



# THE SALMON CREEK POST



<http://www.post176.com>

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February 2012 \*Salmon Creek American Legion Post176 \* Vancouver Wa.. \* VOL24 No 127

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**2nd Vice Cmdr:**  
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**Adjutant:**  
Mike Gibson 694-8005

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Phil Yasson 574-1152

**Chaplin:**  
Jerry Keen 907-9473

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**Sgt. At Arms:**

**Jr. Past Commander:**

**Service Officer:**  
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**Board Members**  
John Treosti 574-5746

Jonathan Frederick 576-9078

## COMMANDERS NOTES:

Legionnaires,

Wow, already a month into the new year! Now that the excitement of the holidays has died down, visiting family members have gone home and the decorations are all stored away, we can all settle down to our normal routines. *Normal...* what does that look like to you? At the beginning of each year we make our "resolutions", secretly hoping things will change simply by verbally listing it as a resolution. We want some change in our lives. We contemplate what it would be like, we talk about it with our friends and family and we earnestly jump headlong into programs that will lead us towards that change; at least for the first few days. Change is inevitable but having control over or input into that change is work.

Maybe your change this year is to quit smoking - that's something that usually requires a plan of action. The real work is fighting off the cravings and holding on steadfast to the change you desire. It is real work, don't kid yourself.

Maybe your change is to lose a few pounds and eat healthier. It also requires planning - if you keep buying the same list of foods, nothing is going to morph into "healthier" for you in the cupboard or fridge. You have to work at controlling your types of food, what and when you eat and the portion controls.

We can all see where I'm going with this - change is work, but it's usually very desirable or else you wouldn't want it. Whatever your desired change is, it's going to require you to plan and then follow up with action to reach your goal.

My "change" for 2012 isn't a personal one so much as a Community one. I want to see a change in our membership! I want all current members to search out, reach out and help all post 9/11 veterans and educate them on WHY we fight so hard to keep military organizations alive and working for them.

I had an awesome experience this past Sunday. I spent two hours with a young veteran that had no experience with the American Legion. The surprising thing is, she is hugely for veterans, helping them and making a difference in their lives. Yet she didn't know the political or Community impact we make every year, that all military organizations make every year.

## POST HOURS

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

CLOSED - FRIDAY - SATURDAY - SUNDAY

The old stereotype of what used to be the Legion (and other military organizations) is haunting us. We need to educate and promote our current contributions to legislation and Community support. We struggle to bring in the next generation of veterans that will continue this legacy but it's not happening. Why not? I suggest it's our plan and action phase that is failing. We need to communicate with each other and come up with a plan that will promote change. We need to put into action our plan so we will see that change. It's work, but as veterans we are all familiar with sacrifice for achievement of our goals. We need to hear from all of our members. We need ideas, suggestions and input into creating a plan to assist these post 9/11 veterans. If you can't make the general membership meeting on the second Thursday of each month, then use the other means of communication available to you - e-mail, phone or write us a letter. We need YOU to help make this change happen. Help educate all veterans on how we influence government spending, cutbacks and appropriations, how we support youth programs in both teamwork (such as sports) and education (such as oratorical contests), and how we fight for all veterans benefits (past, present and future).

it isn't simply that the young don't want to be involved, I believe they aren't aware of the great opportunity for continued service that is calling out to them. Consider for a moment, if you will, what would happen to veterans and their families if our veteran organizations ceased to exist. We cannot let that happen!!!!

Roxeanne Boose'  
Post 176 Commander

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### February events calendar

Clark County Veterans Assistance Center at 1305 Columbia is open to all veterans daily throughout the week from 9am to 4:30pm. (Mon. Thru Fri.)

**Feb 2** - Point man ministries meets every Tuesday at 2pm at the Friends of the Carpenter.

**Feb 5** - VFW Post 7824 (400 N Andresen Rd, Vancouver) Super Bowl Potluck/Party! Kickoff 3:30. Bring your favorite dish and/or finger foods.

**Feb 6**- 40 & 8 monthly meeting. Dinner is at 6:00pm and the Prom is at 7:00pm.

**Feb 8** - Veterans Resource Committee meeting is held at the County Bldg on Franklin at 2pm. All military organizations are encouraged to send a representative.

**Feb 9** - All veterans are invited by Senator Rolfes to join her in Olympia as she recognizes veteran services and sacrifices in a reading of her resolution. Senator Christine Rolfes has chosen veterans as her topic of discussion to speak on their behalf during the current session.

**Feb 10** - CMAC meeting at the 40 et 8, \$6 breakfast buffet begins at 6:30am and the meeting at 8:30am. This meeting is open to the entire community.

**Feb 11** - CVI (Combat Veterans International) monthly meeting at the new VFW building at 9am. All combat veterans who ride motorcycles are invited to come check us out.

