



The Howler
 Monthly newsletter of
THE AMERICAN LEGION
 Cary Post 67

August 7, 2009



Our Post Home



From the Commander
By Bill Cozzolino

The Purple Heart is the oldest continuous medal in all services, instituted by General George Washington on **August 7th, 1782**. Originally called the [Badge of Military Merit](#), the actual order includes the phrase, "Let it be known that he who wears the military order of the purple heart has given of his blood in the defense of his homeland and shall forever be revered by his fellow countrymen." The Badge of Military Merit was only awarded to three Revolutionary War soldiers and fell into disuse following the War of Independence. Although never abolished, the award of the badge was not proposed again officially until after World War I.

On January 7, 1931 General [Douglas MacArthur](#) opened work on a new design, involving the Washington Commission of Fine Arts. This new design was issued on the bicentennial of George Washington's birth. Elizabeth Will, an Army [heraldic](#) specialist in the Office of the [Quartermaster General](#), was named to redesign the newly revived medal, which became known as the Purple Heart. Using general specifications provided to her, Will created the design sketch for the present medal of the Purple Heart.

The Commission of Fine Arts solicited plaster models from three leading sculptors for the medal, selecting that of [John R. Sinnock](#) of the [Philadelphia Mint](#) in May 1931. By Executive Order of the President of the United States, the Purple Heart was revived on the 200th Anniversary of George Washington's birth, out of respect for his memory and military achievements, as stated in War Department General Orders #3, dated February 22, 1789.

The criteria were announced in a [War Department](#) circular dated February 22, 1932 and authorized award to soldiers, upon their request, who had been awarded the [Meritorious Service Citation Certificate](#), [Army Wound Ribbon](#), or were authorized to wear the [Wound Chevrons](#) subsequent to April 5, 1917, the day before the United States entered World War I.

The first Purple Heart was awarded to MacArthur. During the early period of American involvement in World War II (December 7, 1941-September 22, 1943), the Purple Heart was awarded both for wounds received in action against the enemy and for meritorious performance of duty. With the establishment of the [Legion of Merit](#), by an Act of Congress, the practice of awarding the Purple Heart for meritorious service was discontinued.

During World War II, nearly 500,000 Purple Heart medals were manufactured in anticipation of the estimated casualties resulting from the planned Allied invasion of Japan. To the present date, all the American military casualties of the sixty years following the end of World War II — including the Korean and Vietnam Wars — have not exceeded that number. In 2003, there were still 120,000 of these Purple Heart medals in stock. There are so many in surplus that combat units in Iraq, Afghanistan and the United States are able to keep Purple Hearts on-hand for immediate award to wounded soldiers in the field.

The "History" section of the November 2008 edition of National Geographic estimated the number of purple hearts given as below. Above the estimates, the text reads, "Any tally of Purple Hearts is an estimate. Awards are often given during conflict; records aren't always exact".

World War II:	964,409
Korea:	136,936
Vietnam:	200,676
Persian Gulf:	590
Afghanistan:	2,743
	(as of 8/21/2008)
Iraq:	33,923
	(as of 8/21/2008)



Bill Cozzolino
Post 67 Commander



Auxiliary News

By Judy Rea

- **June 21** Two Auxiliary members and one Post member served pizza and soda to the Student Troopers on the first night of their program.
- **August 6** 10:00 AM to 12 Noon, fifth anniversary of the USO at Raleigh Durham Airport. Several Post and Auxiliary members are volunteers. The USO still needs pillows.
- **Sept 16** is the country store event at the Durham VA Hospital.
- **Sept 28** will be the next VA Hospital visit.
- **October 3** Auxiliary Division III meeting will be at Clayton Unit 71.
- **Oct. 13** Students who attended Girls State will be our guests.
- **Oct 16-17** Fall Conference at the North Raleigh Hilton
- **Oct 28&30** Free flu shots at the Cary Senior Center.
- **November 6** Veterans Luncheon at the Herb Young Center in Cary, 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Auxiliary dues are \$18.00, please mail to Judy Stencil. Please continue to collect recycle items.

