

# The Buckboard Bulletin

"First to serve our Veterans"

March 2009

## COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

Comrades and Sisters,

Mid-Winter Conference is over and I would like to thank all those who were able to attend. It was great hearing the VOD winners give their speeches and get their awards, and it was a special honor to hear our very own Patriot's Pen winner, Taylur De Wolf recite her winning essay. She makes this whole community proud of her.

If you have been by the post lately you have seen the new flag pole. A lot of team effort went into that project and I would like to thank everyone who participated in the project. I also want to thank Paul Munsell for donating the POW/MIA flag. We will be holding a flag pole dedication ceremony at a time and date to be announced later.

Now is the time for us to get serious about Adopting a military unit that is going overseas. There has always been a common bond between those serving in the military and the VFW. An extension of this bond is the VFW's Adopt-A-Unit program, which pairs a Post with a military unit. Besides sending "goody" packages to the troops, we would work on the local level to offer moral support to the family members left behind when the unit deploys. Our main reason for being VFW is to take care of veterans. What better way to take care of them than when they are at war? This will be a topic for discussion at the next meeting. Please be in attendance and get involved with this noble venture.

We will be hosting our Spring Post Golf Tournament on May 2. So, "Fore." get ready to play.

Allen Anderson, Commander



## Ladies Auxiliary President's Message

Sisters,

I have been very fortunate to be able to attend the past three Mid-Winter Conferences. This year it was in Portland, which made for an easy trip. As in the past, I found our young American Patriots to be very inspiring. I urge all of you who have been unable to attend Mid-Winter, to attend next year's event. You will not regret it.

I would like to thank Kathy Dunn and Samantha Carlson for helping me with February's Breakfast and Larry Merritt for calling BINGO. We raised about \$230, and donations went to our Youth Activities Program. Sisters, our programs are the backbone of this organization. I urge all of you to become involved. I really appreciate everyone who supports our fundraisers, the money raised always goes to great causes.

I would like to wish Betty Haider and Jean Bettencourt speedy recoveries. Thank you.

President Lori Merritt

## March Calendar

Mar 1	Breakfast/BINGO (Post) 10:00 am
Mar 8	Breakfast/BINGO (Post) 10:00 am
Mar 11	House Committee Meeting 5:30 pm
Mar 13	Ladies Aux Meeting 6:45 pm, Post Meeting 8:00 pm
Mar 14	Men's Aux Meeting 2:00 pm
Mar 15	Breakfast/BINGO (Ladies Aux) 10:00 am
Mar 17	St. Patrick's Day
Mar 21	March Birthday Party 7:00 pm
Mar 22	Breakfast/BINGO (Men's Aux) 10:00 am
Mar 29	Breakfast/BINGO 10:00 am

### From Your Editor

Bert Key

Newsletter articles are due 21 March for the April Newsletter.

Contact your editor at:  
**bert.key@us.army.mil**

### The Post Chaplain

KO Towery's heart surgery went super. He is home and walking every-day as per doctor's orders. Our prayers and good wishes go out to KO and Peggy.

### The Auxiliary Chaplain

**Brier Chung**

Get well soon wishes go out to everyone ill this month. Now is the time for colds and flu. Everyone take care.

May the good Lord bless us all.

### Men's Auxiliary President's

Hey guys. I hope everyone is having a good month. Things have been kind of quiet for activities but I would like to thank my son, Tom Dunn, for helping me with the February breakfast and Darrell Vaughn for calling the BINGO. Our March meeting will be on the 14th and I hope to see as many of you as we can at the meeting. We also have a breakfast on March 22nd. I could use some volunteers to help and if you can not volunteer we would still like to see you there to support the Auxiliary and the Post.

There are still a few of you who have not paid your dues for 2009. If you have not, could you please get those in to me or Larry? Thank you.

Your President, Bob Dunn

VA SUICIDE HOT LINE— Telephone: 1-800-273-TALK  
 Website: [www.suicidepreventionlifeline.com](http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.com)  
 DOD Defense Centers PSYC health: Telephone: 1-866-966-1020  
 E-Mail: [resources@dcoeoutreach.org](mailto:resources@dcoeoutreach.org)

### CANCER PROGRAM UPDATE

**Thank you to everyone who came to the post and had Soup & Salad and bought 50-50 tickets for Cancer Aid and Research. Helene Hawkins was the winner. She donated her winnings back to the Cancer Fund, which gave us a total of \$128. A great big thank you to my faithful helpers, Laura Baron, Sharkey and Betty Haider. We will be starting a Raffle for Cancer March 1st, with tickets \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Tickets to be drawn between Breakfast & BINGO on March 15th. Please come out and support the cause. This will be our last big fundraiser for Cancer Aid this year.**

**It has been brought to my attention that there is a National Cancer fundraiser called "A DIME A DAY". I am sorry for such short notice, this program ends for this year on March 31. Your total donation would be \$36.50. Anyone wanting to participate please send your donation to SANDY V.F.W. LADIES AUXILIARY 4273, ATTN: CANCER FUND, PO BOX 1262, SANDY, OR 97055, or drop your dimes off at the post.**

**Remember your membership in the Ladies Auxiliary qualifies you for Cancer grants at the Auxiliary and National levels. Please let us know if you are diagnosed with any form of cancer. Our Auxiliary Treasurer has the National Cancer grant forms available.**

**I hope everyone's DREAMS COME UP RAINBOWS. Thank you again for your generous support. Voriece, Cancer Chairwoman**

### 2009 Membership

**Post 83%  
 Auxiliary 93%**

**Send in your dues  
 NOW!**

### New members wanted!

Post Members pay \$26.00 to join and annual dues of \$25.00 per year there after. Ladies Auxiliary Members pay \$25.00 to join and annual dues of \$20.00 a year. Life Memberships available.

