

The Buckboard Bulletin

"First to serve our Veterans"

June July August 2008

COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with a humble heart that I sit before you this evening writing this, my last and final newsletter as your Commander. As I ponder the myriad of successes we have had together over this past two years, it is incredible. You people are amazing. Together we have accomplished so much. During my two years in command I have been able to travel all around the state of Oregon and visit other posts. There is no doubt in my mind that this post is the finest in the state. The members here are the most veteran and community committed in the state.

We, as a post have much to be grateful for in the hard work and tenacity of our charter members, and in their foresight in forming this post and keeping it going in it's infancy. We also have much to be proud of in the value we add to the betterment of the community of Sandy. When you read down the membership roll of this post you read through hero after hero in the struggle to maintain security and freedom in this nation.

One of my most proud moments in my life is to have been your spokesperson for the last two years. Words alone cannot express the pride I have in the members of this Post, and Ladies and Men's Auxiliaries, and their dedication to the plight of the American Patriot. I will always cherish the time we have spent together in making this post a better place. It is absolutely impossible to individually recognize everyone in the post who have stepped up to the plate and volunteered their time and energy to the betterment of the veterans of the state of Oregon. We are truly a "team" in every sense of the word. Our members set the example in giving of themselves for the betterment of our community. The support you have given me as Commander has been instrumental in all of our success. I cannot thank you enough for that.

As the torch passes to a new commander, I ask that you give Allen Anderson the same level of support you gave me. Allen comes to the position with a lot of experience and talent. But, as we all know this is not a one person show. It takes the energy and talents of a lot of people to make this post as successful as it is. He needs our support and "can do" attitudes. He needs our attendance at the monthly meetings. Please plan to attend as many of those as you can.

Finally, at last count we had 17 members going to Department Convention in Pendleton 18-22 June. That is a great turnout, but there is still time for more to register if you want to go.

You all have a great Summer and we will see you at the Post!

Semper Fi!

Bert Key, Commander

President's Message

Ladies,

I am very proud to have been in the company of such fine ladies as my officers this past year. A big thanks to all of the officers last year for a job well done! Our new officers for 2008-08 are: Senior Vice President Helene Hawkins, Junior Vice President Christie Horttor, Chaplain Brier Chung, Treasurer Jackie Key, Secretary Dora Fitzpatrick, Conductress Carol Engblom, and Guard Kit Spitzengel. Congratulations Ladies, I am looking forward to a wonderful year with all of you. If anyone is interested in taking on a chairmanship please let me know.

We had a good turnout for our Memorial Day Service. Even though it was a little wet and rainy outside it didn't damper the spirit of the day. There is a lot of behind the scenes things that go on for this event and I would like to say a big "thank you" to Voriece Blair for her continued dedication and organization of this program. Also, thanks to all of our volunteers who helped get the job done. The Cemeteries looked beautiful!

This year a Convention of ladies of the Sandy Post will be wearing matching shirts to show our pride in our Auxiliary. I would like to thank Christie Horttor for embroidering all the shirts, they look great! If anyone is interested in a shirt contact Loretta Wilson and we can get one ordered for you.

The Sister of the Year Award this year goes to The Bake and Sew Ladies. They work hard all year to bring much joy to the patients at the VA hospitals and also to our soldiers overseas. Congratulations Ladies! The Ladies are now taking a much deserved vacation from baking and sewing and will resume in September.

Even though you will not be getting a newsletter for a few months there will still be a lot going on at the Post, so make sure you mark your calendar for the events over the summer.

I urge you to get involved this year to make this the best year ever for the Sandy Ladies Auxiliary.

