



The Pride



Editor: Bill Matoska Co-Editor: Joe Gladden

Commander's Corner by Bear Weinzirl

The old saying "Time Flies When You're Having a Good Time" really is true. It's hard to believe that it's been over 5 months since our convention in Hagerstown. And what a busy 5 months it has been. I have truly enjoyed traveling our beautiful State, and the Country as your Detachment Commander. Many of my travels this year have been with and at the invitation of Department Commander Butch Haggard or Department President Cass Wheeler. I feel that we have developed an excellent relationship and that the "Legion Family" is alive and well in Maryland.

I attended the Department of Maryland Convention and the Auxiliary Fall Conference, both of which were held in Ocean City. I also attended the National Convention in Reno, Nevada. Some of my other travels include having made 3 trips to Indianapolis, attending the National Children and Youth Conference in September, the National Executive Committee Meetings in

October and the National Commander's Homecoming in November. It was at the latter where I had the privilege of presenting National Commander Ray Giehl with a flag that had been flown over Fort McHenry in his honor.

During a trip to the Perry Point VAMC, it was truly inspiring to see young members of our active duty military escorting Veterans of other eras from booth to booth at the annual carnival. On my tour of the Johns Hopkins Children Center, it was amazing to see how premature babies not much larger than the palm of your hand were being kept alive. And it was especially touching to see the outpouring of support for the Casey Cares Foundation while attending their annual Golf Tournament and the Detachment's 3rd annual "Ride for Casey Cares".

I was also very fortunate to have had the opportunity to travel to Annapolis and meet with Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs Secretary James

after turning onto Legion Road.

M.T.&D.: The Membership Training and Development Team completed their first trip this administrative year attending the Baltimore District Meeting on November 24, 2007 at Federal Post No. 19. Baltimore District Commander Fred Bennett was pleased with the turn out from the members and greatly appreciated the presentation made by Detachment Commander Bear Weinzirl and Past Detachment Commander Joe Gladden.

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Fall Issue

Adkins to discuss the programs that benefit our Veterans. And then, at the invitation of Governor Martin O'Malley, I spent Veterans Day afternoon in the Governor's Suite at M&T Bank Stadium, rooting for the Ravens along with the Governor, Secretary Adkins, Dept. of



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Adjutant's Archives by Bill Matoska

D.E.C.: The next meeting of the Detachment Executive Committee is being hosted at Caroline Post #29 beginning at 1:00 P.M. with the Commission and Committee meetings scheduled for noon. The post home is located at 9174 Legion Drive, Denton, Md. 21629 and the post phone number is 410-479-2708. The post is located on the Eastern Shore and to get to the post from US-50 take MD-404 East for approximately 15.5 miles and Legion Road will be a left turn. The post is approximately 1.4 miles

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Commander's Corner by Bear Weinzirl

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Maryland Vice Commander Mike Mooney and several disabled Iraqi Veterans from Maryland. I'm extremely proud to announce that I have recruited Governor O'Malley and Secretary Adkins into the ranks of the Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Maryland as members of my home Squadron, Susquehanna 135. It was an honor to have the opportunity to present them with their membership cards, in person on Veterans Day.

I have also had the honor of installing many of you as officers of your Squadron or District. I've met many of you at these installations and other events and look forward to meeting many more of you in the near future.

As you can see, I've done a lot of traveling this year, but please keep in mind that my job is basically guidance and public relations. Never forget that it is YOU, the "blue cap" member that makes the Detachment of Maryland so successful. Without you working and

supporting our programs, we would be nothing and I and my officers sincerely thank you.

I also want to thank Squadron Commander JR Hall and the Legion Family of Glen Burnie Post 40 for hosting our Seminar/DEC Meeting in September. We had an excellent turnout and your hospitality was very much appreciated. Our next DEC



Meeting will be held on Sunday December 9 at 1:00 pm at Caroline Post 29 in Denton. This will also be our annual "Toys for Tots" drive. Please make plans to attend and at the same time bring a toy to brighten the

holidays for a less fortunate child.

I want to thank those Squadrons and Districts that have already made donations to my Commander's Project, "The American Legacy Scholarship Fund" and I hope many more of you will consider doing so. An education for the children of the men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice is a powerful way for us to show our thanks. And please consider making a donation to our other programs, including the Casey Cares Foundation to help them continue to provide uplifting programs with a special touch to critically ill children and their families.

