



THE SALMON CREEK POST



<http://www.post176.com>

Phone: (360) 573-2331

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April 2011 *Salmon Creek American Legion Post 176 * Vancouver Wa.* VOL24 No 117

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:

Jerry Keen 907-9473

Historian:

Edith Levulet 693-1569

Sgt. At Arms:

Craig Hurley 718-8099

Jr. Past Commander:

Wayne Sharp 892-0086

Service Officer:

Jan Wojciechowski 573-3230

Board Members

John Treosti 574-5746

Jonathan Frederick 576-9078

Richard Kim 573-6887

COMMANDERS NOTES:

Wow, the New year seems to be speeding by. Everywhere you look you see evidence that spring is about to pop wide open. April is traditionally full of new life and the awakening of the planet. Flower shoots are up, trees are budding and glimpses of blue sky are seen in the cracks of winters gray days. Take a close look around you and witness the wonder of everything shifting slowly into spring. With spring we are reminded of a very special occasion - when Christ conquered death and rose from the grave. April 17th is Palm Sunday, April 18th Passover begins at sundown, April 22nd is Good Friday and then we have April 24th when we celebrate Easter. Do you remember what it's all about? What makes these days so important? What do they mean to us today? I'll give you a hint - they have nothing to do with bunny rabbits, eggs or chicks. Although you see a lot of new life in spring, they aren't the reason. We celebrate to remember the important miracles that God performed on our behalf. Whatever you believe, whatever your faith, the world recognizes these miracles and marked the days to continue to remember through time. As humans we skew the meaning when we get wrapped up with egg hunts, candy rabbits and elaborate baskets full of toys and candy. Those things are fine if you're celebrating spring, but what DO these specific celebrations mean? Do you know?. Have you taught your children the miracles? When JESUS rose from the grave he gave us something special for ALL time - Hope! It's what gets us through the tough times, comforts us through the heartbreaks and brightens us in our joys. Hope is essential for life! Make sure you pass it on. Make sure everyone knows. If you don't know, I invite you to take some time and find out, time is short, the days are coming up so get on it quickly.

I wanted to express my personal gratitude to all the members who are coming out to the monthly membership meetings and participating again. It's great to see you. We have the room and we enjoy renewing relationships, so come and join us on the second Thursday of every month. Bring your friends, family members and neighbors, if they've served they can join the Legion, if not they can join the Auxiliary. We begin with potluck at 6pm so bring your favorite food; we serve free coffee and soda.

POST HOURS

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

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

If you don't cook or don't have time to cook, just pick up something at the store and join us. The meeting starts at 7pm and we strive to finish in one hour or less.

We have a wonderful opportunity to assist in our community! Troop 41978 has approximately 40 girls who meet every Tuesday evening at Eisenhower Elementary School and they are requesting our assistance in teaching their Scouts proper flag etiquette. They want to learn how to do flag ceremonies, folding and retiring so they might assist in the community. If you have some time to volunteer for this project, please contact the Post. We would like to get a couple people who can go together to do this. It doesn't need to be every Tuesday evening; we will work with them to figure out a schedule. This is a great opportunity to pass on knowledge, skills, patriotism and respect for the symbol of our country to the young of our community.

Proud to continue serving
Roxeanne Boose', Post 176 Commander

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 1 - April Fool's Day

April 1 - CMAC meets at the 40 et 8, 8:30am, breakfast starts at 6am.

April 9 - Combat Veterans International will hold it's monthly meeting at Love Leathers at 9am.

April 14 - Post 176 membership meeting. Potluck begins at 6pm and the meeting at 7pm.

April 15 - CMAC meets at 40 et 8, 8:30am, breakfast starts at 6am.

April 23 - Post 176 will host the Legion College beginning at 9am. This session will focus on Officer positions, their role and responsibilities.

April 24 - Easter.

April 28 - Post 176 e-board meeting at 6:00pm.

April 29 - CMAC meets at 40 et 8, 8:30am, breakfast starts at 6am.

April 30 - There will be a "Community Salute" at the 40 et 8 at 2pm to honor High School graduates going into military service.

May 12 - Post 176 membership meeting. Potluck begins at 6pm and the meeting at 7pm.

May 13 - CMAC meets at 40 et 8, 8:30 am, breakfast starts at 6am.

May 14 - Combat Veterans International will hold it's monthly meeting at Love Leathers at 9am.

