



Synepuxent Observer Spring 2009

Commander's Comments

The norm of starting a letter is with thanks and attaboys. I have to give credit where it is due. The other month I presented the 2008-2009 half way Humper Awards. So you are not confused this is from an old military saying such as, "we sure humped today to get our duties done, to at least meet the standards". I named a few of our outstanding members who excelled in certain areas. Bill Wolf for being Editor of the news letter, Nate Pearson for his leadership with the Honor/Color Guard program., Fred Welch for making himself available for volunteer work., Charlie Rummel for his dedication recruiting new members, and Paul Hawkins for being an all around volunteer. I salute these outstanding members of our Post.

On March 14th we were at the beautiful Post #11 in Frederick, Md. attending the National Commander's Banquet. This is the first time we have attended this event and it was great. Seeing Commander Rehbein again and introducing Rosie to him made this road trip a very special event. Commander Rehbein presented



From left,
National
Commander
Rehbein,
Sarge and
Rosie

Rosie with an Iowa State pin for her dedication to the American Legion Family.

The next road trip will be in early April. We have been invited to the dedication of the National Gulf War Memorial in Cumberland, Md. This Memorial has been in the making for several years and has over 4000 name of those we have lost. Post #166 has been a supporter of this Memorial since it was an idea.

I have received word that House Bill 65(slots for non profit Clubs) has passed in the House of Delegates and sent to the Senate. This is a very important piece of Legislation for the Legions in Worcester County. Delegates Norman Conway and Jim Mathias for the past two years have given this Bill primetime attention to get it enacted into the present law. The Veterans of Worcester County salute both of you for your concerns for our Veterans and the community..

You volunteers are still the special ones who keep Post #166 moving along in the right direction. This year the Volunteer and Awards Dinner will be held on June 6th and an invitation will be sent to you. We know who the volunteers are and want this to be your special night..

Elections will be in May and if you know a member who you feel will be an asset to the Legion Family, encourage him to run for an office. If a current Officer is doing a good job, encourage him to run again for the next year. It takes a team to make things work. Your input is very important. Make that call.

March was the American Legions 90th Anniversary and many Post had programs to this affect. Rosie and I attended Post #91 in Cambridge, Post #231 in Berlin and of course Post #166. This great organization was founded on March 15-19, 1919 on the four pillars. Ninety years later the pillars are still the base of our strength. If we use the pillars as our guide we can take care of our business in a outstanding Legion way.

You can contact me for any reason, anytime on my cell 443-735-1942 or commander166@msn.com

DO NOT CALL THE POST AND LEAVE A MESSAGE. Call me.

For God and Country,
Sarge



March 8th & 9th was the 35th Ocean City Trade Show at the Convention Center. Post #166 had a booth at the show for two days doing promoting the Pillars of the American Legion. In the Picture (from the left) is Chris Hawkins, Rosie Garlitz, Bonnie Hansen, Ed Hansen and John Granite. Not shown who also participated were the following: Paul Miller (SAL), Jim Mills, Charles Rummel, Nate Pearson, Bill Wolf, Phil Lassiter, Bo Spicer, Paul Hawkins, Elmer Muth, Earl Hewitt and Ellie. This was a first and it went over as a successful event.

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

by John Granite

The American Legion Riders Group of Post 166 began in September of 2007 with five members. Today there are thirty-two members who are active in Legion Rider activities as well as many other Post 166 functions. Some of the highlights of the past year were the participation in the St Patrick's Day Parade with the America Legion Color Guard, the design of our Rider



Saint Patrick's Day 2008, waiting for the Parade to begin

logo by Rider member Carl Kocman, the design of our membership card by Rider member Tony Gough, the presentation of a \$500 donation to the Veterans Hospital during the Rolling Thunder weekend by Rider members Kitty and Roger Leggett, the presentation of a \$300 gift certificate to a Veteran family spending Christmas at the Children's House by the Sea, the presentation of a Rider vest to SSG. Joel Watts serving in Iraq, the co-sponsoring of the Bull and Oyster Roast fund raiser with the Sons of the American Legion.

