

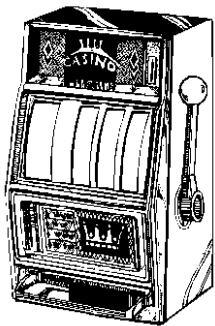
THE GLAZIN' STARE

DISNEY-BELL POST 66 SPAM

APRIL FOOL'S EDITION 2003

66 Selected for Slots

As part of a new test market program, Disney-Bell Post 66 has been selected as one of three "experimental" service veterans organizations outside of the eastern shore to be allowed to install slot machines. In new and innovative legislation, Governor Bob Earlick was heard to remark that this experiment would help veterans service organizations in their community work, reward their years of service, and test a proposed revenue generating source for the State.



It is anticipated that the initial allocation of slot machines will be between 50 and 75 of various types. Currently, the House Committee is hard at work determining exactly where we are going to place so many machines. Other details also need to be worked out such as

the placement of extra electrical outlets, the purchase of a quarter counting machine, as well as an ATM. Tentative plans call for installing 10 machines in the current Turkey Shoot shed where a service bar will also be operating. An additional 10 machines will be set up in the storage shed at the far end of the parking lot. While there is no heat or air conditioning in that space, it is considered ideal for the "Non Smoking" section required by State law. The remaining machines will be dispersed throughout the Post in different locations including the bar area, pool room, hall and handicap restroom.

Revenue to our Post from such an operation is expected to range in the several hundred thousand dollars during the first full year of operation. Half

of the proceeds automatically get returned to the State (obviously), with another thirty percent required to be donated to recognized charities. After other local taxes, salaries for new employees, stock expenses, kickbacks to political supporters, profit sharing and other miscellaneous administrative items (if you know what I mean), we can expect to earn a pretty penny.

As most of you know, slot machines have been operating in veterans service organizations on the eastern shore for decades. This source of income to American Legion posts in that area has permitted them to make several million dollars in donations to many charitable groups. The Judge Advocate is currently looking into the legality of donating proceeds to ourselves since we qualify as a "not for profit" veterans service organization.

1st Vice Commander Report

Congratulations. Disney-Bell has made four star for the fifteenth consecutive year. Last year, in the April issue of the Rising Star, I reported that we still needed 72 more members to reach four star. It wasn't until June 2002 that we were able to report success

Thanks go out to the membership committee and Adjutant Jim Pritchett for a great year. Since I usually use this space to plead for new memberships or renewals, I am at a loss for words. Thank you for your support.

Clif Morvant
1st Vice Commander



Post 66
 Monthly Meeting
 Wednesday, April 23
 7:30 pm
 Agenda: Post Paying for Officers
 Attending 2004 Legion Convention in
 Honolulu

Adjutant's Report

Once again, our editor has written the April Fool edition of our Post newsletter. What is not an April Fool joke is our membership status. Once again Disney-Bell Post 66 has become a Four Star Post indicating that our membership is an all time high. Despite this, we still have members who have not yet paid their 2003 dues. Like other events in this world, time is running out on them. Soon we will begin an American Legion Year 2003-2004 and those not current move a step closer to being dropped from the roles. A roster of those delinquent members will be posted at the Post. You are asked to take a moment to review the list and see if a Legionnaire that you might know is in arrears. While we may be Four Star, every member is important to the Post and The American Legion and we should do our best to retain them as Legionnaires.

As always, should you have any questions concerning your membership, do not hesitate to contact me either at the Post 301-464-9814 or my residence 301-390-6436, cell 240-355-6809. Post E-mail address is alpost66@bellatlantic.net and mine is jimabiam@aol.com.

James L. Pritchett, Jr.
 Adjutant



Post 66 Wins Oratorical Contest

Last month's newsletter brought the news that our Post Oratorical Contest winner, Jed Wentz, had won the county contest. On February 23rd, Jed represented our Post and the county at the Southern Maryland District contest held at the Clinton Post. Jed did it again. Against two other outstanding contestants, Jed was awarded first place and the right to represent the Southern Maryland District at the Department Contest on February 2nd.

