



9122 Piscataway Road
Clinton, Maryland 20735

(301) 868-2550

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

SEPTEMBER

DANIEL B. KALLEMYN, EDITOR

2009

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

I really dislike having to start off with a bit of disappointing news, but let's get it over with. Many of you were aware that we hoped to hold a Pig Roast back on August 1st. Well despite a lot of best efforts and good intentions we had to cancel the event because only eight tickets were sold. Okay, maybe the interest in a pig roast was not as great as we hoped it would be, but that doesn't mean we are giving up. Please keep an eye out for upcoming events and we hope to be far more successful. Along those lines, when tickets are being sold, please consider signing up early so we can get a good estimate of how strong ticket sales will be. If you wait until the last minute, you may find the event was cancelled due to lack of early ticket sales.

In an effort to make our regular membership meetings more informative and interesting, I intend to have a variety of guest speakers on items of interest to veterans. At the September meeting, we hope to have a speaker from the Maryland Dept. of Veterans Affairs and we hope to have Senator Thomas V. Mike Miller, Delegate Jim Proctor and Delegate Joe Vallario for a "Legislative Night" at the conclusion of the October regular membership meeting. If you have an idea for future speakers or topics, please let me know.

A minor bit of housekeeping for your consideration. Please remember that all guests must be properly signed into the Canteen and the guest must leave when the member leaves. Additionally, guests cannot sign other guests in or let other guests into the Canteen area. Lastly, the member signing the guest in is responsible for the guest's actions.

It may be a bit early yet, but if anyone is considering running for Commander next year I'm willing to share information and/or answer any questions you may have. In fact, if you are considering running for any position, feel free to ask me questions especially if it's the first time you are considering running. Along those lines, I'm looking for volunteers to fill positions on the Nominating Committee. This Committee seeks out potential candidates to see if they are qualified and willing to run for a position.

Special thanks to Larry Hall who stepped forward to at least temporarily fill the Assistant Adjutant position. I'm still hoping to find a permanent appointee so if you have an interest let me know.

Last, but not least, let me take a moment to thank Dan Kallemyn who puts this newsletter together every month and has been doing it for several years.

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

In Legion Service
Brian Kern, Commander

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Hello All,

Boy, a month sure does fly when you are having fun! This month's update should be short and sweet. I do want to start by thanking my wife Kelly for allowing me the time to get more involved with the Post this year. It's not easy juggling (3) children and with my time being spread out even more, it's a major task. Without her support, I would not be able to pull this off.

Our most coveted event it rapidly approaching and we want it to be the success that it has been in year's past. That is our Annual golf tournament. Again, it is scheduled for September 9, 2009 at Marlborough Golf Club. If you haven't signed up yet, please get up to the post and get your foursome in. This tournament always fills up so the sooner the better. We also need a head count for the food and door prizes, so come on up! A big Thanks to Gary Castleman and Mike Hunnicutt for all of the work that they put into this. It takes a lot of preparation to host a golf tournament and as always they are doing a fantastic job. There are a host of others that help out and they will certainly be recognized in next month's newsletter following our tournament.

Last but not least, the S.A.L. membership meeting voted last month to purchase a new high definition television for the post. It is going to be put in the hall side so that our members and guests can enjoy the upcoming football season. Barring any unforeseen problems, it should be in place for the beginning of the upcoming season. We are looking forward to rekindling the fun that we had in seasons past. Ultimately it is up to our membership as a whole to make this a fun place to come into and enjoy! We are also in discussions about having a Halloween Dance on October 24th but nothing has been finalized. Look for more details in next month's newsletter. Mark this date on your calendars.

Remember our monthly meetings on the first Monday of every month at 7:00 PM. Sorry, I guess I got a little long winded anyway. Look forward to seeing you and enjoy the rest of the Summer.

David Hutchinson
S.A.L. Commander

AUXILIARY

AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP FOR 2010 - Dues for 2010 are now being collected. Notices from National Headquarters will be sent out September 1st, however if you are at the post before that you can fill out a blue card and give it and your dues to the bartender. Senior dues are \$14.00 Junior dues \$4.00. Please call me if you have any questions regarding membership. Thank you for being a member of this great organization. Our meetings are still on the second Monday of each month starting at 7:30 PM. We would love to see you there.

