



VETS NEWS

MAY / JUNE 2006

Jim Willis, Director

www.oregon.gov/odva

2006 Oregon Women Veterans Conference – Even Better

On March 23, approximately 380 women veterans came together for the 2006 Oregon Women Veterans Conference held at the Linn County Expo Center in Albany, Oregon. Not only was this the largest attendance for the event but it was also the largest facility that the event has been held in to date.

Women from all corners of Oregon as well as a few from Washington made the journey to attend the conference. For many it was not their first Oregon Women Veterans' Conference. They returned because they enjoyed the great information provided and the camaraderie at previous conferences.

The workshops at the conference were geared specifically to meet the needs of women veterans. A new feature at the conference was a health and beauty room, which was very popular judging by the crowd that seemed to constantly fill the room.

Traditionally a crocheted afghan is awarded to the oldest and the youngest woman veteran. This year's event found Nancy Wachsnicht, 87, of Albany, who served in the Marine Corps during World War II, to be the oldest female veteran. The youngest was Army 2nd Lt. Ina Harris, 21, of Portland who serves full time in the Oregon National Guard as an officer recruiter and is completing a degree at Portland State University. Also recognized at the conference this year was the oldest attendee Eleanor Smith, 89, of Corvallis, whose husband served in the U.S. Air Force for 24 years. Conference Coordinator Val Conley presented each of the women with an afghan that she had made herself.

Conley has been the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA), Women Veterans Coordinator heading up Oregon Women Veterans Conferences since 1998.

"It is terrific to see the conference grow and to see this number of women veterans taking advantage of this day," said Conley, who also acted as the Master of Ceremonies for the event.

"After all, this conference is designed for them. Not only is it intended to provide them with information and resources but also, to honor and recognize them for their courageous service and sacrifice for our country and its freedom," continued Conley.

The 2006 conference featured the Grand Ronde Color Guard, guest speakers Gail Hand and Roger Turk. The Greater Salem Area Veterans' Organizations (GSAVO) provided a display of uniforms worn by women in the military from World War II to the present.

Both, Jim Willis, ODVA Director and Paula Brown, ODVA Deputy Director attended. The Northwest Indian Veterans Association

(NIVA) presented each veteran, one by one, with a *Warrior's Medal of Valor*. The warrior's medal is the first medal minted for the Native American Nations. The Warrior's Medal of Valor has been presented to veterans and active duty personnel at various Native American events, regardless of the recipient's cultural background. NIVA member Marshall Tall Eagle Serna, designed the medal. Serna is a U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force veteran, who spent a total of 14 years in the military.

Several agencies partnered with ODVA including the Oregon Employment Department, Portland and Salem Vet Centers, U.S. Department of Labor and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Numerous donors and veterans' organizations also deserve special recognition. Their continued commitment to women veterans as well as to the event is deeply appreciated by ODVA.



Veterans of Underage Military Service

If you served in the U.S. Armed Forces while being under the age of 17 (under 16 for World War II Merchant Marine veterans and under 20 years of age for women veterans of World War II), then you qualify for membership in the association – 'Veterans of Underage Military Service' (VUMS). This is a non-profit association of men and women who served in the U.S. Military before reaching the legal enlistment age.

National Commander Kenneth R. Buster has appointed Jack Lutz of Salem, as Oregon State Commander of the VUMS. Lutz's duties include overseeing association affairs in Oregon, maintaining communication with present Oregon membership and recruiting new members.

The association is having a get-together at the Oregon Veterans' Building, located at 700 Summer Street NE, in Salem, on May 30. All members and persons interested in finding out more information about VUMS are invited to attend. The get-together will begin at 10 a.m. in the Oregon Veterans' Building Auditorium, on the first floor.

For further information, contact Jack Lutz at 503-569-0335.



...this conference is designed for them... to honor and recognize them for their courageous service and sacrifice...

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Director's Message

Consider the Veterans' Home When Honoring Memorial Day



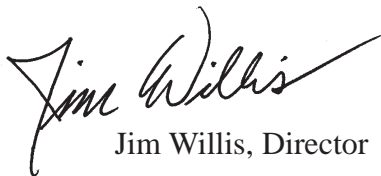
As we approach Memorial Day 2006, I wanted to take a moment to thank our readers for your continued support of the Oregon Veterans' Home. You may ask, "What is the connection between Memorial Day and the Veterans' Home?" The connection is that this year I would like to suggest that you make your donation to the Home in the name of a special veteran you plan to honor or remember this Memorial Day.

This veteran may be someone you served with, someone you met after you got out of the service, a relative or family friend. Memorial Day is all about remembering and honoring their service and sacrifice for our nation. Your donation to the Oregon Veterans' Home made in the name of someone you would like to pay tribute to, will not only honor those heroes in our own lives who have served this country, but also those heroes who today make their home at The Oregon Veterans' Home - The Place Where Honor Lives.

To make your donation, please use the Oregon Veterans' Home Gift Form contained on page 5 in this edition of *VETS NEWS*.

Now that the weather has improved, please plan to visit your Oregon Veterans' Home in The Dalles, as part of your spring and summer travel. The residents are always glad to have visitors and you will enjoy seeing this world-class skilled nursing care facility.

I hope that your Memorial Day weekend plans will include one of the many memorial ceremonies that are planned around Oregon where we will pause to remember and honor all who served our nation with courage, honor and commitment. Without their sacrifice, we would not be able to enjoy the liberties they passed on to each and every one of us. May they continue to rest in peace.


Jim Willis, Director

Military Display at State Capitol

The Greater Salem Area Veterans' Organizations (GSAVO) will host a military educational display in the Galleria of the Oregon State Capitol Building in Salem beginning May 2nd, and running until June 2nd. Viewing hours are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The display will feature military uniforms of all branches of the U.S. Armed Forces as well as uniforms of Soviet, Australian and German forces. A large collection of



photographs and artifacts from all eras of service will also be on display.

The GSAVO display at the Capitol has become an annual event at which visiting schools, civic groups and other interested persons from the general public have an opportunity to view and ask questions about the military items on display.

Donations of military uniforms and artifacts are accepted by the GSAVO as well as monetary donations for the upkeep of the display. If you are interested in scheduling the display for your event or location, or if you have items you wish to donate, please contact Mac MacDonald at 503-364-4299, or Jim Hardy at 503-463-4274.



Beaverton Park Ceremony Spotlights War Hero

Beaverton's Memorial Park will again host the traditional Memorial Day festivities for which it has become known.

Each year, veterans, servicemembers and civilians converge on the popular location to

take part in the annual Memorial Day events. The park is a tribute to all branches of the military, and the event is reverent of all those who have served their country.

This year's events include two separate flyovers. The first is an F-15 flyover by the 142nd Fighter Wing based in Portland. The second flyover will take place at 11:30 a.m. and offers an historical tribute to a hero featuring two vintage WWII era Stearman trainers and an AT-6 trainer.

The flyover is dedicated to Lt. John Mangas, a P-38 pilot shot down over Lae, New Guinea. Mangas was part of a four-man fighter unit that went on to become the most decorated squadron in the Pacific Theater.

Raised in Portland, Mangas attended the University of Portland and learned to fly at Swan Island. While on a return flight after a fierce aerial combat over Lae Harbor, Mangas turned back to protect a B-17 crew that was badly damaged when he was lost and never found. To this day, the Mangas family is involved with the ongoing work to locate his remains and bring him home.

The American Legion Post 124 is hosting the Memorial Day ceremony. Beaverton's Memorial Park is located between Watson and Washington Avenues on 7th Street. Three guest speakers are scheduled, as well as a band from American Legion Post 185.

For more information on the event, contact Bob Cauffman, 503-524-8465.



