



Synepuxent Observer Fall 2009

Commander's Comments - Did You Know?



Did you know? That since the tourists have left for the year, there is no traffic problem to worry about in getting to the Post. I live in Ocean Pines and I am at the Post in 15 minutes or less (if I get the lights right on Philadelphia Avenue). Did you know? That Monday through Friday, Lunch is served at the Post from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Did you know?

That Fridays from 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM a half-pound of shrimp and a pitcher of beer is only \$10.00? Did you know? That Thursday is Bingo night and the Post is having a "Bingo Burger Thursday" special in the Lounge; come and get a burger with Fries and a draft beer for \$5.00 (Bingo players can get the Burger, Fries and a soda for \$4.50). Did you know? That we have a DJ who does Karaoke and plays music on Saturday evenings, come on out and dance the evening away. Did you know? That we have two events planned each month until the New Year (check the calendar). Finally, did you know? That if YOU do not support the Post, we can't do any of these things and that the purpose for all of these events is to keep the Post solvent so it can accomplish its mission

At this point you may think that the Mission is to get together and eat, drink and have fun, looks that way doesn't it? Actually our Mission starts with the "Four Pillars of Service of the Legion"; 1. Fostering a Strong National Security, 2. Taking Care of Veterans, 3. Mentoring the Youth of Our Nation and 4. Promoting Patriotism and Honor. Since 1919 these have been the Hallmark of the Legion and they can be expressed as four words; Defense, Veterans, Youth and Patriotism. From these four Pillars came the Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion to guide us in our

endeavors and I have included it later on in the newsletter.

In our Post we have a number of different committees that are set up each year to help fulfill our Mission. These committees are, Americanism, Boy Scouts, Children and Youth, Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, National Security, Membership, Public Relations, Legislative, Finance, Economic, House, Service, Graves Registration and Memorial Committee, Uniformed Groups (Color Guard) and Visiting or VAVS. All of these committees have chairmen, but not many members. We need your support to get these committees to full operating potential. Currently only the House Committee is fully operational, the rest need your help.

Let me add one final, Did You Know? Did you know, that out of over 877 members of the Legion, over 600 live within Ocean City, Berlin, Ocean Pines, Bishopville and Selbyville and we get only 30+ to a meeting (that's only 5% and 17 of those are Officers and Executive Committee), so we are getting only 13 to 20 members attending meetings. Our meetings are the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month October through May and the 2nd Monday in the summer months. Only the first meeting is a business meeting, the second is informational and Ceremonial but come early to both meetings, have a beer (or mixed drink) and chat with the other members. By the way we have great food after each meeting, so come on out and let's raise the membership attendance to at least 10%. We also have obtained a "bulk Mailing Permit" and will be sending you a monthly Calendar of Activities from now on. Come on out, we need your support this Fall and Winter!

See you at the Post,

Bill Wolf

Commander 2009-2010

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

by John Granite

RIDERS VISIT CAMP BARNES



The American Legion Riders of our Post visited Camp Barnes in Lewes, Delaware on Tuesday July 21, 2009 to support the Special Needs Students who were there for the week long camp activities. The evening started with dinner and a get-together with the students. Afterwards, the students got a chance to sit on the motorcycles and handle the controls, while the "Riders" looked on and answered questions. The ride was organized by Rider member Tony Gough and included members of the Delaware Red Knights. The evening was most gratifying for both students and especially "Riders" Tony Gough,

Jimmy Kirkland, Bo Spicer, John Granite, Carl Kochman, who attended.

BULL/ORSTER ROAST IS HUGE SUCCESS



Bob Faulkner and Steve Drocella Chaired the recent Bull/Oryster Roast for the benefit of the Al Harmon Scholarship. Bob is the Post's Judge Advocate and Chairman of the House Committee. Steve a long term member of the SAL and is its representative on the House Committee.

This successful event was held on Sept 12th and was well attended. We want to thank the Auxiliary Unit

#166 for their attendance and support to this fund raiser. Turned over to the Scholarship Fund was \$3,440.00 which was the profit for this Roast.

A big thanks to Steve, Bob and their committee for the time that was put forward to make this an excellent day at Post #166. This was another example what the American Legion Family is doing here at Post #166.

