



For God And Country . . .

FREE STATE WARRIOR



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Summer 2017



National Commander Visits

National Commander Charles E. Schmidt has his visit to Maryland and takes his Walk for Veterans at Fort McHenry. "The purpose of this Walk is to raise public awareness of the critical needs of our nation's veteran population and The American Legion's role in this mission," said Department of Maryland Commander Patricia McCoy. "Lowering the suicide rates, ending veteran homelessness, increasing employment, and improving benefits delivery from the VA and other resources are central to our Legion Family's prime objectives. The American Legion is dedicated to a strong advocacy and actions to provide improved transition services for service members separating from the Armed Forces and the continued care for all veterans. This Walk is meant to highlight that commitment and the sustained efforts of our many partners in the Communities, State, and Nation that remain dedicated to this crucial endeavor. We walk to remind everyone of the sacrifices of these women and men from across our State who served proudly, and

deserve our unwavering support."

Dewey Lowman Post 109 Hosts Banquet and Breakfast for the Commanders visit. Great job by National Commanders Banquet Committee, Chairman Nikki Randolph and Post 109 Commander Alicia Knecht.



Commander's Message

Patricia A. McCoy Commander, Department of Maryland

The Legion year has come to a close for me; this will be my last article as the Department Commander of the greatest group of dedicated people that I have ever known. This year has gone by so fast that you know it can't be over but it is. I am very proud of each and every one of you. You all have put in great bit of effort to help turn our membership around and I know that by June we should be very close to our goal of one more than last year, never give up. Our Department Officers this year have done a phenomenal job and I am sure they will continue this coming year; all of your friendship has meant so much. James, I know you will do a great job as Department Commander along with your other officers for 2017-2018. I will be here by your sides if you need me.



I want to especially thank our Adjutant Russell for everything he does for this Department and for what he has taught me, thank you Russell. We have a great office staff and I want to thank all of you. I wish you well in all that you do. I might be writing my last article but I will always be a part of this great organization. As we get ready for convention remember why we joined it and to continue to work for our Veterans, their families, our men and women in uniform, patriotism and the security of our great Nation.

Once again thank you all for giving me this great opportunity, I will never forget.

Yours in Legion Service,
Patricia (Pat) McCoy
Department Commander

Reflections of an Adjutant

By Russell W. Myers, Jr.

My article this quarter will focus on the Department and National Conventions scheduled for this summer. The 99th Department Convention is in Ocean City July 11-14, 2017, and National Convention is in Reno, NV August 21-24, 2017. Both events are packed full of highlights of programs, learning opportunities, and the ability to network with other Legion Family members.

The Department Convention is always a busy time of year for our Posts and Department Officers. The convention offers an opportunity to highlight the programs of The American Legion, and the deeds of many of our honorees from our communities and State. There is a draft timeline of events included on page #6. This schedule will see minor changes only so look it over and prepare for a great week.

Some highlights are as follows: Monday evening the Southern MD District hosts their annual Fish Fry outside the Convention Center. Legion College kicks off at 8:00 am on Tuesday morning, and these courses are essential for officers at all levels and I guarantee the instruction will teach you something about the Legion you didn't know. Additional classes on Marketing & Networking and a Chaplains Class will take place in the afternoon on Tuesday. Our Joint reception and Opening Ceremonies will take place Tuesday evening. The reception is being held in the beautiful Bayview Grand Ballroom and offers a wonderful view of the sunset (provided it is not cloudy that evening). Bring the family and enjoy the light food and refreshments. Membership awards are being distributed on Wednesday morning, so ensure all Posts have representatives there to receive the recognition for this hard work.

Some other highlights are from our youth programs. The Department Oratorical winner, and 2nd Place Contestant at National, Robyn Anzulis will present her prepared oration to the assembly on Thursday July 13th at about 8:30am. The Boys State Governor, yet to be elected, should be on hand that morning as well for acceptance of his award and brief remarks. Also on Thursday the National Security-Public Safety Committee will hand out awards to first responders from across our State that stand guard and answer the call when needed. The Eagle Scout of the Year, will also be on hand to receive his award. There will be others that come to present services offered to veterans and families around the State. Special Olympics of Maryland is a great partner for the Department and donations to their programs throughout the year make the dreams of many young people come true. Our Department Convention offers a glimpse at the busy year, and above all allows the Department to thank the committees and commissions for their hard work, and to thank the Posts that are the heart and soul of our organization. On top of all that it gives the Legion Family a week of fun in the sun, and ability to share the good times through a family vacation or get-away.

The 99th American Legion National Convention is in Reno, NV August 21 – 24, 2017. If any Legionnaires are planning on attending the National Convention they should make sure they get registered as a delegate. Delegate selection is controlled by the Districts and the selection is done at the District Caucuses. Any question about delegate selection should be referred to District leaders.

In closing, I pass along well wishes from myself, and my children, for a happy Independence Day celebration and a safe summer season. Danielle just completed her sophomore year at Messiah College near Harrisburg, and she is on a trip to Malaysia, Singapore, and Borneo as I write this article, and J.E.B. Stuart is competing in the National Future Business Leaders of America Conference in Anaheim in early July, and will attend McDaniel College in the fall.

I want to thank everyone for the continued service to our communities, State, and nation. Let us all vow to keep those currently serving, our fellow Veterans struggling with issues, and the families that make such great sacrifices in our thoughts and prayers every day of the year.

Russell W. Myers, Jr.
Department Adjutant



1st Vice Commander

By James P. Marchinke

As this Legion year for administrative purposes comes to a close we must remember our commitment to the organization never ends. As your First Vice Commander my concentration has been and will always be in retaining and recruiting our force. And membership does not stop when the date for awards for this administrative year arrive. I continued to state that without members we have no organization and the fewer members we have the less funding we can provide those in need. With the rising cost of doing business the budget is stretched to its max and we as a Department struggle on whom and how much support is given. With more members and getting those to continue to serve the process is made easier in a couple of ways; dues help support the Department and new members provide insight on how we can better serve our Veterans. New member's suggestions on how to make our organization operate and retain membership is not always accepted by current members; give them a chance to show what they can offer. We need to change; this is a fact, and who better to incorporate that change than the next generation of Legionnaires. By acceptance we will grow, by ignoring them we will cease to be recognized. Just remember when you first joined and became a part of your Posts. What happened when you brought up ideas to help, deer in the headlight look from current members right? Statements like we cannot do that here, it will never happen, not in my life time, we do not need the younger crowd, they are too loud and cause trouble... But as you continued to try new things and showed they worked for the betterment of the Post it was ok and your respect was earned. We have to let the new members earn that respect and if they fail the first time that is ok for we all are Veterans that rebound to succeed from our failures. The initial goal of The American Legion was to fight for proper benefits of foreign wars. Some member had to bring up that we could do more and probably got shot down when mentioning supporting our youth. What did they have to do with fighting on foreign soil in protecting our freedoms here at home? But we have learnt that our youth are our future protectors of our freedoms

we hold so dearly and we need to support and teach them. When members are not recognized and are ignored they form their own organizations where they are accepted and we lose a valuable asset, the member who cares enough to make change for the better somewhere

else. Membership turn-ins start to slow down around March, why is this? Have we run out of Veterans to call? Has the budgeted funds been exhausted? No, Posts are looking past the rest of the year and start looking at the next Legion year. Let us be honest, we have been doing this for a long time, too long and need to stop. The Veterans you start calling in July were still Veterans last March and could have helped the Post earlier. Let us be real, there will always be Veterans to call year round so let us continue to retain and recruit year round. Maybe membership teams can split when they work membership, some every four months so the burden is not on the few? Do I know the answers to this problem, I do not know all the answers but suggestions some time work and right now we need suggestions on what works and follow through.

I enjoyed my year as membership chair and will continue to assist in membership next year. Hopefully we can get more membership drives going along with revitalizations in each of our Districts. The time to start organizing them is now. And the time to gain new members and retain the ones we have is every day non-stop.

The Convention is just around the corner and I hope I have your support in becoming your Commander. I will always do my best for the betterment of the organization and the Veterans we serve.

Yours in Legion Service,

James P. Marchinke
Your First Vice Commander



2nd Vice Commander

By David J. Johnson

Greetings Legionnaires; As this Legion year nears its end, I want to thank everyone for their support. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as your Department 2nd Vice Commander. I look forward to your continued support at the Department Convention in Ocean City in July as I will be running for Department 1st Vice Commander.

Once again, to all the Posts that I was able to visit from the Mountains to the Shore and everywhere in between, thank you for your hospitality. I meet a lot of dedicated Legionnaires who truly believe in the four pillars of our great organization. Thanks to all the Posts throughout the Department that worked hard at recruiting new members into our organization while trying to retain those members already on the rolls. One issue that still persists, which needs to be improved upon next year, is Posts not using their Post membership credits.

Chairman Phil Dorsey and the members of the 100th anniversary committee did an outstanding job designing a commemorative coin for The American Legions 100th year in 2019.

This year I was able to attend 6 District Receptions honoring Department Commander Pat McCoy, the SAL Detachment Commander Ray Edwards, the Department President Paulette Caron and the Junior President Kaori Forsythe. The Districts and host Posts did an outstanding job in honoring our Department Leadership.