If you are interested in joining the Riders of Post 166, you can download the application and bring it with you to the next Rider meeting. Meetings are held on the last Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM at the Post. You do not have to be a member of Post 166 to join. To be eligible you must be, a current member of the American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, or the Sons of the American Legion. You must also be the



Post 166 Riders packing the vest destined for SSG Joel Watts in Iraq.

legally registered owner of a motorcycle of at least 350cc engine displacement and posses a valid driver's license in your state of residence. You are also eligible for membership if you are the legal spouse of an ALR member in good standing within the Chapter of application.

For more information contact John Granite by e-mail at poppygra3@msn.com or by telephone at 410-213-7201.



Saint Patrick's Day 2009 the Post 166 Riders pause for a photograph before the Parade. Front row left to right....Bud Breuer, Chuck Pemberton, Dennis Smar, Jimmy Kirkland, John Granite Back row left to right...Tom Henman Nick Giampietro, Matt Rados, Joe Salafia, Matt Impink, Buster Slaton, Gary Hearl

COLOR GUARD

BY Nate Pearson

The American Legion Color Guard has increased its membership to 16 with the inclusion of Glen Reely and Sarge Garlitz . We appreciate and commend these two Legionnaires for their dedication in becoming members of the Synepuxent Post 166 Color Guard.

Among recent activities, the Color Guard was invited to participate in the District Moose Convention held at the Clarion on February 13, 2009. In addition to the presentation of "COLORS," Dr. Charles Rummel played TAPS ; Sarge Garlitz and Elmer Muth folded the U.S. Flag while Earl Hewitt and Nate Pearson provided the narration which explains and provides the meaning for each of the 13 folds of the U.S. Flag. Jim Hudson, John Sauer, Bud Breidenstein and Eric Nilsson executed the "Presentation of Colors."

Members of the MOOSE were most appreciative and impressed by the Color Guard's performance. And called the unit back into the main hall and provided a standing ovation . In addition, they gave each member present a neck tie that displayed the American Flag. They also gave the Color Guard five cases of Candy Bars which were sold as a fund raiser for the Color Guard supply needs. The months of May and June will be busy and active periods for the American Legion Color Guard . The below listed activities will include the participation of the American Legion Color Guard. As you can see, the Post 166 Color Guard has a busy schedule of volunteer work in support of our American Legion Post.



Color Guard waiting their turn to march in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Ocean City, March 14, 2009.

March 28, 2009.....Presentation of "COLORS" for the 90th Anniversary
Of the American Legion – Dinner Party.

May 7,8,9.& 10..... Volunteer at the Spring Fest American legion BEER Truck.

May 16, 2009..... Armed Forces Day Program.

May 23, 2009..... Memorial Day Program at Mystic Harbor Community.

May 25, 2009..... Worcester County veterans Memorial . Memorial day program. 10:00 am
Presentation of Colors"
Three Volley Salute by the Rifle Team.

May 30 , 2009..... RAVEN'S ROOST Parade 10:00 am ..19th street

May 30, 2009..... American Legion - Post 166 Memorial Day Program.

June 14, 2009 FLAG DAY CEREMONY

Worcester County Veterans memorial..10:00 am

Post 166 to provide Color Guard and present Colors.

In addition to the above programs and ceremonies , the Color Guard also provides Services for the families of deceased veterans at Churches and Funeral Homes.

THE FOLDING OF THE US FLAG BY NATE PEARSON

At the burial of a veteran , generally a military unit or a detail from the American Legion or other authorized military organization , executes the traditional folding of the American Flag and presents this national symbol to the next of kin. Our American Legion Color Guard has been called upon many times to perform this ceremony and tribute at the burial of local Veterans. The Color Guard detail has also demonstrated this traditional procedure before various groups and conventions.

Many have witnessed this Flag folding but were unaware of the meaning of each of the 13 folds . Outlined below is the meaning for each of the 13 folds of the U.S. Flag.

The first fold is a **SYMBOL OF LIFE**.

The second fold is a symbol of our belief **IN ETERNAL LIFE**.

The third fold is made in **honor and remembrance** of the veterans departing our ranks , who gave a portion of their lives for the defense of our country to attain peace throughout the world.

The fourth fold **represents our weaker nature**, for as American citizens trusting in God , it is to Him we turn in times of peace as well as in times of war for His divine guidance.

The fifth fold is a **tribute to our country**, for in the words of Stephen Decatur, "Our Country , in dealing with other countries , may she always be right, but it is still our country , right or wrong."