NOTE: No orster is not spelled wrong. This is the way it is pronounced here on the shore.

COLOR GUARD

BY Nate Pearson

The Post 166 Color Guard is continuing the recruitment program to enlist a total of 20 members into the Synepuxent Post 166 Color Guard. We currently have 18 members, thus , we are 2 members short of reaching our goal. Please welcome the newest member of the Color Guard, BOB DEICKMAN . Bob is a former Marine and our first former Marine recruit. He resides on Water's Edge court and is the third member from this " Color Guard Street." Bob has been issued a uniform and is now ready to participate in Color Guard activities.

INCREASE IN RIFLE INVENTORY: We currently have an inventory of ten (10)

M-1 Garand Rifles that were in use during World War II. With the increase in Color Guard membership, we have ordered five (5) additional rifles to bring our inventory to fifteen (15) total. The U.S. Army provides these ceremonial rifles on loan and they will be used for parades, training, funeral salutes and other functions.

We Are required to maintain these rifles in a secured location. Thanks to Quartermaster, Elmer Muth, who constructed a lockable Rifle Case to accommodate the addition of five rifles , we are in full compliance with the Army requirements.

SICK CALL: Please keep the following Color Guard members in your prayers as they receive treatments and therapy for their medical conditions.

1. AL Ferguson – Has undergone a series of hip replacements . He is slowly regaining his strength through therapy and will eventually return to Color Guard activities.
2. Tom Hannon - Has experienced great difficulty in moving about because of conditions with his legs . He has also undergone facial surgery remove growth from his head area. He has been inactive in Color Guard activities for an extended period of time .
3. Jim Hudson - Has been diagnosed with lymphoma (cancer) and is currently receiving treatment for this cancer.
4. Elmer Muth - Has been diagnosed with lymphoma (cancer) and has received Chemotherapy and has received good reports about this condition. He also plans a knee replacement soon.

COLOR GUARD ACTIVITIES: THE Color Guard had the honor of presenting colors at the first meeting of the American legion Auxiliary for the Installation of new officers when Anna Foulz was installed as unit 166 President . The following Color Guard Members provided this service for the Auxiliary : Earl Hewitt , Eric Nilsson, Bud Breidenstein and Nate Pearson. Our next major activity will be the Veterans Day Function on Wednesday , November 11, 2009 . The Color Guard also provides for the presentation of Colors at each of the General membership meetings by providing two Flag Bearers and one Bugler , Dr. Charles Rummel.

The Color Guard also provides funeral services for all deceased veterans .

Standing Committees 2009 - 2010

Americanism – John Granite, Elmer Muth, Charles Rummel

Purpose: To inspire patriotism and good citizenship through patriotic observances, patriotic and civic instruction in schools, Americanization of aliens, information on anti-American propaganda, youth activities such as Boys State, Oratorical Contest, School Award Medals, flag etiquette, and other similar community services, as well as provide a listing of available scholarships through the "Need A Lift?" booklet.

Boy Scouts – Charles Rummel

Purpose: To provide a liaison to the scouting organization in our community.

Children and Youth – Steve Barbour

Purpose: To insure that any child of a veteran in need of care and protection shall receive proper and timely service and aid; to strengthen the family unit; extend support to sound organizations and facilities that provide services for children and youth; and to maintain a well-rounded program that meets the needs of the young people in their respective community.

Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation – Steve Barbour, Charles Rummel

Purpose: To assist veterans in obtaining needed hospitalization, in the pursuance of claims and in obtaining other veteran's rights and benefits; to visit comrades who are sick or disabled; to visit and comfort members of their families when sick or bereaved.

National Security – Jim Mills, Bo Spicer, Buzz Bayles

Purpose: To organize the Post membership in support of national or civilian defense projects in the community; to organize the Post and to assist in organizing the community for readiness to meet any emergency.

Membership – Bo Spicer, Sarge Garlitz, Charles Rummel

Purpose: To obtain, retain and increase the membership of the Post with specific responsibilities for renewals, enrollment of new members, transfers and reinstatements.

Public Relations – Bill Wolf, Sarge Garlitz, Arlene Page (Auxiliary)

Purpose: To increase awareness among the veteran's community and the community at large of The American Legion's advocacy of Veterans issues, national security and foreign relations, Americanism, and children & youth.