I also had the opportunity to celebrate with the Posts that were honored for their efforts in membership at the NCD Rally, SMD Oyster Bowl, and the Wine Jug. Also, attended were the Depts. Oratorical Contest and Legion Baseball Tournament, Boys State Graduation, Boys Nation Dinner. Post 136 did another fantastic job hosting the NSFR Pearl Harbor Forum.

I participated in the National Commanders tour of McVets and the Veterans Walk at Fort McHenry. Post 109 did a good job hosting the National Commanders Banquet and Breakfast.

It's been a pleasure serving with Commander Pat and Vice Commanders James and Phil, and Sergeant at Arms Will this year. We have worked well as a team and I have learned a lot from each of them. I also want to thank Department Adjutant Russell and Assistant Adjutant Steve for all of their assistance and words of advice this year.

Finally, once again thanks for all your support and I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at this year's Department Convention in Ocean City.

David Johnson
2nd Vice Commander
Department of Maryland



3rd Vice Commander

By Philip R. Dorsey

Cannot believe this year is rapidly coming to an end, but it has been a busy one. A reminder to all District and County Commanders to make sure all the raffle tickets and money for our Anniversary Pistol be turned in no later than your District Caucus. A representative either from the Committee or Department will be present for pickup.

Again, the drawing for our Anniversary Pistol will be held on Friday, July 14, 2017, at the close of our convention. I thank everyone for their work and cooperation with the raffle. The sale of the Commemorative Coin has generated much interest and participation from the Posts. The sales are doing very well and we are now working on our second order of coins, filling back orders.

If you haven't ordered your coins yet, please give me a call with your request, so we can get them out to your Post. We will also have a booth at the Department Convention for those

who wish to purchase raffle tickets or coins.

My sincere thanks and appreciation to all of the Posts. As I traveled this year, the hospitality and comradery again has been outstanding and has given me the opportunity to meet many new Legionnaires.

I look forward to seeing everyone in Ocean City for our Convention and hope to have your continued support for next year. Thank you and God Bless America and our Troops.



Yours in Legion Service.
Philip R. Dorsey
Department 3rd Vice Commander

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2nd Vice Commander David J. Johnson
3rd Vice Commander Philip R. Dorsey
Judge AdvocateThomas L. Davis
Treasurer Gary W. Gifford
Historian Ruth A. Higgins
ChaplainFrank A. Porter
Sergeant At Arms William Trotter
AdjutantRussell W. Myers, Jr.
Assistant AdjutantSteve M. Tatro
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You are eligible to belong to The American Legion if you served honorable in the Armed Forces of the United States during these periods: April 6, 1917 to November 11, 1918; December 7, 1941 to December 31, 1946; June 25, 1950 to January 31, 1955; February 28, 1961 to May 7, 1975; August 24, 1982 to July 31, 1984; December 20, 1989 to January 31, 1990 or August 2, 1990 to the cessation of hostilities as determined by the U.S. Congress.

NEC Report

Michael L. Mooney, National Executive Committeeman

Elections are over and now is the time to do what the voters have told us to do! Now is the time to support the candidates that we chose to run our country! Our country needs OUR support and guidance right now more than ever before!

John Kennedy once said ask not what your country can do for you But ask what you can do for your Country!!!! How true even still today?

The old adage 2 can do more than one still applies today.

Remember you only get out of things what

you put in to them!

Enough said for now! I think you get the idea!

Mike Mooney NEC
National Executive
Committeeman



CALL FOR THE 99th ANNUAL CONVENTION THE

The Ninety-Ninth Annual Convention of The American Legion, Department of Maryland, Inc., is hereby called, and in conformity with the action of the Ninety-Eighth Annual Convention and the Department Executive Committee, will be held in Ocean City, Maryland, Tuesday, **July 11** through Friday, **July 14, 2017**.

PURPOSE

The Convention is called for the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing year, hearing and considering resolutions, and for the transaction of such other business as may be deemed necessary to come before the Convention.

REPRESENTATION

The Department Convention shall be comprised of representatives from each Post who shall be members in good standing of the Post by which they are elected, and all Past Department Commanders while in good standing in their respective Posts. Each Post having 15 members in good standing shall be entitled to two Delegates. Each Post having 26 members in good standing shall be entitled to three Delegates and to an additional Delegate for each additional fifty members after the first twenty-six. Each Post shall be entitled to an Alternate for each Delegate. Membership strength of the Post, for determining Delegate strength, shall be computed as of paid-up membership in Department Headquarters at the close of business on June 12th. All District Commanders, all Department and all National Officers listed in ARTICLE VI, Section 1 of the Department Constitution in the year in which they serve (excluding the Department Adjutant if serving as an employee of the Department), and all Past Department Commanders, shall be Delegates-at-large to Department Convention, with right to vote thereat, to be exercised by them with their respective Posts. Every Post shall file the name and number of the Delegates and Alternates to the Department Convention at least twenty days prior to the convening of the Convention, (no later than June 21st this year), and at the same time pay the registration fee of \$15.00* for each and every Delegate, in the case of an Alternate taking the place of a Delegate such Alternate shall be required to pay the registration fee of \$15.00* which shall be done when the substitution takes place or sooner; unless and until such registration fees of the Delegates have been paid, the Delegation is disqualified to act for any purpose, and no individual Delegate will be allowed to vote, provided, however, that the mere non-payment of registration shall not deprive a Delegate otherwise duly qualified, of the right to vote in any District Caucus, on any matter (including election of officers) which thereafter is subject to ratification by the Department Convention. Post Commanders are urgently

requested to have at least one member of their Delegation on the Convention floor at all times. *Cost of Delegates will be \$20.00 on or after June 21st. As ratified by the DEC Meeting on 19 Feb. 2017.

VOTING

ARTICLE V, Section 3 (a) On all matters of business except the election of Department Officers, members of the Department Executive Committee and Delegates and Alternates to the National Convention, and except amendments to this Constitution or the By-Laws, voting shall be by voice, and the decision of the chair thereon shall be final unless a vote by roll call be demanded; and upon demand of any person having proper voice such other manner of voting shall be employed.

(b) The election of all Department Officers, and National Officers, shall be by roll call except where, in the case of individual offices, the necessity of a roll call is dispensed with by unanimous consent.

(c) The election of members of the Department Executive Committee and Delegates and Alternates to the National Convention shall be in accordance with such rule as adopted by the Caucus in and for the District from which such members, delegates and alternates are elected, but in no case shall any such rule prevent the nomination of any member from the floor of such Caucus by any person having proper voice thereat. Voting at Caucuses shall conform to the provisions of Subsection (d) hereof.

(d) In all voting, the vote of each Post shall be equal to the total number of delegates to which such Post may be entitled. Each delegate shall be entitled to one vote. The vote of any delegate who may be absent shall be cast by the delegate's alternate and the vote of any delegate absent and not represented by an alternate shall be cast by the majority of the present delegates from the member's post. An alternate whose delegate is present may nevertheless move into the place of an absent alternate whose delegate also is absent, and there by acquire the right to vote provided he/she is the senior alternate present at the time. Alternates shall have all the privileges of delegates, but may only vote as herein set forth; provided the alternate's registration fee is paid. At the conclusion of all roll call voting, for each individual election required to be conducted by the Department Convention, the Department Officer conducting such elections shall ask if

any Post desires to amend or change its vote; or ask does any Post, which has not cast its vote during the roll call vote, now wish to cast its vote. No Post shall be allowed to pass more than one time. After the Department Officer conducting the election has made the aforesaid announcement and taken due note of all change in voting and has recorded the vote of any Post which originally passed, then the conducting officer shall announce that the voting is closed and direct that the tally be taken, and the results announced.

(e) All Past Department Commanders, while in good standing in their respective Posts, shall be delegates for life to all Department Conventions with voice and vote, to be exercised by them with their respective Posts and to all District Caucuses at which any election provided for in this Constitution shall be held, and at which their respective Posts may be entitled to vote. The failure of such Post to properly register its delegation shall not deprive such Past Department Commander of their right to vote, provided the Past Department Commander is properly registered as a delegate.

(f) All Department Officers as set forth in Article VI of this Constitution and National Officers of this Department shall be Delegates-at-large to Department Conventions, with the right to vote thereat, in the year in which they serve, to be exercised by them with their respective Posts; provided, however, that nothing contained herein shall give to any of such persons the right to more than one vote.

ELECTION

The following Officers are to be elected. A majority of the authorized vote of the Convention shall elect: (Per ARTICLE V, Department Convention Section 4)

(a) The Department Convention shall elect a Department Commander, a Department First Vice-Commander, a Department Second-Vice-Commander, a Department Third Vice-Commander, a Department Judge Advocate, a Department Treasurer, and a Department Sergeant-at-Arms, for the term of one year. A National Executive Committeeman and an Alternate National Executive Committeeman for a term of two years and such other officers as may be authorized by the Department Convention for such terms appointed by the Department Convention.

Section 4 (b) The Officers listed in Section 4 (a) to be elected by the Department Convention shall be nominated and elected for office in the following order and sequence and for the term of office described in Section 4 (a):

2. A National Executive Committeeman
2 Years.*
3. A Department Sergeant-at-Arms – 1 Year.
4. A Department Treasurer – 1 Year.
5. A Department Judge Advocate - 1 Year.
6. A Department Third Vice-Commander
1 Year.
7. A Department Second Vice-Commander
1 Year.
8. A Department First Vice-Commander
1 Year.
9. A Department Commander – 1 Year

* Note: No election for National Executive Committeeman or Alternate National Executive Committeeman shall take place at the 99th Department of Maryland Convention as these offices were elected at the 98th Convention for a 2 year term.

