



VETS NEWS

May/June 2005

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JIM WILLIS, DIRECTOR

Governor's Memorial Day Message

Memorial Day is a day for us to honor those who have lost their lives in military service in order to help better the lives of others throughout the world. The history of our state is rich with Oregonians who left the safety and security of their homes, families and communities to defend the freedoms we are allowed today.

This year as we commemorate Memorial Day, we will do so with special significance because thousands of Oregon's finest citizens are still serving in Iraq, Afghanistan and in other important military assignments around the world.

As we pay tribute to the service and sacrifice of our fallen heroes who fought so honorably to preserve the freedoms and liberties we all enjoy, we should also express our gratitude to Oregon's servicemembers for their tremendous sacrifice of time away from school, work, and their families.

It is our duty to preserve their memory for those who will come in the next generations. It is also our duty to teach the future generations the history of those

sacrifices so that they understand their rights and duties as citizens of this great state and nation. I encourage each of you on this Memorial Day to speak with a young person about the price of our freedom and the importance of an active citizenry.

To those who have lost loved ones – friends, family, comrades – in a mission to restore peace and foster democracy, I want you to know that Oregon did not only lose a servicemember and one of its own – but has also lost a future leader, who will be missed by all.

Their honorable legacy is now left to us to continue so that all Oregonians have the opportunities to excel and succeed in a free society. Let us mark this day and every day so that they will never be forgotten.



THEODORE R. KULONGOSKI
Governor
Veteran, USMC

Veterans... Just Another Special Interest Group?

I have been involved with the 73rd Session of the Oregon Legislature with great interest.

Many legislative bills have been introduced that if successful will have a positive long-term impact on Oregon Veterans and their families and I am encouraged by the legislators who have strongly supported the Oregon veterans community.

I am however troubled by what appears to be a trend affecting Oregon Veterans, their families and dependents. I am concerned about proposals and actions on the part of some individuals and units of government that would merge veterans with programs designed for what have been described as special interest groups.

It seems that they see such mergers of service and funding as expedient or even convenient. I would like to point out that military service in the protection of this nation has never been either expedient or convenient on the part of our veterans. It was their duty and has been performed with valor, honor and at great personal sacrifice.

Let me be clear, the charitable spirit of government in a democratic society is one of taking care of persons who cannot take care of themselves. As both a war veteran and an American I agree with that premise.

Where I disagree occurs when services to veterans are merged with non-veterans programs, and most especially when issues concerning the funding of these programs are merged. In public policy as old as this republic, veterans have been sacred and set apart. They have been given a place of honor,

Continued on page 2

Veterans *Continued from page 1*

separate from all others in our society and are not now and never have been a "special interest group."

The reasons for this have been recognized from the time this nation was first colonized. Those who defended others from harm - from those who would enslave them, from those who would steal from them and from those who would deny their individual freedoms - have always been honored.

To begin a subtle move toward treating veterans differently than in the past begins a process whereby their honored place in our society becomes eroded and can have among other things, an impact on the ability of our military forces to find qualified volunteers to serve in our armed forces.

It was George Washington who said, "The willingness with which our young people are likely to serve in any war, no matter how justified, shall be directly proportional as to how they perceive the Veterans of earlier wars were treated and appreciated by their nation."

Governor Ted Kulongoski in speaking to a group of veterans on February 12, 2003 said, "Ultimately, what I believe is a nation is judged by how it treats those who have heard the call of their country and answered it. We need to think about how we can better serve those who served us during time of great conflict. This government is going to recognize the veterans' service to this country and this State."

The veterans of this state expect the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs to defend and protect their hard won benefits and with the help of like-minded Oregonians and veterans' organizations across our state, that is what we will do. Veterans are not another special interest group. Veterans are people whose service to our nation is sacred. They have preserved the liberties we all enjoy and deserve the benefits they have earned through their honorable service to our state and nation.



Director

Legislation Introduced - Lifetime Healthcare For Retirees

In February 2005, legislation was introduced in the 109th Congress that would provide free medical care to military retirees, a promise most veterans say was made when they enlisted. H.R. 602, the "Keep Our Promise to America's Military Retirees Act", if passed, would waive health-care enrollment fees for World War II and Korean War retirees with Medicare B coverage, a requirement for those using Tricare for Life benefits.

If passed, H.R.602 would also open the Federal Employees Health Benefits, (FEHB) program to retirees and reimburse any expenses under the FEHB program that would not have been incurred under Tricare. Pharmacy benefits would also be improved.

Oregon Veteran to Compete in Annual National Veterans Wheelchair Games

The 25th annual National Veterans Wheelchair Games are scheduled to be held from June 27 - July 1, 2005 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The games are open to veterans with spinal cord injuries and other disabilities that require the use of a wheelchair for athletic competition. Athletic events will take place at varying venues in the city including the Minneapolis VA Medical Center. More than 500 are expected to compete in events such as archery, nine ball, power soccer, slalom, softball, swimming, weightlifting and power chair relay among other events.

Steven Robinson, a member of the Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America, is expected to participate in the competition. Robinson competed for the first time during last year's games in Missouri. He returned home to Hillsboro, Oregon with one silver medal and three bronze medals.

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and Paralyzed Veterans of America sponsor the annual event along with financial assistance from corporate, civic, and veterans' service organizations.

VVOMF Needs Volunteers

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial of Oregon honors the approximately 800 Oregonians who are listed as killed or missing in action as a direct result of the Vietnam War. The Memorial is also dedicated to the 57,000 Oregonians who served during the Vietnam era.

In preparation for Memorial Day, the Vietnam Veterans of Oregon Memorial Fund, Inc., (VVOMF) needs volunteers to participate in its annual clean-up day on Saturday, May 21, 2005 starting at 9 a.m. The Fund will supply tools, gloves, lunch and pop. If you plan on attending please contact Jerry Pero at 503-266-1686 or cell phone number 503-866-3990.

The VVOMF, a non-profit organization, welcomes donations to help with the ongoing maintenance of the Memorial. All contributions are tax-deductible under Section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code and can be made to: VVOMF Inc, 1750 SW Skyline Blvd., Suite 15, Portland, Oregon 97221.

May 22nd is National Maritime Day

Celebrating American commercial maritime tradition dates back to 1819 when the USS Savannah, one of America's first ocean-going steam ships, made the first historic transatlantic voyage under steam propulsion.

This historic event not only showed the peace time prowess of U.S. Merchant Mariners, but also forever linked the country's valiant sailors to her military tradition. As in all of America's wars, Merchant Mariners are at the forefront of transporting troops, supplying the Armed Forces and braving the enemy.