Legislative - Sarge Garlitz

Purpose: To promote the official legislative mandates of The American Legion; disseminate monthly legislative updates; establish, maintain and promote proactive grassroots lobbying activities; and establish and maintain liaison with elected officials and their staff. All activities must be in compliance with Section 2, Article II of the Constitution of The American Legion: Every effort must be made to remain nonpartisan.

Finance – Joe Salafia

Purpose: To supervise the receiving, disbursement, and accounting of all Post funds; to prepare annual budget recommendations for the Post; to advise the Post on all financial policies.

Economic – Steve Barbour, David Parsons

Purpose: To serve and assist veterans in meeting and overcoming economic problems such as employment, veterans preference, housing, civil service appeals, employment of handicapped and older workers.

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House - Bob Faulkner, Rudy Zerner, Dick Hafer, SAL (2 members), Riders (2 members) Auxiliary (2 members)

Purpose: To supervise the operation of physical facilities of our Post such as the Lounge, Hall, meeting room, etc. Supervision includes administration, responsibility for equipment, hiring and direction of the Post Steward as well as Post Employees, as authorized by Post Executive Committee and general rules applicable to the conduct of members while on the premises of the Post.

Service – Steve Barbour

The Service Committee is a key component of every successful Post. Its duties and operations are especially important during the period immediately following the termination of hostilities. The Service Officer may be the chair; however, the responsibilities of the committee go beyond the day-to-day functions of a good Service Officer in filing claims, securing hospitalization, etc. The Service Committee also is concerned with jobs, with veteran contact, with visits to ailing comrades, with on-the-job training, and with pensions. This committee should also be responsible for maintaining contact with any members of the armed forces from the community served by the Post. With the nation's defenses depending upon all-volunteer armed services, it becomes absolutely essential that the man or woman in uniform be assured of the community's respect and support.

Graves Registration and Memorial Committee - Warren Disbrow, Frank Hoover

Purpose: To record, mark and decorate graves of deceased veterans; to render service and comfort to bereaved families; to provide American Legion funeral services when requested.

Uniformed Groups (Color Guard)- Nate Pearson

Purpose: To organize, train, promote and supervise a uniform group, such as a drum and bugle corps, color guard, firing squad, etc.

Visiting or VAVS – Warren Disbrow

The purpose of the visiting committee is to give comfort and assistance to members and their families when sick or bereaved, and to visit hospitalized veterans. It is recommended the Post Chaplain be chair and all Post members share in this vital function by taking their turn as committee members.

NJROTC – Nate Pearson

Purpose: To interface with the NJROTC program at Steven Decatur High School and to make recommendations to the Post for assistance to the program.

Donations Committee – Bo Spicer, Earl Hewitt, Sarge Garlitz

Purpose: To distribute those donations required by law for the pull tab money and other donations made by the Post. A minimum donations figure will be established and guaranteed from the Keno Funds.

Scholarship – Sarge Garlitz, Bob Faulkner, John Granite, Bo Spicer

Purpose: To provide scholarships to deserving students of Stephen Decatur High School and Worcester Preparatory. The recipients should be children or grandchildren of the Legion Family, if none have applied, then the committee is free to choose from other applicants with an eye to children or grandchildren of other Veterans Organizations.

5th Street Building – Jim Mills, Paul Hawkins

Purpose: To oversee our investment in the 5th Street building and to be a liaison with the Volunteer Fire Company and the Lions as well as Jack Hyle. To keep the Executive Committee and Membership apprised of the status of the building and the lessee.

Bingo – Frank Hoover, Elmer Muth, Paul Hawkins, Jim Mills

Purpose: To oversee gaming at the Post, the Bingo committee will operate as a separate entity at the Post and will be accountable to the Executive Committee.