Thanks and God Bless.

Judy Rea

President Auxiliary Unit 67



Service Officer

Frank Rea

- **July 27** - Four men from our Post and two women from the Auxiliary participated at the VA hospital for an hour of bingo. Lena Simpson provided brownies, which are very popular. VA visits are always the 4th Monday of all odd-numbered months, so the next one will be September 28. We carpool from the Kmart parking lot at Kildare Farm and Maynard Roads, leaving at 6:00 p.m., returning around 8:30.
- **August 6** - There is a job fair at the Fort Bragg Officers Club. The Veterans Center has a Mobile unit to get into the Rural areas.
- **August 8** - The VA staff had 300 tickets for Durham Bulls Baseball game to benefit Veterans.
- **Nov 7** - Parade and Ceremonies in downtown Raleigh for Veterans Day. We can't be at two places at once but be advised that this is also Cary Band Day. Some of us have tried to get the Veterans committee to go back to Nov 11 for the Veterans Parade, but it seems that they prefer to have it on Saturday.
- **Nov 11** - Garner will dedicate a 6000 sq. ft. Memorial to all Wars.

I have a new Benefit Book that is updated to include all new benefits for veterans. Chuck Borum is the new supervisor of the Vet Center at the ESC (Employment Security Commission).

I don't have any other report of persons in need of assistance. If anyone has any need of help on benefits, please report that to me.

I am sorry that I missed the PEC and General Meeting for July. I was able to attend the 8/4 PEC meeting and plan to be at the general meeting on 8/11.

In Comradeship and God Bless

D. Frank Rea

Post 67 Service Officer



When is Howler input due?

In any month, if you are not sure when you need to get an article to the editor for next month's edition of the newsletter, you will always find that due date on the last page before the calendar. Look in the bottom left corner of that page for a prominent box with a wide red border, just like the one you see here. It will tell you exactly what the deadline is for the coming month. This information will be there every month. For example, if you look at page 7 of this newsletter you will see that input for the September Howler is due Thursday, Sept. 3, at 3:00 p.m. I hope this helps.

Thanks! Robin



Elected Officers, 2009 - 2010



Post 67

Bill Cozzolino Commander
Jim Jansen 1st Vice Cmdr
Pete Emens 2nd Vice Cmdr
Brian Eli Adjutant
Wayne House Finance Officer
Jess Ward Chaplain
Frank Rea Service Officer
Bob Gonier Sgt-at-Arms
Bob Figulski Judge Advocate
Don Daniels Athletic Officer
Robin Hinkley Historian



Unit 67

Judy Rea President
Sandy DePoy Vice-President
Judy Stancil Secretary
Sybil Leary Treasurer
Mary Ann Weddington Chaplain



Squadron 67

Marcus Turner Commander
Sam Murdock 1st Vice Cmdr
Bob Figulski Finance/Adjutant
Tom Fuller Chaplain
Dallas Daniels Historian
Joe Oreshack Sgt-at-Arms

NOTE
 To view all officer photos, [click here](#) to open July 2009 Howler, and slide down to page 4

Post 67 SAL has not yet held their election, these were their officers for FY 2008-2009

Installation of Post 67 Officers, FY 2009-2010



Installed by Div III Commander Randy Brown at the July 14 General Meeting

Bill Cozzolino, Commander
Jim Jansen, 1st Vice Cmdr
Brian Eli, Adjutant
Wayne House, Finance Officer
Jess Ward, Chaplain
Bob Gonier, Sgt-at-Arms
Don Daniels, Athletic Officer

To be installed at the August 11 General Meeting

Pete Emens, 2nd Vice Cmdr
Frank Rea, Service Officer
Robin Hinkley, Historian

We'll get Judge Advocate **Bob Figulski** when we can catch him.



