



THE SALMON CREEK POST



<http://www.post176.com>

Phone: (360) 573-2331

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December 2010 *Salmon Creek American Legion Post 176 * Vancouver Wa..* VOL24 No 114

Commander:

Roxeanne Boose 695-5935

1st Vice Cmdr:

Gary Zilm 576-0774

2nd Vice Cmdr:

Greg Whitson 695-5456

Adjutant:

Mike Gibson 694-8005

Finance Officer:

Phil Yasson 574-1152

Chaplin:

Historian:

Edith Levulett: 693-1569

Sgt. At Arms:

Jerry Keen 907-9473

Jr. Past Commander:

Wayne Sharp 892-0086

Board Members

John Treosti 574-5746

Jonathan Frederick 576-9078

Richard Kim 573-6887

COMMANDERS NOTES

I start off this month with a list of "Thank You's". To all of you who came out to Sears in the Westfield Mall Sept. 10 & 11 and spent time working at our table, talking with veterans and families and passing out information - My hat is off to you. To Everett Cook and Jerry Keesee who represented Post 176 in the VA Massing of the Colors on Nov. 7th - We appreciate you. To Gary Zilm who volunteered his beautiful car as an entry for Post 176 in the Veterans Day parade -We've got you on film (You can see the framed photo at the Post)! Gary was accompanied by his lovely wife Nancy, Edith Levulett and John Treosti.

These events are so very important for many reasons: First, Post 176 has not been represented in any of these events in the past couple of years. Second, it announces to the community that Post 176 is a thriving and contributing organization. And most importantly, it reinstalls pride in our membership to know we are involved in these events that highlight veterans. We appreciate those who make the time and expend the effort to volunteer and represent us all. Thank you so very much.

It's time for our annual Beef-n-Brew, however we aren't calling it that anymore since we closed the bar. It's now Membership Appreciation Night and it's planned for Dec.4th. The doors will open at 5pm for social time with dinner served at 6pm. There will be music, fun and great food, so I hope you plan to attend.

POST HOURS

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

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

In order for our cooking crew to ensure there is plenty of food, we need a head count. If you have not signed up at the meetings, you can still get your name on the list by calling the Post at 360-573-2331. We need your name and whether or not you will bring a guest, (Auxiliary members are considered guests). All members with their 2011 dues paid are invited to attend free of charge. If you haven't yet paid your dues, you may attend by either paying your dues at the door or \$10.00 per person. **Please bring and donate a white elephant item to be raffled during the evening in support of Auxiliary programs.**

I wanted to comment on November's meeting - in a nutshell, it was awesome! we had the pleasure of welcoming three new members to our Post - Jason Arment, Ross Johnson and Richard Zander. It was also my distinct honor to present service stars to many of our members. My heart soared to see so many who have dedicated themselves to continued service. The longest continuous service star was presented for 50 years of service to Vaugh Erickson.

December is upon us with all its holiday cheer, the hustle and hurry, cold crisp air and building excitement. It's the time we gather our family together to celebrate the biggest event in history - the birth of Jesus Christ. As you hurry through the cold, hustle through the stores, and reflect on pleasant holiday memories, please remember to be safe. Slow down behind the wheel, leave yourself plenty of time for errands, plan your time and don't wait for the last minute, dress for the weather and remember - spread holiday cheer, not stress. Happy Holidays to all of you and may God bless and keep you in the coming year.

Please note: December's regular membership meeting will be held at its regular time and date - Dec. 9th, beginning with potluck at 6pm.

Proud to continue serving
Roxeanne Boose', Post 176 Commander

Mark your calendar

Dec. 4th - Dornbecker Toy Run

Dec. 4th - Post 176 will hold their annual Beef-n-Brew (Membership Appreciation Night) to honor our membership. All 2011 paid up members are invited to bring one guest and join the festivities beginning at 5pm with social hour. Please RSVP to the Post NLT Dec.2nd so we can get an idea of attendance.

Dec. 7th - Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day.

Dec. - 7 & 8 - The Army National Guard will hold a FREE two day training on suicide prevention (ASIST) for

anyone who volunteers or assists veterans in any way. The exact time and location TBA (it will be in Vancouver). You must attend both days to receive the certificate. Please call 524-1142 to get registration info.

Dec. 9th -Post 176 will hold its monthly membership meeting . Potluck at 6pm, meeting at 7pm.

Dec. 21 - 1st day of winter.

Dec. 23rd - Post 176 Executive Board meeting at 6pm.

Dec. 25 - Christmas Day.

Dec.31st - New Years Eve.

