

Disney-Bell Family News

Volume 2010, Issue 6

December 2010 - January 2011

Special points of interest:

- The Post membership is at 73% renewals, have you renewed yet?
- Come on out for the parties during the holiday season!

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Commander's Call



Comrades,

Holiday Greetings - is there anyone out there?

Costume Karaoke was the cat's meow. There was standing room only, with a variety of costumes and vocal talent. It was a night for the record books at Post 66.

Our kid's Halloween Party was again better than the year before. There were hayrides, a bonfire, a haunted house, games, hot dogs, chips, and hot cider. More than 50 kids were wearing really scary costumes.

Comedy night was a riot. Sure wish you were there. A whopping \$24.00 are now earmarked for the wounded warrior project.

The Early Bird Dinner was an Italian delight. First time volunteer Jackie made the most succulent spaghetti sauce this side of the Mason-Dixon line. The 20 people that showed up were as content as catfish eating algae. If you didn't know about the dinner, I guess you should have stopped by the social quarters to sign up.

Are you hungry on Sunday mornings? The best breakfast in Bowie is served between 8:00 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. So, when you're done eating the best breakfast you've ever had, break out your shotgun and join the fun with our Turkey Shoot.

Friday night dinners are served through April. The most expensive dinner is \$13.00, and it is served with real meat.

Did you know your Post has medical equipment available for loan to Post family members? You can sign out wheelchairs, canes, walkers, crutches, and potty chairs. Times are tough and your insurance company may not pay for these items. Call the Post about availability.

The kid's Christmas Party will be held on December 18, 2010, from 2:00 until 4:00 p.m. Santa will arrive to bring cheer and goodwill to all.

The adult Christmas party will be on Christmas Eve. There will be free food and an open bar. All freeloaders are welcome. Stop in to the social quarters during Christmas Eve hours.

A special note to the dirty dozen. Thank you. You shall be rewarded.

**Gerald N.T. "Nick" Muller
Commander**

Post Officers

2010 - 2011

Commander	Nick Muller
1st Vice Commander	Barney Hoyt
2nd Vice Commander	Tom Murphy
Adjutant	Brian Frye
Finance Officer	Charlie Milstead
Chaplain	Toni King
Judge Advocate	Richard Beckwell
Historian	Brian Goldman
Service Officer	Jim Donahue
Sergeant-at-Arms	Carlton Gillard
Executive Committee	Larry Bartman
	John Delinsky
	Ray Hart
	J.D. Larson
	Jeff Williams

The American Legion
 Disney-Bell Post 66
 9605 Old Laurel-Bowie Road
 Bowie, Maryland 20720

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 Website: www.alpost66.org

Disney-Bell Family News is published bi-monthly (6 issues per year) and is published on the Post 66 website.

If you need your copy mailed to you, please send a note to newsletter@alpost66.org or contact the Post at 301-464-9814.

We welcome your news, ideas, suggestions, comments, or questions for future issues of the Disney-Bell Family News.

E-mail us at: newsletter@alpost66.org, or drop it off at the Post to the attention of the Newsletter Editor.

COMMITTEES AND EVENTS

Finance Committee
Audit Committee
House Committee
Membership Committee

Patriotism and Youth Committees

Baseball Commissioner
 Flag Education
 Oratorical Contest
 Scholarships
 Scouts
 ROTC/JROTC
 Boys State

Veterans Committees

Honor Guard Commander
 Veterans Support
 Blue Star Banner Delivery
 Walter Reed Visits
 National Defense

Post Publications

Newsletter
 Website

Annual Events (In Order by Legion Year)

Joint Installation of Officers
 Turkey Shoot Committee
 Army-Navy Game Event
 Children's Halloween Party
 Veteran's Day Services
 Toys for Tots Campaign
 Children's Christmas Party
 Christmas Eve Party
 New Year's Eve Party
 Super Bowl Party
 Daytona 500 Party
 St. Patrick's Day Dinner
 Legion/Post Birthday Dinner
 Early Bird Dinner
 Children's Easter Egg Hunt
 Post Everlasting
 Memorial Day Services
 Flag Day Event
 Fourth of July Picnic
 Convention Hospitality

LEADER

Charlie Milstead
 Richard Beckwell
 Tom Murphy
 Barney Hoyt

Brian Frye
(please volunteer!)
 Brian Frye
(please volunteer!)
 Brian Frye
 Linda Ryan
 Brian Frye
 Brian Frye