On May 20th, 1933, Congress formalized the 22nd day of May as National Maritime Day. From U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt to current President George W. Bush, presidents have proclaimed May 22nd as National Maritime Day. The proclamation calls upon the people of the United States to celebrate the observance and display the flag at their homes and in their communities. Additionally, U.S. government buildings are called upon to display the flag on National Maritime Day.

NEW INFORMATION

Ex-POW State Convention Update

American Ex-Prisoners of War

Date: May 13, 2005

(social evening on May 12)

Place: Phoenix Inn in Albany

Contact: Richard Crow, 541-336-3635



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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, Oregon 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 1, 2005.

May is National Military Appreciation Month

As designated by Congress, May is National Military Appreciation Month (NMAM). NMAM honors Americans who have given their lives in defense of our nation's freedom and all the men and women who have served or are serving in uniform.

MAY

May 6 – Military Spouses Day - First celebrated in 1984 when then-President Ronald Reagan proclaimed the observance. The Friday before Mother's Day each year has been set aside to honor military spouses. The purpose of this special day is to thank military spouses for the support they give to their family and other military families, to honor their contributions to the communities where they live and to acknowledge the sacrifices they make every day in support of their military member and our country.

May 7 – Official End of Vietnam War (1975)

May 7&8 – VE DAY: Germany's Surrender WWII (1945)

May 8 – Mother's Day

May 15 – Armed Forces Day – Originally, each branch of the U.S. military had their own day of recognition, but on August 31, 1949, the then Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson announced the creation of Armed Forces Day. President Harry Truman also announced the holiday in a presidential proclamation on February 20, 1950. Celebrated the third Saturday of May each year.

May 22 – National Maritime Day – (see related article on page 2 of this issue.)

May 30 – Memorial Day – (see related article on page 9 of this issue.)

JUNE

June 4-6 – Battle of Midway (1942) - Midway was the most important battle in the fight for the Pacific during WWII, finishing the Japanese dominance of the six months since the Pearl Harbor attack on December 7, 1941. This battle was the best demonstration of the value of aircraft carriers in war at sea.

June 6 – D-Day (1944) - Anniversary of the Allied Forces invasion at Normandy during WWII. Set aside as a day to pay tribute to those soldiers who made the ultimate sacrifice in Normandy 61 years ago and to honor those who lived to fight another day.

June 14 – Flag Day – Marks the 228th birthday of the U.S. Flag. (1777)

June 14 – U.S. Army established (1775)

June 19 – Father's Day

June 22 – Pledge of Allegiance – Anniversary of the official recognition of the Pledge of Allegiance by Congress on June 22, 1942 and to formally include the Pledge in the U.S. Flag Code.

June 22 – GI Bill was signed (1944)

June 25 – Korean War Began (1950)

JULY

July 4 – Independence Day (1776)

July 9 – Distinguished Service Medal Created (1918)

July 10 – Anniversary of the Allied Invasion of Sicily (1943) – The decision to invade Sicily was agreed upon by the Western Allies at the Casablanca Conference in January 1943. 'Operation Husky' was to be a combined amphibious and airborne attack under the command of General Dwight D. Eisenhower.

July 16 – 60th Anniversary First Testing of the Atomic Bomb (1945)

July 21 – Veterans Administration was established (1930)

July 26 – U.S. Department of Defense established (1947)

July 27 – Korean War Armistice Day (1953)

July 28 – World War I Began (1914)

2nd Battalion, 162nd Infantry Returns

On March 31, 2005, the 2nd Battalion 162nd Infantry Division was officially demobilized during a ceremony at the Oregon State Fairgrounds in Salem. A crowd of approximately 3,000, which included family and relatives of the returning soldiers, Governor Ted Kulongoski, Director Jim Willis, of the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs, Oregon military officials, Oregon Legislators and many others, eagerly welcomed them home.

Hand-painted posters and signs hung around the new Pavilion Building at the fairgrounds with sentiments of 'You're the BEST' – 'Welcome Home' – 'The Boys are Back in Town' – and 'We've Missed You' - just to name a few.

The returning battalion, based in Cottage Grove, consists of 700 members representing 104 communities across Oregon. The men and women of the 2nd Battalion, 162nd Infantry, are members of the largest deployment of Oregon soldiers since World War II. Eight members of the 2/162 were killed-in-action. Approximately 30 others were wounded.

Demobilization briefings were held over a number of days to provide servicemembers with information about veterans benefits and to assist them with their re-adjustment to civilian life.

About 40 percent of the returning troops are not employed. Governor Kulongoski has called upon local businesses to hire veterans.

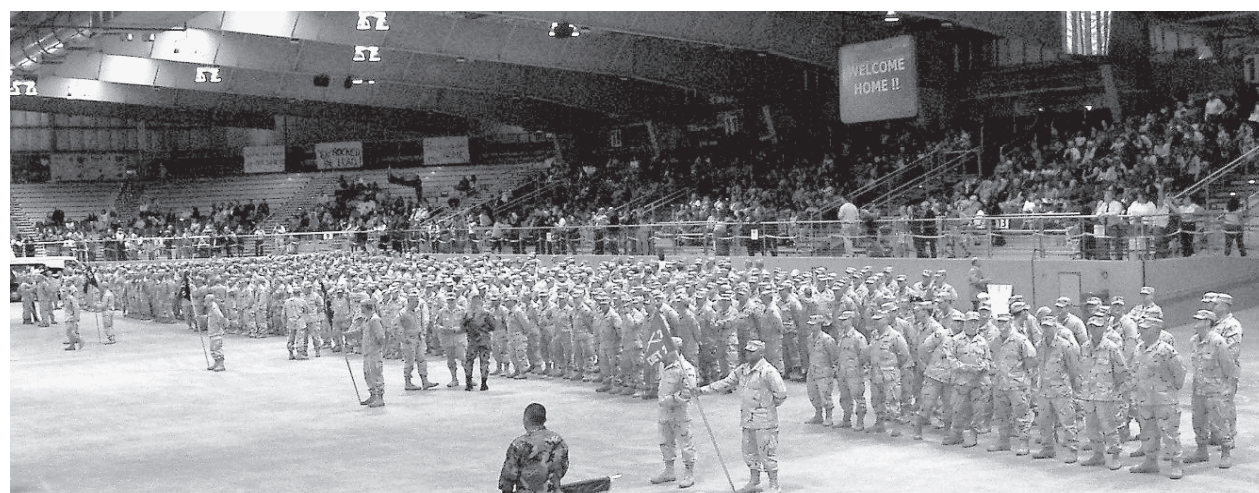
Annual Veterans' Pow-Wow



The Thirteenth Annual Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Veterans' Pow-wow will be held on July 8, 9, and 10, 2005. The event will begin at 6:30 p.m. on Friday with the Royalty Pageant and will take place on the pow-wow grounds located at 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, Oregon. Grand entries are scheduled for noon on both Saturday and Sunday.

