



Synepuxent Observer Spring 2008

Commander's Message

The Legion year has three months to go and we have to keep the pace going. In fact we might want to pick it up a little bit to hit the OC summer season at full speed.

The Post has had many outstanding events this year working with the Auxiliary Unit, the Sons of the American Legion and our new Chapter of the American Legion Riders. The Legion Family working together has had a great impact on the Post and it will get much better and greater.

Rosie and I have attended several programs that our Honor/Color Guard participated in. We were totally impressed with the elite status that this Guard has set as their standard. There are many programs that they will be doing in the near future. You have to see them perform and then you can say "been there".

As always Rosie gets my thanks again for her dedicated work to our Post, members and veterans. The total packages that have been sent to our members in uniform reached 39.

Our membership is at the three star level and we will need 192 to make four star. I need one new member from each of you that would be nice.

A salute has to go to Warren Disbrow for stepping up and

assuming the Chaplain's duties this year. He is a very active member working bingo and active with our Honor/Color Guard. Then we have Glen Reely who has not missed a meeting filling in at the Sgt-at-Arms position. Glen and Jean have been volunteers at most of our Post functions.

The Boardwalk Raffle is a month away and we have some new faces who are picking it and running. Paul and Chris Hawkins, Bob and Joy Faulkner and Rosie Garlitz have it under control. Thanks to Jim Mills, Bo Spicer and Nancy Rummel for their input and pointing them in the right direction.

We need to do what we can for our veterans and the American Legion Family. We are part of them and they are part of us, yep their family. Congratulations to Dr. Charles Rummel for being selected the Legionnaire of the Year for Post #166. He is a true dedicated member of our Family.

For God and Country

Sarge Garlitz

Commander

Things to Look Forward to:

Every Friday until June, Lunch at the Post 11:00 AM till 3:00 PM and then from 3:00 PM till 6:00 PM steamed shrimp specials.

April 12th, Post Volunteer Dinner, buy a ticket at the bar, come on out.

Starting May 14th, it's Crabs at the Post every Wednesday 4:00 to 7:00 PM, order them by 2:00 Pm on Tuesdays.

Starting June 2nd it's lunch at the Post Monday thru Friday 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM. A light fare menu will be served.

Keep on the lookout for dinners on Saturday, the last one was Corned beef and cabbage for St. Patrick's Day and boy was it ever good!



FIRST SGTS BRIEFING

Wow, Spring is here and Winter is now behind us, in just another two months we will have elections for Officers for 2008-09. The time seems to speed by, it was only yesterday that I raised my hand and said I would do the job of Adjutant to the best of my ability. I just didn't realize how the job would stretch my ability, but it was worth it. I hope some of you will try out for some of the positions available and stretch your abilities.

Not only are there positions as officers, but also our committees need to be filled so they can function as they are supposed to. Americanism, Youth Programs such as Boys State, Boy Scouts, Oratorical

Contests, Jr. Shooting Sports (the NJROTC cadets who we support are tops in the country) and National Security are all committees that need your help and support. Some of these important programs have been left by the "wayside" because of a "lack of interest" on the part of our membership. The few Post Officers are stretched pretty thin already, so it is up to the membership to "Pick up the Ball" and run with it. Come on guys, you don't have to put that many hours into it and since most of you are retired and sitting on your butts most of the time, get up and get involved!

I must say that in the past few years and

especially this year, the Post has come alive. Thanks to our Steward Ken Gray and the friendly bartenders in our lounge, we are known as the friendliest place in town. Of course it doesn't hurt to have a forward looking Commander like "Sarge" Garlitz to ramrod the "outfit". There have been many improvements done to the Post and more are to come, so stop by often to see what is going on. Get involved in the "Action", support the Post and the American Legion. Remember if you are not part of the Solution, then you are part of the "Problem", be a problem solver.

Bill Wolf, Adjutant

American Legion Riders

On March 1, 2008 the Legion Riders and the Sons of the American Legion team up and put on our first annual Bull and Oyster Roast at Post 166. It was a huge success with over 250 people attending. The menu consisted of roast beef, oyster stew, raw oysters, hot dogs, beef stew (which was supplied by Bull on the Beach, and we thank them), bake beans etc. The money raised by the event will be split between the ALR and the SAL, then donated to charity. All members of the ALR and SAL who made the event possible are to be commended. Next years' event will be even better.

