



# THE SALMON CREEK POST

<http://www.post176.com>

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November 2009 \* Salmon Creek American Legion Post 176 \* Vancouver Wa. \* VOL24NO107

Commander:  
Wayne Sharp 892-0086

1st Vice Cmdr:  
Gary Zilm 576-0774

2nd Vice Cmdr:  
Vacant

Adjutant:  
Mike Gibson 694-8005

Finance Officer:  
Phil Yasson 574-1152

Chaplin:  
Jerry Keesee 573-1035

Historian:  
Edith Levulett: 693-1569

Sgt. At Arms:  
Floyd Zwer 693-6576

Board Member:  
John Treosti

Board Member:  
Greg Whitson

Board Member:  
Jonathan Frederick

## COMMANDERS NOTES

This is the first newsletter from the Post in some time. As our finances improve we expect to return to a more predictable interval, perhaps every two months or quarterly.

As reported earlier, the Post is back under our control since we terminated the contract for sale in March of this year. We have no plans to sell the Post and have concentrated on clearing the significant debt accumulated during 2006-2008. We have made tremendous progress on this front and hope to clear the remaining past due obligations in the next 18 months, if not sooner.

The key to our finances is our "Bingo" operation that allows us to maintain our Post home, pay our utilities, taxes and most of all provides the income to support our American Legion programs. We do two sessions of bingo on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of each week; come join the fun and bring a friend. When you come, thank the employees who work for us. Their dedication and hard work makes it all come together for a successful business operation.

## POST HOURS

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

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

Membership is another area of concern. After years of continuous growth in membership, the last three years have shown a decline. As of the 16th of October, just slightly over half of our members have paid their 2010 dues. With a membership just short of 600, that means about 300 members need to write checks and send in their dues over the next 70 days or so. If you have not yet sent your dues check, please help by doing so now. Thanks.

I want to close by asking for your help in what is critical to our survival as a Post. All of the hard work and effort to recover from our "Financial Challenges" and the works we must do to maintain our "Membership" are for naught if we do not have active members to share in the day to day operations of our Post. My point is this - a year and five months ago I stepped forward to serve as your Commander because no one else did. I feared the loss of the Post and our American Legion Charter. I served that first year as your Commander and at the end of my term in June of this year, I continued in office because no other person came forward. I, like you all, have many things that I want and need to do in my life; things I cannot do while I serve as Post Commander.

We currently have an unfilled office for 2nd Vice Commander and we have several Committee positions that are unfilled - in short we need more members to find some time to attend Post meetings and take a role in the leadership of this Post. I have been a Legionnaire for just short of forty years and I have been a very active member for at least 25 of those forty years. I have given my time to this cause because we make a difference in the lives of veterans, their families and the children and youth of our community, through the programs of the American Legion. I have found my service in the Legion to be challenging, enjoyable and rewarding and I commend it to you all.

If you haven't been to a meeting in a while or if you have yet to attend your first meeting; join us on the 2nd Thursday of each month for a Potluck meal at 6:00PM.

Join us for the Post or Auxiliary meetings that follow the Potluck at 7:00PM.

Post Commander, Wayne Sharp

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#### FINANCE OFFICER

November is the month for honoring our veterans. There are many events in which you may wish to participate. The Veterans Day parade is on November 7, 2009. The route is Evergreen Blvd to Main Street and then terminates at Ester Short Park. There are over a hundred units signed up for the parade and the parade coordinator said "We have more marching bands this year than at any time in the parade's history."

On November 11 at 11:00AM a memorial service will be held at Fort Vancouver cemetery. General Berger will be the guest speaker. Watch The Columbian for additional events.

All of our members have received a notice to renew their dues for the 2010 year. The 2nd notice will arrive soon. If you have not already renewed, please submit your dues now. Early payment of dues helps hold down costs and possibly prevent another increase. You may have paid your dues and still receive a second notice if National receives your renewal after their cut-off date. The only way to stop the 2nd notice is to pay early. Dues are due before the last day of the year or you are in arrears. The date you joined the Legion has no bearing on your renewal.

Currently we have 297 members renewed for 2010. This is 52% of our goal of 571. Of the 15 Posts in the 5th District, we are in 9th place.

Finance Officer, Phil Yasson

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There will be a Beef-n-Brew dinner on December 5th at 6:00PM. It is free and our way of saying "Thank You" to all the Legion members, and their wives, who have paid their 2010 dues. If you pay your dues at the door, then the meal is free. Without your dues paid, and for guests, the charge for the dinner is \$10.00. To plan this dinner and make it viable, we need a good attendance from our members. Please RSVP to Gary Zilm at 360-576-0774, or e-mail to [garyzilm@comcast.net](mailto:garyzilm@comcast.net) by November 30th with the number attending. You may also call or e-mail the Post. Contact Gary or the Post on December 1st to find out if the dinner is on or not, based on the response we have received.

