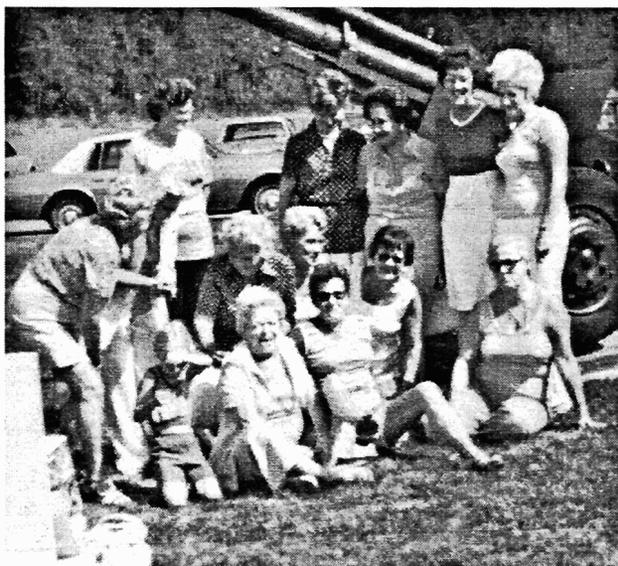


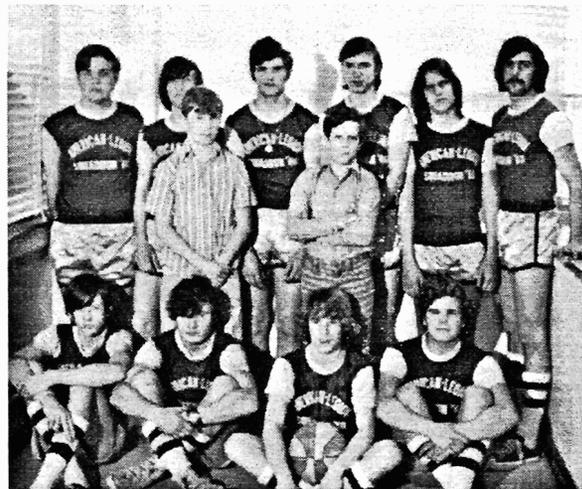
depended on volunteer member help with marked results. The Post hall was remodeled which resulted in a dramatic increase in rentals. Further accomplishments were: organizing a Color Guard, membership increase of 100, new color TV and over \$1,000 in the Boosters Club.

Next in line was Sid Warner who, together with his wife "Sis" reorganized the membership file. This file dated back to the early 1930's; thanks to their efforts members could check on their membership continuity and upgrade if they wished. He also found that many reservations for Post affairs were subsequently cancelled with loss of revenue. Institution of a cash-as-you-go policy increased profits significantly.

During the fall of 1969 the resistance to the Vietnam war had increased to the point that students were blocking Route 1 at the University of Maryland. A number of the



*Post 60 Auxiliary, 1969*



*SAL Basketball, 1969-1970*

students were members of Post 60, they petitioned the Post to take action. Judge Advocate Maring prepared a Resolution which would bar bull-horns during demonstrations and dismiss any teacher or instructor that took part in demonstrations. After much legal wrangling a restraining order was issued outlining the above request. This action by Post 60 resulted in the cessation of the student demonstrations and no further attempts were made to disrupt the classrooms.

Laurel celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> year in 1970. Past Commander O'Brien served on the Committee representing Veterans, members of Post 60 participated in the Panorama depicting the history of Laurel.

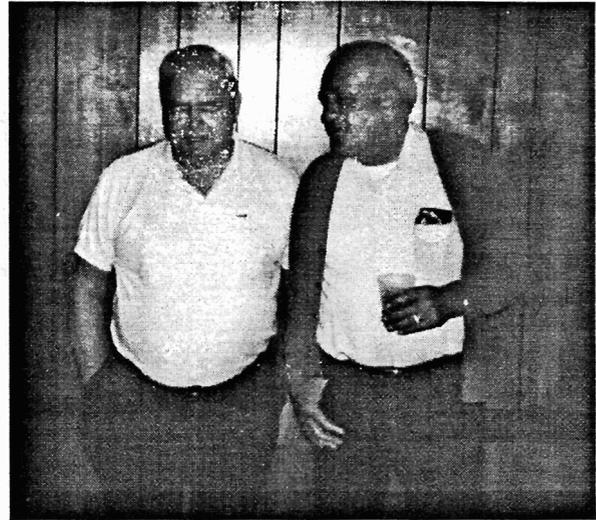
In 1970 Past Commander Maring was elected the second member of Post 60 to assume the duties of County Commander (Pat Clouse was selected in 1966-1977) Several small Posts complained about the lack of

appointments. After holding a special dinner, Bob secured a commitment from the larger Posts to share the wealth; no further problems have been encountered.

