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www.oregon.gov/odva

Jim Willis, Director

Gulf War Vets Hampered by Undiagnosed Medical Conditions

Undiagnosed medical symptoms continue to hamper the wellness of Gulf War veterans. Those who served in the Gulf War should know that help is available, including possible disability compensation for undiagnosed medical conditions that arose during service. Disability compensation is a monetary benefit paid to veterans who are disabled by injury or illness that was incurred or aggravated during military service.

One of the first steps in seeking medical help from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), is to talk with a veterans' service officer (see back page). Another way to get started is to enroll in the Gulf War Medical Exam program and complete the medical check-up. The medical check-up is free of charge to all veterans who served in the Gulf War, including veterans of Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF). A Gulf War veteran does not have to be ill, nor enrolled in the VA Health System in order to participate in the Gulf War Medical Exam.

Director Jim Willis of the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA) strongly believes in the Gulf War program and applauds the work of the VA; "The proactive approach by the VA in identifying, qualifying and treating Gulf War veterans is a step in the



An oil field fire in Iraq burns uncontrollably as a U.S. Marine films the flames and toxic smoke.

right direction." Willis, a Vietnam veteran, knows the importance of taking care of Oregon's bravest sons and daughters. He also knows that encouraging veterans to seek

medical attention is sometimes difficult. "I would encourage all Gulf War veterans to seek the medical assistance they need and to register with the VA as soon as possible."

Two years of free VA health care is provided to combat veterans, including activated Reservists and National Guard members, if they served on active duty in a theater of combat operations during a period of war after the Gulf War or in combat against a hostile force during a period of "hostilities" after November 11, 1998 and have been discharged under other than dishonorable conditions.

The two years cost-free VA health care begins at date of discharge. Public Law 105-368 authorizes VA to provide these combat veterans cost-free health care services, including medical prescriptions for any illness that cannot be clinically ruled out as being related to combat service. VA medical staff and clinicians make these determinations with the utmost flexibility.

The U.S. began deploying servicemembers to the Persian Gulf in August of 1990 after Iraqi forces invaded Kuwait. In early 1991, Iraqi forces led by former Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein, caused one of the largest oil spills dumping an estimated 11 million barrels of oil into the Persian Gulf. The oil spill was

Military Museum Showcases the Past

The National Combat History Archive, located in Hillsboro, is more than an historical museum and repository. It is fast becoming a learning center that offers a rare glimpse into the past by using old film, photos, memorabilia and military artifacts.

Imagine viewing rare historical ground and aerial combat footage from World Wars I and II, Korea, Vietnam and Iraq that was never before seen by the public. The largest collection of combat film and photography known to exist in the United States is being catalogued and stored at the Archive.

The Archive Foundation's president, Gary Mortensen, said their goal is to become a



A rusted machine gun found on Tinian Island in the South Pacific is barely recognizable.

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110th Congress Convenes – Good News for Vets?

By now everyone knows the 110th Congress is in session and well underway. The question of what this means to our nation's veterans, their families and survivors is still up in the air. However, if the statements of both the House and Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee Chairs are setting the direction for the future, there is reason for cautious optimism.

Rep. Bob Filner, California, was interviewed in the February 2007 issue of the American Legion magazine and what he had to say should give every veteran reason to hope for some action on important veterans' issues.

Here is a summation of what he had to say about his plans for this session:

Re-establish public hearings so that veterans and the committee members will have a better sense of what's going on with regard to veterans' issues.

Looking forward to a "21st - century GI Bill" which will strengthen education benefits and make sure that National Guard and reserve units have the same access to benefits that others do.

More needs to be done with regard to mental illness with an emphasis on PTSD.

Commitment to working closely with the Senate to create and fund the "21st - century GI Bill."

Provide the funding for after action needs as a cost of war to ensure that veterans are well cared for.

Acknowledges a claims backlog of almost 700,000 and would like to deal with all claims in at least 180 days.

Concern that VA records are still at risk and wants to do everything possible to preserve and protect veterans' records.

He believes that creating a mandatory funding formula for veterans' health care should be an "up front" part of the "21st- century GI Bill." He admits that this will be a tough issue with other members of the House and Senate who are not serving on the Veterans' Affairs Committees.

He is not in favor of any increase of enrollment fees or co-pays.

Favors bringing the Priority Group 8 veterans back into the health care system.

Increase the amount of funding available for VA construction.

Sees mental health and long-term care as high priorities and a continuing responsibility long after the service that led to the need to treat the individual veteran.

While I have not seen a similar all-inclusive statement concerning the Federal VA on the part of Senator Daniel Akaka, Hawaii, Chair of the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, I have seen his concerns about the proposed 2008 budget for the Federal VA.

The Senator has stated that out-of-pocket expenses veterans would be forced to pay under the new budget proposal seems particularly cruel. Senator Akaka also said, "Why are we asking veterans to suffer in order to finance a war?" He sees the new budget as failing to consider the cost of caring for veterans as part of the cost of war.

While only time will tell, it seems that House Chair Filner and Senate Chair Akaka are on the same sheet of paper as it pertains to strengthening benefits and providing funding for programs that provide services to veterans.