On March 5, 2008 at the Legion Riders regular meeting elections of officers for 2008 were held and the results are: Director John Granite, Assistant Director Bo Spicer, Secretary Kitty Leggett, Treasurer Joe Salafia, Sgt. at Arms/Run Coordinator Tony Gough, Membership Chairman Dennis Smar.

The Legion Riders will be participating in the 28th Annual St. Patrick's day parade. They will be right behind the

American Legion Post 166 color guard.
Bo Spicer, for the American Legion Riders

The American Legion Riders are a program of the American Legion Department of Maryland and are sponsored by Post 166, Ocean City. The group strives

to maintain the image of The American Legion, at all times upholding the American Legion name and emblem, which symbolizes the integrity and principles of the American Legion



Bull Roast Planning Committee Representing the SAL, Legion Riders and the Post.



**Left to Right, Sitting: Winnie Langer, Paul Berman, Speedy Tracey & Pat Tracey
Standing: Dennis Smar, Bo Spicer, Tony Gough, Jimmy Kirkland, John Granite, Berry Derr, Chuck Pameron and "Sarge" Garlitz, Post Commander**

LEGIONNAIRE OF THE YEAR

The Legionnaire of the year selection committee met during the first months of the 2007-2008 Legion Year to review the names of candidates for the Post 166 Legionnaire of the Year award. They had several worthy candidates to be considered and the decision was difficult and complicated. The candidates are judged on the time, service and leadership that they provide to the American Legion during the year. The Committee members include the three previous winners of the LEGIONNAIRE OF THE YEAR AWARD. – Jim Mills, Frank Hoover and Elmer Muth.



Following a detailed assessment and evaluation they have recommended Dr. Charles Rummel as this year's recipient for this high honor. As most realize, Charles Rummel wears many hats and possesses many talents. Whenever a volunteer is needed, the American Legion can always count on Dr. Charles Rummel.

He devotes most of his free time to the programs and projects endorsed and supported by the American Legion. He recently returned from three full days at the Veterans Home getting presents ready to give to veterans for Christmas. On one of the Fall Weekends Charlie could be found in the American Legion kitchen preparing and selling steamed shrimp, and he sold 2 full boxes.

Dr. Rummel is also one of the best sales persons in Post 166. In recruiting new members, few exceed the numbers of veterans he recruits for the post. He also is the chief salesperson for Epilepsy Lapel pins, which he is currently selling to support the Epilepsy Foundation. Charlie does this every year for our Post. You can always find Charlie selling 50/50 tickets at American Le-

gion special programs.

Legionnaire Rummel, a Paid Up For Life American Legion, worked long hours in support of the Boardwalk Bike raffle. He has served as Post Commander for three terms and has served in other offices including Post 166 Chaplain. He currently serves on the 2007-2008 Post 166 Executive Committee.

He also serves as a member of the Post 166 Color Guard and participates on a regular basis in all the functions and activities of the Color Guard. He is currently serving as the designated Color Guard Bugler and does an excellent job. Charlie is dependable, reliable, and dedicated.

For many years, Dr. Rummel has represented Post 166 by serving as the Boy Scout Chairman. He also serves on the SESD and Department Boy Scout Committee. His interest in promoting Boy Scouts has been significant and his studies resulted in his earning a doctor's degree in Scouting.

Charles Rummel is a World War II Coast Guard Veteran who has received a number of awards for his service. He is also manager of the "Instant Bingo." Program where he serves 50 Thursday's each year.

Dr. Rummel is also very active in the South Eastern Shore District of the American Legion where he serves as the Sgt. At Arms. Recently he has been elected to serve on the Department of Maryland Executive Committee. He is committed to the continued success of the American Legion and his volunteer service is evidence of this strong commitment. We are very fortunate to have Charles Rummel as a member of Synepuxent Post 166. We extend our congratulations to him on achieving the High Honor in being recognized as the Synepuxent Post 166 LEGIONNAIRE OF THE YEAR.

