

Disney-Bell Family News

Volume 2012, Issue I

February - March 2012

Of Special Interest:

- Post membership renewals are at 85%.
- Happy 80th Birthday to Post 66!
- Check out page 3 for all the upcoming events.

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Commander's Corner



Happy New Year to all! Have you already paid your 2012 dues? If not, you are now suspended from all Post and American Legion activities. No access to the social quarters. No Friday night dinners. No movie nights. No family functions. Don't put your Legion years in jeopardy. The American Legion needs you and so do we. What are we but the sum of our members. Our influence with the Federal and State legislatures requires membership numbers. Your future benefits may be at risk without a voice. You count and we need you. Please renew your membership now; don't wait. We have three new or renewed State Bills regarding Veterans this year and we need your support.

OK now the good stuff. Again, Happy New Year! Half the Legion year is already gone and we've done a lot in the last 2 months despite the holidays and reduced functions. There is still a lot more to come.

We have secured a Hospitality House at Thunder Island in Ocean City, Maryland, for this summer's State American Legion Convention and our own J.D. Larson's installation as Maryland State Commander. Thanks

to Greenbelt Post 136 for the lend. Semper Fi, Hooah!

We pinned a new Eagle Scout from our Boy Scout troop.

We crowned our year with the Holiday Baskets of Cheer that funded most of our greatest contribution to Toys-for-Tots campaign ever. Thanks to Pat Lamb, Carlton Gillard, and Carlton's employer Diageo whose huge liquor donation of baskets of cheer for our raffle helped to pay for the majority of our toy donations. Mostly, thanks to all of you who sold the tickets, donated money, donated toys, helped Pat with the toy shopping, and those who came out to help bag up the toys and transport them to the Marines. There are too many to mention here but I want you to know you are all my heroes especially Pat and all his elves for their passion and dedication to such a labor of love. Selfless community service to its utmost.

We also donated some of those toys to Charlotte Hall Veterans Home, Ascension Church, the Battered Woman's Shelter, NIH Children's Hospital, and P.G. Hospital Children's ward. I know we made a lot of children have a very Merry Christmas.

(Continued on page 7)

Post Officers

2011 - 2012

Commander	Brian Goldman
1st Vice Commander	Phoebe Larned
2nd Vice Commander	Tom Murphy
Adjutant	Brian Frye
Finance Officer	Charlie Milstead
Chaplain	Toni King
Judge Advocate	Richard Beckwell
Historian	James Edwards
Service Officer	David Campbell
Sergeant-at-Arms	John McKay
Executive Committee	Ray Hart
	John Delinsky
	J.D. Larson
	Larry Bartman
	Mark Ryan

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

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Fax: 301-805-6832
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Website: www.alpost66.org

Disney-Bell Family News is published every other month (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
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
Early Bird Dinner
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
Children's Easter Egg Hunt
Post Everlasting
Memorial Day Services
Flag Day Event
Fourth of July Picnic

LEADER

Charlie Milstead
Richard Beckwell
Tom Murphy
Phoebe Larned

Brian Frye
(Please volunteer!)
Brian Frye
(Please volunteer!)
Brian Frye
Mark Ryan
Brian Frye
Brian Frye

Darby McNeill
Brian Goldman
Richard Beckwell
Brian Goldman

Ray Hart
Ray Hart

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

Committee/Event Volunteer Opportunities.

We are looking for a few good members to head up several committees and events this Legion year. We are also looking for folks to help with the routine work of the committees. If you don't have time to volunteer with the ongoing work of the committees, please come out to help at any of the one-time events that appeals to you.

You can contact the head of the event to help out. If there is not a person listed, you can contact us by sending us an e-mail at: alpost66@comcast.net or by calling the Post at 301-464-9814.

PLEASE VOLUNTEER! Volunteers are the lifeblood of the organization, and you can have fun by becoming more involved in the activities at the Post.