DISTRICT CAUCUSES

(ARTICLE V, Sections 7-8-9-10)

A caucus shall be held by each District during, or not more than twenty days prior to, the convening of each Department Convention, at which caucus the election of the District Commander, District Vice Commanders, County/Area Commanders, such Department Executive Committee members, and Delegates and Alternates to the National Convention of The American Legion to which such District may be entitled by this Constitution shall be held. It shall be the responsibility of the District Commander in and for each District to see that at least fifteen days prior notice of any District Caucus convened for the above purposes shall be given by mail to the Commander of each Post in the District, and no such Caucus shall be deemed legally convened in the absence of such notice; provided, however, that any District may caucus at any Department Convention upon three hours notice by announcement from the Rostrum, and all the purposes of this section may thereafter be fulfilled just as though prior written notice had been given. The action of such District Caucus as to the election of any of the officials named in this section shall not be final until ratified by the Department Convention.

Section 8. A quorum shall exist at a Department Convention or at a District Caucus when one third of the Posts in the Department or District, as the case may be, are represented by duly elected Delegates or Alternates.

Section 9. Each District in Caucus not more than twenty days prior to the convening of the Department Convention shall elect one delegate and one alternate delegate to the National Convention, this delegate and alternate delegate is to represent the first thousand members of their respective District; there shall also be elected a delegate and alternate delegate

1. An Alternate National Executive Committeeman – 2 Years.*

AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF MARYLAND, INC.

for each succeeding thousand members. The five Department Delegates shall consist of the Department Commander, the Department Commander for the immediate prior year, the Department Adjutant, the Alternate National Executive Committeeman and the Department First Vice-Commander who hold office at the convening of the next succeeding National Convention. The alternates for these delegates shall be appointed by the Department Commander. Any additional delegates and alternate delegates are to be elected by the District with the highest percentage of their previous year's membership as of the day that determines the Department Convention membership strength for the District.

Section 10. Each District in Caucus not more than twenty days prior to the convening of the Department Convention shall elect one representative to the Department Executive Committee for each unit of 500 members or major fraction thereof in the said District. The membership strength of said District for this purpose shall be computed as paid up membership in the Department Headquarters at the close of business on the 30th day prior to the convening of the Department Convention or as of July 1st, in each year, which ever date shall first occur. In the event any District shall have less than its first and only unit of 500 members, it shall nevertheless be entitled to elect one representative to the Department Executive Committee. In the event that there are an equal number or more members representing the District, than there are counties or areas within that District, then there must be at least one representative from each County or Area elected to the Department Executive Committee, if the County or Area requests such representative.

The District shall submit the names of all elected as above for ratification to the Department Convention such ratification constituting election. At such Caucus each Post shall be entitled to the same number of votes as for the Department Convention. No District Caucus for the purpose of such election shall be convened sooner than June 21st, 2017.

MEETINGS

The opening Joint Session will begin at 8:00 PM, Tuesday night, July 11th. All business sessions of The American Legion, Department of Maryland, will be held in the Convention Hall (Bayfront Ballroom) and will start promptly at 8:00 AM on Wednesday, July 12th, Thursday, July 13th and Friday, July 14th, unless changed by the Convention.

Business sessions of The American Legion Auxiliary will also be held at the Performing Arts Center (First Floor of Convention Center),

Ocean City, Md. A quorum shall exist at the Department Convention when one-third of the Posts in the Department are represented by a duly elected Delegate or Alternate.

CREDENTIALS CERTIFICATES

For Credentials Certificates for Delegates and Alternates. A check made out to The American Legion, Department of Maryland, at \$15.00* per Delegate, and MUST accompany the Credentials Certificate. All Constitutional Delegates (ART. VI) and Past Department Commanders must also pay the \$15.00* Delegate Fee or they can not vote. It is extremely important that the certificates be forwarded to Department Headquarters immediately after Post elections. County Commanders should personally check each Post under their supervision to see that the above is complied with. All Post Adjutants are charged with the responsibility of returning the Credentials Certificates to us at the earliest possible moment. *\$20.00 on or after June 21st. (As ratified by the DEC on 19 FEB. 2017).

AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the Department Constitution and By Laws must be submitted in typewritten form to Department Headquarters by June 2nd, 2017 in time for the Department Adjutant to forward copies to each Post in the Department at least 30 days prior to the convening of the Convention. These amendments require a two-thirds majority of votes of the representation at the Convention. However, the Constitution may be amended without notice by unanimous vote at any Department Convention. (ARTICLE XIII, Section 1).

RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions shall be submitted typewritten, in triplicate, to the Resolutions Committee at the Convention, or prior to June 2nd to Department Headquarters. By order of the Department Executive Committee, each resolution MUST have supporting documents and authority attached to each copy. Resolutions submitted to Department Headquarters prior to June 2nd will receive preferred attention. Those submitted after that date will be considered only if the Convention Resolution Committee considers them to be of paramount importance to the Legion.

SPECIAL NOTICE

The thirty-fourth Annual Department Convention, 1952, unanimously resolved no one should be allowed on the main portion of the Convention floor on election day except Officers, Delegates, Alternates and working press. (Ref: Resolution #13)

POST OFFICERS

ARTICLE VIII, Sec. 6 of the Department Constitution states that all Post Officers for the

ensuing year shall be elected at least TWENTY days prior to the opening of the Department Convention and shall assume their duties as such within TWENTY days after the closing date. THIS MEANS THAT YOUR NEW POST OFFICERS MUST TAKE OFFICE DURING A FORTY-FOUR DAY PERIOD, TWENTY DAYS OF WHICH ARE PRIOR TO THE OPENING OF THE CONVENTION AND TWENTY DAYS AFTER THE CLOSE. YOU MAY HOLD YOUR INSTALLATION PARTY ANY TIME YOU WISH; YOUR POST OFFICERS MUST TAKE OFFICE DURING THE TIME ABOVE STATED. THE DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HAS REQUESTED THAT EACH POST FILE A COPY OF MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY DOCUMENTS FOR EACH POST COMMANDER WITH DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS. THE DISCHARGE WILL NOT BE RETURNED BUT RETAINED IN DEPARTMENT FILES.

REPORTS

1. You are urged to promptly file your Certificate of Elections of Post Officers which MUST be signed by both the Post Commander and Adjutant. The Certificate on the bottom of this form means exactly what it says. You MUST EXAMINE the service record of each of your Post Officers to certify their eligibility.

2. Consolidated Post Report Form should be filed promptly.

3. All other Report Forms. If you have lost or misplaced any of these report forms, send a postcard to Department Headquarters and ask for a duplicate.

REGISTRATION

For Tuesday the Registration Desk will be open at the Convention Hall beginning at **7:30 AM, July 11th. DO NOT SHOW UP BEFORE THEN AND EXPECT US TO ACCOMMODATE YOU. IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR US TO OPEN EARLIER THAN 7:30 AM ON TUESDAY.** NO CREDENTIALS ARE REQUIRED FOR ATTENDANCE AT DEPARTMENT LEGION COLLEGE. EVERYONE WILL BE GRANTED ACCESS TO THESE COURSES WITHOUT CREDENTIALS. On Wednesday, Thursday and Friday we will open at 7:30 AM. You are urged to pick up your Delegate's Credentials and badges as soon as possible in order to facilitate the business of the Convention. NO ONE EXCEPT A LISTED DELEGATE OR POST COMMANDER OR ADJUTANT MAY PICK UP CREDENTIALS FOR THEIR POST DELEGATION. AN ALTERNATE MAY PICK UP THEIR OWN CREDENTIALS ONLY.

ARTICLE IX, Section 2 of the Department

Constitution provides that the amount of annual Department dues shall be determined by the Department Convention. Consequently, we hereby notify you that dues will be set and voted upon as usual by the Department Convention.

Russell W. Myers Jr.
Department Adjutant

Patricia A. McCoy
Department Commander

NOTE: DEPARTMENT OFFICERS, COMMISSION, COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN AND DISTRICT COMMANDERS MUST HAVE THEIR WRITTEN REPORTS IN DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS ON OR BEFORE MONDAY, JUNE 5TH OR THEY WILL NOT BE DUPLICATED FOR THE CONVENTION. REPORTS SHOULD BE TYPED AND DOUBLE SPACED. BE SURE TO HAVE AT LEAST ONE MEMBER OF YOUR POST DELEGATION ON THE CONVENTION FLOOR AT ALL TIMES. PLEASE WEAR YOUR LEGION CAP AT ALL TIMES IN OCEAN CITY SO EVERYONE KNOWS WE ARE THERE. REMEMBER TO TREAT OTHERS AS YOU WANT TO BE TREATED YOURSELF. WE WANT TO MAKE A GOOD IMPRESSION ON THE PERMANENT RESIDENTS AND THE THOUSANDS OF VISITORS. EACH POST DELEGATION CHAIRMAN SHOULD LIST HIS OCEAN CITY ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER AT THE DEPARTMENT REGISTRATION DESK IN THE OCEAN CITY CONVENTION HALL. PLEASE DO THIS AS SOON AS YOU ARRIVE IN OCEAN CITY, BUT NOT BEFORE 7:30 AM ON TUESDAY, JULY 11TH. NO ONE BUT A REGISTERED DELEGATE, OR POST COMMANDER OR ADJUTANT MAY PICK UP THE DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES PACKET FOR THEIR POST. ALL DELEGATES MUST BE PAID.

