

THE RISING STAR

DISNEY-BELL POST 66 NEWSLETTER

JUNE 1, 2005

June is a Big Month for Post 66

One of the most important months of the year for our Post is upon us. June will find us electing officers for the coming year. I am writing this article before our May Membership meeting, so I don't know who will be nominated, but I sincerely hope that there will be some contested positions. When more than one member wants to take on the responsibilities of holding an office in the Post, it reflects well upon our membership. Win or not, participating in the election process demonstrates commitment to the Legion and our Post. The June Membership meeting usually brings the largest turnout of members for the year. Don't forget to bring your 2005 membership card with you, as it is required for voting.

June 14th is Flag Day and our third annual Flag Disposal Ceremony, which is fast becoming one of the finest ceremonies of its kind in Maryland. Jim Pritchett does a lot of planning and preparation to make sure this touching tribute is properly conducted. The ceremony starts promptly at 7:00 p.m.. The Post Championship Honor Guard Team, the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Auxiliary and SAL, as well as Post



members participate. In fact, we try to allow anyone who wishes to be a part of this reverential ceremony. This is great night to wear your colors (red, white and blue) and proudly display your patriotism. Don't forget your blue Legion cap, if you have one. If you don't have a Legion cap, Jim will gladly provide you one (for a few bucks). We are planning All-American Hot Dogs and Hamburgers following the event. This is a great night for the whole family. I hope to see you there.

Congratulations and thanks to 1st Vice Commander Tom Murphy and Adjutant Jim Pritchett, for bringing our Post to the Four Star Level for the 17th consecutive year. And thanks to all of you who have recruited new members.

Please check this newsletter for the upcoming shrimp night, dinners and other Post activities.

Our annual 4th of July Bash is set to go. There will be fun and game for young and old and a lot of good eats. There is no charge for this event, but you are requested to bring a salad or dessert to share. Please drop by the Post or call in to register by June 24th, so we can be sure to have enough provisions on hand.

On April 22nd, our Post lost a dedicated officer, life member and dear friend to many. Alwin "Major" Sprehe transferred to Post Everlasting with the courage and dignity we all would have expected. Major was a special friend to many of us at Post 66. He will be dearly missed. Farewell, my friend.

Clif Morvant
Commander





Unit 66 Report

I would like to apologize for having no report in the May Newsletter but due to the death of my husband on April 22nd who was fondly known around the Post as "Major" I could not meet the deadline. I also want to extend to the Post, Auxiliary and SAL my most sincere gratitude for all the cards, prayers and caring shown to me during this trying time. The beautiful flowers and plants were greatly appreciated. The food put on by the SAL was outstanding. He had a great send off due to his many friends from The Legion Family.



Auxiliary Monthly Meeting
Wednesday, June 15
7:30 p.m.

I also had to miss the Tribute to Youth Program but I want to thank all who filled in for me that night. These young people who work on the essay's do a fine job. We had our last Friday night dinner in May and had a good turnout. These will resume again in September. No menu was selected so watch the board in the

Post or call and the bartender will be able to let you know. On May 21st, the Children's Miracle Network Walk-a-Thon was held at Ft. McHenry and attending from the Unit was Toni King, Anna Thompson, Juanita Thompson and Priscilla Sprehe. After walking around the Fort a nice pot luck luncheon was held.

At the last Unit meeting we had the election of officers for the coming year. The incoming officers are as follows: President- Juanita Thompson, Vice President- Valerie Hayes, Secretary- Tamara Planty, Treasurer- Anna Thompson, Chaplain- Lois Van Sickle, Historian- Linda Healy and Sergeant-at-Arms- Anna Planty. Good luck to all.

I would like to thank all of my officers who have served with me for the past two years as President, many who are named above. I could not have done it without all the support from you. Toni King was my Chaplain and a big thanks to her. I hope to be moving to Arizona in the near future to be near my great grandchildren.

Coming up on June 14th is Flag Day and a ceremony will be held at the Post. On June 19th the Auxiliary will be hosting a Father's Day breakfast. All Dads eat free and a \$5.00 charge to all others. Convention is just around the corner and we will be leaving for Ocean City in July. Have a great summer everyone.

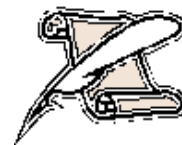
Priscilla Sprehe, President

DUES INCREASE???

That's right! At our regular membership meeting held on Wednesday, March , we voted an increase in the dues to Post 66 from \$20.00 a year, to \$25.00 year. This was necessitated by a projected increase in the amount we will have to begin to pay the Department of Maryland beginning in 2006.

