



September / October 2008

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Jim Willis, Director

Oregon Celebrates 60 Years of Desegregation of the Military

by Mike Allegre

Thomas Jefferson wrote in the Declaration of Independence that: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal." Abraham Lincoln said in his Gettysburg Address that we live in "a new nation, conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal."

However, for veterans attending the celebration of the 60th Anniversary of the Desegregation of the Armed Services, July 18 in Salem, their liberties were hard won during a different time in our nation's history.

Hosted by the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA) and the Oregon Military Department, the celebration drew more than 100 family, friends and interested visitors to honor the American veterans of African, Japanese, Hispanic, Indian and other descent.

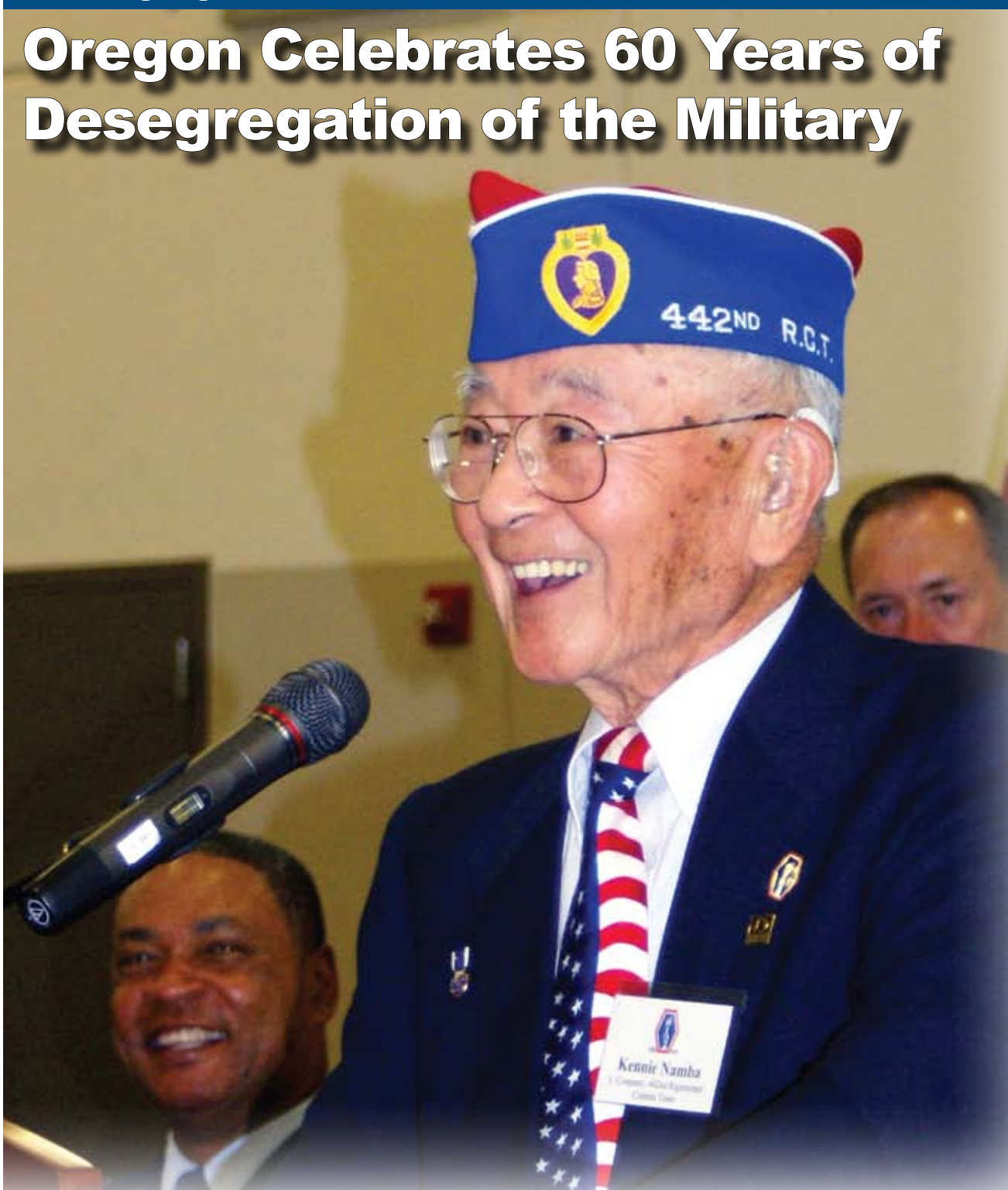
Oregon's first African-American general officer, Brig. Gen. Garry C. Dean, was the keynote speaker. He would address a unique group of veterans: Tuskegee Airmen, Japanese-Americans from the famed 442nd Regimental Combat Team, as well as Native American and Hispanic veterans.

ODVA Director Jim Willis welcomed guests to the ceremony and praised the military's changes to establish equality for all service members.

"It is important that we hold events commemorating the successes we have

SEE DESEGREGATION ON PAGE 5

COVER PHOTO BY TOM MANN



New GI Bill Expands Benefits

WASHINGTON DC – The Congress has passed and President George W. Bush has signed legislation enacting the Post 9/11 GI Bill, also known as the GI Bill for the 21st Century. The most comprehensive education benefits package since the original GI Bill of 1944, the new GI Bill significantly expands a veteran's education benefits.

"One of the reasons the World War II generation is the greatest generation is because

they came home from war, went back to school, and then began leading our nation," said Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs Director Jim Willis. "With this new GI Bill, we can make another great generation of future leaders."

Benefits Start Date

This new GI Bill is set to go into effect on August 1, 2009. However, as with any new

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Director's Message



As this issue of the *VETS NEWS* goes to press, the Governor's Task Force on Veterans Services will have completed town hall meetings in 24 Oregon communities and toured thirteen facilities throughout Oregon.

During late-August and early-September, the Task Force will prepare a written report to the Governor of its findings and recommendations to better meet the needs of Oregon's veterans and their families.

With subcommittees dealing with Reintegration Services, Post-Separation access to services and the needs of senior and aging veterans, the Task Force is dedicated to

Governor's Task Force Holds Town Hall Meetings Statewide

meeting the needs of veterans who range in age from their late-teens to those who are in their nineties.

In addition to the support for this effort from the Governor, many members of the Oregon House and Senate have taken part in both the Task Force meetings and the town hall gatherings across the state.

Veterans in Oregon are indeed fortunate to have the continued support of concerned elected and appointed leaders along with private citizens.

By taking the findings of the Task Force to the 2009 Oregon Legislative Session along with Joint Memorials to be sent to the US Congress, it is hoped that the needs of our veterans will be met operationally in the short term and strategically for decades to come.

As the Director of the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs, I sincerely appreciate the input received from all of those concerned individuals who attended our town hall meetings across the state.

It is our plan to publish the report of the Task Force on our website as soon as is possible.

In closing let me also thank all of you who are working in support of our troops in the field and their families here at home. Special thanks also goes to the Oregon National Guard Reintegration Team who continue to do a superior job in support of not only our Guard personnel, but also for members of our Active Reserve and Active Duty forces and their families. Thank you also to those of you who continue to support our senior veterans and their spouses at the Oregon Veterans' Home.

Jim Willis, Director

Vietnam War PBR Featured at Albany Veterans Day Parade

Attention all Brown Water Sailors, Army River Raiders, and Navy Seawolves. The Northwest Chapter, Gamewardens of Vietnam will bring their Patrol Boat River (PBR) to Albany for display on November 10 and as a participant in the annual Veterans Day Parade on November 11.

The PBR in concert with the US Navy Swift Boats, Monitors and the famous Navy Seawolves providing air support made history during the Vietnam War in combining Navy and Army operations in the brown waters of South Vietnam and other waterways throughout the war.