In closing, I want to wish you and yours a very joyous holiday season and let's continue "Bringing Veterans and Kids Programs to Bear".

Serving God, Country & The Legion Family,

Larry "Bear" Weinzirl
Commander
Detachment of Maryland

Mining For Membership by Mike Gray

Greetings Comrades

The holiday's are upon us now that means that our year is almost half over. As of right now, we are behind last year's totals. We need to get to work on our retention. If your squadron has not sent renewal letters, **now is the time**. We also still have some goose eggs out there. District Commanders and District Membership Chairman, please make contact with those squadrons who have not sent any membership in and see if we can be of any assistance in helping them with their membership.

The next Target date to look for is 45% by December 12th. We can

reach our goals with a little bit of work. Most of the Districts are right around the 45% mark right now. Great work, but don't stop now.

Mining for Membership Race Point total to date are as follows:

- First place is a tie at 13 points, South Eastern Shore and North Eastern Shore
- Third place belongs to the Northern Central District with 12 points (they received 3 bonus points for the first district to have no goose eggs)
- Fourth Place is Southern Maryland District with 9 points
- Tied for Fifth Place are Baltimore District , Western Maryland District ,

Mountain District, all have 6 points It's a close race so far. Who will be the next district to get the 3 bonus points for the first to reach 100%? I am trying to get the monthly membership race points on our web site. Look there in the future for your districts standings.

If I can be of any help with your membership please feel free to contact me at any time.

e-mail salmikey@aol.com Home 410-273-2379 Cell 443-807-6246.

Yours In Legion Service
Michael Gray
Detachment 1st Vice Commander
Membership Chairman

Children & Youth Chatter by Buddy Mastin

Well the holidays are upon us, now is the time to consider giving to the programs that benefit our Children & Youth. Now is the time to support Toys for Tots, for drop boxes and pick up contact go to toysfortots.org. This is the time that we need your support to deliver toys and a message of hope to needy children. We also have the

Special Olympics Winter Games and the Polar Bear Plunge coming up. I am challenging all other District and Detachment Officers to make the Polar Bear Plunge. I will make the plunge again this year and have set a goal of raising \$5,000. Also let's not forget CMN, CWF and Casey Cares which you will read about more in this newsletter.

Also remember every Squadron needs to list all their volunteer hours and monetary donations on their year end reports

Bringing Our Children To Bear
Buddy Mastin
Children And Youth Chairman

Children's Miracle Network by Gene Nichols

Holiday Greetings to All. We are quickly nearing the halfway mark of our administrative year, and busy thinking of the upcoming holidays. This is the "Season for Giving" so; let's see some "gifts come down the aisle at our Dec. DEC Meeting. So far this year, donations have been a little slow, but I

am certain they will pick up as always. Keep making those collections at your meetings, and that loose change will add up!

I wish you, and all of yours, all the best for the upcoming holidays, and hope to see many of you soon. Keep up the

good work! Merry Christmas!
(somebody had to say it!)

For God and Country,

Gene Nicholes, #183
410-592-6962
genicholes@aol.com

Casey Cares by Larry Griffin

Greeting's, The Casey Cares Holiday Giving Program is underway. As you know this time of the year can be especially stressful on the families of the critically ill children. With our

donations as Sons of the American Legion will be giving a helping hand to these Special Families. The donations can be in the form of cash, movie tickets, gift certificates, video's, tickets

to special events, etc. THANKS for your donations so far this year.

Yours in Service;

Larry Griffin

MD Special Olympics by Ed Souder

"The weather outside is frightful". Well, not yet, but come Saturday January 26th the weather will be just right for a jump in the bay. Join The American Legion Family in supporting Special Olympics by becoming a Plunger or donating to the "Polar Bear Plunge". Ask your Post, Unit, and Squadron to make their annual Special Olympics Donation at this time so our Legion

Family support can be seen by the public on the SOMD website. Checks can be sent directly to Special Olympics (note the Plunge on the memo), checks can also be entered electronically on the Polar Bear Plunge website www.plungemd.com or make a credit card donation. The website will help you register as a plunger or make a donation to someone who's plunging.