The pow-wow, sponsored by the Northwest Indian Veterans Association and the Grand Ronde Veterans Honor Guard, is open to all veterans and the public at no charge. Camping and parking, as well as dinner Saturday afternoon and breakfast Sunday morning will also be available free of charge. No drugs or alcohol are allowed at this event.

Drums, dancing, a raffle, and much more are planned. Contact person for the event is Gene LaBonte who can be reached by calling 503-879-5342.





Friends of the Home

Donations to the Oregon Veterans' Home Trust Fund continue to be received. We are deeply appreciative of the thoughtfulness and generosity of an ever-growing number of Friends of the Home. Those who contributed during the months of February and March 2005 are listed below:

Lauretta E. Nelson
 James and Ruthann Audritsh
 Margaret Wise
 Melvin and Norma Peterson
 Robert B. Burns
 American Legion, Department of Oregon
 Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America
 Donald and Patricia Emmons
 Jo Anna Sering
 Colin Ackerson
 Darlene Lewis
 Rex and Rosy Lebow
 Richard T. Murphy
 American Legion Post #20
 Harold and Karen Gigstad
 Richard and Nita Lucht
 Thomas Bright
 Stan Sauvageau
 American Legion Umpqua Post #16
 Bowlers to Veterans Link
 American Ex Prisoners of War,
 Oregon Department
 Clifford & Martin, Inc.
 Aaron Alberty
 American Legion Aloha Post #104
 Knights of Columbus,
 Archbishop Ireland #898
 VFW Auxiliary #2624
 VFW Auxiliary #5653
 Fleet Reserve Association,
 Cherry City Branch 374
 Dennis Brown
 Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Zimmerman
 William and Shirley Edwards
 Robert and Evelyn Jenson
 Susan Elliott
 Donald E. Balch
 VETERAN License Plates
 Arnold M. Larson
 Dale Albee
 Goldie Lemarr
 Joseph R. Dalton
 Tudor and Betty Davis
 VFW Harold E. Moore Post #9259
 James and Marilyn Sams
 Oregon Veterans' Home Gift Shop
 Paul Arnott
 Florence and John McCulley
 Seth D. Maine
 Dale and Elaine Thurman

Nina and Ottos Long
 Michael D. Williams
 Wanda Sandin
 Anna and Ralph Klein
 Morris Lillich
 Mabel Russell
 Burnett F. Ledbetter
 Clair Couturier
 Timothy B. Dewald
 Gary Beckman
 Tom and Virginia Hake
 Donald and Edith McDaniel
 Melvin and Betty Kidd
 Gale H. Sickler
 James and Jean Collins
 VFW Ponderosa Pine Post #1643
 Mary Jeanne Berns
 Richard Espey
 Herman and Elaine Smith
 Hildur A. Bailey
 Leonard and Jeanette Counihan
 West Coast Airborne Association
 AMVETS Tri-City Post #2000
 Gretchen Johnson
 Silverton Elks Lodge #2210
 AMVETS Tri-City Auxiliary #2000
 VFW Sisters Auxiliary #8138
 Kathleen Blake
 DAV Jackson County Auxiliary #8
 DAV Yamhill County Auxiliary #5
 Stanley W. Elliot
 James B. Trent, Jr.
 Donald F. Rowe
 Carl and Geraldine Martin
 William and Lillie McNay
 Earnest Smyres
 Arthur and Viola Wilson
 Alvin M. Lesser
 Charitable Checkoff Donations
 Ward and Eunice Rader
 Mark Sullivan
 Rodney W. Hahn
 Bernard D. Offley
 Michael A. Williams
 Daniel Ziglinski
 Kathleen Brown-Clark
 Claire Hawk
 Springfield Twin Rivers Rotary Club
 Lawrence R. Fulker

The Oregon Veterans' Home Celebrates St. Patrick's Day



Over a hundred visitors attended the St. Patrick's Day celebration at the Oregon Veterans' Home where green hats, leis and shamrock pins were the uniform of the day. Family members and visitors were invited to enjoy a lunch of corned beef and cabbage with all the trimmings, tour the facility and visit with a veteran to celebrate the day. Facility staff and volunteers prepared and served lunch while residents and visitors alike enjoyed the music of a strolling accordion player.



Become a Friend of the Oregon Veterans' Home this Memorial Day

Send your tax-deductible charitable contribution to:

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

Those donating \$35 - \$64 will receive a Veterans' Home remembrance emblem pin, \$65 - \$99 will receive two emblems, and \$100 or more will receive two emblems and listing on the Wall of Gratitude (Home's recognition display located in the Home's lobby - updated once annually).

Please remember the Oregon Veterans' Home this Memorial Day and join other Friends of the Home.

Contributions improve the quality of life for veterans residing at the Oregon Veterans' Home, the place where honor lives.

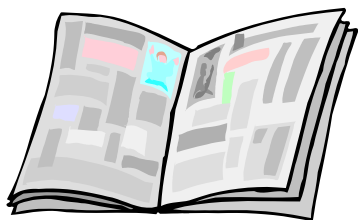
The Moving Wall

The Moving Wall is coming to Richland, Washington. The Moving Wall is a half-size replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. In 1982, John Devitt, a Vietnam veteran, attended the dedication of the Memorial in Washington, D.C. and was so moved by the experience that he vowed to find a way to share it with others who may not have the opportunity to travel to Washington, D.C.

The Moving Wall was built by Vietnam veteran volunteers and went on display for the first time in October 1984, in Tyler, Texas. Two separate structures of the Moving Wall now travel the U.S. from April through November, spending about a week at each site.

The event in Richland, Washington will begin with opening ceremonies at sunrise on June 8, 2005. The Wall will be open for viewing around the clock (24 hours) at Jefferson Park in Richland until closing ceremonies begin at sunset on June 12. To visit the Moving Wall in Richland take the George Washington Way Exit off 182 heading North and continue approximately 2 miles to Jefferson Park.

For more information about the Moving Wall or to find out how you can schedule a visit to your community, visit their website at www.themovingwall.org or call Vietnam Combat Veterans, Ltd., in Michigan at 906-885-5599.



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
Richard T. Murphy
Jack Lenihan
John C. Warden

For information concerning the Magazine Subscription Program, please contact Roxane Kuehl at the Oregon Veterans' Home by calling 1-800-846-8460 or 541-296-7151 or by e-mail at kuehlr@odva.state.or.us.

Golden Access Passport

The Golden Access Passport is a lifetime entrance pass to national parks, monuments, historic sites, recreation areas, and national wildlife refuges that charge an entrance fee. The Golden Access Passport admits the pass holder and any accompanying passengers in a private vehicle if a park has a per vehicle entrance fee. Where a per person entrance fee is charged, the Golden Access Passport admits the pass holder, spouse, and children.