The members of the Northwest Chapter, Gamewardens of Vietnam invite all of their fellow veterans to visit their PBR, which will be on display at American Legion Post 10 located at 1215 Pacific Boulevard SE in Albany all day on Nov. 10. The Brown Water Veterans are also invited to join



Patrol River Boats such as this were instrumental in the brown water operations of South Vietnam. They worked along with Swift Boats, Monitors and the famous Navy Seawolves.

the crew of the PRB during the parade on November 11.

In what promises to be a mini-reunion, these brave sailors and soldiers who served together more than 40 years ago will once again gather to remember those times when they were the masters of the brown waters of South Vietnam.

Oregon is Leader in Comp, Pension Claims

WASHINGTON, DC – According to the VA, Oregon is ranked number three in pension claims with an average award of \$751 per month, and number six in compensation claims averaging \$937 per award. Oregon is one of only three states ranked in the top 10 in both categories, along with Oklahoma and Nebraska.



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Published every other month for Oregon veterans and others interested in news affecting veterans and their dependents.

If you wish to receive the VETS NEWS regularly, send your name and address to the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs, Attention Public Information, 700 Summer Street, NE, Salem, OR 97301-1285. If you are a veteran, please include your era of military service.

When credit is given to the source, VETS NEWS articles may be reprinted. However, please call the editor to assure accuracy and timeliness of the articles. Reunions printed upon space availability. (Input for the next issue should be received by October 1, 2008.)

Scholarship Named for Late Advisory Chair, Dick Lucht

In memory of Richard P. "Dick" Lucht, the Yamhill County Disabled American Veterans (DAV) will soon be establishing a Scholarship Program.

The new scholarship will be open to graduating sons and daughters of service-connected disabled veterans attending McMinnville High School.

As reported in the July/August edition of VETS NEWS, Lucht passed away on June 5. He was honorably discharged from the Navy, and would later work tirelessly with the Oregon

Department of Veterans' Affairs and Oregon Legislature to create the Oregon Veterans' Home, which opened in 1997.

It is the goal of DAV and the Auxiliary chapter to fund the scholarship at \$2,000 annually. The chapter members have approved the first \$1,000 and are challenging the DAV and other organizations to meet the goal in the first year. Scholarships should be available for the graduating class of 2009.

Details of the scholarship will be designed

by his widow, Nita. If you or your organization would like to help fund the scholarship, please mail a contribution to:

DAV #5
PO Box 494
McMinnville, OR 97128-0494

Please enclose a letter denoting use of the funds or write Dick Lucht Scholarship in the memo portion of your check.

Milwaukie H.S. Holds 13th Annual Living History Day

MILWAUKIE – Milwaukie High School will hold its 13th annual Living History Day on Monday, November 3. This all-day event begins with continental breakfast at 8 a.m. and will be highlighted by an Assembly of Honor at 12:45 p.m. in the high school gymnasium.

A luncheon hosted by the student body will be held before the assembly, and indoor and outdoor museums are on display throughout the event. Veterans are invited and encouraged to share their personal stories in morning classroom sessions for students.

Each year, Living History Day attracts veterans from all around the country. Among the highlighted guests this year are Tuskegee

Airmen Alexander Jefferson of Detroit, Mich., Bill Holloman of Kent, Wash., and Bill Terry of Inglewood, Calif., as well as Native American Veterans from various tribes throughout the United States, who will be specially honored during the Assembly of Honor.

This is a truly amazing opportunity for Milwaukie High School students to learn about our history through powerful real-life stories. Living History Day also provides positive acknowledgement and appreciation to those individuals whose contribution and service helped define our country.

Living History Day is hosted by a non-profit organization, Remembering America's Heroes,

founded by Ken Buckles, a Milwaukie High School teacher. This event has earned state and national recognition, and has grown to include other high schools throughout the state of Oregon.

Remembering America's Heroes also hosts the Oregon Military Hall of Fame, as well as a special exhibit and show at the Oregon State Fair.

All veterans and their guests are invited to attend this free event. Registration is required.

For more information or to register, please call 503.659.5157 or e-mail katy@rahusa.us.

Reunions and Events

Farragut Naval Training Station is having its reunion Sept. 6, at Farragut State Park, Athol, ID. Overnight camping is available, and reservations can be made at 208-683-2425, Ext. 21. For information, contact the reunion coordinator, Janice Lauer, 208-660-0660, or Bob Moore 208-683-5707.

USS Merrick AKA-97 is having its ship reunion Sept. 7-11, at the Oxford Suites Hotel, (Jantzen Beach) in Portland, OR. For reservations, call the hotel at 1-800-548-7848. Mention the USS Merrick reunion for the group rate. For information contact Richard Bonn, 503-982-7117, email: hpolete@yahoo.com, or Hank Polete, 360-735-7438, email: dcbonn@wbcable.net.

483rd Bombardment Group (H) Association is having its reunion Sept. 8-14, in St. Peters/St. Charles, MO. For information, contact George Stovall, 825 NE Lawndale Place, Corvallis, OR. 97330, 541-758-0009, email: gstovall@peak.org.

Veterans of the Battle of The Bulge is having its reunion Sept. 9-14, at the Ramada Hotel in Columbus, OH. For information, 503-854-6008.

USS Canopus is having its reunion September 11-14, in Jacksonville, FL. For information contact Richard Retin, 2245 Wintercreek Way SE, Salem, OR 97306, 503-689-1712, email: usscanopus@mail.com.

Oregon Veterans of Underage Military Service will hold their annual get-together Sept. 11, at the Korean War Memorial in Wilsonville,

Oregon. A meeting will begin at 1 p.m. in the Mount Hood Conference room of the Wilsonville Chamber of Commerce Building, 29600 SW Park Place, Wilsonville, OR. For information, contact Jack Lutz, 503-569-0335, email: doylevums@yahoo.com.

USMC Motor Transport Association is having its reunion September 14-17, in Kilauea, HI. For information, contact Terry Hightower, PO Box 1372, Jacksonville, NC 28541, 910-324-728, email: secretary@usmcmta.org.

Korean Veterans Company A 701st is having its reunion Sept. 16-18, at the Comfort Inn & Suites in Troutdale, OR. For information, contact Lou Nederhiser, PO Box 581, Sandy, OR 97055. Reservations must be made before September 5, 2008 by calling the Comfort Inn at 503-669-6500 and referencing Korean Veterans Reunion.

The Society of The Third Infantry Division is having its 89th reunion September 18-21, in Columbus, GA. at the Sheraton Hotel 4 Points, 5351 Sydney Simons Blvd., Columbus, GA. For reservations call, 706-327-6868. For information, contact Linda Irvine, 360-663-2521, email: info@thereunionbrat.com.

USNR Midshipmen's School is having its reunion Sept. 18-20, in Springfield IL. For information, contact Ken Boyd, 16608 La Palma Lane, Edmond, OK 73012, 405-330-4707, email: kb@clickworld.net.

22nd Bomb Squadron is having its reunion Sept. 24-28, at the Portland Doubletree. Squadrons of the 341st Bomb Group, the 11th and the

490th are welcome to attend. For information, contact Rupert McDowell, 503-343-5701, email: butch23@hotmail.com.

Navy Net Tender/Layer is having its reunion Oct. 2-4, at the Seattle Airport Marriot Hotel. Anyone who has served on a Net Tender, Net Gate Tender, Net Cargo Ship or Net Depot during WWII, Korea or Vietnam is welcome to attend. For information, contact Harlan Roth, 11820 SW Belmont Terrace, Beaverton, OR 97008, 503-643-1424.

USS Brice Canyon AD36 is having its reunion Oct. 9-12, at the Portland Holiday Inn. For information contact Mike Nesbitt, 619-562-5690, email: thenezz@cox.net.

USAF Military Training Instructor is having its reunion - convention October 21-24, at Lackland AFB, TX. For information contact Johnnie Mansfield, 821 SW 15th Street, Troutdale, OR 97060, 503-666-4587, email: johnniem97060@aol.com.

