

VFW POST 4108

January 2010



From the Commander... Jeff Casserly...

Commander's Comments-Good day Post Members and Families,

2010...did you ever think that you would live to see such a year, but what the heck, it's only a number. This probably won't be the last New Year you'll welcome, but this year most are happy to say **ADIOS 2009** and **HELLO** opportunity and possibility in **2010**.

Have we ever seen so many folks out of work, so many homes foreclosed, such a great number of homeless and such long lines at the soup kitchens? Did our parents or grandparents face such a time during the great depression, and have we shown ourselves to be as strong and durable as they were? When we speak in the future of the Great Recession of '09, will other listeners stop and add their memories of survival? Are we living in a moment that is to become an American Legend? Are we so deep into the forest that we cannot see ourselves becoming history because of the trees of challenge that block our vision? At this time, we will leave that history lesson for future scholars to debate.

On to business; in 2009 there have been many who stepped up to assist our community of Veterans and their families. They typically choose not to be recognized, but this is my Bully Pulpit and I will name names. Dan & Jocelyn Tureck, you are fabulous, thank you, John & Valorie Wrinkle; the Auxiliaries and the Community appreciate you. Lon & Linda Parker & Dave and Sharon Campbell, the Post runs and looks better because of you. Dennis & Diane Guthrie and Dan Rohrer you do make a difference. The Post Newsletter Team & Web master all deserve Kudos. The evening dinner crews and the Pinochle promoters, you brought more life back to the Post. The Canteen Staff and Mr. Maintenance, cheers to you. Those who march, those who work events, those who contribute time and energy in support of Central Oregon Veterans and their loved ones through dinners and fund raising events, we couldn't do it without you. And to all of you, the Veterans of Post 4108 who stop by, attend meetings, comment on the good (and bad) of what takes place at your Post; I thank you. Without all of the members and the mixed level of involvement we would not be the great Post that we are becoming.

Last on the list; thanks to our Post Quartermaster Bill Pieters and our Post Financial Advisor, Sonja Morgenthaler, for sensible and valued perspectives. It is their approach to a working budget that allowed the funding of those recent improvements you now enjoy; and to Attorney Don Oliver for his sage advice and clear legal counsel. Today, without their guidance and support, things might be very different.

We say good bye to 2009 and also to some cherished friends that have passed on. We will miss them, we will learn from our challenges, and we look to a great year ahead.

Check the Calendar, log onto www.vfwpost4108.org and tell a friend of your Post 4108.

Semper Fi, Jeff

From the Auxiliary President... Becky McDonald

Hello VFW and VFWA members and their families.

I cannot believe another year has come and gone so quickly and the fantastic progress we have accomplished in one year.

I would like to thank Jeff Casserly for all his great work in the post, to those wonderful individuals who help with our banquets, and to our non- kitchen committee chairwoman who works so hard for the Post and Auxiliary THANK YOU Jocelyn!!

Our Kids' Day will not happen in Jan. due to New Years Eve and our first breakfast. We will resume Kids' Day the first Sat. in Feb.

Our last Kids' Day was our biggest yet (15 kids- 35 people total) and it was wonderful!! Everyone had a great time. Laree and I have to say thank you for all your help in making Kids' Day important to the Post and Auxiliary.

Let us all remember we are in this together and together we are making our post an awesome place for all!!

Thank you to all who have helped out this year; I hope to see our younger generation become more involved next year.

I wish to you all Good Health and Happiness. Sincerely, Becky McDonald

From Dennis Guthrie

As a new year starts Post #4108 has a lot of opportunities to shine as we help our veterans. Some of our older vets might need a little help getting around but they have so much knowledge to share. Our younger veterans are the future of our Post and the VFW. As our Commander has said, "We are making our Post ready for the Veterans of the 21st Century".

At this time we are the second largest Post in the State, but there are two other Posts striving for that position. We need 34 members who have not paid their dues to pay them so that #4108 can reach 100%. It will take more than that to make our Post #1. Everyone needs to fill out a Community Service Report. If you are helping someone, coaching, or donating to another non-profit, please list that on a Community Service Report so it can be reported. Logging our volunteer efforts is important in our tax reporting.