There were seven contestants entered at the State level from all corners of the State of Maryland. The contest was held in the Joint Hearing Room of the State of Maryland Administrative Services Building in Annapolis. It was an exciting contest. The other contestants were all outstanding speakers. Our guy did it again. "The kid from Post 66", as he was referred to by those who went outside on smoke breaks, won first place. Jed performed fantastically.

POST 66 IS GOING TO THE NATIONAL FINALS!!!

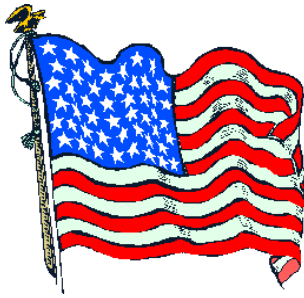
Jed will be representing the Department of Maryland and Disney-Bell Post 66 at the 66th annual (no kidding – is that a good omen or what?) national competition in Indianapolis, Indiana the weekend of April 11 – 13. So far, Jed has accumulated \$3,375 in scholarship cash. For competing in the first round at the national contest, he will receive another \$1,500. If he moves on to the second round, he gets another \$1,500. The third round decides the national first, second and third place winners who receive \$18,000, \$16,000 and \$14,000 respectively. We want to wish Jed the best of luck in Indianapolis.

We will next see Jed perform at the Department Convention in Ocean City, where he will be invited

to deliver his award winning speech to the entire convention.



Auxiliary Monthly Meeting
 Wednesday, April 16
 7:30 pm
 Agenda: Donating Money to
 Post to Pay for Officers
 Attending 2004 Legion
 Convention in Honolulu



I Am The Flag

I Am the Flag of the Of America of the United States of America. My name is Old Glory. I fly atop the world's tallest buildings. I stand watch in America's halls of justice. I fly majestically over institutions of learning. I stand guard with power in the world. Look up and see me. I stand for peace, honor, truth and justice. I stand for freedom.

I am confident. I am arrogant. I am proud. When I am flown with my fellow banners, My head is a little higher, My colors a little truer. I bow to no one! I am recognized all over the world. I am worshiped - I am saluted. I am loved - I am revered. I am respected - and I am feared.

I have fought in every battle of every war for more then 200 years. I was flown at Valley Forge, Gettysburg, Shiloh and Appomattox. I was there at San Juan Hill, the trenches of France, in the Argonne Forest, Anzio, Rome and the beaches of

Normandy. Guam, Okinawa, Korea and Khe San, Saigon, Vietnam know me. I was there. I led my troops, I was dirty, battleworn and tired, But my soldiers cheered me and I was proud.

I have been burned, torn and trampled on the streets of countries I have helped set free. It does not hurt for I am invincible. I have been soiled upon, burned, torn and trampled in the streets of my country. And when it's done by those Whom I've served in battle - it hurts. But I shall overcome - for I am strong.

I have slipped the bonds of Earth and stood watch over the uncharted frontiers of space from my vantage point on the moon. I have borne silent witness to all of America's finest hours.

But my finest hours are yet to come. When I am torn into strips and used as bandages for my wounded comrades on the battlefield, When I am flown at half-mast to honor my soldier, Or when I lie in the trembling arms of a grieving parent at the grave of their fallen son or daughter, I am proud.



Post Everlasting

Every April, Disney-Bell Post 66 conducts our most solemn ceremony of our organization when we transfer members to Post Everlasting. This year, our ceremony will be held at 2:00 p.m., Saturday, April 12. At that time, the following members will be officially transferred to Post Everlasting: Gordon D. Schmidt, Leroy Sorber, Marjorie H. Cooper, Earl R. Thomas, Bert W. Yates, William J. Friedrich, Gerald G. Mesengale, Patrick

L. Pritchett, Robert R. Eliff, Jr., Carl D. Bricker, William J. Johnson, Robert W. Nuttycombe, Cecil O. Hall, Robert T. Giraldi and Ronald W. French.

Friends and relatives, as well as all Post members, are invited and encouraged to attend. As is our custom, a tree will be planted on the Post grounds to honor their memory. A small reception will immediately follow the service.