Albany Mom Presents Late-Son's Medals

Army Sgt. Ron Burkhart of Albany, Oregon, died in Vietnam 38 years ago. He was just 19. His service and memory were honored on March 13 at a special ceremony held at Albany's American Legion Post 10.

During the ceremony, his mother, Grace Burkhart presented her son's framed military medals to Post 10. Burkhart's medals are displayed in the Post.

Grace Burkhart, 80, said her son joined the Army in 1966 and was later assigned to Germany. "He was only 17 at the time so I had to sign for him."

Yet, rather than continue there for three more years and repeat his training, he requested a short discharge. He then reenlisted and requested to be sent to Vietnam.

Burkhart said she never totally understood why he volunteered for Vietnam. "Ron felt because his brother, John, was going, he had to go too," Burkhart said.

Eventually promoted to sergeant, Burkhart was mortally wounded while on a patrol in March 1968, just after spotting a booby trap and ordering his men to remain still. He moved forward to dismantle the bomb when it went off in his face.

Burkhart had only received 10 of the 16 medals her son had earned, but with help from Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs' Director Jim Willis, the remaining medals were obtained and included in the presentation.



Grace Burkhart (left), wearing the Mother's Medal of Honor stands with Connie Long, American Legion Post 10 Auxiliary President at a ceremony honoring Grace's son Ron, who was killed in Vietnam in 1968.

Tribal Day at the State Capitol

Tribal Information Day at the Oregon State Capitol is Friday, May 19. The activities will begin at 9 a.m. with information booths and cultural displays featuring Oregon's Tribes and urban Indian programs that will be set up in the Galleria area of the Capitol. These displays will be open to the public until 3 p.m. on Friday.

An opening ceremony will begin at 10 a.m. in the Rotunda and will include tribal dancers, Color Guard, flute and drum procession, tribal

flags, tribal royalty, invocation and welcome from tribal and state leaders along with the signing of a proclamation declaring American Indian Week in Oregon.

The Capitol Building is located at 900 Court Street NE, Salem, Oregon. The Capitol is open to visitors Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and closed on Saturday and Sunday. For assistance, contact the Capitol's visitor services at 503-986-1388 during regular business hours.



NAAV to Host Oregon Atomic Veterans Day Event

Members of the National Atomic Veterans Association (NAAV) in Oregon are inviting all veterans and interested persons to a first anniversary celebration of Atomic Veterans Day in Oregon, July 16, at the Linn County Expo Center in Albany. The event will run from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m..

Former NAAV Area Commander, Fred Schafer, said the July 16th celebration is open to everyone, especially veterans who are unaware of the significance of this special day.

"There are many atomic vets who don't know they are now allowed to discuss their service," Schafer said. "We want to make them aware there are other atomic veterans out there and that Federal medical programs are available to assist them if they need help."

Until the 2005 State Legislature passed House Concurrent Resolution 9, which designated July 16th of every year as Atomic Veterans Day in Oregon, an NAAV request to proclaim such had been submitted to the

Governor each year. Oregon is now the fourth state in the U.S. to honor Atomic Veterans in this manner.

Approximately 210,000 mostly U.S. military members were confirmed as participating in atmospheric nuclear weapons test detonations between 1945 and 1992. About 195,000 U.S. service members have been identified as participants in post-WWII occupation of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan, following the atomic bombing of those cities. Their exposure to ionizing radiation particles has caused severe health anomalies to themselves, and in many cases by genetic mutations of the reproductive process, to their children.

The servicemember's participation was classified and until 1996 these veterans were not allowed to discuss their military duty.

For more information about the July 16th event or NAAV, call Schafer at 541-258-7453, or go to the NAAV website at www.naav.com.



Purple Heart Stamp

The Purple Heart stamp, which was originally issued in May 2003, will be reissued. The stamp honors members of the U.S. military services who have been wounded or killed in action. The re-issuance date was not available when this publication went to print.

"The Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH) is pleased with the re-issuance of the Purple Heart stamp. Honoring the service of this country's military service members is always the right thing to do," said Robert Haltiner, MOPH State of Oregon Commander.

MOPH

The Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH) is an organization dedicated to fostering an environment of goodwill and camaraderie among Combat wounded Veterans, promoting patriotism; supporting necessary legislative initiatives; and most importantly, providing service to all veterans and their families.

"The MOPH invites all combat wounded veterans to join the organization. Members enjoy a unique camaraderie," said Robert Haltiner, MOPH State Commander.

To find out more about MOPH membership in Oregon, contact Department Adjutant Dale Albee at 541-560-3556 or Commander Robert Haltiner at 503-657-7085.

Whenever possible, the MOPH attends Oregon ceremonies and events at which service members or veterans are awarded the Purple Heart. If you are aware such of an event or are planning an event and would like to have the MOPH attend or participate, please contact Robert Haltiner at 503-657-7085.

Massing of Colors

A Massing of the Colors and Service of Remembrance is being planned for Flag Day, June 14, 2006 at the Oregon State Capitol in Salem. The Military Order of the World Wars 15th Regional is spearheading the event with the assistance of veterans' organizations, the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs, and community partners.

Organizations are invited to participate by having their Color Guards represent them at the event. The event will be limited to 25 Color Guards. To reserve a space for your Color Guard or to offer assistance, contact the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs as soon as possible at 1-800-828-8801 ext. 2389 or 503-373-2389.

Oregon Veterans Home Needs Volunteers

Caring volunteers help organizations operate smoothly and provide better service. At the Oregon Veterans' Home in The Dalles, volunteers enhance the lives of the residents and their families.

Currently, additional volunteers are needed in the Home's gift shop.

The shop sells donated gift items with all proceeds going to the Oregon Veterans' Home Trust Fund. Currently, two volunteers operate the shop each weekday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.. With additional volunteers, hours of operation could be extended.

"We are so thankful to all volunteers who help make the Home a special place for residents and their visiting families," said Roxane Kuehl, Oregon Veterans' Home Admissions and Liaison Officer. "Like most places, we can never have enough volunteers and we're always looking for caring people from the Columbia Gorge area who are willing to reach out and make a difference."

Kuehl also praised the many supporters of the Home who donate gift items to the shop and to the residents. She added that the Home accepts new or like-new items to sell in the shop, especially handmade or boxed gift sets, vases, dishes or other appropriate items.

Those interested in volunteering or donating gift items should contact Lynne Hughes at 541-296-7190.

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. Those who contributed during the months of February and March 2006 are listed below:

Leroy H. Churchill
Thomas and Virginia Hake
Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America
Mel and Norma Peterson
VETERAN License Plates
Combined Federal Campaign
Arnold M. Larson
Jay Richardson
Paul E. Burger
Michael S. Francis
Kirkwood Donavin
VFW Beaverton Post 4617 Auxiliary
American Legion Umpqua Post 16
VFW Post 180
G. and P. Bettencourt
Gretchen Johnson
Gary and Crisanne Werner
William and Ann J. Rothe
VFW Post 4015
Alvin M. Lesser
Rosemary C. Attaway
Chosin Few, Oregon Chapter
DAV Yamhill County No. 5 Auxiliary
Hood River Elks Lodge 1507
American Legion Post 37 Auxiliary
Carl E. Hughes
Howard J. Britain
Howard E. Kronish
American Legion Post 17
American Legion Baird-Heaton Post 152
Tim and Doris Brownhill
Ray and Barb Swank
George W. Wood, Sr.
Gary Van Orman
VFW Marion Post 661 and Auxiliary
VFW Kilchis Sunset Post 2848 Auxiliary
Michael Tracey Skillern
Jon French
Darrell Hill
Merle Smith
Portland General Electric
Marvin Prestwood
John and Margaret Hickert
American Legion Post 95 Auxiliary
American Legion Lincoln City Post,
#2624 Auxiliary
Oregon Retired Teachers, Unit 34
Tony Giordano
VFW Redmond Post 4108
Hermiston Elks Lodge 1845
Wilburn and Treva Clark
Pilot Butte Retirement Center
Mrs. Deffenbaugh's 2nd Grade Class,
Gubser Elementary School
VFW Post 5638 Auxiliary
Lorraine, Courtney, Anessa
and Danielle Johnson
Campfire USA
Mr. and Mrs. Harold Richter
Judy Hall
Sigman's Florist and Gifts
St. Helens Elks Lodge 1999
Warren Dines
Willis Gholston
USAF Academy Band
Richard Lucht
Mrs. O'Neil, Gubser Elementary School
Connie Platz, Sumpter Community School