You can also make a general donation to the American Legion Family by entering first name "American", last name "Legion"

Thanks for your support and we'll see you at the Plunge

Ed Souder, Special Olympics

Toys For Tots by Ed Steininger

Well what more can I add that hasn't already been said and done with this program. Our membership has really stepped up to the plate with this program the last several years, but then, why not? This is one of the easiest programs to sponsor.

You can even go on line to order your posters and donation boxes, set them out, call when they are full (but before the holiday deadline), and then count the toys collected for your end of the year report. This is the hardest part, putting all of this on paper so that you

get credit for it. Just give us the number of toys collected, we will do the math.

Ed Steininger Sr.
Toys for Tots
Chairman

Americanism Today by Mark Gilbert

Now is the time for all squadrons to document your activities and donations to be included on the year end reports. It will be a lot easier to complete the reports if notes are kept throughout the year. The number one question I'm asked is "what can we include on the Americanism report.

So here is a guide that may help. 1) Sponsorship of Boys & Girls State, the cost of the sponsorship, or any donation. (volunteer hours should be claimed under community service). 2) Sponsorship of baseball teams and any costs/donations for the team. (volunteer hours should be claimed under remarks or other sponsorship section). 3) Boys & Girls Scout units sponsored and related costs/donations. (volunteer hours should be claimed under community service). 4) Sponsorship of Oratorical Contest, and any related costs/donations, and hours to hold the contest. 5) Flag Etiquette and Flag Education Programs

and their costs, Flag Retirement Ceremonies, and Veterans Day programs. 6) Any members taking part in the Five Star/Ten Ideal Program. (Five Star Test must be conducted by certified judges. Contact Chairman Mitch Gilbert for a list of judges). 7) Any flag 3x5 or larger presented through the flag replacement program with a properly filled out form. (the Detachment will accept smaller flags for the flag replacement program contest, 3x5 flags or larger will count as 5 points, smaller flags will count as 1 point). 8) Any monies donated to scholarship funds. 9) The hours spent on fund raisers. 10) Junior Shooting Sports and Gun Safety courses and their costs/donations. 11) The following volunteer hours should be reported as Community Service: a) coaching sport teams, b) scouting leader, c) volunteer firefighter, paramedic, police officer, health care provider etc., d) helping your post or unit with repairs,

fundraisers, etc., e) color guard appearances, f) volunteer hours raising funds for N.E.F., Toys for Tots, Md Special Olympics, Casey Cares, UCP, MS, Epilepsy, etc., g) Any costs/donations to the above listed and related programs.

You may NOT claim monies or time spent attending meetings or conventions, or supplies to run your squadron. Also, monies to host a meeting or gifts for distinguished guests, or to send a member to a class are not included..

I hope this information will help with your Americanism report. Thanks to Bob Trueblood with his help in gathering this information.

In Service to Our Veterans and Community,

Mark Gilbert,
Chairman

Child Welfare Foundation by Ken Jones

The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation provides other nonprofit organizations with a means to educate the public about the needs of our nation's children. The Sons last year

recommended 10 Grant requests and 9 of the Grants were approved. We would like to see the Detachment of Maryland do its part. We are asking Squadrons to donate at least \$1 per

member. You do the math. Please step up to the plate and do your share.

Yours in Service
Ken Jones

Commander's Project by Ed Steininger

Well the planning meetings have started for our American Legacy Scholarship fundraiser to be held at Susquehanna Post 135 on March 15th, 2008. We will use the same format as last year, only with different winners. If you thought that you had fun last year, then you must return this year to see what Post #135 can do. Tickets will be available at the DEC meeting in December, so bring a check to get them early.

I have started my tour of the Districts with the Legion and the Legacy Scholarship DVD. So far, it has been

very receptive. Please contact your District Commanders and Presidents and try to set up a small presentation at their meetings. I will do everything in my power to assist. Just remember that this is a Legion program, so let's show them what the Sons are made of, if they don't already know.

Contact me if you need fliers or drop cans for your Post. These will also be available at our meeting in Denton. Let's talk up this program and get the donations coming in. Let the Legion Riders at your Post know that they now have help with this program, as I am

sure that they will be your best means of advertising.

Until we meet at Caroline Post 29 in December, remember that I am always available to assist in any way with this and any of our programs. Just contact me.