The Golden Access Passport also provides a 50% discount on federal use fees charged for facilities and services such as camping, swimming, parking, boat launching, and tours. In some cases where use fees are charged, only the pass holder will be given the 50% price reduction. The Passport is nontransferable and does NOT cover or reduce special recreation permit fees or fees charged by concessioners.

A Golden Access Passport must be obtained in person at a federal area where an entrance fee is charged.

It is available only to citizens or permanent residents of the United States who are medically determined to be blind or permanently disabled. You may obtain a Golden Access Passport by showing proof of medically determined permanent disability, or eligibility for receiving benefits under federal law.

For veterans who are service connected, a letter indicating qualifying disability information can be obtained from the Portland Regional Office by calling toll free 1-800-827-1000.



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

Eagle Point National Cemetery Expansion

With the rising demand of burial needs for the veteran community, Eagle Point National Cemetery has begun its largest expansion project in the history of the cemetery.

The project will add more than 8,000 gravesites to the currently existing 13,000 sites. Eagle Point National Cemetery is located in the foothills one mile south of the town of Eagle Point.

Eligibility for burial is extended to active duty personnel, veterans, their spouses and dependent children.

For more information, please contact:
Eagle Point National Cemetery
2763 Riley Road
Eagle Point, OR 97524
(541) 826-2511



Aviation Stamps Due Out in July

The U.S. Postal Service (USPS) is scheduled to release a stamp set titled American Advances in Aviation in late July 2005. The set of 10 different aircraft images illustrates American innovations and technological advances in military, commercial, and general aviation in the 1930s, 40's and 50's. Aircraft featured on the stamps:

- Boeing's 247 and B-29 Superfortress
- Consolidated's PBY Catalina and B-24 Liberator
- Lockheed's P-80 Shooting Star
- Grumman's F6F Hellcat

R3 A "GAL O'MY DREAMS"
Pilot 1st Lt. Staryl C. Austin Jr.
410th Fighter Squadron



An Era is Coming to an End

By Staryl Austin, Member of the Governor's Veterans' Affairs Advisory Committee (VAAC)

To the pilots who flew the P-47, it's "all about the airplane". It was big, capable of absorbing tremendous damage and would still fly. Lesser airplanes many times didn't make it home. The P-47 usually did. For the past thirty-eight years, those who flew "the Jug" have met annually to renew old friendships and to honor the airplane that was theirs to fly for that short period in history.

The Republic P-47 Thunderbolt was the most heavily produced U.S. fighter aircraft of WWII. According to Air Force records, its combat record has never been equaled. A total of 15,683 were built, originally for use as a high altitude fighter for bomber escort.

It proved to be such a rugged airplane that it earned much of its reputation as a close support aircraft for Allied ground forces pushing their way across both the European and Pacific Theaters of Operation, but it also scored more aerial victories than any other U.S. fighter. Seventeen of the top 21 U.S. aces flew the Thunderbolt. It was also the scourge of enemy ground forces, destroying more aircraft, vehicles, locomotives, rail cars, and other military hardware than any other allied aircraft. In all, the P-47 flew 1,352,810 combat hours in all theaters of the war.

There are only a few P-47s still in existence. Many were sold to foreign countries after the war, others were destroyed. The big, round, eighteen cylinder, 2000+ horsepower, thirsty engine made it too expensive for use by the peacetime Air Force of that time. As a result, younger people don't recognize the name.

The pilots who flew her will gather for one last reunion this May in Seattle, Washington. The P-47 Thunderbolt Pilots Association will then cease to exist. All members are now eighty plus years of age, so the 60th anniversary of the end of WWII was selected as an appropriate time to discontinue the annual reunions. Many will still get together with close friends or hold unit reunions.

P-47 Thunderbolt Pilots Association Final Reunion:
May 4 – May 8, 2005
Southcenter DoubleTree Suites in Seattle, Washington.

Contact Staryl Austin, Reunion Chairman, at 503-363-2508 or via email p47288@juno.com for more information.



Remains Identified as Missing Servicemembers From the Northwest

According to the Department of Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office (DPMO) the remains of an aviator missing since the Cold War and the remains of a U.S. Navy pilot declared missing during the Vietnam War were recently recovered.

Navy Lieutenant Commander J. Forrest G. Trembley of Spokane, Washington, and his crewman took off in their A-6A Intruder on August 21, 1967, from the U.S.S. Constellation on a strike mission against the Duc Noi rail yards near Hanoi, North Vietnam. Upon leaving the target area, their aircraft was attacked by enemy MiGs. A final radio message from Trembley indicated the MiGs were in hot pursuit.

In 1993 and 1999, with the assistance of the Chinese government, a joint U.S. - People's Republic of China team interviewed witnesses to the shoot down and crash. U.S. specialists from the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) interviewed a Chinese citizen near the crash site. He turned over Trembley's identification tag and fragmentary human remains alleged to be those of an American pilot.

Scientists of the JPAC and the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory used mitochondrial DNA as one of the forensic tools to identify the remains as those of Trembley.

On November 29, 1952, co-pilot Robert C. Snoddy, of Roseburg, Oregon, along with his pilot Norman A. Schwartz and two other crewmembers, took off from an airfield near Seoul, South Korea, to extract a CIA operative from China. Reportedly, the Chinese had compromised the agent on the ground and when the C-47 aircraft flew over the pickup

point it was shot down by hostile ground fire. Snoddy and Schwartz were killed and the two other crewmembers Richard G. Fecteau and John T. Downey were captured and held by the Chinese until 1971 and 1973 respectively.

The U.S. government asked the Chinese for information related to the missing crewmembers and in 1972 China acknowledged to President Ford that the pilot and co-pilot had died in the crash and were buried near the crash site but that their remains were impossible to locate.

With more details presented by DPMO, the Chinese approved of a visit by a U.S. team of investigators in 2002. Specialists from the JPAC interviewed a 78 year-old villager who had witnessed the shoot down in 1952 and he led the investigators to the site where they found aircraft wreckage but no human remains. Then, in June 2002, a joint JPAC-Chinese recovery team excavated the site where they found additional aircraft debris, personal effects of the crew, as well as human remains.

Again, scientist of the JPAC and the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory used mitochondrial DNA as one of the forensic tools to confirm the identification of Snoddy.

Of the 88,000 American missing in action from all conflicts, 1,836 are from the Vietnam War, with 747 Americans being accounted for since the end of the Vietnam War, and 129 are from the Cold War, with the remains of 19 other Americans, including Snoddy, being accounted for since the end of the Cold War. For more information about the Defense Department's mission to account for missing Americans, visit the DPMO website at www.dtic.mil/dpmo, or call 703-699-1169.

Major General Rees Expected to Take Command of Oregon National Guard by End of Spring

In February, Governor Ted Kulongoski appointed U.S. Army Major General Fred Rees as the Oregon National Guard's new Adjutant General.