Portland Chapter of the Military Order of World Wars Massing of the Colors will present its annual massing of the colors and service remembrance Nov. 2, at 2 p.m. at the Oregon National Guard Kliever Armory, 10000 NE 33rd Drive, Portland, OR. All service organizations are asked to participate by bringing their colors. For information and to RSVP, contact Kathy Page, 503-678-2348.

American Ex-Prisoners Of War will hold their mid-year meeting Wed., Oct. 15, at 12 p.m., Izzy's in Corvallis, OR.

Vets' Home Resident Gets Jet Flight

by Mike Allegre

When Donald "Don" R. McIntee grew up on a North Dakota farm near the Canadian border, he didn't imagine that at age 19 he would enlist into the U.S. Army Air Corps and be a crewmember aboard a B-17 bomber.

The former Flying Fortress aerial engineer has had one wish – to again ride in a military aircraft. As part of the "New Chapters" program of Marquis/Consonus Healthcare Facilities, he was granted his wish. On June 18, the 85-year-old veteran and resident of the Oregon Veterans' Home, returned to the skies, but not in a vintage American plane.

With help from the Dallesport, WA. volunteer fire department, McIntee, an amputee, was placed in the backseat of a Czechoslovakian-built L-39 Albatross military jet that is owned and piloted by Phil Fogg, Sr. A former Vietnam Cobra helicopter pilot, Fogg is also the director of Business Development for Marquis.

The pair lifted off from the Dallesport airport and flew over the Veterans' Home to an awaiting crowd. Fogg then rolled the aircraft and the men headed down the Columbia River Gorge to Hood River, his home for 40 years.

During World War II, McIntee spent three years instructing other men in aerial gunnery in Kingman, Ariz. As a skilled B-17 flight engineer, McIntee maintained the aircraft's electrical system and other in-flight mechanical operations.

"While on our daily four-hour training missions, I stood between the pilot and co-pilot



Oregon Veterans' Home resident, Don McIntee, shakes hands with pilot, Phil Fogg after their flight above the Home and Columbia River in Fogg's Czechoslovakian-built L-39 Albatross military jet.

and read airspeed for them for take off and landing and sometimes flew the B-17's once they were in the air," McIntee said. "I was a B-17 man."

McIntee didn't experience aerial combat. He was not assigned to serve in Europe until July 28, 1945, nearly three months after Germany surrendered. His B-17 crew was ordered to fly to the Mediterranean Sea, the Suez Canal and the Indian Ocean and up to Calcutta India.

"When the first atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima, Japan on Aug. 6, I was in the Suez Canal. Then the war was pretty much over," he said.

McIntee was thankful for the ride and excited to be airborne again. "I only have one leg, but I was able to get on board with some help. The jet was faster than the B-17, but the feeling was again as much fun as flying over 65 years ago. I just love flying."

Veterans' Home Wins Quality Award

THE DALLES – Demonstrating an extraordinary commitment to quality care for the nation's frail, elderly and disabled, the Oregon Veterans' Home has received a Step II award for quality achievement from the American Health Care Association (AHCA) and the National Center for Assisted Living (NCAL). The Oregon Veterans' Home is one of 23 facilities in the nation to achieve this level of recognition within the AHCA/NCAL Quality Award program, for leading the profession's movement toward a systematic process to achieve continuous quality improvement.

"The Oregon Veterans' Home is at the forefront of the quality movement and we applaud them for their efforts to incorporate processes which demonstrate enhanced quality," said AHCA/NCAL President and CEO, Bruce Yarwood. "Quality improvement is a dynamic ongoing process and the Oregon Veterans' Home organizational and performance excellence results in exceptional care for their residents, and makes them a deserving recipient of this prestigious award."

The AHCA/NCAL Quality Award is modeled after criteria from the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award, the nation's premier recognition for quality achievement. The AHCA/NCAL

award recognizes commitment to a continuous quality improvement process at nursing facilities, assisted living residences, and residences for persons with developmental disabilities. The facilities selected have made customer satisfaction and quality outcomes their top priority.



"We are very proud of our Veterans' Home and this award confirms what we already know, and that is we provide some of the highest quality of care in the country to our veterans," said Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs Director Jim Willis. "We will continue to strive to provide the best care available at our Veterans' Home."

AHCA/NCAL Quality Awards consist of an entry level, Step I Award, which the Veterans' Home received last year; a more rigorous Step II Award; and the comprehensive Step III Award. Recipients at the Step II level addressed in detail leadership, strategic planning, data collection and analysis, human resource development, and other criteria.

The Oregon Veterans' Home will be honored for its achievement and presented with its award during AHCA/NCAL's 59th Annual Convention and Exposition, Oct. 5-8, in Nashville, TN.

Enrolled Veterans Gain Access to AAFES

SAINT LOUIS – Veterans enrolled in the VA health system now can sign up to access the Army Air Force Exchange System (AAFES) online.

AAFES has established a partnership with the Veterans' Canteen Service (VCS), the store routinely found in VA Medical Facilities throughout the country. Through this partnership, any veteran with a VA medical card (Veterans Identification Card – VIC) may register.

Registering does not allow veterans access to AAFES on military bases, only access to shopping online and via catalog. To enroll, go online to www.vacanteen.va.gov or send an email to vcs.canteen@med.va.gov and use the subject line VAVCS Catalog. You will need your VIC when you register.

If you have misplaced or lost your VIC, contact the VA where your picture was taken and request a new card, or call 1-877-222-VETS (8387) to check the status of your card.

achieved as a result of President Truman's Executive Order desegregating our armed forces," he said. "Our military led the way in establishing civil rights for all persons who wear our nation's uniform and our country is better for having done so."

Among the honored guests who served in World War II were two members of the famed Tuskegee Airmen—the first "black flyers" in the Army Air Corps during World War II—and six Japanese-American veterans who were assigned to the 442nd Regimental Combat Team.

Retired Lt. Col. Bill Holloman, of Kent, Wash., began his military career in 1942 as a cadet in the famed, yet scrutinized 332nd Fighter Group that trained in Tuskegee, Ala. A combat veteran of World War II, the Korean War and Vietnam, Holloman, 84, said at the time people thought black Americans lacked the intelligence and skill to fly airplanes or do anything but menial tasks.

Nearly 1,000 airmen had been trained as pilots, bombardiers, navigators and ground crews. "It was the only flying school of its kind in the world," he said. "We proved all doubters wrong. The Tuskegee Experiment, as President Roosevelt called it, left little doubt that black men could fly, repair aircraft and do anything non-black airmen could do."

Holloman flew the P-40, P-47, and P-51 before climbing into fighter jets in Korea. He would later become the Air Force's first black helicopter pilot. "I love flying, but that doesn't mean that I wasn't looking toward the day when the war was over."

Ed Drummond recalled his time as a Tuskegee pilot. A retired lieutenant colonel from Lakewood, Wash., Drummond, 82, was in the final graduating class at Tuskegee in 1946. He was assigned initially to the 477th Composite Group and flew B-25 bombers at Lockbourne Air Base, Ohio.

Assigned to serve in Japan as a P-47 fighter pilot in June 1949, Drummond was one of the first two African American pilots to be both stationed at Misawa Air Base and fly jet combat missions in Korea in the 49th Fighter Group.

"This was all still new to the Air Force. We had a wealth of camaraderie with our fellow pilots and most everyone overseas treated us fine," he said. Holloman added that racial tensions weren't as intense in Europe. "In Italy, the (white pilots) were very friendly and wouldn't let us buy our own drinks. Back then we were all brothers in arms in a combat zone."

After the attack on Pearl Harbor, Japanese Americans stateside were deemed enemy aliens and reportedly not suited for military service. Those in the service at that time were discharged and then joined their families in relocation camps. Later when allowed to join the military and serve, many of the more than 5,000 Japanese American soldiers were assigned to pick up trash and pull weeds.

