

SMOKE

SIGNALS

**Billy Caldwell
Post 806
Chicago, Illinois**

2017 Edition – Issue 1

January / February / March 2017

Commander's Message

Dale Tippett (773) 259 - 4300

"Well done", to all the men and women of Billy Caldwell Post 806, the Auxiliary and S.A.L. for their continued support and performance in sharing the mission of The American Legion. The volunteering of time and resources to host, attend and/or run meetings and events to represent our post to the public has been tremendous. Having had a closer look at our role in the community since serving as commander I have become quite humbled at the sacrifices and accomplishments that our predecessors achieved at Billy Caldwell Post 806. More so than anything else, I now feel the need to express a new focus at Billy Caldwell Post to recognize our role in the community especially in the area of public safety.

In 1966, a book titled, The American Legion Story was written by Raymond Moley, Jr. Mr. Moley covers the first 50 years of The American Legion and most importantly the "thought process" of the founding members! Yes, there were many accomplishments for the veterans community during those first 50 years, but unbeknownst to most, the focus of the founders was really on the well being of all Americans, by providing a mechanism to be "civilian", yet more quickly, "mobilized" to a "military" with an "affirming public opinion" stance in times of need. That is the genius of it all! In my humble opinion that thought process is the "almost perfect" model for public safety. It did not come out of nowhere however. It came from the nightmarish experiences that those men in the trenches endured in battle and then again when the shooting stopped at home when they returned to no jobs or benefits. The founders decided to change that for future generations. **For God and Country in 2017...**

Mailing & Correspondence Address

**American Legion Post 806
P.O. Box 1322**

Park Ridge, IL 60068

Or Call the Post Adjutant

Al Coughlin at (773) 852 - 5561



President's Message

Mary Collado (847) 294-6517

Hello Members of Billy Caldwell Unit 806.

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a safe New Year. Our membership has been extremely slow coming in. If you have not yet sent in your dues please do so. We need your dues so that we can continue to help our Veterans as well as keep our Unit going. We also have had very poor attendance at our Unit meetings. We only have a couple of ladies that come out for our meetings. We need more members to come out and join us. We meet at St Pauls Home in Chicago. We meet at the same time as the Legion. We would like to see you. Our American Legion Family Caravan will be held January 15, 2017. The Caravan will be held at three separate locations in the First Division. The first location will be at Howard H Rhode Post at 8:30 am, Wayne-Wright Post #1052 at Noon and Broadview Hillside Post 626 at 5:30 pm. Come out and join us. Our Past National President Sharon Conatser will be their special guest.

The 83rd Annual Lincoln Pilgrimage will be held in Springfield Illinois on February 11, and 12th , 2017. Valentines Day will be here before you know it. We would like to send Valentines Day Cards to our lady Veterans in our area VA hospitals. Send them a card and let them know we are thinking of them. Our Unit Member Sue Cunniff Coughlin is currently serving as Department Historian and in a few short years she will be our Department President.

We would like to hear from you.

Post & Unit Meetings

Our next Legion Post and Auxiliary Unit meetings will be held on January 14th, February 11th, and March 11th. All Saturdays beginning at Noon. The meetings will be held at St. Paul's House auditorium located at 3800 N. California – Chicago. (there is under building parking on Grace Street or street parking)

Again, meetings will begin at Noon.

SENIOR VICE – COMMANDER

Peter Hirt (708) 828 - 7383

Hello Billy Caldwell! Hope you all had a great Holiday season. Membership is doing well we're currently at 89.47%. Ask your friends and neighbors if they are veterans and ask them if they're eligible to join the largest Veterans service organization in the world. They are welcome to belong to one of the best Posts in Illinois! Legion Members, not sure if your dues are up to date, check your address label, if it doesn't show 2017 next to your name, your 2017 dues have not been paid. If you have not paid your dues, please do so now, if you need anything to help you out let us know. That's what we're here for!

Chaplain

Dale Tippett (773) 259 – 4300

Opportunities to serve our veterans and in our communities abound in 2017. I had the privilege to represent Billy Caldwell Post 806 as a volunteer with The American Legion Auxiliary at the Jesse Brown VA at Christmastime. Every December The Auxiliary distributes Christmas presents to veterans at the VA and elsewhere through The American Legion, "Gifts to the Yanks" program. I am glad that we at Billy Caldwell Post 806 will be expanding our participation in the "Gifts to the Yanks" program in 2017. We plan to bring the "Gifts to the Yanks" program to both Norwood Crossing and St. Pauls House here in Chicago.