Organizational Meetings - 7:30 p.m. Sharp!		
Thursday	February 8	Executive Committee Meeting
Monday	February 13	S.A.L. Meeting
Wednesday	February 15	Auxiliary Meeting
Wednesday	February 22	General Membership Meeting
Wednesday	February 23	American Legion Riders Meeting
Monday	March 12	S.A.L. Meeting
Wednesday	March 14	Executive Committee Meeting
Wednesday	March 21	Auxiliary Meeting
Wednesday	March 22	American Legion Riders Meeting
Thursday	March 28	General Membership Meeting
Post Special Events		
Every Sunday	Until March	Turkey Shoots in the backyard - 9:00 a.m. Cooked-to-order Breakfast - 8:00 a.m.
Sunday	February 5	Super Bowl Party - SOLD OUT
Saturday	February 18	Karaoke in the Lounge - 9:00 p.m.
Saturday	February 25 March 31	Movie Night - 7:30 p.m.
Sunday	February 26	Daytona 500 Party - 1:00 p.m.
Saturday	March 17	Post Birthday Party - 6:00 p.m.
Saturday	March 24	Bull and Oyster Roast - 6:00 p.m.
Post Meals		
1st Friday of each month	February 3 March 2	Steak and/or Shrimp Dinner 6:30 p.m.
2nd Friday of each month	February 10 March 9	Taco Bar Dinner and Family Night - 6:30 p.m.
3rd Friday of each month	February 17 March 16	1/2 Baked Chicken Dinner - 6:30 p.m.
3rd Friday of each month	February 24 March 23	Pasta Friday - 6:30 p.m.
every Tuesday	February March	Chef's Surprise- 5:00-7:00 p.m. Dinners and cheesesteak and coldcut subs. Call by the prior Sunday to check the menu and to sign up for the dinner or sandwiches.

S.A.L. Squadron 66



Greetings for the New Year. Our weather so far for 2012 has been weird; cold, snow, ice, rain and at times, hot for this time of year. No matter the weather, the S.A.L. is still active and having some major upcoming events. But before I begin to go over some these events, I would like to finish off last year with a load of thanks to everyone who helped make 2011 so successful. Our Toys for Tots was enormous. Thanks especially to Pat Lamb, who year after year chairs this activity and somehow always makes the current event better than the last. Thanks also to everyone else who helped make this event very special to all the children who received the toys collected through the Post. Thanks to all who helped celebrate the Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve get-togethers. It is always special for the S.A.L. to help sponsor these events for our Post family.

On to the New Year! Our Tuesday Night crew continues to make it easy to get home from a long day at work, come the Post and let someone else do the cooking and clean-up. Thanks guys for the hard work you do to continue to make this evening successful. Our Annual Chili Cook-Off was last month, but unfortunately this article had to be written prior to the event so winners are not able to be congratulated. None-the-less, I know it was a success and all the winners are to be congratulated.

Let's look forward to Super Bowl Sunday. Hopefully, many members will have a team they can root for and support. If not, PARTY ANYWAY! Our Friday Night Half Baked Chicken crew excels as always. Thanks to all members who participate in these events. It is thru all of our combined efforts that the S.A.L. continues to grow and prosper.

As 2012 moves on, the S.A.L. will continue to sponsor any number of events, especially as the

weather starts to get better in March. Plans are underway for our annual Bull and Oyster Roast. Watch for details on the Post website. Let's sell all of the tickets this year.

For those of you that have not participated in a meeting lately, please plan on attending a meeting soon. We need to hear your thoughts and ideas. New ideas are always welcome. Also, help your S.A.L. by paying your membership dues for 2012. Dues are still just \$10.00, one of the lowest (if not the lowest) in the State. Pay at the Legion. Pick your cards up at the Legion. Just ask the bartender to check the S.A.L. box behind the bar. By paying and picking up your cards at the Legion, we save postage.

Again, I hope to see as many of our members at the Post as possible. It is only through your active involvement that the Post and our S.A.L. will continue to grow and be strong.

Finally, Please buy chances for the S.A.L. sponsored picnic for 20 of your closet friends. Tickets are available from any S.A.L. member or behind the bar. If you do not want to host a picnic, you can opt to "Cash Out." All proceeds from this event will be donated to the Commander's and State Commander's project to purchase a new bus for the Charlotte Hall Veterans Home. Please help – our goal is \$5,000.00.

Finally, be sure to keep our active Service members in our Thoughts and Prayers.

