



American Legion Harold Byrd Post 66

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

November 2008

IMPORTANT DATES

Early Bird Dinner
Fri., Nov. 7 @ 6:00 p.m.

Veterans' Day Service
Tue., Nov. 11 @ 11 a.m.

**House Committee
Meeting**
Wed., Nov. 12 @ 5:00 p.m.

**Executive Committee
Meeting**
Wed., Nov. 12 @ 6:00 p.m.

SAL Meeting
Tues., Nov. 18 @ 6:30 p.m.

**General Meeting
(men & women)**
Wed., Nov. 19 @ 7:00 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

We are definitely into our Fall season; the chill factor is starting to remind us that the holidays will be upon us. Where did the year go?

Our ranks are dwindling. We have lost more members, two of them were Past Post 66 Commanders — Ray Dennard and Joe F. Kimbrell. Let us all say a prayer for everyone who has been stricken with an ailment and for those who have gone before us.

Let us also keep in our prayers all American servicemen and women wherever they are. May Almighty God protect them and keep them safe. They are fighting for what we all believe in: freedom.

November looks to be a very busy month. The Early Bird Dinner will be on Friday, November 7th. All members attending will need to present their 2009 membership card. Those wishing to pay their dues for 2009 may do so at the door (so to speak) and receive their Early Bird stamped card. A complimentary dinner will be served and, yes, we will have a cash bar for those who wish to have more than a soft drink. Our guest each will be allowed per paid-up member. The cost for members who have not paid their 2009 dues will be \$8.00.

Tuesday, November 11 is Veterans Day and we will be holding a memorial service for those men and women who fought the enemy and did not return home. The service will be at the Decatur Cemetery at 11:00 am. Afterwards, there will be a luncheon at the Post. Please plan to attend and honor those who fell in battle.

We will be hosting the Fourth District meeting at Post 66 on Saturday, November 22nd. Lunch will be at 12:00 noon and the meeting will start at 1:00 p.m. Please try to attend!

On a personal note, I wish to thank all the members who have prayed for my wife JoAnn in her hour of need. As many of you know, she had quadruple by-pass surgery. She is doing great but still has a long way to go. Thank you for the get well cards and please continue to keep her in your prayers.

Thank you all,
David Ballacchino
Commander

MEET YOUR OFFICERS!

Harmon Grotsky

Jr. Vice Commander

From: St. Louis, MO

Military service: Two years and eight months in the Navy. Basic training at the Great Lakes, medic training as a corpsman in Newport, RI and Baltimore, MD, and surgical technician training in Charleston, SC. Assigned to the *USS Lacerta* AKA 29 and was in the battle of Okinawa.

Why did you join the Legion? I think that it is our duty to help other veterans, our community and our country.

What have you done? I volunteer to go to the U.S.O. and to the V.A. hospital for the Bingo parties. I have gone to the V.A. with Jean and Denise to visit patients on the eighth floor. Also, my son Mike and I enjoy coming to the Post to play Bingo.

What do you aim to accomplish? Anything I do is for the betterment of the Post. This year, as Junior Vice Commander, I am in charge of entertainment and, at the moment, I'm on tap dance lesson number 3. On a serious note, I want to help the Post move in a positive direction.

Interesting fact: My mother was born in Chernegof, Russia and moved to the U.S. when she was 18, where she met and married my father, whose mother was also Russian.



Entertainment Chairman Harmon Grotsky dances with an angel at the Halloween Party.

FRIDAY NIGHT DINNERS

- Nov. 7 Early Bird Dinner — BBQ, baked chicken, Brunswick stew, baked beans, mashed potatoes, broccoli and cauliflower, salad and rolls (Free to members paid up for 2009, \$8 for all others)
- Nov. 14 STEAK DINNER! Back by popular demand! Baked potato, green beans, salad and rolls (\$15, includes a drink) Trivia!
- Nov. 21 Pasta bake, salad, garlic bread and dessert (\$6)

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

HOUSE NEWS

Lynn and Amy would like to thank everyone who attended the Halloween Party. We had a lot of fun! Amy cooked up some wonderfully creepy treats — including a brain and those bloodshot eyeballs! Everyone enjoyed listening and dancing to the great music provided by T Foster Brothers.



Amy and her husband Bob.



Lynn and Legionnaire Bill Chapman.

VETERAN'S DAY SERVICE

There will be a Veteran's Day service at the Decatur Cemetery starting at 11:11 a.m. on Tuesday, November 11. After the service, there will be a luncheon. The Post will provide luncheon meat and bread; the Ladies Auxiliary will bring covered dishes.