The sixth fold is for **where our hearts lie**. It is with our heart that we pledge Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America , and to the Republic for which it stands – One nation under God, indivisible with liberty and justice for all.

The seventh fold is a **tribute to our Armed Forces**, for it is through the armed Forces that we protect our country and our flag against all her enemies, foreign and Domestic , wherever they may be.

The eighth fold is a **tribute to the one who entered into the valley of the shadow of death** , that he /she might see the light of day.

The ninth fold is a **tribute to womanhood** and to mothers, for it has been through their love , sacrifice, and devotion that the character of the men and women who have made this country great has been molded.

The tenth fold is a **tribute to the fathers**, for they too have raised sons and daughters for the defense of our country.

The eleventh fold represents the **lower portion of the seal of King David & king Solomon**, and signifies the Jewish faith – the glory of the God of Abraham ,Isaac . & Jacob.

The twelfth fold represents **eternity** and signifies the Christian faith , the glory of God the Father , the Son , and the Holy Spirit.

The thirteenth fold is the final fold. The STARS are shown uppermost signifying our Nation's motto: **IN GOD WE TRUST**.

When the flag is completely folded and tucked, it takes the appearance of a military cocked hat, reminding us of the soldiers who served under General Washington and sailors and marines who served under Paul Jones. These soldiers and sailors established the brave & noble tradition of our Armed Forces.

MEMBERSHIP - One of the things an Adjutant must concern himself with is membership. Our total membership was 872 last year and by this time we should have received renewals from all of them. Unfortunately we are still shy by almost 40 members and only have a couple of months left to make our quota. We have had some go to Post Everlasting, but we also have acquired some new members. Still there are these 40 members who have not sent in their renewals. If you are one of these, please send your check of **\$25.00** to; **Synepuxent Post 166, P.O. Box 63, Ocean City, MD 21843** (please include you membership number off your old card). If you have already renewed your membership, how about signing up a new member for the Post? You can see that the new Government is already trying to put the "screws" to our returning Vets, the Legion needs more members so it will have the clout to put pressure on the Government to make sure our guys get a fair deal. Sign Someone up today! **Bill Wolf**

Joy Faulkner Honored



Joy Faulkner is a member of our Auxiliary and a dedicated volunteer with our Legion Family. Joy was a co-chair for our motorcycle

raffle, a member of the steering committee for the Apple/Pumpkin Festival and a bingo worker is active around the island. She received the Volunteer of the Year Award for the Ocean City Art League for 2008. We congratulate Joy on this honor and are thankful that she is a part of our Family.



1st Vice Commander Bo Spicer does a reading at Ron Jones' Post Everlasting Service at the Post while Color Guard Captain Nate Pearson look on. Our Color Guard does many funeral and memorial services during the year, plus representing the Post in the Parades held in Ocean City.

WORDS FROM THE SONS

It has been an enlightened experience this past three months attending the other Posts in the District. Billy Yost and I attended District meetings at Post #213 in Berlin and Post #91 in Cambridge. I attended the March meeting at Post #269 in Sharptown/Columbia. Talking to members of the other Squadrons at the meetings gave a lot of knowledge about the SAL programs that I never knew. It gave Billy and I a very good idea on what course to take to get Squadron #166 in line with other Squadrons.

It must be a time for more delights. It is of course a delight to see the attendance at our monthly meetings reach double figures. Those attending are contributing with input and excellent feedback on topics of discussion. The third Monday of the month are our scheduled meetings and we have enough room to seat all of our 140 members. This has made us a 4 star squadron, so let's set a course to get more of these members at our meetings during the next few months. ... I know many of our members are not available during the summer months due to their employment. This means we will have to work



with less to achieve what we have to support the Post. This will also give us time to schedule events for the second season in the Fall. On December 23rd we lost our Chaplain Winnie Langer. Our Sympathy was passed on to his widow Rita at the Memorial Service held in early January. Thanks to our Historian Paul Miller and Post Commander Sarge Garlitz who coordinated this service. Also in attendance was SAL member Charlie Mann.

We have some important issues coming before us in the every near future. The election of Officers will be in May and nominations must be on the table at our April meeting. Look over the duties and make a commitment so we can fill the slate. It should be our goal to make 2009 - 2010 SAL year a banner year.