See you at the Post,

Del Billings
Commander, Detachment 66



Adjutant's Corner

Membership

The Post 66 Legion membership is at 85 percent as of this newsletter. We are currently 40+ members under compared to this time last year. Our membership is every Legionnaire's responsibility. If you know of someone who has not renewed; or know of a Veteran who is eligible to join, let them know! Our goal this year is to have 958 members (renewed, transfers, new, etc.) Please help YOUR Post in our effort to make our goal so that those Veterans can also enjoy the benefits that The American Legion offers. More importantly help us to continue our efforts to support the four pillars of The American Legion; with their programs listed below.

I. Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation

- Access to VA Care
- Better Funding Formula
- Support for Veterans with Special Needs
- Career Opportunities
- A GI Bill for a New Century
- Employment and Business
- Heroes to Hometowns
- Volunteering
- Final Respects

II. National Security

- Strong National Defense
 - Military Quality of Life
 - Homeland Security
 - Foreign Relations
 - Full Accounting of POW/MIA's
 - Operation Comfort Warriors

III. Americanism

- Flag Protection
- Illegal Immigration
- Voter Registration and Participation
- Boy Scouts
- The Pledge of Allegiance
- Establishment-Clause Lawsuits

IV. Children & Youth

- Fight Child Pornography
- Catastrophic Illness
- Intellectual Disabilities
- Immunization
- Family Integrity
- Media Violence
- Drug Abuse
- Fight Child Sexual Exploitation

For God and Country,

Brian G. Frye,
Adjutant

The American Legion Amateur Radio Club

K9TAL IS ON THE AIR!

After some 6 months of planning, preparation, clearing, cleaning and gathering materials and equipment together for The American Legion Amateur Radio Club's shack, we finally "threw the switch" on Wednesday, November 23, 2011, at approximately 1930Z. Our first "QSO" was with a New Jersey station. Marconi could not have been more proud or pleased with his first transmission than we were with ours.

Those interested, in the Club should visit the website at <http://legion.org/hamradio>. The site is a bit sparse right now, but in the next couple of months it will be well populated with amateur radio information, links, FAQs, and maybe just a bit of the Legion's history of formal involvement with amateur radio that goes back near to the beginning of the Legion itself. Keep in mind, too, the Club forum at <http://legion.org/forums/ham-radio>. Stop off there when you can and share what you and your group – as members of The American Legion Amateur Radio Club – are doing to promote amateur radio and benefit the community in which you operate.



Sons of The American Legion, Squadron 66

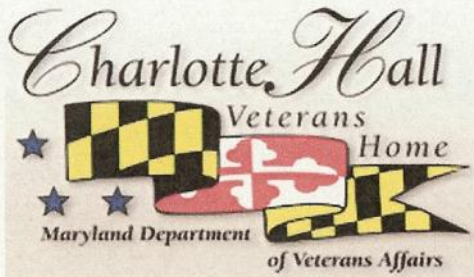
Charlotte Hall Veterans Home Bus for Veterans Fundraiser

**WIN A PARTY FOR YOU
AND 20 FRIENDS
INCLUDES FOOD AND HALL OR
PAVILION RENTAL
YOU CHOOSE THE DATE!**

(PENDING AVAILABILITY)

\$5 / TICKET DRAWN ON 3/17/2012

**THE AMERICAN LEGION DISNEY-BELL POST 66
9605 OLD LAUREL-BOWIE RD
BOWIE, MD 20720**



(Commander's Call continued from page 1)

The Auxiliary had their Children's Christmas party. We had another Karaoke night. We had our Post Christmas Eve and New Years Eve get-togethers. Our Turkey shoots each Sunday in the rain, snow, or shine continue to be a success.

By the time you read this we will have had our Merchant Marine Academy's Cookie Café. Dozens and dozens of homemade cookies were donated and wrapped by our members. We had pledged 250+ dozen cookies to the U.S Merchant Marine Academy, Kings Point "Cookie Cafe".

www.kpcookiecafe.com. Thanks to all our Cookie Angels. Once again community service is who we are and what we do.

We also had our first Movie Night at the post to watch the remake of "True Grit". More movie nights are being planned. Membership has its benefits.

Our Friday and Tuesday night dinners are back in full force now that the holidays are over. Please come out with your family and friends and support us by eating well. We also had our S.A.L. annual Chili Cook-off. More good eats. We do like to eat.