A controversy over the game room was solved when Commander Warner directed that nonmembers could only use the room as a guest or at a tournament. He went on to remodel the Ladies room, placed a fan in the Mens room and achieve 4-Star status. However, he was deprived of this honor when he entrusted the membership cards to a member to deliver to Department Headquarters. The member neglected to perform his duty and the membership cards were not delivered in time. Needless to say, the member was counseled extensively!

A special paragraph is devoted to Elvira "Sis" Warner for her untiring work with the Post and its activities. She sold "Nevada" cards to pay for convention delegate expenses, worked Bingo, supervised operation of the outside refreshment stand at athletic events, sewed curtains and drapes for the Post home and performed numerous tasks, never asking for or accepting payment. A totally enclosed refreshment stand was constructed adjacent to the ball field and it was named "The Sis Warner Refreshment Stand" after her untimely death.

Next in line was Thaddeus Allen who served two terms, 1971-1972 and 1973-1974, where he continued to maintain the high standard of performance that the previous Commanders had displayed.



*T. Marr and Adjutant, 5K Drawing*

John Pierpont served as Commander 1972-1973. During his tour of duty the Post adopted the Police unit at BWI and provided them with U.S. flag patches for their uniforms. Although not previously noted, the Post published a monthly newsletter which provided members with up-to-date information on Post activities. Bob Solan was most helpful in the printing and maintaining of the rosters for this project.

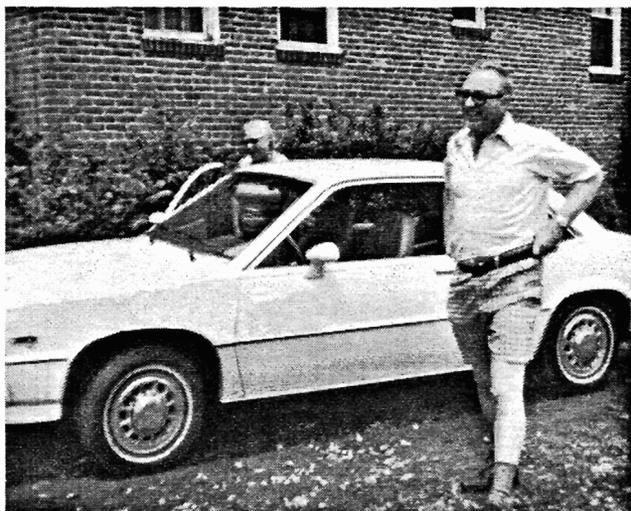
Following Thad Allen's second term, he was elected as Prince George's County Commander, the third member of Post 60 to receive this high honor.

After Thad's second term, Robert Loveless was elected and served from 1974-1975. Bob was active in a number of Post programs: Color Guard, Firing Squad, Memorial Day and others. He was instrumental in selling tickets during the ill-fated attempt to raffle off an automobile in 1965 where he saved the Post a considerable sum of money.

This writer recalls a humorous incident during a Fourth of July picnic held at the Post where we were engaged in a tug-of-war contest. Unbeknownst to our opponents, we had snaked the rope under a tree and tied it to Bob's VW. When the judges signaled "go, Bob put the VW in gear and we won in a landslide! (I believe this is the first public admission of how we won; incidentally the " Legion milk" we won was the most tasty!)

Next was Joe Cobb, 1976-1977. His tour of duty was highlighted by construction and dedication of an additional monument to our deceased Veterans. It is displayed as a companion piece to our other monument and provides a fitting entrance to the Post home. The dedication ceremony was held on July 4, 1976 during the Post's Bi-Centennial observation.

