

VFW POST 4108 NEWSLETTER

April 2009



From the Commander...Jeff Casserly

Good day Post Members and Families:

I noticed this week that the fields are beginning to change back to their spring colors of green. My wife's daffodils are already covered with buds and it's time to tune up the gardening equipment and think about the spring and summer ahead. Life is beginning its' cycle again.

Every year the seasons change and we all breathe easier and feel the freedom that comes with the advent of spring. Now is the time to plant for the future and expect that through our efforts there will be an abundance of bounty throughout the summer and into the fall; is this year any different? Perhaps.

Our young men and women march off to war, our economy is in shambles, many of the breadwinners are without jobs or the means to care for themselves or their families, and those with plans for the long awaited retirement are facing the reality of aging in a world that they don't fully understand...and we are not alone. This time the whole world is faced with the same reality; a financial challenge of unimaginable proportions.

...and still the world takes its cue from America. The peoples of the planet realize that even though we have contributed mightily to this financial meltdown, Americans are the only ones who have the will and knowledge to correct these errors and they know, while saving ourselves, we save them.

The world knows that we have it within ourselves, within our communities and within our Country; the power to face and resolve this challenge. We know how to overcome the obstacles, how to rebuild, how to start again and, from the fires of financial destruction, find success in the ashes.

Our forefathers could see opportunity even when they faced troubled times; are we any less than they? I say no. We are Americans and we won't quit.

It is spring again; a time to renew and grow...Well; let's get going.

Do Good Work; Help a Vet and Welcome Spring. **Semper Fi.** Jeff

From the Auxiliary President...Becky McDonald

Hello to VFW Post and Aux. members.

It is spring again, and I can hardly wait to spend time outside and enjoy the beautiful weather again! Our new outside area will be such a wonderful welcome change for all of us.

I would like to give a HUGE thank you to the Aux. ladies who helped out with John Morgenthaler's celebration of life day!! He will be missed very much.

I want to thank Kellie, Valerie and Laree for doing Kid's Day.

Our Easter Egg hunt will be held at the 4108 VFW on Veteran's Way in Redmond on Saturday, April 4th at 11:00 a.m.. Children ages 2-9 are invited to attend (with their parents!) There will be two separate "hunts" for separate age groups. We will have candy, prizes, and 2 GOLDEN EGGS. The ladies of the Auxiliary thank all our local businesses for their contributions. We hope the weather will be nice for our Easter egg hunt and that the turn out will be great. Our next day for the kids will be May 2nd and it will be a Mother's day theme. Bring the kids; it will be so much fun.

St. Patrick' Day was a HUGE HIT. I give many THANKS to Jocelyn and Dan for everything they do.

Our Rod and Custom Dinner was also a great turn out. Thank You to all who helped out.

To all of the chairwomen please make sure you have all your reports mailed BEFORE the 15th of April!

I wish everyone health and happiness. Sincerely ...Becky McDonald

From Robert Landers... the new Seam Squirrel for Pup Tent #8

The Members of Pup Tent #8 would like to invite VFW members to the annual "Cootie Cocktail Hour" on Friday, April 17th, from 4:31 p.m. to 5:29 p.m. at the 4108 Canteen. The Cooties will be hosting free beverages up to a total expenditure of \$150. We request guests limit themselves to two free drinks, so that the "Cootie Milk" may flow for all who attend. This is our way of saying THANK YOU for your support and to promote goodwill. Silly we are, but our mission for our Veterans in hospital is serious: "KEEP THEM SMILING IN BEDS OF WHITE".

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 St. Patrick's Day Dinner prepared by Jocelyn and Dan Tureck was a success. As always, the food was outstanding and the help was plentiful.
2. There was a large turnout for John Mergenthaler's memorial service. John's comrades performed a very moving ceremony, including a 21 gun salute and flag presentation. The Ladies Auxiliary hosted a pot luck dinner following the memorial.
3. Are you a disabled Vet? Your annual Form 214140 must be completely filled out. Make sure you check the "if you worked box." Failure to mark yes or no may cause your percentage of disability reduced.
4. **COMMISSARY SALE – DESCHUTES COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS – APRIL 3, 4, & 5.** Open to all active and Retired Military with valid military ID.
5. The Men's Auxiliary has signed up 31 members and is eligible for a charter. The charter will be submitted in April. At this point, the regular meeting date is the 4th Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm. This is an exciting time for the Post.
6. 68 low income units in Bend focusing on Vets will begin construction soon and are scheduled to be completed July 2010. Veteran families have priority over other low income families. Once approved, there is no time limit for occupancy regardless of income.
7. The Ladies' Auxiliary will hold a "Kids Activity Day" the third Saturday of each month from 11 am to 1 pm beginning May 16. The April activity day will be April 4 and will be an Easter Egg Hunt for ages 2 to 9 year olds. The Hunt is free to family members of Veterans or active military.
8. The VFW Post continues its monthly dances the first and third Saturday of each month. April 4 Bobby and Lori will be performing; April 18 is Bob and Edi and May 2 will be Bobby and Lori again.