FINANCE OFFICER

The Post has 327 members renewed for the coming year. This is seventy five percent of our goal and leave's us 109 renewals to reach one hundred percent. We have not hit that mark for many years. The next cut off date is December 8, 2010. This means that your renewal must go from your house to Post 176, be processed and mailed to Department of Washington Headquarters in Lacey and be processed there with all the Posts from Washington and mailed to the American Legion Headquarters in Indianapolis, In. This takes 14 to 20 days.

If your 2011 renewal does not make it to Headquarters before December 8, 2010, you will receive your third notice that will be mailed on January 3, 2011. If you renew after December 8, 2010, you will still get a renewal notice because they will already have been pre-printed. If you know that you have renewed, discard the notice. If you send me a second check, I will mark you down for the 2012 year so that as soon as the 2012 cards are received, yours will be in the mail.

Remember the Salmon Creek Veterans Appreciation Night is for 176 members that have a 2011 card. You may bring one guest.. You will need to show your 2011 card at the door. If you so desire, you can renew at the door. Non paid member cost for the dinner is \$10.00 per person.

The Appreciation Night is the Post's "Thank You" for renewing early. Anyone not renewed by the last day of 2010 is delinquent.

Phil Yasson
Post 176 Finance Officer

I served 23 years in the US Navy. I retired as a Senior Chief Mess Management Specialist. The long & short of it - I started and ended my Naval career in San Diego California. To make a short story longer, I went to boot camp in San Diego CA. My first duty station was VF-21 (Fighter Squadron) homebased out of Miramar Naval Air Station, CA.. However I was sent directly to the USS Ranger where I met up with my squadron and the ship promptly left for an 11 month WestPac cruise. Most of our time was spent sailing up and down the coast of Viet Nam. In my first 4 years, I made 3 WestPac cruises on the Danger Ranger. The ship was nicknamed the Danger Ranger because it was an unusual occurrence if we didn't have a fire onboard at least every other day. I then spent a couple years in Fallon Nevada. The Navy in Nevada? Yes I was at Fallon Naval Air Station. From Nevada I went to Keyport Washington. I was stationed on one of the four Service Craft. The ship I was on was designated the IX-308 New Bedford. This was the same ship the original movie "Mr Roberts" was filmed on. Remember Mr. Roberts? With James Cagney and Henry Fonda? This was an Army supply ship when the movie was filmed. After that the Army sold it to the Navy. The Navy converted it into a test platform. In other words, the Navy replaced the Cargo hold with a torpedo hold and put an underwater torpedo tube in the bow of the ship. The ship would test fire underwater ordinance before sending it out to the fleet. We also had a CURV, (Connected Underwater Recovery Vehicle) that was used to look for fired sunken torpedos. While I was on the ship we were sent to use our CURV to survey the damages of the Hood Canal Floating Bridge after the 1979 windstorm. This was probably my most enjoyable duty station, This duty was about as close as you could get to being "McHale's Navy" - need I say more. I then went Newport Rhode Island. I was on staff duty for the president of the Naval War College. I particularly remember the Mahan Hall Library and Rotunda. To think you could be holding a book written by one of our first Naval Leaders from over 200 years ago! I was also in Newport RI. when the Aussies won the Americas Cup. From Newport I went to Seattle Wa. I was on a minesweeper. We were berthed just below the Magnolia Bridge on Pier 90 - 91. I was on one of the minesweepers that was sent over to the Persian Gulf in the 80's. This was not fun. It took us 89 days just to get to the Persian Gulf. And this was one of the old wooden minesweepers. The crew used to laugh about the inspector who would come around every year to inspect the ship. We called him the "Woodpecker". Because the ship was all wood (mostly teak wood), the inspector would use an ice pick and go around sticking his ice pick in the wood checking for rot. Ever since spending time in the Persian Gulf on that minesweeper, I have not much cared for hot weather.

I then spent 3 years at the Navy Recruiting District Headquarters In Seattle WA, as the NROTC Recruiter. As NROTC Recruiter, I would make appointments for

candidates to be personally interviewed by one of our Officers at the Recruiting District Headquarters. On one particular Halloween, our department decided we would all dress up for Halloween. One Lt. had dressed up as a monk. This guy was big and tall, wore a robe and sandals - he fit the part perfectly. It just so happened I had scheduled him for an interview. From where I sat, I could look down the hallway and see into the Lt's. office. Here was the ROTC candidate dressed up in a suit, sitting up rigid in his chair, possibly one of our future Naval Leaders, being interviewed by a monk! I guess you had to be there to see the humor.

Finally I went back to San Diego and was stationed on the USS Duluth (LPD-6). This was an Amphibious Transport Dock ship. While on the Duluth, we made one WestPac with approximately 400 Marines. Most of our deployment was spent off the coast of Somalia, loading and offloading Marines. I felt like I had my fill of the Navy, considering my original intent was to just go in, do my 4 years, get out and use my GI Bill to go to school. After 23 years, I felt it was finally time to carry through with my original plans. So, I got out, used my GI Bill, and here I am. So now you know a little bit about me, I would like to hear from others about your service.

