

Disney-Bell Family News

Volume 2020, Issue 2

March-April 2020



Commander's Corner

Greetings Everyone,

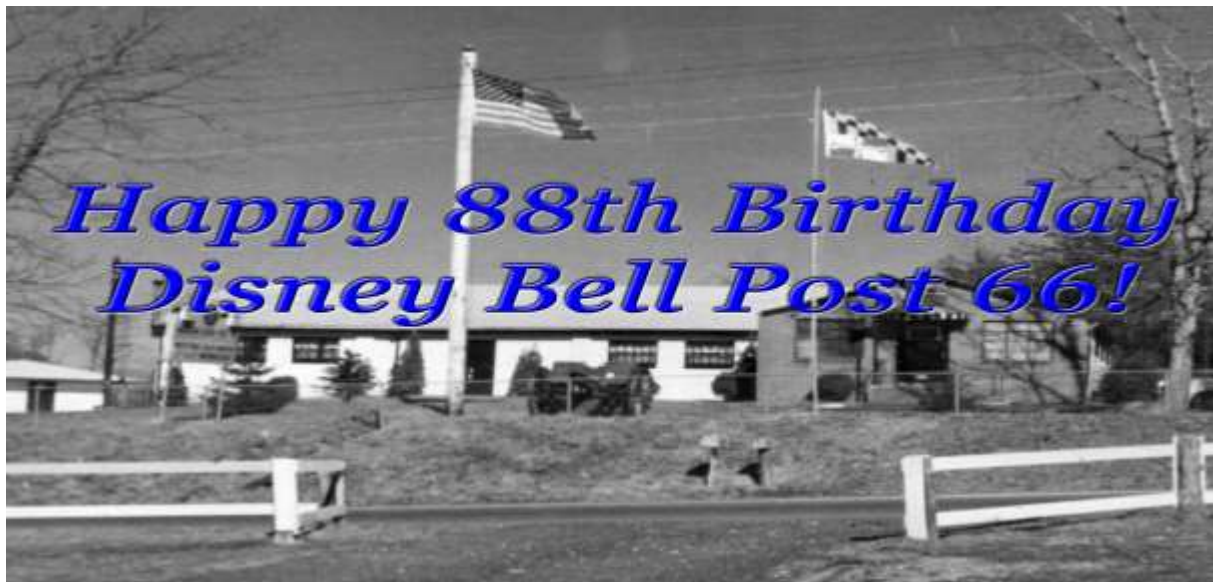
Let's start off talking about membership. We are behind in our goal. I would like to encourage all members to sign up new members and re-sign those who haven't renewed yet.

We had a very good turnout for the Legion dinner and I would like to thank everyone for hanging around when we found out we were out of gas. A big thank you to Mrs. Poist, who owns the Poist Gas Company, and to her grandson who delivered the gas. The next Legion dinner will be Fried Oysters and Steamed Shrimp. I was going to come up with a new dinner, but everyone I spoke to asked me to do the oysters and shrimp, so back by popular demand we will be serving them again on 03-27-2020.

As a reminder, we have a date for the Second Annual Legion Golf Tournament. It will be held on 09-18-2020.

Yours Truly,

Commander Ed Connell, Sr.



COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) Update

3/16/2020

Please read the message below from Department Adjutant, Russell Myers.

All,

As most of you know by now from oral statements of the Governor during a press conference, Governor Hogan has ordered the closure of all bars and restaurants in Maryland.

First, let me make this clear. The Department has no more information on this than anyone watching the news conference. We have not been given any additional information, and no written guidance has been able to be received from the State authorities, even on their website.

Next, the Department does not have the ability to order or demand the closure of the Posts operations. Local and State officials have and continue to possess this power, especially under a state of emergency as now exists in Maryland. It is those local and State officials that are the authority for any such action. The Department cannot and will not try to provide clarifying information that isn't provided by the State. We will say that if clarifying information is received we will send it out, but we do not possess anymore information to send out other than what is stated here.

The Department Officers will be reducing or eliminating their travel schedules during this state of emergency. Commander Dorsey has already spoken to them.

The Department passed a resolution in 1995 resolving that all Posts are to obey all local, State, and national laws, rules and regulations. From the limited information the Department possesses on this matter the Governor ordered all bars and restaurants closed as of 5pm today. If a Post operates a bar or restaurant then it most likely falls under the order and must obey. However, local and State officials are the authority on the matter, not the Department. The licenses to operate the Post operations are given by the local authorities and are regulated by such entities.

The Department believes if a Post feels they would be violating a rule or order of the local or State Government by remaining open it is quite obvious they must close. A closing pending further clarification may also give the Post time to speak with local health or liquor officials. I would caution those trying to parse the statement by using our private club status should consult local authorities (health departments or Liquor boards), or legal counsel before making such a decision. Being wrong in the remaining open decision could not only leave the Post open to sanction by the governmental bodies, but also possible civil actions from patrons that could claim infection from the decision of the Post to remain open contrary to a government order.