At the time of his appointment, Major General Rees was serving as the Chief of Staff at the U.S. Northern Command in Colorado Springs, Colorado. A West Point graduate, Rees' active duty and Army National Guard assignments include service in the Republic of Vietnam as a cavalry troop commander, commander of the 116th Armored Cavalry Regiment, Oregon Adjutant General, and Director of the Army National Guard.

"Oregon's National Guard continues to play a critical role in our nation's fight against terrorism – both globally and here at home," said Governor Kulongoski in a press statement. "Major General Rees brings the depth of experience and leadership – as a soldier and as a commander – that we need during this time of increased dependence on Oregon's soldiers. I am honored that the General has accepted this new assignment and am confident that under his direction, the Oregon National Guard will solidify its reputation as one of the most highly qualified and skilled corps of citizen-soldiers in our country."

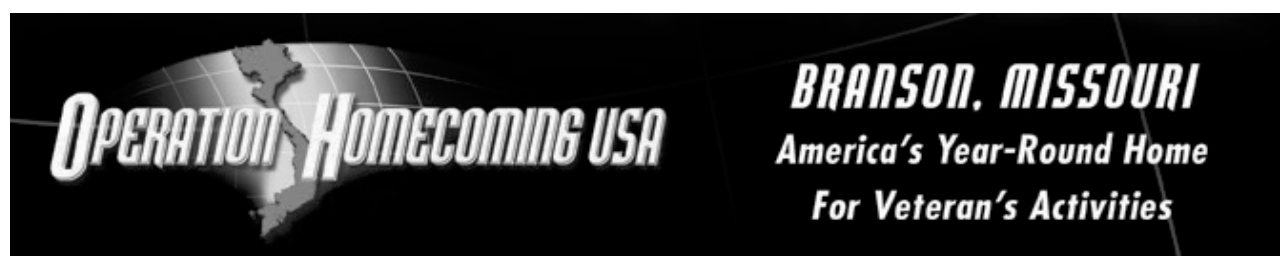
Rees plans to return to Oregon sometime by late spring or as soon as a replacement is named for his current position in Colorado.

Military Educational Display at Capitol

The Greater Salem Area Veterans' Organization (GSAVO) will be hosting a military educational display in the Galleria of the Oregon State Capitol Building in Salem, beginning May 2, 2005 and continuing through May 31.

The display will feature men and women's uniforms representing all branches of the U.S. Armed Forces along with numerous photographs and memorabilia from all eras of service including the current Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. The display is open to the public and available for viewing Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

If you have any questions about the display, are interested in scheduling the display for an event, or have items you would like to donate please contact Mac MacDonald at 503-364-4299 or Jim Hardy at 503-463-4274.



Operation Homecoming U.S.A.

The Operation Homecoming USA event will begin on Monday, June 13, 2005 and continue through Sunday, June 19. The organizers estimate that as many as 100,000 participants from across the country will attend.

Several ceremonies and activities are planned including opening and closing ceremonies, golf-tournament, fishing tournament, welcome home parade, memorial service and more.

The Board of Directors for this celebration feels this celebration is a profoundly important event for Vietnam Veterans, their families and loved ones, as well as our nation. It was a difficult time in our nation's history, but by honoring those who answered their country's call, the legacy of honor, duty and respect will be passed on.



To learn more about Operation Homecoming USA, visit their website at www.operationhomecomingusa.com on the Internet or call 1-888-265-8387. Online registration is available.



Beaverton

May 30 – 11:00 a.m. – The American Legion Post 124 will host a Memorial Day ceremony at Beaverton Memorial Park, located between Watson Avenue and Washington Avenue on 7th Street. Jim Willis, Director of the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs, will be a featured speaker. The 123rd Fighter Squadron will conduct a flyover.

Contact: Bob Cauffman, 503-524-8465

Corvallis

May 30 – 1:30 p.m. – Oregon National Guard members deployed to Iraq and those who have returned will be honored at a Memorial Day Celebration along with a remembrance for Eric McKinley, a fallen soldier from Corvallis. The event will take place at the Veterans Memorial, located at 1100 NW Kings Blvd. The names of 116 servicemembers killed in action from Benton County are listed on the wall at the Memorial.

Contact: Les Whittle, 541-752-3222

Dallas

May 30 – 10:00 a.m. – The Dallas Pioneer Cemetery will hold its annual program and display the Avenue of Flags, consisting of more than 400 flags, in honor of Memorial Day. Flags will be displayed the entire day and is open to the public. The Dallas Pioneer Cemetery is located at 2065 SW Fairview Avenue in Dallas.

Contact: Violet Fetters, 503-623-5757

Eagle Point

May 30 – 11:00 a.m. – A Memorial Day service will take place at Eagle Point National Cemetery. The cemetery is located 14 miles northeast of Medford and one mile east of Eagle Point at 2763 Riley Road. Veterans will lay wreaths on gravesites, followed by a 21-gun salute. The Eagle Point High School band will provide music.

Contact: Darryl Ferrell 541-826-2511

Eugene

May 30 – 1:30 p.m. – The Lane County Memorial Day Association will honor veterans of all wars at the Eugene Westlawn Cemetery, located at 225 S. Danebo Avenue, in Eugene. The event will include the soldiers of the 2nd Battalion 162nd Infantry of the Oregon National Guard, Army ROTC Color Guard, Oregon Veterans Motorcycle Association and Creswell Skydivers. Kitty Percy, Mayor of Eugene, will be one of the featured speakers.

Contact: Robert Potter 541-461-0572

Forest Grove

May 30 – 11:00 a.m. – A Memorial Day ceremony will take place at the Forest View Cemetery located at 1161 Pacific Avenue, Forest Grove.

Contact: Glen Wolfe, Post Commander VFW Post 2666, 503-357-8577

Hillsboro

May 30 – 11:00 a.m. – The Veterans of Foreign Wars Color Guard will take part in a Memorial Day ceremony at Fir Lawn Memorial Park located at 1070 West Main Street, in Hillsboro. A flyover is scheduled.

Contact: George Anderson, cell phone number 971-404-7905

Hood River

May 30 – 10:00 a.m. – A Memorial Day ceremony will be held at Idlewild Cemetery, located approximately 2 miles south of Hood River on Tucker Road.

Contact: Denny Leonard, 541-386-4946

McMinnville

May 30 – The Evergreen Aviation Museum will have B-17 walk-throughs (\$3 charge) along with SR-71 cockpit viewings and other activities throughout the day. The Museum is located at 500 NE Captain Michael King Smith Way, McMinnville, about 35 miles southwest of Portland. The Museum is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., the cost of admission is \$11 – Adults, \$7 – Youth (6-18 yrs old), Free – Children (0-5 yrs old), \$10 Seniors, Veterans, Active Duty and Reserves (with ID).