Bringing Kids and Veterans Programs to "BEAR"
Ed Steininger Sr.
443-807-1495
Steininger_7@msn.com

Adjutant's Archives by Bill Matoska

(Continued from page 1)

If you would like the MT&D Team to visit your district or squadron, send me an e-mail at bill.matoska@comcast.net and arrangements will be made to facilitate your needs. The subject matter can be customized as needed.

Report Forms: The Consolidated Report Forms for 2007-2008 will be distributed to Detachment Adjutants in January. Once these new and revised forms are received they will be mailed to every **Squadron Adjutant** along with the Convention Package for 2008. Please check the current Blue Book and notify me of any name and/or address changes before this mailing distribution takes place in January. Remember, National Headquarters sends a very limited supply of the report forms, and the old forms which

are dated are not accepted; so again, verify those names and addresses. **Mailing Addresses:** It has been noted by National headquarters that one of the biggest problems we face today in the Sons of The American Legion is current and correct mailing addresses of our members. We need every squadron's help in notifying all members to submit address changes when they occur. National Headquarters recently updated many addresses on the S.A.L. database through the NCOA during this past September and over 18,970 S.A.L. addresses were updated. This is a staggering number and certainly impacts everyone's renewal process. When those fathers and/or grandfathers are paying for their relatives, take a moment to verify the member's mailing address they are paying for. The Detachment of

Maryland alone has loss approximately 1,000 members each year due to bad addresses. Recruiting new members can never overcome these losses over the years.

Detachment Convention: Convention Chairman Bill Hill has secured the convention meeting site for 2008 at Francis Scott Key American Legion Post No. 11 in Frederick, Maryland. The convention will be held on June 20-22, 2008 and all meeting sessions along with the horseshoe tournament and the superstars event will be hosted at the post which is located at 1450 Taney Ave., Frederick, Md. 21702. The convention hotel is the Holiday Inn-Ft. Detrick located at 999 W. Patrick Street, Frederick, Md. 21702. Room rates are \$84.00 plus 8% tax per night. More details will be available from Chairman Hill at the D.E.C. on December 9th.

The Future by Joe Gladden

Greeting To All My Friends

At the Fall NEC Meeting held in Indy, I met, once again, with the Commander's Advisory Committee. This committee is responsible for selecting the upcoming National Commanders. The meeting went extremely well. While no date was announced for my candidacy, I feel confident that it will happen in the next few years. With the cost to run a proper campaign being so high, the more time we have, the better job we can do.

I am very excited about the events starting to happen here in Maryland.

On **December 8, 2007**, Gold Star Squadron 191 is having the first fundraiser to benefit the National Campaign Fund. Starting at 6 PM the doors will open. There will be a \$2.00 cover charge. Food and drinks will be sold. Starting at 8 PM, a Karaoke/DJ will start for the rest of the evening. The Squadron has informed me that every

door raised that night will be donated to the campaign and the squadron will pickup the cost of everything that evening. All we need to do is attend that evening and have fun. I want to personally thank everyone at Post, Unit and Squadron 191 for all efforts. I am sure the evening will be a success.

On **February 16, 2008**, my home squadron Overlea-Perry Hall 130 will be holding a National Campaign Dance. The evening will start at 7 Pm with a Surf and Turf dinner (crab imperial and sirloin tips), with open bar. Music will be provided by DJ Budman (our very own Buddy Mastin). Buddy has donated his services for the evening. Tickets will be \$27.00 per person.

Seeing how the next day is our DEC meeting at Post 130, I am making arrangements with the local Hilton Hotel for a reduced room price for anyone that wants to spend the night, so they do not have to drive home.

On **February 22, 2008**, Southern Maryland District will be having their Annual Draw Down at Greenbelt Post 136. The proceeds from the evening will be split between the National Campaign Fund and the other District programs. Tickets will be available at the DEC meeting.

If your squadron can have a fundraiser, I promise to be there if you book the evening with me. I might not be able to stay the entire evening, but I will be there to show my appreciation.

I have always believed that the journey is as important as the destination. Let's enjoy this journey together.

For God and Country
Joe Gladden
Past Detachment Commander

District News

Northern Central News

As the Holiday Season is rapidly approaching, so is our busy time of year. December is already proving to be a calendar packed month. The District has stepped up to support Toys for Tots with a dance on Dec. 7, 2007 at Joseph L. Davis Post 47, Havre de Grace.