"The Wall" or "Central Oregon's Tribute to Heroes" is coming in August. It is not just a tribute to Vietnam Veterans but also WWII, Korea, 911, and our present day Veterans who have paid the ultimate sacrifice. Tell your friends, neighbors, and family. Donations to get it here may be made at Home Federal Bank in all Central Oregon cities starting January 6th, 2010.

Let's make 2010 the year we can be proud of.

Thank you for all you do for our Vets and our community.

Dennis Guthrie

From the Nursing Home and Hospital...Judy Jackson

A big thanks to those who have donated clothing and other articles for the veterans. Everything is greatly appreciated.

Also, big thanks for Santa (Merle) and his helpers who visited the Redmond Health Care Center on December 15th. Although Santa was a little gimpy from a hip replacement 2 weeks prior, he was able to hand out gifts to all the residents. Thank you Glen and Gerry Piper for your contributions, and Bruce and Carol Oxley for your donations to the Christmas giving. Santa's helpers included Glen and Gerry, Bruce and Carol, Bernis Lee, Liere McCuen and Tyler Lichte...Everyone got a special gift, plus toilet articles, a Santa Candy Cane, a calendar, and a Christmas decoration as well as oranges, apples and tangerines. We also appreciate Kim Coen at the center for all her help in organizing our get together.

Judy Jackson, Chairman

From the Aux. Chaplain...Bernis Lee

Merry Christmas every one and a very Happy New Year. Merle Jackson is home following a hip replacement surgery on the 23rd of Nov. He seems to be doing fairly well at this time, GET WELL soon from all of us. Pray for our troops and their families and hope they will be home next Christmas. Bernie Lee "Chaplain"

From the Public Relations Officer...John Wrinkle

POST 4108 ACTION NEWS; Public Relations Officer John Wrinkle and Auxiliary Publicity Chairman Valorie Wrinkle – 541-923-8591 (Home and Fax), 541-678-3895 (Cell), jwrinkle@bendbroadband.com.

Valorie and I extend our sincere wishes for a prosperous and healthy new year to all. On a more personal note, I wish to thank all of the volunteers that have made 2009 a year that the Post and both Auxiliaries can be extremely proud of. Of course I can't name everyone because they are too numerous, but Valorie and I do want to thank the members who have been and continue to train us so we can help you: Betty Anderson, Paula and Mark Brosy, Sharon and Dave Campbell, Kit and Jeff Casserly, Diane and Dennis Guthrie, Judy and Harold Haynes, Judy Servo, Neil McDonald, Sonja Morgenthaler, Jan Nolan, Linda and Lon Parker, Bill Pieters, Donna and Howard Rackley, Tom Smallwood, Jocelyn and Dan Tureck. If I have missed citing your name please forgive us and know that you are appreciated as well.

The following are items of interest for your consideration:

1. The Marine Corps League's "Toys for Tots" drive was a huge success this year, thanks to Don Keith, Patty and Don Oliver, and a friend of mine from Home Depot, Peggy Good. We delivered three truck loads of toys to the local distribution site. Thank you to everyone who donated toys to this cause. Some deserving children will have a wonderful Christmas thanks to you!

Upcoming Events:

1. **December 31 from 8 pm to 1 am will be our New Year's Eve celebration.** (See below for more info!)
2. **January 16 will be our next Prime Rib dinner and dance.** (See below for more info!)
3. March 26 and 27, 2010 the Oregon Women's Veterans Conference will be held in Prineville. More information to follow.
4. **DON'T FORGET!** Beginning January 9, 2010, Donna Rackley of the Ladies Auxiliary will be putting on a breakfast and Bake Sale at the Post the second Saturday of each month. We are looking for volunteer bakers to provide items for the bake sale.
5. **To the Men's Auxiliary** – Donna has issued a challenge! If some of your members volunteer at the Breakfast and Bake Sale, 10% of the profits from the breakfast will be donated to the Men's Auxiliary. Call Donna Rackley @ 647-2935 if you are interested in participating.