A WALK DOWN MEMORY LANE

Harold Byrd Post #66 history (continued) -

Harold Byrd Post 66 has been situated at four different locations. First, meetings were held in the Chapter House of the Agnes Lee Chapter U.D.C. Second, the Post moved to the Courthouse Square in the Weeks Building. Third, we bought a barn in the Cooper Park, in the heart of Decatur, and remodeled it. Finally, in June of 1944, we bought the property called the Ingle-side Country Club in Avondale Estates.

Joseph M. Gardener was elected First Commander and served from 1919-20. Those who followed were: Augustine Sams (1920-21), Dr. J. F. Pittman (1921-22), Scott Candler (1930-32), Hugh Burgess (1932-33), Sam Nimme (1933-34), Frank Cagle (1934-35), Scott Candler (1935-36), Vernon Frank (1936-37), Tom Fountain (1937-38), John Lynch (1938-39), Maj. Claude Smith (1939-40), Leon Hollingsworth (1940-41), Waldo Cagle (1941-42), Roger Bell (1942-43), R. K. Whiteford (1943-44), Charles Smith (1944-45), Clay Penick (1945-46), Elmer Helble (1946-47), O.L. Amsler (1947-48) and T.W. Smith (1948-49).

- N.L. Zingarelli

DECATUR SOLDIER ID'd

Sgt. 1st Class W.T. Akins left Decatur and the United States decades ago for the Army and to fight in the Korean War. Finally, he is home. Akins' remains, excavated in November 2006 near Unsan, in the North Pyongan Province, were brought to the US and have been buried in Arlington National Cemetery with full honors.

AUXILIARY NEWS

Two new applicants for Auxiliary membership attended our meeting in October — Susan Proctor and Pamela Dants.

Margaret Lusk took a check to Avondale Elementary for Red Ribbon Week. It was good to have Margaret back at our meeting after her recent illness.

During the October USO visit, over 250 service members were in attendance. Sam Guy donated money for the food. Unfortunately Homeland Security is no longer allowing service members to parade through the atrium of the airport.

On November 12, we will again visit the USO. If you can make sandwiches, please place them in the cooler by Nov. 11, for Jean and her group to take.

On Veterans Day (Tues. Nov. 11), we will lay a wreath at Decatur Cemetery. Following is a covered dish lunch at the Post. If you are able, please participate in the ceremony and bring food to share.

We have been approved to distribute poppies at Fort Gillem during Veterans Day week, Nov. 8-11. Please let Doreen or Bea know if you would like to participate.

Approximately 20 veterans participated in the V.A. Bingo in October.

Fall conference, scheduled for the weekend of October 24-25, was cancelled. It is expected to be rescheduled early in December.

We are still collecting food for our Thanksgiving baskets. Please bring canned or boxed foods and place them in the box next to the piano.

Our membership is up to 45%. Way to go! If you have not paid your 2009 dues yet, please send \$20 for seniors and \$7.50 for juniors to Yvonne Green.

Martha Mihalak is recovering from her recent accident. Bea Orman has had pneumonia but is improving

- President Doreen Henricks

2008		NOVEMBER					2008
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
BINGO JACKPOT (LAST GAME) IS MAXIMUM \$900	CLUB HOURS LUNCH BINGO	Monday through Friday: 12 - 9; closed Sat. and Sun.					
		Tuesday and Thursday 12 - 2:00 p.m. at Cafe 66 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 CLOSED	
2 CLOSED BINGO 7:00 p.m.	3 <i>No planned</i>	4 Potluck & Pool Playing 6:00 p.m. Election Day	5	6 BINGO 7:00 p.m.	7 Early Bird Dinner BBQ & Chicken Free/\$8.00 6:00 p.m.	8 CLOSED	
9 CLOSED BINGO 7:00 p.m.	10 <i>activities on Mondays,</i>	11 Veteran's Day Srv. @ Decatur Cem. 11:11 am Potluck & Pool 6:00 p.m.	12 HOUSE COMM. 5:00 p.m. EXEC. COMM. 6:00 p.m.	13 BINGO 7:00 p.m.	14 Friday Night Dinner STEAK!!!!!! \$15.00 (incl. 1 drink) 6:00 p.m. Trivial	15 CLOSED	
16 CLOSED BINGO 7:00 p.m.	17 <i>but the club is open,</i>	18 Potluck & Pool Playing 6:00 p.m. S.A.L. MEETING 6:30 p.m.	19 GENERAL & AUXILIARY MTGS. 7:00 p.m.	20 BINGO 7:00 p.m.	21 Friday Night Dinner Pasta Bake \$6.00 6:00 p.m.	22 CLOSED	
23/30 CLOSED BINGO 7:00 p.m.	24 <i>so stop by!</i>	25 Potluck & Pool Playing 6:00 p.m.	26 V.A. Bingo 1:30 p.m.	27 CLOSED Thanksgiving Day	28 CLOSED	29 CLOSED	
Be thankful for what you have and help those less fortunate.							

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