THERE WILL BE A MEETING OF THE 2017- 2018 DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. THIS IS TO BE HELD IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE CLOSE OF THE DEPARTMENT CONVENTION.

THERE WILL BE NO FEE FOR LEGION COLLEGE THIS YEAR (But note there will be no pins or Certificates given out this year.) Go to the Department Website under the "Web letter/ Mailings" left column header and register online for the courses each Legionnaire wishes to attend.

There will be an American Legion Extension Institute (ALEI) Class given from 9am-1pm that day. More information to follow.

Department Convention Tentative Timeline

THE AMERICAN LEGION,
DEPARTMENT OF MARYLAND, INC.

JULY 11-14, 2017

CONVENTION CENTER, OCEAN CITY, MARYLAND

PRESIDING OFFICER, PATRICIA A. McCOY, DEPARTMENT
COMMANDER

MONDAY JULY 10, 2017

7:30AM Convention Center Set up; Volunteers always accepted
4:00 PM Southern Maryland District Fish Fry (North Parking Lot of Convention Center)
(All welcome; donations appreciated)

TUESDAY, JULY 11, 2017

7:30 AM Registration - Convention Hall – Room 210, 2nd Floor
****8:00 AM Legion College – Bayfront Ballroom, 2nd Floor
9:00 AM Legion College – Classes Located as Posted
1:00 PM Marketing and Network Class – Room 215, 2nd Floor
Chaplain Course – Room 217, 2nd Floor
***6:30 PM Joint Reception for Opening Session (Light fare; All are invited) (Sponsored by Diamond Games)
8:00 PM Pre-Convention Joint Session by the Convention Corporation, The American Legion, The American Legion Auxiliary, Eight & Forty, Sons of The American Legion – Bayfront Ballroom, 2nd Floor
Call to Order, Colors, Invocation
Introduction of Distinguished Guests
Principal Address
Benediction - Colors

WEDNESDAY, JULY 12

7:30 AM Registration - Convention Hall – Room 210, 2nd Floor
8:00 AM Business Session, Bayfront Ballroom, 2nd Floor
Call to Order, Invocation, Advancement of Colors, Roll Call
Membership Awards
National Staff Introductions
Veteran Employment
Community Services Programs
Rules Committee Report
Expression of Appreciation
Mayor Richard W. Meehan
Secretary, Maryland Dept. of Veterans Affairs
Historian Report
SAL report
VSO reports
After Session Past Department Commander's Luncheon (Invited Guests)
****8:00 PM Post Everlasting Ceremony – Bayfront Ballroom, 2nd Floor

THURSDAY, JULY 13

7:30 AM Registration - Convention Hall – Room 210, 2nd Floor
8:00 AM Business Session, Bayfront Ballroom, 2nd Floor
Call to Order, Invocation, Advancement of Colors, Roll Call
Time and Place Report
Resolutions
Children and Youth Report
Americanism Report
Officers Reports
NAT'L SEC Report
VA & R Presentation
Rehabilitation Foundation
After Session Rehabilitation Luncheon (Invited Guests)

FRIDAY, JULY 14

7:30 AM Registration - Convention Hall – Room 210, 2nd Floor
8:00 AM Business Session, Bayfront Ballroom, 2nd Floor
Call to Order, Invocation, Advancement of Colors, Roll Call
Session, Call to Order, Invocation, Colors
Introduction of newly elected Officers of The American Legion Auxiliary
Election of Officers
Installment of newly elected Officers
After Session First meeting of new Department Executive Committee



The Maryland Gold Star Legacy Run... On The Road Again



On June 9-11, 2017, we will be holding the 2nd Annual Maryland Gold Star Legacy Run. American Legion Riders from across Maryland will be touring Maryland on a three-day adventure to bring awareness to the Legacy Scholarship Fund, the Riders themselves and to the American Legion Family.

While our main mission is to raise money for the Legacy Scholarship Fund, this year will be bringing remembrance to our veterans that have gone on to Post Everlasting by laying four wreaths at four different locations. On Friday June 9, 2017 at approximately 12:30 PM, we will be arriving at the Eastern Shore Veterans Cemetery located at 6827 East New Market Ellwood Road in Hurlock MD to lay a wreath. On Saturday June 10th, we will be arriving at the World War II Memorial at approximately 10:30 AM located at 1920 Ritchie Hwy Annapolis, MD to lay a wreath at both the World War II Memorial and the recently open Gold Star Memorial. On Sunday morning June 11th at approximately 8:30 AM we will be visiting the Rocky Gap Veterans Cemetery located at 14205 Pleasant Valley Rd NE Flintstone, MD to lay a wreath. We are asking and encouraging all Legion Family to join us on this mission to remember our veterans and to help us pay our respects at anyone of these locations.

I am proud to report that as of this date we have 53 registered riders, sponsorships of the Run of over \$5,800.00 and pledges to the Legacy Scholarship of over \$11,000.00 putting us close to our goal of \$20,000.00. However this was just a goal, not a stopping point. While

it's too late to be sponsor of this year's ride, it's not too late to be a participant or to make a pledge. All pledges over \$100.00 will receive a Certificate of Appreciation.

So now you are asking yourself, how do I get started? Please go to www.mdalr.org and locate our 2017 Maryland Gold Star Run registration packet and download the registration page or pledge form. You can either send in your pledge or meet us at one of the stops and present your check. All proceeds raised will be presented at the Department Convention City on Wednesday July 12th and again at the National Legacy Run heading to Reno for the National Convention.

We have assembled a distinguished group of Riders to help with the Run and to help with Rider issues in Maryland. They include, Larry "Doc" McBean, Chairman, ALR 259, Dave Heredia ALR 128, Bill Sparwasser ALR 47, John Horner ALR 22, Murray Hall ALR 259 and myself, Joe Gladden ALR 22. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me with any questions relating to the Maryland Gold Star Legacy Run. As I said before, we need your help!

"United In Service"

Joe Gladden
Maryland Gold Star Legacy Run
Road Captain
SAL Past National Commander
2013-2014
Joegladd123@aol.com
443-742-0842



Left to right taken at the DEC meeting May 21st at Dewey Lowman Post 109. NEC Mike Mooney, Dave Heredia, Department Commander Pat McCoy, Doc McBean, Murry Hall, Joe Gladden

Jr. Shooting Competition

We did our usual two tournaments this year. The first on March 26th at Post 194 in Rising Sun, The second on May 7th at Post 64 in Salisbury. 1st Vice Commander James Marchinke was on hand to give out the awards to our young shooters. We made some changes this year to benefit some of the younger shooters. We did age group categories rather than Novice and Experienced. We felt that the younger shooters could not compete against the older shooters. We want every shooter to have a fair chance to win an award. I will be stepping down at the conclusion of the convention in July. Ernie Miller of Susquehanna Post 135 will be the new Chairman. I can't begin to tell you what an experience and it has been to work with our youth and watch them grow into this program. The young lady from Post 64 Morgan Phillips told me and 1st Vice James Marchinke That if it wasn't for The American Legion the

things that she had accomplished would not have happened. She has won gold medals in Junior Olympics, National Championships at Ft. Benning Georgia and 5th in the world in world cup match. This year as freshman at the University of West Virginia she won the National NCAA Championship. What a pleasure it is to see someone in this program excel to that level. As I leave as the chairman of this great program I ask that you assist Ernie in his endeavor to keep this program going in the direction it is going. I will stay on his Committee for a year to assist him. Commander Pat, thank you for allowing me to serve you as the Chairman of this wonderful program.

Yours in Service

**Charles W. Thomas, Chairman
Junior Shoot Sports**



On May 7th at Wicomico Post 64, Jr. Shooting held their Competition. Pictured in no particular order are contestants: Kaycey Mackey, Aleks Baublitz, Carissa White, Kendall Wheeler, Mackenzie Richardson, Clare Riley, Maggie Richardson, Krystal Newman, Ayla Lahiff and Andrew Wilson. In the back is 1st Vice-Commander James Marchinke, Ernie Miller from Post 135 and Charles Thomas.

Don preparing his 3,000th care package

Don Downer a member of Columbia's American Legion Post 300 is 88 years old and a Marine Corps veteran. Pictured we see Don preparing his 3,000th care package at his home to ship to Afghanistan. He has been sending packages since 2009.



Pictured above: Shelby Rogers, Chris Bowers, Don Downer, Jim Piersall, Bob Berlett Post-300 members on-hand to help Don 'pack' CARE box #3000 Don is China Marine.,

Pictured left: The Department of Maryland 2017 Eagle Scout of the Year goes to Andrew Benaiah Ashley of Walkersville, Maryland



Governor Larry Hogan Attends Groundbreaking Ceremony for HELP Veterans Village at Perry Point VA Medical Center, along with Department Commander and Department Officers.



DISTRICT DATA

NORTHERN CENTRAL DISTRICT

Serving Baltimore, Harford and Howard Counties

After the many comments I've received on my past FSW articles, I said I'd keep the last one short. When I joined the legion a few years ago I never dreamed I'd be your County then District Commander one day. Both Judy and I have met some incredible people in our journey around the state while visiting other posts. I've only had to have my passport validated twice this year on my annual trek to Posts 182 & 256. I would highly recommend each of you to visit other Legion Posts and see what they're doing; you just might get an idea or two.