There are also two proposed bills relating to merchant mariners. H.R. 23, introduced by Rep. Filner, would provide benefits to certain individuals who served in the United States merchant marine (including the Army Transport Service and the Naval Transport

Service) during World War II. H.R. 447 would allow World War II merchant mariners who were awarded the Mariners Medal to be eligible for U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs health care on the same basis as veterans who have been awarded the Purple Heart if passed.

I urge every veteran to pay close attention to this session of Congress, especially with regard to the move to create mandatory funding for veterans health care. The very pro-active statements with regard to this long overdue funding formula is a breath of fresh air and something that we should all support.

Closer to home, the 74th session of the Oregon Legislature is underway and shows good promise for a number of veterans' issues including a new veterans' recognition license plate program to veterans' education to caring for our senior veterans and much more. We are also seeking to continue those programs that have been successful as a result of the 2005 session. At this writing I am happy to report that there is a strong and involved House Committee on Veterans' Affairs chaired by Rep. Jeff Barker who as a former Marine is dedicated to dealing with issues important to veterans, their families and survivors.

In our next issue of the *VETS NEWS*, we will review all of the veterans' legislation and its impact on Oregon's veteran community.

As always, I continue to appreciate all veterans and their service to our state and nation. Their continuing support of our mission and the Oregon Veterans' Home in The Dalles is also appreciated.

Jim Willis, Director

Mark Your Calendar

Plans are underway with State Fair staff to hold the 2007 Veterans Appreciation Days at the Oregon State Fair on Friday, August 24, Saturday, August 25 and Sunday, August 26.

On Saturday, a parade to include color guards is planned as well as a USO show. Veterans will be admitted free on the three appreciation days. Additional information will follow in future issues of *VETS NEWS* as details become available.

Atomic Veterans to Meet

The next statewide meeting of the Oregon Atomic Veterans is set for April 16 at the Tigard American Legion Post 158 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. A no-host lunch will be served.

Post 158 is located at 8635 S.W. Scoffins St. (from I-5, take the Tigard exit. Follow Highway 99 west to Hall Blvd. Turn left and follow to Scoffins Street and turn right). Contact Duane Gaddis at 503-618-8793 for more information.

New Service Officer

The American Legion would like to notify veterans, their dependents and survivors that after a brief absence, there is again a National Veterans' Service Officer available at the Federal Building in Portland to assist with filing claims and addressing questions regarding veteran benefits. His name is Andrew Rowe and he can be reached at 503-412-4771. Please see page 12 of this publication to find a veterans' service officer located near you.

VA Launches Homeless Initiative to Tackle Substance Abuse

Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Jim Nicholson has announced a new VA program to take substance abuse services directly to homeless veterans in the community. Nicholson committed to placing 30 substance abuse counselors in communities around the country to take substance abuse counseling directly to homeless provider sites.

“By partnering with cities like Denver, and its community and faith-based service providers, we are making progress in fighting veteran homelessness across the nation. Helping these veterans get off the streets and become substance-free so they may successfully return to independent living in their communities is a priority,” said Nicholson.

VA to Build Veterans Clinic in Mount Vernon

The U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced it would open a new VA health clinic in northwest Washington to serve veterans in a five-county area.

VA Secretary James Nicholson said the agency would open a community-based outpatient clinic in the Mount Vernon, Wash., area within a year. The clinic will serve veterans in San Juan, Island, Whatcom and Skagit counties, as well as northern Snohomish County.

The announcement comes a year after Nicholson approved a proposal to build an outpatient health clinic in northwest Washington. During a visit to the state in early July, Nicholson announced plans for a clinic to replace the aging Jonathan Wainwright Memorial VA Medical Center in Walla Walla, as well as the northwest Washington clinic.

Insurance Dividends to be Paid Annually

More than one million veterans are in line to share \$369 million in annual insurance dividends during 2007. The dividend payments will be sent to an estimated 1.3 million Veterans Affairs insurance policyholders on the anniversary date of their policies.

The VA cautions veterans about a long-running scam in which groups charge fees to “locate” veterans who are eligible for the dividends.

WWII veterans holding National Service Life Insurance “V” policies compose the largest group receiving 2007 insurance dividend payments. There are also some WWII and Korean War-era veterans who are eligible.

VA Prescription Policy Update

The VA is helping some veterans get generic prescriptions for half of the VA price. Veterans in health care priority categories “4” through “8” normally must make an \$8 co-pay for drugs from the VA that might be available at the \$4 rate being offered by Wal-Mart and Target stores nationwide.

VA Deputy Undersecretary William Feeley has told VA providers they can write prescriptions that can be filled at any private-sector pharmacy. They cannot transfer veterans’ prescriptions directly to a private-sector pharmacy, but they can write new prescriptions if they meet state requirements and cancel existing VA prescriptions.

VA Tinnitus Compensation Update

The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. (VFW) filed a brief on December 20 in the U.S. Supreme Court on behalf of veteran Ellis C. Smith. The brief seeks to overturn a lower court decision that allowed the VA to rate tinnitus as a single disability, regardless of whether it affects one or both ears.

