

SMOKE



SIGNALS

**Billy Caldwell
Post 806**

Chicago, Illinois

2016 Edition – Issue 4

October / November / December 2016

Commander's Message

Dale Tippett (773) 259 - 4300

I want to thank our officers and members for getting things done at Billy Caldwell Post 806.

I believe that you will be proud to know that our membership has grown, we are meeting regularly, we have come out from under the burden of being cash strapped, we have received great media coverage with the Chicago Cubs, our officers have stepped up in leadership in the 9th District, and have been recognized at the state convention, and there is more! I am so proud of the effort of the Post to become involved in the Portage Park Chamber of Commerce, the 16th District Chicago Police Department and several area public and private schools. We are blessed to have a group of leaders at Billy Caldwell Post 806 that continually step up to fulfill our pledge as stated in the Preamble to the Constitution of The American Legion.

Well done Billy Caldwell!

Represent I

Commander Dale with our Post Banner and a WW II reenactment group at the Des Plaines 4th of July parade



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



President's Message

Mary Collado (847) 294-6517

Fall is upon us and the weather is changing. The leaves are beginning to change colors. It is once again time for Membership to be turned in. If you can, please send your dues in so that we can be on top again this year. Thanks for everyone sending in their dues last year.

We attended the Department Convention in July and we also attended the National Convention in Cincinnati Ohio at the end of August. This past week we attended the Department Membership Caravan for the Auxiliary that was held in La Grange, Illinois. We had several members dues turned in at that time. Keep up the good work.

This year our own Sue Cunniff Coughlin was installed as Department Historian and I was installed as Department Sergeant at Arms. I was very happy to be installed on that hot day in July.

We are currently having our meetings jointly with the Legion at St. Paul's Home in Chicago Illinois. It is very nice to meet there and a few of our Members reside there and they are able to attend the meetings.

The American Legion Auxiliary Theme this year is "**Serve and Protect Those who Serve and Protect**". We are Police Officers this year. The theme for the Ninth District is CSI. Our Junior Members are Cadets. Our new Department President is Luella Buske. We also have our first female Department of Illinois Commander for the Legion and her name is Cheri Stanton. How wonderful is that?

We would like to do a project for the female Veterans at Hines VA. We want to put together some items for Christmas for the Lady Veterans. Also when you are out shopping or out to dinner, wear something with the Auxiliary emblem and if someone asks you what that means you can tell them who we are, what we do and why it matters. Also carry Membership forms with you. Just ask.

Please see the meetings notice on the back page for the listing of our upcoming meetings, please try and attend if you are able. Hope to see you soon!



Sue Cunniff Coughlin installs Ninth District President Suzanne King (right). Sue was elected to the position of Department (State) Historian for the Auxiliary at the Convention in July, this puts her "in the line" to be Auxiliary State President.

Did You Know?

Sue Cunniff Coughlin (773) 852 – 5560

Do you remember this column? This column was written for many years by one of our long time Auxiliary members, Bernedette Schwab. Before she was called to join the Supreme Commander, Bernedette was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary for 55 years. She served as President of Billy Caldwell Unit four times, was a District Director and a volunteer at Jesse Brown.

This column was a lot of fun to read and we thought it might be fun to start it back up. However, I could use a little help. Share some of your memories, history or accomplishments with us. Please give me a call or send me a note about some interesting trivia about Billy Caldwell Post or its members.

Did you know that the American Legion was founded in 1919? That means we are approaching our 100 year anniversary. Wow, 100 years of providing support for our veterans, our military, and their families.

Did you know that the Cubs former owner P.K. Wrigley planned to install lights for the 1942 season but instead donated the fixtures to a shipyard for the war effort on the day after Pearl Harbor was attacked?

Did you know Ronald Reagan did radio re-creations of Cubs games from teletype reports for an Iowa station in the 1930s?

Did you know Barack Obama is the nation's 44th president but in reality there have only been 43 presidents? Grover Cleveland is counted twice as our 22nd and 24th president because he was elected for two nonconsecutive terms.

Go Cubs Go! Enjoy the fall and have a wonderful holiday season!

Chaplain & Service Officer

Dale Tippett (773) 259 – 4300

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

We recently received news that long time member Ray Rice passed away in September. He was living in Florida and made an annual trip to Chicago in June and July, and always tried to make the "steak frys" if he was in town. Jim Kostka and Al Coughlin found and visited with John "Zero" Zurowski recently, he's doing as well as he can with his helpers. By the way, Happy Belated Birthday John!

The Post has recently stepped up its visibility at Jesse Brown VA. We are logging in more volunteer hours at the hospital. We do need help. Leading by example is the way to build our ranks with the next generation of veterans. Will you invest some time? Please contact me if you're interested.



Commander Tippett at the State Convention in July pictured with State Chaplain Virgil Oikion. Dale was chosen by the Ninth District to receive the Department's Chaplain's Cross award.



