

The Buckboard Bulletin

"First to serve our Veterans"

January 2009

COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

Comrades and Sisters,

I hope everyone has dug out from that white blanket of snow by now. The biggest snow storm in forty years caused us to close the post for a few days and cancel or postpone some celebrations we had scheduled for December. I want to thank Larry Merritt and Todd Kruckenburg for volunteering their time and vehicles during the snow storm to provide transportation to those who needed help getting around town. That is keeping with the true spirit of comradeship. But, like we learned long ago when we were on active duty, when adverse weather hits us, we adapt, overcome and move on. As a man once said, "Don't knock the weather. If it didn't change once in a while, nine out of ten people couldn't start a conversation."

Our New Year's Eve Party was a big success and I would like to thank Lori Merritt and the Ladies Auxiliary for all of their support and hard work in making it so successful. 2009 has the potential to be a great year for the VFW and what we do for the people of this community.

The start of the year is upon us and that means if your membership dues is not paid by now you are not a member in good standing. It is not too late, so please send your \$25 check into the post, or better yet stop by the post and drop it off. We are way behind last year and we need a concerted effort by everyone if we are going reach our goal of 100% membership. The next Membership Committee Meeting will be at the Post on 6 January at 5:30. We really need some help. Even if you have not been personally asked to serve on that committee please consider this your invitation and join us and help out.

Allen Anderson, Commander



Ladies Auxiliary President's Message

Ladies,

Our Adopt-A-Family program this year was a dad with three children. They live here in Sandy and dad told me he is very grateful for our help with making their Christmas a good one. With money raised this year we were able to get everything on the family's "wants and needs" list.

Thanks to Carol Engblom and Dora Fitzpatrick for helping with our latest breakfast. And thanks to Larry Merritt for calling BINGO. Proceeds went to the Adopt-A-Family. A big thanks goes to the Men's Auxiliary and everyone else who donated money to this very worthy cause. My daughter Samantha Carlson did a great job shopping for the family again this year. I am very proud of her dedication to this program.

Our heartfelt condolences go out to our Sister Kit Spitzengel on the passing of her father, "Old Bob". Christie Horttor, who is our Veterans and Family Support Chairperson, and with the help of many of our wonderful Sisters, put on a fabulous reception after his funeral. A big thanks to all of you ladies who pitched in to help and donated food.

I hope all of you had a wonderful Christmas. I wish you a New Year filled with happiness and good health. Thank you.

President Lori Merritt

January Calendar

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| Jan 1 | New Year's Day |
| Jan 6 | Membership Committee Meeting 5:30 pm |
| Jan 7 | House Committee Meeting 5:30 pm |
| Jan 8 | Elvis's Birthday |
| Jan 9 | Ladies Aux Meeting 6:45 pm, Post 8:00 pm |
| Jan 10 | Men's Aux Meeting 2:00 pm |
| Jan 11 | Breakfast/BINGO (Men's Aux) 10:00 am |
| Jan 17 | January Birthday Party 7:00 pm |
| Jan 18 | Breakfast/BINGO (Post) 10:00 am |
| Jan 19 | Martin Luther King, Jr. Day |
| Jan 25 | Breakfast/BINGO (Ladies Aux) 10:00 am |

Damascus Christian High School Student Wins!

Emily Secomb, a student at Damascus Christian High School has recently been named the winner of the Sandy VFW's "Voice of Democracy" speech contest. Michelle Janik, of Sandy placed second, and Michelle Huggins, also from Damascus Christian placed third. Emily was awarded second place at the District 15 competition.

Students compete by writing and recording an original essay on an annual patriotic theme. This year's theme is "How America's Veterans' Service and Sacrifice Benefit Today's Youth by..." The contest is open to all 9-12 grade students. The recorded speech is judged on; originality, content and delivery. The first, second, and third place students receive a cash prize.

Since 1947 the Voice of Democracy has been the VFW's premier scholarship program. Each year, more than 100,000 high school students compete for more than \$2.5 million in scholarships and incentives that are awarded throughout the competition at Post, District, State, and National levels. The entire community can be extremely proud of all of these young people and their participation in such a worthy program.

From the Judge

Question: Is it necessary for the Commander to use the gavel for each motion?

Answer: The gavel is a symbol of the presiding officer's authority and right to act officially. The gavel should be used at all times so as to command respect. A light tap after a vote merely implies completion of that vote.

Question: Does an amendment to a motion need to be referred to the person who originated it?

Answer: No, amendments to main motions never require anyone's consent to be proposed; they automatically outrank their motions.

Question: Can the Post Adjutant publish and distribute the minutes of the prior meeting instead of reading them to the body?

Answer: Yes, unless otherwise provided for in the by-laws of the Post.

Question: Can a Post Commander appoint himself to the Post House Committee?

Answer: The Post Commander is automatically a member of all committees by virtue of his office unless the Post By-Laws specify differently.

Question: Once a person has been appointed to the House Committee can he be relieved by the Post Commander?

Answer: Yes, unless otherwise provided for in the by-laws of the Post.

Bert Key, Department Judge Advocate

CANTEEN CORNER

Lori Merritt

We are back to regular hours of operation! The biggest snow storm to hit this area in 40 years forced us to close the Canteen and postpone the Christmas/Birthday Party scheduled for the 20th, and cancel the Children's Christmas Party on the 21st. We combined the two parties with the New Year's Eve Party. A great time was had by all. Happy New Year everybody!

If anyone is interested in participating in another Texas Hold 'Em Tournament, please let me know so we can get that organized for February.

Big THANKS this month go to:

Allen and Cindi for the beautiful Christmas Trees and decorating the tree upstairs.

Dora Fitzpatrick, Susan Knotts, Jackie Key, and Jewel Lamb for decorating the tree in the Canteen.

Carol Engblom, Jewel Lamb, Kit Spitzengel, and Dora Fitzpatrick for decorating upstairs for the New Year's Eve Party. It was so beautiful.

Valorie Westlund for her generous contribution to the Post's Kitchen Pots and Pans Fund on behalf of Clyde and Yvonne Wentworth.

Mike and Christie Horttor, Allen Anderson, Kris Engblom and Dan Copher for the snow removal around the building.

Samantha Carlson for providing taxi service for the New Year's Eve Party.

Remember Taco's every Wednesday. See you at the Post!

VOICE OF DEMOCRACY BANQUET

The Mid-Winter Conference will be held at the Shilo Inn at the Airport February 14, 2009. Tickets are now on sale at Department Headquarters and may be picked up at the Conference. All seats must be reserved and paid for at the time of ordering. We plan to sit as a group so all money and names must be sent in together. If you plan to go please give your money to Lori Merritt by January 18th so she can get our post processed in time. Let her know of any dietary restrictions you may have. Tables seat 10. It would be great if we had at least two tables there to show support for our Patriot's Pen Winner, Taylur DeWolf. The Dinner and Lunch Combined is \$35. Dinner choices are: Chicken Parmesan over Linguine OR Marinated Tri Tip with Chef's Choice Rice or Potato, Salad or Caesar Salad, Vegetables, Dessert, Coffee or Tea. Let Lori know what your choices are when you pay.