Arrgh! Anchors Aweigh, Matey!

Submitted by Mike Gibson, Post 176 Adjutant.

MEMBER MOMENTS

My family celebrates three birthdays in December - my sister Debbie on the 7th, my sister Sherri on the 11th and my brother Scott on the 18th. Since I was a child, December has always been a very busy and exciting month. Happy Birthday to my siblings. Roxeanne Boose'.

Ray T. Schroeder, a member of our Post, is in Vancouver Health & Rehab Center at 400 E 33rd St. Vanc. Wa. 98663. 360-696-2561.

Send him a card or give him a call.

HALL RENTAL IS NO LONGER OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

CALL 360-573-2331 FOR INFORMATION OR RESERVATIONS.

BINGO HOURS 11:00AM - 6:30PM
MON - TUE - WED
PULL TABS AND KITCHEN AVAILABLE

AUXILIARY NEWS

December 2010

What a wonderful time of year!

"MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL"

AUXILIARY OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Nancy Zilm 576-0774

1ST VICE PRESIDENT

Debbie Hathaway 241-4685

SECRETARY

Donna Casciato 576-4404

TREASURER

Thelma Hathaway 573-0362

CHAPLAIN

Marlene Bahner 883-1175

SERGEANT AT ARMS

Lucille Harwood 573-6723

HISTORIAN

Carla Whitson 695-5456

ABOUT MEMBERSHIP

Hello Ladies...We have 28 paid members so far. That is wonderful. Keep sending those dues in. Holidays are just around the corner. I hope all of you have a safe and happy holiday. Thanks so much.--*Debra Hathaway*

Send check of \$25 payable to American Legion Auxiliary Post 176 to Debra at 507 E. 99th Street, Space 10, Vancouver WA 98665

National Chaplain Vicki Thrower's Christmas Scripture is "For by grace are you saved by faith and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God."

Welcome to **Mildred Costa** who transferred in as a member. **Marsha King** gets a new member's welcome, too. Come and help our Auxiliary do good works for Veterans and their families.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hi Ladies: Lots of things happening. We had a good meeting last month. We discussed our **Membership Appreciation Dinner coming Dec. 4.** At our Nov. meeting we finished plans. Everyone is asked to bring a White Elephant Gift and we will have things to auction off. A lovely dinner will be prepared by the men. The women will decorate the hall.

It should be fun for all as we had a neat time in the past. You'll be getting tickets for different things. Raffle tickets will be \$1 each or 6 for \$5. The more you buy, the better your chance to win. Remember to bring a white elephant or you won't receive a ticket to pick out a gift.. Come early and be sure to bring your current membership card. Dinner begins at 6 on Saturday, December 4. Be sure to read all the newsletter. We want to wish you all a **Very Happy Thanksgiving.** Hope to see you all at the Appreciation Dinner. *President Nancy Zilm*

TRANSPLANT LODGE THANKSGIVING, CHRISTMAS MEALS

Our ladies of our Auxiliary here at Post 176 got together and decided to do something for the Liver Lodge this year for Thanksgiving and also for this Christmas.

The Liver Lodge is no longer called Liver Lodge. It is now called The Transplant Lodge as they are now doing Livers and Kidneys as well.

I got hold of Gordon Wells who is in charge of the Portland and the Vancouver Lodges. Some of the people there, both men and women, are waiting for or have received either a Liver or Kidney or both.

There is a Lutheran Church here in Vancouver that I attend that does the Angel Food Ministry. We went and got 5 meals. Each meal will feed 10 people, so we got 5 of the meals which will feed 50 people.

I was asked by Gordon to attend the weekly meeting on Nov. 16th to explain what we were doing for them. (Continued upper right)

My husband Gary and I went there. I introduced Gary to the patients and I was introduced by Gordon. We were showed the facility and told about it. What a nice place and the people there are really neat. We were introduced to everyone there and listened to their stories. We had a good time with them all. We got hugs from most of them and they all thanked us for what our Auxiliary had done for them.

I have never had anything to do with very many Vets, but I came away very humbled by each and everyone there. I thank God for letting our Auxiliary do something for them. What a wonderful feeling I had in my heart.

On the Saturday before Thanksgiving Gary and I delivered to The Transplant Lodge in Vancouver the foods ordered from Angel Food Ministry for Thanksgiving. When the meals come in for Christmas, we will take them down there for their Christmas meal.....

I want to Wish You All A Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from my family.

**Gary, Nancy, Eric, Jake,
Victoria, and Evan Zilm**