Currently, a single tinnitus disability rating is 10 percent, which is compensated at \$112 per month. A dual tinnitus disability rating is 20 percent, or \$218 per month. Smith appealed the decision to the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims and won his case on April 5, on the grounds that the VA’s disability rating schedule did not expressly preclude a separate disability rating for tinnitus in each ear.

The VA appealed this ruling to the U.S. Federal Circuit Court of Appeals and won its case on June 6 ruling that although ambiguous, the VA is entitled to interpret its own regulations. The VFW intends to take up this issue with the 110th Congress.

Concurrent Retirement and Disability Payment (CRDP) Update

Congressional Representative, Gus Bilirakis has reintroduced concurrent receipt legislation in the new 110th Congress, which is well known to the disabled military retiree community. H.R. 303, called the Retired Pay Restoration Act would eliminate the 10-year phase-in period for retirees with a disability rating of 50-90 percent, and extends concurrent retirement and disability payments (CRDP) eligibility to retirees rated less than 50 percent.

Another bill, H.R. 89 would extend eligibility for combat-related special compensation (CRSC) to Chapter 61

(disability) retirees with fewer than 20 years of service.

Meanwhile, Representative Jim Marshall has introduced H. R. 333, a proposal called the “Disabled Veterans Tax Termination Act,” which is the most comprehensive concurrent receipt legislation ever introduced. Marshall’s all-encompassing bill includes elements of H.R. 303 and H.R. 89, and would also open CRDP to Chapter 61 retirees with less than 20 years of service. In essence, H.R. 333 would vest service-earned retired pay at 2.5 percent times the years of service, times base pay – exempting that amount of retired pay from any offset by VA disability compensation. This formula is the same one used for Chapter 61 retirees with over 20 years of service.

VA GRANTED A STAY

Vietnam “Blue Water” Navy veterans’ claims for compensation related to Agent Orange exposure have been put on hold indefinitely by a recent decision of the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims.

The Court has granted the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs’ (VA) motion requesting a stay in processing Agent Orange claims by veterans potentially affected by last year’s Haas ruling. The Haas ruling stipulated that the VA more clearly define the rules for Agent Orange exposure as it relates to veterans who did not serve on the ground in Vietnam.

Until Haas, only Vietnam veterans who actually stepped foot in country were given the presumption of Agent Orange exposure. As reported in the November-December 2006 issue of this publication, the Court found in Haas that the previous VA definition of “boots on the ground” for service in Vietnam is unreasonable. The Haas ruling opened the door for the possibility of more Vietnam veterans receiving that presumption.

The VA appealed the Haas decision and motioned the Court for a stay of cases potentially affected by Haas. The Court has granted the VA’s motion, noting it plans to resolve matters before it promptly.

ODVA encourages all Vietnam veterans who believe they were exposed to Agent Orange to continue to file claims. However, we caution Blue Water and other veterans who did not step foot in Vietnam that their claims process may take a considerable amount of time to determine.



MILITARY Appreciation Night

Sunday, March 18th
Portland vs. Seattle
Rose Garden Arena

- ◆ Special Group Ticket Price
- ◆ Pre-game court-side chat with Trail Blazers personality.
- ◆ Community Corner will feature military organizations.
- ◆ Half time show ceremony presented by Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs Director, Jim Willis, recognizing all of the military branches.
- ◆ Availability is limited, order soon!
<http://tickets.blazers.com/deals>
PROMO CODE = MILITARY

For tickets and more information call 503.963.3965

Veterans wishing to attend a Portland Trailblazers basketball game may want to set aside March 18 on their calendars. The Seattle Supersonics visit the Rose Garden in Portland for a 6 p.m. tip-off. In an evening dubbed "Military Appreciation Night," the Trailblazers have a pre-game family activity planned, so be sure to arrive early.

There will also be a special U.S. Armed Forces service-flag ceremony being presented by ODVA Director Jim Willis at halftime and will involve everyone in attendance with ties to the U.S. Armed Forces. Discounted pricing is available.

Drivers Needed For Transport Shuttle

In 1922, Henry T. Ford donated 50 Model-T Fords to the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) for transporting World War I veterans. What was needed then, is still needed now, reliable transportation and volunteer drivers.



Shuttle vans owned by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), such as the one above, are used to help transport veterans to medical appointments at VA medical facilities. The DAV Transportation Network is seeking volunteer drivers to help shuttle veterans to and from these appointments.

The DAV Transportation Network provides veterans with a ride to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) medical facilities. The Transportation Network is administered nationwide by DAV Hospital Service Coordinators (HSCs) at the VA's 172 medical centers, including Oregon medical facilities.

Oregon is once again in need of volunteer drivers. A valid drivers license and good driving record are required. Neal Horton, the Portland HSC states that he "...needs

volunteer drivers in Albany, Astoria, Bend, Eugene, Florence, Hood River, McMinnville, Portland, Tillamook, and The Dalles." Van drivers do not receive payment for the services they provide.