SAL UPDATE

Membership in the SAL #166 Squadron is increasing. The group had a huge part in the Bull and Oyster Roast held on March 1st. Vice Commander Todd Howard has been leading the squadron in the absence of the Commander this entire Legion year. Barry Derr the Sgt-at-Arms and Paul Miller the Historian have been dedicated to their office.

The meetings are held on the 3rd Monday at 1900hrs with a social hour starting at 1800hrs. At the next meeting April 21st the squadron will hold its election of officers. With all of the new members that have joined I feel that this squadron will be very active. They now know the basics and by stick-

ing by the basics they will move forward. So SAL members mark your calendars for April 21st and without a doubt I will see you at the Post.

This past legion year I assumed the role as the Advisor with the purpose of getting our SAL, a basic oriented group. It appears that they are on the right track and their 2008-09 will be a banner year at the Post and the South Eastern Shore District.

Sarge Garlitz, Commander Post #166



OUTSTANDING TET 40 PROGRAMS

On January 31st at 1000hrs the Worcester County Veterans Memorial was the site of recognizing the 40th Anniversary of the TET OFFENSIVE. The program being the only TET 40 in the country was presented by Worcester County Commander Sarge Garlitz who explained the importance of recognizing this day. Those who fought in Vietnam were turned away by the media and most of our citizens who have not been in the military. There were many bad moments that took place in Nam and the moments were bad for our veterans when they came back to their country. This day has been long over due for this recognition. Dennis Bowers address the group on his feelings of this event.



Post #166 members Leroy Hohman and Dennis Bowers place the TET 40 WREATH at the Memorial. Commander Garlitz offered the Security Forces prayer and all in attendance held hands and sang God Bless America.

Saturday February 2nd Synepuxent Post #166 Commander Sarge Garlitz had a program at the Post to honor those who served during the TET OFFENSIVE. First Vice Commander Gail Murdock representing the Department of Maryland, Commander Curtis Seltzer of Southern Maryland Post #221, Sharyn O'Hare and Ro Bridgman of the Worcester County Veterans Memorial attended this emotional event.

Sharyn O'Hare and Ro Bridgman presented Post #166 member and a WWII POW Joe Sangermano, a POW/MIA flag that had flown over the Memorial. Post #166 Legion members Bob Bates, Dennis Bowers, Ray Updike and Nelson Kelly who participated in the TET shared some moving and emotional comments with the group. The program ended with Ray Updike's presentation of his collection of the TET maps and units. TET 41 will be held on January 31st, 2009.

POST EVERLASTING 2007-08

RICHARD D. BACKORA,
EDMOUND L. BOUTON JR
HARRY M. COVER PC
HAROLD G. HERMAN
FRANK HOLLOWAY
JAMES P. HOVANEC
ELLSWORTH F. MASON
JOSEPH L. McNAULTY JR
HERBERT B. MIRACLE
STANTON RICHARDSON
HARRY W. SHENTON JR
CHESTER T. YATES

LAWRENCE BOTOREK
FRANK CLARK
LEE E. GRAY
JOHN T. HIMES
JAMES P. HOPTON
ROBERT S. MAGAN
RAY P. McLAUGHLIN
ROBERT J. MELCHER
HAROLD J. RAYNE
RONALD H. RIPPLE
RONALD E. WEINREICH
ROBERT E. YOUNG

Let us pause upon occasion and remember our comrades who have gone before and may we say, "May their Souls Rest in Peace".

D-Day JUNE 6, 1944

Any member of Synepuxent Post #166 American Legion who served during this invasion will be treated to the Lunch Special on June 6, 2008. The lunch will be served from 1200hrs-1300hrs. Call the Post to sign up for the lunch and on the 6th show your 2008 card and enjoy your lunch. We thank you for serving.

NOMINATIONS, ELECTION AND INSTALLATION FOR 2008-09

In April of this year the Nominating Committee of Jim Mills and Steve Barbour will be accepting applications for interested members to run for an elected office/ Exec Committee. On the application will be the duties of the office that is being sought and an acknowledgement of the person seeking the office that the duties are understood..