**Feb 13** - Disabled American Veterans monthly meeting will be held at 7pm.

**Feb 14** - Valentines Day - Dont' forget your Sweetheart.

**Feb 23** - American Legion Post 176 e-board meeting at 6:00pm.

**Feb 24** - CMAC meeting at the 40 et 8, \$6 breakfast buffet begins at 6:30am and meeting at 8:30am. This meeting is open to the entire community.

**March 4** - The Portland VA Medical Center is sponsoring its 6th Annual Welcome Home Celebration at the Portland Rose Garden Arena. It's the Portland Winterhawks versus the Tri-City Americans. Registration is at 4pm with game time at 5pm. No cost to OEF/OIF/OND Veterans and their guests! Contact: [Welcomehome@va.gov](mailto:Welcomehome@va.gov); 503-220-8262, ext. 53062; or 1-800-949-1004.

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### Chaplains Corner

A young couple moved into a new neighborhood. The next morning while they were eating breakfast, the young woman observes her neighbor hanging her freshly washed laundry outside. "Her laundry is not very clean", she states. "She doesn't know how to wash correctly, maybe she needs better laundry soap". Her husband looks on but remains silent.

Every time her neighbor would hang her wash to dry, the young woman would make the same comments. About a month later the young woman was surprised to see a nice clean wash on the line and she said to her husband "look, she has learned to wash correctly, I wonder who taught her to do that." Her husband said, "I got up early this morning and cleaned our windows."

And so it is with life. What we see when watching others and their actions depends on the purity of the window through which we observe them.

Life without God is like having an  
unsharpened pencil...  
It has no point!

Jerry Keen  
Post 176 Chaplain

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There is no Auxiliary newsletter page with the February Legion newsletter.

I do not know when or if there will be another Auxiliary page.

I can only hope there will be in the future.

Editor

## Bingo News

Happy New Year to All

Another year has come and gone and we are still here.

The Bingo and Office staff would like to give the Post a very special "Thank You" for our wonderful gift. Jen is on maternity leave for 8 weeks. Her daughter, Nayamah Mae, was born December 15, 2011. She weighed in at 7 pounds and was 18 inches long. We miss Jen but she is having a great time being a new Mom. The new sign on our building is absolutely awesome. People driving by will have no problem reading the sign. Those of us that went to the Post Christmas Party had a great time. Hopefully next year there will be even more people attending. Thank you to the Post for inviting us.

### WE HAVE FOR FEBRUARY

MONDAY AFTERNOONS  
\$25.00 MONITOR

TUESDAY EVENINGS  
LETS MAKE A DEAL

WEDNESDAYS

AFTERNOON SESSIONS  
GAME 20 - \$1000.00

EVENING SESSIONS  
GAME 20 - \$1100.00

Cora Lane  
Assistant Bingo Manager Post 176

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### Adjutant Message

Vow To Hire Heroes Act of 2011, has been signed into law. This act creates a new benefit for Unemployed Veterans. The new program becomes effective on July 1, 2012.

To find out more information on this law you should go to the VA GI Bill website at: [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov) and look for the link at the bottom of the website entitled "Vow To Hire Heroes".

This new program will be limited to a number of veterans, so if you or someone you know qualifies for this program, you should look at the information provided now. Do not wait till the last minute, otherwise you may lose out. Not everyone will qualify for this program so it is important to look at all the eligibility criteria to determine if you qualify. All eligibility criteria can be found at the GI Bill website as previously mentioned.

Mike Gibson  
Adjutant Post 176

## From a member

The new sign on the front of the building has been refurbished and looks fantastic. We have some repairs to make to the building and we can use all the help we can get from our members to do those repairs.

There are presentations being looked at that will be of interest to our members and the community. A Red Cross Blood Drive and Red Cross Disaster Preparedness presentation will be offered to inform everyone about what to do in case of a disaster, that we can practice with our families and develop an action plan for when it does happen.

The construction around our Post is pretty much done with two lanes going East on 139th from 20th Ave. Two lanes going West on 139th with two left turn lanes onto 20th Ave going South and one right turn lane going North on 20th Ave. The entrances into our parking lot remain the same as you now know them to be.

Membership, both existing and new members are vital to the survival of our Post. We need to ask friends, family and people we meet about becoming members, if they served in the military. Always carry an application form for membership with you so you can offer it if you get someone to agree to join. Do what you can to help make our Post a vibrant "doing things and growing Post". Come to our meetings on the second Thursday of each month and volunteer to help us with becoming an Officer and doing repairs needing to be done.

Tom Dombeck  
Post 176 Member

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

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I am learning how the membership duties are done from Phil Yasson and hope to have it in hand within the next thirty days so I can manage it alone. Phil has done an outstanding job at keeping us aware of everything and I hope to follow in his footsteps so we don't lose anything in the transition. I am learning that what Phil makes look so easy is a lot of hard work for me, but I will get it.

I want to thank Phil for all the hats he wears for our Post and how he is a steady force for getting things done.

Gary Zilm