



Columbia Post 300 – Department of Maryland NEWS LETTER

News Letter # 8 October 2005

[http://www.american-legion-post.us/300/
post300@american-legion-post.us](http://www.american-legion-post.us/300/post300@american-legion-post.us)



Numbers to Call

Post Commander
Roger Chang
(410) 765-0506
roger.chang@ngc.com

Judge Advocate
Rufus Clanzy
(410) 997-5242
janryk@yahoo.com

Adjutant/Finance
Bob Berlett
(410) 997-3863
columbia_berlett@juno.com
shelby_rogers@verizon.net

Service Officer
Shelby Rogers
(410) 730-5182

1st Vice Commander
Norman North
(410) 997-5655
nenjan1951@gmail.com

Historian/Communications
Edward Trumble, Sr.
(410) 410-480-0025
eltps@comcast.net

2nd Vice Commander
Byron Bonebreak
(410) 561-1077
bbjr@erols.com

Sergeant-At-Arms
Al Grinspoon
(410) 730-0541
sail.3@netzero.net

3rd Vice Commander
James Savoy
(410) 381-2744
ksavoy@comcast.net

Chaplin
Clarence E. Frazier
(410) 730-5269
emmanuel1925@comcast.net

Web Site
Edward Trumble, Jr.
(302) 398-3427
n3rsn@american-legion-post.us



Commander's Report -



Congratulations to all! We reached a four star rating and exceeded last year's membership at this point by over 500%. We are the top Post in recruiting. Many of our charter members continue to be active, so we have hit upon the right combination of service and activity.

We are planning a recruiting and awareness drive at the Columbia main Post Office on Saturday, November 5, 2005 from 830-1230. Would love to have members of the Post 300 come out to join us and you can even mail letters there!

Our Veterans Day meeting on November 8, 2005 will feature our WW II veteran and family to tell their stories and you will all have an opportunity to share your stories. I was told at the October meeting that I did not need to share my experiences at being a professional stripper again!

Hope to see you all on November 8, Tuesday 1930 (7:30p) at the Owen Brown Community Center on Cradle Rock Way in Columbia.

Roger Chang



November 11th Meeting

Attendance: Roger Chang, Robert Berlett, Clarence Frazier, Byron Bonebreak, Al Grinspoon, Shelby Rogers, Ed Trumble Sr., Kenneth Reese, Richard Russell.

Visitor: Bill Volenick, County Commander, attending to rate our Post on the meeting.

Items discussed:

~Recruiting at the Columbia Post Office November 5th from 8:30 AM –12:30 PM

~Progress on the Patch Box

~Post business card: "Everything you wanted to know about the American Legion". Use as a new recruiting tool. We ask all members to pass card out to their friends encouraging a look at the new website.

~We are the first and only Post in Maryland to exceed our recruiting goal. At this time last year we had 10 members. This year our goal was 44 – we got 55. This made us first in

County, Region and State. Bill Volenick thanked us for his new red coat.

~No progress on our next book drive.

~Kristina Relief: At last months meeting Ed Trumble Jr; Byron Bonebreak, Bob Berlett, Roger Chang, and Norman North made contributions so that the Post could give \$100 to the NEF fund. Other members gave directly to the fund. News came to Ed Trumble Jr that some of the veterans who were moved to DC lost their glasses. Ed contacted Lenscrafter about their discount to American Legion Members of 40%. Lenscrafter replied that they have a program of free glasses for those displaced by Kristina. Arrangements were made and new glasses were issued.

~Our next meeting is Nov. 8th at 7:30 PM. We have invited WWII Vet, Lou Amister and the daughter of Julius Pryor to attend and give a little talk.

~We are still looking for ideas for a Holiday program for Post members.

~Oratorical Contest: We have set the monetary rewards. The contest should be early January 2006.

~We are looking for an entry for the Volunteer Fireman and EMT contest by November 15th.

~There was discussion about purchasing baseball caps with American Legion emblems for use in group outings.

~There was discussion about a Calendar fund raiser for 2007.

~There was unanimous approval to pay 2006 dues to the American Legion of Maryland for any Post member needing help.

~After the meeting several membership cards were laminated.



DUES:

Dues payments for 2006 paid prior to Dec. 1st, 2005 will benefit the post.

We urge early bird payments of \$22 for the 2006 dues.

We have 58 early birds and 28 who have not paid for 2006.

Send to:

American Legion Post 300
% Robert Berlett
5456 Hound Hill Ct.
Columbia, MD 21045-2238

This is what your dues go for now:

- 1, \$3,000 to send at risk boys to Camp Beartracks (Run by Howard County Police).
- 2, Sending youth to Boys state camp to learn about their Country and Government.
- 3, \$300 Oratorical Contest on The Constitution.
- 4, Awards to Eagle Scouts.
- 5, Medals and certificates to High School ROTC Cadets.
- 6, Awards to out standing Police Officers, Regular and Voluntary Fireman, Paramedics.
- 7, 500 lbs of Books to Military in Iraq.
- 8, A chance for you to pick a project of your own.



It has come to our attention that some important information has not been reported to the communications department. Such as one member moving out of our territory, one member having open heart surgery and another member losing his job. There are all kinds of help available. Please share by calling 410-480-0025 or emailing:

post300@american-legion-post.us



To all active duty personnel If you join the American Legion now the first years dues is free.

There is a lot of News about Katrina. It is being well covered by our web site.

<http://www.american-legion-post.us/300/> and National. You can get to the national web site through a link from our site.



Membership flag for 2006 Membership drive. We are in the spotlight now and we need the balance of 2005 members to help us shine.



New Member **Kenneth Reese** being greeted by Post commander.

Semper Fidelis

***"Some people live an entire lifetime and wonder if they have made a difference in the world. Marines don't have that problem."
Ronald Reagan***

"There are only two kinds of people that understand Marines: Marines and the enemy. Everyone else has a secondhand opinion."

Gen. William Thornson, US Army

"War is the remedy our enemies have chosen. And I say let us give them all they want." William Tecumseh Sherman, 1864.

**"Freedom is not free, but the US Marine Corps will pay most of your share."
Ned Dolan**



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