The annual election of Synepuxent Post #166 will be held on Monday May 26, 2008. The polls will be open from 1300hrs til 1900hrs. All members wishing to vote must present their Post#166 2008 membership card. John Sauer is the Chairman of the Election process for this 2008 election.

The Installation for the new officers will be on Sunday July 20, 2008 at the summer meeting and picnic. This will take place at the Post and the information will be in the July newsletter.

WESTSIDE REUNION

There will be a reunion of Pat and Bunky's Westside Lounge at the Post on April 5th. The reunion will be 1300hrs til 1700hrs. Many of our members remember this local West Side Landmark. Crabs were the best in town and it will always be noted for the famous "Bunky Burgers". Pat and Bunky will be in attendance and we hope many of our members who want to share a memory will bring any pictures they have.

Salute the Flag Policy

US Senator Jim Inhofe praised the passage by unanimous consent of his bill (S1877) clarifying U.S. law to allow veterans and servicemen not in uniform to salute The flag. Current law (US Code Title 4, Chapter 1) states that veterans and servicemen not in uniform should place their hand over their heart without clarifying whether they can or should salute the flag.

‘The salute is a form of honor and respect. representing pride in one’s military service’, Senator Inhofe said. ‘Veterans and service members continue representing the military services even when not in uniform. ‘Unfortunately, current U.S. law leaves confusion as to whether veterans and service members out of uniform can or should salute the flag. My legislation will clarify this regulation. allowing veterans and servicemen alike to salute the flag, whether they are in uniform or not. ‘I look forward to seeing those who have served saluting proudly at baseball games, parades, and formal events. I believe this is an appropriate way to honor and recognize the 25 million veterans in the United States who have served in the military and remain its role models to others citizens. Those who are currently serving or have served in the military have earned this right, and their recognition will be an inspiration to others.’

This Bill was passed July 25, 2007 Let your veteran friends know about the Passage of this Bill.

CRABS COMING TO THE POST



Wednesday will be Crab Day at the Post through out the season. Starting on Wednesday May 14th from 1600 till 1900 preordered crabs will be served. The way this will go down is the crabs shall be ordered before Tuesday at 1400hrs. Call the Post at 410-289-3166 when ordering your crabs for CRAB DAY. The price per dozen will be according to market price at that time.

ARMED FORCES DAY AT NORTHSIDE PARK

Post #166's Chaplain Warren "Diz" Disbrow is the Chairman of raising of the service flags on May 17th at Northside Park. The program is an annual Armed Forces Day event at the park. This will be the start of the season for the flags flown 24/7 at the Park. The program will start at 1000hrs and everyone is invited to attend.

Purple Heart Stamp

The Purple Heart - Awarded for wounds or death as a result of an act of any opposing armed force, as a result of an international terrorist attack or as a result of military operations while serving as part of a peace keeping force.



The oldest of our military awards, the predecessor for the Purple Heart was George Washington’s ‘Badge of Military Merit’ (1782). Washington’s award was resurrected in 1932 as the Purple Heart and is awarded to any person wounded in action while serving in any of our Armed Forces. It is also presented posthumously to the next of kin of personnel killed in action or who die of wounds sustained in action.

I believe all of us who have served in the Armed Forces of the United States of America are quite familiar with the Purple Heart Medal.



What many of us Veterans are not aware is that the U.S. Post Office has a ‘Purple Heart’ first class stamp. It is very distinctive and forces one to really look at what it is. There are so many varieties of stamps displayed in Post Offices it’s sometimes overwhelming.

My point is, all of us Veterans should request the Purple Heart Stamp and use it on all our mailings, including American Legion Posts, V.F.W. Posts, etc. It is a visual reminder of who fought and protected our Nation and their sacrifices. Their valor and efforts have resulted in our current American Way of Life that we enjoy today. Many citizens have little if any association with military veterans or their families and of the sacrifices loved ones have made in time of conflicts. This Purple Heart Stamp will attract all and awaken and remind them of the hard fought ‘world wars’ the United States entered to save Europe and others in the world.

We need ‘Patriotism’ in our lives today more than ever as terrorists try to do away with us. I respectfully request all our veterans use this wonderful stamp and visually, steadily promote awareness of those who fought and made this country so GREAT!