Contact: Nicole Wahlberg, 503-434-4006

Mt. Angel

May 30 – 9:30 a.m. – The American Legion Post 89 is sponsoring an old fashion Memorial Day service at Calvary Cemetery, located one-quarter mile north of Mt. Angel on Highway 214. The Marion County Citizens Band will provide patriotic music. A wreath will be placed in commemoration of those killed in action from Mt. Angel. The Air National Guard 142nd Fighter Wing will conduct a flyover.

Contact: Jerry Lauzon, 503-845-6882

Newberg

May 30 – 11:00 a.m. – The American Legion Post 57 and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4015 are sponsoring Memorial Day ceremonies at Memorial Park located at the corner of 4th & Howard Streets. Commander Philip F. Swain (U.S. Navy Retired) will be the guest speaker. A barbecue sponsored by JEM 100 Ice Cream Saloon of Newberg will follow the event (donations suggested). All donations from the barbeque will go to support troops in Iraq. The event is open to the public.

Contact: Lester Beecroft, 503-538-2884

Nyssa

May 30 – 11:00 a.m. – The American Legion will be holding their annual Memorial Day ceremony at the Hilltop Cemetery.

Contact: Bill Thomson, County Veterans' Service Officer, 541-889-6344

May 30 – Noon – The annual Memorial Day service sponsored by the American Legion will be held at the Nyssa Park boat ramp located on the Snake River within the Nyssa City Limits, where a wreath will be placed in the water to commemorate all veterans who have been lost at sea.

Contact: Bill Thomson, County Veterans' Service Officer, 541-889-6344

Ontario

May 30 – 10:00 a.m. – Memorial Day Service at the Evergreen Cemetery located on South Park Blvd., will include the display of the Avenue of Flags. Representatives of the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and Disabled American Veterans (DAV) will be participating in the ceremony.

May 30 – 11:30 a.m. – Memorial service at the Sunset Cemetery located on Sunset Drive approximately 2 blocks south of 4th Avenue, will include the display of the Avenue of Flags. American Legion, VFW, and DAV representatives will participate in the ceremony.

May 30 – 12 Noon – A short Memorial Day service will be held at the Meadowbrook Assisted Living Facility located at 1372 SW 8th Avenue.

Contact: Bill Thomson, County Veterans' Service Officer, 541-889-6344

Portland

May 30 – 1:15 p.m. – The annual Memorial Day Service will be held at the Oregon Vietnam Veterans Living Memorial located in Portland's Washington Park across from the Metro Zoo at 4000 SW Canyon Road, in Portland.

Contact: Ron Cannon, 503-731-3478

May 28 – 10:00 a.m. – Veterans of all our Nation's conflicts will be honored in a special ceremony at Skyline Memorial Park. The Park is located at 4101 NW Skyline Blvd., in Portland. The event will include Jim Willis, Director of the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs as guest speaker along with, Members of the Oregon Veterans Motorcycle Association, Fort Vancouver Pipe Band, and an artillery cannon salute.

Contact: General Norm Hoffman U.S. Army Retired, 541-688-6069

Prineville

May 30 – 10:00 a.m. – There will be a short parade beginning at the Crook County Courthouse. A service at Ochoco Creek located at 450 N.E. Elm Street, where a wreath will be placed in the water in honor of all those who lost their lives at sea, then the parade will regroup at Juniper Cemetery and proceed to the ceremonial area for Memorial Day ceremonies.

Contact: Sid Carter, 541-447-5651

Roseburg

May 30 – 11:00 a.m. – Members of the Marine Corps League will sponsor the Memorial Day ceremonies at Roseburg National Cemetery, located at 913 Garden Valley Blvd., Roseburg. The event will include a 21-gun salute by the VFW Honor Guard, and a flyover by the Oregon Air National Guard.

Contact: Jim Hewitt, 541-464-0867

Sisters

May 30 – 11:00 a.m. – The annual Memorial Day event that in previous years has been held at Camp Polk Cemetery is going to be held at the Village Green City Park located at 421 S. Fir Street in Sisters this year. The event will feature State Representative Gene Whisnant as guest speaker, the Crook County High School JROTC, Crook County High School Band members, a flyover and other activities.

Contact: Jack Berry, 541-549-1358

Salem

May 30 – 11:00 a.m. – The Greater Salem Area Veterans' Organizations (GSAVO) will sponsor their 25th annual Memorial Day program at City View Cemetery located at 390 Hoyt Street S., in Salem. The ceremony will include Paula Brown, Deputy Director of the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs as guest speaker. Reception at the VFW Hall located at 630 Hood Street.

Contact: Kerry Wymetalek, President GSAVO, 503-364-7997

Springfield

May 30 – 10:15 a.m. – A Memorial Day service will be held at the Springfield Memorial Gardens, located at 7305 Main Street, Springfield. The event will include Springfield Mayor Sid Liken as guest speaker along with soldiers of the 2nd/162nd Infantry of the Oregon Army National Guard and Creswell Skydivers.

Contact: Robert Potter, 541-461-0572

Vale

May 30 – 11:00 a.m. – The American Legion Post 67 will be sponsoring Memorial Day services at Valley View and Pioneer cemeteries which are located at 1699 Valley View Road in Vale.

Contact: Bill Thomson, County Veterans' Service Officer, 541-889-6649

From Flanders Fields to Veterans Hearts

Even though the red poppy flower is commonly associated with World War I, traveling journalists and surveyors as early as the Napoleonic wars reported the peculiar spectacle of poppies springing up on recent battle fields.

During WWI, wild poppies grew on virtually every battlefield on the Western front in large numbers and were particularly thick over the graves of soldiers buried in the area of Flanders, Belgium. Prior to the war, very few poppies grew in Flanders. The reason for this was the churning of the ground by artillery fire, which pulverized the chalky soil and created an ideal environment for the poppy. Given perfect conditions, the red flowers began to spring up between shell craters, around the fallen, and on the lips of trenches. This phenomenon caused many a soldier to write home about the poppies of Flanders. A poem "In Flanders Fields" was penned by John McCrae.

In Flanders Fields

In Flanders fields the poppies blow

Between the crosses, row on row

That mark our place; and in the sky

The larks, still bravely singing, fly

*Scarce heard amid the guns below.
We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we
lie
In Flanders fields.*

*Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies
grow
In Flanders fields.*

- John McCrae

During World War I, the poppy came to symbolize the connection of young soldiers to the camaraderie and the horrors of the battlefields, of the resolve to fight on, and of the hope that one day the war would end. As the soldiers returned home from the war, the poppy became a symbol of the generation lost to Flanders Fields, honoring the dead and assisting living victims of the war.

