



# The Buckboard Bulletin

“First to serve our Veterans”

JUNE, JULY, AUGUST 2011

## COMMANDER’S COMMENTS

Comrades and Sisters,

The VFW year 2010/2011 has been very significant for the Sandy Post, with many accomplishments that should give all of us a great sense of pride.

Some of the most meaningful achievements in the past year include: a notable turnaround in our post financial condition creating an increasingly positive position; meeting the eligibility requirements for All State status (specific selections are yet to be made); and as of this writing, the Post is on the verge of reaching the eligibility requirement for All American distinction for the second consecutive year - a first for us.

Equally significant achievements were in the area of assistance to veterans and participation in the community including: involvement in the “Homes for Our Troops” program that provided a home in Sandy for Kevin Pannell; Mt. Days parade and closing ceremony; Field of Honor (1000 flags) display and the presentation of Oregon Honorable Service Medals; Homecoming event for the 346th Civil Affairs Brigade; conducting public ceremonies for Veterans Day, Loyalty Day and Memorial Day; giving emergency assistance to a number of veterans; a successful Voice of Democracy/Patriots Pen essay program; Buddy Poppy distributions and much more.

Congratulations to Melissa Samels are in order as recipient of the Joseph T. Baron trophy for “Inspirational Leadership”. Melissa’s efforts are often less visible, but she has been a tremendous asset to our Post by keeping in touch with our ill/injured Post members, helping veterans in other ways, being our community service officer, and always being willing to help with any activity.

I want to express my sincere appreciation for all of the help I received during my time as Commander. Only with the efforts of an outstanding team of Post, Ladies’ and Men’s Auxiliaries were we able to accomplish so much in the past year. While it takes an entire team, I want to specifically mention those individuals that made extraordinary contributions to our success: Tim Wilson, Merle Stewart, Melissa Samels, Marty LeDoux, Bert Key, and Dan Copher.

There is still much that can be done to increase our support of veterans and our service to the community. We have a great team of new leaders for the coming year who, with the full support of our membership, can continue to have remarkable achievements for our Post.

United We Stand! Jim Mitchell, Commander

## Ladies Auxiliary President’s Message

Thank you for having the confidence in me to allow me to be your President for the upcoming year. I will do my best to support you with all of your projects. You and all of the past President’s have made our Ladies Auxiliary very successful and one that you should take great pride in. With your help, I know that we will be able to continue in that same tradition.

I also want to thank all of you that have volunteered for positions as officers and committee heads. We still need committee members, so please let me know what your interests are, and I will do my best to support your ideas.

We have a new opportunity to raise money for our Auxiliary and the Post. We will have a Bar-B-Q Chicken booth at the Mountain Festival this July 9th and 10th. I will have sign up sheets soon for positions to serve the food and take the money. With your help, this could become a very successful annual fund raiser and I feel we could all have some fun while we are at it.

Our annual picnic will be held at Barton Park again this year on Saturday, August 13th . The Post and Auxiliary will be providing the hamburgers, hot dogs and all the fixings. The rest of the meal will be a pot luck, so bring your favorite salads and side dishes. We will have games for all the kids, from 1 to 100. We hope to see you and your family there.

We seem to have lost contact with many of you and our ability to communicate with you is critical to our success. We need to update our telephone number data base. So, if you have a new number, please give me call or send me an email with your new information. My telephone number is 503-663-0510 and my email is JBette4235@aol.com. I welcome communication with you.

I am looking forward to a fun, exciting and successful year.

Sincerely, Incoming President Jean Bettencourt

## Jun, Jul, Aug Calendar

Every Day	Canteen Menu (Except Monday)
Every Wed.	Taco Night—5pm
Every Sun.	Breakfast—10am
Every Sun.	Bingo—1pm
Every Mon	Canteen Closed
Jun 5	House Cmte Mtg—Noon
Jun 10	Hamburger Dinner 5—7pm
Jun 10	Post Mtg 8pm—Ladies Mtg 6:45pm
Jun 12	Men’s Aux Mtg 9:30am
Jun 22-26	Convention
Jul 2	Dept Cmdr Homecoming 6pm
Jul 7	Mt Days Parade
Jul 15	Post Mtg 8pm—Ladies Mtg 6:45pm
Aug 13	Annual Picnic
Check post website calendar for new and changed events.	

VFW4273.org

### Incoming Post Commander

It is with great pleasure, that I assume the office of Post Commander. With the help of our new officers, VFW, Ladies & Men's Auxiliary. I hope to make this transition as smooth as possible. Under the leadership of Jim Mitchell, and his officers, this was a great year for the Sandy Post. I expect under my command to have an exceptional year and make our comrades proud of Post 4273. I plan on meeting each and everyone of you, and will make myself available to you at all times. I'm very interested in your new ideas to make our post better for all.

A special congratulations to Bert Key, our new Department Commander.

"ALL GAVE SOME SOME GAVE ALL"

Your new Post Commander  
Terry E. Boyer

### Men's Auxiliary

The Men's Auxiliary elected new officers at our last meeting. They are:

President: Dan Vaughn  
Vice President: Matt Haider  
Secretary: Gregg Redford  
Treasurer: Bob Dun  
Sgt At Arms: Wayne Keller

Our next meeting is June 12th at 9:30am. Hope to see you there.

### The Post Chaplain

**Melissa Samels 503 668 4849**

Our prayers and thoughts are with the family and friends of lifetime member Donald Lambert. He will be missed greatly by all that knew him.

Recently David Stockner was admitted to Legacy Emmanuel hospital. Please keep him in your prayers.

