p> <p>16th Unit #166 Meeting 1900hrs Social 1800hrs</p> <p>22nd AL Meeting 1900hrs Meal 1800hrs Speaker 1830hrs</p> <p>23rd AL Riders Meeting 1900hrs Social 1800hrs</p> <p>27th Chili Cook off Post #218 </p>	<p>3rd VVAOC Chapter Meeting 1800 hrs. Social 1730hrs</p> <p>12th St. Patrick's Day Party Corned Beef & Cabbage 1400hrs</p> <p>13th AL Birthday Dinner 1600 hrs Watch for details in Feb</p> <p>14th SAL Membership Meeting 1900 hrs. Social 1800hrs</p> <p>15th Unit #166 Meeting 1900hrs Social 1800hrs</p> <p>21st AL Executive Committee Meeting 1800 hrs.</p> <p>26th Chili Cook off Post #166</p> <p>28th AL Meeting 1900hrs Meal 1800hrs Speaker 1830hrs</p> <p>30th Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day </p>
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S.A.L. VALENTINE'S DINNER

February 14th

4:00pm - 8:00pm

Grilled New York

Strip Steaks

Baked Potato • Veggie

Roll- Butter

\$15.00



**ST. PADDY'S DAY
CORNED BEEF & CABBAGE
MARCH 12TH • 2:00PM**



WE NEED YOUR EMAIL

ADDRESS. PLEASE

SEND IT TO:

admin166@comcast.net

STAY INFORMED

VA OUTREACH PROGRAM IN WORCESTER COUNTY

The Maryland Veterans Administration's Outreach Program is at the Ocean Pines Library the 3rd Wednesday of each month. The local VA REP Michelle Licata is at the library from 1000hrs until 1500hrs. If you are a Veteran and have questions or are in need of service from the VA, this is the place to visit.

Synepuxent Post 166, Winter 2016

Postmaster—Send Address Changes to:
Synepuxent Observer
P.O. Box 63
Ocean City, MD 21843-0063

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Do Not Delay

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Reporter - Bill Wolf*

**PERIODICALS
POSTAGE
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American Legion

Synepuxent Post 166

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Volume 43 No 1



Sarge Garlitz - Commander



Ed Hansen - Co-Director
Buster Slaton - Co-Director



Cathy Kline - President



Joe Verdura - Commander



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

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.

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 up date 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 Commander166@msn.com