“RIDER” BIKE WEEK AT THE POST

The Delmarva Bike Week held on Sept, 16th thru Sept, 20th brought several hundred American Legion Riders to Ocean City and many visited our Post to take advantage of our kitchen specials and social activities. On Thursday the Post Riders offered free hot dogs to Rider visitors and their guests. Approximately seventy-five dogs were consumed by hungry Riders. On Saturday morning they provided coffee and doughnuts to Riders who participated in the ride to Chincoteague, which left the Post at 9:00 AM. Also, on Saturday they opened the kitchen from 12:00 to 5:00 and offered Texas “Road King” Burgers, OC “Wide Glide” sausage, peppers, & onion, subs, Polish “Low Rider” kielbasa sandwiches, and “Fat Boy” Hot Dogs. Many compliments were received from Maryland, Delaware, and Pennsylvania Riders regarding our Post. Thanks to all who volunteered to make these activities possible.

This is part of the ground covered by the Riders namely Director Jimmy Kirkland and Past Director John Granite. These two dedicated members of our family have turned the kitchen around and made food available to our members like never before. If a need to serve

food was there these two would open the kitchen and start taking orders. This happened many times thru out the summer and it was really appreciated by our patrons.

This is the 2nd season for the Rider’s Crabby Wednesday. Jim and John worked every Wednesday from middle May until middle September serving steamed crabs. To add another service to our members they opened the kitchen for menu items making Post #166 the place to be in OC on Crabby Wednesday. Thanks to you two, it made a big difference and it shows.



John Granite and Jimmy Kirkland,
two riders of whom we are quite proud.

AL HARMON 2009 RECIPIENTS



Nick Drocella will graduate from Wor-Wic Community College this year.



Haley Miller is a Sophomore at Towson State University



Katie Bohn is a Senior at Salisbury State University

American Legion - Synepuxent Post 166

Quarterly Calendar - Fall 2009

October

- 5th** - Executive Committee Meeting 1900 hrs.
- 12th** - Membership meeting 19:00 hrs, come at 1800 hrs for social hour.
- 19th** - SAL membership meeting 19:00 hrs, come at 1800 hrs for social hour.
- 21st** - Auxiliary membership meeting 1130 hrs
- 19th** - SESD SAL Meeting 1230 hrs, SESD Legion meeting 1400 hrs Post #166
- 24th** - Family Fun Day also get your flu shots
- 26th** - Membership meeting 1900 hrs with guest speaker. Social Hour 1800 hrs.
- 28th** - American Legion Riders membership meeting 1900 hrs.
- 31st** - Early Bird Halloween Party

November

- 2nd** - Executive Committee Meeting 1900 hrs.
- 8th** - Marilyn Dempsy Fund Raiser
- 9th** - Membership meeting 1900 hrs, come at 18:00 hrs for social hour.
- 14th** - Apple/Pumpkin Festival
- 16th** - SAL membership meeting 1900 hrs, come at 1800 hrs for social hour.
- 17th** - Auxiliary membership meeting 1130 AM
- 21st** - SAL Beef and Oyster Feast
- 23rd** - Membership meeting 1900 hrs with guest speaker. Social Hour 1800 hrs.
- 25th** - American Legion Riders mem-

December

- 7th** - Executive Committee Meeting 1900 hrs.
- 6th** - Trim-a-Tree Party
- 14th** - Membership meeting 1900 hrs, come at 1800 hrs for social hour.
- 21st** - SAL membership meeting 1900 hrs, come at 1800 hrs for social hour.
- 15th** - Auxiliary membership meeting 1130 AM
- 23rd** - American Legion Riders membership meeting 1900 hrs.
- 31st** - New Year's Eve at the Post

Every Thursday, Bingo at the Post 1900hrs, doors open at 1730 hrs. In the Lounge it's "Thursday Bingo Burgers" Burger, Fries and Beer \$5.00 plus other food items on the menu at a special price. Lite Fare Lunches Served 1100 hrs until 1500 hrs, Friday - Steamed Shrimp 1500 hrs until 1800 hrs, 1/2 lb shrimp and a pitcher of Beer

Membership Contest

From now until April 30, 2010 we will be having a membership recruiting contest. Top prize is \$250.00 with 2nd 3rd and 4th place prizes to total \$500.00. It's quite simple to win, just sign up members for the American Legion family. You get 2 points for each Legion member you sign up and 1 point for each Auxiliary and SAL member. Transfers count if they haven't paid their 2010 membership dues. If your wife, daughter or granddaughter isn't a member of the Auxiliary -sign them up. If your son or grandson isn't eligible for the Legion, then sign them up for the SAL. Talk to your friends see who is a Veteran and sign them up . Everybody in the Legion Family has a chance to win!

Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion

The Preamble is recited by the Officers and Membership at the start of every meeting. It is a reminder of why the American Legion exists! All members should know what it means, if you don't then come to a meeting.

“For God and Country,

We associate ourselves together

For the following purposes:

To uphold and defend The Constitution of the United States of America;

To maintain law and order;

To foster and perpetuate A one hundred percent Americanism;

To preserve the memories and incidents
Of our associations in the Great Wars;
To inculcate a sense of individual obligation
To the community, state and nation;
To combat the autocracy Of both the classes
and the masses;
To make right the master of might;
To promote peace and good will on earth;
To safeguard and transmit to Posterity The
principles of Justice, Freedom and Democracy;
To consecrate and sanctify our comradeship
By our devotion to mutual helpfulness.”



At our membership meeting on September 28, 2009 we honored the Police, EMT and Firefighters of the year for 2008. Each recipient received a plaque and a gift card for \$50.00 to BJ's on the water donated by Billy and Maddy Carter of BJ's. Pictured from left to right are H. Morgan - Ocean City Police Officer of the Year, Thomas M. Parker - Ocean City Firefighter of the year, William B. Bishop - Ocean City Emergency Services Paramedic of the Year and our own DEC member Sarge Garlitz who presented the awards. Missing from the photo is Robert P. Gilbert - Ocean Pines Firefighter of the Year. 1st Vice Commander Bo Spicer was the Chairman of this annual awards program.



At the same meeting on September 28, 2009, our guest speaker was John Culp -Director of the American Red cross Chapter for the lower Eastern Shore. John gave an interesting and informative talk concerning the many ways the American Red Cross helps out not only veterans in need but all other disaster victims. His Chapter as all other Red Cross chapters exists only on donations. Vice Commander John Granite presented Mr. Culp with a Certificate of Appreciation for his talk.

From the Desk of the Auxiliary President

At my first auxiliary meeting we were truly honored by the presence of the American Legion Color Guard led by Nate Pearson who presented the colors. What a great honor!

I also want to express my appreciation to Dee Whittington, President of the Berlin Auxiliary Unit 123, for officiating at our most beautiful Installation ceremony of new officers for Unit 166. It was a very impressive ceremony.

Also, thanks to our guest speaker, Kathy Pokrywka, Executive Director of the Worcester Commission on Aging in Adult Medical Care, who presented ideas for future community projects.



At our next meeting, October 20th, we will celebrate Veteran's Day, November 11th, by inviting the Gold Star Mother's of Worcester County who will be our honored guests.

Also at that October meeting our guest speaker will be Post 166 Commander William (Bill) Wolf.

Take pride in attending your auxiliary meetings held every third Tuesday of each month.

God Bless America,
Your President,
Anna Foulz

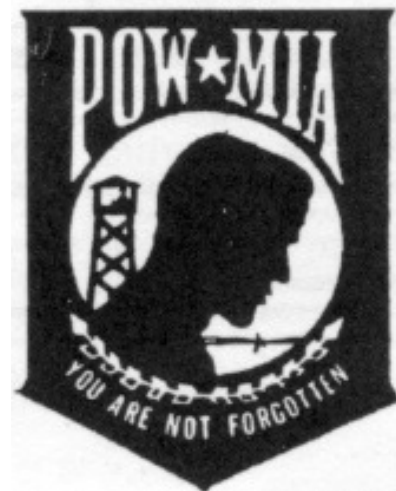


Commander Bill Wolf presents to Derek Morris, Applebees General Manager in West Ocean City, a Certificate of Appreciation which read:

The Synepuxent Post #166 American Legion of Ocean City, Maryland appreciates your donations to the Thursday night Bingo. The donations are used as "Door Prizes" that enhance our Bingo Players evening and are an "Added Value" to American Legion Bingo. The American Legion is a non-profit organization and the monies from Bingo are donated to worthy charities in the Ocean City area and to the Veteran's Hospitals in Maryland for Patients Programs and needs.

