

# VFW POST 4108 NEWSLETTER

January 2009 2008



## **From the Commander...Jeff Casserly ...Good day Veterans and Families,**

In this New Year of 2009, all Veterans are faced with non-traditional and very serious challenges. Perhaps it's time to review the primary reason for VFW Post 4108 and our commitment of support to all active & inactive Veterans, our members and their families.

Today many Americans are facing some type of hardship; perhaps physical; more than likely financial. There are fellow Vet's that you know who face not only illness, but also the grim possibility of job loss or forced job relocation, pay cuts, business failures, home foreclosure, cancellation of credit, repossession of vehicles or even a substantial reduction in medical benefits. The rising costs of basic survival and the associated emotional stresses may seem too great for many to bear.

The majority of today's younger and middle aged citizens can't conceive real poverty but in a worst case scenario, they stand a chance of directly facing that reality. Our seasoned members still remember an impoverished childhood and the "Baby Boomers" and their children now face the challenges of true economic adversity. We find our Country at a crossroad that many Americans are unfamiliar with, and for better or worse, spoken or unspoken, most of our countrymen are concerned with adverse financial possibilities.

We are familiar with co-operative action. We are all proven survivors; we are all familiar with overcoming obstacles, we are American Veterans and the future is still ours. We were a squad, a battalion, a brigade; name it what you will; we are now on the same team and fortunately in good company; and together we are strong. We will choose our battles, march as fast as the slowest man and we all arrive at our destination together.

In the end, the future will continue to shine brightly for Veterans of yesterday, today and tomorrow, and also for the families of VFW members past, present and future. The changes and challenges are not insurmountable. The successes will be found through the shared experiences of proper planning, hard work, fiscal responsibility and brotherhood; and we as a unit will continue to build and promote the VFW for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

NOTE: Please send your email addresses to Karen Millard at [ladybugs@dsicomputers.com](mailto:ladybugs@dsicomputers.com) if you are interested in a more rapid receipt of your VFW Post Newsletter and Calendar.

NOTE: We would appreciate voluntary donations for the Post Park (money, materials, and labor skills). Although the Post Park is not to be completed this year we will continue to move forward. The funds are in hand. The permit has been pulled, architectural and engineering plans are complete and the site is laid out. I will be meeting with the City Planning Department soon and perhaps I can cut through some red tape to expedite the construction.

We would also like to have any information regarding Post member activities, honors, ideas, suggestions and we'll forward them on to the correct officer.

The Webmaster Rick Brose is working on the web page and I'll be visiting with him next week to review his ideas and plans.

We have received the donation of a very practical and safe play system from Lowes and its employees. They worked hard in very cold weather to complete this portion.

Thank you Lowes.

Thank you all for your efforts this year...you are all appreciated; whether the Post members say it or not, they recognize the enormous contributions and effort that you put into your work. Jeff **Welcome to 2009** Semper Fidelis

## **From the Auxiliary President...Becky McDonald**

First of all, I want to thank everyone who has volunteered or participated in anything this year. Without you we would not exist!! On that note I have a lot to cover. I want to thank Cheryl, Harold, Gary, Mark, Art, Kelly, Savanna, Luke, and Kimberly for helping me decorate the hall! Also thank you to all who went with the Dennis and Dianne Guthrie to lay

wreathes on Dec. 13th. I was impressed with those willing to brave the weather for the Twilight Parade. There were 20 plus members to carry flags and give out candy.

We draped the Charter for two V.F.W.A. members this month: Janette Bell (Department Secretary) and Sally Whitlock (life member).

I want to congratulate the 2nd and 3rd place winners of the Voice of Democracy: Leslie Hunt with \$250.00 for 2nd and Corissa Hanneman with \$150.00 for 3rd. AWESOME Job to both of you!!

Our turn out for the O.H.A Tri Tip Dinner was great. We served 101 dinners and everyone as always THANKS Dan and Jocelyn Tureck for the awesome food. All of our helpers did a great job as well!

We have not had a new member Initiation since last year. We would appreciate having our new transfers and new members at our Jan. 8th meeting. Any members who have not been initiated yet: We would love to have you there so that you may be properly welcomed!!

Our activity and project day will be on Jan. 24<sup>th</sup>. from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the hall for ages 3 to 12 years. We want the children to be able to share their stories about their families. Be there or be square. Remember you can stay and share this time with your children or you can have 2 hours to be away. We ask that you help with projects by paying \$3.00 per child. Consent forms will be available at the Canteen starting Jan. 1st., 2009.

Kudos for Kellie and Paula by helping the Cancer Aid and Research fund. They asked people to donate \$1.00 and have their name put on a Christmas ball. They have raised OVER \$190.00 so far. WOW!!!

Okay, I think I am done now; I just want everyone to know how important all of you are to me!  
As always I wish everyone good health and happiness with friends and family!

Becky McDonald

## **From Dennis and Dianne Guthrie**

**A big Thank You** at year end to those that have worked around the Post or have worked on projects to help Veterans.

If you have not noticed, Lowe's Home Improvement donated and their employees donated their time to erect a child's play structure. It is located on the West side of the building and will be enclosed by the new "Patriots' Garden" that will be erected as soon as weather permits.

