



9122 Piscataway Road  
Clinton, Maryland 20735

(301) 868-2550

*FOR GOD AND COUNTRY...*  
Brian S. Kern, Commander

**JUNE**

**DANIEL B. KALLEMYN, EDITOR**

**2009**

### COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Another Legion year is just about complete and we are getting ready to head into the next Legion year. I'd like to thank those who served on the Executive Committee over the course of the last year. I'd also like to thank the outgoing SAL and Auxiliary officers for their efforts. Your support is crucial to the well-being of our Post. Last, but certainly not least, I'd like to thank the general membership for its support. I greatly appreciate all who attend the regular membership meetings, frequent Post events, or routinely stop by the Canteen. Having thanked everyone for their support or efforts last year, let me ask for the same in the upcoming Legion year.

Looking back over the year, we accomplished many things but many challenges remain. As with many non-profit service based organizations, membership and finances are at the core of the challenges. The same can be said for Post 259. We are relying heavily on fundraising events to support a Post Baseball Team and the Post Scholarship program. While I'm on that thought, thanks to all who have already made contributions toward both programs. As concerns membership, I greatly appreciate all who send their dues in each year. The strength of the American Legion is its membership and the same can be said for Post 259. We also have a core of dedicated volunteers working to increase or at least retain our membership numbers by writing letters, etc.

Our Memorial Day program was well attended and we had interesting speakers. No matter when we served, why we served, where we served, or in which branch of the Armed Forces we served, we share a common bond as American Legion members. If I can mention one small goal for next year it is that we fill the hall on Memorial Day as we honor those who gave all in defense of this great country.

I was (and am always pleased) to see how well the SAL Mother's Day Brunch was attended. Several attendees I spoke with commented on how good the food was and how long they'd been coming to the brunch. Thanks to all who volunteered as well as those who attended. I appreciate the comments on how we can better advertise the event and apologize for the oversight that it did not appear on the May calendar.

In closing, I'm honored to serve again as your Post Commander for the upcoming year. Over the course of the last year, I learned a great deal that can be applied to the upcoming year. I have several ideas to increase my availability which will be discussed in upcoming newsletters. To the incoming Executive Committee, SAL officers, and Auxiliary officers, thank you for stepping up and accepting leadership positions.

As always, thanks for your continuing support, thoughts, and ideas.

In Legion Service  
Brian Kern, Commander

## AUXILIARY

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** The end of this administrative year is approaching soon and it is time to nominate new officers. If you are interested in holding an office for the Administrative year 2009-2010, please call Liz White. Liz's telephone number is 301-868-1612.

We will be having a few rentals in July, if you will be able to help, please contact me. Looking forward to working with you, call me at 301-868-7960. We still need Bingo kitchen workers for each of the Fridays, so please volunteer and help your Auxiliary. Thanking you in advance for your help.

If you have not paid your 2009 dues, it is not too late. We still need your membership and love for you to continue being a member of Unit #259.

Please continue to support your Auxiliary, Post and SAL activities, you the members are the backbone of our organizations and we are here to serve you.

Our next meeting will be Monday, June 8, 2009, at 7:30 PM, hope to see you.

God Bless each and every one of you and God Bless America and all our service men and women everywhere.

Toni Carr, President

**SAL Monthly Meetings**  
**First Monday of Each Month**  
7:00 PM

Squadron 259 and the Clinton Moose Lodge members worked together on the Annual Christmas in April to perform repairs to a house in the Upper Marlboro area. Repairs were made both inside and outside the house. Thanks to Gary Castleman for his coordination of the event and the valuable work he performed. Other volunteers and members included Gary Shupe, Bill Scoble, and Charles Lewis. I even worked up a sweat.

I would like to thank the following volunteers and members for assisting to put on another great Mother's Day Breakfast. Everyone's hard work made the event a success.

Anne Richards

Gary Castleman  
Cookie King

Gary Shupe  
Wayne Berbig  
Dave Hutchinson  
Larry Hall

Bob Ward  
Bill Scoble  
Mary Phares

The installation of Squadron officers will be held in conjunction with the installation of Post 259 officers on June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2009. As of this writing the Squadron has vacant positions. If you would like to volunteer for one of the positions contact any of the Squadron officers or leave a note with the bartender and we will get the message.