Liz White
Membership Chairman
301-868-1612

CHARLOTTE HALL

Post 259 held there monthly BINGO program at the home on 12 Aug. The VOLUNTEERS helping me out this month were Bob Levendusky, Al Elmond and Mike Gilbert. There were 79 veterans in attendance and they were glad to see us. Thanks to the Auxiliary for providing the snacks for the evening. Our next BINGO will be 9 Sept. Say, "THANKS TO A VET."

Mike Strotkamp
301 645 2397

LETTERS, NOTES, ETC.

ED WHITE HONORED AS PGCC LEGIONNAIRE OF THE YEAR: Congratulations are in order for our own Elbert "Ed" White who was recently honored as the Prince Georges County Council Legionnaire of the Year. In making the award, PGCC Adjutant Chuck Gannon cited to Ed's long standing involvement with The American Legion, mentoring of other Legionnaires, and his longstanding dedication to the principles of The American Legion. Chuck also stated that Ed is only the second Past Department of Maryland Commander to have ever received this award. Congratulations Ed!!!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS – UPCOMING LEGISLATIVE NIGHT: The Post is hoping to sponsor a Legislative Night in October. We've invited Senator Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., Delegate James Proctor and Delegate Joseph Vallario. In addition to our Post members, we hope to have members from other Posts participate; as well as, County, District, and Department American Legion officers. More information to follow in the October newsletter.

COMMANDER KERN APPOINTS COMMITTEE CHAIRS: Chairpersons for the various Post Committees are as follows. If you have an interest in serving on any of the Committees, please contact the Committee chairperson directly or leave a message for the Chairperson at 301-868-2550. You may also contact Commander Kern at brian_k540@yahoo.com.

Membership: First Vice Commander Gary Gifford

House: Third Vice Commander Ron Potts

Ways and Means: Second Vice Commander
William Ward

Budget and Finance: Finance Officer Jerald
Thompson

Audit: Executive Committeeman Richard Switzer

Publicity: Executive Committeeman Matt Garafolo

Service & Rehabilitation: Service Officer Joe Vleck

Visiting: Chaplain Robert McCollum

Athletic: Executive Committeeman Jim Panor

Child Welfare: Executive Committeeman Richard
Barb

Defense: Executive Committeeman Joe DeCenzo

Constitution & Bylaws: Judge Advocate Ed White

Americanism: Adjutant Bob Wilson

Nominating: Pending

S.A.L. Advisors: George Bucklew and Jimmy Cox

Bingo: Joe Decenzo

POST NEWSLETTER GOES ELECTRONIC IN NOVEMBER: Subject to certain exceptions, beginning with the November 2009 newsletter we will curtail the standard practice of mailing hardcopies of the newsletter to all Post, Auxiliary, and S.A.L. members. At that time, an electronic version of the newsletter will be made available on the Post's website (www.post259.org). If you provide us with an email address, we will provide notice to you when the newsletter is posted. For

those without computer access, you may continue to receive a hardcopy of the newsletter by writing us a letter indicating your desire to continue receiving a hardcopy of the newsletter and providing the address where you want it mailed. The Post address is 9122 Piscataway Road, Clinton, Maryland, 20735.

MARYLAND DEPT. OF VETERANS AFFAIRS - GUEST SPEAKER: Although final details remain pending at this time, we hope of have a guest speaker from the Maryland Dept. of Veterans Affairs at the September regular membership meeting. Please plan on attending what should be an interesting discussion and sharing of information.

MEMBERSHIP PICNIC MAKING A COMEBACK Remember the Post membership picnics held several years ago? Did you have a good time interacting with fellow Post, Auxiliary, S.A.L. members and their families? Want to do it again? So do we. Brian Kern, Post Commander, Toni Carr, Auxiliary President, and Dave Hutchinson, S.A.L. Commander, recently met and discussed bringing this event back. We've tentatively selected a date in June 2010 for the picnic and hope that, with your help and assistance, we can bring this event back. Keep an eye out for important updates and volunteer opportunities as we get closer to that time.

DID YOU KNOW...? The American Legion was chartered by Congress in 1919 as a patriotic, mutual-help, war-time Veterans organization. A community-service organization which now has nearly 3 million members - men and women - in nearly 15,000 American Legion Posts worldwide. These posts are organized into 55 departments - one each for the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, France, Mexico, and the Philippines.