The Detachment Convention will be in June and let's look this over so we can be represented. Last year Paul Miller was our Rep. and in his after action report he gave the message that this is a very important event. We need to find out how many people want to attend. The deadline to do this is May 15th. Please contact me with any questions. I believe we can have up to 6 representatives.

Don't forget, the 3rd Monday with a social hour at 6:00 PM and the meeting at 7:00 PM. Come on, give it a shot.

Richard Pennington, Adjutant

POST EVERLASTING - VETERANS FAIRWELL

Following the Civil War in the year , 1870 John Ellerton, who served during the war wrote the verse outlined below based on his experiences and his witness to the many war deaths. When the American Legion was established, the chaplains of the American Legion searched the literature seeking an appropriate verse to be used at the death of veterans. After reviewing many pieces of literature and verse , they finally selected and adopted Ellerton's Verse titled " Veterans Farewell" for use at the funerals for deceased veterans.

The Color Guard members of Post 166 use this verse when they conduct a funeral service for a deceased member of the American Legion or at a ceremony for any deceased veteran. Color Guard members Elmer Muth or Earl Hewitt are most frequently called upon to recite or read this verse at the American Legion Services.

The verse is very appropriate, meaningful, and significant at funerals. It reads as follows:

**"Now the laborer's task is over ;
Now the battle Day is past;
Now upon farther shore
Lands the Voyager at last.
Father In thy gracious keeping ,
Leaving now thy servant sleeping,
Earth to Earth and Dust to Dust.
Calm now the words we say .
Left behind , we wait in trust
For the Resurrection Day.
Father in thy gracious keeping ,
Leave we now thy servant sleeping."**

PREPARED BY Nate Pearson



1st Vice Commander Bo Spicer of Post #166 presents Certificates of Appreciation at the March 23rd meeting. To his right is a 166 SAL member Joe Theobald the Director of Ocean City's Emergency Management Team. On the left is a 166 AL member Buzzy Bayles the Coordinator for the Ocean City's Emergency Management Team. Both presented vital information regarding emergencies in Ocean City.



TET 41 Wreath Placed

On January 31, 2009 a program to recognize the 41st Anniversary of the January 31, 1968 TET Offensive of the Vietnam War was held at the Worcester County Veteran's Memorial at Ocean Pines. Ray Updike of Post #166 placed the wreath, also participating in the program were Rosie Garlitz of Unit #166 and Jim Mathais of the MD House of Delegates.

American Legion - Synepuxent Post 166

Quarterly Calendar - Spring 2009

April 2009

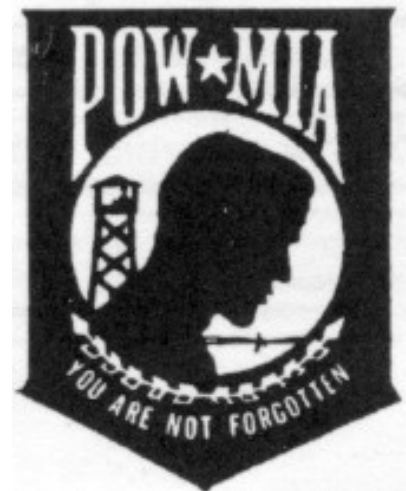
- 6th** - Executive Committee Meeting
1900 hrs.
- 11th** - Dinner and Dancing at the Post Starting at 1730 hrs. Fish Dinner and DJ Frank after. \$10.00 a person in advance \$11.00 at the Door
- 13th** - Membership meeting 19:00 hrs, come at 1800 hrs for social hour.
- 20th** - SAL membership meeting 19:00 hrs, come at 1800 hrs for social hour.
- 15th**- Auxiliary membership meeting 1130 hrs
- 19th** - SESD SAL Meeting 1230 hrs, SESD Legion meeting 1400 hrs Post #166
- 25th** - SESD Reception at Post #243 Hurlock, MD,
- 25th** - Dinner and Dancing at the Post Starting at 1730 hrs. Meatloaf Dinner and DJ Frank after. \$10.00 a person in advance \$11.00 at the Door
- 27th** - Membership meeting 1900 hrs with guest speaker. Social Hour 1800 hrs.
- 29th** - American Legion Riders membership meeting 1900 hrs.