Thank you,

Lori Merritt, President

SUMMER Calendar

June 8	Breakfast and BINGO (Post)
June 11	House Committee Meeting 5:30 PM
June 13	Auxiliary Meeting 6:45 PM / Post Meeting 8:00 PM June Birthday Party /Pot luck at 6:00 PM
June 14	Men's Auxiliary Meeting 2:00 PM
June 15	Breakfast and BINGO (Ladies Aux)
June 18-22	VFW Department Convention/Pendleton
June 27-29	White River Campout
July 10	Mt. Festival Parade
July 16	House Committee Meeting 5:30 PM
July 18	Potluck at 6:00 PM Auxiliary Meeting 6:45 PM/Post Meeting 8:00 PM
July 19	Men's Auxiliary Meeting 2:00 PM
July 25	July Birthday Party
August 6	House Committee Meeting 5:30 PM
August 8	Potluck at 6:00 PM Auxiliary Meeting 6:45 PM/Post Meeting 8:00 PM
August 9	Men's Auxiliary Meeting 2:00 PM
August 22-24	VFW Campout at Barton Park
August 23	VFW Annual Picnic August Birthday Party

From Your Editor Jackie Key

This newsletter is the last for this year. The next newsletter will be published in September. This is also my last newsletter as your editor, as I am turning over my pen to Bert.

Contact your editor at:

bert.key@us.army.mil

Men's Auxiliary President's Message

Hello gentlemen.

We had a two Breakfast/BINGO's that did pretty well this month. Between the two we made \$438. Thanks to all those who helped with those events. Our meeting was held on May 10th. Our next meeting will be June 14 at 2:00 at the post. Please plan to attend.

Thanks and have a good month.

Bob Dunn, President

Important Change Notice:

Clackamas County Veterans Service Officer, Janice Raisl will be at the Post from 10:00-12:00 am on Thursday, 12 June instead of 19 June. This is a change, as she is usually here on the 3rd Thursday of the month, and will be back on that 3rd Thursday schedule beginning in July.

The Post Chaplain

Nick Roth

We have some good news and some not so good. We lost another WWII life member, George A. Burg. We attended the memorial service held at Sandy Baptist Church. All honor guard members were in their Black and Whites. Widow Ruth Burg, daughter Melonie and sons Dennis, Mike, and George accepted their father's passing with adoration. He was a man of moral convictions and of community service.

On the good news side, after 14 months of fighting Cancer, doctors announced no new or old Cancer cells were found in Chaplain Nick's body. He should be with us for a while longer, still weak after losing 45 pounds. We send out more than 700 bulletins to comrades and sisters and their families but we get few, if any announcements of need or illness. Please keep in touch with your post officers.

God Bless Our Country

Chaplain Nick

**Father's Day
Breakfast and BINGO
June 15, 2008
Breakfast 10 AM to Noon
BINGO Begins at 1 PM
Breakfast free to all Dads**

The Auxiliary Chaplain

Our deepest sympathies go out to the family of Anna Esping. Anna will be missed.

God Bless Us Everyone

Our Auxiliary would like to thank Bonnie Hershberger for her great years of service to our Ladies Auxiliary. Least of which was her service as Auxiliary Chaplain. Thank you for taking on such a important position and doing a wonderful job. We look forward to your guidance in the future.

MEMORIAL DAY 2008

THANK YOU!

To all of you that gave up your time to come and help out with the Memorial Day Flag Program. We had a great turnout, lots of hard work and lots of fun. We had 32 volunteers totaling 102 hours. A job well done!!!

Volunteers included: Rich & Kit Spitzengel, Larry Merritt, Marty Ledoux, Sharkey & Betty Haider, Chris & Carol Engblom, Chuck Lutz, Ken & Bonnie Hershberger, Bob & Aloha Jones, Charlene Wormdahl, Jackie Key, Matt & Janet Misner, Al Gagnon, Dan Copher, Dora Fitzpatrick, Mike Horttor, Tim Wilson, Leo Johnson, Darrell & Sharon Crall, Steve & Lora-lee Frischman, Joe Walker, Helen Kennedy, Michelle Van Beek, Brittany Petronek, and Bob & Barb Johnson.

Thank you,
Voriece Blair

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	Nick Roth	Treasurer	Jackie Key
Quartermaster	Tim Wilson	Chaplain	Brier Chung
Judge Advocate	John Lamb	Secretary	Dora Fitzpatrick
Adjutant	Al Gagnon	Guide	Kit Spitzengel
Surgeon	Dan Copher	Conductress	Carol Engblom

FROM THE SANDBOX.....