Darby McNeill
 Nick Muller
 Richard Beckwell
(please volunteer!)
 Nick Muller

Ray Hart
 Ray Hart

Outgoing Commander
 Dan Healy
 Brian Frye/Mark Ryan
 Auxiliary Unit 66
 Legion
 Pat Lamb
 Auxiliary Unit 66
(please volunteer!)
(please volunteer!)
 Tom Murphy
 J.D. Larson
 Honor Guard
(please volunteer!)
(please volunteer!)
 Darlene Clark
 Legion
 Legion
 Honor Guard
 J.D. Larson
(please volunteer!)

Committee/Event Volunteer Opportunities.

If you have some time available and would like to help out with one of the committees or events, contact the committee leader or the individual who has offered to take the lead. Contact us by sending an e-mail to: alpost66@comcast.net.

POST 66 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Organizational Meetings		
Wednesday	December 8	Executive Committee Meeting; 7:30 p.m.
Thursday	December 9	American Legion Riders Meeting; 7:30 p.m.
Monday	December 13	S.A.L. Meeting; 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday	December 15	Auxiliary "Non-Meeting" - 7:30 p.m. Potluck dinner and \$20.00 gift exchange.
Wednesday	December 22	General Membership Meeting; CANCELLED
Monday	January 10	S.A.L. Meeting; 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday	January 12	Executive Committee Meeting; 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday	January 19	Auxiliary Meeting; 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday	January 26	General Membership Meeting; 7:30 p.m.
Thursday	January 27	American Legion Riders Meeting; 7:30 p.m.
Post Special Events		
every Sunday	thru March	Turkey Shoots - 9:30 a.m.
Saturday	December 18	Children's Christmas Party - 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Friday	December 24	Adult Christmas Party - 6:30 p.m.
Friday	December 31	New Years Eve Party - 6:30 p.m.
Saturday	January 22	Cookie Bake-a-Thon - 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Post Meals		
every Sunday	thru March	Cooked to order breakfast - 8:00-9:30 a.m.
every Tuesday	thru April	Sandwich Night - S.A.L.; 5:00-7:00 p.m. No advance reservations are required.
every Friday	thru April	1st Friday - Steak Dinner 2nd Friday - All You Can Eat Shrimp and Fried Chicken 3rd Friday - Half-Baked Chicken - that's a half of a chicken :-) 4th Friday - Fried Fish Dinner 5th Friday - Chef's Surprise

Check the calendar on the Post website or contact the Post at 301-464-9814 for the most up-to-date information.

Friday Night Dinners

All Friday dinners are from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Please call the Post to sign up for the dinners by the previous Wednesday. We want to make sure we have enough meals for everyone to enjoy!

Carry out is available if you cannot eat at the Post and want to take your meals home to enjoy. You are more than welcome to bring guests with you to enjoy your meals!

Meeting Hall & Pavilion Rental

The Post 66 meeting hall and outdoor pavilion are available for you to rent. Consider the hall or pavilion for your wedding rehearsals, receptions, family reunions, birthday parties, and picnics.

For information contact Gidget at 301-464-9814 or by e-mail at: *businessMgr@alpost66.org*



Auxiliary Unit 66

The Post turkey shoots are in full swing on Sunday mornings, and breakfast is being served by the Auxiliary. You don't need to participate in the shoot to stop by for a great cooked-to-order breakfast. The menu includes eggs, bacon, sausage, sausage gravy, toast, biscuits, and beverages. Stop by and enjoy breakfast between 8:00 - 9:30 a.m.

Auxiliary dinners are doing great. The all you can eat steamed shrimp and fried chicken dinners are very popular. Also included is macaroni-n-cheese and hush puppies. Thanks to all that have come out and supported the Unit. A big thanks to all of the wonderful volunteers working in the kitchen.

Membership ... Where is my check? Why hasn't it been cashed? Simple answer: It is in transit. You mail the check, Valerie, the Unit Membership Chairwoman, picks up the membership from the Post. Valerie gives me the check at the next Auxiliary meeting. Then, I get the check to the bank. So, between the time you write the check, and I get it to the bank, weeks have gone by.

