



American Legion Harold Byrd Post 66

30 Covington Road
Avondale Estates, GA 30002
PH: 404-292-2352 F: 404-292-2496

February 2009

IMPORTANT DATES

Four Chaplains Service
Sun., Feb. 1 @ 2:00 p.m.

**House Committee
Meeting**
Wed., Feb. 11 @ 5:00 p.m.

**Executive Committee
Meeting**
Wed., Feb. 11 @ 6:00 p.m.

SAL Meeting
Tues., Feb. 17 @ 6:30 p.m.

General Meeting
(men & women)
Wed., Feb. 18 @ 7:00 p.m.

Commander

David Ballacchino

Sr. Vice Commander

Sam Guy

Jr. Vice Commander

Harmon Grotsky

Finance Officer

Jim Bishop

Adjutant

David Ballacchino

House Committee

Chairman

Sam Guy

Executive Committee

Chairman

Bobby Wright

COMMANDER'S CORNER

February is here. Where has January gone? We have lost several members this past month and one very dear lady who worked hard to promote the American Legion and Ladies Auxiliary. Margaret Lusk died January 17th at 11:22 a.m. God has a quality woman in His fold and she is probably now organizing a Legion function that includes a lot of past members. Every time we met, she would say "don't worry, Commander. You are doing just fine." Joann and I will miss her and so will all the people who had the pleasure of knowing her. JR, our prayers are with you in this time of sorrow.

We have discussed our By-laws and will be presenting them for approval at the next general meeting. Speaking of which, where are all the members? We need a quorum present and, without your participation and input, we are floundering. This is your Post and you DO have a say in what transpires here. Do not sit idly by; come out and participate!

Thanks to our Finance Officer Jim Bishop who is keeping good books, compiling the information and presenting it in a good format. The budget was also discussed. We are on track to lowering our deficit and, if my math does not fail me, we achieved a balance of the budget.

I still have many Asbestoses books by William Burton for sale here at the post. Mr. Burton is helping many veterans with the book's proceeds.

Sam Guy is still amazing the post members with all he is doing: Sr. Vice Commander and assistant Finance Officer. And, now, he was elected by the Executive Committee to be the House Committee Chairman.

Ruth and Nick Zingarelli and Joann and I will be attending the National Commander's visit at Post 145 in Douglasville. Also, please don't forget to join us for the Four Chaplains Service on Sunday, February 1st at 2:00 p.m. at the Avondale Pattillo Church. Our Post is hosting this event for the District. We will report on these events in the March newsletter.

We have updated the website. Please let us know what you think. www.americanlegionpost66.org

Remember that we run Bingo in our hall Thursday and Sunday nights. Our members also run Bingo at the VA and go to the USO. We need to start thinking about the Legion's 90th birthday.

Members you need to have your 2009 dues in time is running short.

Thank you all, David Ballacchino, Commander

MEET YOUR OFFICERS!

Bobby Wright

Executive Committee Chairman

From:
Gainesville, FL

Military service:

In the Army from Oct. 1961 – Oct. 1963. A specialist in the artillery unit and a radio teletype operator.



Why did you join the Legion?

Because I'm very patriotic and believe in what the Legion represents.

What have you done? Served on the House Committee, and was Adjutant for several years. Commander last year and presently the Chairman of the Executive Committee.

What do you aim to accomplish? My goal is to see the Post prosper, grow and be more active in the programs, with participation instead of just finances.

Interesting fact: Has been a poll manager for DeKalb County from 1974 to the present. The past election was my tenth.

Help Wanted

Desperately seeking proofreader! Must be able to read and write. Thick hide necessary. Short hours and low pay. Please contact the editor. References requested. Hurry! We really need the help.

Denise White and Sarah Zingarelli recycle Bingo paper and flattened cardboard boxes.



FRIDAY NIGHT DINNERS

- Feb. 1 Super Bowl Party! Wings, hotdogs and chips (\$5)
- Feb. 6 Shrimp alfredo. Trivia! (\$8)
- Feb. 13 Valentine's Dinner/Party— Roast beef, mashed potatoes, green beans, salad. Entertainment — South Paw band (\$10)
- Feb. 20 Herb roasted chicken, rice, broccoli and salad. (\$7)

Please R.S.V.P. by each Wednesday night!

GOING GREEN TO SAVE SOME GREEN

Recalling the words of Past National Commander Marty Conatser, "Doing the right thing, at the right time, for the right reason", I started a recycling program at the Post. Our monthly sanitation fee of \$124 is now \$62 by using a smaller trash dumpster and a newly-delivered recycling dumpster for paper and cardboard. Glass, cans and plastics are put in blue co-mingle bags which are picked up weekly by DeKalb County.

Because I feel so strongly about this, I put my money where my mouth is and eagerly paid the sign-up fee and bought 4 trash containers for use in the lounge and Bingo hall. At Bingo, we no longer use the 70+ little trash cans with plastic liners. Instead, trash/garbage, bottles/cans, and bingo paper are put in 3 separate containers. To help save more money, the Bingo workers now stay late and clean up the hall. My thanks to Sheri Arnold with DeKalb County for all her help.

Everybody Wins with Recycling!

- SZ



Bingo worker Yvonne Green recycles an aluminum can.