SAL Officers 2009-2010

Commander	Billy Yost
Adjutant	Richard Pennington
Vice Commander	Billy George
Historian	Paul Miller
Chaplain	Joe McLaughlin
Treasurer	Sean Rox
Sgt-at-Arms	Mike Miller
Past Commander	Todd Howard
Advisor	Earl Hewitt



THE KENSINGTON CANNON



Many of us are not that old that we missed growing up in the 50's and 60's. In the 50's our ball glove was on our belt or hanging from the handle bars of our bike. Also a bat was held across the handle bars looking for a pick up game of hardball.

As we got older the games became organized and we made a team and being part of a ball team lasted for many years and beyond. This is part of the story of Mark Schuler. Baseball was his game through little league, Babe Ruth League, and High School.

Mark enlisted in the Air Force in the mid 60's

and his game became softball. He played this game on all levels for four years during his enlistment. To do this you have to be at the top of your game everyday and Mark did just that. He excelled at the plate getting the needed hit or that real long ball over the fence.

After the Air Force he went home to Montgomery County and never missed a trip to the plate. He played this game of softball for years up into the 80's. A player with natural talent, if it was the catcher, third base or in the outfield he always was the 3rd batter in the line up. Mark played for Read Plastics and Rockville Crushed Stone in the Montgomery County League wearing #12 on his jersey. Due to his talent with his long home runs he was the fans favorite. These fans were the ones who would say "#12 on your score card but #1 in your heart". This is part of the story of the KENSINGTON CANNON.

Synepuxent squadron #166 Sons of American Legion

Commander Yost would like to start off by congratulating the Post # 166 for having a successful dinner on the 12th of September. Also to thank the SAL members that helped to make this a success. This is the great part of being involved with each unit of the Legion Family.

The Sons are going to have their Bull Roast on November the 21st. Tickets are available at the Post and from your fellow SAL members. Please Call either Bill Yost(410 632 0844) or Richard Pennington (301 481 0078) for your tickets and to volunteer to help at the Roast. We will need to pull together to get this first attempt to the success to match the Post's Dinner.

Another three months and summer has melted into the past. We have lost two Sons of

American Legion during this time. Patrick (Boomer) Tracey and Glenn LeRoy Simms have passed during the month of August.. We would like to convey our sincere sympathy and our Prayers to the Family members and Friends of these SONS.

Don't Forget our meeting is on the third Monday at 7:00 PM. At the Legion on 24th street in Ocean City. Come one Come All We are going to do a taste test on some of the food for our Roast.

Summer's over, we really like to see all of our members that stay so busy during the Summer.

Till Next Time

For God and Country,
Richard Pennington
Adjutant, SAL Squadron 166



3rd ANNUAL APPLE/PUMPKIN FESTIVAL

NOVEMBER 14TH

Nov 14th will be the day of the 3rd annual Apple/Pumpkin Festival for the benefit of the Al Harmon Memorial Scholarship Fund . The time for this year festival will be 11:00AM til 3:00PM. The past two annual festivals have raised over \$9,000.00 for the scholarship fund. As before, the volunteers of our Legion Family will be the key players that will make this 2009 festival top the charts.

Rosie Garlitz will again chair for 2009 and her steering committee will be as follows: Paul & Chris Hawkins, Joe & Eileen Salafia, Joy Faulkner and

Dolores Price. The first committee meeting was Sept. 22nd and they are now signing up volunteers for the different positions for the event.

At the festival there will be tables set up to include the following: Christmas items, apple/pumpkin motif, gift tables, Bath & Body Works items, flea market, and other related items. Food will be available to include: oyster fritters, oyster puffs, crab soup, chili, dogs, sandwiches, apple dumplings and desserts. Other activities will be raffles, auctions and the "BigWheel" will be spinning.



The 2009 Apple/Pumpkin Committee, left to right is Joe Salafia, Eileen Salafia, Paul Hawkins, Chris Hawkins, Rosie Garlitz and Dolores Price. Not pictured is Joy Faulkner.



Commander Bill Wolf receives from SAL Squadron Commander Billy Yost a Wii Game donated by the SAL for use by all Legion Family members. It is available in the Lounge area and has a number of games such as Bowling, Golf, Tennis and Baseball. These games can be played by more than one person and we are looking forward to a Wii Bowling League this Fall and Winter.