By February 1943, the War Department approved and created segregated combat

units, including the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. After once ordering Japanese Americans and their families into the camps in 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt called upon Japanese American men in 1943 to volunteer and serve in the 442nd.

For Kennie Namba and other young Japanese American men, the option to being held in a relocation camp was to volunteer and join the Army. "At the time we weren't considered American enough to carry a rifle. We wanted to show that we were proud Americans to fight and willing to die for our country," Namba told the crowd.

Like many Japanese American veterans, when Namba returned home after the war, it was another world for him and his wife, Ruth. A Purple Heart recipient, he was in uniform when Namba and Ruth went to purchase groceries in her hometown of Hood River. The signs in many store windows read "No Japs." Japanese returning to their homes in Hood River County were strongly encouraged to "dispose of their holdings" while buyers would offer them "a square deal."

"We couldn't buy much of anything for almost a year and we depended upon our non-Japanese neighbors to make purchases for us," Namba recalled. "But, that was a long time ago and our lives have changed since then. Soon we earned college degrees and made positive contributions to our country while trying to blend in."



Brig. Gen. Gary C. Dean autographs a book for a guest at the desegregation ceremony

PHOTO BY TOM MANN

reference to their motto in battle.

Reyn Leno, a Grand Ronde tribal member and Vietnam veteran, told the audience that while serving, he and fellow Native Americans couldn't congregate due to racial tensions. Yet, at that time, Leno didn't have time to struggle with race concerns.

"When you're out there in the dark near the enemy, race doesn't matter," he said. "You want to make sure your buddy has your back and that you have his. My dad served nearly five years in World War II, but he didn't talk about racial issues."

Delivering his remarks in uniform, Oregon Army National Guard Lt. Col. Ricardo Gloria, proudly noted that his daughter is a sailor serving aboard the *USS Abraham Lincoln* near Afghanistan. He said that bravery isn't limited to a person's skin color. He noted that Hispanics have been awarded the Medals of Honor during the Civil War (2), World War II (12), Korean War (9), and in Vietnam (8).

"All races make the military the strong and cohesive force it is today. I am so very proud to serve and had so many great opportunities serving in the Guard."

Now serving at the Pentagon as the U.S. Air Force's Deputy Inspector General, Dean personally thanked the special guests in attendance for their service. Dean saluted all veterans of color for paving the way for him to reach his potential by opening doors of opportunity that he could walk through.

"I value your courage and determination to serve our nation," Dean said. "You did so with dignity and honor. I truly salute your service. You were discriminated against, yet you chose to defend freedom. Your response to segregation was to serve with honor."

While then-Army General Omar Bradley warned that it was not the business of the armed services to conduct "social experiments," Truman's decision to call for change in military policy would become a model of institutional racial integration where truly all men are created equal.



Retired Lt. Col. Bill Holloman (center) greets a fellow veteran as he talks to retired Brig. Gen. Staryl Austin (left), former ODVA Director and Advisory Committee member.

PHOTO BY TOM MANN

The 442nd, or the "Purple Heart Battalion," earned its nickname the hard way by suffering the highest casualty rate per capita of any U.S. military unit in the war. The men prefer to be recalled as the "Go for Broke" regiment, a

legislation, it could take some time for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to begin paying benefits. Benefits will not be paid for any training or education programs completed before July 31, 2009. Applications are not being taken at this time. Please visit the VA GI Bill website at www.va.gibill.gov for more information.

Eligibility for the New GI Bill

If you have served a total of at least 90 days on active duty in the Armed Forces, you are eligible. However, the amount of benefits you receive under this program are determined by the actual amount of accumulated post-9/11 service you have.

To be eligible for the full benefit, you must have three years of active duty service after 9/11 or have been discharged due to a service-connected disability. If you are an officer who graduated from a service academy or received ROTC scholarships, you also qualify for the new GI Bill benefits. However, your ROTC/Service Academy associated obligated active-duty service time does not count toward the three years necessary to qualify for the full benefits.

Note: You didn't have to opt-in for the Montgomery GI Bill to be eligible for this program.

New GI Bill Payment Rates

The post- 9/11 GI Bill will provide up to 100 percent of your tuition. In addition, the program provides a monthly housing stipend, a stipend of up to \$1,000 a year for books and supplies. If you attend less than full-time, you will receive a portion of the payment based on the number of units of study.

The amount of tuition and stipends paid under the post- 9/11 GI Bill will vary depending on your state of residence, number of units taken, and amount of post-September 11, 2001 active-duty service. Here is a quick reference showing the percentage of total combined benefit eligibility based on the following periods of post-9/11 service:

- 100% - 36 or more total months
- 100% - 30 or more consecutive days with disability related discharge.
- 90% - 30 total months
- 80% - 24 total months
- 70% - 18 total months
- 60% - 12 total months
- 50% - six total months
- 40% - 90 or more consecutive days

Monthly Housing Stipend

If you are enrolled in a traditional college program as a full time or three-quarter time student, you will be paid a monthly housing stipend equal to the monthly amount of the Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) for an E-5 with dependents. The average housing stipend will be approximately \$1,000 a month. However, if you attend distance learning programs such as correspondence courses and online you will not qualify for this stipend.

Book and Supply Stipend

You will receive a lump sum payment the first month of each quarter, semester, or term. The payment will help cover the cost of books, supplies, equipment, and other educational fees for that academic term. The payment amount will be equal to either a quarter or half of the annual \$1,000 cap for that academic year, depending on how the academic year is divided – quarter or semester terms.

Benefits Expiration Date

The new GI Bill will allow you to use this benefit for up to 15 years after your last discharge or separation from active duty.

Benefit Transferability

Servicemembers who have served at least 10 years on active duty will be able to transfer their benefit to a spouse or dependent child. Servicemembers who have served at least six years and agree to another four-year contract may be able to transfer their benefit sooner.

The transferred benefit will cover the cost of tuition only.

Benefits may be divided as long as they don't exceed 36 months of college classes. For example, a retired soldier can use half of the benefits to pay for a two-year degree program, then transfer the remaining half to a spouse or child. College-age children of long-serving servicemembers could get a free college education starting fall 2009, provided they attend a state-backed school.

Post 9/11 GI Bill Frequently Asked Questions

Do I get a refund of the \$1,200 buy-in for the Montgomery GI Bill?

Any individual who paid the \$1,200 buy-in for the Montgomery GI Bill and elects to use the Post-9/11 GI Bill will be refunded a proportional amount if, and after all entitlement under the Post-9/11 GI Bill is used. Individuals who do not use all their entitlement under the Post-9/11 GI Bill will not receive a refund of contributions paid under the Montgomery GI Bill.

www.gibill.va.gov/s22/No_Contribution.htm

I did not contribute \$1,200 to the GI Bill. Can I still get the Post-9/11 GI Bill?

Yes, you will be eligible if you meet the service requirements for the Post-9/11 GI Bill, even if you did not contribute to the Montgomery GI Bill.

Are there any enrollment fees?

There are no enrollment fees to receive benefits under the Post-9/11 GI Bill.

www.gibill.va.gov/s22/Enrollment_Fees.htm

How can I apply for the Post-9/11 GI Bill?

The Department of Veterans Affairs is currently NOT accepting applications

for the Post-9/11 GI Bill. Information will be posted on the USDVA website as it becomes available.

www.gibill.va.gov/s22/How_To_Apply.htm

I have a service-connected disability. Should I use the Post-9/11 GI Bill or Vocational Rehabilitation?

If you are eligible for both the Post-9/11 GI Bill and Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (CH31), you should speak with your Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor to determine which benefit is most beneficial to your situation.

www.gibill.va.gov/s22/Voc_Rehab.htm

Will I receive a retroactive payment or increased payments under the Post-9/11 GI Bill for classes I am taking before August 1, 2009?