Joy Lindner
Marion County Juvenile Department
Kathe Celestine and Friends
Florence and John McCulley
Richard and Margaret Boyle
Hildur A. Bailey
Chris Dauterman
John and Carol Hyatt
Dennis and Bonnie Betts
VFW Dallas Post 3203
Joseph Bowman
West Coast Airborne Association
Charles Macaluso
Col. Ralph K. and Minnie Watts
Audrey Patterson
John Gallagher
Walter Crews
Edward and Harriet Kelly
F.M. Driver
James B. Trent, Jr.
Virgil Myers
Bruce and Frances Hemm
American Legion Post 20
Gale and Donna Sickler
Joseph R. Dalton
Dorland E. Swan
Gary Champlain
Ron and Bernice Hjort
Donald and Edith McDaniel
Lawrence R. Fulker
American Legion Post 2
Access Computer Products, Inc.
Scotts Mills Grange 938
Rudy Karpstein
Gordon and Patricia Van Antwerp
Cecil and Judith Angel
Kenneth Rolph
American Legion Stevens-Chute Post 4
Jack and Carol Magnuson
Steve and Sharon Crabb
Bernhard Baer, Jr.
Thomas Davis
Frank and Annette Quinn
DAV Post 17 Auxiliary
Norm Harrell
VFW Nehalem Bay Post 10644
Richard T. Murphy
VFW Coburg Post 7384
Coos Bay Elks Lodge 1160
Thomas and Lila Tamblyn
Margaret Asa
David Nudo
George R. Jacobsen
Debra and John Baker
Military Order of the Purple Heart Ladies,
Auxiliary Unit 1942
Bernice Jackson
James and Wendy Donnell
Robert J. Streicher
Mary Jeanne Berns
Byron and Dorothy Stark
NCOA Jefferson Chapter 1285
Larry and Gudrun Fry
DAV Oregon City Chapter 4 Auxiliary
Clifford Nakamura
Tom McDow
Mark Sullivan

What's Happening at the Oregon Veterans' Home

by Roxanne Kuehl, Admissions and Liaison Officer

As we move into spring, the Oregon Veterans' Home is busier than ever. Since the opening of the Home in 1997, we have served 726 veterans, 25 spouses and six couples and currently occupancy is at 89 percent.

Quality of care is always a top priority at the Oregon Veterans' Home. New programs and processes are constantly being implemented to improve the quality of care and life for the residents.

The Rehabilitation Department continues to be a favorite spot for residents. The Department now offers "open gym" hours when residents not scheduled for physical or occupational therapy can use the equipment under supervision.

Another addition coming soon to the Oregon Veterans' Home will be portable defibrillator units on each wing. This will allow nursing staff to respond even more rapidly in a cardiac emergency.

To improve the staffing levels the Oregon Veterans' Home is providing classes for Certified Nursing Assistants. The first group

of classes began on January 16, 2006 and concluded on February 13. There were 10 students, all of who successfully completed the course of training and are now awaiting scheduling for their state certification. All of these students are now employees of the Home. The second group of classes began on February 20, and also includes 10 students.

An additional program that will be available at the Oregon Veterans' Home is the Dining Assistant Program. This will allow family members and volunteers to assist and actively share in mealtimes. The Home believes this will enhance the dining experience for the residents who need this type of assistance.

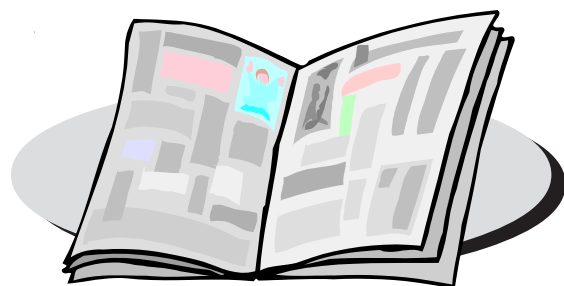
As always, the winter holiday season provided abundant opportunities for residents of the Home to enjoy a wide variety of activities and entertainment.

The Oregon Paralyzed Veterans hosted their annual prime rib dinner for the residents on December 16th. This event is always eagerly anticipated by the residents. Dietary

staff prepared a wonderful meal and administrative and support staff assisted with serving tables.

The American Legion, Department of Oregon, held their annual Christmas Gift Shop on the 8th and 9th of December. This Gift Shop allows the residents to select gifts for family members at no cost. Volunteers from the American Legion assist with shopping, wrapping and mailing packages for the residents. The residents and their families truly appreciate this gift from the American Legion as well as all of the volunteers who give of their time and of themselves to help make the Home a great place to be.

It is my continued privilege to serve at the Oregon Veterans' Home. The opportunity to care for our veterans, to hear their stories and share their lives is such an honor. I look forward to sharing information about the Home and its residents through future issues of *VETS NEWS*.



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 individuals listed below have recently joined dozens of previous donors to this meaningful program. Their generosity is greatly appreciated by our veteran residents.

Rex and Rosy LeBow
Harold Davidson
Thomas & Lila Tamblyn

For information concerning the Magazine Subscription Program, please contact Roxanne Kuehl at the Oregon Veterans' Home by calling 1-800-846-8460 or 541-296-7152 or by e-mailing kuehler@odva.state.or.us.



Oregon Veterans' Home Gift Form

"Give to those who have already given of themselves"

Charitable donations made to the Oregon Veterans' Home in any monetary amount are welcome and greatly appreciated. All donors receive a special letter of thanks from the Director of Veterans' Affairs and have their name included in the donor registry located in the lobby of the Home. If your gift to the Oregon Veterans' Home is:

- \$35 - \$64, you will receive one Oregon Veterans' Home remembrance pin. Remembrance pins are designed especially for our valued donors. The distinctive emblems can be worn on a lapel, vest, jacket, blouse, hat or tie.
- \$65 - \$99, you will receive two remembrance pins.
- \$100 or more, you will receive two remembrance pins and for one year your name will appear on the "Wall of Gratitude", the Home's donor recognition display, which is prominently located in the lobby area of the Home (updated annually).

Here is my gift in the amount of: _____

I prefer not to receive an emblem

Check is enclosed (Please make checks payable to the "Oregon Veterans' Home".)

Credit Card: VISA MasterCard

Account #: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Signature: _____

I am making my donation to the Oregon Veterans' Home

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Please send my "Remembrance Emblem(s)" to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____ Zip: _____

Send acknowledgements to: Name & Address: _____

Your gift qualifies for a charitable contribution tax deduction.

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

Please clip this form and mail with your donation to:

Oregon Veterans' Home, c/o ODVA, 700 Summer Street NE, Salem, OR 97301-1285

2006 Memorial

Bandon

May 27 – 10 a.m. – The Blessing of the Fleet ceremony at the mouth of the Coquille River at the South Jetty. Bandon's Volunteer Fire Department will fire a 21-gun salute and a Marine Corps League bugler will play Taps. The ceremony and wreath laying is to honor all those who lost their lives at sea.