Veterans of the Willamette Valley, including Albany, Corvallis, Lebanon, and surrounding areas can now be transported to the VA Medical Center in Portland. The VA has authorized the DAV van to provide shuttle service for these veterans. The van picks up veterans at the Tom-Tom Restaurant in Albany at 7:30 a.m. on Mondays and Fridays.

To be a volunteer van driver in Oregon, either part or full-time, contact Horton at 1-800-949-1004, extension 57804 or extension 56957. Veterans using the Roseburg VA Health Care System can call 541-440-1293. For the VA Southern Oregon Rehabilitation Center & Clinics (SORCC) call 541-826-2111 ext. 3619.

DAV took form when the Ohio Mechanics Institute, now The Ohio State University, sought additional assistance to help disabled veterans. Native Ohioan Robert Marx, a wounded veteran himself was instrumental in establishing DAV and the disabled veterans cause. DAV can be reached toll-free by calling 1-877-I Am A Vet (877-426-2838) or by going online at www.dav.org.



Oregon Channel Offers Inside View of the Legislature

Do you enjoy the "ins and outs" of politics? Have you ever wondered about the progress of a proposed bill? Well, now you can sit in the comfort of your own home or office and see what Oregon lawmakers are working on each day during the legislative session.

Thanks to a pilot project conducted by the Oregon Legislature, Oregon Public Broadcasting (OPB) and Southern Oregon Public Television (SOPT), Oregonians and others now have an opportunity to see what is happening on the floor of our state capitol.

The project, dubbed the Oregon Channel, provides unedited "gavel-to-gavel" coverage of legislative floor sessions, hearings, news conferences and other state government areas of interest. The 24-hour-a-day, seven-days-a-week concept is designed to broaden public access to state government activities.

The Oregon Channel is broadcast on digital television channels available in most of the state's largest cities served by OPB and SOPT. The channel will also be available on participating digital cable systems in the state including Comcast, Charter, Bend Broadband and Clear Creek Cable.

Those interested can also view the proceedings online at www.oregonchannel.org where viewers can look up program schedules and access live streaming video feeds from the Capitol hearing rooms and chambers.

Being a pilot project, the Oregon Channel partners are seeking feedback from viewers to help determine the future of the channel. Viewers can take a quick survey on the channel's website, or simply email their comments and suggestions to the Legislative Media office at legis.media@state.or.us.



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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 April 4, 2007.

Veterans Muster Held on Capitol Steps

A Veterans Muster was held February 14 on the front steps of the Oregon State Capitol. The purpose was to bring to the attention of legislators, issues that are important to Oregon's veterans and their families.

The event was organized and hosted by the United Veterans' Groups of Oregon (UVGO). Approximately 200 attended the event and were invited to meet with their Representatives and or Senators immediately following the Muster to encourage them to support current proposed legislation affecting veterans.

At the event Sgt. Anthony Alabe of Portland was awarded his Purple Heart for injuries he received while on active duty in Iraq. Alabe, just recently discharged from the U.S. Army said, "I want to continue to be active in veterans' affairs the best I can as an advocate."

The Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA) produces a weekly bill digest update of bills that may be of importance to veterans. If you would like to receive this



Sergeant Anthony Alabe of Portland, recently discharged from the U.S. Army, is awarded a Purple Heart for injuries he sustained while in Iraq. Alabe vows to continue his service to his fellow veterans as best he can as a civilian.

document via email please contact ODVA at 503-373-2389 or email allegrm@odva.state.or.us and you will be added to the weekly distribution list.

To find out more regarding particular legislation and how you can be involved, contact Dick Lucht, Chairman, UVGO at 503-472-5576 or email nlucht@onlinemac.com or Mac MacDonald at 503-364-4299.



Memorial Day Events Information Sought

The *VETS NEWS* is now seeking input from local community event organizers statewide to help publicize Memorial Day events being planned in the area where you live.

Annually, the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA) publishes in the May/June issue of *VETS NEWS* a comprehensive list of as many Memorial Day activities as possible.

The deadline for receiving Memorial Day event information is April 4. To have your event listed, please submit it in writing with the following information:

- Organization holding the event
- Location of the event
- Date and time of the event
- Name and phone number of a contact
- Short description of the event

Send your information by email to: allegrm@odva.state.or.us. You can also mail it to: *VETS NEWS*, 700 Summer St. NE, Salem, OR 97301-1285, or fax it to Attn: *VETS NEWS* at 503-373-2362.

If you have questions, contact Mike Allegre at the ODVA toll free at 1-800-828-8801 extension 2389, or 503-373-2389.



Oregon Veterans' Home Needs Your Help

The Charitable Checkoff campaign is a program put in place by the Oregon State Legislature that enables Oregon taxpayers to donate a portion of their state tax refund to one or more particular charities. The Oregon Veterans' Home (OVH) is one of these charities.