Free Admission to State Parks on Memorial Day

Disabled veterans, and servicemembers on leave from active military duty are eligible for free admission to Oregon State parks on Memorial Day, Independence Day and Veterans Day.

Senate Bill 374 passed during the 2003 Legislative session allowing disabled veterans and active duty military personnel to visit state parks free of charge on these given days.

Documentation of disability or leave status is required.

Note: Legislation has been introduced this session that, if passed, would allow free admission to Oregon State parks for disabled veterans on any day of the year. (House Bill 2425)



So Much More Than a Long Weekend

Celebrated this year on Monday, May 30, will be the 137th observance of Memorial Day. For many, it is a three-day weekend that marks the coming of summer and warmer weather. But to others, it is much more than that.

With a history stretching back as far as the Civil War, Memorial Day is an important reminder of all those who have died in service to this country to secure and protect its freedoms - the very freedoms that we all enjoy today.

On May 5, 1868, General John A. Logan of the Grand Army of the Republic, an organization of former sailors and soldiers, in proclamation declared that:

"The 30th of May, 1868, is designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers, or otherwise decorating the graves of the comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village, and hamlet churchyard in the land. In this observance no form of ceremony is prescribed, but posts and comrades will in their own way arrange such fitting services and testimonials of respect as circumstances may permit."

Originally therefore, Memorial Day was known as Decoration Day and on its

first celebration General James Garfield made a speech at Arlington National Cemetery, and immediately following 5,000 people helped to decorate the graves of more than 20,000 Union and confederate soldiers buried there.

In 1966, Congress and President Lyndon Johnson declared Waterloo, N.Y., the "birthplace" of Memorial Day. It was there that a ceremony was held on May 5, 1866 to honor local veterans who had fought in the Civil War.

Many communities throughout the nation had begun to celebrate Memorial Day on May 30th by the late 1800's and many State legislatures passed proclamations designating the day. However, it was not until after World War I that observances also began to honor those who had died in all of America's Wars and in 1971, Congress declared Memorial Day a national holiday to be celebrated the last Monday in May.

Distinction between the observance of Memorial Day and that of Veterans Day, which is celebrated each November 11, is the fact that Veterans Day is designated as time set aside to honor veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces, living and deceased.

In December 2000, the U.S. Congress passed "The National Moment of

Remembrance Act," P.L. 106-579, to ensure the sacrifices of the nation's fallen heroes are never forgotten. This Act created the White House Commission on the National Moment of Remembrance whose charter is to - encourage people of the United States to give something back to their country, which provides them so much freedom and opportunity - by sponsoring and coordinating commemorations in the United States of Memorial Day and the National Moment of Remembrance.

The National Moment of Remembrance encourages all Americans to pause wherever they are at 3 p.m. local time on Memorial Day for a minute of silence to remember and honor those who have died in service to the nation.

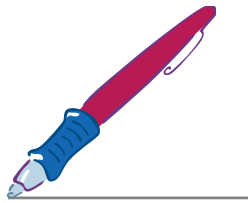
Note: Flag Protocol

On Memorial Day the flag is flown at half-staff in the forenoon (the time between dawn and noon), then raised to the top of the staff. In the morning the flag should be raised briskly to the top of the flag pole and then slowly lowered to the mid-way point of the pole. At the end of the day the flag should be lowered slowly and ceremoniously.

Looking For ...

The Third Marine Division Association, Inc., which consists of approximately 5,000 Marines throughout the United States, is seeking former members and attached personnel for the purpose of forming a Pacific Northwest Chapter. Anyone who served in, was attached to, or served in support of the Third Marine Division at any time since its formation in September of 1942, is eligible for membership. This includes those who served in WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm, Afghanistan and Iraq. For information, contact Bill Call at P.O. Box 166, Clackamas, Oregon 97015, telephone 503-698-2301 or email billsplymouths@aol.com.

The National Association of Atomic Veterans (NAAV) is searching for all veterans who were involved in atmospheric nuclear tests in Nevada or in the South Pacific. Approximately 250,000 American servicemembers were exposed to radiation from nuclear weapons tests between 1945 and 1962. If you, or someone you know, was present at an atomic test, please contact Fred Schafer at 541-258-7453 or email derf@trcschfer.com.



Veterans' Writing Group

The public is invited to a reading debut by members of the Mid-Valley Veteran Writing Group to celebrate the conclusion of their year of working together.

The event is entitled *Voices of War*, and will be held on Friday, May 13, 2005 at the Salem Vets Outreach Center, 617 Chemeketa N.E., in Salem from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Members of the writing group will share samples of their writings, which consist of both poetry and prose, with some work set to music and some excerpts from manuscripts currently being developed. The group is comprised of veterans and several family members who have also seen the effects of war up close.

The reading event will include an open-mic time, inviting the audience to share a piece of their own writing related to the theme. The event is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Marilyn Johnston at 503-364-1394 in Salem.

All Service Women's Luncheon

American Legion Post 137 and the Lady Marine Rose Chapter are hosting an all service women's luncheon on May 7, 2005 at 11:30 a.m. It will be held at HomeTowne Buffet located at 13500 SW Pacific Highway in Tigard. Bring a gift to participate in gift exchange. For more information, contact Hattie Kelley at 503-641-0104 or Penny Friday at 503-665-0675.

USMMA Parent's Club Annual Picnic

The Portland area U.S. Merchant Marine Academy Parent's Club is hosting its annual picnic on Saturday, June 25, 2005. The picnic will begin at noon at the McLean House in Oregon City, directly beneath the I-205 Bridge. All graduates of the Merchant Marine Academy are invited. Please call Sylvia Hartzell at 503-659 5540 if you plan to attend so that a guest count can be determined.

AFSA Meetings

The Air Force Sergeants Association Chapter 1460/A1460 membership meetings are held on the 1st Tuesday of each month at the Salem Senior Center located at 1055 Erixon St. N.E. Guests are cordially invited to attend. Refreshments will be served following the meeting. For more information, contact Betty at 503-585-1467.

8th AFHS Meetings

The Oregon Chapter of the 8th Air Force Historical Society (AFHS) meetings are held on the first Saturday of the first full week of February, May, August and November. The meetings are held at the Beaverton Elks Lodge, 3500 SW 104th Avenue, Beaverton and begin at 11:00 a.m. Lunch can be purchased at the meeting for \$9.50. The organization is open to anyone who has an interest in World War II aviation. AFHS is dedicated to preserving and passing on the history of air and ground combat activities of the Army Air Corps.

NAAV Meeting

The next National Association of Atomic Veterans will hold their next meeting on Monday, May 16, 2005 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Big Town Hero, located at 11 E Ash, in Lebanon. Lunch can be purchased. Please contact Fred Schafer, NAAV Area Commander, at 541-258-7453.