May 27 – 11 a.m. – A Flag Parade will proceed through the city to the Bandon VFW cemetery, located off of 2nd Street above the city. VFW Post 3440 Color Guard will conduct the flag-raising.

Contact: Leonard Price, 541-347-4763

Beaverton

May 29 – 11 a.m. – American Legion Post 124 will host a Memorial Day ceremony at Beaverton Memorial Park, located between Watson and Washington Avenues on Seventh Street. A band from American Legion Post 185 will offer patriotic music. An F-15 flyover by the Oregon Air National Guard has been requested. (see related story on page 2)

Contact: Bob Cauffman, 503-524-8465

Buck Hollow

May 29 – 10 a.m. – A ceremony, that includes a Color Guard, a brief service, and 21-gun salute, will be presented at the cemetery by American Legion Post 75, AMVETS Post 2000, VFW Post 4211 and the Northwest Indian Veterans' Association. The cemetery is located on Buck Hollow Road.

Contact: Carl Lambert, 503-879-4222

Coos Bay

May 27 – 11 a.m. – Parade begins on 4th Avenue and ends on 2nd Avenue. The U.S. Coast Guard, Civil Air Patrol, Naval Sea Cadets Color Guards and American Legion Post 34 are hosting the event.

May 27 – 1 p.m. – A memorial wreathlaying ceremony begins in Marshfield Pioneer Cemetery, next to Marshfield High School, at 10th and Ingersoll. Sons of the Union Veterans will dedicate headstones. American Legion Post 34 will fire a 21-gun salute.

Contact: Kevin Wilkinson, 541-756-2749

Corvallis

May 29 – 2 p.m. – Servicemembers who have returned from Iraq and Afghanistan will be honored during a ceremony at the Veterans Memorial located at 1100 NW Kings Blvd. Names of Benton County servicemembers killed in action and listed on the Memorial's Honor Wall will be read. Flag-raising by the OSU NROTC Cadets. An MIA bracelet worn since 1971 will be presented to the sister of a local MIA soldier, William L. Kincade.

Contact: Les Whittle, 541-752-3222

Dallas

May 29 – 11 a.m. – Dallas Pioneer Cemetery, located at 2065 SW Fairview Avenue will host its annual program and Avenue of Flags. More than 450 flags will be displayed all day. Col. Charles L. Yriarte, 82nd Brigade, Oregon Army National Guard, is the guest speaker. An F-15 flyover by the Oregon Air National Guard has been requested.

Contact: Jim Quigley, 503-623-0955

Depoe Bay

May 29 – 11 a.m. – The 61st Annual Fleet of Flowers memorial will depart from the Harbor following a brief bay front ceremony. Those at the docks may board and ride the vessels of the local fleet to the open ocean where the flowers are cast upon the water in memory of U.S. military members who have given their lives in the service to this country and those who have lost their lives at sea.

Contact: Barbara Leff, 541-765-3445

Eagle Point

May 29 – 11 a.m. – At Eagle Point National Cemetery, veterans will lay wreaths at gravesites. A 21-gun salute will be fired. An F-15 flyover by the Oregon Air National Guard has been requested. The cemetery is located 14 miles northeast of Medford and one mile east of Eagle Point at 2763 Riley Road.

Contact: James Trimbo, 541-826-2511

Eugene

May 29 – 1:30 p.m. – A ceremony dedicated to servicemembers who have recently lost their lives and to their families will be held at Westlawn Cemetery, located at 225 S. Danebo Ave. Guest speakers include: State Rep. Debbi Farr and Eugene Mayor Kitty Piercy. Other participants: University of Oregon, Army ROTC Color Guard; 21-gun salute by the Oregon Army National Guard; music by Springfield High School. An F-15 flyover by the Oregon Air National Guard has been requested.

Contact: Norm Hoffman, 541-688-6069

Forest Grove

May 29 – 11 a.m. – American Legion Post 2 and the Oregon Army National Guard will be part of a ceremony at Forest View Cemetery, 1161 Pacific Avenue. Guest speaker will be Lt. Col. (Ret.) Linda Johnson, PhD., RN, from the Associated Health Education Office, U.S. Department of Veterans' Affairs (VA). An F-15 flyover by the Oregon Air National Guard has been requested.

Contact: Jim Craig, 503-357-3660

Grand Ronde

May 29 – 8 a.m. – A ceremony, that includes a Color Guard, and a 21-gun salute will be held at Grand Ronde Cemetery by American Legion Post 75, AMVETS Post 2000, VFW Post 4211 and the Northwest Indian Veterans' Association. The cemetery is located on Grand Ronde Road.

May 29 – 3 p.m. – A ceremony at the Veterans Memorial, will include a Color Guard, and 21-gun salute presented by American Legion Post 75, AMVETS Post 2000, VFW Post 4211 and the Northwest Indian Veterans' Association. Guest speakers will include Jim Willis, Director of the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs, and ODVA Deputy Director, Paula Brown. Names of local veterans will be added to the memorial, located on Grande Ronde Road.

Contact: Carl Lambert, 503-879-4222

Grants Pass

May 27 – 10 a.m. – Annual Boatnik Parade, downtown will begin at 'C' and 6th Street. Rogue Valley Detachment, Marine Corps League will provide the Color Guard.

Contact: Christopher Rosetta, 541-761-2263

May 29 – 11 a.m. – A ceremony at Hillcrest Memorial Park located at 945 NE Hillcrest Drive, with a Marine Corps League (MCL) Color Guard. Guest speaker will be MCL Commandant Jim Hale. A flyover from the Oregon Air National Guard has been requested.

Contact: John Woods, 541-479-2707

Hillsboro

May 29 – 11 a.m. – A ceremony will be held at Fir Lawn Memorial Park, located at 1070 West Main Street. VFW Post 2666 will provide a Color Guard. A flyover from the Oregon Air National Guard has been requested.

Contact: George Anderson, 971-404-7905

May 29 – 11 a.m. – Valley Memorial Cemetery, at 3809 SE Tualatin Valley Highway, will host a ceremony. Clan MacClay Bag Pipe and Drum Band will provide the music. Guest speakers will include Oregon State Senator Bruce Starr, Hillsboro Mayor Tom Hughes, and WW II veteran Ralph Hess.

Contact: Dean Markasky, 503-648-5444

Hood River

May 29 – 10 a.m. – A ceremony will be held at Idlewild Cemetery, located approximately 2 miles south of downtown Hood River on Tucker Road. The guest speaker is American Legion Veterans' Service Officer Jerry Schleining. Music and Taps provided by the Hood River Valley High School Band. New memorial markers will be recognized on the "Walk of Honor." An F-15 flyover from the Oregon Air National Guard has been requested.

Contact: Linda Adams, 541-386-1080

Madras

May 29 – All day – The Avenue of the Flags will be in place at Mt. Jefferson Memorial Park Cemetery on Loucks Road. The flags will be displayed from sunrise to sunset.

Contact: Tom Weiss, 541-475-5228

McMinnville

May 27 – 12 p.m. – A Memorial Day Weekend Presentation at the Evergreen Aviation Museum by B-17 Pilot Russell Barney.

May 29 – The Museum will have speaker presentations, cockpit viewings, a B-17 "Flying Fortress" walk-through (\$3 each) and other activities all day. The museum is located at 500 NE Captain Michael King Smith Way, about 35 miles southwest of Portland on Highway 18. The museum is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Find more information at: www.sprucegoose.org.

Contact: Nicole Wahlberg, 503-434-4180

al Day Events

Mt. Angel

May 29 – 9:30 a.m. – American Legion Post 89 will sponsor an old-fashioned Memorial Day service at Calvary Cemetery, one-quarter mile north of town on Highway 214. A memorial wreath will be placed. An Honor Guard from Troop E, 116th Cavalry, Oregon Army National Guard will fire a salute, and taps will be played. An F-15 flyover from the Oregon Air National Guard has been requested. If the weather is inclement, the services will be at St. Mary's Parish Church at 575 East College Street.

