



# SMOKE



# SIGNALS

**Billy Caldwell  
Post 806**

**Chicago, Illinois**

We're on the Web at: <http://www.post806.org>

2017 Edition – Issue 2

April / May / June 2017

## Commander's Message

**Dale Tippett (773) 259 - 4300**

George Washington was quoted as saying that, "perseverance and spirit have done wonders in all ages". Likewise, Billy Caldwell Post 806 has displayed a better, stronger performance in our mission of serving the veterans community and beyond. There is so much more to do, but I congratulate our leadership team on the outstanding results that they have achieved in membership, service and outreach. Please remember that your participation is invited and I am looking forward to seeing you soon to continue our mission together.

It rings true that, "perseverance and spirit have done wonders in all ages".

For God and Country,  
Commander Dale

## SENIOR VICE – COMMANDER

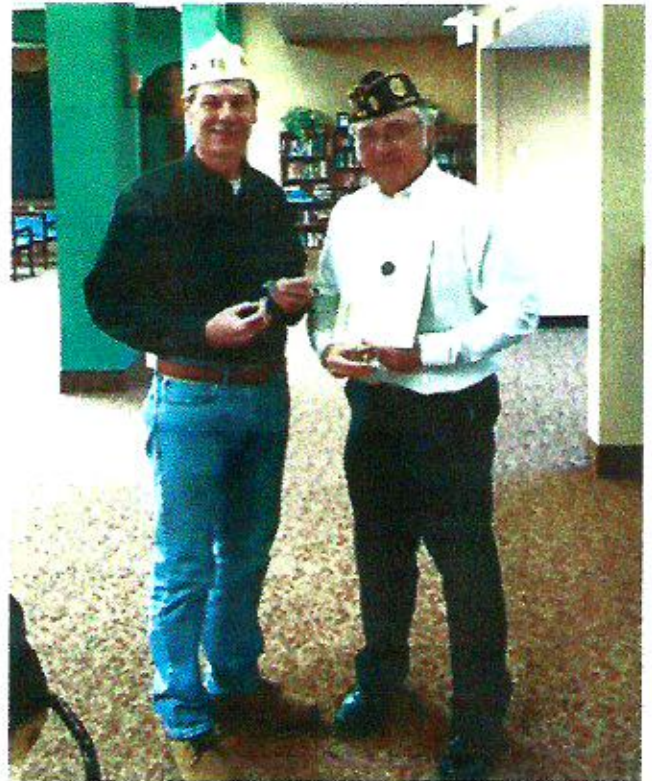
**Peter Hirt (708) 828 - 7383**

Grateful thanks to all paid members! The goal of 103% set by Department has been made and surpassed. We hold the lead in the 9th District, but that can change. Post Adjutant Al Coughlin has reminder letters out and our members should still be on the lookout for more.

Thanks for the District Award beer mug! I knew beer was going to be good from a District mug! Great deal of thanks for the pins for 100% membership. My cap rests proudly on my head and I am grateful for the honor to wear them.



Offering "something to read?", Dale visits with 55 year VAVS volunteer Vi Jember at her library desk at the Jesse Brown VA recently. Vi and her late husband Paul took me under their wings when I started representing our Post 806 at Jesse Brown VA back in 2005.



Senior Vice Pete Hirt and Commander Dale Tippett with the 100% Membership Certificate from Department and their recognition pins for the Post's Membership achievement of 107.9% at our March 11, 2017 Post Meeting

## SPECIAL NOTICE !

The April meeting will be held on  
Saturday April 1<sup>st</sup>. at St. Paul's  
See the meeting notice on page 5

## President's Message

**Mary Collado (847) 294-6517**

Happy Spring to all of the members of Billy Caldwell Unit 806. We hope everyone is enjoying the weather as it is getting warmer outside. It has been a very busy couple of months traveling through the state. In February, we attended Lincoln Pilgrimage in Springfield and I laid a wreath at the tomb of President Abraham Lincoln. What an honor it was. We were blessed with the most gorgeous weather you could imagine. It was over 50 degrees that day and sunny. Sue Cunniff Coughlin and I attended a dinner with our National President Mary Davis. She is a very nice lady.

In March, we had the honor of being judges for The American Legion Oratorical contest. It was wonderful to be a part of this contest. We have some very bright students in our state. We attended Patriotic Conference in Springfield. The speakers were great. We enjoyed a speaker from the Youth Police Academy as well as a speaker from The American Legion who told us how the poppy materials are made in the basement of our Department Headquarters. It was truly fascinating. After Patriotic Conference was over, there was a service project. The service project was Socks of Love. The socks are filled with shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, comb, soap, tooth paste, toothbrush, and the other sock. The socks are then given out to Police Departments throughout the state and then the Police Officers give the socks out to the homeless. It was great to be a part of such a wonderful project. Police officers from Springfield came into the hotel to join us filling the socks. Our National President also joined us in filling the socks. In total we filled 855 Socks of Love. We would have continued filling more socks, but we ran out of supplies. We even made the news for this project.

I would like to remind our members that have not yet paid your dues for this year, to please send it to me or pay online. We would not want you to miss your continuous years of service to our Veterans. Thank you in advance.

Hope to see you soon.

## Service Officer

Al Pizarro (708) 655 – 5282

**Due to privacy laws remember to contact me in the event of a death or hospitalization of a member.**

Hello Post 806 members,

I hope everyone is well and all have survived the burst of cold, snow and wind we received in March. In my new role as Department Accredited Service Officer, I have seen families unable to bury their loved one with Military Honors because they cannot find the Veteran's DD214. I highly recommend that you have a copy available so a relative or friend can obtain it quickly. It is for this reason I that I offer the information below.

For those who may not know, if you have considered or are considering burial at a VA Cemetery, (or having your remains interred at a VA Cemetery), the VA has now made it easier to get pre-approved. Even if approved, you can always change your mind at the last minute and be buried elsewhere. I advise all Veterans to file soon. The application is the Pre-Need Burial Eligibility Determination, VA form 40-10007 and can be downloaded at: <https://www.va.gov/vaforms/>. Also, if you need to obtain a copy of your discharge records (DD214) you can obtain it online at <https://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records#emergency> which will take you to the Veteran's Service Records of the National Archives. There you can choose to obtain your records online or by mail, just follow the directions. For any questions you may have, call 1-800-827-1000. Lastly, if any of you are aware of any Post member or a Veteran who may be in need of assistance, please let me know. My cell phone is 708-655-5282.

I look forward to seeing you at our next Post meeting April 1, 2017.



Auxiliary Unit 806 President Mary Collado filling socks for the "Socks of Love" program at the Auxiliary Patriotic Conference in Springfield in March