Melissa Samels



### The Auxiliary Chaplain

**Judy Gascon 503 668 3748**

Ruth Jackson is doing fine and does not have cancer at this time, although she reports she had it in the past. My apologies for the incorrect report.

Laura Barons is still recovering from a broken ankle and had moved to Cascadia. Phone call are welcome (503-826-8489). She thanks everyone for the "Prayers and Thoughts".

Joann LeDoux and Birdie Foust are home and doing much better.

Dee Steffl is in serious condition in ICU at MT Hood with brain damage. Her husband Dick says things don't look good and would appreciate prayers.

Helen Lambert's husband Don passed away May 2nd. She is not feeling well from CHF this spring. Our Sympathy and Prayers Helen.

### 2012 AUXILIARY MEMEBERSHIP

Ladies your DUES NOTICE for your 2012 dues will be in the mail to you in July. When you receive your notice please pay it promptly. While your membership does not expire until December 31 of each year, dues collection always begins in July of each year. This is so we can get to 100% as early as possible. Early 100% can mean monetary reward from National Ladies Auxiliary. Show your support for our Veterans by paying your dues in July. Thank you. And, if anyone is interested in a Life Membership they should contact Jackie Key Membership Chair at (503) 668-8418.

Thank you, Jackie



**Post Web Site**  
[www.vfw4273.org](http://www.vfw4273.org)

**From Your Editor**  
Newsletter articles are due Aug. 20 for the Sept Newsletter.

Contact your editor at:  
[admin@vfw4273.org](mailto:admin@vfw4273.org)

Post Officers	2011-2012	Auxiliary Officers	
Commander	Terry Boyer	President	Jean Bettencourt
Senior Vice Commander	Merle Stewart	Sr. Vice President	Dora Fitzpatrick
Junior Vice Commander	Glenn Yeager	Jr. Vice President	Jennell Mitchell
Chaplain	Melissa Samels	Treasurer	Jackie Key
Quartermaster	Bill Miller	Chaplain	Judy Gascon
Judge Advocate	John Lamb	Secretary	Debra Glenzer
Adjutant		Guard	Jewell Lamb
Surgeon	Dan Copher	Conductress	Dora Fitzpatrick

The poppy distribution has gone well so far. Due to the time line to get this to the newsletter we will not know the final tally; we still have the Safeway and Fred Meyer stores to do on Memorial Day week-end. We did very well at the Safeway and Bi Mart in Damascus. This was our first year we've distributed there but I think we may want to remember them as a place to go in the future. Over the week-end there we received almost \$1400 in donations and that was done with covering just one door at Safeway. I'm sure we could do better with more volunteers to cover all areas of traffic. In the future, please come to the Post and sign up to help do your part in this bi-annual campaign. Remember, the funds collected help our fellow veterans and their families.

I would like to thank all of you who supported this effort. I know most of you who volunteered your time had to cover multiple shifts. We covered a lot more dates this year so more help was needed. The effort was well distributed between the Post members and the Ladies and Men's Auxiliaries. Thank you all! A special thanks to Loretta Wilson for getting all the store dates and locations in order and posted, and Commander Jim Mitchell for answering my many calls for help, input, advice and filling in on a very short notice to cover a time slot in Damascus.

Also a special thanks to past Commander, Chuck "write me a check" Lutz for his time and effort he spent traveling to the local businesses to explain our cause and collecting a great sum in donations. He is well known and trusted in the community so he's great asset to our Post and Buddy Poppy Chairman. Thanks again, Chuck.

Also thanks to the great response we received from the Brownies, Boy, Cub and Girl scouts helping with the distribution of Poppies. Its creates a lasting impression to have the young enthusiasm coupled with our seasoned veterans. I think it shows the community how strong we can be if we work to help one another help others.

So when you get a chance, support our local businesses who help support our fund raisers. And when you see someone displaying there Buddy Poppy thank them for supporting our cause. Again, thanks to all who helped make this a great 2011 BUDDY POPPY CAMPAIGN.

Merle Stewart , Buddy Poppy Chairman

**Cancer Aid & Research**

I have one fund raiser for the summer, tickets will go on sale in the canteen July 1st and the winners will be drawn on meeting night September 9th. Raffle tickets will be \$1:00 or 6 for \$5:00. Jean Bettencourt has made a beautiful lap robe and donated it to Cancer, Thank you so very much Jean. I will add other items to the raffle. Everyone be sure to buy lots of tickets, and have a wonderful summer.

Voriece, Cancer Chairman

**VFW POST 4273**  
**&**  
**LADIES AND MEN'S AUXILIARIES**  
**JOIN US FOR**  
**DEPARTMENT COMMANDER'S**  
**HOMECOMING PARTY**  
**for**  
**BERT W. KEY**  
**OREGON DEPARTMENT**  
**COMMANDER 2011-2012**  
**JULY 2, 2011**  
**6:00 PM**  
**VFW POST 4273 CANTEEN**  
**SANDY, OREGON**  
**503 668-5211**  
**POTLUCK**  
**NO HOST BAR**

New Daily Canteen Menu (Closed Monday)

Halibut Fish & Chips -\$ 5.50  
Chicken Strips and Fries - \$4.50  
Shrimp Cocktail - \$1.50  
French Fries - \$2.50  
Onion Rings—\$2.75  
Jalapeno Poppers—6 for \$3.50

**Join Us for Post and Auxiliary meetings!**

**Post & Ladies - 6/10/11**  
**Men's Auxiliary - 6/12/11**  
**Post & Ladies - 7/15/11**



**THE BUCKBOARD BULLETIN**  
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