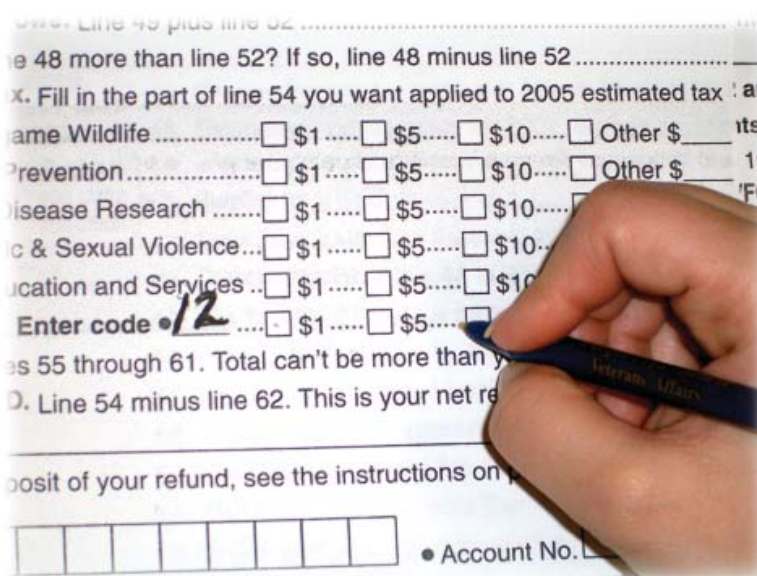
In order to become, and remain, one of the selected charities available on the ballot, there are several requirements that must be met. One requirement is to collect 10,000 valid signatures by June 1 every six years.

To date, with the help of various service organizations, the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA) has received approximately 5,800 valid signatures – well short of the 10,000-signature requirement. That is where we need your help. If you or your organization have the ability and interest in helping collect the remaining signatures, the ODVA and the OVH could use your help.

YOU CAN HELP!

With only a couple of months before the deadline, time is quickly running out. In order to ensure that the OVH remains on next year's list of charities eligible for the program, more signatures must be gathered.

Volunteers seeking to help collect the remaining signatures should contact the ODVA at 1-800-828-8801 ext. 2386, for more information and to receive blank petition forms.



Remember... it's tax time!

This is the time we begin collecting receipts, filing papers and preparing for that inevitable April 15 tax deadline. With the tax season comes an important opportunity to

improve the lives of those who reside at the Oregon Veterans' Home (OVH) in The Dalles.

Through Oregon's Charitable Checkoff campaign, individual taxpayers have an opportunity to donate a portion of their tax refund to the Veterans' Home in an effort to offset some of the costs of caring for these honorable residents.

To date, the OVH has received no General Fund dollars from the state for the operation and maintenance of the facility.

Please take the time while filling out your personal state income tax this year to consider the Oregon Veterans Home on the Charitable Checkoff portion of your tax form. To donate a portion of your refund, simply locate the "other charity" option on your tax form (Long form, line 62 and Short form, line 32).

Then enter code # 12 for the Veterans' Home. That's it! You're done. The Oregon Department of Revenue takes care of the rest.

If you have any questions about the Charitable Checkoff campaign, you can call the Oregon Department of Revenue at 503-378-4988 or the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs at 503-373-2385.





Friends of the Home

Donations to the Oregon Veterans' Home Trust Fund continue to be received. We deeply appreciate the thoughtfulness and generosity of an ever-growing number of Friends of the Home. To become a friend of the home, use the gift form on page 7, and make a donation today. Those who contributed during the months of December 2006 and January 2007 are listed below:

Florence McCulley
Arlene Miller
Michael D. Williams
Marcia Logan
Elks Lodge #358
American Legion Post 87
Good Sam Club Oregon Trail Chapter
Alvin Stein
Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America
Denis and Mary Lee Brown
Don and Judy Giorgi
American Legion Umpqua Post 16
Dorothy Dalesky
Margarete Clayton
Dewey and Emma France
Leo Greenstein
Dan and Patty Wambaugh
Mel and Norma Peterson
Robert W. Shaw
Darrell Cooksley
Bill and Annadale Rooper
Marie Cunningham
Tom and Marjory Foley
Military Order of the Purple Heart—
Department of Oregon
Christopher Dauterman
Cassandra Coleman-Bryson
Wright Land Co.
Harold and Karen Gigstad
Bill Holt
Kathryn and Michael Lysaght
Jack and Anna-Jean Means
American Legion Lester C. Rees Post 57
Dorothy McKee
Richard Fettig
Oregon Veterans' Home Gift Shop
Harold Anderson
Oregon County Veterans Service
Officers' Association
Van and Laurel Morrisett
American Legion Baird-Heaton Post 152
Richard B. Herstine
VFW Deschutes Post 4108
Meiko Nishiyori
Walt and Aurolyn Wolfe
Armed Forces E-9 Association
Darrell and Winifred Mitchell
Gretchen Johnson
C. K. and Lucile Peck
Charles Clement
Russell DeGroat
Arthur Wilson
August Smoorenburg
Access Computer Products, Inc.
Jan Lyda
Marilyn Winebarger
VFW Blue Mountain Post 4567
American Legion Post 20
Roy Haymes
Jerry Willis
Kenneth Mantel
VETERAN License Plates
Donna Albee
W. C. Radke
Beverly Hackleman
VFW Willamette Post 293
American Legion Auxiliary 37
Gresham Ford
Paul E. Jensen
Joseph Fazzio
Oregon Chapter of The Chosin Few
VFW George A. White Post 4053
John Alford
Jack Behrens
George and Lucille DeRaeve
Phillip and Donna Sepull
Lance Beckman
Ralph and Rosalee Reynolds
Betty Lambert

