

THE SALMON CREEK POST

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April2013 *Salmon Creek American Legion Post176 * Vancouver Wa..* VOL 24 No 139

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Sally Garcia

COMMANDERS NOTES

We have reached the best or worst month of 2013, depending on if you have a tax refund coming back to you or if you are going to be making out a check to the IRS. Either way the deadline is fast approaching to get your taxes filed. If you need help with your taxes, there are places around Vancouver where AARP does them for you free. The Marshall Center comes to mind on McLoughlin Blvd where they do them on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:00noon to 4:00pm. Get there early, like 8:30am, to get a number so you can get in, as they fill up pretty fast. You can also get the locations of other places where AARP does taxes. Some of the people are Veterans that do the taxes for you and they have to go to classes every year to stay current on all the changes to the tax laws. They are good at what they do and they will get you back what you deserve. I hope Lady Luck smiles on each one of you.

On the 27th of April we are going to be doing something different at the Post that hasn't been done for some time. We will be having a spaghetti dinner at 5:00pm.Cost is \$6.00. Starting at 6:00pm we will have music from a couple who are known around Vancouver as 1-2-3-Music. They play the music from the 50's-60's-70's-80's-90's. There will also be room to dance for those who want to dance. It will be a fun night with good food, good music and good company with other members and the public. It is open to everyone but we really want to encourage the people who have returned from the Mideast to come by and learn something about the American Legion. We need you people who have been members a long time to come out and help us tell about our organization. Most of them see the American Legion as a group of older Vets sitting around and boozing, and we need to change that misconception. Bring your spouse or significant other and join us.

POST HOURS

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

CLOSED - FRIDAY - SATURDAY - SUNDAY

Our membership renewals for 2013 seems to have peaked at 316. That is 79% of our goal. It is very important to send in your renewal for 2013 if you have not yet done so. We have only received seven renewals for the month of March. We have 85 more renewals needed to hit our goal of 401. I know it is doable. I want to thank all of you who have renewed and have gotten us to where we are.

We are looking for people who would like to be Post Officers for the year 2014. All positions are open and anyone who is current with their dues and is in good standing with the American Legion is eligible to be an Officer. Some of the existing Officers would like to have someone else do the job for awhile. You will get all the help you need to do the job. We would like to start 2014 with an Officer in every position. It is a good experience and at times a fun job also. Step up and help lead the Post in 2014. Sgt at Arms is open for 2014.

As most of you know from past newsletters, we have had an unsolicited offer from Visconsi Corp to purchase 1.5 acres in the Southwest corner of our property for a Walgreens store to be built. The offer was for one million three hundred thirty five thousand dollars. To be sure the offer was in the ballpark, we had an apprasial done on just that piece (1.5 acres). The apprasial came back at thirty five thousand dollars less than we were being offered by Visconsi. We next took the offer to a Real Estate lawyer and went through it with him to cover our bases. We found that even though the money offer was good, the contract was written for the benefit of Visconsi and we could have been left with a lot of problems if we had agreed to it and had signed it as it was written. Our lawyer then set to work on writing a contract to counter offer to Visconsi. We received the contract from the lawyer during the week of the 18th of March and it was submitted to and voted on by the e-board on the 21st of March. It was approved for submittal to Visconsi at that meeting. For the people who choose to attend our monthly membership meetings, I thank you for taking the initiative and for caring enough to stay informed as to what is happening. As I stated at the last meeting, there will be and is a copy of the contract available at the Post for any member to look at. This is nothing like the fiasco we went through a few years ago with Graymor. We sent the contract to Visconsi on the 25th of March and are waiting for a response. As of this point we have spent \$3200.00 for the apprasial and the work our lawyer has done. This is a minor

expense to protect us from a bad contract and possible court battles because we didn't do the investigation into the proposal that we needed to do. We now know how much our property is worth and we have a contract we can submit to someone else, with adjustments, if Visconsi rejects the counter offer that we sent them. At this point the 1.5 acres is the only part that is for sale. We have no plans to look for a buyer for the Post property but we will investigate any legitimate offers made. Send your opinions to scal@pacifier.com or drop us a note at the Post address so we know how you feel and what you want, but the best way to stay informed is to come to the meetings and get involved.

Gary Zilm 1st Vice Post 176

BINGO has an "extra special" for April which may become a part of the specials package every year. It is in tribute to Henry, one of our employees who passed away unexpectedly three years ago. His 43rd birthday is in April and so all month long on Mondays and Tuesdays, both sessions, single packet winners who BINGO on N43 will receive an extra \$43.00 above what the Bingo is worth. On Wednesdays we have our Game 20 in the afternoon that pays \$1000.00 and Game 20 in the evening that pays \$1100.00

So, there is some money to be made, but you need to come on out and participate in order to do so. We also have a good variety of food from our kitchen and have Pull Tabs for those who want a little more than just BINGO.

You will not find a more accommodating, friendlier BINGO crew anywhere. They go out of their way to be sure you are satisfied with your experience at Post 176 BINGO, so come on out and play BINGO, Pull Tabs and have a meal. You won't regret it.

On the third Saturday of each month we have a 5TH District Round Table at the Post. Coffee and Donuts are supplied and we have a good discussion about anything pertaining to membership, conferences and anything else that is for the good of the Legion. Anybody can attend these meetings. There is a lot of good helpful information given out along with some training for people who want to rise in the ranks of the Legion. Come attend one at 1:00pm and see if it is something you want to continue doing.

On April 12th at 5:00pm the 5th District Spring conference is taking place at Post 14. It starts with a social hour, then dinner(\$11.00) and then the conference takes place and lasts until the business is all completed. It is usually pretty interesting and we get to be involved. If you haven't attended one yet come and see what happens.

Our Post Manager, Morris Giesler retired on March 31st. He did a good job for us and we got him to come to work for us at a time when we really needed someone with his abilities. He covered a lot of bases for us and I think we all learned something from him. I hope he enjoys retirement and can do the things he has plans to do. Good Luck Morris and Thank You for your service.

The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures,

He leadeth me beside the stiil waters,

He restoreth my soul.

He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His names sake.

Yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death I shall fear no evil,

For Thou art with me, Thy rod and Thy staff, they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies.

Thou annointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,

And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Amen

Hope you all had a blessed Easter.

BINGO DAYS & HOURS

Mon - Tue - Wed, 11am & 6:30pm

For your enjoyment we offer Pulltabs on the same days and times as BINGO.

Our kitchen is open at 9:30am for the first session and at 5:00pm for the second session on the same days and times as BINGO.

We have a staff we are very proud of and we would like you to meet them and say "Hello". They truly are the <u>BEST</u> and they will do whatever they can to help you.

We are again offering the Halls and the Parking Lot for activities that you may want to use them for. Call us at 360-573-2331 and tell us what you want to do. If you don't get an answer right away, leave your number and we will do our best to set up your activity.