The last couple of months have seen us become pretty busy. In March I was able to take some R and R leave in Germany with my family, and that was wonderful. After returning in the beginning of April, we started working on setting up our region of Baghdad over for transition to a new unit. That was quite a bit of work, but in the end it was rewarding to see that they received an area which was safer, cleaner and had more projects running than most places to make life better for not only the Iraqis but also the Soldiers who took over our living spaces. One of the sub-units of our glorious 2nd Cavalry Regiment was also largely responsible for bringing home the remains of SSG Maupin, a warrior that had been missing for several years.

Just prior to the move into our new area we had the chance to take some time and re-confirm our weapons on a large range complex the U.S. built outside of Baghdad. On the way there, however, we made significant contact when one of my vehicles hit an IED. Lucky for us the Stryker Combat Vehicle is one mad mamajama, and no injuries or damage to speak of. Somebody was definitely looking out for us that day!

We are now in the Diyala Province north of Baghdad, and are trying to continue our work here. The area is a pretty vast area, except for a few small towns and the capital, Bagubah. The security situation is also not as good as we had it in our region of Baghdad, but we will strive to control and hold this area so that these people can live without the influence of Al Queda in Iraq.

Your Soldiers are continuing to serve America proudly, and it is still my distinct honor to serve with them. As always, I thank each and every one of you for your service to our country and also the Ladies of the Auxiliary for everything they do! God bless you and keep you safe back home.

Sincerely,
Alex Heller

CANTEEN CORNER

Lori Merritt

We will be having three Breakfast/BINGO's in June. The last one will be on Father's Day, June 15. Dad's eat for free! Bring your Dad in for Breakfast and stay to play BINGO. Breakfast/BINGO will resume in September. A big thanks to all that helped out this year. We have had some great breakfasts!

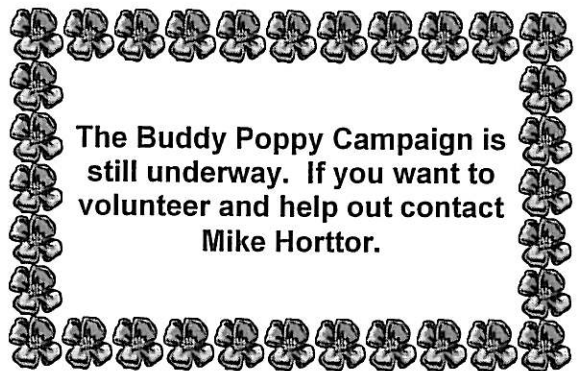
Some of our members have a campout planned in June. It will be at White River. For directions or more information you can contact Kris Engblom at (503) 668-6995.

Voriece Blair is having her annual rummage sale at her home at the end of July. If you have anything you would like to donate she will be accepting donations at the beginning of July. She will also be raffling a few things off, tickets will be on sale at the Canteen. All proceeds from the sale are donated to the Race For The Cure. Contact the Post for more information.

The "Cookie Ladies" sent a total of 578 dozen cookies to Iraq this year. The lucky recipients of said cookies were, Staff Sergeant Fitzpatrick, Sergeant Iamigachi and Sergeant First Class Alex Heller. The Ladies received wonderful letters of thanks from these soldiers that were very much appreciated.

A great big thank you goes to Mike and Christy Horttor for their donating the new computer to the post. That is amazing. Have a safe and happy summer. See you at the Post!

**Saturday, 14 June is Flag Day.
Show your pride and display
your flag in a respectful way.**



The Buddy Poppy Campaign is still underway. If you want to volunteer and help out contact Mike Horttor.

NEW

Introducing the Ladies Auxiliary VFW Premier Dental Insurance Plan

Find out more (including cost, exclusions, limitations and terms of coverage), go to the Ladies Auxiliary VFW Insurance Program website (www.nebenefit.com/lavfw) and click on Insurance Plans or call, 1-800-808-4514 to ask our Customer Care Representatives for the details.

VFW Department School of Instruction

July 19 at Pendelton
July 26 at Roque River
August 2 at Willamina

2008-09 Officers will want to attend one of these trainings.