February will bring our annual Super Bowl Party and fundraiser as well as our Daytona 500 Race Party and another Karaoke night. Come out and join in the sing or just listen. Post 66 will be 80 years old this month (February 20, 1932). Hooah.

March will bring our Post Birthday Dinner and Social as well as the S.A.L. Bull and Oyster Roast. Yet more good eats. I don't know if I'm getting hungry or too full just thinking about it.

Not to forget eating. We can never have enough eating. Thanks to all that donate their time and cooking skills for our dinner nights and special events. From Joe's Ribs and Subs, Darby's Steaks, the S.A.L. half-baked chicken dinners, the Auxiliary's Taco dinners, and Marie's chips and dip to all those that serve and wash up afterwards. Thank you all very much. We could not do it without you.

Hopefully by our next newsletter I can say welcome to spring.

Until next time be well,

**Brian Goldman,
Commander**

*Nothing sucks more than that moment during
an argument when you realize you're wrong.*

*If that boy were any dumber,
he'd have to be watered twice a week.*



Saturday February 25 at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday March 31 at 7:30 p.m.

The January screening of
 True Grit was a success.
 We missed YOU!

Movies for the upcoming
 movie nights have not been
 picked yet.

The title of the movie will be
 announced via the web
 calendar and e-mail notices.

Movies will be held inside in the Meeting Hall on the REALLY BIG screen.
 Bring your own chairs or use ours. Free sodas and light refreshments.

Meeting Hall & Pavilion Rental

The Post 66 meeting hall and outdoors pavilion are available for you or your friends to rent.

Consider the hall or pavilion for your life celebrations, such as wedding rehearsals, receptions, family reunions, birthday parties, and picnics.

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



Cookie Café - January 21, 2012

Daytona 500 Party

The annual Daytona 500 party will be held on Sunday, February 26, 2012, beginning at 1:00 p.m. at the Post. This year, we are expecting the race to be even more spectacular when we watch it on our new 110 inch high definition screen and surround-sound stereo system. Any bets on how long it will take for the neighbors to complain about the noise?

Cost for entrance is only \$1.00. We have some great snacks planned, as well as raffles, pull tabs, exciting give-a-ways, and door prize tickets for purchase. There will be TONS of merchandise to choose from. And, if that is not enough, Gidget is providing some great drink deals and if you want to take advantage of them, come on down and enjoy a great race with good times for the entire family.



In years past, we have donated proceeds The American Legion 76 Freedom Car. Our Post has had a long tradition of supporting American Legion racing and our ties to the Johnson family have been strong. Regrettably, The American Legion and Team Johnson agreed to not renew their contract and the affiliation ended on December 31, 2011. However, that has not stopped the team. They are now racing as the POW-MIA 76 Freedom Car and getting more support than ever. Proceeds will be donated to help them keep the POW-MIA issue in front of the American public.

Cookie Monster Attacks Post 66

Saturday, January 21 – 253 Dozen Cookies - There was a great turn-out by Post friends and family to fill up the United States Merchant Marine Academy's (USMMA) cookie jar. Over two dozen volunteers delivered cookies or baked them at the Legion, despite the first icy weather event of the season. This is the second year that Post 66 has committed to this sweet endeavor, which was again both successful and delicious. This year's theme was gingersnaps as set by June Gray, Steve Ellison, and Pete Chambers. June and Pete filled the hall with the aroma of gingerbread as they baked 32 dozen (that's 384 smiley face cookies!) on Saturday morning. Next, J.D. Larson fired up the ovens, followed by John McKay, with Marie Pritchett and Fran McKenna finishing up the final recipe. Many thanks to the small army of Keebler elves who were onsite to assist with counting, wrapping, and boxing more than 3,000 cookies, including Brian Goldman, Mark Ryan, (Linda Ryan supervising via Skype), Ray and Jan Hart, Sheila Peterson, Jim Edwards, and Tim and Cathy Fink.

The USMMA, located in Kings Point, New York, is one of the five U.S. service academies, and is training young men and women for maritime service to both the military and civilian sector (www.usmma.edu). It is no ordinary college experience, and the Cookie Café allows the midshipmen a chance to get away from the stresses of the regimented Academy life ... and what better than cookies and milk once a week in the middle of the afternoon?