Reunions

Society of the First Infantry Division "Big Red One" will hold its 87th Annual Reunion in Arlington, Virginia, at the Crystal Gateway Marriott Hotel, July 20-24, 2005. Anyone who served in the First Infantry Division is invited to attend. Contact the Society of the First Infantry Division, 1933 Morris Road, Blue Bell, Pennsylvania 19422, and telephone 1-888-324-4733 or email Soc1ID@aol.com for additional information.

U.S.S. Bon Homme Richard will hold its reunion in Tupelo, Mississippi, August 11-13, 2005. For information, contact Don Deycous, 14467 Dodson Rd, Ephrata, Washington 98823 or email arladon@nwi.net, or contact Ron Edlund, 2299 Madalene, Muskegon, Mississippi 49442, telephone 231-773-0441.

Vietnam Veterans of the 1st/12th, 4th Infantry Division, B Company, 4th Engineers and B Battery, 4th/42nd Artillery are invited to a reunion in Bismarck, North Dakota, August 25-28, 2005. For more information, contact Louis Roumagoux, 14130 NE Merchant Road, Carlton, Oregon 97111, or email lroumagoux@yahoo.com.

84th Infantry Division Railsplitters, WWII, will hold its 60th annual reunion at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Springfield, Illinois, August 27-30, 2005. For more information, contact Troy L. Mallory, 2229 Jersey Street, Quincy, Illinois 62301-4341, or telephone 217-223-9062.

U.S.S. Missouri (BB-63) Association will hold its 32nd annual reunion in Albuquerque, New Mexico, September 1-5, 2005. Event includes a gala celebration at a local ranch, formal dinner and dance, memorial ceremony and visit to area casino. For more information, contact Herb Fahr 516-931-7969 or email MoBB63Mo@aol.com.

The 13th Airborne Division will hold its 24th annual reunion at the Holiday Inn Select in Bloomington, Minnesota, September 7-10, 2005. All members are encouraged to attend. Contact John Scott, 5440 Briar Street, Roeland Park, Kansas 66205-2213 for more information.

Farragut Naval Training Station will be having their 19th annual reunion at Farragut State Park, Athol, Idaho, September 9-11, 2005. Anyone who worked or trained at FNTS during WWII, is invited and their families. For more information, contact Gene Cooper at 1248 SW Crossway Court, Port Orchard, Washington, 98367, or telephone 360-786-4470.

U.S.S. Maddox Destroyer Association will have a reunion for shipmates of DD-168, DD-662, and DD-731 in Mobile, Alabama, September 15-18, 2005. Contact Cliff Gillespie, 215 Wichita Ave, #605, Huntington Beach, California 92648, or telephone 714-960-5283 or email cwgilles45@aol.com for additional information.

USMC Motor Transport Association will hold its 9th Reunion in Savannah, Georgia, September 18-21, 2005. For information, contact Hal Clapp, PO Box 1372, Jacksonville, North Carolina 28541-1372, telephone 910-346-8797 or email usmcmta@vol.com.

The 25th Infantry Division, Tropic Lighting, and the 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry Regiment will hold their annual reunions on September 20-25, 2005, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. All former members of these units are invited. Contact Fred Diverse at fpdcrd@mindspring.com or Merriweather Jones at either 503-393-7080 or merrijones@bendbroadband.com or visit their website at www.25thida.com.

U.S. Navy Mobile Construction Battalion 3 will hold a reunion September 23-25, 2005, at the Boardwalk Hotel, in Las Vegas, Nevada. For information, contact Dwight Hintz 503-667-3761 or email pweatherway@aol.com.

U.S.S. Fanshaw Bay CVE 70 will hold a reunion in Las Vegas, Nevada, September 28-30, 2005. All Air Groups (VC66, VC68, VC10 and VOC2) are invited. For more information, contact Duane D. Iossi, 310 Edwards Street, Fort Collins, Colorado 80524, and telephone 970-482-6237.

U.S. Air Force 600th Photo Squadron and 601st Photo Flight (from Vietnam and Thailand) will hold a reunion at the Handlery Hotel in San Diego, California, September 1-5, 2005. For information, contact Ron Marshall, 254 Quetzal Drive SW, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87105, or email rrommarshall@aol.com or Alan Palmore, 245 D Avenue, Coronado, California 92118, telephone 619-890-5518, or email Alan@Palmore.com. Visit the official 600 Photo Squadron Reunion website at www.600thphotosq.org.

National Gulf War Resource Center Conference

The National Gulf War Resource Center, Inc. (NGWRC) will hold its 2005 conference in Orlando, Florida, May 6 – 8, 2005. The 2005 conference will include Gulf War veterans from 1991 and recent veterans from Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

The event will be located at the Crowne Plaza Hotel-Orlando Airport, 5555 Hazeltine National Drive, Orlando, Florida, and telephone 1-407-856-0100. More information about the conference is available at the NGWRC website at www.ngwrc.org or contact Steve Robinson at the NGWRC, 301-585-4000 Ext.162.

VETERANS' SERVICE OFFICERS

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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	Jeff Hill
Coos	541-396-3121 Ext. 362	Mary Ann Sackett
Crook	541-447-5304	Sid Carter
Curry	541-247-3205 Ext. 205	Mike McGuinness
Deschutes	541-385-3214	Patricia Ross
Douglas	541-440-4219	Mary Newman
Gilliam	1-888-804-1817	Linda Adams
Grant	541-575-1631	William G. Wynne
Harney	541-573-6024	Theresa Williams
Hood River	541-386-1080	Linda Adams
Jackson	541-774-7837	Marty Kimmel
Jefferson	541-475-5228	Bob Carroll
Josephine	541-474-1316	Rusty Kidder
Klamath	541-883-4274	Isabel Rodriguez
Lake	541-947-6043	Julian Garcia
Lane	541-682-4191	Joseph Reiley
Lincoln	541-574-6955	Beckie Hernandez
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	Dave Raby
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	Jeff Hill
Wheeler	1-888-804-1817	Linda Adams
Yamhill	503-434-7503	Diane Cilenti

Service Organizations	Telephone Number	Service Officer
The American Legion	503-326-2616	Jerry Schleining
Veterans of Foreign Wars	503-326-2614	Jack Zule
Paralyzed Veterans of America	503-326-3617	Ken Fink
American Veterans (AMVETS)	503-326-5542	James Chubinsky
Military Order of the Purple Heart	503-326-2486	David Saylor
Disabled American Veterans .	503-326-2620	Jay E. Woodbury

State Offices	Telephone Number	Service Officer
Salem	1-800-692-9666 or 503-373-2085	Kelly Breshears Ron Jarchow Bruce Pease Don Wolf
Portland	503-326-2611	Deanna Barnes Ron Kincaid Renee' Pace Doug Yerke

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

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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.

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