

VFW POST 4108 NEWSLETTER

June 2009



*****June Raffle to Aid Hospital Fund*****

During the month of June the Canteen will be selling raffle tickets for a basket of goodies. You have to see the basket to appreciate all that is in it. The funds go to the Cootie Auxiliary Hospital Fund. Tickets are \$1 ea. or 6 for \$5. Just ask the Bartender.

Comments from the Commander...Jeff Casserly

Good day Post Members and Families,

Our fiscal and official VFW year starts approximately July 1 beginning with the installation of new Post Officers at our June 4th meeting. At that time we will also be installing the first group of officers of our new Post 4108 Men's Auxiliary. It will be a very important moment for these Charter Members and their Mentors: John Wrinkle and Lon Parker. It is a very good reason for you to attend and reconnect with friends. This newly formed group has committed to assist in the support of our local Veterans. Let us support them.

Post Members and the Men's and Ladies Auxiliaries are planning another summer time season of growth, support and fun. The Horse Shoe pits and the Kids Play Zone ground work are actively being developed and the Patio/Park area is nearing completion. Familiar faces that have been gone all winter are returning to the canteen and the dances, and there is an increased sense of life in all directions.

This year has been quite enlightening for me as Commander and I must say that there's a whole lot more to this job than a title. Redmond's Post 4108 continues to be a community support and response center for its' members and our local veterans. I'll be writing this Commanders Comments column for one more year and during that time I will occasionally ask you to assist in specific Post functions, to become and/or stay active in the development of our Post, to remember your initial commitment to the VFW cause, to help a vet or vet's family that may be in need, and to promote with goodwill the benefits of the VFW to all potential members and their families.

Remember, you are the VFW. Tell a friend, Do Good Work, Welcome Summer and Support your Post. **Semper Fi.**
Jeff

From the Auxiliary President...Becky McDonald

Hello V.F.W., V.F.W.A., and your families. What a month for weather and activities! We did so much this past month that I hope I have written it all down: The Johnny Cash concert had not so great attendance, but the volunteers were great. I was inspired by Patti Oliver to attend the first J.R.O.T.C. Pass and Review at Redmond High on April 30th. That was an honor. Patti was a huge help in preparing the food for that activity. Kids' Day was a blast; they made cards and painted pots to give and to sell. I know of \$18.00 that was raised for Kids' Day. Our next Kids' Day will be for Dads, so all you fathers—bring your children!

We participated in the National Guard Deployment at Mountain View High. Thank you to Delores Dinkle and Valerie Wrinkle for the "heads up" on that event. The State of Oregon proclaimed May 8th Military Family Day. This is a day to celebrate all who stay behind and tend to the "home base". Thanks to Valerie Wrinkle we donated 5 road tennis games to armories in the Central Oregon area. They were warmly received.

We did a catering job at The Falls at Eagle Crest on May 15th. Thank you to Jocelyn and Dan. They cooked up a fabulous meal and we were given a standing ovation for the food and service we provided. I want to thank all who volunteer at any event. Just being there shows the community that we care. One more note: Patti Oliver presented the Auxiliary scholarship on our behalf at the Awards Ceremony at Redmond High on the evening of May 20th. (I was working again—thank you Patti.) As always, please write down anything you do in our community, no matter how small it may seem, in the book in the canteen. I am hoping that ALL were at the Memorial Day services to show our support and gratitude to our military who have given so much. **Becky McDonald**

From Public Relations Officer....John Wrinkle

POST 4108 ACTION NEWS; Public Relations Officer John Wrinkle – 541-923-8591 (Home and Fax), 541-678-3895

(Cell), jwrinkle@bendbroadband.com.