Music starts at 8 Pm with light food, and draft beer for the admission cost of \$5.00 per person with an unwrapped toy or a \$10.00 donation. The hall, entertainment and food have all been donated. All we need are the people. All proceeds go to Toys for Tots. Contact chairman Chip Steininger @ 443-866-6363, or cs6703@hotmail.com for more info. See my Toys for Tots article

for further information about that weekend.

The next evening we will be invading the Western District to show our support for our very own Joe Gladden, as Gold Star #191 is doing a fund raiser for Joe as he heads to the top to lead our great organization.

December 15th is our Annual Christmas Luncheon for the veterans at the McVET Center in Baltimore. We could always use extra help as we prepare lunch for our deserving veterans. A good time is had by all as Santa makes an appearance and carols are sung by all. Contact Vice Commander Jerry Saunders for more info.

I want to thank each and every member of the Legion family for helping to make us the first District with no goose eggs in membership. It was truly a Legion Family effort, as it will be to put us back on top in our Detachment membership drive.

To each and every Legion Family member, I wish them and Safe and Happy Holiday season, from me and my family, and while you are sending out Holiday Greeting cards, send one to a wounded soldier c/o Walter Reed Medical Center.

Ed Steininger Sr.

NCD Commander

Northeastern Shore Gazette

Our membership ranking this year has fluctuated between number 1 and 2. We are on the right track. Now is the time of year to really buckle down and go after those renewals. The only way for our district to grow is through membership.

Our next NESD meeting is on December 2, 2007 at 10:30 am. I hope that every squadron commander or representative makes every effort to

attend. I am sure that squadron commander, Brian Gartelman would enjoy showing off his post home. The fall DEC meeting will be held at Caroline Post 29 in Denton, MD, beginning at 1 pm. Committees meet at noon. The Marine Corp. will be here for the Toys for Tots drive. Even if it was just one toy, it will make a difference. Let's make the holidays special for so many children.

Finally, a right hand salute to Squadron #194 in Rising Sun and their commander, Justin White, for having an excellent Veterans Day program. Everyone who was there enjoyed the evening.

Yours in Service,

Ken Jones

NESD Commander

Western Maryland Tribune

I bring you greeting from the Western Maryland District. With the upcoming holiday seasons keep in mind those who are less fortunate than us. Please lend a helping hand in any way you can. A couple of ideas are: passing out food for Thanksgiving, collecting toys for "Toys for Tots", or just help in any way you can that may brighten a person's day.

The WMD will be holding a Wagon of Cheer raffle this year to help with Convention expenses. Squadrons will be getting tickets in the mail soon. Tickets will also be available at the next WMD meeting.

The next meeting will be held on Sunday November 25, 2007 at Glen Eyler Post 282 in Woodsboro, MD

starting at 1:00 pm. All Squadron Commanders or a representative are encouraged to attend.

I hope everyone has a safe and joyous holiday season.

Yours In Service

Randy Stouffer

WMD Commander

Southern Maryland Times

We're getting into the holiday season. It is now time to start spending time with our family and friends, but let's not forget our great American Legion Family programs. If you haven't put out boxes at your Post homes to collect toys for Toys for Tots, now is the time. If you need more info you can go to their website at www.toysfortots.org or contact one of your District Officers.

Membership report: As of 11-02-07 SMD membership is at 1,684 which is 45.1% of our goal. That puts us in third place in the state. The second place District is at 45.2%. If we had sent in 5 more members last week we would be in 2nd place, so let's get that

membership off the desk and in the mail. Congratulations to Squadron #295 who has already reached 4 Star , and Squadron #174 who has reached 3 Star in membership, great job. Now to the bad news, We still have 6 squadrons who have not sent in any membership at all. They are Squadrons 28,105,171,227,235 and 248. There is no excuse that at least the officers have not sent in their dues.

We are having our 2nd Annual SMD District Drawdown at Post #136 on Feb. 22nd. Ticket will be available at our next District and D.E.C. meetings. A portion of the proceeds will go to Joe Gladden's campaign, and the rest to

support or District programs. Let's make this as big a success as last year. Our next SMD District meeting will be Sunday Dec. 2nd, 2007 at 1p.m. Severna Park Post #175. The Post phone # is 410-544-2066. I Hope to see everyone at this meeting. Happy Holidays to everyone and don't forget our Veterans and our Troops overseas. Please forward this to your Squadron Commanders and Officers as necessary.