Eric Nilsson, Historian A.L. Post 166

MEMORIAL DAY PROGRAM

Synepuxent Post #166 will hold its 2008 Memorial Day Program on Thursday May 30th at 11:00hrs. This is the original Memorial Day and many members felt that it should be honored on that day.

The program will include Post #166 Honor Guard, Auxiliary Unit#166, Sons of the American Legion Squadron #166 and the American Legion Riders Chapter #166.

Stephen Decatur NJROTC

Stephen Decatur NJROTC recently returned from the Navy Eastern Regional Air Rifle Championship held at the Army Marksmanship Unit in Ft. Benning, GA. For the third year in a row, Stephen Decatur NJROTC has qualified to attend this national championship. This year, the school was represented by seniors Matt Bertino and John Valentine, junior Jake Terlizzi and sophomore Stephanie Giles.



This past summer, Stephen Decatur NJROTC earned the right to compete in USA Shooting Jr. Olympic champion-

ship at Bowling Green, KY and placed 5th in the team competition with Matt Bertino placing 5th individually. In the US Army Air Rifle Championship, held at Ft Benning in Aug, Matt Bertino won the bronze medal, placing 3rd in the country.

The journey to Ft. Benning started last fall when over 6000 JROTC competitors participated in their respective service Air Rifle postal competitions. 660 shooters qualified and entered the East and West JROTC Regional Air Rifle Championships. "Just by being here, you represent the top 11 percent of JROTC shooters in the country!" With those remarks, Gary Anderson, director of the Civilian Marksmanship Program and a two time Olympic Gold medalist in rifle, opened the awards ceremony for the Eastern Regional Championships. The competition gets better each year. Stephen Decatur shooters shot well and placed 7th in the team event. Matt Bertino was 13th and Jake Terlizzi placed 23nd in the individual competition. The results were impressive, given the high level of competition.

The Navy East Regional Championships capped the end of a highly successful year for the NJROTC air rifle team.

They won the DELMAR air rifle league for the 3rd year in a row with an impressive 14-0 record. They also won the Worcester county JROTC championship for the 3rd year in a row too.



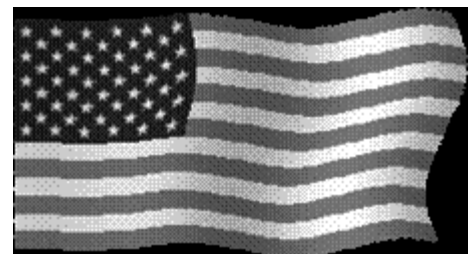
On Saturday March 8th, Stephen Decatur hosted 15 teams from four states in our 2nd air rifle match of the school year. Decatur tied for 1st place, losing to Wall HS, NJ in a tie breaker by 3 points! Matt Bertino again shot well, placing 2nd with Jake Terlizzi a close 3rd.



BOARDWALK RAFFLE

The Post will have the boardwalk again this year and will be raffling off a 2008 Harley Davidson Road King Classic Crimson Sunglo and Candy Red Sunglo in Color Trailer/Cover included and will be raffled off at the Sunfest Sept 21, 2008. Tickets are \$1.00 each or a book of 8 for \$5.00 This donation is not tax deductible

It would be a great gesture if every member would make a donation for two books and we will get back at you with your ticket numbers.



'If we ever forget that we're one nation under God, then we will be a nation gone under.'
- Ronald Reagan

TRANSPORTATION PROBLEM ON THE ISLAND

It has been brought to my attention that transportation for medical services has a huge problem in Ocean City. If a senior needs a ride to the medical complexes in Berlin it is a half a day road trip and the changing of buses several times. If a person lives in West Ocean City door to door transportation is available to the medical buildings .

What I need to know from our members who have a problem with transportation for medical appointments etc.

If you need more information call Robert Melvin at

410-289-0090. If you have transportation problem getting to medical services call Post#166's Service Officer Jim McGrath at 4410-289-4316 so we can get a head count on the numbers of our members who will need assistance.

If you want to talk to me call me on my cell phone 443-735-1942 or email commander166@msn.com

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER

The Appreciation Dinner for the volunteers of Post #166 will be held on Saturday April 12th. A social hour will start at 1600hrs and the dinner will be at 1700hrs. Following the dinner a short program will be at 1800hrs.