But we WILL take your money, and thank you for paying early. If you haven't paid, there is still time before the December 31 expiration date. Mail your check for dues to the Unit. Dues are \$15.00 for seniors, and \$5.00 for juniors.

The Children's Christmas Party will be held at the Post on December 18, 2010, from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. See the flier elsewhere in this newsletter for more information.

The Unit is having a Christmas Party in lieu of the December meeting. The party is a potluck dinner and \$20.00 gift exchange. In the past, Santa has even shown up. Come to the "non-meeting" and enjoy good food and good cheer.

Happy Holidays to Everyone!

Susan Beckwell
Treasurer, Unit 66

Children's Halloween Party



Adjutant's Corner

Your 2010 membership card will expire at midnight, December 31, 2010. There is not a grace period. If you have not renewed your membership by then you will be carded in the social quarters and asked to pay your dues before enjoying a frothy beverage or partaking in any Post activities.

To prevent an embarrassing moment, pay your 2011 dues now.

As was previously mentioned there is a 45-day turn around time for National to complete processing of your renewal. So if you pay your 2011 dues today, you will receive another renewal notice mailed to you on December 15.

Please disregard any renewal notices if you have already paid your 2011 dues and received your card.

Several Legionnaires have mailed in a second payment. Part of that is my fault; however, there is no benefit to paying your dues twice in one year.

The easiest way to prevent double payment is to check your membership card. If it is a 2011 card, disregard the notice as they suggest. If it is a 2010 card, then it is time to write that check. All members who have double paid will be credited for the 2012 Legion year and will receive, if they haven't yet, a letter from me.

I wish to thank all of you for your service to our country and being members of the American Legion!

For God and Country,

Brian G. Frye
Adjutant

Rules for Rendering Hand Salute of U.S. Flag

New Law Allows Retirees and Vets to Salute Flag

Traditionally, members of the nation's veteran's service organizations have rendered the hand-salute during the national anthem and at events involving the national flag only while wearing their organization's official head-gear.

The National Defense Authorization Act of 2008 contained an amendment to allow un-uniformed service members, military retirees, and veterans to render a hand salute during the hoisting, lowering, or passing of the U.S. flag.

A later amendment further authorized hand-salutes during the national anthem by veterans and out-of-uniform military personnel. This was included in the Defense Authorization Act of 2009, which President Bush signed on Oct. 14, 2008.

Here is the actual text from the law:

SEC. 595. MILITARY SALUTE FOR THE FLAG DURING THE NATIONAL ANTHEM BY MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES NOT IN UNIFORM AND BY VETERANS.

Section 301(b)(1) of title 36, United States Code, is amended by striking subparagraphs (A) through (C) and inserting the following new subparagraphs:

“(A) individuals in uniform should give the military salute at the first note of the anthem and maintain that position until the last note;

“(B) members of the Armed Forces and veterans who are present but not in uniform may render the military salute in the manner provided for individuals in uniform; and

“(C) all other persons present should face the flag and stand at attention with their right hand over the heart, and men not in uniform, if applicable, should remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart;

Note: Part (C) applies to those not in the military and non-veterans. The phrase "men not in uniform" refers to civil service uniforms like police, fire fighters, and letter carriers - non-veteran civil servants who might normally render a salute while

Talk About Town

Clyde Durst, Bowie, a 64-year Legion member, transferred to Post Everlasting. Legion Services were held November 7, 2010, and funeral services were held November 8, 2010, at Bowie United Methodist Church.

Richard "Dutch" Gehrlich, Bowie, a 20-year PUFL Legion member, transferred to Post Everlasting on October 26, 2010. Dutch served in Korea.

Robert M. Jackson, Odenton, United States Air Force, and a 14-year Legion member, transferred to Post Everlasting. A funeral service with full military honors was held November 5, 2010, at Baltimore National Cemetery.

Thomas Marcos, Bowie, a 57-year PUFL Legion member, transferred to Post Everlasting on October 22, 2010. Funeral services were held at October 27, 2010 at Bowie's Ascension Church. Among his surviving family members is Tommy Marcos, Jr., a member of Post 66's S.A.L.

Executive Committee member Ray Hart's mother passed away in October 2010, one month shy of her 100th birthday.

Chaplain Toni King had major surgery in November at the VA Hospital. She is now home and would love to hear from all of her friends at the Post. We all wish her well for a speedy and successful recovery.