May 2009

- 4th** - Executive Committee Meeting
1900 hrs.
- 9th** - Dinner and Dancing at the Post Starting at 1730 hrs. Pot Roast Dinner and DJ Frank after. \$10.00 a person in advance \$11.00 at the Door
- 11th** - Membership meeting 1900 hrs, come at 18:00 hrs for social hour.
- 17th** - Lounge starts Summer Schedule opens at 11:00 hrs.
- 18th** - SAL membership meeting 1900 hrs, come at 1800 hrs for social hour.
- 19th** - Auxiliary membership meeting 1130 AM
- 25th** - Election of Officers for 2009-2010 polls open 1300 hrs close 1900 hrs.
- 25th** - Starting Lite Lunch served at the Post Monday through Saturday 1100 hrs to 1500 hrs
- 25th** - Membership meeting 1900 hrs with guest speaker. Social Hour 1800 hrs.
- 27th** - American Legion Riders membership meeting 1900 hrs.
- 30th** - Dinner and Dancing at the Post by the American Legion Riders Starting at 1730 hrs. Polish Dinner and DJ Frank after. \$10.00 a person in advance \$11.00 at the Door

June 2009

- 1st** - Executive Committee Meeting
1900 hrs.
- 6th** - Volunteer Dinner, Dinner and Dancing for all you Volunteers
- 8th** - Membership meeting 1900 hrs, come at 1800 hrs for social hour.
- 18th** - SAL membership meeting 1900 hrs, come at 1800 hrs for social hour.
- 16th** - Auxiliary membership meeting 1130 AM
- 24th** - American Legion Riders membership meeting 1900 hrs.
- No Dinners June, July and August also only one meeting a month on the 2nd Monday. 2nd meeting night starts back up in September.**
- Crabby Wednesday in June, Every Wednesday Steamed Crabs 1700 hrs to 1900 hrs, order by 1400 hrs the day before (Tuesday).**



Every Thursday, Bingo at the Post 1900hrs, doors open at 1730 hrs.
Monday through Saturday Starting May 25 - 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 \$10.00. Crabby Wednesday starting in June (order on Tuesday eat on Wednesday)

LEGION PUTS TWO IN 2008-09 300 CLUB



Team Captain Paula Gulla of our Auxiliary lead Legion I with a 209 average into the playoffs for the second season in a row. A huge victory in the playoffs sends Legion I back to the Final Four. Last season Legion I made it to the Final Four with Murph

Bryant as its Captain. Her 300 game this season puts her into the 300 Club. Sons of the

American Legion member Steve Drocella leads Legion II in the Ocean City Shuffle Bowl League with a 222 average had two 300 games this season. Drocella a charter member of this league has been know in the past for his high averages and 300 games.

This was with the old Westside Lounge and the Villa Nova Bar. This is the first year for Legion II in the league and they made it to the playoffs.



Legion I & II Shuffle Bowl Teams make Playoffs

Post #166 has two teams in the Ocean Shuffle Bowl League. The regular season came to an end on March 11th and both of our teams made the play offs. All members of the teams are members of the Legion Family. Auxiliary member Paula Gulla is the Captain of Legion I and Sarge Garlitz is the Captain of Legion II. During the season when these two teams matched up, Legion I has the bragging rights with a 14-10 record over Legion II.



Legion I, Front row Marilyn Dempsy, Delores Price, Rose Felty, Alice Jones, Mel Jones. Rear row Capt Paula Gulla, Kate Gray, Ken Gray, Ed Price. Not shown Brain Rutter (the shirts are Blue)



Legion II, Seated, Mike Miller & Ed Showalter. Standing Front Row, Rudy Zerner, Richard Pennington, Joan Miller Bill George, Nancy Miller, Bill Wolf & Donna Miller. Rear row, Steve Drocella & Sarge Garlitz (the shirts are Red)



From left, Bob Faulkner (Army), Glen Reely (Navy), Sarge Garlitz (Air Force), Wallace Stevenson (Marines) and Gene Daigle (Coast Guard).

These 5 members of Post #166 were recognized by the Lower Shore Chapter of the American Red Cross for their military service.