A handful of Bowie area graduates have attended Kings Point over the past 10 years, and currently Post 66 can claim two midshipmen among the ranks. Mike Slonaker and Kevin Fink are both alumni of Boys State and Eagle Scouts from the Post-chartered Troop 1688. Both guys are also big cookie eaters.

THANKS to everyone who donated or helped with this event.



Talk About Town

Harlan Tucker had a knee replacement during December

Please wish a very happy 92nd birthday to Alice Taylor. Alice is a member of Auxiliary Unit 66 and is J.D. Larson's mom. Happy Birthday, Alice!

Paula Shal (Brian's sister) made a generous donation to the Wounded Warrior Project (WWP) in honor of Post 66 Adjutant Brian Frye. WWP will use this gift to aid and assist the truly deserving men and women of our armed forces in the current military conflicts.

We've had several Post members who have been snow-birding recently. Ray and Jan Hart spent a week in St. Thomas in December followed by a week on a cruise in January. Dan and Linda Healey spent their traditional 3 weeks in St. Martin in January. J.D. and Michelle Larson spent a week on a cruise in January.

From the Chaplain

If you know of any illness or passing of a Veteran, please let me know. Toni King, 301.262.0257 home; 301.318.1108 cell; 301.464.9814 Post.

For God and Country,
Toni King, Chaplain Post 66

Paid Up For Life (PUFL)

Become a **Paid Up For Life (PUFL)** member of the American Legion, the Auxiliary, or the Sons of the American Legion.

Contact the Officers of your group at the Post for additional information or help.

Avoid inflation by never paying a dues increase!

Service Officer

The **Post Service Officer** is available to help with a variety of different Veterans programs. Some of the items they can help with includes: providing the proper claims forms for VA benefit claims; assisting with VA claim applications; assisting with State and Federal Burial benefits registration; and assisting with VA medical benefits registration.

You can contact the Post 66 Service Officer by e-mail at: ServiceOfficer@alpost66.org.

Post 66 E-news

Do you have an e-mail account? If you would like to receive occasional e-mail messages about Post events and activities, then you should sign up for the Post list-serv program: "66news."

Our list-serv is an announcement-only e-mail group. Messages can only be sent by designated persons. Your e-mail address is completely confidential and is not shared with anyone.

If you want to add (or remove) your e-mail address, log on to the Post website and click on the e-mail sign-up link on the home page and follow the instructions. It will only take you a couple of seconds and you will begin receiving occasional e-mail updates about The American Legion and our Post and its programs.

If you don't feel comfortable signing yourself up, send a note to webmaster@alpost66.org and request that your name and e-mail be added.



The American Legion
Disney-Bell Post 66 - Bowie, Maryland

Presents

Ken's
KARAOKE!



Saturday
February 18, 2012
9:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m.



Come out and sing, watch, cheer,
or just enjoy the "show!"

Daytona 500 Party

\$1 Entry Fee

SUNDAY
FEBRUARY 26, 2012
1:00 P.M.

DISNEY-BELL POST 66
9605 OLD LAUREL BOWIE RD.
BOWIE, MARYLAND

\$1 Draft Beer
\$1.75 Cans, Bottles, and Rail

Games, Racing Gear
Memorabilia Galour!

Hear the Sounds!
See the Cars!
100" Hi-Def!
Surround Sound Action!

Proceeds to Support
Team Johnson Motorsports
and the
POW-MIA Freedom Car



Elements of the American Legion Emblem

Every part of the American Legion emblem has a meaning, a rich symbolism that a glance does not reveal. The emblem is laid upon the rays of the sun, giver of life, warmth and courage; foe of the cold, of the darkness, of fear, of apprehension. In turn, each of the emblem's parts signifies a meaning, which no American Legionnaire who wears the emblem should take lightly, and which he/she should know from the first moment it is put on.

Why does the star signify constancy of purpose? It's because the stars are fixed in the heavens. As the stars do not wander, so should The American Legion not wander from its fixed purposes. Further, the words "The American Legion" demand that "the wearer shall ever guard the sanctity of home, country and free institutions." There shines the emblem of the American Legion. It is your badge of pride and distinction, honor and service



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



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



**Happy Birthday to Post 66 - 80 years young.
Chartered on February 20, 1932.**