This past year we have had several new volunteers who have joined our ranks. Believe me, they are appreciated. By now the volunteers have been contacted and a head count should already be a done deal. If you have not been counted please get back at me at 443-735-1942 or email me at commander166@msn.com

If any member of the American Legion Family wants to join the volunteers for dinner the cost will be \$15.00 per ticket. These tickets will have to be bought by end of business April 5th.

American Legion—Synepuxent Post 166 Quarterly Calendar—Spring 2008

April

4th - Legion Riders Meeting, 6:00 PM
7th - Executive Committee 7:00 PM
12th - Post Volunteer Dinner, 4:00 PM until 7:00 PM.
13th - SESD Dinner, 12:00 PM.
14th - Legion Membership Business Meeting, 7:00 PM
15th - Auxiliary Meeting, 11:30 AM
21st - S.A.L. Meeting, 6:00 PM
28th - **Legion** Membership Meeting, 7:00 PM

Every Thursday—Bingo at the Post, starts 7:00 PM doors open at 6:00 PM

May

5th - Executive Committee 7:00 PM
6th - Legion Riders Meeting 6:00 PM
11th - Mother's Day
12th - Legion Membership Business Meeting 7:00 PM - last night to run for office.
14th, 21st, & 28th - Wednesdays, Crabs at the Post 4:00 PM until 7:00 PM; order on Tuesday before 2:00 PM.
19th - S.A.L. Meeting, 6:00 PM
20th - Auxiliary Meeting, 11:30 AM
26th - Legion Membership Meeting, Election night, 7:00 PM. Stop by the Post and vote starting at 1:00 PM.
Every Thursday—Bingo at the Post, starts 7:00 PM doors open at 6:00 PM

June

2nd - Executive Committee 7:00 PM
9th - Legion Membership Meeting 7:00 PM
4th, 11th, 18th & 25th - Wednesdays, Crabs at the Post 4:00 PM until 7:00 PM; order on Tuesday before 2:00 PM.
14th - Flag Day
15th - Father's Day
Starting on June 2nd the Post will have a Mon-Fri lunch starting at 1100hrs till 1400hrs. A light fare menu and specials will be available.

Every Thursday—Bingo at the Post, starts 7:00 PM doors open at 6:00

PLEASE NOTE THAT WE WILL BE HAVING LEGION MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER MONTHS ON THE 2ND MONDAY OF THE MONTH AT 7:00 PM, THESE WILL BE PRIMARILY BUSINESS MEETINGS. SO COME OUT AND SUPPORT THE POST.

Post Service Officer

VA has begun operating a national suicide prevention hot line for Veterans. The toll-free hot line number - 1-800-273-TALK(8255) - is staffed by mental health professionals 24-hours a day, seven days a week. "Veterans need to know these VA professionals are literally a phone call away," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Jim Nicholson. "All service members who experience the stresses of combat can have wounds on their minds as well as on their bodies. Veterans should see mental health services as another benefit they have earned." Additional information on the suicide hotline is available at <http://www.va.gov>.

*Semper Fi,
Jim McGrath, 410-289-4316*

Check out the Veteran's Stories on the Worcester County Veterans Memorial Web Site at; <http://www.opvets.com>. You may recognize some of the Veterans as your own comrades at Synepuxent Post 166, American Legion. The Veterans Memorial is looking for more stories to showcase. If you have a story you would like known, please contact Sharyn O'Hare at: US Mail at Worcester County Veterans Memorial, P.O. Box 1576, Ocean Pines, MD 21811 or email her at Sharyn@sohare.com or call 410.603.4777

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
American Legion-Dept of Maryland..... 410-752-3822

From the Chaplain

If anytime you need help, with illness or death: Please call whether with flowers or fruit basket. In need of a prayer or hand holding or arm. Please call 443-783-3838.

Warren Disbrow, Chaplain

Visit the Legion Website

For current information about Post 166,
click on:

<http://www.ALPost166.org>
Email: alpost166@verizon.net

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Bill Price—Commander



Sarge Garlitz—Commander



Margret Hudson—President