From the Desk of Rosemarie Brac, Auxiliary President

I want to start off with a thank you to Shirley Sullivan for her signing up new members to our Unit. The following four new members were greeted in to the Legion Family: Rebecca Wolf, Glynis Rummel, Anna Eikenbeig, and Bernadine Sewell. Also a pat on the back to Pat Foringer for her keeping our membership records current.

During our February meeting we had a "hats on to Rosie Day" to recognize Rosie Garlitz. We presented her with a Certificate of Recognition for her inspiring dedication, creativity and hard work at Post 166.



is requesting that our members and a guest who attend the next meeting to wear a red, white and blue outfit. I want to thank her for the way she has the program organized and for her being a valuable asset to our Auxiliary.

While mentioning the next meeting I will appoint a Nominating Committee to set up the yearly election. Now is the time to make a commitment to support our veterans and give all we can to our community. I hope we have a full slate of officers so we can continue to move forward.

Early March Commander Garlitz made arrangements to have a booth at the Ocean City Trade Show. Bonnie Hansen our 2nd Vice President with Chris Hawkins and Rosie Garlitz worked the booth to promote the Unit 166's Auxiliary. It was a success and the public relations work they did let the community know who we are and what we do. Thanks to you three.

On Sunday April 19th the drawing of the winning ticket for our Spring Raffle. The prize is a BASKET OF SPRING DELIGHTS. The tickets are \$1.00 each or five for \$3.00. Please support this project and send us your check and we will enter you into the drawing. Unit 166 PO Box 3024 Ocean City, Md. 21843.

Keep our Chaplain Teddy Rozzano who had been ill the past several months in your prayers. It was wonderful seeing her at the meeting last month. We should also keep the Wilkins family in our prayers. Our member Betty Wilkins passed away this month and will be missed.

God Bless all of you,
Rosemarie Brac, President Unit 166



Certificate of Appreciation is presented to Rosie (center) while Auxiliary President Rosemarie Brac looks on.

Eileen Salafia who is Chairing our Americanism Program has really been touching all the bases this year. The program will be held at our April 21st meeting with the students who are participating. She

AUXILIARY SPRING RAFFLE

BASKET OF SPRING DELIGHTS DRAWING APRIL 19, 2009

MAIL CHECKS TO PO BOX 3024 OCEAN CITY ,MD 21843

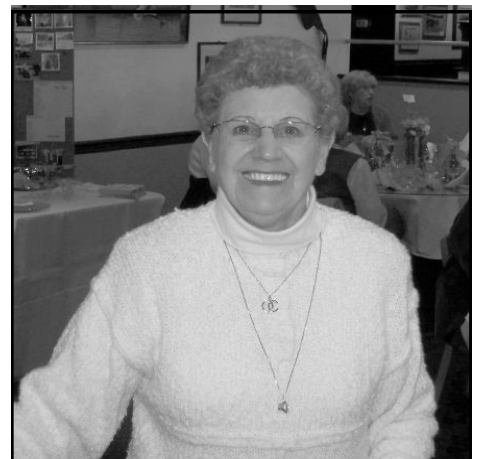
DONATIONS \$1.00 PER TICKET 5 TICKETS FOR \$3.00

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| CRANBERRY APPLE TEA | CAMEMBERT CHEESE SPREAD |
| CANDY CANE ROCCA CANDY | GODIVA DESSERT CHOCOLATES |
| CITTAGE LAND CHOCOLATES | GHIRARDELLI CHOCOLATES |
| OTIS AND BETTY'S SNACK MIX | MILTON'S ALL NATURAL SNACKS |
| CASHEW CRUNCH | EXTRA DARK MADAGAS |
| JACOBSEN'S BUTTER COOKIES | HAMILTON HOUSE PASTRY'S |

MARK GHIRARDELLI TWILIGHT DELIGHT CHOCOLATE

GIFT CARDS

STARBUCKS \$10.00 PHILLIPS SEAFOOD \$25.00 FISHTALES \$50.0

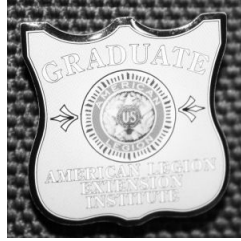


Nancy Rummel, Treasurer of Unit #166, celebrates her 80th Birthday

GRADUATES OF LEGION COLLEGE EXTENSION INSTITUTE

Post #166 Asst. Service Officer John Granite and Unit #166's Rosie Garlitz just received their Certificate from the American Legion College Extension Course. The course consists of four volumes and includes: #1 History & Organization, #2 Service Divisions & Sections, #3 Americanism, Children & Youth and Public Relations, #4 Legislative, Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, Economic, National Security, and Foreign Relations Programs.