May 14 - 5th District Awards Dinner at Post 14 beginning at 5pm.

May 15 - Post 176 will host the Boys & Girls State Orientation beginning with lunch at noon.

John Treosti and I attended the 5th District Spring Conference at the Community Center in Ridgefield on March 11, 2011. There were approximately ninety Legion and Auxiliary members in attendance. At the start of the ceremony, each 5th District Legion Post posted their Post flag, followed by the Honor Guard from Washougal, who posted the National Colors. This was followed by a solemn ceremony to honor each Post's deceased. In our case, Post 176 lost twenty members during the past year.

Following the bell ceremony, we dined on a choice of Prime Rib or Cordon Bleu. The excellent dinner was followed by the happenings around the American Legion. The presentations were short and to the point and the information presented was very interesting.

During the Conference, the Legion Posts voted to retain Bob Ford as 5th District Commander and Lee Phillips as 5th District Vice Commander.

5th District Commander Bob Ford and his staff did a commendable organizational task with all the events and decorations.

Phil Yasson, Post 176 Finance Officer

CHAPLAINS CORNER

Eight years ago I had a vision of a place where veterans could come together with other veterans for healing. Physical, mental and spiritual healing is so important for those who have given so much to their country. The past two years have been spent by people, both veterans and non-veterans, jumping through "hoops" and climbing or breaking down "barriers" to make the Clark County Veterans Assistance Center Happen.(CCVAC). On April 1st, the doors will open to provide a safe non-threatening venue for all veterans to seek assistance in many ways. Veterans who need to contact the VA system, need items of clothing, or need hygiene items can get them here and receive help contacting the VA system. Veterans who need a listening ear from some one who has "been there" will find someone who has possibly walked the same path.

One of the most successful therapies for stress caused by the trauma of combat is spiritual. Here at CCVAC we have a chapel where a group of veterans can meet for counseling, prayer and the Word, or a vet can come in to meditate and grow closer in his/her relationship with our Father. Bible study and Sunday services are a distinct possibility in the future.

This is a time when our country is engaged in numerous conflicts around the globe. With young men and women returning every day and trying to reintegrate into the civilian world we need to be aware of their needs and frustrations. Whatever the need, our veterans will find someone willing and able to help through troubling times. I find it very rewarding to help our veterans come home to a caring and loving community. If you would like to join our team of volunteers or just help with a donation, please contact me. CCVAC is a non profit 501(c)3 organization and all deductions are tax deductible.

e-mail: jerrykeen@juno.com Tel: 360-907-9473.

Jerry Keen, Chaplain Post 176

Member Bio: Craig Hurley

Craig Hurley was born in San Diego, CA. in the summer of 1970. I attended and graduated from the American Intercontinental University of Chicago and received a dual BA in Marketing and Project Management. My wife, Cheryl and I have three (3) children and live in Vancouver WA. I am currently serving as Sergeant-at-Arms for American Legion Post 176, Salmon Creek WA.

I began my military stint as a crane operator engineer in the 728th Trans Bn, Camp Pendleton, CA under the 63rd ARCOM in 1990, doing both my basic and MOS training at Fort Leonard Wood, MO. Ironically, I began my military experience in basic training on Aug 1st, 1990, 2 days before America jumped in to aide Kuwait in what began as Desert Shield and eventually Desert Storm. Within 2 years I traded in my engineer gloves for a desk job and trained at Fort Jackson, SC; heading to my first European assignment with the 168th EODCT in Mannheim GE. After an EOD consolidation in Germany in 1995, I was picked up by the 51st Main Bn and served as we were thrust into NATO's Bosnian-Serbian Conflict. As my A and B bags were packed following 1st AD Mountain Eagle exercises, I lost my mother to cancer and was reassigned to Fort Irwin, CA serving under the USAG for 2 years while participating in OPFOR and Advanced War fighter Ops during my stay. I went back to Germany in 1998 under the 90th PERSCOM banner and headed back to Bosnia for a deployment at Camp Comanche, Tulza, B-Hz. I concluded my active military status under the 90th in Kaiserslautern, GE in March of 2001. Coming back to the states, I re-upped to the 741st CSB at Camp Withycombe, OR, serving 3 more years until 2004. I have since moved on to continue helping my fellow citizens of these United States by ensuring that I do my job in the U.S. Postal Service.