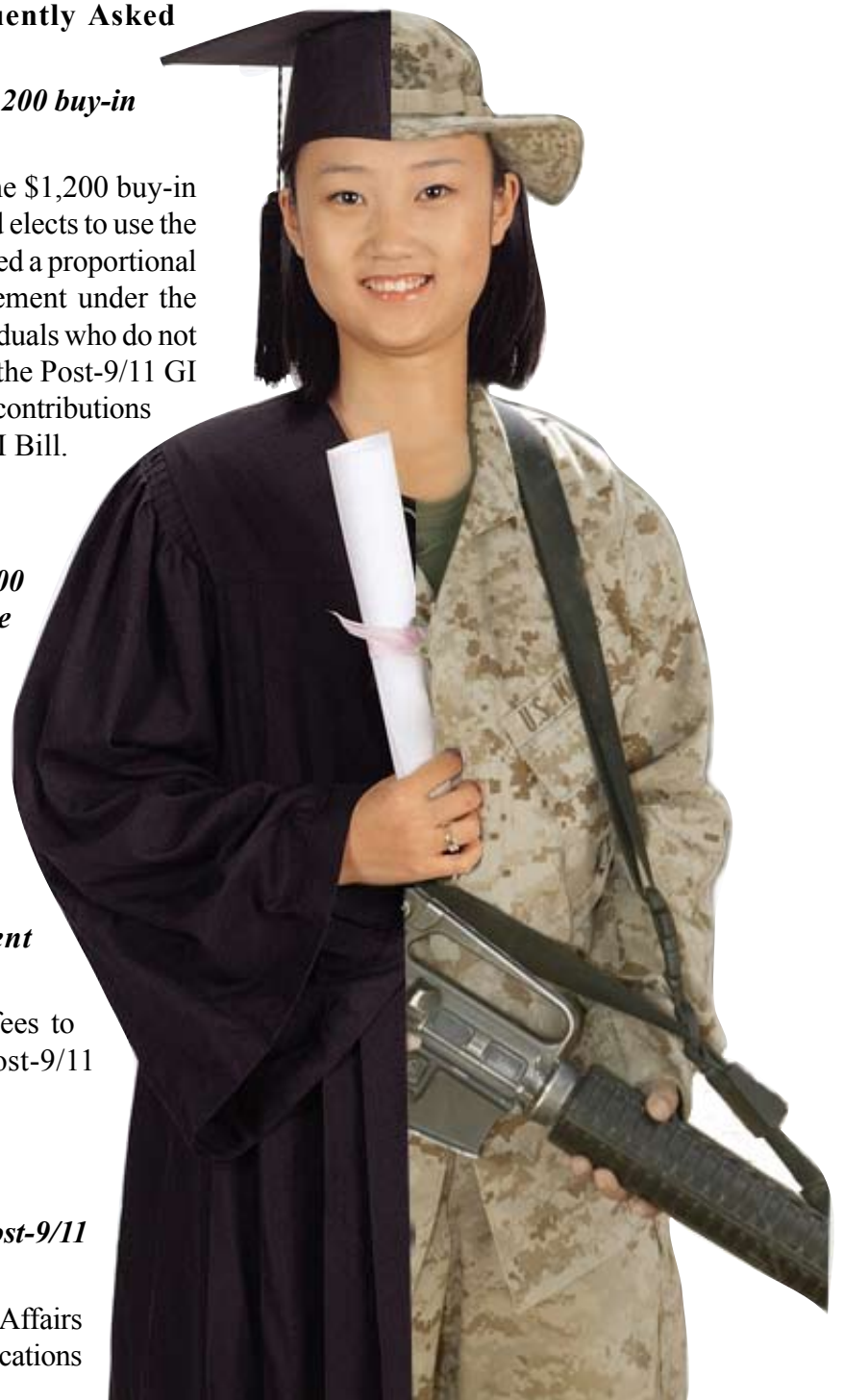
No. The Post-9/11 GI Bill only covers classes taken or training pursued on or after August 1, 2009.

www.gibill.va.gov/s22/How_To_Apply

When will the Post-9/11 GI Bill become Effective?

Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits are payable for training pursued on or after August 1, 2009. No payments can be made under this program for training pursued before that date.

www.gibill.va.gov/s22/Effective_Date.htm



More Veterans May Be Eligible for Special Compensation

WASHINGTON - About 20,000 veterans forced out of the military early by a combat-related injury could be eligible for hundreds of dollars in special compensation pay under new rules outlined by the services this month.

Prior to the change in law, only those veterans with 20 years of service could apply for Combat Related Special Compensation. However, under the new rules, any veteran with a combat-related disability may be eligible for the compensation.

Department of Defense guidance defines a combat-related disability in one of the three following ways:

A Purple Heart disability, which is a disability with an assigned medical diagnosis code from the Veterans Affairs Schedule for Rating Disabilities, or VASRD, that was attributed to injuries for which the member was awarded a Purple Heart.

One with an assigned medical diagnosis code from the VASRD that was:

- Incurred as a direct result of armed conflict;

- As a result of hazardous service;
- In the performance of duty under conditions simulating war; or
- Through an instrumentality of war.

One with an assigned medical diagnosis code from the VASRD that was deemed presumptive or “presumed” by the VA to be incurred as a result of combat operations.

To receive the special compensation, veterans must be currently receiving military retired pay and veterans’ disability payments, and must have a 10 percent or greater rated disability recognized by the military as combat related.

The amount of the monthly CRSC pay will be based on troops’ rank, years of service and severity of their injury. In some cases the formula for Combat-Related Special Compensation could actually reduce a veteran’s total monthly payments; however, the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) will calculate all of the disability pay impact to make sure veterans are receiving the highest payouts possible and begin CRSC payments within 60 to 90 working

days of receiving the approval letter.

All veterans, including recently separated servicemembers, will have to apply to receive the new compensation by completing a DD Form 2860 with the required documentation attached. Required documentation includes a signed claim form and:

Copy of Chapter 61 Board results (Chapter 61 claimants only).

Copies of ALL VA rating decisions which include the letter and the narrative summaries

Copies of ALL DD214’s

Medical records that support “HOW” the injury occurred for each claimed disability that meets the criteria for combat-related. Refer to CRSC website to learn what combat-related is.

Veterans interested in applying for Combat Related Special Compensation should contact their local Veterans’ Service Officer (page 12) or the organization who last helped them with their VA claim.



Unlock Your Future

ORVET
State Home Loan Program

- * Interest Rates Generally Below Market.
- * No Discount Points Are Charged.
- * Limited Closing Costs.
- * Your Loan Will Not Be Sold.
- ODVA Holds Loans Through Life of Loan.
- * No Tax Service Fee.
- * 15-30 Year Terms.

For more information on Veterans' Home Loans,
Contact the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs
at 1-888-673-8387 or by email at orvetshomeloans@odva.state.or.us.

Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs
Veterans' Home Loans - Veterans' Benefits - Conservatorship
Oregon Veterans' Home (skilled nursing & rehabilitative care)
503-373-2000 or 1-800-828-8801
ODVA Website: www.oregon.gov/odva

ODVA complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The ADA provides that no qualified person with a disability shall be kept from participation in, or be denied a benefit of the services, programs, or activities of ODVA because of that disability. This publication is available in alternate formats. For this service, or concerns regarding ADA, contact the ADA Coordinator at 503-373-2380.

HIPAA Statement

The Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA) complies with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, known as HIPAA. You may obtain a copy of the ODVA Notice of Privacy Practices anytime by way of the following:

- * Access ODVA's website at www.oregon.gov/odva
- * Call ODVA at 1-800-828-8801 ext. 2141 or 503-373-2141
- * Write to ODVA's Privacy Officer to have a copy mailed to you; or
- * Ask for a copy the next time you visit ODVA.