Robbie Roberts
American Merchant Marine Veterans
Oregon Chapter
Gresham Elks Lodge
VFW Auxiliary 4211
VFW Hood River Auxiliary
Bill and Sandra Ihrig
Craig C. Nowland
Ruth E. Cox
Military Officers Association
Central Oregon Chapter
American Legion Post 4
Elaine Swanson
Stan Elliot
Pat and Lloyd Zimmerman
Brian Workman
Waldo Roff
Robert Ballenger
Dale Albee
Portland General Electric
Marvin Prestwood
Robert Lee
Gary Kaehler
VFW Post 2848
David and Loretta Jones
Gordon Halsten
Mr. and Mrs. Griffiths
Brad and Jacqueline Osburn
Murray Drug Store
Heppner Family Foods
Marvin Brannon
Gerald Meligan
Betty O'Harra
Mark Sullivan
Ruth Hukari
Milt and Cathy Perkins
Pat Kimble
Military Order of the Cootie
Rimrock Pup Tent 8
Tony Giordano
Janet Boyles
DAV Chapter 12
American EX POW Big Timber Chapter
Air Force Association
Columbia Gorge Chapter 216
Fred Stafford
Anne Laraia
Pauline Scott
Rita Probstfield
William Nesbit, Jr.
Bernard H. Wright
Dr. Leslie Williams, Jr.
Mrs. Jaksha
Lorraine A. Fairfield
Vernon C. Buell
Edward D. Jolly
Darlene Lewis
Sandi Taylor
John R. Graham, Sr.
H. J. Hitchman
Dwayne and Evonne Wright
Roy and Kathy Clampitt
James D. Arendt
David Boyles
Marcia Logan
Roy and Arlene Witt
Phyllis C. Bertram
Loretta Asa
Patti Cutler
Coos Bay Elks Lodge 1160
Patty Embree
Margaret Asa
Howard Britain
Bernhard Baer, Jr.
Keith Masterson
James and Judith Key
Arden and Ruth Packer
Delmar and Dorothy Swyers
James B. Trent, Jr.

Jack T. Magnuson
Thomas Dunham
Milton Hunt
Larry and Sarah Keil
Marvin Beck
American Legion Aurora Post 110
Tom McDow
Orvin Sletten
Lester Hubinsky
Roy Coles
Frank Hotchkiss
Gordon Van Antwerp
VFW Ladies Auxiliary 1442
Access Computer Products
Keith Hanson
Clarence F. Chartier, Jr.
Alice E. Wagstaff
Steven and Sharon Crabb
Thomas and Virginia Hake
Donald Emmons
William Cook
William Hardie
Joseph Shely
Cabot Clark
Warren Dines
VFW Stayton Post 5638
Doris and Jack Groves
VFW Post 4184
J. H. Wall
Michael Livingston
Roy and Mary Ann Dash
Eugene Evers
AMMV - Southern Oregon Chapter
VFW Post 4015
Mr. and Mrs. Norman Harrell
Paul E. Burger
Albert Powell
Joan Virgo
Peter and Norma Post
Fred Fax
Larry and Gudrun Fry
DAV Yamhill County Auxiliary 5
Gerald Williamson
Kenneth Bulletset
Tiny and Mary Bellamy
William Patterson
Rod and Deedee Fried
Major Donald L. McDaniel
Royal Neighbors of America #1440 Portland
Gretchen Johnson
Mr. and Mrs. James Blake
Hood River Elks Lodge 1507
Silverton Elks Lodge 2210
David Fairclo
Chenowith Water P.U.D.
Leadfooters 4-H Group
Prec. Alpha Nu Sorority
Merle Smith
Callie Jordan
John P. Close
James G. Yapple
Mr. and Mrs. John McCulley
Lucille Babcock
Richard Boos
Bob Denver
Gary Van Orman
Dana Fox
Caring for Troops
Leo Fritz
American Legion Oregon Trail Auxiliary 150
Coy Scroggins
John Gallagher
Margaret Wilcox
Jerry Willis
Carolyn Skaines
Veterans Motorcycle Club
Oregon National Guard

Social Security Update

Are You Getting All You Should?

Your Social Security benefits depend on your earnings averaged over your working lifetime. Generally, the higher your earnings, the higher your Social Security benefit. Under certain circumstances, special earnings can be credited to your military pay record for Social Security purposes. The extra earnings are for periods of active duty or active duty for training. These extra earnings may help you qualify for Social Security or increase the amount of your Social Security benefit. Social Security will add these extra earnings to your earnings record when you file for benefits.