Usually there is a nominal charge for the course, but for the next 60 days if you want to take the course please contact the adjutant. You can reach him by email at adjutantpost166@verizon.net by regular mail



at P.O. Box 63, Ocean City, MD 21843, or just call me at 443-366-2994 (cell phone)

Upon successful completion of the course you will not only receive a certificate, but a pin to wear on your hat, just like the one shown here. If any other members have already completed the course, please advise me.

Please remember that this year of 2009 marks the 90th Anniversary of the American Legion. I urge you to take the time and take the course.

Bill Wolf, Adjutant

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

by Nate Pearson

The 29th annual St. Patrick's Day Parade featuring over 100 units was held on a cool and damp day – Saturday, March 14, 2009. The American Legion – Synepuxent Post 166 has participated in this parade each of the scheduled years.

This year, the Color Guard Marching unit was selected to be the FIRST unit in the parade bearing the colors of the United States, Maryland, and the MIA/POW Flag. We were honored to have been selected for this prominent parade position and the six men executed their duties in a very professional and well executed manner. The American Legion Color Guard marching unit was well received and was given many commendations and positive comments by spectators. Our Parade Lead unit consisted of the following Veterans: Nate Pearson, Warren Disbrow, Bo Spicer, Dave Lewis, Glen Reely, and Earl Hewitt. Their Color Guard march took them from 61st Street to 45th Street on Philadelphia Avenue in Ocean City.

The American Legion – Post 166 also had two other units in the parade giving good visibility and support from our Post. The American Legion Float truck WAS DRIVEN BY John Sauer with Jim Hudson riding Shotgun. Two women with the American Legion riders were on the Float truck bed providing salt water candy to the spectators and they moved along the parade route. The Float was most attractive decorated with the American Legion

seal: Float Signs reading: AMERICAN LEGION – FOR GOD AND COUNTRY, and flags of the Korean War, U.S. Army, and MIA /POW.

The American legion RIDERS were very well represented with about 20 bikes, well decorated and providing an excellent representation of Veterans who are members of the American Legion Riders. The Jackets worn by the American legion Riders were especially attractive and the bikes were well decorated. Commendations to the Post 166 AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS.



Following the Parade, many of the veterans and American

Legions members traveled to The Post Home on 23rd Street to enjoy THE "Corned Beef and Ham dinners provided by our Gourmet Chef, who was featured in the Salisbury Times Newspaper, and our dedicated Steward, KEN GRAY.

We salute all our VETERANS and the IRISH on this festive Day.

Stephen Decatur NJROTC News

by Commander Chris Deming

The last month has been a busy one for the cadets in the Naval JROTC program at Stephen Decatur High School. The busy period started on February 28th when Stephen Decatur cadets hosted a drill competition that was attended by 11 teams from 3 different states. Schools from Delaware, Maryland and Virginia competed in five different events under the watchful eyes of the judges from the US Coast Guard recruit training station at Cape May, NJ. Teams performed armed and unarmed platoon drill as well as color guard routines. The 1st year cadets also competed in squad unarmed drill and color guard. The final event of the day was a "knock-out" drill competition. Over 100 cadets from the attending schools tried not to make mistakes while the Coast Guard judges called both correct and incorrect drill commands. When the dust settled, the top 10 cadets received a medal for their success. Trophies were presented to the top 3 teams in each event, as well as the top three teams in the overall competition. The overall winner of the drill meet, for the 2nd year in a row, was Franklin Marine Corps JROTC from Baltimore.