J.D. and Michele Larson enjoyed a wonderful western Caribbean cruise in November and are already planning their next adventure in January.

At the monthly regularly scheduled meeting of Disney-Bell Post 66 held on November 24, 2010, J. D. Larson was unanimously endorsed to serve as the Department of Maryland's First Vice Commander for Legion year 2011-2012. Congratulations, J.D.!

Maryland DEC Meeting

The third Department Executive Committee (DEC) of Legion year 2010-2011 met at Post 166 in Ocean City, Maryland, on Sunday, November 21. As the ruling body for the Department of Maryland, the DEC meets five times a year to conduct the business of the organization and promote the programs of The American Legion. Committees began meeting at 9:00 a.m. for a full day of activity.

Two important budget initiatives were approved: funding of the membership incentive awards program and approving the operation of a state-wide sweepstakes raffle to help in fund raising efforts. The new membership awards incentive program will award \$1,000.00 to a Post in each of six size categories who exceed their membership from the previous year as of March 2011. In other words, you can help your Post raise much needed cash by renewing your membership NOW. The sweepstakes will take place in May of 2011. Each member will receive an opportunity to buy tickets and win up to \$5,000 at the annual convention.

Last year, due to declining membership, the Department of Maryland was more than \$170,000 in the red. It is hoped that this raffle will help ease the budget burden.

County and Districts were reminded that due to IRS regulations they need to submit their financial status to the Department so it may be included on the Department's report to the IRS. Many Posts throughout the state continue to operate illegal operations and several of these issues were discussed. For instance, you cannot sell "bonds" or initiate loans at your Post or mortgage Post property without prior consent of the DEC. You may also not open your Post to the public without paying additional taxes on that income. Of course, membership is a continuing concern as Maryland continues to slip farther behind other states in that area. A concerted effort is needed by all.

J.D. Larson, Post 66 Executive Committee and Department of Maryland 2nd Vice Commander

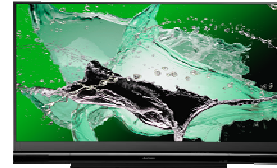
**Children's
Christmas Party**

**December 18th
2 - 4 PM**

Please sign your
child or children up
(sign-up sheet behind bar)

**The American Legion
Disney-Bell Post 66
9605 Old Laurel-Bowie Rd
Bowie, MD 20720**

Big Screen TV Raffle Super Bowl XLV



Mitsubishi 65 inch DLP-HDTV

\$10 per ticket

Tickets are available at the bar until February 6, 2011. The drawing will be held at the end of the Super Bowl party on that day.

Cookie-Thon Volunteers Needed

Every Thursday afternoon, at the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, New York, homemade cookies are delivered from all over the USA for the cadets of the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy. Sponsored by parents and community groups, this is the only event that is non-regimental or academic, and is proclaimed by many of the cadets (especially the plebes!) as what gets them through each week. The Bowie High School NJROTC, with three alumni at the academy, and the American Legion Post 66 (Children & Youth Committee) are sponsoring the Cookie Café on February 3, 2011.

Homemade cookies will be collected, packaged, frozen, and mailed from our Post on Saturday, January 22, 2011. Our goal is to send 300 dozen cookies to the academy and we need your help. Pledge to bake a few dozen of your favorite cookies at home and bring them to the Post on January 22,

or come to the Post at 8:00 a.m. to help bake, collect, wrap, and package. You can also donate the ingredients for a batch of cookies or some spare change for shipping costs. For additional information on the cookie café go to: www.kpcookiecafe.com

You can pledge your baking skills or other help at cookiecafe66@yahoo.com or on the signup sheet in the social quarters. Please make your commitment by January 12, 2010, so we have an accurate count toward the 300 dozen as we approach the January 22 workshop day.

Please contact Cathy Reed-Fink at 301-390-6948 or Mark Ryan at 301-809-6566 if you have questions.

The three midshipmen currently enrolled at Kings Point have a long association with Disney-Bell Post 66. Two are Eagle Scouts from our Boy Scout Troop, all three are Boy's State graduates, and one is a former player on our baseball team.

The American Legion
Disney-Bell Post 66
9605 Old Laurel-Bowie Road
Bowie, Maryland 20720



**We're on the web at
www.alpost66.org**



**Veterans Day
Ceremonies
11/11/10
1100 hours**