Contact: Jerry Lauzon, 503-845-6882

Newberg

May 29 – 11 a.m. – VFW Post 4015 will host a ceremony in Memorial Park on South Blaine Street. There will be a roll call of deceased Newberg veterans. Color Guard and 21-gun salute provided by Newberg City Police. A BBQ lunch will be served to attendees for which donations will be accepted.

Contact: Don Miller, 503-310-7958

Nyssa

May 29 – 11 a.m. – American Legion Post 79 will conduct Memorial Day services at the Hilltop Cemetery.

May 29 – 11:30 a.m. – American Legion Post 79 will host the annual Memorial Day service at the city park boat ramp on the Snake River. During the brief service, a wreath will be placed in the water to honor all military members who have lost their lives at sea.

Contact: Bill Thompson, 541-889-6344

Ontario

May 29 – 10 a.m. – American Legion Post 67 will be conducting Memorial Day services at the Evergreen Cemetery, located at South Park Blvd. Representatives from the American Legion, VFW and Disabled American Veterans (DAV) will participate.

May 29 – 10:30 a.m. – Services will be held at the Sunset Cemetery, located on Sunset Drive, two blocks south of 4th Avenue. Representatives from the American Legion, VFW and DAV will take part in the services.

May 29 – 11 a.m. – Meadowbrook Assisted Living facility will host a short service. The facility is located at 1372 SW 8th Avenue.

Contact: Bill Thompson, 541-889-6344

Portland

May 27 – 10 a.m. – Services at Skyline Memorial Park, 4101 NW Skyline Blvd, will highlight the military service of Native Americans and military chaplains. Emcee: Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Norm Hoffman. Guest speakers include State Rep. Donna Nelson. A 21-gun cannon salute will be provided by the Oregon Army National Guard's 2-218th Field Artillery. The Army Guard's 1042nd Medical Company will provide a Blackhawk helicopter flyover. Oregon Veterans Motorcycle Association will present the flags. Boy Scout Troop 297 will offer the flag salute.

Contact: Colleen Combs, 503-292-6611

May 29 – 12 p.m. – The Oregon Vietnam Veterans Living Memorial will host its annual Memorial Day service. The names of 801 Oregon Vietnam War casualties will be read. A ceremony will follow including guest speakers Major General Raymond F. Rees, Oregon's Adjutant General, and Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs Director Jim Willis. An F-15 flyover from the Oregon Air National Guard has been requested. The Memorial is located in Washington Park across from the Metro Park Zoo at 400 SW Canyon Road.

Contact: Jerry Pero, 503-266-1686/866-3990

Prineville

May 29 – 10:30 a.m. – American Legion Post 29, VFW Post 1412 and their Auxiliaries are co-sponsoring a parade, which will begin at the Crook County Courthouse and proceed to Ochoco Creek Park and the POW/MIA Monument. Following a short program and wreath laying, the parade will re-form and depart from the Juniper Haven Cemetery, and go to the Veterans Ceremonial Area for other Memorial Day ceremonies. Afterwards, there will be an Open House at the Vet's Club, 405 North Main Street.

Contact: Sid Carter, 541-447-5304

Rogue River

May 30 – 11 a.m. – A flag-raising at the Woodville Cemetery located on Wards Creek Road. Rogue River's VFW Post 416 is officiating and providing the firing squad. A Marine Corps Color Guard will post the colors. Guest speaker is Mayor Charles Skevington, a WW II veteran.

Contact: Frank Mirabella, 541-582-2072

Roseburg

May 29 – 11 a.m. – Marine Corps League members will sponsor ceremonies at the Roseburg National Cemetery, located at 913 Garden Valley Blvd. The event will include a Marine Corps Reserve Color Guard, a 21-gun salute, and wreaths laid by members of each branch of U.S. Armed Forces. An F-15 flyover from the Oregon Air National Guard has been requested.

Contact: Jim Hewitt, 541-467-0867

Salem

May 29 – 11 a.m. – The Greater Salem Area Veterans' Organizations (GSAVO) will sponsor the 26th annual Memorial Day program at City View Cemetery, located at 390 Hoyt Street South. The guest speaker will be Jim Willis, Director of the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs. An F-15 flyover from the Oregon Air National Guard has been requested. A potluck luncheon will be held afterwards at VFW Post 661 at 630 Hood Street N.E.

Contact: Coralee Berwick, 503-365-7771

Sheridan

May 29 – 11 a.m. – A ceremony, that includes a Color Guard, a brief service, and 21-gun salute, will be presented at the Greencrest Memorial Cemetery by American Legion Post 75, AMVETS Post 2000, VFW Post 4211 and the Northwest Indian Veterans' Association. The cemetery is located near Highway 18 in Sheridan.

Contact: Carl Lambert, 503-879-4222

Sisters

May 29 – 11 a.m. – VFW Post 8138 will host ceremonies in the Village Green City Park, located at 421 South Fir. Crook County High School's Navy ROTC will provide a Color Guard. The Oregon Army National Guard will fire the 21-gun salute. An F-15 flyover by the Oregon Air National Guard has been requested.

Contact: Frank Jackson, 541-389-6966

Springfield

May 29 – 10:15 a.m. – A ceremony will be dedicated to those who have recently lost their lives while serving their Nation and to their families, held at Springfield Memorial Gardens, at 7305 Main Street. Guest speakers include: Springfield Mayor Sid Leiken, Police Chief Jerry Smith. Color Guard from A Company, 6th Engineer Support Battalion, USMC Reserve, a 21-gun salute by Oregon Army National Guard's 2-162nd Infantry, and music provided by Springfield High School. An F-15 flyover by the Oregon Air National Guard has been requested.

Contact: Jack Bowers, 541-913-0587

The Dalles

May 29 – 2 p.m. – At the Oregon Veterans' Home, located at 700 Veterans' Drive, VFW Post 2471 will conduct a ceremony that includes posting the colors, a moment of silence and the playing of Taps.

Contact: Bruce Hall, 541-298-5670

Vale

May 29 – 11 a.m. – American Legion Post 96 will be conducting Memorial services at the Valley View and Pioneer Cemeteries, located at 1699 Valley View Road.

Contact: Bill Thompson, 541-889-6344

Vernonia

May 29 – 11 a.m. – The Aloha American Legion Post 104 Honor Guard will participate in a ceremony at the Vernonia Memorial Cemetery located at 2080 Bridge Street. The Honor Guard will fire a 21-gun salute and a bugler will play Taps.

Contact: David Yeo, 503-640-4941

Willamina

May 29 – 9 a.m. – A ceremony, that includes a Color Guard, a brief service, and 21-gun salute, will be presented by American Legion Post 75, AMVETS Post 2000, VFW Post 4211 and the Northwest Indian Veterans' Association at the cemetery located downtown on the Highway 18 Business Route.

Contact: Carl Lambert, 503-879-4222

Point Man Veterans' Conference

Point Man International will be holding their annual conference in Turner, Oregon at the Oregon Christian Conference Center, September 21–24 for veterans and their families. Point Man International is a non-profit organization formed in 1984 that attempts to assist veterans and their family members with their spiritual needs through education, one-on-one counseling and support groups.

Further information is available by contacting Tom Birdsong at 503-363-6772, Phil Bruner at 503-371-0885 or Kelly Cape at 503-838-4019 or online at <http://pm-06.blogspot.com>.



