

Disney-Bell Family News

Volume 2019, Issue 2

May-June 2019



Commander's Corner

Another 2 months have gone by already and we are only 3 months from 100th Anniversary Maryland Convention at Ocean City!

The months of May and June are very important to our Post. May is nomination month for the Legion at our Post. During the May general meeting on 5/27 we will make nominations for the next Legion year. In June we vote for our favorites and elect the next round of officers. We are looking for Post members who want to participate in the running of our Post. If you want to be a Post officer or you know someone who would be willing to serve, come to the May 27 general meeting and make a nomination. Don't complain if you don't like how things run at the Post if you are not willing to participate.

As some of you may not know, I and my family will be moving to Cape Coral, Florida by this fall. Therefore, I won't be running for any Post office this Legion year. One of my duties for the last 5 years has been as Boy Scout coordinator for the post and our Boy Scout Troop 1688. I am looking for a replacement. The job is to interface with the troop committee and provide leadership and coordination from the Post. The job requires a least one 1 hour meeting per month and sitting on Eagle Scout review boards and attend Troop Court of Honor ceremonies as they come; probably no more than 20 hours a year. Someone who has young kids would be great but that is not necessary. It has been a rewarding experience for me and could be for you as well. I would need someone to take over from me by the end the this summer but earlier would be better so we can have time together for familiarization. Children & Youth is one of the most important Pillars of the American Legion. Help us fulfill the mission. Volunteer, it will be rewarding.

On a calendar note, Memorial Day is on Monday, May 27. Come out to Bowie Veterans Memorial Park for the annual ceremony hosted by the Veteran Service organizations. Service starts promptly at 11am. Also, Saturday, May 25th is the City Memorial Day Parade. Come out, watch and support our city and our Post. We will be towing a combined float of the Post, SAL and Auxiliary. We will be walking as well and handing out flags. Come and join us if you are up to it. We always need walkers. We could use a couple of volunteers to carry the colors (US, Maryland and American Legion flags). If you feel you could do this please contact the Post Adjutant by email at adjpost66@comcast.net. We will be meeting at the Bowie High Annex by 10am. The parade starts at 11am. If you can't participate at least come out and support us by watching on the side lines. See the city web site for more details at <https://www.cityofbowie.org/791/Memorial-Day-Parade>.

June 14 is Flag Day. We will hold our annual Flag Retirement Service. Any unserviceable flags will be retired by burning in a very solemn ceremony by our Post officers and our Boy and Girl Scout troops. Service begins at 7pm at the Post Pavilion and Turkey Shoot line.

We are still having Friday night dinners so please watch for e-blasts or check the post calendar at <http://alpost66.org/misc/event-page.htm>. Come out and support our Post functions. Proceeds go to support our Post, SAL and Auxiliary programs.

For Community, State and Nation,
Commander Brian Goldman

The American Legion

Phone: 301-464-9814

Follow us on Facebook

Disney-Bell Post 66

Fax: 301-805-6832

[The American Legion Disney-Bell Post 66](#)

9605 Old Laurel-Bowie Rd.

E-Mail: alpost66@comcast.net

[Disney-Bell Sons of the American Legion Squadron](#)

Bowie, MD 20720

Website: www.alpost66.org

[Disney-Bell Unit 66 American Legion Auxiliary](#)



Adjutants Corner

Some say "Membership is the lifeblood of the Legion" while others claim "It is the pulse of the organization". Either way, it is the standard by which our Post is gauged. Regardless of how many contributions we make or the number of programs we support, these questions are always asked: "What is your membership? How is your membership program working? Is your membership team fulfilling its function? What are you doing membership wise?" It is so important that the Department of Maryland issues Membership Statistics each week which gives the status of every Post within the state. For those members who are thinking "Its only May of 2019, I have until December", Well guess what, the new 2020 Legion Administrative year starts on July 1st, so technically you are late and will not be credited for continuous membership for 2019 (which by the way started July 1, 2018).

Why should you renew your membership in the American Legion?

First off, it helps the Post meet its membership goals and secondly, it gives us more strength at the county and district level. Most important, it adds membership strength to the American Legion. Why is this so important? With the decreasing veterans population and the fewer numbers of veterans selected to legislative office, we are becoming a minority and our duly elected representatives see no "political fallout" happening to them for taking away or reducing the benefits, compensations, and entitlements we have earned. It is only through large and active Veterans Service Organizations, such as the American Legion, that we can protect what was promised to us. *"In numbers we have strength."*

Although we have the greatest opportunity in a long time to recruit new members, due to Operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, we still need to get those who have not renewed to do so immediately. We are currently over 100 renewals shy of our goal. I am sure that each member who receives this newsletter knows or has heard of one of America's finest who have deployed since Desert Shield/Storm (the current eligibility dates, 1990 to present). How many of you have asked them to be members of the Legion when they returned?

As members of the largest Veterans Service Organization, it our responsibility to search out our newest eligible Veterans and bring them in as members. Many are in need of assistance that we can help them find, because That is What We Do! So, in closing, I ask that each and every comrade take the time to look to your left and look to your right to see if there may be a Veteran waiting to be asked to become a member of The American Legion.