During this period the Post delegation was housed at the Norjo apartments in Ocean City, MD for the annual Department Convention. Although the Post was well



*CDR Ruppert; 1976-1977, 1978-1979*

represented at business sessions, there were some nocturnal events that need reporting: water deluges, short sheets, messages inscribed on bathroom mirrors (lipstick), saran-wrapped commodes, etc. "I thought the sliding glass door was open" (PCDR ES). "I lost my keys and wallet" (PCDR HPP, every year, "bet you didn't know you could make a hula skirt from a black garbage bag" (AUX Grammie M). "I didn't know the surf could rip off your bathing suit top" (AUX SJ), "take the eagles off all the flags in the hall so we can find the one marked Post 60" (AUX JS), meanwhile, at the Post, we were treated to "dancers on table tops" (AUX JS, MD), masked twins who visited the Post each Halloween (paper sacks on their heads); they never spoke, only asked for a glass of "suds" in sign language, drank it and departed as mysteriously as they arrived. On any given evening a bartender might leap over the bar and buss an unsuspecting customer on his bald head (MBR HA). A past Commander took an impromptu nap, his shoes were removed, filled with ice cubes and the fire alarm bell was sounded! Spontaneous music recitals would originate with S/Arms (BB guitar) and spoons (LB) in the early morning hours; we were even treated to barbershop quintets (Bartenders and board) during the wee hours of a Saturday morning!

In November 1975, Governor Mandell appointed Past Commander Bob Maring to head the Maryland Veterans Cemetery program. He was designated as Program Manager to plan the design, oversee the construction and to operate the five Veterans Cemeteries, a position he held

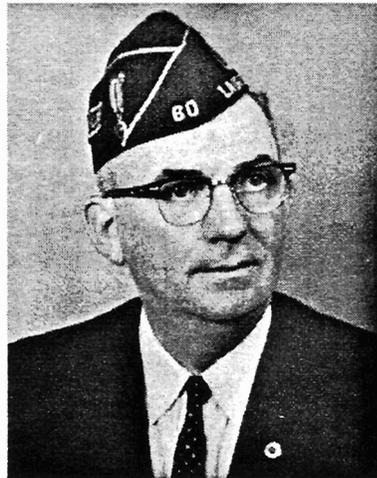
until his retirement in 1986. The program proved to be a model of efficiency which has since been followed by many other states.

During this time the Post attained a 4-Star status with 805 members. A special fund "Wes O'Brien fund" was established in honor of his lifetime dedication to aiding crippled and disadvantaged children. All proceeds from this fund were funneled to the Kilby Center in

Bowie. At a Post visit, Department Commander Doug Johnson spoke highly of Wes and presented a check from Parkville Post 183 and his own personal check to the fund; it was warmly received. Five hundred books and two dozen games were taken to the VA Hospital in Washington. Games and reading material were taken to Perry Point VA Hospital and the Commander hosted a Bingo game for the residents.



*CDR Charles Smith  
1962-1963, 1968-1970*



*CDR William Byrne  
1964-1965*



*CDR Robert Moring  
1965-1966*



*CDR Pat Clouse  
1966-1967*



*CDR "Bookie" Duvall  
1967-1968*



*CDR Sidney Warner  
1970-1971*

A longtime project came to fulfillment when on July 4 a granite memorial to all Veterans was unveiled in front of the Post home. A dinner for all WW I Veterans and Gold Star Mothers was held at the Post on May 23. Great Oaks Center for the retarded held its annual spring festival. Attending and helping out were: Trenton, Duvall, Gallagher, Sapowsky, Allen, Dowling, Schmidt, Cobb and Jacquez.

Lou Ruppert is our next Commander; he would be a two-time Commander who did yeoman work in rebuilding the Post prior to his relocation to Florida. We again attained 4-Star status with 826 members. Squadron 60 was installed by National SAL Commander Charles Gannon. Twenty-five decks of cards went to the VA Hospital, Christmas baskets were delivered to local needy families, toys

valued at \$625 were delivered to Great Oaks Center. Perry Point VA hospital received a stereo set and the Post donated \$80 to pay for transportation for patients to a country-western show at the Baltimore Civic Center.

A banquet for cross-country runners was held on December 14; 33 students from 19 schools were in attendance. Post members attended Easter sunrise services at Walter Reed Medical Center, four boys were sent to Boys State and Thad Allen was elected as County Commander. Past Department Commander Dave Wade visited the Post, spoke warmly of Wes O'Brien and added his personal check to the fund.

The next Commander was Bob Mainhall, who served during 1977-1978, although he achieved 4-Star status, the number is not



*CDR Thad Allen*  
1971-1972, 1973-1974



*CDR John Pierpont*  
1972-1973



*CDR Robert Loveless*  
1974-1975