**Membership** – Here we are December and we are NOT 100%! We need your dues now! Please pay them as soon as possible. As of January 1, 2009 if your 2009 dues are not paid, you are NOT a member in good standing. You will need to pay them in order to have canteen privileges, be able to attend meetings, etc. We cannot continue to serve Veterans and their families without your dues.

**Elvis will be here** at our Post with John Denver February 28, 2009. Tickets will be on sale at the Post the middle of January. Doors will open at 6:00 PM show begins at 7:00 PM. Front seats are \$25.00, general admission is \$20.00. If you liked Johnny Cash & June Carter you will like Elvis! The first part is Elvis in 50's & 60's, then John Denver, and last comes Elvis from the 70's. Justin Shandor has won many awards as the BEST Elvis look alike and sound alike! Both are Las Vegas acts brought to you at your local VFW Post. All proceeds go to help Veterans and their families.

**We are building a suicide prevention team** here in Redmond for our Vets. Having problems or know someone that is, call Dennis 548-6990. We are combat Veterans that know what it is like and we care!

### **Caring For Troops**

Caring for troops needs your help. They are still packing boxes for our troops every month. The next pack up is 1/10/09 at Sage Insurance across Revere from the North Albertsons in Bend. The pack up will start at 10 AM.

If you cannot help pack, you can write a card or note, donate items, donate services, donate funds, pray, local business groups can sponsor a pack-up, or you can co-ordinate a project at a school or church. All items donated can be left at the Canteen and must be marked "Caring for Troops". Questions? Dianne Guthrie 548-6990.

Remember, in 2009 about 150 and a little more than half of all National Guard troops here in Central Oregon will be deploying and we need to work together with the other Posts and Auxiliaries in Central Oregon in order to help Veterans and families in need.

The list of items needed is posted outside the Canteen and extras copies are available.

### **Fund Raising Committee**

A lot has been decided. We need people that are willing to help sell tickets for the Elvis event. Please call Dennis or Dianne at 548-6990. The next meeting will probably be Jan. 6, 2009 at 6 PM.

### **Giving to National Guard Families for the Holidays**

We were successful in putting together boxes for eight National Guard families here in the Redmond area. Sharon Campbell was successful in getting Fred Meyers to donate turkeys and hams. Franz Bakery donated large boxes of baked goods and cookies. Eberhard's donated a large number of milk cartons.

Thank you to Patti & Don Oliver and their children for collecting and purchasing canned and non-perishables. Thank you to everyone else that donated items. We came up short for eight families, but we were able to put together for all eight families and delivered them on three different times, two in the midst of heavy snow fall.

The Post & Auxiliary teamed up and bought gift cards at Wal-Mart so the Guard families could choose toys if they wanted.

It was all good and the families were very grateful. Dianne & Dennis Guthrie

### **From the Auxiliary Chaplain-Bernis Lee**

Winter is upon us and it will be a white CHRISTMAS this year. No one has reported any one being under the weather so far, so stay well. Frank Lee, Linda Parker's brother home burnt to the ground this past week in Bend. He is currently staying with Linda. We are all sorry for his loss. Continue to pray for our troops and their Families and stay safe and warm. Bernis Lee , "Chaplain" **Hugs and blessing, Bernis**

### **From the Canteen-Jan Nolan**

December is about gone and we were busier than we thought we would be, but that is good.

We also have a few to thank, such as Mark, Gary, and Dave for cooking hamburgers on our OHA and Elk meeting nights. Good Job guys.

We want everyone to check their calendars for the Hamburgers nights, as we have added a few Elk meeting nights and they will be on Wednesdays.

Please do not forget our Monday night dinners. On the 5th of January Cooties Dan & Jocelyn Tureck will be cooking Black Angus beef stew, homemade bread, salad, and oatmeal spice cake for \$6.50. The Canteen will be cooking Chicken dinner with potatoes, salad, veggie, rolls, and a dessert for \$6.50 on the 19th of Jan. This will be with weather permitting so you might want to call ahead.

Do not forget Paula's Taco nights on Thursdays.

I would like to Thank Mark Brosy for shoveling snow from the sidewalks and in front of the front door several times; It looks like a pretty steady job if the snow keeps falling.

Thank you everyone who bought a Christmas ornament to put on our tree in the canteen. All proceeds will go to Cancer Aid and Research.

A Big Thanks to everyone who participated in the VFW Christmas dance and Potluck. We were disappointed that more of our members didn't support it.

Don't forget to come on in and play pool on Sundays for FREE.

Jan.1st 2009 is Bartenders day. Lon will be tending bar so come in and visit with your bartenders on your side of the bar.

***"Happy New Year " to everyone from all the gals and Lon.  
Jan, Kellie, Paula, Shawna and Shanon***



- Be sure to send your email address to [ladybugs@dsicomputers.com](mailto:ladybugs@dsicomputers.com) to help save mailing expenses
- Join us with other VFW Members at Monday night dinners, Thursday night Tacos, and other VFW organized events.
- Please plan to come to our once a month Post and Aux. meetings