Governor Proclaims Special Days in May

Oregon Governor Ted Kulongoski has proclaimed two days in May to honor the armed forces and merchant mariners, and encourages all Oregonians to join in these observances or ceremonies held in their recognition.

The Governor has proclaimed May 20th as Armed Forces Day in Oregon. This day is set aside to express appreciation to all members of America's military forces—active, Guard and Reserve components—for faithful service to their country. In 1950, President Harry S. Truman designated the third Saturday in May as Armed Forces Day.

Oregon's merchant mariners will be honored as the Governor has proclaimed May 22nd as Maritime Day. Mariners and

maritime workers are recognized for their role in protecting America's freedom and increasing world trade and commerce.

Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs Director Jim Willis has been invited to be a speaker at the American Merchant Marine Veterans national convention in Dallas, Texas in May.

Last month Governor Kulongoski proclaimed April 8th as Former POW Recognition Day. Former POW's and their families gathered on that day at the Milwaukie Elks Lodge where Willis presented the proclamation signed by the Governor to Walter Brophy, Commander, Willamette Valley Chapter, American Ex-Prisoners of War.



Gold Star Wives 2006 Convention

The 61st Annual Gold Star Wives (GSW) convention will be held, in Portland, Oregon, July 19-22, 2006. This will be the first time they have held a convention in Oregon. The convention will be at the Double Tree Hotel and Executive Meeting Center located at 1000 NE Multnomah, telephone number is 503-281-6111.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Secretary Jim Nicholson will be guest speaker at an event on Saturday evening, July 22nd. There will also be a special memorial service on Saturday, which ODVA Director Jim Willis will be attending,

beginning at 9 a.m. at Willamette National Cemetery.

In expectation of a large number of participants, the convention planners have included activities for all family members including children.

If you would like more information about the convention, please contact Judi Van Cleave, Convention Coordinator in Portland at 503-234-1147. For additional information about GSW, visit their website at www.goldstarwives.org.



OSU Students Lobby For Memorial

Oregon State University has a long and proud military history. In fact, in 1917, the university was recognized as a "distinguished college" for its commitment to equipping military leaders, and by 1941 came to be known as the "West Point of the West."

For the past two years, the OSU Student Veteran's Affairs Committee (VAC), has sought to mark the significance of the university's military involvement through the years. The goal is a memorial designed to honor the memory of those who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to this country, to pay tribute to the service and inspiration of living heroes, and to recognize all future military members.

The Governor's Veterans' Affairs Advisory Committee (VAAC) has long supported the efforts of Oregon State University students to honor veterans with a memorial on their campus.

"We commend the OSU Student Veterans Affairs Committee for their efforts. Members of the Governor's VAAC have been happy to lend support to the project and are pleased to see it moving forward," said Charlie Schmidt, VAAC Chair.

Though they are determined as they continue to push for the needed resources to make this memorial a reality, the OSU Veteran's Affairs Committee needs help. The committee is planning to host a fundraising dinner and silent auction, however, at this point, they have not been able to locate financial sponsorship or support for this event. If you are interested or would like to make a tax-deductible donation for the memorial project, contact Kelly Rompel, VAC Fundraising Coordinator at 541-231-8311.



Vietnam Traveling Wall Comes to Portland

The Dignity Vietnam Veterans Memorial Traveling Wall will be in Portland and on display at Lincoln Memorial Cemetery, May 23-28.

On May 23rd, the largest motorcycle convoy—an estimated 6,000 riders—to ever escort the Wall will join the truck carrying the replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial at the Oregon/California border and proceed along Interstate 5 and Veterans Memorial Highway (I-205) to Lincoln Memorial Cemetery at 11801 SE Mt. Scott Blvd.

The largest of the traveling Vietnam Wall Memorials, the three-quarter-scale replica of "the Wall" is 240 feet-long and eight feet high. It allows millions of visitors to see and touch the black, mirror-like surface inscribed with the names of more than 58,000 Americans who died or are declared missing during the Vietnam War.

Dan Serres from Lincoln Memorial Cemetery said the exhibit is not a commercial venture and there is no admission cost to view it.

"We're encouraging everyone to line the overpasses on I-5 and I-205 on May 23rd and show their support with signs or by waving American flags as the Traveling Wall is escorted to Portland," Serres said. "The

Wall's constant visibility serves as a continual reminder of our veterans' dedication to freedom and that those who served shall not be forgotten."

Special Ceremonies will be held at the Traveling Memorial during its stay in Portland.

These ceremonies include: Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH) on May 24, at 11 a.m.; a public ceremony on May 26 at 2 p.m., Northwest Indian Veterans Association (NIVA) of the confederated tribes ceremony on May 27, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.; on May 28, Chapel services begin at 10 a.m. and a closing ceremony starts at 1 p.m.

On May 26, NIVA plans to present veterans with the *Warriors Medal of Valor* and mothers of veterans with the *Mothers Medal of Honor*. The Warrior's Medal of Valor is the first medal ever minted for the Native American Nations to honor all military personnel, active duty, reservist, National Guard and veterans.

The exhibit will be open 24 hours each day and volunteers are needed. Anyone interested in volunteering or who has any questions about the memorial's Portland visit, should call Serres at 503-771-1177.



Vietnam Veterans Memorial Needs Clean-up Volunteers

In preparation for Memorial Day ceremonies to be held at the Vietnam Veterans of Oregon Living Memorial, the Friends of the Memorial have scheduled a clean-up party for Saturday, May 20th, between 8 a.m. and dusk. Volunteers are needed and will be provided with tools, gloves, and a free lunch. Interested persons should contact Jerry Pero at 503-266-1686 or 503-866-3990.

The Memorial honors 801 Oregonians who are listed as killed or missing in action as a direct result of the Vietnam War. It is located at Portland's Washington Park across from the Metro Zoo, and next to the World Forestry Center.

The Vietnam Veterans of Oregon Living Memorial Fund, Inc. (VVOMF) is a non-profit organization and welcomes donations to help offset the costs of the Memorial's ongoing maintenance. Tax-deductible donations can be mailed to: VVOMF Inc., 1750 SW Skyline Blvd., Suite 15, Portland, OR 97221.



War Memorials Van Trip Slated in Portland

Anyone interested in visiting the Portland area war memorials, but cannot do so unassisted, will be able to get a ride to the three memorials before the Memorial Day weekend. Beginning at 9:30 a.m. and returning at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 25, Portland Parks and Senior Recreation is offering a van ride to visit the Vietnam Memorial at Hoyt Arboretum, the Oregon



Korean War Memorial at Willamette National Cemetery and the Korean War Memorial in Wilsonville.

The van departs promptly at 9:30 a.m. from the East Portland Community Center, 740 SE 106th. Parking will be available in the Center's north lot. Persons using a wheelchair, a motorized scooter or anyone needing special assistance should indicate this when making their reservation.

Reservations are non-transferable and should be made as soon as possible by calling Portland Parks and Senior Recreation at 503-823-4328. The cost is \$12.



State Fair To Honor Veterans

The 2006 Oregon State Fair is planning to honor veterans. According to State Fair officials the first weekend of the Fair, Saturday, August 26 and Sunday, August 27 will be designated in tribute to veterans and they are planning to provide veterans free admission to the Fair on those dates.

As a tribute to Veterans special features will include military



memorabilia and historical vehicles, a Remembrance display, Faces of the Fallen - The High Cost of Freedom, and a 40's USO-style show: "A Tribute to Veterans".

Please see the July/August issue of the *VETS NEWS* for further information.



Three Giant Flags Unfurled Near I-5

Surrounded by hundreds of people rendering military salutes or with hands held over their hearts, flags were hoisted onto three new giant flagpoles during a special dedication on President's Day, February 20, in Sutherlin, Oregon.

