



THE SALMON CREEK POST



<http://www.post176.com>

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December 2011 *Salmon Creek American Legion Post 176 * Vancouver Wa..* VOL24 No 125

Commander:

Roxeanne Boose 695-5935

1st Vice Cmdr:

Greg Whitson 695-5456

2nd Vice Cmdr:

Gary Zilm 576-0774

Adjutant:

Mike Gibson 694-8005

Finance Officer:

Phil Yasson 574-1152

Chaplin:

Jerry Keen 907-9473

Historian:

Edith Levulet 487-6849

Sgt. At Arms:

Craig Hurley 718-8099

Jr. Past Commander:

Service Officer:

Jan Wojciechowski 573-3230

Board Members

John Treosti 574-5746

Jonathan Frederick 576-9078

COMMANDERS NOTES:

Legionnaires,

MERRY CHRISTMAS! With the holidays racing towards us I can only wonder where the year has gone. As I sit and reflect on all the events, both good and bad, that has happened to my family, friends, community, and yes - my world...I'm awe-struck! It seems the entire world is racing everyday - to get to work, school, baby-sitters, appointments, shopping etc. We race faster and faster trying desperately to chisel out a few moments that will make it all feel worth while. This holiday season I implore you to slow down and enjoy time. Time is something we never get back once it's gone. Your family and friends will appreciate the time you spend with them more than any gift you could possibly buy. Slow your life down and enjoy the time - give yourself the gift of time with loved ones this holiday season. They deserve it and so do you.

Speaking of spending time - we comrades at the Post miss all of you who have not come out in awhile. For our December general membership meeting we are planning to do things a little different. We will start the evening at 6pm with a short official meeting and then follow up with a Christmas potluck party. Bring your favorite Christmas dish or dessert to share and a wrapped gift to auction off. Try to keep the price below \$10.00 and making it look beautiful will inspire folks to buy more tickets to increase their chances. There will be holiday music and sing alongs and even a few games, so come spend some time with us.

If you haven't renewed your dues for 2012 you can link up with Phil Yasson at the party and take care of that. Remember, it's your Post and your dues that make it possible for the American Legion to continue to support community programs. It's one way veterans can continue to serve! Another way to support our Post is to come and bring your friends to play BINGO. We have a great snack bar that offers fresh cooked-to-order breakfast and lunch at very reasonable prices. Bring the family or a group of friends and make a day of it.... spending some time together while we still have it to share.

POST HOURS

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

CLOSED - FRIDAY - SATURDAY - SUNDAY

Stay safe in everything you do and HAPPY HOLIDAYS to everyone.

Roxeanne Boose' Post 176 Commander

EVENTS CALENDER

Dec 2 - The Greater Vancouver Chamber of Commerce is bringing you a Holiday Celebration packed with gift ideas, how-to-demonstrations and holiday cheer. Located at the Heathman Lodge 11am-1pm, cost is \$30 for non-members and includes lunch. For reservations call 360-694-2588.

Dec 2 - CMAC meeting at the Forty et Eight, \$6 breakfast begins at 6:30am, meeting at 8:30am. This meeting is open to the entire community.

Dec 4 - The 204th Army Band of the United States Army Reserve, Vancouver Wa. will present a holiday and patriotic themed concert beginning 2pm at the Opera House on the Alpenrose Dairy grounds, 6149 SW Shattuck Rd. Portland Or. 97221. Admission is FREE.

Dec 7 - Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day.

Dec 8 - American Legion Post 176 general membership meeting. Come celebrate with us, we will have a short meeting at 6pm directly followed by our Christmas potluck party.

Dec 8 - Clark County Veterans Court Board's "**Christmas Concert for Vets**", 5 to 7:30pm. Dragonfly Cafe at 1300 Franklin Street Vancouver. \$15.00 tickets available on line.

Dec 10 - CVI monthly meeting at the new VFW building at 9am. All combat veterans who ride motorcycles are invited to come check us out. There will be a Christmas social hosted by Bill Washer. Anyone interested may call 606-6795 for details.

Dec 12 - DAV monthly meeting will celebrate it's Christmas party at Hometown Buffet beginning at 7pm.

Dec 14 - DAV will host a pizza dinner and Christmas party for the Temporary Lodging Unit on the Vancouver VA Campus at 6pm.