The following are items of interest for your consideration:

1. The Central Oregon Veterans' Council has many families in need or at risk. They are looking for volunteers to provide services such as landscaping maintenance, home repair, etc. Monetary donations are also welcome. Contact Dennis Guthrie or John Wrinkle if you want to contribute.
2. Caring for Troops is looking for donations – man power or cash is welcome. Especially need cash for postage costs. They meet the second Saturday of each month by Albertsons in Bend. See the website for specific needs of soldiers at www.caringfortroops.com.
3. The Men's Auxiliary has 45 enrolled members. The Department will hold the charter open for 90 days or until we reach 46 members, whichever comes first. The Commander has requested that all elected and appointed officers and members of the Men's Auxiliary attend the Post's June meeting for the installation ceremony.
4. The Habitat for Humanity Veteran home is almost complete. The next project will be across from the Bend Elks Club.
5. The Wounded Warrior Project is looking for donations to provide lap tops for soldiers in the Triage hospital. Soldiers are only allowed limited access to the hospital's computer and lap tops would allow them to communicate with family members more easily.
6. The Oregon legislature is currently working on a proposed bill that will extend the State Vet home loan to a lifetime benefit instead of the current 30 years. Should be into the House shortly and looks good to be approved.

Upcoming Events:

1. May 30: Discovery EXPO 2009 at the Deschutes County Fair Grounds – 0900-1400. This event was known as the Senior Fair and Health Expo. They are offering \$2 off the price of admission for Vets. There will be five prize packets, each worth \$1000. Proceeds go for nursing home activities and meals-on-wheels.
2. The Deschutes County Fair will be the last weekend in July through the first weekend in August. A space will again be provided for Vets that must be manned while the fair is in operation. There will be a Fair "pre-meeting" on May 26 at 1 pm. See Dennis Guthrie if interested.
3. The monthly Post dances are June 6th with Rough Strings and June 20th with Bob and Edi. Come on down and enjoy the fun and camaraderie.

Men's Auxiliary President Pinky Christopher 923-3133; Meeting Date ^{2nd} Wednesday of Each Month At 7:00

This is my first go at a newsletter. We are moving right along on Men's Auxiliary business:

- We attended the Oregon Military Family Appreciation Day on May 8 at the River Front Plaza in Bend. It was very nice and the weather cooperated.
- The May 10th Mother's Day Brunch was a great success. This was the first function for us. I don't want to list everyone who helped because I may leave someone out, but thanks to the VFW comrades, the Ladies Auxiliary sisters, and Men's Auxiliary brothers who worked the event. We kept our heads above the water line. To the people donating items for the Brunch, the set up, and clean up, a great thank you is owed by all. Put a feather in your hat and smile, you earned it. Special thanks to Marc and Paula Brosy, who worked and donated supplies, including the beautiful roses for the mothers.
- The brothers have begun the horseshoe pit project at the Post. Be careful when you go out back because of the dig out.
- Men's Auxiliary members: come to our meetings, it would be nice to see your smiling faces. Also, if you know someone who qualifies for membership, sign them up!

From Dennis and Dianne Guthrie

Membership:

I want to thank everyone that worked so hard on membership. Please continue to recruit new members. Thank you.

Dennis Guthrie 548-6990

Johnny Cash Fund Raiser – Thank You to Our Volunteers

The Committee – was Jeff Casserly, Sharon & Dave Campbell, Gary Fearrien, Jan Nolan, Dick Eska, John & Valorie Wrinkle, Neil McDonald, Dan Tureck, & Dennis & Dianne Guthrie. Thank you for your many hours, your wisdom and wonderful input. A Special THANK YOU to Dick Eska who was able to secure our advertising.

Thank you to:

The Kitchen team – Jocelyn Tureck, Kit Casserly, Linda Parker, & Becky McDonald.

The Canteen & Cocktail Waitresses – Lon Parker, Jan Nolan, Lila, Shanan, Shauna, Kellie, Paula, & Shannon.

The Parking Lot – (Thanks for freezing again) John Wrinkle, Dave Campbell, Joque, Gary, George Crivello, & Michael Kierwan.

The Front Door – Jim & Pat Magoon, Cheryl McDonald, Suzan, & Dianne.

Ushers – Valorie Wrinkle, Patti Oliver, Kay Cain, Sharon Campbell, & Emma Kierwan.
Door Security – Dan Tureck, Don Oliver, Mark Brosy, Dave Robertson, Doyle Cain, Neil McDonald.

I think it is fabulous that we had members of the Men's Auxiliary helping and their spouses!