If you served in the military before 1957, you did not pay Social Security taxes, but instead, were given special credit for some of your service. These credits could have increased your recorded income during this time by as much as \$160 a month in earnings for military service from September 16, 1940 through December 31, 1956, if:

- You were honorably discharged after 90 or more days of service, or you were released because of a disability or injury received in the line of duty; or

- You are applying for survivors benefits based on a veteran's work and the veteran died while on active duty. You cannot receive these special credits if you are receiving a federal benefit based on the same years of service, unless you were on active duty after 1956. If you were on active duty after 1956, you can get the special credit for service from 1951 through 1956, even if you are receiving a military retirement based on service during that period.

If you served in the military from 1957 through 1977, you are credited with \$300 in additional earnings for each calendar quarter in which you received active duty basic pay.

If you served in the military from 1978 through 2001, you are credited with an additional \$100 in earnings, up to a maximum of \$1,200 a year, for every \$300 in active duty basic pay. After 2001, additional earnings are no longer credited. If you began your service after September 7, 1980, and did not complete at least 24 months of active duty or your full tour, you may not be able to receive the additional earnings.

Every veteran or military widow drawing Social Security today should check with SSA to verify that the wage credits were used in setting benefits, not just noted on the application. If they were not factored into your benefits, you may be entitled to a reimbursement from the time you started drawing Social Security and an increase to your monthly check.

For more information, visit the SSA website at www.socialsecurity.gov or call toll-free, 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

NOTE: In all cases, the additional earnings are credited to the earnings that the SSA average over your working lifetime, not directly to your monthly benefit amount.



Flag Flown in Afghanistan Presented to OVH

William Elfering and his Oregon National Guard Unit flew the flag displayed in this case at Camp Phoenix Afghanistan on September 11, 2006 with the intention of presenting it to the Oregon Veterans' Home in The Dalles. Elfering, who brought the flag home, was not able to personally deliver it to the OVH.

Instead, Dave Sowder, a member of the Oregon Veterans Motorcycle Association presented the flag to Robert "Bob" Howell, president of the OVH Resident Council. Howell thanked Mr. Sowder from all the people that call OVH "Home." He also stated, "I am very proud of the men and women fighting overseas and really appreciate that this unit thought especially of us."



OVH Resident's Council President, Robert "Bob" Howell, receives an American flag, which was flown over Camp Phoenix in Afghanistan.

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 a Remembrance Pin.

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 Pin(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

Volunteers Build a Flying Memorial to World War I Pilots

Imagine building a World War I vintage fighter plane and then flying it? In the summer of 1999, members of the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) Chapter 292 in Independence, Oregon had that idea. Could they build and then fly a group of World War I fighter replicas?

The answer was yes, and with exuberant chapter volunteers the project began in their newly constructed Independence Airplane Factory. The group agreed that the aircraft would create a flying memorial to the

and inexperienced pilots, and aircraft builders— all with varied professional backgrounds.

The aircraft of choice would be 7/8-scale replicas of the Nieuport 11 bi-plane. In 1915, the Nieuport 11 was the premier fighter aircraft in the world. Just prior to the United States' entry into World War I, American pilots had volunteered to join the Allied Forces in France and many flew this plane.

they each have distinctly colored and numbered pool table balls painted on the fuselage to identify each aircraft. The bi-planes also bear the original markings of the Lafayette Escadrille and the names of different pilots.



Clockwise from top left: Two of the 11 Noon Patrol Nieuport 14 replicas sit in the Independence Airplane Factory awaiting some finishing touches; Jerry Speven guides his World War I bi-plane skyward; The Noon Patrol Squadron is parked on display in Independence in May 2003. Reportedly this was the largest gathering of Nieuport 11s in one place since the end of World War I.



“Mine has the name and markings of the first wing commander, Lt. William Thaw,” McMichael said. “The name of America’s actual first Ace, Raoul Lufbery, also appears on a plane. He was shot down and killed in May 1918.”

In October 2003, Noon Patrol aircraft No. 8 was the first Nieuport to be inspected and flown. As a unit, they have been airborne many times together. Their story has been featured in several trade magazines and they have been part of many air shows. Antique aircraft aficionados clamor to see the replica planes and the pilots. At the Hillsboro Air Show last July, McMichael said he was treated very well by the U.S. Navy Blue Angels who loved the planes.

volunteer pilots of the American (later the Lafayette) Escadrille.

Chapter 292 member and pilot Bill McMichael, of Independence, said the project required a sincere work and financial commitment to get started. Admittedly, he was

From over 100 chapter members, they had 28 to form their new squadron, the Noon Patrol. “We love the romance and history of America’s first fighter plane,” McMichael said. “We agreed on the name Noon Patrol because the Dawn Patrol was already taken, dawn is too damn early anyway and we fly for food.”

To ensure a positive project outcome, McMichael said all squadron members were equally part of the decision making process. As the group began methodically constructing 14 Nieuports at the same time, they toiled together every Wednesday evening and Saturday. No one person worked on just one plane. A foreman tracked the progress of each portion of the project and ensured that the necessary resources were



available.