Extracts from a Resource Guide for Veterans & their Families

- **Department of Veterans Affairs** - www.va.gov
- **VA Center Program** www.vetcenter.va.gov
 Raleigh Vet Center 919-856-4616
 Fayetteville Vet Center 910-488-6252
- **Health Care** 1-877-222-8387
 Durham VA Medical Center 1-888-878-6890
 Fayetteville VA Medical Center 1-800-771-6106
- **Benefits** - 1-800-827-1000
www.vabenefits.vba.va.gov/vonapp
- **Education & Training** - 1-888-442-4551
- **Life Insurance** - 1-800-669-8477
- **Headstone/Markers** - 1-800-697-6947
- **VA Inspector General** - 1-800-488-8244
- **TDD (Telephone Devices for the Deaf)**
 1-800-829-4833
- **Suicide Prevention** - 1-800-273-8255
 Direct connection to Suicide Prevention Professional

Cary Post 67 Celebration of "National American Legion Day" with a Members Group Photograph and Ice Cream Social

The following suggestions from member Bob Klatt will be open for discussion at our August 11 General Meeting. If approved, dates and times will need to be decided, including a rain date.

- Meet at National Veterans Freedom Park on N. Harrison Avenue in Cary for a military formation style photograph.
- Wear Legion cap, military style clothing, if you have it, or plain color short sleeve shirt and long pants. PLEASE, no baseball caps or sunglasses, due to face shadow.
- After the photo, go to Post Home for Ice Cream. You can place an order for a 4x6 group photo. The cost of \$5 will go towards our new Post Home Sign project.

Marketing Effectively

By Bill Cozzolino

I received an ad the other day in the mail, a flyer. It grabbed my attention. It was concise, in large, easy to read print. It featured the bottom-line up front, expanded on the point and kept to that one salient point. The advertiser then made a compelling close.

While I hadn't been in the market for the product before reading the advertisement, afterward I saw how this service could help better my life, and I wanted more info. This was an amazing homerun for an advertising piece, it changed behavior and prompted someone to respond.

The problem? They didn't make it easy for me to figure out whom to contact. As a result I didn't take any action and they lost opportunity.

Here are some simple truisms about good advertising.

- **Make your point in your headline.** This doesn't have to be a headline in 50 point type on a flyer or in a color magazine ad; it can be a paragraph header in a letter or a box on the front of an envelope. Keep it short and direct and set it off from the main copy.
- **Keep your copy on point.** A piece that tries to cover all aspects of why someone should want your product or service will lose interest and cause you to lose the sale. Use short sentences designed with impact.

- **Drive the reader into each and every point.** Every sentence of your communication should bring someone to the point, usually a restatement of the headline and a call to action. Keep focused and drive forward.
- **Prompt action.** For all that the piece described above did have, it never had that clear and concise call to action. Don't just tell someone to get in touch, tell them how. You can even tell them when to get in touch; for example, the first 100 callers will get a free on-site inspection. Offers that induce quick response in return for a promotion will lift your response rate.
- **Colors, graphics and devices won't fix a less than compelling offer.** Sell your service on its own merits. Visual devices help to get someone to stop on a page or a piece of mail, but that only buys you seconds. Make your point easy to grasp and compelling relative to the marketplace.

Practicing what I preach, I'm done. I hope you enjoyed it. If you have questions stop me after the meeting or reach out via e-mail. Early responders get my prompt attention!



Bill Cozzolino

Keystone E-News

From the Keystone Chapter of the Armed Forces E-9 Association
Thank you, Curtis Leary

