

VFW Post 4108 Newsletter

July 2010



From the Post Commander: John Wrinkle

Time sure flies! It seems like just yesterday my only duties were to show up and wash dishes for banquets. Now my responsibilities have grown but I welcome the challenges before me. With the high standards that he has set, following Past Post Commander Jeff Casserly will not be an easy task for me, but I thank Jeff for his leadership and vision. With the assistance of Post and Auxiliary members Jeff has accomplished amazing things for the good of the Post. With your support, we can continue to accomplish many positive things for the Post because I believe that “together we can make a difference”.

I know that change can be uncomfortable and hard to accept, but sometimes change is necessary for progress to be made. For economic reasons there have been many changes in the Canteen recently, changes of which many of you are already aware. Please be patient with us for the next couple of months so we can have a Canteen that is an enjoyable, friendly, and safe haven for all to visit. My thanks go to the volunteers who are making this transition as smooth as possible. (These are not ranked in any particular order): House Committee Chairman Lon Parker for his bartending and management assistance during this process; Jocelyn Tureck and Valorie Wrinkle for volunteering to lend their expertise to keep the business end of the canteen running smoothly while reviewing policies and procedures; Past Post Commander Casserly’s able support and guidance; the entire House Committee for being open to suggestions for improvements; Bartender Corrie Arthur for being patient and flexible during this time of change; and last but not least Post Quartermaster Bill Pieters for his willing and able support of all the volunteers. Thank you also to Donna Rackley who has volunteered to handle Hall rentals and banquets. Any recommended changes will of course be reviewed and approved by the House Committee and where appropriate, the Post.

My vision for the Post encompasses bringing in younger veterans and their families, and incorporating their ideas into an organization that will meet the needs of all Post and Auxiliary members. Our Post Junior Commander Chuck Reponen has been asked to chair a committee consisting of members of the Post, the Ladies’ Auxiliary, and the Men’s Auxiliary with the purpose of reviewing any existing guidelines for welcoming new members (or creating guidelines if none exist now) and creating a recruiting program that will bring in the younger veterans and their families. If you are interested in participating, please call Chuck at 541-390-4869.

Don’t forget our free hamburger and hot dog feed held on the 4th of July! All veterans and their families are welcome. Food starts at about 11:45, after the parade.

There is a drive afoot to purchase round tables for our hall to improve the ambiance of our various functions. (Our present tables are getting rather swaybacked from years of use.) Tables can be purchased for \$100 apiece, and inscribed in memory of a loved one or with your name as the donor if you wish. We already have 23 tables promised! If interested, please call Sonja Morgenthaler at 541-504-9432.

I am looking forward to a good year and will always be accessible to hear your concerns and/or suggestions for helping us keep this Post a great place to visit. Remember, together we can make a difference.

Anchors Aweigh!
Post Commander John Wrinkle

From the (New) Auxiliary President...Patti Oliver

Hello to all Ladies Auxiliary members,

I would like to introduce myself as your new Auxiliary President. I am fairly new at this newsletter writing, but hope to convey some of my hopes for our upcoming year. Many of you already know me, and some do not. For those who do not, I really hope to meet you all in the coming year.

As we begin a new year, we should challenge ourselves even further that we can fulfill our mission to the veterans and their families. I am looking forward to serving with you as your President this year and hope that many of you will volunteer for the many chairmanships and leadership roles that are available and needing to be filled. For those of you who have already volunteered or have been duly elected in an officer role, I thank you in advance and I'm sure we will have a fun and prosperous year ahead.

There are many activities planned for this summer and later on in the fall. Please remember that everything you do matters to the auxiliary and to the entire organization. If you have suggestions for activities or fundraising events, please feel free to bring them up. No idea is a stupid idea. We need more member participation than ever before. Our meetings are there for the purpose of keeping members informed of the business of the Auxiliary and happenings regarding the Post. Please try to attend some meetings in order to be apprised of our doings. Your help is always needed and welcome. Everyone has some talent at something, so I'm sure you can find a niche. Also since I am appealing to you to help us, let me know how I can help you to make this year a success!

Sincerely,

Patti Oliver

P.S. Our VFW 4108 annual free hamburger and hot dog feed will be on the 4th of July. Ladies, please bring a potluck salad to go with the meat if you can!

From the Men's Auxiliary President: Pinky Christopher

To start with, I want to remind all the Brothers that joined before 2010, dues are owed in the amount of \$10 per member. I thank those who have already taken care of this, but there are still some Brothers who have not paid. If you have not yet paid, please do so immediately to cover the amount we must submit to the State. The 2011 amount due per member will be \$27.00 and that is due by January 1, 2011, so if you want to get ahead of the game you can get those dues paid as well!

