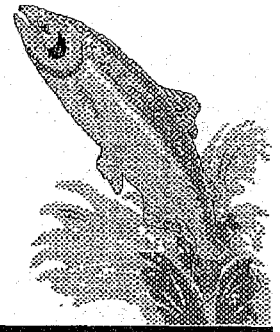




# THE SALMON CREEK POST



<http://www.post176.com>

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DECEMBER 2007 \* Salmon Creek American Legion Post 176 \* Vancouver, WA \* VOL 24 NO 94

## COMMANDERS NOTES

Commander:  
Jonathan Frederick 576-9078

1st ViceCdr:  
Jerry Keen 907-9473

Adjutant:  
Mike Gibson 694-8005

Finance Officer:  
Phil Yasson 574-1152

Chaplain:  
Carl Bahner 883-1175

Historian:  
Edith Levulett 693-1569

Sgt. At Arms:  
Lynn Jefferies 887-2307

Jr. Color Bearer:  
Amos Beldon 576-8976

Service Officer:  
Greg Whitson 695-5456

Jr. Past Commander:

The Beef-n-Brew on December 1, 2007 will be our General Meeting and our annual Christmas Party. Social hour starts at 5:30 PM with dinner at 7:00 PM. Bring your presents to be raffled off. Should be an evening of good food and fun.

We may need to provide some money for about 40' of pipe and some flat steel to get Lady Bell on her pedestal. People are still working on trying to get it donated. It will be done and Lady Bell will be on her pedestal. Can't put a completion date on it yet.

A helicopter company from Olympia donated the navigation light covers to replace the ones that were stolen. They are valued at \$40.00 to \$50.00 each.

Jonathan Frederick, Commander

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## FINANCE OFFICER

The Veterans Family Fund of America has a program designed to raise money to help our veterans and their families with their financial burdens as they return from Iraq

## POST HOURS

MONDAY-WEDNESDAY 9:00 AM TO 5:00 PM

THURSDAY and FRIDAY 10:00 AM TO 4:00 PM

and Afghanistan. It helps the family that stays behind while the service member is not home. It works like this: purchase a CD for a minimum of \$100.00 in a Veterans Family Fund CD for six months, sign an agreement authorizing your bank or credit union to forward one half of the interest earned at maturity to the (VFFA) as a donation. At the end of six months you will receive half the interest and a receipt for your tax donation. The money will be used by the Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs. Nearly 100 percent of the money will be used for veterans and their families. Additional information can be found at <http://veteransfamilyfund.org>. A list of participating banks and credit unions can be found there. Check out the program and do the math before investing. This program was also written up in the Columbian by Tom Koeminger on November 15, 2007.

Our member renewals are at 455 for 72.5% of our goal for 2008. This leaves us with 173 renewals needed to hit the 100 percent mark. If you have not paid your dues by the end of December, you will lose your FREE \$1000.00 Accidental Insurance Policy. That may not sound like much, but you should have been in my shoes when I had to explain to a member's widow whose husband died accidentally that he had not renewed his dues and his policy was no longer valid.

We missed a lot of you at the Veterans Day Parade. It seems to me that Americanism is losing the battle. I found that many people who should be teaching youngsters about the flag and patriotism, do not know anything themselves. I pointed out to several scout groups that they need to keep the flag pole vertical so the American Flag does not drag on the ground. The looks I got from some of the Scout leaders for butting in made me feel very uncomfortable. We as veterans need to participate in local programs so the Scouts will know what to do, be able to do it properly and grow up

understanding the meaning of patriotism. The American Legion has literature available and knowledgeable members to share their expertise.

Phil Yasson, Financial Officer

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## GENERAL MANAGER

Bingo will be having their annual "12 days of Christmas" special starting on the 4th of December. A gift will be placed under our "Christmas Tree" each day and a single winner who bingo's on I-25 will receive as a bonus gift, ALL the presents under the tree.

A first for our bingo hall. We will be open MONDAY through FRIDAY, December 10th -14th and December 17th-21st. Morning session starts at 11:00 AM, Evening session at 6:30 PM

We will also be having our 1st celebrated "New Years Eve" Bingo celebration. Bingo will start at 7:30 PM to Midnight.

Last blackout game will pay \$2008.00!!! Come join the fun and help bring in the NEW YEAR!!! The kitchen will be serving a "SPECIAL" dinner that evening.

The Post will be closed for the Christmas holidays from December 22nd through December 30th.

My Bingo staff and I would like to wish ALL Post members and their families a MERRY CHRISTMAS & a HAPPY NEW YEAR.

Peggy Brooks, General Manager

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## DISTRICT COMMANDER

We are in the midst of the holiday season, and chances are good that you have a home and family to enjoy and be with. In case you weren't aware, Nationally, 25% of all homeless are veterans. Locally it's even higher at 33-35%. There is precious little excuse, short of choice, for this. Our veterans deserve better.

Many of these men and women suffer from various ailments. Some service connected and some not. These are human beings and we are bound by our oath as members of the American Legion and our duty to God and Country to help our brothers and sisters. The simplest way to do this is be an active member in your Post. Try to give several hours a week or maybe you can only pay your dues, but you can make a difference.