Dec 22 - American Legion Post 176 e-board meeting at 6pm.

Dec 25 - Christmas Day.

Dec 31 - New Year's Eve.

CHAPLINS CORNER

As the disciple Paul looked at the Roman soldier assigned to guard him, he reminded us that our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but is a spiritual battle! He then used the armor of the Roman soldier to illustrate a spiritual truth that God has given us "spiritual armor" to protect ourselves and to war successfully. In our everyday battle with the demons that possess the military veteran, we need to refer daily to Ephesians 6, 13 - 17.

"Therefore, put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground. Stand firm then with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all of this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the spirit, which is the word of God."

We all have our demons. We all need to fight them. We need the right ammunition, the right weapons and the right attitude. It is a war that we can win for ourselves and for those young men and women who are protecting our freedom at this very moment. We can do this by ensuring that they are not forgotten, by taking time to pray, time to volunteer or just a few moments a week to mentor them through tough situations.

All for the Vet's.

Jerry Keen Post 176 Chaplain

BINGO MANAGER

I wanted to wish everyone a MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR, since I won't be here for eight weeks. My husband and I are adopting a baby and she is due to be born in December.

The Winter Bash is on December 28th, 2011 at the 6:30 session. There will be two \$500 blackouts and two \$1199 blackouts. Sales will start at 5:00pm. We hopefully will be getting some more machines to sell for that night. Each customer will receive a free dauber with their buy-in. An update on the add number of games that can go into the machines is doing really well and is bringing in more revenue for the Post. Thank you and be safe over the Holiday Season.

Jen O'neal Post 176 Bingo Manager

FROM A MEMBER

It was cold and wet on Sunday when I went to visit some fellow veterans. As I walked among the grave markers of those who were asleep there, I would read them to learn the names and dates of birth and death. Veterans from all the known wars were there, WW1, WWII, Korea, Vietnam and now, even from the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. We remember them here as they lay quietly, as if they are on guard. Some names I know but still so many to see from so many different towns, cities and states. As I paused by each grave stone I realized how much these veterans have given and I would say a prayer for all of them as I shed a tear. They gave their lives for their country and some of them were treated badly, but all of them are our Heroes and their families are so special too. Remember them by visiting them as they lay in wait for you to come. It doesn't take much time, only a few moments to view each stone and to honor each by your presence. Let us never forget them and that they gave their all for us and our freedom's. God bless our Veterans and God bless the United States of America.

I have enjoyed six years in the Air Force as a crew chief on the Phantom F-4 fighter aircraft. I served one tour in Vietnam and accepted a six month TDY to Kunsan Korea. Kunsan is a farming area of Korea. I worked in Field Maintenance and was assigned to the Crash Recovery Unit. I enjoyed the privilege of being able to play the organ for all of the bases I was assigned to, and while in Vietnam I had the privilege to play for the Christmas Midnight Mass which was held in the Tan Son Nhut, Saigon, Vietnam.

I have enjoyed being a member of the Civil Air Patrol for the most of 47 years. The Civil Air Patrol is an Auxiliary of the United States Air Force and does 85 to 90 percent of Search and Rescue in the United States. I am also a member of American Legion Post 176 at Salmon Creek. I am a member of 40 et 8 in Vancouver. I am a volunteer on the Clark County Veterans Resource Committee, and I have also become an amateur radio operator to learn more about emergency communications.

I have had the privilege of serving as the Fifth District Commander for the American Legion Department of Washington and visited all of the Posts in the district. I enjoyed the times I was able to present awards to the Posts for their achievements. All of our Posts need to be recognized for their work for the American Legion. Meeting and working with all of our members is important as we support the programs that are promoted by legionaires. I enjoy being an American Legion member and hope that I may be able to continue to serve.

Thomas Dombeck Post 176 Member

FINANCE / MEMBERSHIP

Of our goal of 430 members for 2012, we have 300 renewed. 18 members have renewed via on-line at the National web page, <http://legion.org/renew>. You have to log in with your membership number and your last name. When I find out that you have renewed on-line, I will send you your 2012 membership card. It is a very easy, quick process and you are done for another year.

Phil Yasson Post 176 Finance / Membership

Red Skelton recited this on his TV show when we only had 48 states.

I - me, an individual of one.

Pledge - dedicate all of my worldly goods to give without self pity.