If you are out of the area and need to mail your dues in, the address is Men's Auxiliary to the VFW Post 4108, P.O. Box 1685, Redmond, Oregon 97756.

The Auxiliary has sure been active lately! Thank you to Terry and his team who got the horse shoe area completed. If summer ever gets here we can drink cold beer while pitching shoes. We are also getting started on our own meeting room. Talk to Tim Oleson – we need to get everything out of his team's way.

July is Redmond's Centennial celebration and there will be a breakfast at the Post. We could use 4 helpers for that. If you can help, call me at 541-923-3133 and leave a message if there is no answer. There will also be a parade on July 4 and we could use help with that.

We are still getting new members, which is great. I know a lot of you have jobs, but we would love to have you come to a meeting. There is a lot going on and new projects always coming, so we could use your ideas and manpower or at the very least your support! Mark your calendar for the second Wednesday of each month (the July meeting will be Wednesday, July 14.)

The best to all of you and God Bless,

President Pinky Christopher

REPORT OF AWARDS RECEIVED AT DEPARTMENT CONVENTION:

For the Post: National Military Services Certificate of Recognition, 100% Membership, Largest Numerical Gain in Life Membership, & Commander Jeff Casserly earned his white hat with his award for All State Commanders 100% Membership.

For the Ladies Auxiliary: Outstanding Program for Buddy Poppy, Voice of Democracy: 3rd, Americanism: 3rd, 100% reporting for Publicity, Cancer Aid & Research: 4th, Outstanding Program for Buddy Poppy, Retained the Traveling Plaque for Membership, Community Service: 3rd, First Place for Nursing Home; Dianne Guthrie won District President of the Year, and Judy Jackson was re-elected to the position of Department Treasurer.

ACTION NEWS: Aux. Publicity Chairman Valorie Wrinkle

541-923-8591 (Home) 541-678-3894 (Cell), jwrinkle@bendbroadband.com.

Upcoming Events:

1. July 3, 2010 – “Breakfast at the V.” Pancakes, scrambled eggs, ham, coffee, tea or hot chocolate for a special price of \$5.50.
2. July 3, 2010 – This is the opening weekend of the Redmond Centennial. The COTTH Traveling Wall committee will have a booth at Great American Furnishings selling patriotic items and T-shirts. This is another fund raiser for the COTTH project.
3. July 8, 2010 – 6:00 pm. Rough Strings and Bobby Simms will be playing at Boondocks. There is a \$15 cover charge that includes the music and finger foods (no-host bar). Silent auction, COTTH t-shirts and raffle tickets for sale. All proceeds will go toward the COTTH Traveling Wall.
4. July 9-10 – Garage Sale at the Post. Bring your donated items down to the Post during normal working hours. We have a storage unit outside where we can stow your donations until the Sale. All donations are tax deductible. Then on the 9th and 10th between 8 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. come down and shop to your heart’s content!
5. July 11, 2010 – “Wii Sunday” – See Canteen section for more information on this.
6. July 15, 2010 – Texas Hold’em Tournament at Rumors to benefit The Wall, 6:30 pm. Buy in of \$10 /\$10/\$10.
7. Kids Activity Day on the first Saturday of each month. All children of military or veteran families are welcome to enjoy crafts and a free lunch at the Post from 10:30 am to 1:30 pm.

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

Dinner Reservations: If you would like to make a reservation, you can call the Post at 541-548-4108 during regular business hours, or call the Dance Chair at 541-923-8591.

The dinner and dance schedule for July is as follows:

- July 3 – No dinner dance due to the 4th of July holiday.
- **FRIDAY** July 16 – Prime Rib dinner and dance night: Stagecoach West will be playing for us. This is the band from Spokane Washington who offered to play for us if they could do it on a Friday. For more info about the group, go to www.stagecoachwestmusic.com. This promises to be a great night of food, music and dancing! This is a Friday night so we will start just a little later than normal - we will open the doors at 5:00 pm and we will start serving dinner at 6:00 pm. Reservations will be held until 6:30 pm.

The dinner and dance schedule for August is a special one due to the “Central Oregon Tribute to Heroes” schedule.

- The Wall will be here from August 11 through August 15 and we expect a lot of veterans may want to come to the Post to get together, so there will be two dinners this month: Prime rib dinner on August 13 (instead of August 8) and a Spaghetti Feed on August 14, 2010.
- August 13, 2010 – Prime Rib dinner and dance night: Music by Bob and Edi Rae.
- August 14, 2010 – Spaghetti Feed: Music by the Badlands Boogie Band. Menu will be homemade marinara sauce with meat, green salad, garlic bread and a special dessert.
- August 21, 2010 – Dance with music by Bobby & Lori.

