
The Rising Star

Disney-Bell Post 66 Newsletter

October 1, 2006

Post 66 Helps Katrina Victims

Well as promised, the management of our social quarters has cleaned up the atmosphere, greatly improving our “smoke eating” capability. Many non-smokers are reporting they no longer smell like smoke when they get home and they can more fully enjoy the fellowship in the Post. If the smoke has been keeping you away, give us a try. Nothing new to report on the progress of our future pavilion. It is, as we say, a work in progress.



We donated a large sum of money to the National Emergency Fund, as well as five American Legion Posts that are serving as shelters and otherwise providing services to evacuees from Hurricane Katrina. Donations are still being accepted at the Post to support the veterans relocated from New Orleans to the Armed Forces Retirement Home in Washington, D.C., Also, our Boy Scout Troop 1688 donated \$500.00 of their hard earned funds to those relocated veterans (see related article). We are very proud of our Boy Scout troop.

Pay close attention to the Adjutant’s article as he is providing information about one of the benefits of being a Legion member. Remember the dues increase takes affect after November 11th Veterans Day. As always, be sure to check Calendar of Events to find out what’s happening and when. Information is posted in the social quarters about this coming flu shot season.

**I don't suffer from insanity...
I enjoy every minute of it.**

FYI: The Bowie Blade wrongly identified Skip Powell as the Commander of Post 66 in the front page article of the September 15 edition (although they did have the commander’s name right).

God bless our Veterans and God bless America.

Thomas D. Murphy
Commander



Post 66
Monthly Meeting
Wednesday, October 26
7:30 p.m.

Troop 1688 Helps Katrina Veterans

Boy Scout Troop 1688 has developed a two-part plan to assist the Hurricane Katrina recovery. The first action was accomplished at our Executive Committee Meeting on September 14th. The boys from the Troop 1688 presented Commander Murphy with a check in the amount of \$500 to benefit the veterans of the Gulfport Mississippi Armed Forces Retirement Home who were forced to relocate when their facility was destroyed. You may not think \$500 is a significant amount but this came

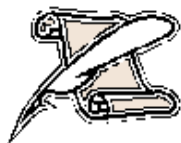
from the boys, not mom and dad, out of their recycle savings accounts normally used for summer camp and from the units annual operating budget. These young men are 11-17 years old and recognize the value and need to help veterans.



The troop's long term plan is to support an American Legion chartered Boy Scout Troop along the Gulf Coast that will have to refit and rebuild. As things begin to rebuild OUR troop will collect serviceable scout uniforms, light weight camping equipment, tents, sleeping bags, backpacking equipment, reference books, and materials to ship off to one of our own. This will not be completed until early spring as there are not many scout meetings along the Gulf Coast these days. As you are cleaning out your garage for the season and have any of these items collecting dust, please set them aside for this effort.

As the chartering organization of four scouting units, it is important to let you know there is more to scouting than a group of kids playing in the field behind the Post. When someone asks you why they should belong to The American Legion, and what does the Legion do for me, tell them about the Scout units we charter and about this group of young men who not only value the contributions made by our veterans, but understand the obligations of citizenship, and take action when they see a need.

Adjutant's Call



The Post would like to recognize our service men and women who have participated in the war on terrorism. If you or a member of your family have served in either Afghanistan or Iraq, please provide us with their name and year(s) of service in those campaigns, i.e., "Larry Legionnaire, Iraq

2003-2004". Please provide the requested information by contacting the Post 301-464-9814 or the Adjutant 301-390-6436 or cell 240-355-6809. Post E-mail is alpost66@bellatlantic.net; the Adjutant's E-mail is Jimabniam@aol.com.

Friday Night Dinner Schedule and Menu October 2005

October 7th (**Honor Guard**)
Grilled Steak (Cooked to Order) Baked
Potato, Salad and Dessert (\$9.00)

October 11th (**Auxiliary**)
Chicken Paarmesan
Dessert (\$8.00)

October 18th (**SAL**)
Chicken Dinner (\$8.00)

October 25th (**Post**)
TBA

All dinners are served from 6:30 to 8:00 pm.
"Doggie" bags provided. Call Post for
reservation Wednesday before dinner.

Often you hear of the many benefits available to American Legion members. I would like to share with you one that I recently experienced. Needing an eye exam for new glasses and being a military retiree with a healthcare plan of "Tricare For Life", it was necessary to seek Optometry care outside the military. Being aware that as a member of the American Legion, I was eligible for discounts offered by the Eye Care Plan of America (ECPA). To locate an ECPA Provider location nearest me, I visited their web site: www.ecpa.com and choose one of the many optometric groups available. Upon arrival for my appointment, I confirmed they were in fact part of the ECPA and informed them that as a member of the Legion, I was eligible for a discount on my new glasses. At first they experienced difficulty in confirming my eligibility; however, while waiting for my eyes to dilate, the receptionist called their toll-free number

1-800-221-3272. As a direct result, I received a substantial discount on my new glasses sufficient enough to pay my American Legion dues for the next several years. Should I need additional eye ware, the ECPA discount is still available. I encourage you to take advantage of one of the many benefits available to you as a Legionnaire.