Perhaps you don't agree with your post leadership so you pay your dues but won't attend meetings or volunteer to help. The people we are trying to help are the ones who get hurt by this. The place to settle our differences with leadership is in meetings and at elections. When it comes to the programs that help those in need, that should be your only focus. Petty differences do not feed the hungry or keep the rain off their heads. Look into your soul and ask what you can do to help turn your Post around. Take a vacant post position and get involved in the operation of your post. Sometimes decisions were made for excellent reasons we weren't aware of and no other point of view or ideas were brought to the table. Volunteer for a Committee Chair and work the program to make it a success. The key to helping the homeless is making your post a success that will accomplish many positive results in needed programs. The worst scenario I can imagine is where a veteran is going hungry because we are squabbling over what to feed him. Fellow Legionnaires, we who have shelter, food, jobs and families are blessed and, by being so we need to help our fellow veterans. This is who we are and what we do. You can make a difference and effect change in your post. Read your post By Laws and Robert's Rules of Order, attend meetings and be involved. A calm, educated, well reasoned approach will reap more rewards than an irrational rant. It is not my intent to preach or denigrate any one or any post. I merely want to express what I have seen as issues from virtually every post in the 5th District and throughout The American Legion.

I love this organization and what it does. I want to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a joyous Holiday season. May God bless you and your loved ones.

For God and Country  
Bob Ford, District 5 Commander

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## 2008 WOMEN ONLY NRA HANDGUN TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION CLASS.

For information e-mail Brian at [peters@pacifier.com](mailto:peters@pacifier.com) or Tom at [ovombo@msn.com](mailto:ovombo@msn.com)

Classes will be at  
Salmon Creek American Legion Post 176  
14011 NE 20th Avenue  
Vancouver Wa. 98686

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## HALL RENTAL

Hall rental is open to the public

Know someone who is looking for a place to have a Wedding, Reception, or a party?

Post 176 members get a discount

All party events may require the use of our Bartender, Cook and Security Guard for an additional fee.

Call the Post for more information

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## Regular Bingo Hours

Monday - Tuesday - Wednesday

11:00 AM and 6:30 PM

# AUXILIARY NEWS

December  
2007

HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO EACH OF YOU.

## AUXILIARY OFFICERS

2007-2008

### PRESIDENT

Anita Stadey 737-8015

### 1ST VICE PRESIDENT

Nancy Zilm 576-0774

### SECRETARY

Donna Casciato 576-4404

### TREASURER

Ruby Martin 823-4767

### CHAPLAIN

Lucille Harwood 573-6723

### SERGEANT AT ARMS

Thelma Hathaway 573-0362

## Chaplain's Comments

### Greetings Auxiliary Ladies

Well, what do you think. The fun of Halloween wasn't over, Thanksgiving hadn't come ~~but~~ already Christmas music and all sorts of Holiday Displays were in view.

Thinking about this causes me to be so glad that some women spend bits of time all year long making gifts, watching sales so they can buy appropriate gifts, etc. To them gift giving is meaningful and has a genuine good purpose.

My suggestion to you and myself is that we ought to realize that all gifts don't require money. To me, a cheerful note, a kind word, a pat on the back commending me for a job well done, or just a smile are all gifts I appreciate. Displaying patience, having a listening ear, and spending time in prayer for others are all gifts. The nice thing about these gifts is they can be presented all year long, not just at holiday time.

Each of us needs to be a gift giver in our own way. *Please share your gifts whatever they are.*

**Merry Christmas to all of you.**  
**Lucille Harwood**

## ABOUT THE RAFFLE

Will each of you ladies please bring a nice item for the raffle at this year's Beef & Brew. We hope to have a variety of unwrapped items for people with winning numbers to select from. It always makes for a nice evening and adds to this annual festive occasion.

Raffle tickets are \$1 each or six tickets for \$5. You and your family's participation will help the Auxiliary with its meaningful projects for Veterans and their families.

Contact Rose Trotter 571-2215 or Marlene Bahner at 883-1175 for questions or ideas for raffle.

Please attend Beef & Brew and remember to bring a raffle item. It should be a grand evening.

## BITS AND PIECES

*Special Holiday Greetings to our Service men and women at home and abroad.*

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Midwinter Conference is in Spokane, Feb. 1-3, 2008.

Convention is July 14-20, 2008 at the Red Lion (Quay) in Vancouver

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Ladies!

Hope all of you had a very fulfilling Thanksgiving. We had several events going on in November. Did you see the Veteran's Day Parade? The next day we had the Flag Ceremony at the VA Hospital.

Christmas is coming so just to get into the Spirit we wrapped Christmas Gifts for Jerry Keese prior to our last meeting and helped Thelma with the Gift Shop at the VA Hospital. It was nice to see everyone helping. On December 1st, will be the Beef & Brew, so bring your presents to be raffled off.

Since this is the December Newsletter, I'd like to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Please continue to say prayers for our Troops overseas, to keep them safe and hope they come home soon. It will be rough for them not to spend the Holidays with their families.

Remember to send in your Dues. We need your support!



*President Anita Stadey*

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

I am receiving some membership dues and I am sending out the 2008 membership cards as soon as I receive the dues. The Beef & Brew is December 1, 2007 and it is free with your Auxiliary dues paid for 2008. It costs \$5.00 for the dinner if you haven't paid your dues. Please support your Auxiliary, pay your

dues, and come have some fun and a good meal. We also need to have your attendance and support at the monthly meetings. Hope you all have a Merry Christmas and a Happy Prosperous New Year.



**Membership Chairman**  
**Nancy Zilm**