SAL Squadron 66
Monthly Meeting
Monday, April 14
7:30 pm

Agenda: Plan Fund Raiser to
Donate Money to Post to Pay
for Officers Attending
2004 Legion Convention in
Honolulu

Time to Defang a Snake

Many of you may be familiar with the past democratic governor of Georgia, Zell Miller, now Georgia's junior senator in Washington. He knows how to boil things down to the basics and that's exactly what he did when he explained why it's important that Saddam Hussein be defanged. And he's also good storyteller. Here's the text of Mr. Miller's remarks, made on the Senate floor, about the need to help President Bush deal with Iraq. We couldn't say it any better.

"Mr. President, I have signed on as an original co-sponsor of the Iraq resolution, and I'd like to tell you a story about why I think it is the right path to take: A few weeks ago, we were doing some work



on my back porch back home, tearing out a section of old stacked rocks, when all of a sudden I uncovered a nest of copperhead snakes. Now, I'm not one to get alarmed at snakes. I know they perform some useful functions, like eating rats. And when I was a young lad, I kept snakes as pets. I had an indigo snake, a bull snake, a corn snake and many others. I must have had a dozen king snakes at one time or another. They make great pets and you only had to feed them a mouse every 30 days. I read all the books by Raymond C. Ditmars, who was the foremost herpetologist of his day. That's an expert on snakes. For a while, I wanted to be a herpetologist, but the pull of being a big-league shortstop outran that childhood dream. I reminisce this way to explain that snakes don't scare me like they do some people. And I guess the reason is that I know the difference between those that are harmless and those that will kill you. In fact, I bet I may be the only senator in this body who can look at the last three inches of a snake's tail and tell you whether it's poisonous or not. I can also tell the sex of a snake, but that's another story. A copperhead will kill you. It could kill one of my dogs. It could kill one of my grandchildren. It could kill any of my four great grandchildren. They play all the time where I found these killers. And you know, when I discovered these copperheads, I didn't call my wife Shirley and ask her advice, like I do on most things. I didn't yell for help from my neighbors or take it to the city council. I just took a hoe and knocked them in the head and killed them. Dead as a doorknob. I guess you could call it a unilateral action. Or pre-emptive or even bellicose and reactive. I took their poisonous heads off because they were a threat to me. And they were a threat to my home and my family. They were a threat to all I hold dear. And isn't that what this is all about?"

Post Everlasting
April 12, 2003
2:00 pm



Disney-Bell Post 66

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Inside This Issue: Vacation Ideas for Reservists, Slots Coming?, Officers Plan to Attend Honolulu Convention, and More!!!

POST OFFICERS

Boss Hog: J. D. Larson, Next Boss: Clif Morvant, Past Boss: Herman "Jr." Martin, Boss Around: Jim Pritchett, Pit Boss: Charlie Milstead, \$ Boss: Dick Lanham, No one's Boss: Myron James, Bossy: Toni King, Wannabe Boss: Nick Muller, Extra Bosses In Case One Quits: Dan Healy, John Marshall, A. H. Sprehe, and Eddie Thompson.

CONVENTION SHIRTS

The Department of Maryland will once again be offering Convention shirts. They are dark green with the Maryland crest on the left hand side and "Maryland" printed below it in gold. The words "American Legion" are imprinted on the left sleeve. Cost of shirts is \$20.00 regardless of size. Shirts may be personalized, and include either the emblem of either the American Legion, Auxiliary or SAL on the right hand side with Disney-Bell Post 66 above the emblem and your first name below. Cost of personalization is \$9.00 for a total cost of \$29.00.



Payment for shirts must be included with an order form available at the Post. Make all checks payable to The American Legion, Post 66 and write "shirts" on the note section of your check. All orders must be into the Post no later than May 14, 2003. Shirts can be picked up at the Post prior to the Convention.

Questions contact Post Adjutant, Jim Pritchett, either at the Post 301-464-9814, or home 301-390-6436. The Post e-mail address is alpost66@bellatlantic.net or Jim's is jimabniam@aol.com.

Editor's Note

An annual tradition, this month's issue is in keeping with the spirit of the season. We attempt to instill a little humor but have no intention of taking away from the seriousness of most pieces. While one or two items are meant to be humorous, hopefully you can tell the difference between the real and the not so real. Comments in this issue are those of the Newsletter staff and are not the policy of Disney-Bell Post 66 Inc., its officers, or anyone else with any sense.

Thank you.