The following is from Troy Monholland, 6th District Cmndr. about the fire catastrophe at White Swan and it reads as follows.

Comrades,

I am running late in getting this White Swan update to all of you who have given to this crisis.

Your assistance has allowed the residents of this small community to survive while aid from government sources trickles in. The American Legion Family has donated over \$5,500 in monies and material goods to keep the displaced fed and clothed during this crisis. Special thanks must go out to Legionnaires, Auxiliary and Sons of the American Legion members from the 2nd, the 4th, the 5th the 6th and the 7th Districts. Our pleas for assistance has ended but assistance is still coming in and we will not turn away any aid. The American Legion should be very proud of their efforts and I wish the thanks of the residents given to me could have been expressed to each and every one of you. Please pass this information on to all of your members who gave so generously to these people who suffered so much. God Bless You.

From a member of Post 176.

Every Memorial Day we read that poignant poem "In Flanders Field" by LTC John McCrae, a Canadian Army Doctor treating soldiers in Ypres. Last summer we three brothers, David, Peter and Jonathan Holtz, all retired soldiers, visited WWI & WWII battlefields in Verdun, Chateau-Thierry, Belleau Woods, Normandy, Market Garden, the Huertgen Forest, the Ardennes and a little south along the Siegfried Line. We made it a point to visit the now preserved bunker and aid station where LTC McCrae worked to save the wounded. It adds new meaning to the poem when you visit the many cemeteries and battle fields of Europe where our soldiers fought to save others from tyranny. Though the locations have changed, the poppies still blow and the battle continues.

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

April 2011

Thomas Jefferson 4-13-1743, James Monroe 4-28-1758

April President's

James Buchanan 4-23-1791, Ulysses Grant 4-27, 1822

Birthdays

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Debra Hathaway 573-0336

1ST VICE PRESIDENT

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

Words From Your Membership Chairman

We've made it to 50% of members who have paid so far. Not too many left to go.

I would love to see more of our members at meetings. It's hard to do things for our Veterans when we only have a few people at meetings to plan and to help. If you need rides, I'm sure we can find someone to pick you up. My home number is 573-0336. Thanks so much, Debbie Hathaway.

Your \$25 check for membership should be payable to American Legion Auxiliary Unit 176 and mailed to Debra Hathaway, 507 E. 99th Street, Space 10, Vancouver WA 98665

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello All,

I hope things are going OK in your lives. We need to figure out a way to get the word out about our organization. I need some ideas on how to do that.

Our next meeting is on the second Thursday of the month, April 14. We have a potluck at 6 p.m. with our meeting beginning at 7 p.m. We'd love to see more members at the meetings.

Several of us went up to the 92nd Birthday Celebration for the American Legion at Longview. We had a nice dinner followed by various program activities. It was an interesting time. Thanks to all.

President Debra Hathaway

Something to think about: He that is faithful in that which is **least** is faithful also in **much**; and he that is unjust in the **least** is unjust also in **much**. (Taken from Luke 16:10.)

Volunteer Time and Contributions

Would our members please help by sending us information. Even though we've had our Spring Conference, we can still use information from you in our reports. Anything you've done for community service for which you aren't paid counts. Hours you've done at your church, your school, at the VA hospital, visits to shut-ins, hours driving friends to their doctor, time spent with memorial services and funerals. Contributions to charitable organizations, children's hospitals, etc. may be reported. Anything you haven't reported in the past year may be sent to Thelma Hathaway at 501 NE 83rd, Vancouver WA 98665. You may call her at 573-0362. Please do so immediately as reports must be completed soon. Thanks. Your information could be brought to the April 14 business meeting. Your help will be appreciated a lot.

From the District Chaplain

I had the privilege of riding with District Auxiliary President Priscilla Ford up to Onalaska to meet and hear Rita Navarrete our National Auxiliary President, March 7.

The outgoing lady said, "You are doing the work that you are dedicated to do." She mentioned a variety of effective programs and stressed that we need to reach young Veterans who need help and of course homeless Veterans. She wants us to remember to smile and give them a pat on the shoulder along with helping them. She stressed we can make a huge difference in someone's life.

"We have some great leaders. We also need everybody to do our part." She said, "I thank you for all the things that you are doing." and offered handshakes, greeted guests individually and gave away POWER OF SERVICE NOT SELF pins.

Lucille Harwood, District Chaplain