As a wide man once said, "All good things must come to an end". My year is winding down real fast and we have one more hurdle to overcome, and that is our District Caucus. If you want to wear the "White Hat" please step up and volunteer for a Department Committee, but more importantly, you don't have to be a White Hat to sit in on DEC Committee Meetings. The District members who volunteer for committees earn the right to wear the White Hat.

Our National Commander Charles Schmidt was duly impressed when he visited the great State of Maryland. He joined the Veterans Awareness March around Ft. McHenry and toured McVets. He wanted to know why every state didn't have a McVets. Many thanks to Jeff Kendrick and his fantastic crew at McVets for being gracious hosts during the tour. Thanks to Post 109 for hosting the banquet and ensuing breakfast for our National Commander.

A big "Thank You" to our County & Post Commanders this year. Stuart Blair (Balto.), Ed McCann (Harford) and Larry Killen (Howard) you guys really stepped up, took the bull by the horns, and met or exceeded our goals this year. I am honored to have served with you.

We had a great time at Post 39 for their dedication of "Freedom Hall" on March 25th. Thanks to Post 256 for their Annual Turkey Shoot to raise funds for the Perry Point VA Annual Christmas Party for the veterans and a special thanks to all of the county and district volunteers for making this party a success. Thanks to Post 17 for inviting us to their Grand Re-opening on Nov. 5th. The families

of the fallen Police Officers were deeply touched by your tribute. By the time you read this our Howard County Posts 156 & 300 will have participated in the dedication of the first Howard County Veterans Memorial in Columbia, MD on June 3rd. Thanks to Post 180 and all our volunteers for hosting our Annual Membership Rally on February 24th.

As of this writing we have 9 posts with over 100% membership. A special thanks goes out to Post #17 with 119.5% (3rd in MD). Remember, it's never too late to either recruit or retain a member. I urge you all to use Russell's, "Who We Are - What We Do"; as a recruiting tool. There are a lot of veterans out there who just don't know anything about our "Great American Legion" It's up to all of us to spread the word.

Please get your Post Consolidation Reports into Department and concentrate on your volunteer hours. These hours when added up in our state and our nation give National Commander Schmidt a few more rounds of ammunition when he testifies before Congress in Washington.

In closing, I truly feel privileged to have served as your District Commander. Our annual convention in Ocean City is on the horizon. I urge you to take a class in The Legion College, and who knows, you just might learn something you didn't know.

I ask all of you to support my successor, "Mild Bill" and show him the respect and courtesy you have shown me. And, a "Special Thanks" go out to "My Better Half, Judith" for putting up with my shenanigans during the past year. Again, it has been my pleasure serving as your District Commander and may God bless each and every one of you and your families. Continue to do your best for The American Legion. C-ya, "Downey Ocean, Hon".

For God and Country,

William J. Ganz, Jr.
Northern Central District Commander



MOUNTAIN DISTRICT

Serving Allegany and Garrett Counties

Greeting Legionaries: I have visited several of the Posts in the District since the last Edition. Spring & Summer is just around the corner, another year is coming to a close. Post #13 held a Legion Birthday Dinner on 3-18, and gave certificates out for members having continuous service in the America Legion for 60, 50, and 40 years. The Mountain District Reception was held on March 25th at Westernport, Md., Post#155; we had a good turn-out for it. On March 29th had Vietnam Veterans Day at Frostburg State College with the Frostburg Post # 24 holding the Ceremony. The District had a membership drive at the Cumberland Country Club Mall and one at ACC College Center in April. Mountain District had a cook-out on April 23rd at Martinsburg VA Hospital for the Veterans, consisted of Hot-Dogs, Hamburgers, Salad, Cookies, Fruit and soft drinks. Also played bingo with them, gave out Clothing and personal items and canteen books. The Mountain District made a Request from the Veterans Affairs Commission for \$2,000.00 to the Cumberland Base Outpatient Clinic and it was presented to the Clinic by the Allegany County Commander, First Vice

Commander James Marchinke and I. Also requested \$500.00 for the Annual Disabled Veterans Fishing Outing at the Cumberland Outdoor Club Picnic Grounds on May 6, and it was presented to the person in charge of the event by the same people as before. On May 13th had a retention membership meeting at Laurel Post #60 at 10-am, 1st Vice Commander James Marchinke, Allegany County Comm. Rodney Hyde and myself attended, then after that we went to a Groundbreaking Ceremony at the Perry Point VA Medical Center at 3-pm. Having Mother's Day Breakfast on May 14th from 8 am to 11-am at Post # 13. I'm planning on having another Membership Drive on May 20th. I also installed new post officers at Barton Post #189 and Farrady Post #24. I hope everybody has a nice summer and I hope to see everybody at the convention in July.

For God and Country

Charles (Chuck) Fisher
Commander Mountain District



SOUTHERN MARYLAND DISTRICT

Serving Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's, Montgomery and St. Mary's Counties

Greetings Legionnaires, as my year is coming to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to thank each of you for allowing me to serve as the Commander of the Great Southern Maryland District. I have enjoyed working for you and the Great Southern Maryland District. The district is in great shape, but we still have some unfinished business to take care of; that business is MEMBERSHIP. As a district we are so close to achieving our goal of a 100%. County Commanders and Post Commanders, let's roll our sleeves up and make this happen.

John Countryman (Randolph Furey Post 170), is slated to be the next SMD Commander. Thanks John for a great year as First Vice and membership chairman. Patrick Guibao (Guy Parlett Post 7), is slated to become the First Vice. Patrick also served as Anne Arundel's County Commander. Haywood Moss (Clinton Post 259) is set to become the Second Vice. A change of hats ceremony will take place at the convention center prior to The Great Southern Maryland District's Fish Fry on Monday afternoon.

County Commanders, I want to thank you from

the bottom of my heart for a job well done. This couldn't have been done without your help and continued support. Post Commanders, thank you as well for your support. I know it was a task to get in all those memberships, but at the end of the day, a job well done by all.

Last but not least, please get all of your reports into the Department as soon as possible.

Upcoming events:

June 3rd

S MD Reception for District Officer - SMDYC

June 25th

SMD Caucus - Post 275 - Glenarden

Jul 10th - 14th

Department of MD Convention - Ocean City

For God and Country,

Stanley (Stan) Shaw, Commander
Southern Maryland District



DISTRICT DATA

NORTH EASTERN SHORE DISTRICT

Serving Caroline, Cecil, Kent, Queen Anne's and Talbot Counties

I appreciate the warm welcome and camaraderie I've received this year as I've visited the Posts in the District. It's hard to believe the Department Convention is nearly here. What a year it's been. We have had some challenges and some victories.

One of our toughest challenges this year has been membership. I know it's difficult to keep up when Post Everlasting keeps recruiting but please keep working those rosters. If your post has a large sum in Post Credits, consider using some of those credits when you transmit your renewals and keep their funds in the post. The member gets renewed and the Post can use the money. To those Posts that have met or exceeded goal, I sincerely appreciate your efforts, but please don't quit. We're not done yet.

Thank you to all the posts that participated in the First Responders Program and the Oratorical Contest. It would be great to see more participation in these programs, but huge oaks start out as tiny acorns. Please keep trying to expand upon these.

The District has also stepped up with supporting Legion Baseball and Boys State. These two character building programs are an excellent addition to our Children and Youth efforts. I'm very proud of the fact that eight of the 34 active staff members of Boys State are from the North Eastern Shore District. The majority of that staff will gladly give a week of their lives to the program in June, when they venture to McDaniel College to work with those future leaders of America.

BALTIMORE DISTRICT

Serving Baltimore City

"Jesus said allow the little children, don't forbid them to come to me" MATT 19:14

I bid you greetings from the Baltimore District. First, I would like to thank all who made the Baltimore District banquet on April 23, 2017 a success. This year the Baltimore District had the pleasure to host our State Commander Pat McCoy and her staff. Also, we were honored by the United States Navy who was the escort for our State Commander. Also, our special escorts were the J.ROTC from the local high schools. Cadets from J.ROTC Army, J.ROTC Navy, J.ROTC Air Force, and J.ROTC U.S. Marine Corp. The District was well represented by each post in the District. I would like to thank the Auxiliary and S.A.L. for their support.

Let us now focus on our future in The American Legion which was shown that if

Thank you to everyone that attended our District Commanders and Presidents Reception, held at Sgt. Preston Ashley Post 228, in Rock Hall. Thanks to the committee that worked to make it a success. We had an excellent attendance representing most of the State of Maryland.

Since this is my last Warrior article, I would be remiss if I didn't thank the District Officers that have helped get me through this past year. Thank you to Jim Howeth, Vice Commander, for his efforts with membership and setting up our District Officers reception during the upcoming Convention. Thank you to Eric Broussard, Adjutant, for his outstanding performance. Thanks to Willis Scott, Judge Advocate, for guiding us through the year. Thanks to Nancy Polk, Finance Officer, for maintaining excellent financial records. Thanks to George Jenkins, Sgt. at Arms, for sticking with me though the year, and thank you Harry Pisapia, Chaplain, for seeing to our spiritual needs. Thanks also go to the County Commanders.

If there is anything I, or any of the District Officers can do to help in any way, please let us know.

May God bless all of the members of our Armed Forces and their families and all veterans everywhere.