The American Legion, Department of Maryland is a community-service organization which now numbers nearly 81,000 members - men and women - in 157 American Legion Posts throughout the state of Maryland. These posts range in size from 15 members to over 4,700 members in a given post.

DID YOU KNOW We have a shrimp night every Wednesday from 5:30 to 7:30. 1/2 pound large shrimp is only \$6.00.

DID YOU KNOW The bartenders took it upon themselves to have food available everyday except Wednesday (due to shrimp night) and Friday (due to Bingo kitchen being open from noon until into the evening with a lot of their time doing a homemade meal. Something different everyday.

DID YOU KNOW Every Thursday is beer day with all can beer being only \$1.25 all day.

DID YOU KNOW That starting in September on the 1st Thursday of each month we will be serving pizza. 12 inch pizza anyway you want it from noon to 7 PM for only \$7.00.

DID YOU KNOW The bartenders are not the complaint department for the post. You will find that if you treat them with the respect that they deserve they will treat you the same.

DID YOU KNOW We have members that have never seen the inside of the post since it has been remolded. We would like to see you.

DID YOU KNOW We have Keno, daily numbers, and horse racing at the post.

DID YOU KNOW That during all Redskins games all can beer is only \$1.25 and that we have a new HD big screen TV to watch it on.

DID YOU KNOW We have a new Ways and Means Chairman and Committee that have plans to set up several functions such as dances, dinners, crab feast, bull and oyster feast, and many more. Please support these functions and help make your post a strong fun place to be.

DID YOU KNOW It takes advance ticket sales to make functions successful. We have to know you have interests in attending and we have to know how much food to order and to prepare. It takes weeks of planning to put these functions on and we cant proceed without advance sales.

Thank You, Mike Hunnicutt

NEW MEMBERS: Voted in at the June 22, 2009 Membership Meeting:

Philip F. Eppard	New	USAF
Joseph Friddle	New	US Navy
Robert L. Gaines, Jr.	New	Marines
William J. Kohl	New	USAF

PANDEMIC FLU PLANNING CHECKLIST FOR INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES: You can prepare for an influenza pandemic now. You should know both the magnitude of what can happen during a pandemic outbreak and what actions you can take to help lessen the impact of an influenza pandemic on you and your family. This checklist will help you gather the information and resources you may need in case of a flu pandemic.

To plan for a pandemic:

- Store a two week supply of water and food. During a pandemic, if you cannot get to a store, or if stores are out of supplies, it will be important for you to have extra supplies on hand. This can be useful in other types of emergencies, such as power outages and disasters.
- Periodically check your regular prescription drugs to ensure a continuous supply in your home.
- Have any nonprescription drugs and other health supplies on hand, including pain relievers, stomach remedies, cough and cold medicines, fluids with electrolytes, and vitamins.
- Talk with family members and loved ones about how they would be cared for if they got sick, or what will be needed to care for them in your home.
- Volunteer with local groups to prepare and assist with emergency response.

Get involved in your community as it works to prepare for an influenza pandemic.

To limit the spread of germs and prevent infection:

- Teach your children to wash hands frequently with soap and water, and model the correct behavior.
- Teach your children to cover coughs and sneezes with tissues, and be sure to model that behavior.
- Teach your children to stay away from others as much as possible if they are sick. Stay home from work and school if sick.

PUFL

Paid Up For Life

Do you have a Paid Up For Life Membership? Are you interested in getting one? If so, NOW IS THE TIME! National has increased the price effective October 1, 2009 and the increase will be considerably higher, to buy one under the old rate the paper work MUST be completed and in our Post before September 15, 2009. No Exceptions! The cost is based on our Post dues of \$25.00 and the member's age, following is the cost of both the old rate if you purchase before September 15, 2009 and the new rate after September 15, 2009.

Age:	24 & Under	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-59
Old Rate	\$871	\$829	\$782	\$731	\$676	\$616
New Rate	\$1,103	\$1,062	\$1,017	\$968.04	\$915.12	\$857.88

Age:	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79
Old Rate	\$552	\$485	\$418	\$352	\$290	232
New Rate	\$794.88	\$726.89	\$657	\$586.04	\$516.96	\$450

Age:	80-84	85 & Over
Old Rate	\$181	\$147
New Rate	\$389.88	\$347.04

We are printing a copy of the application if you wish to purchase before September 15, 2009, complete the application, sign it and enclose your check made payable to The American Legion, then mail it or drop it off at the post. If you purchase after September 15, 2009 you will have to use the new application which will be available at the post or on line.