For God and Country,

Brian G. Frye

Adjutant



S.A.L. Squadron 66

Larry Merkel has transferred to Post Everlasting.

As many of you have probably heard by now our Comrade Larry passed away on April 7, 2019. He was a Lifetime Member at Post 66 and had 32 years of continuous membership. His spirit and love will be truly missed.

There was a Repast on April 27th for a "Celebration of Life" at the post and there was a packed house of wonderful people there to comfort his Family. Larry had made a lot of friends over the years and I am pretty sure just about every single one of them were there.

I certainly would like to thank the Legion Family here at Post 66 that helped in all of the preparation for an event like this. At the end of the day I know all of us were proud of our Legion. It couldn't have gone better. THANK YOU!

THE 46th ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION DETACHMENT OF MARYLAND will be held June 21, 22 and 23, 2019 at the Delta Hotels Baltimore Hunt Valley, 245 Shawan Road Hunt Valley, MD 21031. Here is a link to the page: <http://www.mdsal.org/id22.html>

Some of the great dinners will be continuing on most Fridays at the Legion. Please come out and join us . The S.A.L. dinner is always the 3rd Friday of the Month.

MEMBERSHIP***** We are near the end of 2019 cards and there are still a lot of members who have not paid up. You could lose your continuous years if not paid soon. Stop by the Post to pay. DUES ARE \$15.

Our next S.A.L. meeting will be on Monday, May 13th with final Nominations and Election of Officers. Please come out and get involved.

I would like to thank someone who has gotten involved and has helped the Legion and the S.A.L. He has definitely been able to get things going by cooking some dinners, Wednesday Happy Hour, recruiting some new Music Groups and new members as well keeping the grounds at the Post in tip top shape (especially before events) and keeping his nice family happy. That person is Rodney Scott. Please give Rodney a **Big Thank You** the next time you see him.

Kevin McMeans
Commander, Squadron 66

CENTENNIAL COINS



Authorized by Congress, these coins are one of two U.S. Mint commemorative coin programs in 2019. Only 50,000 of the \$5 gold coins, 400,000 silver dollar coins and 750,000 half-dollar coins will be produced. To purchase an American Legion commemorative coin or coin set, go to www.legion.org/coin or call 1-800-872-6468.





Auxiliary Unit 66

I can only imagine that most of you are just happy that the dreadful days of winter are behind us. As usual, here in Maryland we don't have a very long spring and warm weather is upon us already. It's planting time. That brings us to the first bit of news. We are currently trying to pick the great outdoor space for a small Poppy Garden at Post 66. Our Juniors will be planting the garden just as soon as a suitable spot is determined. Poppies are an important part of our organizations and the garden will be a gentle reminder everyday.



Unit reports are complete. It is a true record of just how busy we have been. It is amazing to look back on the year at all we have accomplished. Truly one for the records.

The month of May not only brings flowers, it brings nominations for officers. Our May meeting is the 15th. Come on out to be a part of the nominations, OR...better yet volunteer for a position. We need all voices heard.

May also brings Memorial Day. The City of Bowie Parade is Saturday, May 25th. As usual the Auxiliary is decorating a float. This one will be a joint effort of the Legion Family. One Hundred years of Service will be the theme. We will be decorating it the week before under the post pavilion.

There are lots of volunteer opportunities here at Post 66. We are always looking for people to work on various projects. Just ask what you can do to help, we'll find something to suit you!

We will again be participating in the ceremony at the Bowie Memorial Park on May 27th at 11am. Ladies, all are invited to share in the honor of the wreath laying.

We will begin the push for Wreaths Across America soon. Our first WAA fundraiser will be announced soon! As the regular dinners start to slow down for the summer we will pick up the slack with our dinners, raffles, and all the other fun stuff we do for wreaths. One thousand is always the golden number and thanks to several members who have donated already, we have begun the count.

NOTABLE DATES:

- Fried Shrimp Dinner Friday, May 10
- MOTHERS DAY May 12th
- Auxiliary meeting (nomination of officers) Wednesday, May 15th
- Fried Shrimp Dinner Friday, June 14th
- Meeting (election of officers) Wednesday, June 19th

Don't forget to make your hotel reservations for the American Legion Dept. of Maryland Convention in Ocean City July 17, 18, and 19th. I will have the great honor of placing our own Linda Green's name into nomination for American Legion Auxiliary Dept. of Maryland President this year. Make your plans early.

See you at the next meeting!

For God and Country,

Debbie McMeans,

President, Unit 66 Auxiliary



Happy Birthday!

We celebrated American Legion Disney-Bell Post 66's 87th Birthday
and the American Legion's 100th Birthday on March 16th.



National Commander's Visit

We had the honor of a visit on April 24th by our National Commander, Brett Reistad. Joining us to welcome him were Mayor Fred Robinson and Senator Doug Peters. It was an exciting day for Disney-Bell Post 66! Thank you to all who came out to welcome Commander Reistad!



More pictures can be found on our Facebook page and our website.