For God and Country,

**Larry Crouch
Commander, NESD**

we continue to encourage our youth and show them that they can be leaders, the Legion will grow and remain strong in the future. Times are changing and we must be willing and able to change with the times. For the future of The American Legion it is in the hands of our veterans.

Let the legacy continue.

Our Events and activities are as follows:

Memorial Day May 30, 2017 at
Baltimore National Cemetery
5501 Frederick Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21228

In your service

**Darrell N. Truesdale Sr.
Commander
Baltimore District**



SOUTH EASTERN SHORE DISTRICT

Serving Dorchester, Somerset, Wicomico and Worcester Counties

Greetings from the South Eastern Shore District (SESD). Spring has arrived, the weather is pleasantly mild and we are looking forward to all's return to our beaches. At this point of my tenure as SESD Commander I have attended and participated in all DEC and District meetings thus far and plan to make the remaining few. Our District Caucus will be at Stanley Cochrane Post # 16, in Crisfield on June 25th beginning at 2 pm. As we continue to work hard to achieve 100 percent membership, I would like us all at this point to redouble our efforts in being at the highest possible membership obtainable. Thanks to the Counties and Posts in our District who have achieved 100 percent membership or more already. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all Officers, and special guest who attended our

District Reception, it was well attended. Also thanks to our host Dor-Wic Post #218 for a job well done. As we prepare for our various Memorial Day services and parades to recognize and honor veterans of earlier wars who fought and died for our freedom, let us never forget our POW/MIA as well. As we continue to work on our various American Legion Programs let us also not forget those who are currently serving on active duty or in hostile environments. May God continue to Bless You all and may God Bless America.

**Larry Duffy Sr.
South Eastern Shore District Commander**



WESTERN MARYLAND DISTRICT

Serving Carroll, Frederick and Washington Counties

As your District Commander for the year 2016-17, I say THANK YOU!

I have enjoyed being your Commander this year and very honored to have this position to serve the Western Maryland District. I would like to thank, Post 223, Post 282, Post 10 and Post 191 for allowing me as Commander to have the Western Md. District Meetings at their posts. Also the fine meals they serve before the meeting. A thank you to the Officers and Delegates of the W.M.D.

I would like to thank the Legion, Auxiliary and the SAL, of The American Legion FAMILY, for the help with the District Reception, for the Dept. Commander Pat, Dept. Auxiliary President Paulette and SAL Detachment Commander Ray. A special thank you to my Post home, Post 282 for the support they have gave me through this year, Auxiliary, SAL and Legion.

I enjoyed going to the district receptions that I was invited to, it's very interesting to see how the program differs from each district.

The Oratorical Contest from the Post level through the County, than the District, than to the State level, than to the big one, National Contest,

I think this is one of the most important programs The American Legion has, for children and youth programs, which is under Americanism. To get up and talk about the Constitution of the United States, in front of audience, I think it's great to see these young adults how intelligent they are.

Speaking of that, the Western Maryland District had one individual to go all the way to

National and finish second, to the National Winner. The young lady was sponsored by Gold Star Post 191, her name is Robyn Anzulis, and she won \$16,000.00. This is another great accomplishment from the programs of the American Legion. And another accomplishment for the Western Maryland District to have a young individual to go that far. A special thanks to Ethel Leffingwell, the chairperson for the Oratorical for the W.M.D, and Gold Star Post 191. A special thank you to the posts that have 100% membership, a thank you to all the posts of the District, trying to make 100% membership. It's tough with the loss of our Legionnaires each year from your Post that goes to post everlasting. So keep up the great work, even the year is coming to the end, the new year will be here before you know it. Again thanks for the hospitality that I received at the Posts, I visited later in the year. Meeting the Officers of each Post. A thank you to Dept. Commander Pat, she said let's have a fun year, and I had that! Hope to see you in Ocean City at the convention. Wishing the new incoming Officers a great year. Just remember it is The Great Western Maryland District.!

For God and Country

**Steven Blank
W.M.D. Commander**



A BIG WIN FOR MARYLAND! The 2017 American Legion High School Oratorical Contest

Anita Trotter, Department of Maryland Oratorical Contest Facilitator

The 80th National Finals of the American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship Program – “A Constitutional Speech Contest” – were held April 21-23 in Indianapolis. Fifty-Three high school students from the 50 states, D.C., Puerto Rico, and the Department of France competed on Saturday to select the three finalists for Sunday. This year’s winner was Andrew Steinberg, a junior from Newton, Massachusetts. Third place was awarded to Chad Durante, a sophomore from Follansbee, West Virginia. AND, Second Place was awarded to (drum roll, please) our own Robyn Anzulis, a junior at South Carroll High School, sponsored by Mt. Airy Gold Star Post 191!

On Saturday Morning, Robyn sailed through her Quarter Final Round against candidates from Hawaii, Montana, Ohio, Oregon and Tennessee. In the Semi- Finals on Saturday Afternoon, she surpassed Texas and Kansas to make the Finals on Sunday Morning. Through it all, she was calm, cool and collected! At the awards banquet on Sunday afternoon, she received her trophy as well as \$17,500 in scholarships. Although only a junior, winning in the top three

precludes her competing next year as a senior.

Our Department of Maryland Final held at Towson University on March 5, had five speakers from five of our seven districts (Southern Maryland, Western Maryland, North Central, NE Shore, and SE Shore). Of course, Robyn came in first earning her trip to Indianapolis and a Department scholarship award of \$2500. This was her second appearance in our finals, having come in second two years ago. Second Place and a scholarship award of \$1500 went to Alex McGrath, a senior at Severna Park High School, representing the Southern Maryland District and sponsored by Severna Park Post 175. He earned second place last year as well. Third Place finishers were: Apeksha Ghumatkar, a senior at Wicomico High School in Salisbury (SE Shore District); Joel Olujide, a freshman at Hammond High School in Columbia – Howard County (North Central District); and Molly Martell, a Senior at Saint Peter and Paul High School in Easton (NE Shore District). All Third Place finishers each received scholarship awards of \$500.

Each participant was required to research, prepare and memorize five speeches! The main speech is referred to as the Prepared Oration. It must be between eight and ten

minutes. The other four speeches are the Assigned Topics, of which only one is given after it is chosen at random by a member of the audience. This speech is required to be between three and five minutes. The candidate does not know which one of the four they will be called upon to give until five minutes before they are on deck. Hence, they must be ready for any of the four. This year’s Assigned Topic, drawn at random, was Amendment 10, States Rights. The other possible choices were Amendment 7, Amendment 16, and Amendment 17. In 2018, they will be Amendments 2, 3, 15, and Article 2, Section 4 (start studying!). Our State Contest will again be at Towson University, on March 4, 2018.

Our six state Judges this year were primarily incumbents from various levels of academia at George Washington University and Stevenson University. They brought a diverse perspective on history, the Constitution, and public speaking. Many Legionnaires were also on hand as escorts, ushers, room monitors, tabulators, and time keepers. Most had also participated at the post, county, and district level. You may view Robyn’s winning orations at the National American Legion website. It should be available for quite some time. She will present her Prepared Oration LIVE on Thursday July 13 at our Ocean City Convention.

Department Sgt-at-Arms

By Will Trotter

Last August, I quoted this job description for the Sergeant-At-Arms: “The Sergeant-At-Arms shall preserve order and decorum during all sessions of the Department Convention and the Department Executive Committee. He shall conduct absentees to the Convention Hall in the event their presence is necessary for a quorum. The Sergeant-At-Arms shall take charge of the Colors at all official functions of the Department of Maryland. If required, Assistants may be appointed for a specific activity.” Along with the ever popular “other duties as assigned.”

So, with that in mind, here are some highlights from my “tour of duty” as your Department Sergeant-At-Arms:

Conducted visitations to post, county, and district events. This included, but was not limited to: Meetings, dinners, installations, Four Chaplains Services, training, receptions, dedications, oratorical contests, sporting events, and other activities. Specifically, the Baltimore, WMD, and SESD Caucus.’

National Convention, Cincinnati, Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms, “on the door” during the floor sessions of the convention

Washington Conference 2017, to include the National Commander’s Testimony

Washington Conference Reception introducing the 2018 and 2019 leading candidates for National Commander

Moderated a Quarter-Final of the National High School Oratorical Contest in Indianapolis

Represented the American Legion, Department of Maryland, at the Disabled American Veterans, Department of Maryland, Convention

Participated in four Veterans Day Programs

Participated in two Memorial Day Programs

Maintained the Department of Maryland on-line Meetings and Events Calendar

Provided guidance and council as Past Southern Maryland District Commander, Past Department Chaplain, and Past Oratorical Committee chair

Maintained decorum at the DEC’s and Department Convention

This has truly been a year full of many successes and blessing!



Front Row (seated): Our 5 candidates, L to R: Winner Robyn Anzulis, Woodbine, Alex McGrath, Severna, Joel Olujide, Columbia, Apeksha Ghumatkar, Salisbury, Molly Martell, Easton Back Row, standing: L to R: Dept Cmdr Patricia McCoy, Dr Joseph McGraw, Stevenson University, Judge, Dr Jamie Goodall, Stevenson University, Judge, Dr Jennifer Erdman, Stevenson University, Judge, Dr Erin Josendale, George Washington University, Judge, Mr Stephen Whiting, Principal Clarksburg HS, Judge, Anita Trotter, Department Oratorical Facilitator

**Sergeant-At-Arms
Will Trotter**

Four Chaplains Story

Written By: **Beth Bjorkman, American Legion Post 60 Chaplain**



On Sunday, April 2nd, 2017, The American Legion Post 60 conducted a Four Chaplains ceremony. The program opened with the posting of colors and the National Anthem by the Post 60 Color Guard. A welcome was given by Post 60 Legion Chaplain Beth Bjorkman. MD Department Chaplain Frank Porter offered a moving Invocation. Guest speaker MD Department Commander Patricia McCoy gave an arousing introduction to the short documentary film; Four Chaplains: Sacrifice at Sea. It included a background of the Four Chaplains, the story of the Dorchester, and statements from survivors.