Yours in Service,  
Wayne Berbig  
SAL Commander

## CHARLOTTE HALL

The Post held their monthly BINGO program on 13 May. As usual, helping me out this month were, Bob Levendusky, Al Elmond, and Mike Gilbert. There were 72 veterans in attendance and really enjoyed themselves. I would like to thank the Auxiliary for supplying the snacks for the evening. Our next BINGO will be 10 June. As I said before, we could always use a few more hands, helping out. Hope to see you there!! Remember to say, "THANKS TO A VET."

Mike Strotkamp  
301 645 2397

## LETTERS, NOTES, ETC,

**GUEST SPEAKER AT JUNE REGULAR MEMBERSHIP MEETING:** First Sergeant Buddy Scott of the Maryland Defense Force (MDF) will be on hand at the June Regular Membership meeting to talk about the Maryland Defense Force and opportunities for veterans. The MDF is the state defense force for the state of Maryland and its mission is to provide medical, legal, and logistic support for the Maryland Army and Air National Guard. Additionally, the MDF provides support to search and rescue operations; as well as, disaster relief. Learn more about the MDF by attending the meeting.

### **PAID-UP-FOR-LIFE MEMBER SAVINGS:**

Looking for a way to save some money? Do you sometimes forget to pay your annual Legion membership dues? If you answered yes to either of these questions, consider becoming a Paid-Up-For Life (PUFL) member. By becoming a PUFL, you don't have to worry about future increases in your annual dues or worry about whether you remembered to pay your dues. Interested? Go on line to [www.legion.org/national/join/pufl](http://www.legion.org/national/join/pufl) where you'll find a PUFL application, dues information, and information on an interest free time payment plan. You can also ask any of the Post officers for more information and they'll point you in the right direction.

### **FLAG DISPOSAL CEREMONY – JUNE 14th:**

Please join with your fellow Legionnaires and other interested parties as Post 259 formally and with dignity disposes of unserviceable flags. The ceremony begins promptly at 2 PM. on Flag Day, June 14th, at the Post.

### **FLAG AMENDMENT INTRODUCED IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:**

On April 30, Representatives Jo Ann Emerson (MO) and Jim Marshall (GA) introduced House Joint Resolution 47, a constitutional amendment that would return to the American people the right to protect their flag. The one sentence amendment reads, "The Congress shall have power to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States." The amendment had 7 cosponsors at introduction. Post-election analysis indicates the measure enjoys support from more than 260 members of the House with 60 undecided. In six consecutive Congresses the House of Representatives has overwhelmingly passed a proposed flag amendment, only to see it fall short in the Senate by as little as one vote in 2006.

In 1989, the U.S. Supreme Court took from the American people their right to protect their flag by invalidating flag protection laws in 48 states and the District of Columbia in the case of Texas v. Johnson. In 1990, it invalidated a flag protection statute as well. To date, 50 states have passed memorializing resolutions asking Congress to pass the amendment and send it to the states for ratification.

All members of The American Legion family are asked to contact their U.S. Representatives and urge them to become cosponsors of H.J. Res. 47. If your member is already a cosponsor, thank them for their support of Old Glory. In addition, Legion family members should contact their U.S. Senators and request them to contact the office of Senator David Vitter (LA) and become a cosponsor of his companion resolution, which is expected to be introduced on May 6.

### **ANNUAL COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP CONTEST:**

The Annual Post Scholarship Contest consists of two categories, (1) Surrattsville High School, Clinton MD students and (2) a relative from a member of the Post. This year only one Scholarship was awarded by the Post Scholarship Committee. The \$1,000.00 winner is Nathan E. Ryon from La Plata High School, a grandson of Bernard Byon. CONGRATULATIONS NATHAN!

### **ARE YOU A VETERAN WHO IS VISUALLY IMPAIRED? ARE YOU READY TO WORK?**

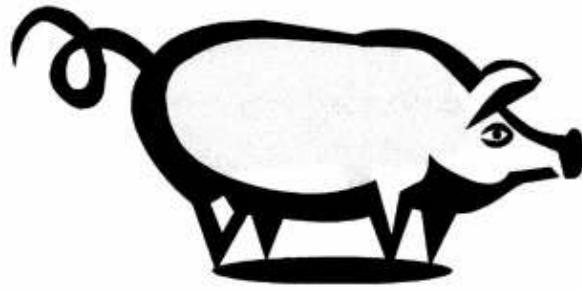
Columbia Lighthouse for the Blind Can Help!