- A proposed ban on tobacco would end sales on U.S. military bases and prohibit uniformed soldiers from smoking, even in combat, authorities said. The ban was proposed in a study commissioned by the Pentagon and the Department of Veterans Affairs, USA Today reported. The study, which recommends phasing out tobacco products during a 5- to 10-year period, said tobacco use impairs military readiness and can cause lung cancer and cardiovascular disease. For more information visit this website:
<http://www.military.com/news/article/dod-may-say-snuff-em-if-you-got-em.html?col=1186032320397&ESRC=navy-a.nl>
- President Barack Obama recently signed into law a bill that awarded the Congressional Gold Medal to the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP) of World War II. The WASP was established during World War II with the primary mission of flying noncombat military missions in the United States, thus freeing their male counterparts for combat missions overseas. For more information on the WASP, visit the following site:
National WASP WWII Museum website <http://waspmuseum.org>
- A U.S. Navy plan to test a high-power laser against the small-boat threat to its warships provides the first real opportunity to transition electric lasers from the laboratory to the field, says Northrop Grumman, which has won a \$98-million contract for the Maritime Laser Demonstration (MLD).
More at <http://www.military.com/features/0.15240.194974.00.html?ESRC=eb.nl>

**4th
Annual**



2009

Saturday, August 15 RAIN OR SHINE

Ray Price Harley Davidson/Buell

LOCATED AT: 1126 SOUTH SAUNDERS STREET RALEIGH, NC 919.832.2261

Registration Begins 8:00 AM

First bike out at 9:00 AM
Last bike out at 10:00 AM
Last bike returns 12:30 PM

Route designed and led
by Rolling Thunder NC 4
ALL BIKES WELCOME

VISIT WWW.USO-NC.ORG TO PRE-REGISTER AND SAVE!

SINGLE RIDER:

COUPLE:

Pre-registered: \$20

On-site: \$25

Pre-registered: \$30

On-site: \$40

Active Duty Military: Rides free with military ID; special registration at the event only.

REGISTRATION FEE INCLUDES:

- ★ Event admission
- ★ BBQ lunch and beverages
- ★ USO NC Freedom Ride t-shirt
- ★ Military Color Guard
- ★ Bagpiper performance
- ★ Chance to win fantastic raffle prizes including airline tickets
- ★ First 100 registered riders will receive a commemorative pin



All proceeds from the event benefit the USO of North Carolina's RDU Center in its mission to serve and support America's military and their families.

For more information and sponsorship opportunities please contact:

Nicole Kozak
919.840.0941
nkozak@uso-nc.org



Dollars & Sense

Review Financial Strategies after Life Events

If nothing ever changed in your life, you could probably chart your financial and investment strategies then forget about them. But your life is full of changes, and many of them will require you to take a new look at how you save, invest and protect your family.

Let's run through some of the most common milestones in life and see what sort of moves you might make in response:

- **Marriage** — It sounds obvious, but once you're married, you have to stop thinking in terms of "one" and start thinking of "two" in most aspects of your life, including your finances. For example, if you are an aggressive investor but your spouse is more conservative, you both may need to compromise and choose an investment strategy that's "down the middle." At the same time, you'll want to set some common goals, such as saving enough for a down payment on a home.
- **Children** — When you have children, you have to protect them *today*, and invest for their *future*. Your first step, then, might be to purchase life insurance. You can typically buy a term life policy at a very reasonable rate. The exact amount of coverage you need depends on your individual situation, but you'll probably want at least enough to pay off your mortgage and send your children to college should anything happen to you. And to protect your income, you might want to consider disability insurance. Finally, it's never too soon to start saving for college. You might want to consider opening a tax-advantaged account, such as a Section 529 college savings plan.
- **Job changes** — When you leave a job, you may well have an important decision to make about your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan. If you

don't need the money right away, you might want to avoid cashing out your plan, because you'll likely face an immediate tax bill, and you'll have fewer resources for retirement. Consequently, you may want to roll your 401(k) to an IRA or your new employer's plan, if it allows such transfers. Before taking action, consult with your tax advisor.

- **Remarriage** — If you ever remarry, you may need to change the beneficiary designations on your 401(k), IRA and other investment accounts. You also may need to work with your attorney to revise your will, living trust and other documents related to your estate plans.
- **Retirement** — For many decades you saved and invested for your retirement. Once you retire, however, you should move away somewhat from the "accumulation" phase and start thinking instead of how best to *manage* the money you have accumulated. That means you'll need to decide when to start taking Social Security and how much to withdraw each year from your various retirement accounts, such as your 401(k) and IRA. A professional financial advisor can help you develop a withdrawal rate that's suitable for your individual situation.