Post 60 Commander Lee Luby then conducted a wreath tribute followed by a candle lighting tribute conducted by Post Chaplains Larry Wilson (Post 36), Charles Brewer (Post 227), Paulette McNair (Post 275), and Bernie Haines (Post 172). The audience was then treated to a special performance by a local band named Lost 'N' Found and their song written in honor of the Four Chaplains entitled "Almost Lost at Sea." The moving song told the story of these immortal Chaplains. A thoughtful Benediction was given by Post 60 Chaplain Beth Bjorkman. The program concluded with TAPS and the retirement of colors.

From the Children & Youth Chairman Desk

This has been a Great year for The American Legion Department of Maryland Children & Youth Americanism Committee from June 2016 through June 2017...I would like to take time to thank all of the American Legion Districts that have participated in the Children & Youth Programs and Subordinate Posts that have granted Temporary Financial Assistance to the needy children of veterans families.... The Department of Maryland Children & Youth Americanism Committee has been recognized by The American Legion National Children & Youth Americanism Division for receiving Temporary Financial Assistance funds for the needy children of veterans families of this Great State of Maryland.. The National Children & Youth Americanism Division has granted Temporary Financial Assistance to 4 Families in this Great State of Maryland for the purpose of stopping Evictions and Turn-offs of Utilities in the

amount of \$4,803.98. Our Department of Maryland Children & Youth Americanism Committee has granted Temporary Financial Assistance to 7 Families for the purpose of stopping Evictions and Turn-offs of Utilities in the amount of \$12,126.44 and we have approved 1 Grant in the amount of \$2,500.00 dollars to the American Legion Districts that's participating in the Children & Youth Programs and we have approved 4 Grants to Outside Organizations of the American Legion for their Children & Youth Programs in the amount of \$5,500.00 dollars. The total disbursements are \$28,295.00 dollars. My fellow Legionnaires as you can see the Department of Maryland Children & Youth Americanism Committee has been



From the Chaplain's Desk

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help I'm trouble. Psalm 46:1



This article will complete my first year as Department Chaplain. It has been a blessing and honor to serve this administrative year. Your prayers and support made this a very inspirational and enjoyable year. Thank you very much.

In the book of Jeremiah after being smitten with grief due to the suffering of his people, he asked "Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there? Why is there no healing for the wound of my people?" (Jeremiah 8:22).

Gilead was known for its balm, made from resin of the mastic tree and used by physicians in the Eastern world during this time.

If there were no balm in Gilead, there would be no hope for their healing. Indeed, there was "no balm in Gilead" that could cure their soul sickness.

The prophet Jeremiah's question was answered through the words of the traditional spiritual. With intense feelings and profound conviction this spiritual responded to Jeremiah's despairing queries that God does heal the sin-sick soul.

*Sometimes I feel discourage, and think my work's in vain.
But then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again.
There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole;
There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.*

This song had its inspiration in the cauldron of Israel's suffering in the Old Testament times. Its enduring message reminds us that God is still the Great Physician who "makes the wounded whole" and "heals the sin-sick soul". If you have been wounded in life, or if you have a soul sickness, look to God who alone brings healing and wholeness.

The two Chaplain's Training Seminars this year were very informative and well attended. We will have a chaplain's training at the Department Convention in Ocean City. The training seminar will be held on Tuesday July 11, 2017 at 1:P.M. The seminar is opened to anyone interested in learning about the duties and responsibilities of the chaplain.

Let me extend a word of thanks to my Assistant Chaplain Rev. Wilbert L. Geigan, Post 128 and Prince Georges County Council Chaplain Beth Bjorkman, Laurel Post 60 for their tremendous support, prayers and encouragement with the seminars and throughout the year. They were instrumental in starting a monthly chaplain's prayer meeting at their respective post. If you are interested in starting a prayer meeting in your district, county or post, please contact me at 301 613-3692.

A closing thought: Let us walk wisely and make godly choices. We need to be careful of how we walk. We must be vigilant about the way we think and act. Unless we deliberately choose to guard ourselves, we will simply do what comes naturally and go along with cultural influence.

Frank A. Porter
Department of Maryland Chaplain

working very hard to see to it that no veteran is turned away without a full understanding of the Children & Youth Americanism Program. I have received a number of thank you letters from the veterans that have been granted a second chance with helping to get back on track with their monthly household financial expenses with their Shelter and Utilities and needs for the children. I would like to take this time to THANK the Children & Youth Americanism Committee for their trust in my leadership and their dedication, efforts of

making the Department of Maryland Children & Youth Americanism Committee one of best committees in this Great Department. My prayer is that you have a safe and enjoyable, Educated week at the 99th Department Annual Convention at Ocean City, MD July 10-14, 2017 Remember to Drive safely to Ocean City, MD and safely back home.

Serving God and Country

Ronald L. Holcombe

POST EVERLASTING

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MEMORIAL BOOK INSCRIPTIONS

In Memory of Past District Commander Western Maryland District Frank Guthrie, by Dave Winpiger.

In Memory of Past District Commander Western Maryland District Frank Guthrie, by Clopper Michael Post #10.

In Memory of Betty Hardesty, by Cummings-Behlke Auxiliary Unit #226.

In Memory of Harold Delauter, by Carole and David Winpiger.

In Memory of Harold Delauter, by Western Maryland District.

In Memory of Willie G. Dominguez, by Department of Maryland Baseball Committee

In Memory of Post 220 Commander Cheryl Chew, by Calvert County Council.

KESTING GOLF TOURNAMENT (2017)

You could give as a Gift, birthday, anniversary or just thinking of you. Why not pay for someone of your choice to play in The Kesting Golf Tournament to be held in Ocean City, on July 10, 2017. A card will be sent to the individual you support, to memorialize the occasion. It is a gift that will continue to give over and over in great memories.

Send Check and Occasion to: **Roger W. Butt**
PO Box 1127
Emmitsburg, Md. 21727

THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MARYLAND
410-752-1405**SPONSOR APPLICATION**

The American Legion, Department of Maryland, is looking for Sponsors to assist us in supporting our Veterans and Children, and Youth Programs. We are holding a Golf Tournament during the Legion Convention (Ocean City, (2017)

Donors will have a sign displayed on a "t" box recognizing their donation.

We are asking for "SPONSORS" from American Legion Posts, Business Owners Corporations and Individuals. ALL DONATIONS WILL GO TO OUR AMERICANISM PROGRAMS WHICH INCLUDE VETERANS' THEIR FAMILIES AND CHILDREN AND YOUTH American Legion Posts donating should list the donation on their Post Consolidated Report.

Businesses and Individuals should take a Tax Deduction.

Checks should be MADE TO: The American Legion, Department of Maryland
Send Check To: Roger W. Butt, PO Box 1127, Emmitsburg, MD 21727

Merchandise to be picked up: Contact Terry Butt (240) 529-2491
A sign recognizing your donation will be displayed.

NAME AS IT SHOULD APPEAR ON SIGN. _____

ADDRESS: _____

MESSAGE FOR SIGN _____



THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF MARYLAND
410-752-1405

Department of Maryland Convention-- play in The Wm. C. Kesting Memorial Golf Tournament, July 10, 2017, at the Ocean City Golf & Yacht Club, 11401 Country Club Dr., Berlin, Maryland.

Start time will be-- 8:30AM.

Tournament play will be a Scramble (Captains Choice, Best Ball) 1st, 2nd and 3rd place & closest to the pin (Bracket Scoring) Prize tickets & 50/50 ticket winners. & Many Prizes for all!! — *GREAT HOLE IN ONE PRIZE-on designated par 3 a NEW vehicle donated by Pohanka of Salisbury, Maryland *(First hole in-one-one on designated hole Wins), No Professionals or Club Pros eligible for prize.

SUPPORT our VETERANS and our CHILDREN & YOUTH programs.
Luncheon and awards ceremony to be held following the Golf Outing, at the Golf Course.

\$70.00 per player-- *** \$280.00 per foursome.