Allegiance - my love and my devotion.

To the flag - our standard, Old Glory, a symbol of freedom. Wherever she waves, there's respect because your loyalty has given her a dignity that shouts freedom is everybody's job.

Of the United - that means that we have all come together.

States - individual communities that have united into 48 great states.

Of America - forty-eight individual communities with pride and dignity and purpose; all divided with imaginary boundaries, yet united to a common purpose, and that's love for country.

And to the republic - a state in which sovereign power is invested in representatives chosen by the people to govern.

And government is the people, and it's from the people to the leaders, not from the leaders to the people.

For which it stands, one nation - one nation, meaning "so blessed by God".

Indivisible - incapable of being divided.

With liberty - which is freedom - the right of power to live one's own life without threats, fear or some sort of retaliation

And Justice - the principle or quality of dealing fairly with others.

For all - which means it's as much your country as it is mine.

Since I was a small boy, two states have been added to our country and two words have been added to the Pledge of Allegiance -- **UNDER GOD!!!!**

Wouldn't it be a pity if someone said, that is a prayer, and it would be eliminated from schools too?

God Bless America

BINGO HOURS 11:00AM-6:30PM

MON - TUE - WED

PULL TABS AND KITCHEN AVAILABLE

AUXILIARY NEWS

December
2011

Free gifts include a smile, a handshake, a hug, and kind deeds. Give them.

PRESIDENT
Debra Hathaway 573-0336
1ST VICE PRESIDENT
Carla Whitson 695-5456
SECRETARY
Donna Casciato 576-4404
TREASURER
Thelma Hathaway 573-0362
CHAPLAIN
Lucille Harwood 573-6723
HISTORIAN
Roberta Gapsch 666-1685

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: "Hello Ladies,"

We are having our Christmas get together at the next meeting on December 8, Thursday night with a short business meeting at 6 p.m. and a potluck after that. Bring your favorite potluck dish. We are exchanging gifts also, like last year. We would like to see more ladies at our meetings. Everyone have a great Thanksgiving and Christmas.
Debra Hathaway, President

Come Join Us

Dec. 8 at 6 p.m. Thursday
Short business meeting
Then Holiday Potluck,
Gift Exchange and Fun

To be considered--

Members of Unit 176:

I have sad news and maybe good news.

The sad news is: I have been a member of Unit 176 since October 24, 1952. At the last meeting was the first meeting I have been to that we were not able to conduct our business because of lack of a quorum. Quorum is only 5 members.

I know it is hard for some of you to get to our meetings, but I am hoping that we do not have to start missing meetings because of not enough members.

The good news is: If I stepped out of being as active as I have been in the past, would someone take my place so I can at least know this Unit will still keep active. I am hoping so, so come to the meeting and volunteer to take a more active part.

Legionnaires, we need your help in getting members and hoping they will become active.

Thank you.

Thelma Hathaway

YOUR CHAPLAIN'S THOUGHTS

Greetings and may I wish you God's best this Holiday Season as 2011 comes to a close. As you are aware, our country is changing. We have more nationalities, more various religious beliefs being taught, and somehow we should get along without conflicts.

My thoughts about the things of God go back to when I was a child living in the Sandhills of Nebraska. I remember asking my mother about God. She did her best to tell me her thoughts. Our family did not attend church, but we were taught to be decent, kind and ambitious.

I went on to associate with folks who were Christians and knew Christ as their Saviour. (continued above right)

I treasure the Bible, read inspiring literature, and attempt to walk what I feel is the right way.

We believe basically what we've seen, heard, and been taught. As they get older, some folks change, some don't. I recommend that you be true to your conscience. I was greatly uplifted recently by a man I heard interviewed on a national religious television program. He said he has respect for the Sabbath in today's world. He cited a miraculous example of how he feels God has honored him for staying true to his beliefs. I was touched and moved by his comments.

May God's presence, teachings, and Divine Blessings sustain us.

Lucille Harwood, Chaplain

Post 176 newsletter editor Gary Zilm and grand-daughter Valerie play handbells at their church. Isn't that great..... Feel free to participate in the gift exchange on December 8. You're not obligated to do so. You may bring a wrapped gift marked him or her.....Auxiliary will buy a few coats or jackets for Gift Shop at VA...One member said she'd bought two new jackets for a local charity. Thanks to her.