You can pay by check, credit card or pay 10% down and National will bill you monthly for the next 10 months. Should you have any questions please call Ed White at 301-868-1612

Ed White
Past Department Commander



**THE AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
APPLICATION FOR PAID-UP-FOR-LIFE (PUFL) MEMBERSHIP
(Please type or print - see instructions on reverse)**



APPLICANT'S NAME _____ MEMBER ID # _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE NO. [_____] _____ DATE OF BIRTH _____ TOTAL PUFL FEE \$ _____
(Mo./Day/Year) (See Chart on Reverse)

BRANCH OF SERVICE (check one only): US Army US Navy US Marines US Air Force US Coast Guard

Full Payment Enclosed **OR** Time Payment Enclosed – Requires minimum payment of **10% OF TOTAL** as down payment.
(See instructions on reverse)

PAYMENT IS MADE BY THE FOLLOWING METHOD:

Check or Money Order (Made payable to The American Legion) **DO NOT SEND CASH.**

Please provide check or money order number _____

Charge to MasterCard, Visa, Discover or American Express

(Credit Card Number)

(Expiration Date)

Date _____ Signature of Applicant _____

Applicant's signature may be omitted if PUFL is to be given as a gift. If card is to be mailed to another address, enter below.

IF GIFT, MAIL CARD TO:

Name _____ Mbr ID # (If applicable): _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

THIS SECTION MUST BE COMPLETED BY THE POST ADJUTANT OR FINANCE OFFICER

- By signature below, I certify that the PUFL applicant named above is a member in good standing and holds a valid membership card. Annual dues were last paid for the _____ membership year and were paid to Post # _____ in the Department of _____.
- Check one:**
 Member is applying at a PUFL fee based on our annual Post dues rate of \$ _____.
 With Post approval, this member is applying at a PUFL fee based on the **reduced Post dues rate** of \$ _____.
- If applicable, this member is transferring from the above Post to (new) Post # _____ in the Department of _____.

Signature of Post Adjutant or Finance Officer

Dept/Post #

Date Processed By Post

POST FORWARDS APPLICATION WITH PAYMENT TO DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS. (RETAIN A COPY FOR POST RECORDS.)

THIS SECTION TO BE COMPLETED BY NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

Member National Per Capita _____
 Post Dept Per Capita _____
 Dept. Post Per Capita _____

Date Received at National: _____

FORM #32-090 (October 2003)

^ DETACH HERE ^

APPLICANT'S RECEIPT:

Name of Applicant

\$ _____
Payment Received

Date Processed By Post

The member named above has applied for a Paid-Up-For-Life membership. The application has been certified by the Post and sent to the Department Headquarters with the payment noted above. After Department approval, it will be forwarded to National Headquarters for final processing. National will issue a permanent membership card in recognition of your status as a PUFL member of The American Legion.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!

Signature of Post Adjutant or Finance Officer

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>September 2009</h1>						
		1	2	3	4 BINGO Early Bird 7:15 PM	5
		Did you know that meals are served daily at the Post on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and on the weekends? Call the bartender @ 301-868-2550 for the menu.				
6	7 LABOR DAY S.A.L. Meeting 7:30 PM	8	9 S.A.L. Annual Golf Tournament and Banquet (No Shrimp)	10	11 BINGO Early Bird 7:15 PM	12
13	14 Auxiliary Unit 259 7:30 PM	15	16 Shrimp Night 5:30 - 7:30 PM Pinochle	17	18 BINGO Early Bird 7:15 PM	19
20	21 Post Exec. Comm. Meeting 7:30 PM	22 First Day Of Autumn	23 Shrimp Night 5:30 - 7:30 PM Pinochle	24	25 BINGO Early Bird 7:15 PM	26
27	28 Post Gen. Membership. Meeting - Dinner 6:30 PM Mtg. 7:30 PM	29	30 Shrimp Night 5:30 - 7:30 PM Pinochle			