**Lets make our Post and  
 Auxiliaries 100%  
 Again this year!**

Post Officers	2008-2009	Auxiliary Officers	
Commander	Allen Anderson	President	Lori Merritt
Senior Vice Commander	Mike Horttor	Sr. Vice President	Helene Hawkins
Junior Vice Commander	Jim Mitchell	Jr. Vice President	Christie Horttor
Chaplain Pro Tem	Marty LeDoux	Treasurer	Jackie Key
Quartermaster	Tim Wilson	Chaplain	Brier Chung
Judge Advocate	John Lamb	Secretary	Dora Fitzpatrick
Adjutant	Al Gagnon	Guard	Kit Spitzengel
Surgeon	Dan Copher	Conductress	Carol Engblom

**REMEMBER BUDDY POPPIES:**

The Memorial Day BUDDY POPPY distribution in May is coming up soon. Please plan now to set aside a Saturday during May to help. The shifts are only 3 hours long so please plan to sign up for a shift when the list goes up at the post. Line up someone to join you and take a shift together. This is one of our biggest fund raisers. But it is more than a fund raiser, it is a way to honor all veterans and it is good PR for the Post. We will need lots of help from Post members, and members of the Ladies and Men's Auxiliaries, if we want to cover all four Saturdays in May and possibly at a couple of other locations. The more we put into the drive the more we will get out of it.

**Jim Mitchell**

**CANTEEN CORNER**

**Lori Merritt**

Helene Hawkins put on her annual Prime Rib Dinner that was a huge success. Proceeds from the dinner went to the Bake and Sew Ladies. Great job Helene! And a great big thank you to everyone who supported this wonderful event.

In additions to our Tacos on Wednesday the 11th, Dan Copher will be making his delicious Enchiladas. Do not miss it. We never know when he will be in town long enough to make them again.

We are putting together a Texas Hold 'Em Tournament on March 28, at 3:00 pm. There will be a \$20 buy-in. Please contact the Canteen as soon as possible if you would like to participate in this event. It will be a lot of fun.

A big thank you goes to Al Gagnon for his continued help with Taco Wednesdays. I could not do it without him.

Come in and join us for Breakfast/BINGO's every Sunday this month. The March Birthday Party will be held on the 21st.

Just a reminder, the post is non-smoking. There are still some people who try to violate the policy by smoking in the restrooms or inside at the back door. The House Committee voted last week to reprimand those who violate this law. The first violation will result in a written reprimand. The second and subsequent violations will result in 30 day suspensions of Post privileges. It is not just a good idea, it is the law. Thank you.

See you at the Post!

**From the Judge**

**Question:** Is a public school required to fly the U.S. Flag outside and/or in the classrooms?

**Answer:** The Federal Flag Code indicates a flag should fly outside a school building during school hours. The code has no enforcement, that is left up to the state.

**Question:** Can Flag Retirement Burning Ceremonies be public or private?

**Answer:** At the 102nd National Convention, delegates approved a resolution allowing Posts to conduct a ceremony either privately or publicly.

**Question:** Should the POW/MIA flag be flown above or below the VFW flag?

**Answer:** If on one pole, the POW/MIA flag flies above the VFW flag. If two poles, the POW/MIA flag flies under the U. S. flag and the VFW flag is flown on the second pole.

**Question:** Can a U.S. Flag be flown at half-staff at the local level when a member of the Post is deceased?

**Answer:** No. Only the President of the United States or Governor of the state can direct a U. S. Flag to be half-staffed. It is suggested that the VFW organizational flag, if on a separate pole be half-staffed in that case.

**Question:** Are the National By-Laws displayed on the VFW Website?

**Answer:** No, at this time it is not being considered.

**AMERICANISM**

Where did all the flags go? Remember how you saw flags everywhere after September 11, 2001. What happened? Now more than ever our Post and Auxiliary members need to display our National Flag everyday and in everyway. Wear a flag pin, replace the worn out flag magnet on your car, put up a flag pole display outside your home and fly it daily. Our Post has a new, bigger and better flag pole. Have you seen it? Just in time for all of us to renew our Americanism with pride. Americanism and patriotism should not be celebrated only on holidays but 365 days a year to show our appreciation for the freedoms we have because so many have fought to defend these freedoms.

May 1st is Loyalty Day. Wear and fly our American flag with pride on Loyalty Day, and reaffirm your loyalty to the United States and for the recognition of the heritage of American freedom.

Ladies Auxiliary committee reports for year 2008-09 are to be turned into Auxiliary President Lori Merritt by March 31, 2009. Remember to report everything your committee did from April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009.

**Quote of the month:**

“These young patriots are looking for an organization that recognizes and appreciates their service. However, they are not looking for an organization that maintains facilities that allow smoking. Nor are they looking for an organization whose leaders year-in and year-out are part of the ‘good old boys’ clique. Neither do they want an organization that does not give them the opportunity to lead or one that exists solely to run a canteen and a bingo game.”

**Glen M. Gardner Jr.  
Commander-in-Chief**

“Taco Wednesday” is off and running from 4-7:00 PM each week. Please come in and support this fundraiser!



**THE BUCKBOARD BULLETIN**  
Sandy VFW Post 4273  
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