Dance News – Valorie Wrinkle – 541-923-8591:

December 5 was our December Prime Rib dinner and the turn out for this one was amazing! We served over 90 dinners that night. The Christmas Pot Luck Dinner/Dance on December 19 was also a great success. The decorations were beautiful, the music (Bob and Edi Rae) was great and the food was fabulous! Thank you to everyone who brought a dish to share – there was enough food to feed an army. This was a "donations only" dance, and we collected \$383 thanks to the generosity of everyone who attended. That covered the cost of the band and gave us a little extra.

The last dance event for 2009 will be our New Year's Eve celebration on December 31. Come join your friends and family at the VFW as the Party Time Band helps us ring in the New Year in style! Admission for this celebration will be \$10 per person. The band will start at 8 pm and we will close at 1 am. Party favors will be provided. Bring whatever finger food or appetizers you want for your table. Let's start our New Year out right!

Since the first Saturday in January is right after New Years, there will be no dance or prime rib dinner that night. Instead we will have the \$8.00 prime rib dinner on the third Saturday, January 16, 2010. I hope to see you there!

Veterans and Family Needs – Valorie Wrinkle – 541-923-8591:

This year the Post and Auxiliary agreed to provide food boxes to 20 Guard families in the Redmond area who were facing challenges this year. The goal was to provide a turkey and all the fixings needed to have a nice Christmas meal, as well as a \$25 gift card that could be used at Wal-Mart for gifts or additional food. A call was put out for donations of food and/or money to meet this need and the response was overwhelming! Thank you to the following who provided cash donations: The Redmond Liquor Store, Dan and Jocelyn Tureck, the Ladies Auxiliary of Post 4108, Post 4108, the Oregon Veterans Motorcycle Association, and Fred Meyers (\$200 gift card for turkeys). In total we had \$1,060 to spend on food and \$500 for gift cards! In addition there were many donations of food items from Post and Auxiliary members as well as a whole beef that was donated by a rancher in Powell Butte and canned goods collected by a local elementary school and Highway 97 Mini-Storage. Thanks to our members and the local community we were able provide enough food for a Christmas dinner and then some! I am proud to be a part of such a caring and generous community of people. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Men's Auxiliary President Pinky Christopher 923-3133

Well Gang, here we are at the end of 2009. We have our charter and a new beginning in 2010. I was so sorry that bad weather prevented some of you from coming to the last meeting where Post Commander Jeff Casserly presented us with our charter. I want to thank the Commander and past Post Commander Dennis Guthrie for addressing the Men's Auxiliary at that meeting.

I am hoping for great things for everyone in 2010 as we march forward. I thank you and hope to see your smiling faces at our meetings. Happy 2010 to you and yours. God bless us through these trying times. Men's Auxiliary President, Pinky Christopher.

From the Canteen-Jan Nolan

Christmas is over and a new year starting. We hope everyone enjoyed their holidays.

December was a busy month, and the club Christmas dance and potluck party went pretty well this year. It looked as though everyone was having a good time and the food was delicious. January looks a little slow, just having the every month functions. Hamburger nights will be the 6th, 12th, 19th, & 20th.

We do have a new addition to our monthly functions. Donna Rackley will be serving a breakfast on the 2nd Saturday of each month starting January 9th. The meal will be served from 8:30 to 10:30 at a cost of \$6.00. Seniors (55+) pay \$5.00. The menu this month is biscuits and gravy, patty sausage, and scrambled eggs. There will also be a bake sale at the same time, and Donna is looking for donations of baked goods, so dig out that favorite recipe and give Donna a call to tell her you can help her out with this! (647-2935)

Monday night dinner on Jan. 4th will be pork chops, potatoes, salad, veg. and dessert for \$6.50. Then on Jan. 18th we will serve chicken pot pie including veg. in the pie, salad and dessert for \$6.00.

Our pool has been doing real well. The winners on the pool tournaments were Nov. 16th Del Frint, Nov. 21 Mike Patterson, Nov. 23rd Del Frint, Nov.28th Mike Patterson, Nov.30th Del Frint, Dec. 5th Mike Patterson, Dec.7th Dick Cameron, Dec.12th Dick Cameron, Dec.14th Art Jackson, and Dec 19th Steve Shouenburg. Good going guys.

The Canteen gals wish everyone a Happy New Year.

Jan, Paula, Tara, Shawna and Nichole.
Dee Frint

Have a Happy New Year