Meetings (not part of the Post business operations) are not covered in the order from what information is available, but I would provide the following information. If health officials are closing non-essential businesses and taking drastic steps, I am not sure what Post meeting subject couldn't be postponed. But again these decisions are not the Department's to order or demand. Again, I would caution those trying to skirt an order that is being enforced by having "meetings" more frequently could also face issues with local officials or other issues.

Finally, We understand this is a trying time, and these decisions are not easily made. But each Post corporation must make this based off of best available information. The Department cannot demand or order the closure. We can however provide information like any other source, and ask that the Posts consider the health ramifications and legal jeopardy of trying to skirt an order of the Governor without clear rulings that in fact the Post is not mandated by the order to close. It would be hard for the Department to urge anymore caution than we have, and will continue to urge that same level of vigilance.

Russell W. Myers, Jr.

Department Adjutant

The American Legion,

Department of Maryland

101 N Gay St, Rm E

Baltimore, MD 21202



Does your membership card say **2019?**

Your 2019 membership card
is **EXPIRED** and no longer valid
Please pay your dues and
support your American Legion Post

If your membership card doesn't look like this,



then you need to **RENEW TODAY!**



Auxiliary Unit 66

Great News! Our Unit 66 has made our Membership Goal + for the year! Thank you to Linda Green, our membership chairperson, for all her hard work. Even though she has the huge job of being the Department of Maryland President this year, she still finds time to work with her own unit. Thanks to all our members who took membership seriously and got them in on time this year.

As Turkey Shoots wind down for this year, I would like to thank those who get up every Sunday morning to cook breakfast. This is a group of volunteers from all branches of our post, Auxiliary, SAL, and Legion. Thanks to all, this is truly a group effort. Special Thanks to Lois VanSickle for being our chairperson and organizing this each year. Our cooks this year have done an exceptional job.

We are planning the Children's Easter party on Sunday, April 5th. We are in need of volunteers to help. As this party grows larger each year we need more volunteers to hide eggs for the egg hunt, cook, help the children dye eggs, and help with crafts. We need donations of bags of small wrapped candy for the egg hunt. This is always a fun party, and as always the Easter Bunny leads the Bunny Hop through the post!!! Come join us.

As the year moves forward at lighting pace I would like to slow down a bit to remember that the post birthday is coming soon and we need to reach out to some of our older members who may have lost touch with Post 66. These people, Legion, Auxiliary or SAL, are the reason that we have reached this year's 88th birthday. If you know someone who would like to visit Post 66 but is no longer able to, reach out to them. Our chaplain is always ready to send "Thinking of You" cards. Let her know if you know of someone who could use a cheery reminder that we are thinking of them. The newsletter is no longer mailed, but we as individuals could print a copy and mail it to someone who would love to hear from us. Let's find ways to keep them in the post loop. It is one small way we could thank them for all their years that brought us to where we are today. April 4th is the scheduled date for the post birthday celebration.

Just a reminder to all Members, if you participate in any community service projects, please let us know. Any church volunteers, school volunteers, hospital volunteers, or if you crochet or knit at home for the homeless, we can get credit for your hard work for our year end volunteer hours.

Our next meeting in March is Wednesday March 18th at 7pm. Come help us plan for our spring and summer events.

Our April 15th meeting is always the Americanism Essay contest reception. All members are encouraged to attend. It has always been an honor to host this event for the elementary school students and their parents.

The Auxiliary Scholarship of \$1000.00 is available to all high school seniors who are eligible to join the Auxiliary. If you know of a student who is eligible, please encourage them to apply before May 15th. Applications may be obtained from the Auxiliary by email: dbunit66@gmail.com.

For God and Country,

Debbie McMeans

President, Disney Bell Unit 66



S.A.L. Squadron 66

Sons of the American Legion,

Once again here we are rolling right along quickly into the spring season; yes it's March and it seems like the Holiday season just ended. Hope everyone is doing well.

I would like to give an update on the S.A.L. membership at Post 66 as the reports come out from the State of Maryland and the Southern Maryland district. S.A.L. Squadron 66 as of March 6, 2020 has received 3 STAR status with our membership numbers and is sitting in 9TH place in the State of Maryland out of 295 Legions.

There are new members joining our Squadron and Post all the time and it sure is a good feeling to see this happen. Please, let's keep this going. We are currently moving forward to make paying your renewal memberships easier as you will be able to do this online soon, I will keep you updated. Dues are \$20.00.

We continue to have to have our meetings on the 2nd Monday of every month and welcome any S.A.L. members to join us as we go over our upcoming activities. We also continue to have our Baked Chicken/Salmon dinners and our next one will be on Friday, March 20th, so please make sure that you are signed up to get the Emails that let you know what's going on. Go to AL-POST66.org and join the Post email list. There is typically a dinner every Friday at Post 66 but please check the Calendar and signup please.