Tinnitus Education Group To Meet in Portland

PORTLAND – Meeting since 1999, the Tinnitus Education Group provides up-to-date information about Tinnitus – the ringing in the ears caused by acoustic trauma, medication, and other means.

The Group will be meeting at the Portland VA Medical Center Building 103 (across the street from the main hospital) at level P-5 October 7 and October 21 at 5:30 p.m.

“As you may know, this ‘ringing’ seems never to go away, but there are ways you are able to get some relief, and these are the reasons for the meetings,” according to H.L. Wedel of the Veteran’s Action Committee. “My wife and I have been helped and more than likely you would get some as well,” he says.



Sponsored by the National Center for Rehabilitative Auditory Research, the Group meets eight times a year to discuss issues related to tinnitus and the latest treatment options. The meetings usually are the first Tuesday of the month from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. The October sessions will cover “Managing Your Tinnitus: What to Do and How to Do it” (Parts 1 and 2).

For further information, please contact Kim Owens at 503-220-8262 ext. 51936.

Lincoln City to Honor Veterans on September 24-28

LINCOLN CITY – Lincoln City will hold a four-day Celebration of Honor to recognize veterans and their families Sept. 24-28 and events will include the return of the traveling Vietnam Wall.

Events during the Sept. 24-28 Celebration of Honor will be held city-wide by civic and charitable organizations, merchants associations, the Lincoln City Parks and Recreation Department and Chinook Winds Casino Resort. This event is designed to cater to veterans and their families with many activities for both children and adults.

Saturday morning, Sept. 27, from 7 a.m.-11 a.m., Henry's Lighthouse Donuts will have an SOS Breakfast with the proceeds going to the Oregon Coast Vets Organization.

The Lincoln City Kiwanis Club will hold a pulled-pork barbeque at Kenny's IGA North store parking lot from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. on Saturday.

The Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring "Adventures in Geocaching," an event that has been held several times receiving attention from across the U.S. People interested in participating in geocaching need to arrive at the Lincoln City Community Center, located at 2150 NE Oar Place, and register by 2 p.m. Saturday. All participants need a GPS and a mode of transportation. There will be 10 places for the people to find and receive the mark for their passport. Prizes will be awarded to the winners.

Also, the Community Center will be offering free admission to veterans and their families during the celebration. This includes the swimming pool, basketball gym, weight and cardio rooms and rock-climbing wall. Veterans need to present identification at the front counter.

At the south end of town on 51st Street near Mo's Restaurant and the Siletz Bay, the Roundabouts will offer kite making and bean bag games. The Bay Area Merchants Association is also planning a flag raising ceremony and the North Lincoln County Museum will offer free admission to veterans and their families noon-5 p.m. Friday through Sunday.

The traveling Vietnam Wall is returning to Chinook Winds Casino Resort on Sept. 24 with a ceremony at noon Sept. 27. Like the memorial in Washington DC, the 58,235 names are engraved and listed by casualty date. If you would like to volunteer to help in setting up the wall, acting as a guide or to stand guard at the wall during this event, contact Teresa Simmons at 1-541-996-5815.

As part of the annual rededication of the Veterans Memorial located in front of Chinook Winds Casino, a presentation of medals will be made to Oregon Veterans on Sunday, Sept. 28, at 2 p.m. To qualify for the medal, a form must be filled out in advance of the ceremony, with proof of military service attached. Forms will be available at Chinook Winds Casino one week prior to the presentation. To access the forms in advance, go to www.veteransoforegon.com.

Chinook Winds' annual Run For The Wind Poker Run will also be part of the weekend's festivities beginning at 9 a.m. on Sept. 27 at the Chinook Winds upper parking lot.

The Tanger Outlet Mall will be having a blood drive on Sept. 27. Also at Tanger, the Pendleton Store will be having a free drawing for veterans for a Grateful Nation Pendleton Blanket.

Willamette National Cemetery Opens Columbarium Niches

Willamette National Cemetery announces the opening of the first terrace of cremation niches in the new Columbaria built as a part of the final development of its existing acreage. Cemetery Director George A. Allen secured the immediate availability of the initial 2,104 niches because of exceptional public interest and demand.

Another 7,700 niches will be released for use in the coming months. Normal procedures would have delayed their availability until the entire construction project was completed in the late summer or early fall. That project also includes almost 10,000 new full size gravesites as well as rest rooms, a touch-screen gravesite locator and new cemetery signage.

Cemetery officials indicate that hundreds of cremations are being held by families and local funeral homes in anticipation of this above-ground placement option. Niche space in the facility's existing Columbaria was exhausted in early 2004. Work on the new walls began in September of 2006. Well over 50% of the cemetery's 3,400 annual interments are of cremated remains.

Families and funeral homes may contact the cemetery at 503-273-5250 to make arrangements for the placement of the urns of eligible veterans and their dependents.

**6th Annual
TROOP AND VETERAN'S
APPRECIATION DAY**

**Throughout history our military has stood ready to serve
and guard our freedom.**

**Come and join us in honoring our
National Guard & Reserves, Active Duty
and Veterans.**

**September 13, 2008
11:00 – 3:00 (Ceremony 1:00-3:00)
McMinnville Armory
333 Armory Way
McMinnville OR**

Oregon Veterans Motorcycle Association Charity Ride
Ride Contact Information: West Valley Chapter, Tom & Mary Hall 503-560-4023

**Music
Food
Military Displays**

**Donation of Comfort Kit items for our troops serving in Iraq and Afghanistan
are welcome.**

Contacts for more information:



**COALITION
★ ★ OF ★ ★
TROOP SUPPORT**

Laura Lausmann 503-472-6194 cavmom320mcm@hotmail.com
Jan-Mike Mullaney 503-662-3399 dvnalowrider@gmail.com
Coalition of Troop Support: www.cotsupport.org

Combining community efforts in Oregon & Washington

Outward Bound Program Offered for OEF/OIF Veterans

Outward Bound, an international non-profit outdoor education program, is offering fully funded outdoor adventure excursions to all OEF/OIF veterans. It doesn't matter what your current military status is (active, inactive, discharged, retired) - you're eligible to attend as long as you deployed in support of OEF/OIF combat operations while in the military.

These five-day excursions offer adventure activities such as backpacking, rock climbing, canyoneering, canoeing, and dog sledding in beautiful wilderness areas in Maine, Texas, Colorado, California, and Minnesota. Scheduled courses from Sept 2008 to Feb. 2009 are listed at right, and future courses will be scheduled soon. All expedition costs for lodging, equipment, food, and instruction are completely funded by a multi-million dollar Sierra Club grant, including the participants' round-trip transportation between home and the wilderness site. The excursion is offered at no cost to the participant.

To sign up for one of the prescheduled courses, please contact Doug Hayward at 1-866-669-2362, ext. 8387, or simply e-mail him at obvets@outwardbound.org. To learn more about the OEF/OIF program, visit the website at www.outwardboundwilderness.org/veterans.html.

You can also contact two of our retired Judge Advocates, Joe and Amy Frisk, who are working for Outward Bound on this program at vetsor@outwardbound.org, or (303) 968-4420.

Female Writers Sought for Mid-Valley Veterans' Writing Group



Award-winning Oregon writer and founder of the Mid-Valley Veterans' Writing Group, Marilyn Johnston, is interested in starting a writing group for Women Vets in the Mid-Willamette Valley.

The group is open to female veterans with either considerable or with little creative writing experience, and appropriate for all genre of writing (poetry, essays, short stories, etc.).

There is no cost for participation. The time and dates for the writing group will be determined at the first meeting, based on availability of participants.