But don't despair!. We also voted that if you pay your dues BEFORE November 11, not only will you be an Early Bird, not only will you be entitled to attend the greatest Early Bird Dinner this side of the Patuxent, but you still only have to pay \$20.00. And, as if that weren't enough, if you wish to purchase a PUFL (Paid up for Life), do so prior to November 11, 2005 and you save by paying at the \$20/year rate. I tell you, the hits just keep on coming.

Adjutant's Call



National Headquarters will mail to every Legionnaire in the Department of Maryland the first of five (5) due's renewal notices for 2006. Understand that your 2005 membership card does not expire until December 31, 2005; however, The American Legion 2005-2006 Membership Year begins on July 1, 2005. Also, the

annual dues of Disney-Bell Post 66 will increase to \$25.00 on that same date. Fortunately, those members who renew between July 1 and November 11, 2005 and become an "Early Birds" may do so at the old rate of \$20.00. \$5.00 saved is \$5.00 earned, so take advantage of being an "Early Bird."



Post 66
Monthly Meeting
Wednesday, June 22
Election of Officers
7:30 p.m.

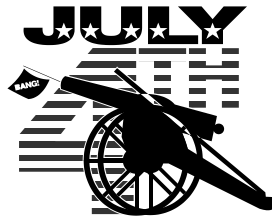
Members who have recently transferred to Post 66 should be aware that since the 2006 membership cards have been printed and are being distributed to the Post, it is conceivable that you may receive a due's renewal notice from your old Post. Should you receive one from your old Post, **DO NOT**, I say again, **DO NOT** pay your old Post. If you do, you will automatically be transferred back to your old Post and we must do the process over again, only this time, Post 66 will not receive membership credit for your 2006 dues. When in doubt, contact me.

As always, should you have any questions on your membership, do not hesitate to contact me. My E-mail address is

jimabniam@aol.com, my home phone is 301-390-6436, the cell is 240-355-6809. Suggest you try my E-mail or cell phone first.

In service to God and Country.

James L. Pritchett, Jr.
Post Adjutant



July 4th Family Picnic Planned

The Disney-Bell Post 66 Annual 4th of July Picnic will be held on Monday, July 4th, from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.. The food is on order (hot dogs, hamburgers, sausage and chicken), the soda and beer are being iced down, and the "big tent" is on the way. As always, we have a clown and games for the kiddies. This is one of several free events the Post hosts each year as a way of saying we appreciate your membership.

You are asked to bring a side dish (small salad, chips, snacks, etc.) or dessert to share with everyone. A sign-up sheet is in the Post so please call and let us



know how many will be coming and what you can bring. You do not have to bring something to attend so don't let that be a problem, but in order for us to have enough food, we would still like you to call and let us know how many will be attending. RSVP no later than July 1, 2005.



Disney-Bell Post 66 will host our 3rd Annual Flag Disposal Ceremony

on Tuesday, June 14th at 7:00 p.m. here at the Post. The Post Honor Guard will be participating in the ceremony, as well as all Legion organizations, the Scouts and others. This ceremony has quickly become a favorite and I am sure you will be moved. Afterwards, we will host an All-American Cookout with hamburgers and hot dogs.

If you or anyone you know has a U.S. flag that has served well and is ready for retirement, drop it off at the Post. We will insure that is retired with proper respect. A red, white and blue mailbox style container is located just outside the Post for this purpose.



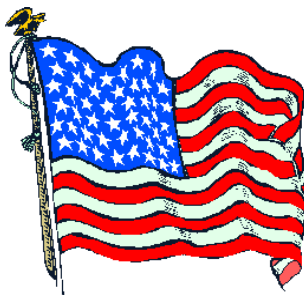
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POST OFFICERS

Commander: Clif Morvant, 1st Vice Commander: Tom Murphy, 2nd Vice Commander: Nick Muller, Adjutant: James I. Pritchett, Jr., Judge Advocate: Charlie Milstead, Finance Officer: Dick Lanham, Service Officer: Eddie Thompson, Historian: Myron James, Chaplain, Toni King, Sergeant-at-Arms: Bill Carlson, Executive Committee: David Cooks, Brian Frye, Roger Goll and J. D. Larson

Flag Retirement Ceremony
Tuesday
June 14, 2005
7:00 p.m.



Annual Family Picnic
Monday
July 4, 2005
1-4 p.m.