Speaking of Norwood Crossing, please mark your calendars to attend, "The 4 Chaplains Remembrance Service", on February 5, 2017 beginning at 2:30pm at Norwood Crossing. Norwood Crossing is located at 6016-20 N. Nina Avenue, Chicago, Il. 60631. Looking forward to seeing you soon. Happy New Year and may God Bless you always.

Finance Officer & Adjutant

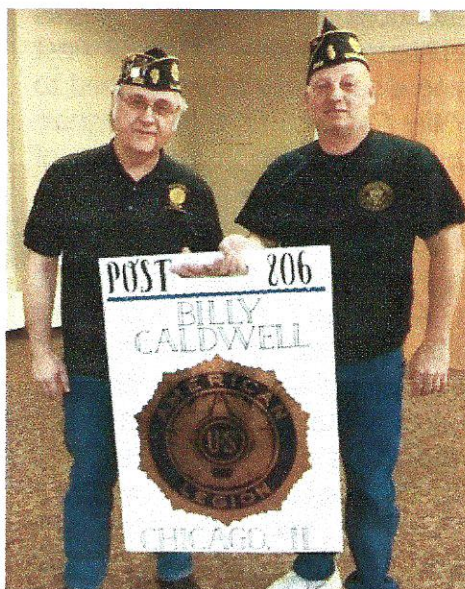
Al Coughlin (773) 852 - 5561

Happy New Year! Please keep in mind that we are a Chicago Northwest side Post. The Park Ridge address is just for correspondence. This would be a good time to send me your email address, note that it will not be used for sending "junk" email, just Post information. You can send it to me at; alc-legion@comcast.net

Billy Caldwell Post 806 went to make a donation to the National Veterans Art Museum after the November meeting. The museum is located at 4041 N. Milwaukee Avenue, near six corners. Pictured from left is Agt @ Arms Jim Kostka, Al Coughlin, Monica Tantoco, Christine Bspalec-Davis, Cmdr. Dale Tippett, Monse' Wisdom and Destinee Oitzinger. The ladies are with the museum staff.



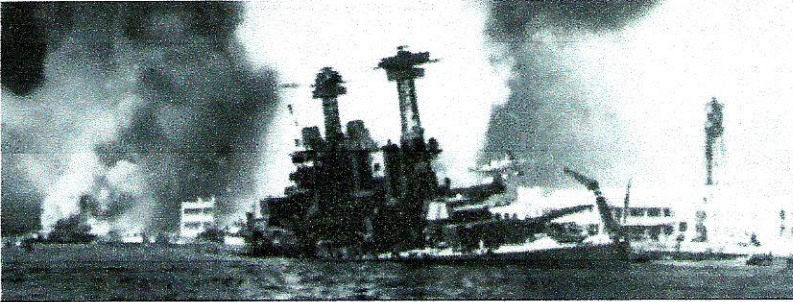
Cmdr. Dale with ladies from other Auxiliary Units at the Jesse Brown VA Facility. From left unknown volunteer, Pat Kranzow, Cmdr. Dale, Anna May and Rosaland.



Cmdr. Dale with member Bob Harriett.

Bob presented our Post with a billboard sign that he made for the Post to use, in order to show where we are meeting. Thanks Bob!





**December 6, 1941 – 2016 75th Anniversary
We Remember**

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.

I trust that everyone enjoyed the holidays.

Greetings Post, Unit & Squadron 806 Members, my name is Al Pizarro. I am an Army Veteran and have been a Legionnaire for 11 years. I have been appointed Post Service Officer for Post 806. If you have any questions or concerns regarding filing an initial VA claim or following up on an existing VA claim, do not hesitate to contact me. I can be reached by cell at 708-655-5282. My e-mail address is pzodad2@gmail.com. I look forward to assisting in any way I can.

At one of our past meetings an inquiry was made concerning getting a copy of your DD214 or separation papers. You can go to the website and follow the instructions on the form in order to submit it; <https://www.archives.gov/files/research/order/standard-form-180.pdf>

Upcoming Events

All of the following are open events to all members

Department Membership Caravan – January 15th. Breakfast stop at Howard Rhode Post 888 in Northlake at 8 AM, then on to Wayne Wright Post 1052 in Lakeview at 11:30 AM for lunch and finishing up at the Broadview Hillside Post 626 for the dinner stop at 5 PM.