To express your interest in the group, or for further information, email Rosy Macias, Rosa.Macias@va.gov or Marilyn Johnston, RedDustRising@att.net

OPEN ENROLLMENT COURSES FOR 2008/2009 OUTWARD BOUND OEF/OIF WAR VETERANS EXPEDITIONS

Colorado Rockies: **Backpacking / Rock Climbing:**
September 3-7, 2008
October 4-8, 2008

Newry, Maine: **Backpacking and Canoeing**
October 7-11, 2008
October 19-23, 2008

Ely, Minnesota: **Dog Sledding**
February 3-7, 2009

Big Bend, Texas: **Back packing and Canyoneering**
November 2-6, 2008
November 15-19, 2008

Joshua Tree National Monument, California:
Backpacking and Rock Climbing
December 3-7, 2008
December 14-18, 2008

Tri-State Women Veterans' Conference Inspires Memorial Quilt

Inspired by a single empty place setting during the banquet at the recent Tri-State Women Veterans' Conference in Pendleton, Donna Birtwistle, of Moro, OR, spearheaded the efforts of over 25 women in creating a unique memorial quilt recognizing the women who have died in Afghanistan and Iraq.

The quilt was unveiled at Lisa's In Stitches on July 17 by Col. Carol Brown (USA retired) and Capt. Catherine Whalen (USN retired) following the Fallen Military Women Memorial Luncheon held in Moro.

A delegation of quilters will be traveling to Washington D.C. on Sept. 15 to present the quilt to the Women in the Military for America Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery for display.


According to Val Conley, Veterans' Services Administrator and Oregon Women Veterans' Coordinator, "This effort is a true and touching testament of the patriotic passion we have among



Donna Birtwistle and some of the other 25 project quilters pose with the Memorial Quilt.

our residents in Oregon. These women should be commended for their heartfelt work and commitment to recognize our fallen women."

Donations to support the costs of the quilt and travel can be sent to: Fallen Military Women Memorial Fund c/o Delores Habberstad, Hazel Phillips Travel, 402 Washington Street, The Dalles, OR 97058. For more information, call 1-800-622-5588.




Lending A Helping Hand

Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs

Claims and Counseling

- Service-Connected Disability
- VA Health Care Enrollment
- Vocational Rehabilitation
- GI Bill
- Pension
- Dependent and Survivor Benefits

Whether you're just back from a combat zone or have been home for 60 years, you may be eligible for federal VA benefits. Give the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs a call so we can direct you to the Veteran Service Officer nearest you!



800-692-9666



FRIENDS OF THE HOME



Donations to the Oregon Veterans' Home Trust Fund continue to be received. We deeply appreciate the thoughtfulness and generosity of an ever-growing number of Friends of the Home. To become a friend of the Home, use the gift form on page 11, and make a tax-deductible donation today. Those who contributed during the months of June and July, 2008 are listed below:

H.D. Embree	Cascade Country Quilters	Jerry Willis
John Olson	Marilyn Sams	American Legion Auxiliary Unit 11
W. Robert Connors	Pathway Foundation	WGED
David Fairclo	U.S. Army Band, Fort Myer, Virginia	Paul, John and Rod Gadaire
Glenwood Homemakers	John E. Ryan	Virginia Wood
American Legion Auxiliary Post 41	Karen Gigstead	Ila Winslow
William Irving	United Senior Citizens of Bend	DAV Auxiliary Unit 5
Floyd Miller	Warren Cook	Lester Hubinsky
American Legion Post 152	Robert G. Norton	Donald Giorgi
American Legion Post 90	Tony Giordano	DAV Yamhill County Chapter 5
Florence McCulley	VFW Post 661 and Auxiliary	Maurice Hillyer
Tannis Mittelbach	Janiece Reed	Bernie Lavigne
William and Ethel Eissler	Captain James Patrick	Cal Norman
Virginia Davenport	VFW Post 4362 and Auxiliary	Kenneth Rolph
James and Marion Crews	Claire Madison	American Legion Auxiliary Unit 165
Greg White	Leo Greenstein	Patti Cutler
Linda Jenks	Tom Farretta	Stanton M. Rickey
Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Fried	Richard Welch	Marylou McSweeney
G.H. Arscott	W. Parks Walker, Jr.	VFW Veterans' Home Fund, The Dalles
Frank and Susan Egger	Korean War Veterans' Association, Iron Triangle Chapter	Norma J. Bright
Hood River Elks Lodge #1507	Shirley L. Kornelis	DAV Auxiliary Unit 25
Paul H. Eggleston	DAV Oregon City Chapter 4	Donna Albee
Michael A. Belozor	Gordon K. Jernstedt	Oregon Chapter of the Chosin Few
Eugene Robertson	Jan Bressler	American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Oregon
Mel and Norma Peterson	Jim Ellingson	Geraldine A. Tatum
Keith R. Masterson	Jim F. Hands Memorial Trust	Royal Neighbors of America
Albert Drenkhahn	Estate of Pauline E. Scott	The Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde
Knights of the Square Table	Robert Newman	Gene LaBonte
Gretchen G. Johnson	Catherine Davidson	Penelope A. White
Darrell and Winifred Mitchell	Richard O. Van Zante	Roxane Beeler
Joan K. Lagerberg	Donald and Edith McDaniel	VFW Post 922
American Legion Umpqua Post 16	Ron Noss	Mark Sullivan
Military Officers Association, Portland Chapter	Keith Hanson	Pete McNab
E. Georgene Tilden	Thomas Chapman	Al and Kris Panacy
Barbara J. Weatherill	Jane T. Sabat	VFW Post 3203
Jack T. Magnuson	American Legion Post 19	American Legion Post 20
Portland VAVS Executive Committee, Portland VA Medical Center	Larry and Sarah Keil	Jack and Carol Magnuson
Milton L. Perkins	Floyd Hubbard	Madison Jones
Elaine S. Smith	William C. Greig	Ramona Cox
Arnold Larson	William DeWyse	Don and Noreen Rowe
Oregon Veterans' Home Gift Shop	Frances D. Hemm	S.F. Sanders
William Wright	Stephen R. Gracon	Fred Renegar
VFW Grimshaw Post 3232	William and Virginia Riddell	Gresham Ford
Gary VanOrman	Celia Smith	Eugene Melvin
Myrle Smith	Salem Elks Lodge #336	Delora and Clarence Compton
Military Order of the World Wars	Michael P. Skillern	Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America
John Herring	Roxane Beeler	Oregon Veteran License Plates
Military Officers Club of Corvallis	Frame Art, Inc.	Charitable Checkoff Donations
Military Officers Association, Dallas	Marvella	

McChord to Host "Case Lot" Sale

The McChord Air Force Base Commissary will host a "case lot" sale at the Oregon Army National Guard's Jackson Armory in Portland, Sept. 12-14. The sale runs from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and is open to anyone with a valid active duty, National Guard, Reserve, or retired military ID card.

An estimated 7-10 truckloads of sale items will be offered on a "first come-first serve" basis at this a semi-annual event. In addition to canned and dry goods, there will be diapers, frozen foods, fresh meats, seafood, and produce for sale.

Items not being sold include cigarettes, alcohol, milk, eggs, bread, or pharmacy items. The majority of sale items will have bigger manufacturer discounts (30-40 percent) than is normally offered at a commissary or at Costco.

Credit cards, checks, and cash, will be accepted, but no debit cards. A 5 percent surcharge will be added on all commissary items to cover their handling cost. Also, Family Services from Ft. Lewis will have information on available benefits.

The armory is located at 6255 NE Cornfoot Road, next to the Portland Air National Guard Base and Colwood Golf Course. Handicap parking will be directly in front of the armory. Carts will be provided for shopping and loading.

Magazine Subscription Program

Thanks to the generosity of donors to the Magazine Subscription Program, veterans residing at the Oregon Veterans' Home enjoy reading current magazines.

The generosity of the individuals listed below is greatly appreciated by our veteran residents. They have recently joined dozens of previous donors who support this meaningful program.