Children's Easter Party 2019



Bull & Oyster Roast 2019





ARMED FORCES WEEK

May 13—17, 2019



City of Bowie Memorial Day Parade
 Saturday, May 25, 2019
 11:00 am



Military Families and Veterans have been invited to our local Chick-fil-A on Route 450 in Market Place.

This is a great chance to meet other military families and veterans in your neighborhood!

Post Everlasting 2019

On Saturday, April 13, 2019, we Honored all of our Legion Family members who have passed on to Post Everlasting in the last year. The American Legion, the American Legion Auxiliary and Sons of The American Legion: we thank all of them for their service.



Upcoming Events in May



It's more than 1 day of honor—MISSION BBQ is celebrating for a whole week. 5 days of appreciation for each branch of the military followed by a special lunch on Armed Forces Day. Monday–Friday, all active duty service members and Veterans can enjoy a **FREE SANDWICH** at any location on their designated day:

MILITARY APPRECIATION DAYS

FREE SANDWICH for all active duty service members and veterans.

- Army.....Monday, 5/13
- Marine Corps.....Tuesday, 5/14
- Navy.....Wednesday, 5/15
- Air Force.....Thursday, 5/16
- Coast Guard.....Friday, 5/17

Then on Saturday, May 18th, join us for **Lunch with the Heroes from 11am to 2pm**. Bring your personal Hero who has served Our Country—past or present—as we honor every member of the Armed Forces from all eras. We'll also have a live rendition of our National Anthem performed at noon.

ARMED FORCES DAY

FREE SANDWICH for all active duty service members and veterans.

- Lunch with the Heroes**.....Saturday, 5/18
- LIVE rendition of our National Anthem at noon*

These brave men and women have fought for our freedom, and we are proud to honor them. Please come join us in the celebration all week.

Proudly Serving Those Who Serve,
Your Friends at MISSION BBQ



Upcoming Events in June



Flag Retirement Ceremony

7:00 PM

Post Pavillion

@Turkey Shoot Line

A large advertisement for a Crab Feast. The background is a close-up photograph of many blue crabs. A red-bordered box in the center contains the text "Crab Feast Saturday, June 22 2-5pm". Below this box, the text "Crabs, Shrimp, Corn, Hushpuppies & Draft Beer" is written in yellow, followed by "\$45.00" and "Tickets sold at the Bar" in yellow. At the bottom, the address and phone number are listed in orange.

Crab Feast
Saturday, June 22
2-5pm

Crabs, Shrimp, Corn, Hushpuppies & Draft Beer
\$45.00
Tickets sold at the Bar

Disney Bell Post 66
9605 Old Laurel Bowie Rd
Bowie Md. 20720
Call 301-464-9814

Coming This Summer!

APPEARING LIVE

Jackson Dean

At the
American Legion
Post 66

SATURDAY, JULY 13TH
6:00 PM

\$25 PER PERSON / \$30 AT THE DOOR – (LIMITED SEATING)

DOORS OPEN AT 2:00PM
BRING LAWN CHAIRS

FOOD/DRINKS/CORNHOLE

OPENING ACT
(STARTS AT 3:00)

**3 TIL
MIDNIGHT
BAND**



AMERICAN LEGION POST 66 * 9605 OLD LAUREL BOWIE ROAD * BOWIE, MD 20720 * 301-464-9814

May 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
					6:30pm - 8:00pm <u>Steak/Shrimp</u> Dinner	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
			7:30pm Executive Committee Meeting		6:30pm - 8:00pm <u>Auxiliary</u> Dinner	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Mothers' Day	7:00pm SAL Squadron 66 Meeting		5:00pm - 8:00pm <u>Chick-fil- A Military Appreciation Night</u> 7:00pm Auxiliary Meeting		6:30pm - 8:00pm <u>S.A.L. 1/2 Baked Chicken</u> Dinner	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
			7:30pm Post General Meeting (Officer Nominations)	7:30pm American Legion Riders Meeting	6:30pm - 8:00pm <u>Legion</u> Dinner (Not every month)	City of Bowie Memorial Day Parade
26	27	28	29	30	31	
	Memoria l Day 11am					

**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 7:30 p.m. sharp, unless otherwise noted.

June 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	7:00pm SAL Squadron 66 Meeting 7:00pm PG County Council (Caucus)		7:30pm Executive Committee Meeting		Flag Day Ceremony 7 pm Happy Birthday U.S. Army	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Fathers' Day			7:00pm Auxiliary Meeting		6:30pm - 8:00pm S.A.L. 1/2 Baked Chicken	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
			7:30pm Post General Meeting (Elections)	7:30pm American Legion Riders Meeting	6:30pm - 8:00pm Legion Dinner (Not every month)	
30						

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



Auxiliary Chaplain's Notes

Please contact me with information regarding hospitalizations, births, illnesses, deaths or other needs relating to Auxiliary members. I will be happy to send cards on behalf of our unit.

If you know of anyone needing long term contacts such as nursing home residents and those with long term illnesses, please let me know so we can keep in touch with them.

Agnes Bowersox, Unit 66 Chaplain

301-464-9374 or jabowersox@yahoo.com



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

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