



American Legion Harold Byrd Post 66

404-292-2352 F: 404-292-2496

December 2008

IMPORTANT DATES

House Committee Meeting

Wed., Dec. 10 @ 5:00 p.m.

Executive Committee Meeting

Wed., Dec. 10 @ 6:00 p.m.

Christmas Party

Fri., Dec. 12 @ 6:00 p.m.

General Meeting (men & women)

Wed., Dec. 17 @ 7:00 p.m.

SAL Meeting

Tues., Dec. 23 @ 6:30 p.m.

Commander

David Ballacchino

Sr. Vice Commander

Sam Guy

Jr. Vice Commander

Harmon Grotsky

Finance Officer

Jim Bishop

Adjutant

David Ballacchino

Interim

House Committee

Chairman

Jon Huddle

Executive Committee

Chairman

Bobby Wright

COMMANDER'S CORNER

The month of November was a very busy month. We had great turnouts for both the Early Bird Dinner and also for the Memorial Service on Veteran's Day. There are photographs of our members in the DeKalb Neighbor which have been posted on the bulletin board. A big thank you goes out to our PR man Doug Chafin. Thank you all for participating in the Memorial Service.

National Commander Dave Rehbein will be visiting Georgia in the new year. Check the bulletin board for times and places.

We are seeking nominations for two openings on the Executive Committee. Please plan to attend the next General Meeting on December 17th to nominate and vote for the members of your choice.

Also at the meeting, we will have a guest speaker. Mr. William S. Burton, a WWII Navy veteran who has written a book, "The Silent Killer of Navy Veterans", will speak about asbestosis, a lung disease. Mr. Burton helps Navy veterans by providing ways to present compensation claims for service-connected illnesses.

The Fourth District Meeting was held at our Post. We had a small turnout of our Legion members. No SAL members from our Post attended. The food, prepared by our Ladies Auxiliary, was great. Thank you to the ladies for all they did in setting up and cleaning up. Thank you all for a wonderful experience.

The holiday season is here! The Christmas party will be on December 12th. We are asking for a \$10 (minimum) donation. The proceeds will go to helping the children of veterans who are deployed in the Middle East. We will be having hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar.

We are asking all members to please call the Post officers and let them know of any member who has fallen ill or passed away within the last six months.

The Executive Committee has voted to suspend paying membership dues for our members who have attained 40 years plus. Legion members will be responsible for paying their dues for the year 2010. Gold Card members will be exempt.

Our membership now stands at 68% and we still have 106 members who have not paid their dues. When you receive this newsletter, remember to PLEASE send in your dues payment for 2008-9 as we are lagging behind other posts.

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COMMANDER'S CORNER

(continued)

Our House Chairman and his small crew are still keeping up with repairs and replacing light bulbs and whatever else may come their way. Would you like to help? Volunteer! After all is said and done, this is YOUR Post. There is a lot of maintenance work here and we could use your help.

Do you have any suggestions? Let the officers know. After all, there are no mind readers here! Thank you to all the members that contribute to the success of this Post.

We will be having new hours for the Post starting January 1, 2009 so check the calendar.

Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and Holiday wishes to all!

Commander *David Ballacchino*

FRIDAY NIGHT DINNERS

- Dec. 5 Hamburgers with chili and a salad (\$8)
Trivia!
- Dec. 12 Christmas Party! Hors d'oeuvres and cash bar (\$10 minimum donation)
Karaoke with David Numaw
- Dec. 19 Fried catfish, fries and slaw (\$9)

KUDOS - KUDOS - ETC.

- We applaud our officers for trying to balance the budget; hopefully it will not change us from a Legion Post that does programs for veterans, God and Country to a mere social club.
- Have you noticed that the Legion work and programs are still being done by the older generation? The same old, same old.
- Where are the young people we talk about?
- Several months have passed since our newsletter has been rearranged and revitalized. Surely, someone has read it and can say that it is good or bad? What do you say?

- N.L.Z.

MEET YOUR OFFICERS!

Jim Bishop

Finance Officer

From:
Philadelphia, PA

Military service:

U.S. Naval Reserves for 8 years from 1952-60, summers while I was in college; 3 years of undergrad, 2 years for Masters

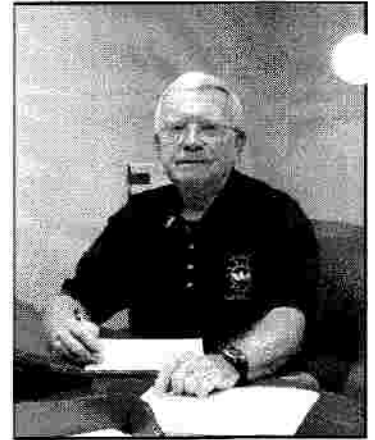
and while working but was never called up. Served on the DE213 *Blackwood*. Got out in June, right before the Cuban Missile Crisis, and the ship was activated in October.

