



## **Sandy VFW Post & Aux**

38452 Proctor Blvd

Sandy OR 97055

503-668-5211

“First to serve our Veterans”

The Buckboard Bulletin  
[VFW4273.ORG](http://VFW4273.ORG)

December 2014

### **POST COMMANDER'S COMMENTS**

Greetings, Comrades,

November was a really great month. The Post hosted the Veterans' Day Celebration at Centennial Plaza, visited with the veterans at Avamere Assisted Living for Veterans' Day, and served a free Thanksgiving dinner on Thanksgiving Day at the Post. At November's Post Meeting, I was privileged to swear in two new members to Post 4273, Kristian and Shane. Welcome our new Comrades with warmth and understanding.

None of this would have happened without the enthusiastic efforts of many tireless volunteers. Post members, Auxiliary members and “friends of Post 4273,” as I would call them, contributed significant amounts of their personal time to insure that our Post's objectives were met. It has given me immense satisfaction to work alongside such a fine group of people. My familiarity with the membership has grown and it's only natural that this second month of command will allow me to get closer to even more of our fine members. Together, we will continue to ensure that we are doing everything we can for veterans, and we do it unselfishly.

And time marches on. What are our goals for December? Maybe a few teams of volunteers going to Avamere and Cascadia Assisted Living facilities to “sing for Christmas Supper?” Will there be nominations for our vacant officers' posts, or will I have to be Draconian and start appointing officers “Pro Temper?” one suggestion has been to affiliate with the Kiwanis on “Food Baskets.”

Any ideas for January special events at the Post should be brought to the Adjutant, Tony Gibler, 503-267-6045, to be put on the December New Business Agenda so we can have better lead time for coordination of events. There will be a Special House Committee Meeting on December 2nd, any suggestions for December or January events should be brought to Tony's attention to be placed on the Meeting Agenda.

Til Next Time! Best Regards!

Casey Wood  
Commander

### **Thank you from the Commander**

A lot of individual thanks are in order:

Melissa Samuels; Veterans' Day, Avamere, Post Chaplain, Post Moral and Ethical Guardian, Post Service Officer.

Terry Boyer; Mentor and former Commander, Veterans' Day volunteer and Celebration Speaker.

Bert Keys; Mentor, former Post, District, and State Commander.

The members of the House Committee, Merle, Kris, John, Geronimo, and Tony. Special thanks to Merle, Kris and Geronimo for voluntarily funding the Thanksgiving Dinner.

Loretta Wilson, for Buddy Poppy, Veterans' Day, and donating paper plates, etc. to the Thanksgiving Dinner. Wanda Michaels; Veterans' Day and Buddy Poppy, Auxiliary volunteer.

Jim Mitchell, mentor, Voice of Democracy, Patriots' Pen, Buddy Poppy.

Voriece, Veterans' Day, Buddy Poppy, pies for Thanksgiving. Shark and Betty, Buddy Poppy.

Jean Auxiliary officer, Buddy Poppy, mentor.

Kit Spitzengel, Auxiliary, Refrigerator donation that made Thanksgiving Dinner easier. Jimmy Faye, our Canteen Goddess for her forbearance towards Canteen invasions by volunteers.

Bill Miller: QM, mentor, former Commander.

Dan Copher, Veterans' Day, Buddy Poppy. Sardi, Auxiliary member, , Buddy Poppy, and the terror of every Holiday bird in Sandy. To all the artists' whose songs I butchered on Karaoke night. Mark, Post Member, Poppy volunteer, Thanksgiving.

Jennifer several evenings for Thanksgiving Dinner volunteerism and Civil War Pot Luck. Ben, Bob, Kristian, Shane, Thanksgiving volunteers.

**Thank you all!!!**

## CANTEEN CORNER

There are several events this month which is making this a pretty busy month for all.

**On the 2nd** there will be a small Birthday party for Julie at the post. Please join us to celebrate her 50th.

**On the 6th** a celebration of life for Dave Velemre, It will be a pot luck so please come and bring a dish. Dave was a special member who donated time, money and items above and beyond any requirement. He left us to soon. He will be missed. Our complete condolences to his wife Vicky

**On the 12th** Tim Wilson will be making his famous Fajitas. Also we are having an UGLY Christmas Sweater Contest. This all starts at 5pm. Judging at 8pm  
And we will have Fun, fun, fun, till the Grinch shows up!!

**On the 17th** Jim Mitchel is having A pizza party upstairs for the Patriates Pen and Voice of Democracy!

**On the 20th** is our Post Christmas Party! It is a pot luck so please bring a dish, and a wrapped gift. Please wrap all gifts in {if possible} brown plain paper. No gift should be recognizable to others. Please give all gifts to the bartender when arriving. Party starts at 6:00pm ..This should be a very fun event.

**The 24th & 25th** the post will be closed for Christmas.

### . New Years Eve

We will again be having a celebration for the new year and

A dinner and activities will be on the agenda

. More info on this will be coming soon.