You'll encounter many important events on the road of life. By making the right financial moves along the way, you can help make the journey more pleasant.

Brian Eli
Post 67 Adjutant



RAO Bulletins

The Retiree Assistance Office Bulletins provide veterans information covering Medical Care, Medical Supplements, Travel and Immigration, Tax/SS/Insurance & Legal, Death & Survivors, Pay & Finances, & Tricare.

[Click here to reach website](#), scroll down to "Current Bulletins".

As of August 1, 2009, articles include **Mobilized Reserves Headcount, Space "A" Flight Availability, Unauthorized Credit Card Charges, Deployed Troops Grandparent Scam, Medicare Rate Increases in 2010, Federal Minimum Wage Increase, Health Care Reform Updates**, and much more!



Wayne

Salute to Wayne House Soldier, Policeman, Fireman

Pearson

At the general meeting on Tuesday, August 11, member Pearson Wood will present a Salute to Post 67 Finance Officer Wayne House. Wayne brings the list of "Saluted" members to 15. The full text of this Salute will be in the September Howler, and will also be available for viewing on our website later this month.



An American (*Legion*) Idol



William the Impetuous

"Be famous, or be infamous, but be!"

Submitted by Indentured Servant
Robin the Irresponsible

Photo by Gladys Cozzolino

Time to Re-Sign



It has served us well but now it's tired and worn, its face is creased, and it's hard to stand as straight as it once did. Time to pass the banner to a fresh new standard bearer.

Your intrepid Post Executive Committee is negotiating with Mr. Kirk Jesse of Ace Signworks, discussing price range, type of product, design style, etc. to get the best solution. Watch this space for more to come on our new sign. And in case you're wondering, bright flashing neon and iridescent pennants have definitely been ruled out.



Legion Baseball Carwash

Saturday, August 29, 9 AM - 1 PM.

South Hills, at the former Crossroads Ford Building,
now the Hope Community Church.

\$12 for hand wash and vacuum.

Proceeds to benefit Cary American Legion Baseball.



Town of Cary, North Carolina
33rd Annual Lazy Daze
Arts & Crafts Festival

Saturday
August 22, 2009

Due to an administrative problem involving our paperwork
Cary Post 67 will not participate in Lazy Daze 2009

Dinner Menu Tuesday, August 11

BBQ Pork & Chicken
Salad, Rolls
Desert, Drinks
\$6/person

Musings

A perfect summer day is when
the sun is shining, the breeze is
blowing, the birds are singing,
and the lawn mower is broken.

~ James Dent



PLEASE NOTE

**Any articles or information you want in
next month's edition of The Howler
(September 2009) must be received by**

3:00 PM Thursday, September 3.

**Send to Robin Hinkley (at right). E-mail or
call me anytime if you have questions.
Thank you!**

The Howler is prepared and edited by Post 67 Historian

Robin Hinkley

Please contact me for:

- Placing an article in the newsletter
- Contributing a Getting To Know You column
- Any comments or suggestions you may have regarding your newsletter

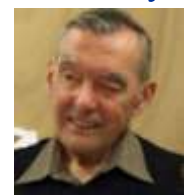
You can reach me at

post67historian@nc.rr.com 919-460-7665

Or see me at the next general meeting

Visit our website at <http://nclegion.org/post67.htm>

Thank you, Gloria, for proofreading every Howler edition!



August 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4 7:00P PEC meeting	5	6 10:00A-12N USO 5th Anniversary at RDU, Job Fair @ Fort Bragg	7	8 VA has 300 Durham Bulls tickets for Vets
9	10	11 Post, Auxiliary, SAL 6:30P Dinner 7:00P meetings	12	13	14	15 8:00A USO-benefit bike ride, see page 5
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26 Wake City Vets Council Post #1, Raleigh 6:15P Dinner 7:00P Meeting	27	28	29 9:00A-1P Carwash, see page 7
30	31					