While Decatur was hosting the drill meet, the Commanding Officer, senior Jake Terlizzi was not in town. He was in Camp Perry, Ohio competing in the Navy National Air Rifle Championship held on February 27th and 28th. Earlier in the year, schools competed in the Secretary of the Navy's Air Rifle postal competition. The top shooters, including Jake Terlizzi, were invited to compete against all other Navy shooters at the Navy National Air Rifle Championships. The competition, hosted by the Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP), was held for the first time this year at the brand new, state of the art air rifle range built by CMP at Camp Perry, Ohio. The range has 80 shooting points and the targets are linked to the internet, so while Decatur was hosting the drill meet, we could watch Jake shoot his air rifle match, shot by shot. The match is held over 2 days with each shooter firing 60 shots each day, 20 shots in the prone position, 20 shots in standing and 20 shots in kneeling. When the final scores were tallied, Jake Terlizzi placed 15th overall. That places him in the top 1 percent of all JROTC shooters, including Navy, Army, Marine Corps and Air Force. It was an outstanding performance and a fitting finish to four years of shooting in the JROTC program.

Next on Decatur NJROTC's calendar was hosting our annual spring air rifle competition. This was another well attended event with 15 teams from 8 schools and 4 states. The air rifle competition attracted teams from Virginia, Maryland, Dela-

ware and New Jersey. The air rifle competition is not as intense as the drill competition, it still requires dedication and effort on the part of our cadets and parents to host the match and compete too. The air rifle match was held on Saturday March 14th with the opening round at 0830. Additional rounds were held at 1100 and 1330. Shooters fired a one day "3x20 match" shooting at total of 60 shots, 20 shots in the prone position, 20 shots in standing and 20 shots in kneeling. Competitors were grouped into two categories, Veterans and Novice. Medals were given to the top 10 competitors, and trophies to the top three teams in each category. Additionally, Civilian Marksmanship Program achievement pins were awarded to all shooters that scored above a minimum score. CMP suggests that about 40% of shooters will earn pins in any given competition. Decatur's match attracted such a high quality of competitors that fully 80% of the shooters earned a CMP achievement pin. The perennial winner was again King George Naval JROTC from Virginia, which won the Navy National Air Rifle Competition a couple of weeks before. Decatur shooters Jake Terlizzi placed 3rd in the Veteran division and Timothy Li placed 10th in the Novice Division. Next year we hope to offer air rifle equipment, such as an air rifle, spotting scope etc, instead of trophies if enough donations can be obtained support that goal.

Wrapping up a busy month, 5 members of the Stephen Decatur air rifle team traveled to Damascus, MD on March 21st to compete in the USA Shooter Junior Olympics Maryland State Air Rifle Championship. The team consisted of 4 novice shooter and one veteran. Jake Terlizzi shot a 525 (out of a possible 600) to place 6th in the state and earning an invitation to the Junior Olympic National Championships this summer.

Next on the agenda for Stephen Decatur NJROTC is our annual Military Ball to be held at Stephen Decatur on April 4th. The cadets are busy planning and making decoration for this Old Hollywood themed formal dinner dance. The cadets have invited 4 other JROTC schools to join us at the annual event. The military ball is the highlight of the school year for cadets and is always well attended.



Jake taking a shot

Check out our newsletter and see all the events that your Post is engaged in and you will have to say that we are a Post on the "GO". Why aren't you supporting the Post? Out of the 872 there are over 500 in the Ocean City, Berlin Post office area and we don't get 10% at a meeting. Come on guys, come out and support the Post, if we have the support we can do a lot more than we are doing now. Let's see some new faces (old members) at the meetings, 2nd and 4th Mondays, come on out. *Bill Wolf*

Synepuxent Observer, Fall 2008 - 2009

FROM THE CHAPLAIN

If you are sick or know of any Legionnaire who is sick or has died, please let me know... Anything I can do to help, or a prayer.

Warren Disbrow, Chaplain
169 Jamestown Road # 106
Ocean City, MD 21842
Phone: 443-783-3838

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..... 1-800-339-1033

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
- <http://www.alpost166.org> - Our Post, Synepuxent Post 166, Ocean City, MD.
- <http://www.opvets.com>—Worcester County Veterans Memorial Web Site. .

SAL Officers 2008 - 2009

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 Adjutant ———Richard Pennington 301-481-0078
 Vice Cmdr. ———Billy Yost
 Historian ———Paul Miller
 Sgt-at-Arms ———Barry Derr

Please be advised that we will be going over the membership roster and if you have not renewed for 2009, your name will be removed from the mailing list. This will be your last newsletter unless you renew.

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