Yours In Service

Tom Eloshway, Commander

NEF Report by Dave Hullihen

To all members, Squadrons, Posts and Auxiliary members, I have been ask once again to be the NEF Chairman and have accepted this job with great pride knowing that we should not have any problem raising money for this great charity. As of this writing, I have not received any at all. But I also know that you all will come through in the end. I have not put a goal on this project for

this year, but I would at least like to see each Squadron, Post and Auxiliary donate as much as possible. As most of you know this is something that each member can use, if needed. There are so many great charities that need our attention that sometime we forget about ones for ourselves. Please be aware that the NEF is one of those. If each Squadron, Post and Auxiliary

donate \$25.00 we would be looking at a lot of money . I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at the next DEC meeting. Until then everyone have a safe and Happy Thanksgiving and God Bless us all.

NEF Chairman
Dave Hullihen

VAVS Variety by Tom Deal

I hope everyone had a great Veterans Day and was able to attend at least one of the numerous ceremonies held all across the state. This year is flying by; here we are at the holiday season already. Please get your donations in for holiday gift programs for your favorite medical center. The centers will need help filling the gift bags and a list of dates should be available at the DEC meeting. I hope you have considered sponsoring a party at one of the centers or have a party at your post. If your schedule doesn't permit a party in December, why not plan one for early next year. The Veterans are

sometimes overwhelmed with parties around the holidays and are forgotten in January. Try to plan something for the first three of four months of the year. There is a recreational Therapy staff at each Center and would be glad to assist you in planning an event. The VAVS committee members are: Robert Hill (191), Michael Gray (47), Chuck Kave (26), Robert Filippi (183) and Larry Griffin (29). Feel free to contact me or any of the commission members for more information. Toiletries, undergarments, gloves and paperback crossword and puzzle books are just some of the items needed for all the

centers. I will have copies of patient's needs lists available at the DEC Meeting.

My phone number is 410-642-2561 and my e-mail is tom.deal@verizon.net feel free to ask any question or to offer assistance or an idea.

Serving all Veterans

Tom Deal
VAVS Chairman
Detachment of Maryland

**Sons of The American Legion
Detachment of Maryland**

3115 Orchard Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21234



**“Bring Veterans and
Kids Programs To Bear”**

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NEC News by Maurice Morton National Executive Committeemen

I bring you greetings from Commander Giehll and the National Organization!

The Detachment of Maryland was well represented at the Fall NEC Meeting by a contingent of 14 members who attended the meetings and sported their green and than purple polo shirts. I hope that all of our representatives came away from these meetings with a better sense of what the Sons of the American Legion are all about. I know that I always pick up a few pearls of wisdom at these gatherings that I later find useful.

One such Pearl was a remark from the SAL National Liaison John Kerestan. Mr. Kerestan pointed out that while we increased our National Membership totals by 6840 in 2007 last year was the lowest increase in membership in the last twenty years. The Sons are in real danger of backsliding in membership. This is a problem because we need all the Blue Cap Members that we can muster to successfully work all of our programs

that benefit Veterans and Children & Youth.

Currently the Detachment is behind last year's totals by over 603 members. As of this writing only the Southern Maryland District is ahead. Why is this so? I believe there are two causes for this problem. First, times are tough economically. Members may be delaying in paying their dues or choosing not to renew. Second, our Grandfathers are joining the ranks of Post Everlasting at a rapid pace. It is Grandfather who in many cases has paid for his Son or Grandson's dues. Now the member must pay! As membership stewards now is the time to be even more vigilant! We must work twice as hard in going after renewals.

That being said, it's not all bad news in Membership. Maryland is in 15th place at 36.802% of goal and has succeeded our National goal of 35% by November 15. Let's keep up our good work and stay on top of membership.

This should be priority number one!

If you are in the market for new appliances for your home the American Legion has begun a new program with Sears. You may purchase items at a significant discount by going on line through the Sears Member Purchase Program at: wgill03@searshc.com

I'd like to thank the contingent of members and their wives that went out to Commander Giehll's Homecoming, which was held in Indianapolis just three short weeks after the NEC. Unfortunately because of work issues I was unable to attend, but I understand that we presented Commander Giehll with a flag that was flown over Ft. McHenry. I hope all that attended had a good time!

I look forward to seeing you all at Caroline 29!

Yours in Legion Service

Maurice Morton, NECmen