From Dennis and Dianne Guthrie

Membership – We are at 90%. We need 50+ members to pay their dues. Last month I gave several reasons to re-up. I hope you will soon. If there is a problem to pay your dues, please call me. We need you as a member. Your membership helps veterans.

Thank You - Last month I did not have all the names of all the volunteers that helped with the Elvis Fund Raiser. So **THANK YOU** to Dave & Sharon., Joque & Suzan, Gary & Mark, Don & Patti, Dave & Libby, Spence & Diane, John & Valorie, Doyle & Kay, Neil & Cheryl, Dennis & Dianne, Trinity & Jacqie, Lon & Linda, Jocelyn & Dan, Jeff & Kit, & Becky. I can't forget the great Bar staff of Jan, Kellie, Paula, Shawna & Shanon, Jamie & Sunny.

It is very risky thanking everyone by name as it is very easy to forget someone, especially with so many helping. It was the volunteers that made this event so successful. If I forgot someone, my humble apology. Just know that your assistance is greatly appreciated.

A Tribute to the Life and Legend of Johnny Cash Returns –

April 25th. Last year this was a huge success and we sold out of tickets. So buy you tickets early.

Front Area with cushioned seats - \$20.00
All other seats - \$15.00

Tickets are available: Bend – Furniture Outlet
Redmond- Big R
VFW #4108 Canteen

Caring For Troops

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

I want to thank the people that have been donating to "Caring For Troops". I wish I knew their names but they have been the silent donors. If you would please leave a name and phone # I would like to thank you.

Memorial Day Weekend Activities

The Post and Auxiliary put on two Memorial Services. One at 9 AM at the Terrebonne Cemetery and one at 11 AM at the Redmond Cemetery. In addition on Friday, Saturday and Sunday we will have members at Albertsons, Fred Meyers, and Wal-Mart distributing Buddy Poppies for donations to our local Relief Funds.

Buddy Poppy – Represents the blood shed by American service members. On Memorial Day weekend Poppies are distributed across the U.S. Donations received go into the Post & Auxiliaries Relief Funds to help members or their families in times of need. The Buddy Poppies are made by veterans in VA hospitals or facilities and they are paid for their work. A portion of the sales of poppies also go to the VFW National Home.

Dianne & Dennis Guthrie
548-6990

From the Auxiliary Chaplain-Bernis Lee

Deepest Sympathy to the Nita O'Rourke Family, Nita Passed away on January 23RD. She was a life member of our Aux. Get well wishes to Donna Skibinski, she is recovering from surgery.

Spring is nearly here, so stay well and enjoy the coming of warm weather.

Please pray for our troops and their families. GOD BLESS AMERICA. Bernis Lee "Chaplain"

From the Canteen-Jan Nolan

Well, it looked like spring had sprung, but now it looks like there will be a little more winter weather for a while. Since the colder weather is still with us our first dinner on Monday the 6th. of April will be Ham and Beans for \$5.50. On Monday night, April 20th. we will be having chicken with all the trimmings for \$6.50. Please do not forget all the hamburger and Taco nights too. They are on the calendar. Please come on down.

We will be having a retirement party on the 3rd. of April and a dance on the 4th. of April. CEC on Friday the 10th. of April. District meeting on the 11th. of April, Cooties hour of appreciation on the 17th. of April from 4.30pm to 5.30pm.

On the 18th. of April there is another dance in the hall. Please do not forget the big benefit show with Johnny Cash at 7pm in the hall on the 25th of April.

With all these dinners, dances, and events there is surely something that will be enticing to bring you down to see us all in the canteen.

Thank You Jan, Kellie, Paula, Shawna, and Shanon

Reminder Note:

April 4, 2009 the Ladies Auxiliary of VFW Post 4108 will sponsor an Easter Egg Hunt for children from active military or veterans' families at 11 a.m.. A golden egg will be awarded to one child from each age group: 2-5 years and 6-9 years.