- Corvallis AL Unit Auxiliary
- Penelope A. White
- Royal Neighbors Lodge
- Al and Kris Panacy

For information concerning the Magazine Subscription Program, please contact Linda Adams at the Oregon Veterans' Home by calling 1-800-846-8460 or 541-296-7152, or e-mail to: ADAMSL@odva.state.or.us.

Stand Downs Scheduled For Oregon Vets In Need

Southern Oregon

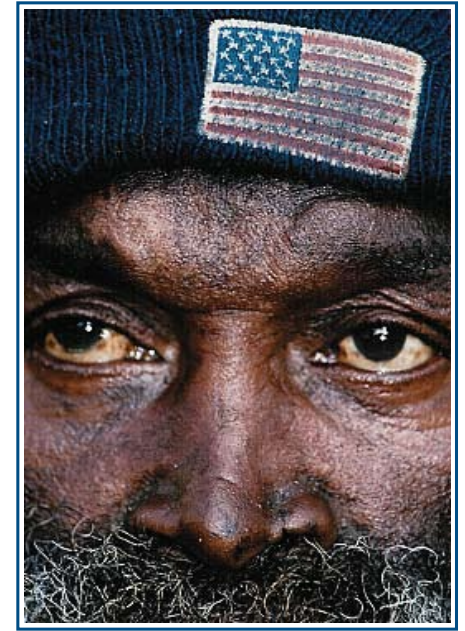
Veterans in need are invited to the Southern Oregon Stand Down Sept. 19-21 in the Fir Grove VA Roseburg Medical Center, 913 NW Garden Valley Blvd.

Veterans will receive meals, clothing, haircuts, eye exams and glasses, substance abuse intervention, counseling and employment referrals, VA benefits counseling, legal assistance, and more.

Disabled American Veterans transportation is available by calling Andrea Bernhardt at 541-440-1293 or 800-549-8387 ext. 44398.

For more information, contact Rick Freund at 541-643-0254 or 541-229-3456, or email him at: huey619@charter.net.

Please visit their website at www.southernoregonstanddown.org or email them at sosd@charter.net.



North Coast

The North Coast 3rd Annual Stand Down will be on Sept. 6, at Camp Rilea in Warrenton.

Veterans will receive basic health screenings, clothing, counseling and employment referrals, VA benefits counseling, and more.

For more information please contact:

Patrick Preston (Maj., Ret.)
Local Veterans
Employment Representative
Astoria, Oregon
503-325-4821 #227
1-800-643-5709 #227



Oregon Veterans' Home Gift Form

"Give to those who have already given of themselves"

Please designate my donation: In memory of: _____
In honor of: _____

Gift amount: \$35-\$64 (1 Oregon Veterans' Home Remembrance Pin)
 \$65-\$99 (2 Oregon Veterans' Home Remembrance Pins)
 \$100 or more (2 Oregon Veterans' Home Remembrance Pins and listing on the Wall of Gratitude)

Please send my "Oregon Veterans' Home Remembrance Pin(s)" to:

Name _____
Address _____
City/State _____ Zip _____

Enclosed is: Personal Check (Please make checks payable to the "Oregon Veterans' Home")
 Credit Card Information
 VISA MasterCard Amount \$ _____
Card #: _____ Expiration Date: _____
Name (Please Print): _____ Phone #: _____
Signature: _____

Please print this form and mail it with your donation to: Oregon Veterans' Home
c/o ODVA
700 Summer St NE
Salem OR 97301-1285

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE OREGON VETERANS' HOME!
"The Place Where Honor Lives"

VETERANS' SERVICE OFFICERS

County	Telephone Number	Service Officer
Baker	541-523-8223	Jane Chandler
Benton	541-758-1595	Don Johnson
Clackamas	503-650-5631	Janice Harlan-Raisl
Clatsop	503-325-2429	Kenneth H. Rislow
Columbia	503-366-6580	Joseph Pyle
Coos	541-396-3121 Ext. 362	Mary Ann Sackett
Crook	541-447-5304	Angela Gilley
Curry	541-247-3205 Ext. 205	Frank Van Meter
Deschutes	541-385-3214	Keith Macnamara
Douglas	541-440-4219	Mary Newman
Gilliam	541-384-6712	Paul Conway
Grant	541-575-1631	Bruce B. Makela
Harney	541-573-6024	Anne Lessar
Hood River	541-386-1080	Patrick Scranton
Jackson	541-774-7837	Marty Kimmel
Jefferson	541-475-5228	Tom Weiss
Josephine	541-474-5454	Lisa Shipley
Klamath	541-883-4274	Kathy Pierce
Lake	541-947-6043	G. Don Boone
Lane	541-682-4191	Joseph Reiley
Lincoln	541-574-6955	John Reed
Linn	541-967-3882	Kim Grooms
Malheur	541-889-6649	Bill Thomson
Marion	503-373-2085	ODVA
Morrow	541-922-6420	Juanita Cox
Multnomah	503-988-3620 Ext. 26123	Katie Pereault
Polk	503-373-2085	ODVA
Sherman	541-565-3408	Paul Conway
Tillamook	503-842-4358	Steve Weld
Umatilla	541-278-5482	Peggy Raines
Union	541-962-8802	Timothy H. Jederberg
Wallowa	541-426-3155 Ext. 241	Renee Beaudoin
Wasco	541-506-2502	Patrick Scranton
Washington	503-846-3054	Doug McEllven
Wheeler	541-763-3032	Paul Conway
Yamhill	503-434-7503	Debbie Gill

Service Organizations	Telephone Number	Service Officer
American Legion	503-412-4771	Greg Demarais
American Veterans (AMVETS)	503-412-4767	Bill Talley
Blinded Veterans Association	541-265-9087	Frank Armstrong
Disabled American Veterans	503-412-4750	Jay E. Woodbury
Military Order of the Purple Heart	503-412-4770	Jennifer Burt
Paralyzed Veterans of America	503-412-4762	Ken Fink
Veterans of Foreign Wars	503-412-4757	Jack Zule

State Offices-ODVA	Telephone Number	Service Officer
Salem	1-800-692-9666 or 503-373-2085	Gus Bedwell Dave Cooley Steve Lee Rita Nickleberry Mitch Sparks Gina Thomas Doug Yerke
Portland	503-412-4777	Deanna Barnes DeJay Hartman Ron Kincaid Linda McMillan Gordon Padgett Ed Van Dyke

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Evelyn F. Anderson 156 W Killdeer Roseburg, OR 97470 541-440-8445	Eugene J. LaBonte 8825 Hebo Road Grand Ronde, OR 97347 503-879-5342	Joseph R. Howell 1780 NW Valley View Drive Albany, OR 97321 541-990-4176
Kevin J. Owens 2249 Commercial North Bend, OR 97459 541-756-2390	Gerard F. Lorang 3914 SW Hewett Boulevard Portland, OR 97221-3103 (971) 404-5154	David Fairclo 20751 Amber Way Bend, OR 97701-8510 541-382-8281
Irv Fletcher, Chair 1272 Mayanna Drive Woodburn, OR 97071 503-981-4356	Tino E. Ornelas 22504 SW Riggs Road Beaverton, OR 97007-8467 503-844-9000	Charles E. Schmidt PO Box 1394 Hines, OR 97738 541-573-3130

Meetings of the Advisory Committee are held in the Director's Conference Room, Oregon Veterans' Building, 700 Summer Street NE, Salem, Oregon.

Special needs will be met for those who have a disability. For arrangements and meeting dates, please call 503-373-2383.

Address Changes - Subscription Confirmation

[ADDRESS AS IT APPEARS NOW:](#)

Name:

Street Address:

City/ State/ Zip:

CHANGE TO:

Name:

Street Address:

City/ State /Zip:

Please clip and mail to ODVA, 700 Summer St NE, Salem, OR 97301-1285.
Changes can also be e-mailed to: VETSNEWS@ODVA.state.or.us

Do You Wish To Continue Your Subscription?

YES NO

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