Our Nominations of Officers is coming up in April, we could certainly use some new faces. Please join us for upcoming meetings.

Our 15th annual Chili Cook-off was held on February 22nd. We had a great turnout and a lot of fun. Thanks to all who contributed, competed, judged and helped; it was a great day. There were some great Pots of Chili. Here are some of the Winners: In the Hot category: 1st place went to Ed Connell, 2nd place Rodney Scott, and 3rd Place Russell Sullivan. In the Mild category: 1st place went to Lisa Connell, 2nd place Deb McMeans, and 3rd place Debbie Clark.

Everyone please enjoy the warmer temperatures and Springtime and please come out to see us at Post 66.

Kevin McMeans

Commander, Squadron 66



Auxiliary Unit 66

Congratulations Unit #66, we have made Goal and Goal Plus!

We are still collecting 2020 dues so, if you have not paid them, please send them to the Post (9605 Old Laurel Road, Bowie, MD 20720-3255) or stop by and give them to the bartender. A receipt will be given to you and your card will be on the way soon. Of course, you can still pay online at www.alaforveterans.org.

Please note that we will be collecting 2021 dues beginning in July 2020. I will get the cards at the Department Convention in Ocean City. Be an Early Bird and pay by November 11, 2020! Dues are \$30 per Senior Member and \$10 per Junior Member (18 years and under), checks made payable to Disney-Bell Unit #66 and send to my attention.

Thank you members for renewing, recruiting, and keeping your membership current. I am proud of our Unit in all they do, and truly thank you all for supporting me as Department President this year. Unit #66 is truly awesome!

For God and Country,

Linda L. Green

Membership Chairman, Unit #66



Children's Easter Party

**American Legion Auxiliary
Children's Easter Party**

Sunday April 5th

2 -4 pm

**Egg Dyeing, Crafts, Egg Hunt,
The Easter Bunny will be Here**

**Disney-Bell American Legion Post 66
301-464-9814
9605 Old Laurel Bowie Rd
Bowie, Md. 20720**



 **Happy Easter** 



S.A.L. 15th Annual Chili Cook-off



S.A.L. 15th Annual Chili Cook-off



S.A.L. 15th Annual Chili Cook-off



Retirement of Wreaths at Crownsville Cemetery



Friday Dinners

Come join us !

**There is always
something happening at
Post 66!**



Mar 2020

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
1 7:30-9 am Breakfast 9am – 12pm Turkey Shoots	2	3	4	5	6 6:30-8:00pm Steak/Shrimp Dinner – Honor Guard	7
8 8:30-10am Breakfast 10am-1pm Turkey shoots	9 7:00 PM SAL Squadron 66 Meeting	10	11 7:00 pm Executive Committee Meeting	12	13 6:30-8:00pm Auxiliary Dinner	14
15 7:30-9 am Breakfast 9am-12pm Turkey Shoots	16	17 	18 7:00 pm Auxiliary Meeting	19	20 6:30-8:00pm S.A.L. ½ Baked Chicken or Salmon Dinner	21
22 7:30-9 am Breakfast Made to Order	23	24 7:00 pm American Legion Riders Meeting	25 7:00 pm Post General Meeting	26	27 6:30-8:00 pm Legion Dinner	28
29	30	31				

Notes

See the flyers in the newsletter, on Facebook and at the Post
for special event information.

Always check the website calendar or call the Post to confirm dates and times.

All Post meetings start at 7:00 p.m. sharp, unless otherwise noted.



Apr 2020

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
 <p>Happy 88th Birthday Disney Bell Tower</p>			1	2	3 6:30-8:00pm Steak/Shrimp Dinner – Honor Guard	4 Post's 88 th Birthday Celebration
5 Children's Easter Party 2-4 pm	6 7:00 pm PGCC Meeting (Public Safety)	7	8 7:00 pm Executive Committee Meeting	9	10 6:30-8:00pm Auxiliary Dinner	11
12 	13 7:00 PM SAL Squadron 66 Meeting	14	15 7:00 pm Auxiliary Meeting	16	17 6:30-8:00pm S.A.L. ½ Baked Chicken or Salmon Dinner	18
19	20	21	22 7:00 pm Post General Meeting	23 7:00 PGCC Meeting (CDR's Roast)	24 Arbor Day 6:30-8:00 pm Legion Dinner	25
26	27	28 7:00 pm American Legion Riders Meeting	29	30		

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



From the Editor: Please remember this is YOUR newsletter. All news, pictures and ideas are welcome.

Send your items and or questions to: patty216@gmail.com

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

Phone: 301-464-9814
Fax: 301-805-6832
E-Mail: alpost66@comcast.net
Website: www.alpost66.org

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