With the help from a grant, the Sutherlin Leadership Team organized the project and raised more than \$100,000 to construct a 100-foot and two 60-foot lighted flag poles that display the American, Oregon and POW/MIA flags 24 hours a day.

As the Star Spangled Banner was sung, soldiers from the Oregon Army National Guard's Charlie Company, 1-186th Infantry, of Roseburg raised the flags.

The event's guest speakers included U.S. Sen. Gordon Smith,; Jim Willis, Director of the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs;

and Roger Ege, State Commander, Veterans of Foreign Wars. Willis told the crowd that each flag has a distinct symbolism and noted that the Prisoner of War flag is a reminder that we can never forget those missing in action or those taken prisoner by enemy forces while serving.

"The Oregon flag represents the pioneer spirit of our state. And finally," Willis said, "there is our American flag—known internationally as the symbol of our nation. She sends a message of freedom and hope."

The Ford Family Foundation organized the leadership team and pledged a matching grant of \$10,000 to the project.

The flags can be seen prominently from I-5 at the Sutherlin northbound onramp.



ODVA Web Page Has New Look

Have you visited the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA) website lately? If you haven't looked at it within the last couple of months, there are several new features of which you may not be aware. Even if you have visited it within the last week, you better look again. Something may have been changed.

There have been many new changes to the look and the content of the website recently as ODVA makes progress toward its goal of making veterans' services, benefits and related information more accessible to veterans and their families.

For starters, this very publication (*VETS NEWS*) is now available to read or print at our website. Simply go to our homepage at www.oregon.gov/ODVA and then select Publications/Media listed on the left side of the page.

Those who do not currently receive the *VETS NEWS* in the mail, or those who wish to be removed from the list, can also go to this online page and send an email giving your name and address, and you will be added or deleted from the mailing list as you have requested.

Other changes include lists of veteran-related conventions and reunions, special event notices, press releases, lists of veterans' service officers and also a link to Oregon's Most Honorable heroes who made the ultimate sacrifice to protect freedom while serving in Afghanistan and Iraq. All these are just a mouse click away from our homepage. There is even a link to tell you what the flag status is on any given day. Our 'Current Topics' list on the home page will be continually updated.

Also offered now is an employment page, which not only provides listings of current ODVA recruitments, but also links to other valuable job search related sites and information.

Many outdated pages have been updated with current facts, figures and links; and additional updates and changes are on the way. A banner image, an animated flag and a rotating collection of new images of veteran memorials greet you when you come to the home page.



Military-Related Reunions

5th Battalion, 60th Infantry, 9th Infantry Division (Vietnam) is holding a reunion at the St. Louis Airport Marriott in St. Louis, Missouri, June 15-18, 2006. For more information, contact William Metzler at 707-374-1377.

26th Infantry Regimental Association will hold its annual reunion at the Airport Sheraton, in Portland, Oregon, June 7-11, 2006. For information, contact Bob Morris at 9300 SW Inez Street, Tigard, Oregon 97224-5875 or email lionspade@aol.com or telephone 503-639-2365.

Americal 23rd Infantry Division will be holding their national reunion at the Portland Waterfront Marriott, June 22-25, 2006. Contact Dave Hammond at 503-644-3623, or email pacwesthi@aol.com for more information.

USS Barry DD-933 is holding a reunion in Washington, D.C., July 13-16, 2006. For more information, contact Larry Loss, 1435 Stanley Ave #211, Glendale, California 91206, telephone 818-549-9439, or email larrydd933@yahoo.com.

U.S. Navy Divers, HCU-1, and support personnel – The 2006 Working Divers' Conference is to be held May 7-11, 2006, at the Red Lion Hanalei Hotel in San Diego, California. For information, contact David Ball at 619-225-0304, email davidball@cox.net.

USS Intrepid will hold its first West Coast Reunion will be held at the Embassy Suites in Burlingame, California, May 24-29, 2006. More information may be obtained by contacting Gene and Jean Mohler, Reunion Coordinators, at 650-948-7132 or email gmohler123@comcast.net.

USS Truxton DLGN/CGN-35 will be holding a reunion in Bremerton, Washington, August 2-6, 2006. For information contact Jerry Lane, 10893 Reef Sands Road, El Paso, Texas 79924-1143, telephone 915-821-1436 or email jlane@elp.rr.com.

Gamewardens of Vietnam Association Inc., will be holding its 2006 Reunion at the Denver Tech Center Hyatt Regency Hotel in Denver, Colorado, August 3-6. If you need more information, call 307-237-5755 or email wwcater571@bresnan.net.

Guadalcanal Campaign Veterans reunion honoring their 64th anniversary will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Arlington, Virginia, August 4-7, 2006. For further information, contact Gordon Morgan, GCV President at 503-254-6848 or email GCVets@aol.com.

63rd Infantry Division Association is having a reunion at the Drawbridge Inn in Fort Mitchell, Kentucky, August 16-20, 2006. If you have any questions please contact Edward Fowle, Reunion Chairman at 937-325-1990.

636th Radar Squadron biennial reunion will be held in Condon, Oregon, August 11-12, 2006. Contact Dave Klein at 541-504-8934 or email dvan636@bendnet.com, for more information.

Marine Air Control Squadron 9 (MACS-9) will be holding a reunion at the Crystal City Doubletree Hotel in Arlington, Virginia, August 9-13, 2006. For information contact R.A. Lashbaugh at 503-760-7171 or email Rlash@att.net.

USS Bon Homme Richard will hold a reunion at the Hilton Hotel in St. Paul, Minnesota, August 10-12, 2006. Contact Don Deycous at 509-754-2946 or email arladon@nwi.net for more information.

75th Division Veterans Association, Inc., will be having a reunion at the Sheraton Hotel in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, August 23-26, 2006. Please contact James Warmouth at 317-241-3730.

16th Armored Division will hold its annual reunion at the Holiday Inn in Wilsonville, Oregon, August 23-27. More information can be obtained by contacting Nelson Havel, 15819 Red Clover Lane, Sherwood, Oregon 97140, telephone 503-625-3217 or email nelsonhavel@msn.com.

USS Princeton CV, CVA, CVS-37 and LPH-5 will hold a reunion in Portland, Oregon, at the Red Lion Hotel on the Columbia River, August 26-29, 2006. Contact Ron McMullin at 503-659-8356 for more information.

95th Bomber Group (H) is holding its 2006 Reunion at the Downtown Marriott Hotel in Portland, Oregon, August 29-September 2, 2006. For more information contact Marilyn Gallagher at 503-649-6080 or email MLG2@att.net.

84th Infantry Division (WWII) will hold its 61st annual reunion in Nashville, Tennessee, September 2-5, 2006. Contact Tessa Swinehart, 126 Nathan Forest Drive, Hendersonville, Tennessee 37075, telephone 615-824-0348.

483rd Bombardment Group (H) Association is having a reunion in Arlington, Virginia, September 3-10, 2006. More information can be obtained by contacting George Stovall, 825 NE Lawndale Place, Corvallis, Oregon 97330, telephone 541-758-0009 or email gstovall@peak.org.

The Society of the 3rd Infantry Division will hold their 87th reunion at the Downtown Sheraton Hotel in Nashville, Tennessee, September 6-10, 2006. For additional information, contact John Shirely at 925-447-2256 or email jbshirley@comcast.net or Linda Irvine at 360-663-2521 or email info@TheReunionBRAT.com.

13th Airborne Division (WWII) will be holding its 25th reunion at the Hilton Garden Inn in Columbus, Georgia, September 6-9, 2006. For information, please contact John R. Scott, 5440 Briar Street, Roeland Park, Kansas 66205-2213, telephone 913-722-1143.

USS O'Brien DD-725 is having a reunion in Portland, Oregon, September 6-9, 2006. Contact Ron Santoro at 503-297-8741 or email RSANT26659@aol.com for more information.