Memorial Day

By the time you receive this newsletter Memorial Day weekend will have come and gone. Next month we will publish the volunteers. We found that Gary Fearrien is very competitive and so this year we had a contest to see who could raise the most money from Buddy Poppies. As soon as it was announced Kellie decided that the game was on and was challenging him. Next month we will see the results.

Caring For Troops

Some 150 to 200 troops from Central Oregon are training elsewhere in the country and will be leaving in June & July for the Middle East. Currently CFT is sending packages to some 35 troops and will start sending to the 150-200 as well. **CASH** will be needed to send that many packages. You can donate directly to Caring for Troops or you may donate through the Post or the Auxiliary.

All items donated can be left at the Canteen and must be marked "Caring for Troops". Questions? Dianne Guthrie 548-6990.

The mystery is solved. The people donating the items for Caring for Troops are Kurt and Suzie Kaser. They just recently brought in \$220 from a fund raiser dinner at the Moose Lodge. It is so great when groups work together to accomplish the goal. Suzie's son will be deploying this summer.

Veterans & Family Support

A young Veteran contacted us asking for some help with an Unmet Needs Grant. We have submitted that and are waiting for the results.

Did you know how much it takes for a proud soldier to come forward and ask for help? A lot!

If you know of anyone out there that is struggling with problems related to their service or related to the economy, let us know. There are both National & local resources to work with.

Names are never revealed and it is all confidential.

We were successful in getting a MAP Grant to help with the costs of the Deployment Ceremony. We are sorry that we were not able to publish this event. We were given a very short notice.

Thank you to all the volunteers that helped on this – Jeff, Kit, Valorie, Dennis, Becky, and Betty Anderson. We also had Gary Pitman, Department Sr. Vice Commander, Bob Cusick, District #10 Commander, and several National Guard members that are members of our Post.

VFW National Home

We need your Campbell's, Swanson's, and Tyson labels. We need just the bar code. There is a box under the very small table in the Canteen just to the right of the door into the kitchen. Please place your labels in the box.

The VFW National Home for Children is one of the best kept secrets. They feed, house, cloth, educate, and rear the orphans of Veterans or the children of Veterans with no place to go. Oregon sponsors a home on the campus in Michigan.

Want to become a Life Member of the Home? You have voting rights in elections for the Board. All for just \$35 one time. Ask me how to become a Life Member.

From Hospital and Nursing Home

Again I want to thank those who faithfully go to the Redmond Health Care Center to help with Bingo and other events. It is great to know there are so many I can always count on.

Next, a big thanks to Sonja Morgenthaler for her general donation of clothes that went to the Roseburg VA Hospital. Also a thanks to Linda Evans and the John Tuck Spot kids for starting so many plants for the residents of Redmond Health Center. They were very pleased and excited about having their own garden. The Spot kids also enjoyed this project and wrote papers about the growth of their plants from seeds. This was all a win win situation. Thank you all-----

We will be meeting again the third Tues of June. Judy Jackson, Chairman

For Our Auxiliary Chaplain, Bernis Lee

As of this printing, Bernis is in the hospital recovering from major back surgery. Let us keep her in our prayers, wishing her a full and speedy recovery. Our chaplain cares for us in our times of trial; now it is time for us to “put the light around her”.

From the Canteen-Jan Nolan

June is upon us again. The weather is warming up which is a very welcome sight.

We hope you all can join us for Monday night dinners:

Monday, June 1st, we are serving barbecue pork ribs, potatoes, salad, veggies and a dessert for \$6.50.

Monday, June 15th, we are serving sweet and sour meat balls with rice, salad and a dessert for \$6.50.

We Hope to see you there.

OHA meeting from 9:00 am till 4:00pm on Saturday, June 6th and the dance at 7:00 with "Roughstrings Band" playing.

We have a BLM retirement party on June 12th, a wedding reception on June 13th, and the dance with Bob and Edi on June 20th.

The Cribbage tournament will be the weekend of June 26, 27, and the 28th. Contact Bill at 548-1029 for more information.

The Canteen wishes a "Happy Father's Day" for all fathers. We also hope to see all members and guests visiting us in the Canteen. Come on in and give your bartenders a welcome day. Thanks to all the helpers in the kitchen who volunteer their time for the Canteen. Jan, Kellie, Paula, Shawna