I also encourage you to renew your dues for 2006 while the Post discount is still in effect. As always, should you have any questions on your membership or this article do not hesitate to contact me either at the Post 301-464-6814 or my residence 301-390-6436, cell phone 240-355-6809. Post E-mail is alpost66@bellatlantic.net and mine is Jimabniam@aol.com.

In service to God and Country, I am.

James L. Pritchett, Jr.
Adjutant

Unit 66 Report


As of the writing of this article the Unit has not had their September meeting. The Friday night dinner scheduled for September 9th, 2005 was canceled due to conflicting activities at the Post. The Friday night dinner for October will be on the 14th, starting at 6:30 p.m. the menu will be Chicken Parmesan, salad, bread and butter, and dessert. We hope you will sign up (by Wednesday, October 12th, 2005 so that we know how much food to purchase), and come and join us for food, fun and fellowship.

We are glad to have our "Miss Anna" back, she had a short stay in the hospital during the past month, but she's doing much better now. Lois Van Sickle is the Unit Chaplain, if you know of any members that are ill, or have passed away please contact Lois so that she can pass the information on to the Unit members and also on to the District and Department Chaplains.

The Halloween Party for the children will be held on Saturday, October 29th, 2005 during the



afternoon. There will be games, refreshments, costume contests and a haunted house. Make plans to attend it's always entertaining for all.



Auxiliary Monthly Meeting
Wednesday, October 19
7:30 p.m.

Turkey Shoots will be starting in early October, that also means the Auxiliary will be fixing and serving breakfasts for the shooters and anyone else who wants to stop by and get a hearty home cooked meal for a reasonable price. If anyone is interested in helping to fix the breakfasts please call me at 301-919-0164 or leave a message at the Post home 301-464-9814. We welcome your help, all profits from the breakfasts go towards Auxiliary programs to benefit our Veterans and their families.

Finally, if you have not paid your dues for 2006 please do it as soon as possible. There are benefits you receive just by being a member of the American Legion Auxiliary, you can receive a discount on eyeglasses, prescriptions and there is a special offer on cardiac and osteoporosis scans! All of this and a free bi-monthly magazine for the low, low price of a \$10 membership.

Juanita L. Thompson
President

Don't take life too seriously...
No one gets out alive.


Squadron 66 Report

Thanks to all who worked and attended our car show and crab feast in September. Both were very successful. Hopefully everyone had a good time. The \$5.00 sandwich night on Tuesday's has also proved to be very popular. Come down and enjoy a cold beer and a hot sandwich. Please note that we have started up the Friday night dinners. The SAL will be doing a chicken dinner on the 3rd Friday of each month.



Membership is off to a good start. We are already close to 70% -- keep up the good work!! Please send in your dues and indicate whether you would like your card left at the bar or mailed to your house. As always, we gladly accept new eligible members. Our meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of each month. I hope to see you there.

Joe Weik
Commander Squadron #66



SAL Squadron 66
Monthly Meeting
Tuesday, October 10
7:30 p.m.

last to renew. Remember! If you wish to save \$5, pay your dues now and don't wait. We would like to have as many Early Bird renewals as possible this year. Most years we are struggling to meet our goal as late as May and June. If we can get everyone to cooperate and submit their renewals by Veteran's Day (or sooner) we can save on having to send out reminders and making phone calls or visits.

If you have not renewed for 2006, please help us by sending in your check as soon as possible. Thank you.

Nick Muller
First Vice Commander

2006 Dues Reminder

On October 1, 2005, National began sending the second 2006 dues renewal notice to all members of the Department of Maryland whose dues have not been received and processed by the August 2005 cutoff date. If you have paid your dues and have your 2006 membership card, you should ignore the renewal notice. If you have not renewed, now is the time to do it. The cutoff date for the third mandatory mailing is November 10, 2005. That is, your renewal must have reached National and been processed by them before November 10th to prevent a third notice from being sent. While the dues notices states that your dues to Disney-Bell Post 66 is \$25.00, if you renew NOW, just send in \$20.00. After November 11, your dues will be \$25.00 Also, remember that November 11th, Veterans Day, is the cutoff to qualify as a Post 66 "Early Bird" and be eligible to attend the Early Bird dinner on November 19.

1st Vice Commander Report

Membership for 2006 is looking very promising, but historically the toughest road lies ahead. As of September 16th, we have 565 2006 members, or 60% of our goal of 927. These are the members who always renew early, plus a number of new members and transfers from other posts. Now we need to work on the hard-liners who are always the

REMEMBER OUR TROOPS!





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POST OFFICERS

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



TURKEY SHOTS RETURN!

Fall began on September 22nd and if fall is here the annual Disney-Bell Post 66 Turkey Shoot season cannot be far behind. That's right! Turkey Shoots begin Sunday, October 9th at 9:00 am and we are all set for another exciting year. Super Shoots, Winner-Take-All Pots, Scatter Shots and, of course, turkeys, hams, bacon and much more are planned for the upcoming year. Cost for a shoot package is only \$55.00 (for 20 shots) and you may pre-register at the bar. Registration for shoots begin October 1. The Auxiliary will be serving breakfast (starting at 8:00 a.m.) and remember, you don't have to be a shooter to enjoy a great breakfast! So clean your shotguns and break out your long johns and join us for a great time. In case of inclement weather, call the Post at 301-464-5425 for cancellation information.