With thousands of veterans living in the Washington, DC Metropolitan area who are visually impaired or blind, many require additional assistance and services to secure and maintain employment. Columbia Lighthouse for the Blind, serving the blind and visually impaired, created the Bridge to Work initiative to address these unmet needs. Bridge to Work will ensure that visually impaired or blind veterans who want to be employed have the skills, resources and training they need to succeed.

Take advantage of group or one-on-one sessions with our rehabilitation professional who can help you adjust to vision loss and teach you daily living techniques. Take advantage of job placement and retention

If you are an employer looking to partner with CLB in this initiative to help provide employment to visually impaired and blind veterans, please contact us today!

For more information on Bridge to Work, please call (240) 737- 5100 or visit our website at [www.clb.org](http://www.clb.org).



# **PIG ROAST**

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 1<sup>ST</sup>  
CLINTON POST 259  
AMERICAN LEGION**

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**DETAILS WILL BE ANNOUNCED SHORTLY**



# June 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
	1 S.A.L. 7:30 PM	2	3 Shrimp 5:30 - 7:30 PM Pinochle	4	5 BINGO Early Bird 7:15 PM	6	
7	8 Auxiliary Unit 259 7:30 PM	9	10 Post Golf Tournament No Shrimp nor Pinochle	11 Dinner 12" Pizza - Any- way you want it 5:00 - 7:00 PM	12 BINGO Early Bird 7:15 PM	13	
14 FLAG DAY Ceremony 2 PM	15 Executive Committee 7:30 PM	16	17 Shrimp 5:30 - 7:30 PM Pinochle	18	19 BINGO Early Bird 7:15 PM	20	
21	22 Gen. Mem. Meeting. Dinner 6:30 PM Mtg. 7:30 PM	23	24 Shrimp 5:30 - 7:30 PM Pinochle	25 Dinner Lasagna w/ Garlic Bread 5:00 - 7:00 PM	26 BINGO Early Bird 7:15 PM	27 Post Installation of Officers Cocktails 5 - 6 PM Dinner 6:00 PM Program 7:00 PM	
28	29	30	<b>DEPARTMENT CONVENTION</b> <b>July 13<sup>th</sup> to July 17<sup>th</sup></b>				Door Prizes  Please sign up in the lounge: reservations req'd



**AMERICAN LEGION POST 259**  
 P.O. BOX 44  
 CLINTON, MARYLAND 20735

NONPROFIT ORG

U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
 CLINTON, MD

***TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL***



**Auxiliary Officers**

President	Toni Carr
Vice President	Mary Phares
Secretary	Glenda Morgan
Treasurer	Mary Russell
Chaplain	Sharon Franklin
Historian	Vivian Morgan
Sgt at Arms	Ruth King
Executive Committee	Ginger Latimer Barbara Theesen Liz White



**Post Officers**

Commander	Brian Kern
Adjutant	Robert A. Wilson
Asst. Adjutant	Charles Rentz
1st Vice	Gary Gifford
2nd Vice	Brock Hursey
3rd Vice	Ron Potts
Judge Advocate	Elbert "Ed" White
Service Officer	Joseph Vicek
Finance Officer	Jerald Thompson
Historian	Charles Lewis
Chaplain	Robert McCollum
Sgt at Arms	Robert Russell
Sergeant Major	William Ward
Executive Committee	Jim Panor Joe Morgan John Jackson Matt Garofalo Bud Werbowetski



**S.A.L. Officers**

Commander	Wayne Berbig
Adjutant	Vacant
1st Vice	Gary Shupe
2nd Vice	Dave Hutchinson
Judge Advocate	Vacant
Finance Officer	Gary Castleman
Chaplain	Vacant
Historian	Roy Jewell
Sgt at Arms	Richard Walsh
Executive Committee	Danny Kenney Gary Castleman