Why did you join the Legion? Carle Wells lived next door and encouraged me to join.

What have you done? First year as Finance Manager.

What do you aim to accomplish? I want to balance the budget and get the post into electronic online processing to keep track of accounts.

Interesting fact: I worked for Maynard Jackson as the City of Atlanta's Director of IT and went with him and Eldren Bell to the 1992 Olympics in Barcelona to see what they did right and wrong. At the Atlanta Olympics, handled the protocol for the Australian delegation and in 1998 went there to help them get started.



The V.A. rep, Harmon Grotzky, Newton Hogg, Joe Rowland, Nick Zingarelli, and seated veterans.

V.A. HOSPITAL

Veterans Serving Veterans — On 12-Nov-08, Post 66 hosted veterans (mostly wheelchair patients) to a turkey dinner made from scratch by our chefs Amy and Lynn. About 40 dinners were served. The servers were Newton Hogg, Joe Rowland, Harmon Grotsky, Ruth Zingarelli, Audrey Hogg, Tillie Davis and Nick Zingarelli. Food was aplenty as most patients asked for and received second helpings. Yeah man! What a wonderful way to spend a day! Of course, we closed with a few old songs led by Tillie Davis and Nick Zingarelli. - N.L.Z.



Ruth Zingarelli, Audrey Hogg and Tillie Davis



Harmon Grotsky serves our guests.



Our guests enjoy a home-cooked meal.

AUXILIARY NEWS

At the USO visit in Nov., approximately 150 were served. Thanks to Jean Carson, Denise White, Martha Mihalek, Jon Huddle, Henry Lightfoot, and James McCullough, who participated. A big thank you also goes to Martha's son for donating 50 Chick Fil-A sandwiches, and Commander David Ballacchino for donating \$200 towards the food.

Bea Orman, Ruth Zingarelli, and Tillie Davis collected over \$380 for poppies on Veterans Day. The Veterans Day Memorial Service was held at the Decatur Cemetery with 49 in attendance. A covered dish lunch was held at the Post after the service.

Tillie Davis, Harmon Grotsky, Ruth and Nick Zingarelli, Jean Carson, and Denise White helped with VA Bingo. Around 25 veterans participated.

The Auxiliary collected food for 7 Thanksgiving baskets. Three were given to people affiliated with Post 66. The other 4 were donated to Avondale Elementary School.

The Christmas party is December 12. We are requesting a \$10 minimum donation for families of overseas military personnel.

Please call Tillie or Doreen if you can help with our VA Gift Shop, December 9-12. This is a very special project for veterans who are hospitalized over the Christmas holidays.

There will be a meeting on December 17.

- President Doreen Henricks



Commander David Ballacchino stopped by and helped Nick Zingarelli serve dessert to the veterans.

2008

DECEMBER

2008

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
BINGO JACKPOT (LAST GAME) IS MAXIMUM \$900	CLUB HOURS Monday through Friday, 12 – 9, closed Sat. and Sun. LUNCH Tuesday and Thursday 12 – 2:00 p.m. at Café 66 BINGO Every Thursday Night at 7:00 p.m. and every Sunday at 7:00 p.m. \$1,500 in prizes with a last game jackpot maximum \$900					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		Potluck & Pool Playing 6:00 p.m.		BINGO 7:00 p.m.	Friday Night Dinner Hamburger & chili \$8.00 6:00 p.m. Trivia!	CLOSED
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
CLOSED BINGO 7:00 p.m.	<i>No planned</i>	Potluck & Pool Playing 6:00 p.m.	HOUSE COMM. 5:00 p.m. EXEC. COMM. 6:00 p.m.	BINGO 7:00 p.m.	Christmas Party Hors d'oeuvres Cash bar/\$10.00 6:00 p.m.	CLOSED
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
CLOSED BINGO 7:00 p.m.	<i>activities on Mondays.</i>	Potluck & Pool Playing 6:00 p.m.	GENERAL & AUXILIARY MTGS. 7:00 p.m.	BINGO 7:00 p.m.	Friday Night Dinner Fried Catfish \$9.00 6:00 p.m.	CLOSED
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
CLOSED BINGO 7:00 p.m.	<i>but the club is open.</i>	Potluck & Pool Playing 6:00 p.m. S.A.L. MEETING 6:30 p.m.	V.A. Bingo 1:30 p.m.	CLOSED Christmas Day	CLOSED	CLOSED
28	29	30	31			
CLOSED BINGO 7:00 p.m.	<i>so stop by!</i>	Potluck & Pool Playing 6:00 p.m.	New Year's Eve		S	
The best things in life aren't things.						

DAVID BALLACCHINO
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