USS Thetis Bay CVE 90, CVH a-1, LPH-6 is scheduled to hold a reunion in San Diego, California, September 7-10, 2006. For more reunion information, contact Duke Ditrich at 503-632-7273.

USAF 28th Bomb Wing is holding their 2006 reunion at Ellsworth Air Force Base in Rapid City, South Dakota, September 7-11. For information, contact Paul Hellwege at 541-688-0349 or email 1chellwege@msn.com or Donald Strachan at 605-341-6090 or email finerx@enetis.net.

Farragut Naval Training Station will hold its 20th reunion at Farragut State Park in Athol, Idaho, September 8-10, 2006. Everyone who worked or trained at FNTS during WWII and their descendents are invited. Contact Gene and Lorraine Cooper, 1248 SW Crossway Court, Port Orchard, Washington 98367, telephone 360-876-4470 for more information.

40th Division 223rd Infantry Regiment Association annual reunion will be held at the Holiday Inn Hotel in San Antonio, Texas, September 13-16, 2006. More information can be obtained from Joe Alvarez at 210-490-3202 or email jalvarez09@netzero.net.

AFROTC Detachment 700, Willamette University reunion will happen in conjunction with Willamette's Homecoming weekend of September 15-17, 2006. For information contact Dennis Drew by email at

Pearl Harbor Memorial Needs Your Help

A visit to the site of the *USS Arizona* Memorial and its Visitor Center at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, and you are immediately aware that you are in a very special place.

However, due to the shore side location of the current Visitor Center, sections have settled much faster than anticipated allowing for water at some high tides or after heavy rains to cause structural damage. And since the Center opened, engineers have jacked up the structure four different times and determined in July 2003 that due to the present sinking point, the building could no longer be raised.

The Pearl Harbor Memorial Fund Campaign (PHMF) is an endeavor undertaken by the Arizona Memorial Museum Association (AMMA), the National Park Service (NPS) and Pearl Harbor survivors in order to raise funds to construct a new Pearl Harbor Memorial Museum and Visitor Center.

If you are interested in this project or would like to more information about the project and its fundraising opportunities you can call toll free 1-866-332-1941 or write to the Pearl Harbor Memorial Fund, #1 Arizona Memorial Place, Honolulu, Hawaii 96818. This information is also available at their website at www.PearlHarborMemorial.com.



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If you wish to receive the *VETS NEWS* regularly, send your name and address to the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs, Attention Communications Unit, 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 June 5, 2006.

AOC Resolution

The membership of the Association of Oregon Counties (AOC) has voted to approve a statement of support for the National Guard and Reserve.

The Statement from the AOC Resolution reads as follows:

Resolution number, #2005 - F8.

WHEREAS, the National Guard and Reserve of the U.S. Department of Defense are essential to the strength and well-being of our communities, our counties, and our state; and

WHEREAS, in the highest American tradition, the patriotic men and women of the Guard and Reserve serve voluntarily in an honorable and vital profession; and

WHEREAS, the men and women of the Guard and Reserve train to respond to their community and their country in time of need, and deserve the support of every segment of our society; and

WHEREAS, in order to serve our nation effectively, increased public understanding is required of the essential role played by the Guard and Reserve in preserving our national security; and

WHEREAS, members of the Guard and Reserve deserve the cooperation and support of their employers in participating in the defense of our nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we resolve and endorse the following principles as an association.

- That employment will not be denied because of service in the Guard or Reserve;
- That employee job and career opportunities will not be limited or reduced because of service in the Guard or Reserve;
- That employees will be granted leaves of absence for military service in the Guard or Reserve, consistent with existing laws, without sacrifice of vacation; and
- That this resolution be made known throughout our association

Adopted by vote of the Membership at Conference in Eugene, Oregon, November 17, 2005.



Change for Marine Corps League

In the March/April issue of the *VETS NEWS* a listing appeared on page 10 that contained information about upcoming state conventions for various veterans' service organizations.

The dates for the Marine Corps League convention were incorrect. The correct and up-to-date information is as follows:

Marine Corps League
 Date: June 17-18, 2006
 Location: Holiday Inn Express – Roseburg
 Contact: John Woods, 541-479-2707

Our sincere apologies for any inconvenience this may have caused.

VETERANS' SERVICE OFFICERS

| County | Telephone Number | Service Officer |
|------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Baker | 541-523-8223 | Arda Johnson |
| Benton | 541-758-1595 | Don Johnson |
| Clackamas | 503-650-5631 | Janice Raisl |
| Clatsop | 503-325-2429 | Kenneth H. Rislow |
| Columbia | 503-397-2268 | Katie Harris |
| Coos | 541-396-3121 Ext. 362 | Mary Ann Sackett |
| Crook | 541-447-5304 | Sid Carter |
| Curry | 541-247-3205 Ext. 205 | Frank Van Meter |
| Deschutes | 541-385-3214 | Keith Macnamara |
| Douglas | 541-440-4219 | Mary Newman |
| Gilliam | 1-888-804-1817 | Linda Adams |
| Grant | 541-575-1631 | Bruce B. Makela |
| Harney | 541-573-6024 | John Lippert |
| Hood River | 541-386-1080 | Linda Adams |
| Jackson | 541-774-7837 | Marty Kimmel |
| Jefferson | 541-475-5228 | Tom Weiss |
| Josephine | 541-474-1316 | Lisa Shipley |
| Klamath | 541-883-4274 | Isabel Rodriguez |
| Lake | 541-947-6043 | John Peterson |
| Lane | 541-682-4191 | Joseph Reiley |
| Lincoln | 541-574-6955 | Kim Birman |
| Linn | 541-967-3882 | Pat Brillon |
| Malheur | 541-889-6649 | Bill Thomson |
| Marion | 503-373-2085 | ODVA |
| Morrow | 541-676-5667 | Juanita Cox |
| Multnomah | 503-988-3620 Ext. 26123 | Frank Freyer |
| Polk | 503-373-2085 | ODVA |
| Sherman | 541-442-5248 | Daryl V. Melzer |
| Tillamook | 503-377-0294 | Steve Weld |
| Umatilla | 541-278-5482 | Peggy Raines |
| Union | 541-962-8802 | Timothy H. Jederberg |
| Wallowa | 541-426-3155 Ext. 241 | Timothy H. Jederberg |
| Wasco | 541-506-2502 | Linda Adams |
| Washington | 503-640-3489 | Doug McEllven |
| Wheeler | 1-888-804-1817 | Linda Adams |
| Yamhill | 503-434-7503 | Diane Cilenti |

| Service Organizations | Telephone Number | Service Officer |
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| The American Legion | 503-412-4771 | Jerry Schleining |
| Veterans of Foreign Wars | 503-412-4757 | Jack Zule |
| Paralyzed Veterans of America | 503-412-4762 | Ken Fink |
| American Veterans (AMVETS) | 503-412-4767 | James Chubinsky |
| Military Order of the Purple Heart | 503-412-4770 | David Saylor |
| Disabled American Veterans | 503-412-4750 | Jay E. Woodbury |

| State Offices-ODVA | Telephone Number | Service Officer |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Salem | 1-800-692-9666 or 503-373-2085 | Kelly Breshears Ron Jarchow Lacey Carter Gus Bedwell |
| Portland | 503-412-4777 | Deanna Barnes Ron Kincaid Linda McMillan Laura Henrichs |

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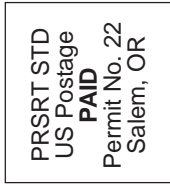
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Meetings of the Advisory Committee are held in the Director's Conference Room, Oregon Veterans' Building, 700 Summer Street NE, Salem, Oregon.

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