Jim Kostka, State Commander Cheri Stanton and Al Coughlin at the 9th District Installation. Jim is the 9th District Sergeant at Arms and State Vice Chairman for the State Fair and Uniform Groups Committee. Al is the 9th District Finance Officer, Chairman for the State Internal Affairs Commission and a Consultant for the National Media and Communications Commission.

Finance Officer & Adjutant

Al Coughlin (773) 852 - 5561

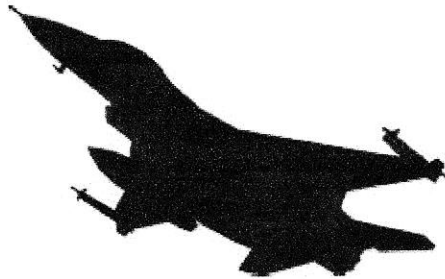
On September 15th, Commander Dale and I closed on the building sale. We have invested the majority of funds received into long term certificates of deposit and a small fraction into general funds.

The 2017 membership term is beginning. Shortly after receiving this newsletter, unpaid members will receive their second renewal notices from our National Organization. If you get a second notice please pay your dues to us as soon as convenient.

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**.

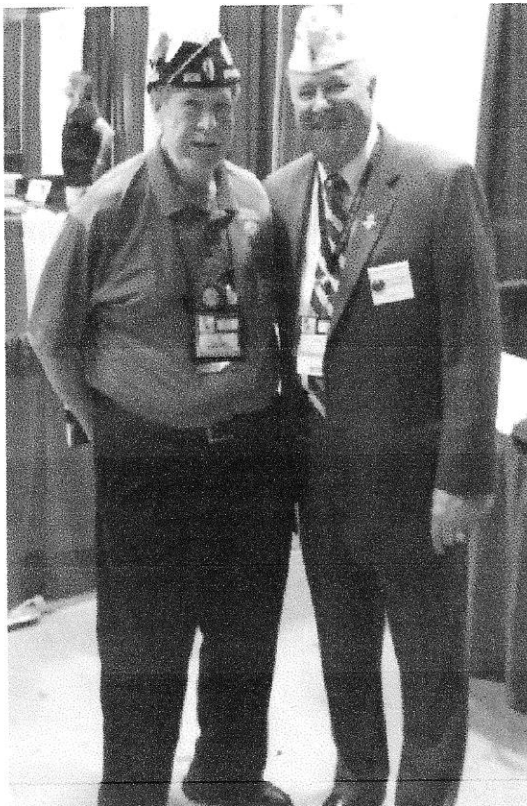
I've received inquiries as to the address of the Post. Be assured that we are still a Chicago based Post. We have been on the Northwest side of Chicago, mainly in the Portage Park area, and will continue to meet in the area. The Park Ridge post office box location is just for the convenience of correspondence, since I live only a block away. If you should ever have any questions, please feel free to contact me by mail, phone or email.

*Rush In
Your Dues
Today!*



Represent II

Billy Caldwell Post member and immediate Past Ninth District Commander, Al Pizarro marched in the Des Plaines 4th of July parade.



SENIOR VICE – COMMANDER

Peter Hirt (708) 828 - 7383

Hello members of Billy Caldwell Post!

As we start a new year in membership, we are doing well. The Post is at 67.11%, that's ahead of the goal Department set. The District is at 58.17%, which puts our District 13th place in the state standings. These figures are from the September 15 cut-off, if we can get to 100% by November 11th, Department will award the Post \$1.00 per member. So ask your neighbors, friends, folks you meet in stores, RECRUIT! Members are the key to keeping the programs going!

The Commander of the Mighty Ninth District has offered an award of engraved mugs to the Post Commander and Sr. Vice of Posts that reach 100% by Christmas. I don't know about Commander Dale, but I can always use a new beer mug!! Keep up the great work!

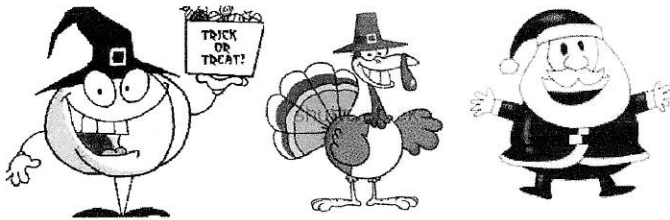
State Convention

Finance Officer Al Coughlin, and Department Commander Paul Gardner share a moment of conversation during this year's State Convention held in Springfield in July.



MAILED FROM:

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



***Have a Happy & Safe
Holiday Season***

POSTAL CARRIER - PLEASE DELIVER TO;

Post & Unit Meetings

Our next Legion Post and Auxiliary Unit meetings will be held on October 15th, November 10th and December 10th, 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.**

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Or Call the Post Adjutant

Al Coughlin at (773) 852 - 5561



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