The normal dance schedule will resume in September.

Military Order of the Cooties (MOC) Pup Tent 8 “ScuttleButt” – Blanket Bum Wrinkle

Our next visit to The Dalles Veterans Home will be in November. The Veterans Home provides us with a list of needed or wanted items and we use the money we raise all year long to fill those needs and wants. The “Lady Bugs” bake cookies that we pass out as we visit the residents. We also collect donations such as books or DVD’s to take with us.

If you are interested in learning more about becoming a MOC/MOCA member, talk to one of us about it. Along with the “relaxed” meetings, it is a very rewarding experience when you see the smiles we receive from those we visit! If you are interested in donating or better yet, joining us, please talk to one of us.

From Dennis Guthrie...Surgeon General

Thank You

First I need to say it is great to be back home. Dianne and I saw a lot of beautiful country visiting nine western states. We met a lot of dedicated Veterans and Ladies Auxiliary members as well as some very dedicated VA and Department of Defense medical staff. We saw a lot of great programs for Veterans young and old.

I want to thank all those who have supported and mentored me through the years. Your continued support has been crucial for me to reach a National Office and have the opportunity to travel as the Surgeon General and be able to tour so many hospitals, Fisher Houses, and Wounded Warrior Programs. Thank you.

Membership

I will be pushing membership again this year. Please pay your dues if you have not or if you are having problems, we can help with your dues.

4th of July Parade will start promptly at 10:00 AM. The parade and BBQ is open to all Veterans and their families. After the parade come down and see the improvements we've made to your post. We have a swing set for kids and horseshoe pits. The Men's Auxiliary has been really busy!

From the Ladies Auxiliary Chaplain-Bernis Lee...

I am sorry to report that we have lost one of our dear members, Bruce McLeod. He was a commander of our Post, always there when we needed him with a smile on his face. He will surely be missed by each and every one of us. Bertha Hooper is recovering nicely at home from knee surgery. Always remember our troops and their families during this trying time. We pray for their early return. God Bless America!
Bernie Lee, Chaplain

From the Canteen... Valorie Wrinkle & Jocelyn Tureck

As most of you know, Jocelyn and I have been helping out in the Canteen and office during this period of transition. We work under direction of the House Committee. As the new Commander mentioned, Donna Rackley of the Ladies Auxiliary has volunteered to handle Hall rentals and banquets. Donna's number is 541-647-2935. She would be happy to help you with your Hall or banquet needs.

We appreciate all the support you have shown us and the staff and we hope that it will continue. Changes are being made, but what has not changed is the desire of the Post to have a Canteen with a welcoming, friendly atmosphere. Monday night dinners and Thursday Taco nights will continue, and the Pool leagues are always welcome. We have plans for a new activity that I think you will find to be fun and exciting that we are calling "Wii Sunday"!

On Sunday, July 11, there will be a Wii game set up in the Canteen. If you have ever been curious about what your children and/or grandchildren have been talking about, join us for a day of game playing such as you have never seen! The Wii is a very interactive video game and I have to tell you – it can be addictive! (Just ask our new Post Commander about the Tiger Woods golf game he plays). Corrie Arthur has volunteered to bring her Wii console and a variety of games for people to try out. Come down during normal business hours and find out what you have been missing. If you already know about the Wii, come down anyway and show off your skills! Let's play – why should the kids have all the fun?

Your canteen is going to be serving free hot wings on Sunday, July 25th. Wings start at 3:00 and go as long as they last! Come in, chow down, maybe play a little free pool, and show us that you'd like us to do it again... There will be no Monday night dinner on July 5th, due to the holiday weekend. Monday dinner on the 19th will be Texas-style BBQ pork riblets, green salad, potato salad, corn, garlic bread, and dessert for \$6.50. Hamburgers will be served only on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, as the turnout for the 2nd Tuesday has been light.

Pinochle nights for the months of July through September will be on the third Friday of the month, starting at 7:00 with no potluck. Potluck Pinochle will resume in October.

Of course if you have questions about anything that is going on, please feel free to ask us. See you soon!

Valorie and Jocelyn, Bartenders Corrie, Nichole, & Jem, and Cocktail Waitress Kimberly

The Pool winners for May & June are as follows:

5/20/10 – Mike Patterson; 5/22/10 – Scot Cole; 5/27/10 – Dick Cameron; 5/29/10 – Del Frint; 6/3/10 – Del Frint; 6/5/10 – Dennis Tooley; 6/10/10 – Will Maurer; 6/12/10 – Don Siler; 6/17/10 – Dick Cameron.