★★ **A USO CHRISTMAS** ★★

Yeah man! We from post 66 had a Christmas dinner with our departing troops at the Hartsfield/Jackson airport in Atlanta. It was a cold and wintry day as we hauled all the food and drinks in Jon Huddle's and Martha Mihalik's vehicles. We served ham, turkey, mashed potatoes, string beans, stuffed dressing, plus a variety of sandwiches. Martha baked homemade apple, pecan, pumpkin and lemon meringue pies. This feast was made possible by monetary donations (\$50 from Jim and Arlene Bishop, \$25 each from James McCullough and Henry Lightfoot), Marvin Mihalik's donation of turkey and ham, four different side dishes by Jean Carson and Denise White, and hotdog rolls by Jon Huddle. Others who came and helped entertain and serve the troops were Susan Bledsoe, Traci Carson, Ruth and Nick Z.

On this occasion, we met someone we knew! Lt. Brandon Bangsboll, going back to Afghanistan for the 3rd time, stopped by.

You, too, can be one of the wonderful people who have made a monetary donation to help continue the good work done by our monthly visits. Contact Jon Huddle at 770-938-1495. You will feel better knowing your money is going to help our troops. - NLZ

★★ **USO REPORT FOR JAN.** ★★

Arlene Bishop, Bonnie Chafin, Martha Mihalik, Henry Lightfoot, Harmon Grotzky and Jon Huddle took almost 500 sandwiches and hotdogs, chicken dumplings, homemade pies, cakes and brownies to the USO, serving an estimated 250 soldiers. Channel 11 news people were there and interviewed the troops for the 7:00 p.m. news. Too bad none of us were interviewed. We were very glad to see the troops marching through the atrium again. - Jon Huddle

Alas we have many members (WWII, Korean vets) that we have lost track of for a variety of reasons. Please send us your change of address and/or a phone number so we can stay in contact. Remember, membership is the life blood of the American Legion. Our number of members matter *where it counts* in Congress for the troops and veterans benefits.

AUXILIARY NEWS

We are all saddened by the recent loss of Auxiliary members Margaret Lusk and Betty Smart.

The Fourth District Four Chaplains Memorial Service is being hosted by our Post this year. It will be held on Sunday, Feb. 1 at 2:00 p.m. at Avondale Pattillo UMC.

Twenty-seven patients played Bingo with us at the VA in December. Members present included Arlene Bishop, Nick and Ruth Zingarelli, Sarah Zingarelli, Harmon Grotzky and Doreen Henricks. Doreen's mother, Ramona Henricks, a Navy veteran and member of the Legion and Auxiliary also participated.

The Valentine's party for Mountain View Personal Care Home is Friday, Feb. 13 from 2-4:00 p.m. Please call Rita Clifton at 404-294-0097 if you can participate. We can also use donations of snacks and door prizes for the residents.

Spring Conference will be March 14-15 at Lake Lanier Islands Legacy Lodge. Doreen has the information if you wish to make reservations.

Welcome to two new members — Susan Proctor and Pam Dertz. We are now at 65% of our membership goal. If you haven't paid yet, please get those dues to Yvonne Green.

Please remember our members who have been ill: Ruby Head, Susie Alley and Jean Carson.

- President Doreen Henricks

A Special Auxiliary Member

Margaret Lusk

April 22, 1929 — January 17, 2009

Margaret was a Unit 66 member for over 40 years. She held various offices and chairmanships and was President 5 times. She won the Department of Georgia "President of the Year" award. She held several chairmanships and was President in the 4th District. She enjoyed attending Fall and Spring conferences and the Department conventions. She helped with the VA Hospital Bingo for over 20 years and was always ready to help when it came to veterans. She was our chairman for the Avondale July 4th parade. Her dedication and service are an inspiration to us all. We will miss her. Thank you, Margaret, for all your love and help. - RZ

2009

FEBRUARY

2009

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 Four Chaplains Service 2:00 p.m. Super Bowl Party 5:00 p.m. (\$5) BINGO 7:00 p.m.	2 <i>No planned</i>	3 Potluck & Pool Playing 6:00 p.m.	4	5 BINGO 7:00 p.m.	6 Friday Night Dinner Shrimp Alfredo Trivia \$8.00 6:00 p.m.	7 CLOSED
8 CLOSED BINGO 7:00 p.m.	9 <i>activities on Mondays,</i>	10 Potluck & Pool Playing 6:00 p.m.	11 HOUSE COMM. 5:00 p.m. EXEC. COMM. 6:00 p.m.	12 BINGO 7:00 p.m.	13 Valentine's Dinner Roast beef Entertainment \$10.00 6:00 p.m.	14 CLOSED
15 CLOSED BINGO 7:00 p.m.	16 <i>but the club is open,</i>	17 Potluck & Pool Playing 6:00 p.m. S.A.L. MEETING 6:30 p.m.	18 GENERAL & AUXILIARY MTGS. 7:00 p.m.	19 BINGO 7:00 p.m.	20 Friday Night Dinner Herb chicken \$7.00 6:00 p.m.	21 CLOSED
22 CLOSED BINGO 7:00 p.m.	23 <i>so stop by!</i>	24 Potluck & Pool Playing 6:00 p.m.	25 V.A. Bingo 1:30 p.m.	26 BINGO 7:00 p.m.	27	28 CLOSED

You may think you are great and good, but God knows you for what you truly are.

30 Covington Road
Avalon Estates, GA 30002