Some upcoming **9th District meetings**, which start at 7:30 PM, will be held on January 25th at Merle Guild Post 208 located at 121 N. Douglas, Arlington Heights; February 22nd (Americanism Program) at Franklin Park 974 located at 9757 Pacific in Franklin Park and March 22nd (Post Everlasting) at Des Plaines Post 36 located at 1291 Oakwood in Des Plaines.

The next **1st Division meeting** on February 1st, will be held at Morton Grove Post 134 located at 6144 Dempster Street in Morton Grove beginning at 6:30 for dinner, meeting at 7 PM.

Did You Know?

Sue Cunniff Coughlin (773) 852 – 5560

The last column ended with Go Cubs Go. Well everyone must have cheered for the Cubs as the curse is finally broken!!! Thanks to everyone and especially the Cubs! I hope everyone enjoyed the holidays and looking forward to Spring Training.

During the cleanup of the Post, many discharge papers were found since copies were kept at the Post. Al jotted down some notes before destroying the papers securely. He did not know many of the World War I and II veterans that were once members of our Post, but found some interesting information about discharge papers and our members. All discharge papers from World War I were copied on a "reverse" basis. The paper was pretty much black and the writing was in white. (I do remember seeing some birth certificates like that.)

From World War I, one of our member's Army discharge paper listed Horsemanship as a proficiency. Another's Army paper had under remarks – Honest, Faithful, Obedient and no A.W.O.L.S. There was a Navy blacksmith, a Navy Musician and a member of the Army 122nd Field Artillery.

The following listings all served in World War II. Legionnaires who served in the Navy included an electrician in the Blimp Group/Lakehurst, a Carpenter's Mate, a Sonarman and a ship's cook and butcher.

Those who served in the Army included a Graves Registration Specialist – Africa and Middle East and a Railway Brakeman – Europe. There was also a member listed as Army and NATO with the POW Administration Group Europe.

Service in the Air Force included a VH Bomber Pilot – Air Offensive – Japan Eastern Mandates, an Aviation Cadet – Bombardier and Control Tower Operator – Europe and Pacific Theaters.

Of those serving in the Marines, one participated in the invasion of China; another was a Corporal at the Invasion of Bougainvillea and was paid \$66 per month. Another member was a Radio / Gunner.

These were definitely some interesting experiences of those who served and hopefully someone has preserved these memories. It would have been interesting to hear about all of these memories. For those who served, please share your experiences so that others can save them for our future generations. It is important to remember all the sacrifices that were made in order to secure our freedom and keep our Nation great.

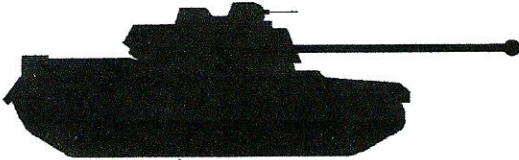
MAILED FROM:
 Billy Caldwell Post 806
 The American Legion
 P.O. Box 1322
 Park Ridge, IL 60068



POSTAL CARRIER - PLEASE DELIVER TO;

Rush In Your Dues Today!

Remember to ... "Recon" for new members!



Cycle & Fitness
 5711 W. Irving Park Rd.
 Chicago, IL 60634
 (773) 736-4395
 www.rudysbikes.com



"Flying is hours
 and hours of
 boredom sprinkled
 with a few seconds
 of sheer terror"
Pappy Boyington

CAROLYN POTAMITIS
 ATTORNEY AT LAW

BERNARD A. HENNIG & ASSOCIATES, PC

NORTHWEST 5944 W. MONTROSE CHICAGO, IL 60634 773-685-9700 FAX: 685-4590	LOOP 77 W. WASHINGTON SUITE 1201 CHICAGO, IL 60602
---	--

HENNINGLAWOFFICE@SBCGLOBAL.NET

DALE D. TIPPETT
 REALTOR®
 Licensed Real Estate Managing Broker
 773-259-4300

- ✓ Seniors Real Estate Specialist
- ✓ Veterans Advocate
- ✓ Community Resource

Call Today!

MLS REALTOR ASSOCIATION SRES

New Member Discount! **Office DEPOT OfficeMax**

- Save up to 80% off!
- Thousands of products discounted below retail!
- Free next-day delivery on online orders over \$50!

To print your own discount card go to
officediscounts.org/tal-program.html

Pool Table/Golden Tee ATM Machine

Di's Den
 5100 W. IRVING PARK ROAD
 CHICAGO ILLINOIS
 773.736.2110

Hall Rental/Party Room bestbarchicago.com