### From the Post Officers:

Starting January I, 2015. We want to be open the first and third Sunday and Monday of the month. But we need some volunteers to bartend [and babysit.] all volunteers must be OLCC certified and have a food handlers card. **THIS IS REQUIRED BY LAW.**

We would also like to offer breakfast and bingo on Sundays. If you would like to volunteer please let Jimmie know and she can tell you all the details.

## Post Chaplin

“Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Emmanuel. He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good... For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called wonderful counselor, mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”

Isaiah 7:14, 9:6

The holidays is a time for celebrating and giving thanks. During this time let us not forget our neighbors and the people that live in our community. We can give them the gift of our time and share our many talents that God has given to each one of us. So this holyday season, let’s reach out and make a difference in someone's’ life.

Our prayers are with the family and friends of long time friend of Sandy Post, Dave Velmere, we will miss him greatly.

“But God will redeem my life from the grave; he will surely take me to himself.”

Psalms 49:15

There will be a Celebration of Life Pot Luck at the Post for Dave Velmere.

It’s on December 6th, at 3:00 pm. Everyone is invited.

Chaplin, Mellissa

Post Officers	Ladies Auxiliary Officers
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Commander                      Casey Woods

Senior Vice Cmdr.

Junior Vice Cmdr

Chaplain                      Melissa Samuels

Quartermaster              Jerry Gomes

Judge Advocate              John Lamb

Adjutant                      Tony Gibbler

Surgeon                      Dan Copher

1 year Trustee              Ken Hershberger

2 year Trustee              Bert Key

3 year trustee              William Miller

President                      Loretta Wilson

Sr. Vice President              Dora Fitzpatrick

Jr. Vice President              Wanda Michaels

Treasurer                      Midge Watkins

Chaplain                      Judy Gascon

Secretary                      Kaye Gomes

Guard                          Sardi Bowyer



## Ladies Auxiliary President's Message

'Twas the night before Christmas, he lived all alone, In a one bedroom house made of plaster & stone. I had come down the chimney with presents to give And to see just who in this home did live. I looked all about a strange sight I did see, No tinsel, no presents, not even a tree. No stocking by the fire, just boots filled with sand, On the wall hung pictures of far distant lands. With medals and badges, awards of all kind A sober thought came through my mind. For this house was different, so dark and dreary, I knew I had found the home of a soldier, once I could see clearly.

I heard stories about them, I had to see more, So I walked down the hall and pushed open the door. And there he lay sleeping silent alone, Curled up on the floor in his one bedroom home. His face so gentle, his room in such disorder, Not how I pictured a United States soldier. Was this the hero of whom I'd just read? Curled up in his poncho, a floor for his bed? His head was clean shaven, his weathered face tan, I soon understood this was more than a man. For I realized the families that I saw that night Owed their lives to these men who were willing to fight. Soon 'round the world, the children would play, And grownups would celebrate on a bright Christmas day.

They all enjoyed freedom each month of the year, Because of soldiers like this one lying here. I couldn't help wonder how many lay alone On a cold Christmas Eve in a land far from home. Just the very thought brought a tear to my eye, I dropped to my knees and started to cry. The soldier awakened and I heard a rough voice, "Santa don't cry, this life is my choice; I fight for freedom, I don't ask for more, my life is my God, my country, my Corps." With that he rolled over and drifted off into sleep, I couldn't control it, I continued to weep. I watched him for hours, so silent and still, I noticed he shivered from the cold night's chill. So I took off my jacket, the one made of red, And I covered this Soldier from his toes to his head. And I put on his T-shirt of gray and black, With an eagle and an Army patch embroidered on back. And although it barely fit me, I began to swell with pride, And for a shining moment, I was United States Army deep inside. I didn't want to leave him on that cold dark night, This guardian of honor so willing to fight. Then the soldier rolled over, whispered with a voice so clean and pure,

"Carry on Santa, it's Christmas Day, all is secure. "One look at my watch, and I knew he was right, "Merry Christmas my friend, and to all a good night!"

Christmas is coming, and some credit is due to our U.S. Service Men and Women serving Overseas who cannot be with their loved ones this Holiday Season.

Loretta Wilson Aux President

We are still taking Pop Can and bottle donations for the new carpet and flooring, Gary Lightcap has been a great help turning them in for us. We have almost \$200.00. sadly we need several hundred more.

So keep them coming.

There are several other things around here that are in need of repair or replacement.

If you are a wizard with electricity, or plumbing, or any thing really and have some time to help. Please call Jimmie at the post and she can give you the details.

***Letter from the editor:***

***There ae many members who have suggestions for our newsletter ! Please E-Mail me any and all of them so I can give them the attention they deserve.***

***Thank you,***

***Jimmie***

Decoration the post for the holidays is time consuming and a lot of fun. If you would like to help, please call the post for times and days. We are starting on the 2nd. And hopefully it should be done by the 6th.