## BINGO

Monday Thru Wednesday

11:00AM & 6:30PM

Pull Tabs - Kitchen

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## HALL RENTALS

Weddings, Receptions, Parties

Post Members Discounts

For Reservations or more

information call

360-573-2331

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## HUNTERS EDUCATION

For information call

360-573-2331

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VA Christmas gift wrapping will be at Post 14, 4607 NE St. James Rd. Vancouver starting at 4:00PM on Wednesday November 18th. Hope to be done by dinner time at 5:00PM. Tacos for dinner @ two for \$1.50. We need 25 good gift wrappers to take care of 260 gifts this year.

Please help us out and have fun in the best of company.

Any questions call 360-573-1035

Chaplain Jerry, VAVS Representative

## **THE FOLLOWING IS THE PREAMBLE TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE AMERICAN LEGION**

**FOR GOD AND COUNTRY WE ASSOCIATE OURSELVES TOGETHER FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES:**

To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in the Great Wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

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**TO: All Volunteer Organizations from Oregon and Washington**

The Chaplin Social Work Service's and Voluntary Service would like to invite your participation in the Veterans Day "Massing of Colors" on Sunday, the 8th of November at 11:00AM. We will be having the ceremony in the Columbia Room on the 3rd floor in Building D7. A reception will follow in the entrance hallway.

Please bring your Post colors and Flags for posting and retrieving. The Marine Corps League will be helping with the ceremony. Plan to arrive between 10:30 and 10:45AM so the ceremony can start on time.

We respectfully request that all veterans' organizations and Auxiliaries bring an offering of finger foods or refreshments. RSVP if you plan to attend the ceremony and let us know what refreshments you will be bringing. You may do this by calling the Voluntary Service Office in Vancouver at 360-690-1842.

For those attending, parking will be in the main parking structure of D-7. If you have any questions you may contact Voluntary Service at 360-690-1842.

# AUXILIARY NEWS

November 2009

Let's be sure to thank our Veterans and Service People this Thanksgiving.

## AUXILIARY OFFICERS 2009-2010

### 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

## CHAPLAIN'S COMMENTS

Hello Ladies, I'm your District Chaplain sending along a few Thanksgiving thoughts. Please join me in giving God special thanks for blessings that have come to you and me in 2009.

Here are some quotes from "The Art of Thanksgiving."

"Thank God for the gift of life by living it triumphantly."

"Thank God for happiness by striving to make others happy."

"Thank God for inspiration by trying to be an inspiration to others."

"Thank God for each new day by living it to the fullest."

"Always add to your prayers of thanksgiving, acts of thanksgiving."

May God bless you,  
**Lucille Harwood**  
District Chaplain

## PRESIDENT'S

## MESSAGE

Hi Ladies,

Well our new Auxiliary year has started. We have been having potluck dinners on our meeting nights. They have been a real success with lots of different kinds of foods and desserts. It has been fun and a good prelude to our meetings. Come and join us at 6 p.m. for the potluck followed by the meeting, Nov. 12.

We are still busy doing things even though we haven't had a newsletter to keep you informed. That's why it is important for you to come to the meetings and stay informed.

The new District Commander Tom ~~Dombeck~~, and Auxiliary Vice President Priscilla Ford, are both from our Post 176.

I know some of you ladies don't like to drive at night, so I've been thinking about having a get together once a month for a couple enjoyable hours  
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during the day to discuss what's happening and to stay in touch with each other. I would provide Coffee and Tea. We could also have a snack or something. I need some input so call me at 360-576-0774, and let me know your feelings and ideas.

I also want to wish you all a

## HAPPY THANKSGIVING.

We will be having a Beef and Brew Dinner on Saturday, December 5 if enough people are interested. We will be needing donated items as there will be a raffle.

*Nancy Zilm, President*



## VANCOUVER GIFT SHOP

We will again be having our gift shop in the Columbia Room this year. The dates are early because this is the only time available.

Our dates are: Set up will be Friday, November 13. Dates for patients are: November 16, 17, and 18 from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

Items needed most are: For men Billfolds, women household items and for children backpacks or games..

What we need most is help during gift shop and of course money is always welcome. Thank you for any help we get.

**Chairman, Thelma Hathaway, Co-Chairman, Priscilla Ford**

**MEMBERSHIP:** Ladies, we are now in the new year. Membership dues are now due for the year 2010. We have been raised for 2010 to \$25. We have 22 paid already. Hope to get yours soon. Send your dues to our treasurer Thelma Hathaway at the Post. Thank you for your help. **Debra Hathaway, Chairman**