**Make checks payable to ---The American Legion, Department of Maryland--

Send Players Fee to: Roger W. Butt, PO Box 1127, Emmitsburg, MD 21727

Player _____ Player _____

Player _____ Player _____

Phone # to contact Player (s) _____

Eight & Forty**LA BOUTIQUE DES HUIT CHAPEAUX ET QUARANTE FEMMES DEPARTEMENTAL DE MARYLAND SALON 39**

Bon Jour, Partners

It is with great sadness that we have had to say adieu to a few Partners this year. The latest being our "angel" Nancy Burke who left for her heavenly home on April 12. She really was an angel who paid partnership fees for several other Partners who were struggling financially while also donating generously to all our programs designed to help our afflicted children breathe. We will miss her greatly as we miss all of our departed Partners. This just emphasizes the need to recruit new "estrangers" to join us in our worthy efforts. There is no greater joy than assisting children who are suffering the ravages of disease. On this topic, I must share my recent trip to Denver to attend "Chapeaux Days" in April. This was a very enjoyable time shared with many Partners from across the United States. National Jewish Medical and Research Hospital rolled out the red carpet and welcomed us with generous praise of our support, awarding certificates for the many thousands of dollars contributed by the various Salons and Departementaux. We enjoyed meals with the children after which they entertained us with an original production which featured butterflies, our theme chosen by National Chapeau Kathy Harris Richardson. We held our mid-year Pouvoir the next day and a banquet that evening. Early on Saturday morning, (4:00AM) I was on my way to the airport as I had meetings on Saturday and Sunday that I had to attend in Maryland. The weather, which can be iffy at this time of the year in Denver, was great, however it rained Friday night and Saturday which made for a

shaky plane ride home. All in all, it was a great time for all who attended.

Our third Departemental Pouvoir was also held in April. Chapeau, Donna Zentgraf and Secretaire/Cassiere, Marian James conducted an informative meeting. Several obligations were handled at this meeting. Our next Pouvoir will be held the same day as our La Marche (convention) in July. Here we will recognize our local Salons for their year of work on our various programs.

So, how about it? Are there women out there who would like to become an "Angel in Red and White?" All it takes is passion to help children and an honorably discharged service member in your immediate family, even uncles and aunts count. Dues are a very minimal amount and there are three Salons to choose from, in Baltimore, in Silver Spring and Kent Island. If you bring together 10 women with this passion, you can charter a new Salon. How great would that be? Simply fantastic!

We will soon be choosing new officers to lead us into the future. If you can give a few hours of your time to do this, call Marian James at 410-358-5727 or myself at 240-421-9580.

Ivy Christoffers, CNP
Le Chapeau Departemental
240.421.9580
ichristoffers@verizon.net

**HISTORIAN**

By Ruth Higgins

As the year comes to an end, I want to thank Commander McCoy for her appointment as Department Historian this past year, it has been an honor serving with you. In addition, I want to thank the Photography Committee for their time & capturing pictures which aided me in compiling the Department History Book. Time has flown by & I have enjoyed meeting so many legionnaires & witnessed so many wonderful events that I will always cherish. The time has arrived, June 10th is the deadline for your Post books to be at Department Headquarters, please label them as to the category you wish to have them judged. The "Annual Report of Post Historians" is available on the Department of Maryland's website as well as on the National American

Legion's website to aide you as to the information that should be included & the format to use to compile them. This year there will be a Historian Class at Legion College, so please sign up. Remember, if you don't preserve you post history, there's no record of it for future generations to look back on. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me. Finally, I'd like to thank my family for their love & support while serving The American Legion as Department Historian.

Ruth A. Higgins
Department Historian

**S.A.L. Commander**

Greetings, It has been my honor to serve as your Commander this year for the Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Maryland. It's also been a pleasure serving with Ms. Patricia McCoy, Department of Maryland Commander for The American Legion and Ms. Paulette Caron, Department of Maryland Auxiliary President.



I'd like to thank the American Legion Family across the state of Maryland for all the wonderful hospitality and support this year. I'm proud to say together, we have achieved the goal I set at the beginning of the year for my commander project. We purchased a used handicap van and are having it wrapped. We

are hoping it will be finished and at the SAL convention in Laurel next month. We are currently looking at several land parcels to purchase. This will be used for hunting and eventually a Veterans retreat/get-a-way.

Again, it's been a fantastic year and I "Thank" you from the bottom of my heart for all the support! God Bless you all and God Bless The American Legion.

"Serving Our Country's Injured Heroes"

Raymond Edwards
Commander

Sons of The American Legion
Detachment of Maryland
(410) 215-9354 – rayjred@verizon.net



From The American Legion, Department of Maryland

Department Sponsored Insurance Programs

*For more information on the products and services provided
 by the Legionnaire Insurance Trust,*

Call: 1-800-235-6943 Or visit us at: www.theLIT.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Auxiliary, Department of Maryland is proud to continue to support The American Legion and your programs! It has been our honor to CHEER for you all this administrative year!

Thank you to all Legionnaires who spent time with the ALA Department of Maryland as we hosted our National President, Mary Davis, March 31 through April 2. We were so thankful that you helped give Mary a wonderful Maryland Legion Family Welcome!! She was grateful to meet so many Legionnaires while visiting Maryland.

Donations are still be accepting for our President's project - Veteran Suicide Prevention. Money raised will be donated to prevention programs throughout the state. Donations can be sent to the ALA Department of Maryland, Inc, 1589 Sulphur Spring Road,



American Legion Auxiliary



Suite 105, Baltimore, MD 21227. Together, we can make a difference!

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as Department President this year. I appreciate all the courtesies that were extended to me by the members of The American Legion, Department of Maryland; especially Department Commander, Patricia McCoy! The ALA Department of Maryland is looking forward to spending time together at our Annual Convention in Ocean City in July. See you at the Ocean!! God bless you and God bless America!

Always Cheering,

Paulette D. Caron
Department President
paulette3165@gmail.com

Department Service Officer

Adrian G. Gamboa

Greetings Legionnaires, Our Department Convention is right around the corner which means that our Post Service Officers will have another great opportunity to attend Legion College and learn more about their duties and responsibilities.



I hope all the Post and District Commanders are encouraging and supporting their Service Officers to sign up.

Here is the latest information from both the Veterans Benefits Administration and Veterans Health Administration.

The Baltimore Regional Office continues to do work diligently to make sure VA claims are getting rated within a reasonable amount of time, four to five months seems to be the average. Back in September 2016 the VA announced the award of \$6.8 billion for VA disability compensation and pension medical disability examinations for the next 12 months with 4 extensions. Five government contractors were selected to perform examinations for VA's compensation and pension program. The contract arrangement is intended to help fight any wait list for medical disability examinations. This represents a major step forward in improving the disability examination experience for our Veterans.

The VA Medical Center in Baltimore continues to improve their facilities; the parking garage should reopen in June 2017. Currently the Veterans attending appointments at this facility need to park at the Metro West Garage located at 610 W Saratoga Street, Baltimore MD 21201. Shuttle service is available to transport Veterans to and from the medical center.

On March 21, 2017 the Office of the Inspector General for the Department of Veterans Affairs

deployed a Rapid Response Team to assess a number of allegations at the VA Medical Center in D.C which currently serves over 98,311 enrolled Veterans. The findings on the Interim Summary Report published on April 12, 2017 are disturbing. This link contains the full report: <https://www.va.gov/oig/pubs/VAOIG-17-02644-202.pdf>

On April 9, 2017, President Trump signed a law that removes the August 2017 expiration day for the Choice Program. The Choice Program will continue until the original \$10 billion is spent. Based on current estimates, funds for the program will last through January 2018, but could shift to fall 2017 if more Veterans use the program. This means that eligible Veterans will continue receiving care from providers in the community. You are eligible for the Choice Program if:

Your local VA medical facility can't schedule your appointment within 30 days of the clinically indicated date or if no such date can be determined.

Your current residence is more than 40 miles from the closest VA medical facility.

You need to travel by air, boat or ferry to the VA medical facility closest to your home.

You are faced with an excessive burden due to traveling to the closest VA medical facility based on geographic challenges, environmental factors, a medical or other specific factors as determined by your clinician.

Please send any questions to serviceofficer@mdlegion.org

Our office number is (410) 230-4420.

Thank you.

Adrian G. Gamboa
Department Service

When asking an eligible person to join The American Legion, Auxiliary, or SAL, remember to extend the offer to include their eligible friends and family members.

The American Legion
Department of Maryland, Inc.
The War Memorial
101 N. Gay Street, Rm. E
Baltimore, MD 21202

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Baseball:

Welcome to summer time and with that comes the baseball season. As of today, we have 38 teams registered with 2-more that need to complete their applications. Most teams will start their season over the Memorial Day weekend with a few teams playing in tournaments. But all should be starting the first week of June.

After playing 30 to 40 games in Jun and July, teams will then have their league playoffs to see who will come to the state tournament which will be held starting Tuesday, July 25th and ending on Saturday July 29th, with a rain date of July 30th. The tournament will be hosted by Cumberland Post #13 and all teams, staff and umpires will be housed at the Best Western in LaVale. We hope to see you all at the games to support this program and the boys playing.

Pairing for the first round has been set as follows:

- Game 1 10am Prince Georges County vs. Anne Arundel County
- Game 2 12:30pm Montgomery vs. TBA (play in)
- Game 3 Approx. 4pm. Eastern Shore vs. Western Md.
- Game 4 Approx. 7:30pm Northern Central District vs. Cumberland (Host Post)

Game results will be posted and pairing for the next day will be on the Department website. Click on baseball link. The Maryland state winner will move on to the regional playoffs the next week in Purcellville, Va. As of today the pairings have not been posted.

My thanks to my committee who have spent many hours of their own time with this program helping to make it work.

Commander Pat, it has been my pleasure to serve as baseball chairman this past year. Having you choose this program as your fundraising project can only help the program grow and expand.

Mike Riston
Chairman



Ribbon cutting Ceremony at Dorchester Post 91 at their temporary New home at Sailwinds. American Legion Post #91 has moved into a new temporary home in the Governor's Hall at Sailwinds Park in Cambridge.