The Noon Patrol is the only known American replica airplane squadron anywhere. Built from aluminum and covered by fabric,

A plumber and pipe fitter by trade, McMichael, 60, has been flying since he was 15. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps in Vietnam (1965-66) as a member of the 12th Marine Air Group and helped construct airfields for the 214th and 217th Marine Fighter Squadrons at Chu Lai. “I was also assigned as a helicopter gunner for six weeks,” he added. “I was shot down twice. Later, in the States, I trained pilots how to land on aircraft carriers.”

This is not the first memorial with which McMichael has been involved. In 2006, he began working with friends Clay and MJ Kesterson, who had formed a foundation to help fund and construct the Afghan-Iraqi Freedom Memorial. McMichael managed the project and was on-site daily for over two months to see it through to completion. The Memorial bears the attention to detail that is McMichael’s hallmark. It was dedicated on November 11, 2006 on the grounds of the Oregon Veterans’ Building in Salem.

“Their son, Erik helped build the wings on several of the planes. He remained very involved until after ‘9-11.’ Erik promised to help complete the project, but he wanted to

not an “airplane builder,” but soon he was joined by 13 interested men who had the time and funding. Aged 19-65, this unique volunteer group was made up of experienced

See PILOTS, on next page

PILOTS, from previous page

join the fight on terrorism," McMichael recalled. "He later became an Army helicopter pilot, but was killed in Iraq in 2003. We gladly finished building his plane."

McMichael enjoys big, challenging construction jobs, but retirement draws near. "Recently I've helped build hospitals in



Bill McMichael (left) and a volunteer fine tune the 60 horsepower Volkswagen 1835 c.c. engine that allows the aircraft to cruise at nearly 80 m.p.h.

Newberg and Springfield, and when we're done with one in Salem, I'll retire."

Spending more time with his wife of 40 years, Kay, and family is a large part of his retirement plan, as is flying around the world. His carefully planned and monitored trip won't be made in a cold and drafty vintage Nieuport, but in a modern RV-8, one of McMichael's other planes.

Mike Allegre, Staff Writer - ODVA



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 in supporting this meaningful program. Their generosity is greatly appreciated by our veteran residents.

Wayne E. Self

Audrey Loughmiller

James M. Audritsh

Rex and Rosy Lebow

Gordon Halsten

Arthur and Della Griffiths

Jack Behrens

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

Vets Home Receives Large Donation

The Oregon Veterans Home (OVH) has always been a nice place to live, but it is about to get even better.

In a pre-holiday move that defines generosity, the Mount Hood VFW Post 81 made a jaw-dropping donation to the OVH in the amount of \$58,000. The money was donated to the Home's recreation fund.

According to the specifications of the donation, \$55,000 of the money was donated in memory of past Quarter Master, Edwin J. "Mac the Quarter Master" McGlothlin for the purchase of a new bus for the recreation department. "Veterans deserve to be able to get out whenever they want," said William McLaughlin, the Post Commander.

They hope to get a tribute to McGlothlin painted on the bus following the purchase.

Another part of the donation was a \$3,000 gift intended to pay for television cable service for residents in the lounges and common areas. The Post has provided this service in the past, and they are happily resuming the tradition so residents don't have to worry about paying their cable bill each month.

The Post also donated four stereo systems to the Home, intended to be utilized by the recreation department as well as an espresso machine for the residents and staff.

Kudos goes to VFW Post 81 on this donation. ODVA will keep you informed as the OVH acquires a new recreation bus.



North Salem High School JROTC Students Raised Funds For Veterans' Christmas Dinner

Salem, OR - The Oregon Paralyzed Veterans of America (Oregon PVA) is pleased to announce that the students of the North Salem High School JROTC held a "Fill the Boot" fundraiser to raise money for the Christmas dinner for the veterans in the Oregon Veterans' Home in The Dalles, Oregon.

The fundraiser took place November 18, 2006 and December 2, 2006 at Roth's located at 702 Lancaster Dr. NE, in Salem from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and successfully raised \$457.56.

Annually, Oregon PVA sponsors a Christmas dinner at the Veterans' Home to provide a good meal and a chance for the residents to enjoy some holiday spirit. This is a time for

the veterans to get together with family and friends and for all of us to thank them for the selfless sacrifices they have made for our country.

This year, the JROTC raised almost half of the \$1,000 to help cover the cost of the dinner for the Home's 134 veteran residents. The Veterans' Home is located on a hill that overlooks the Columbia River providing 151 beds for long-term healthcare. This facility provides professional medical, nursing, rehabilitative, social and other support services for Oregon's veterans.

Reprinted by permission from the *Paralog*, official newsletter of the Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA).



National Medal of Honor Day

A resolution passed February 15 by the U.S. Senate designates March 25, 2007 as "National Medal of Honor Day." The day is set aside to acknowledge the more than 3,400 individuals who have received the nation's highest honor.

Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs

Veterans' Home Loans - Veterans' Benefits - Conservatorship
Oregon Veterans' Home (skilled nursing & rehabilitative care)

503-373-2000 or 1-800-828-8801

ODVA Website: www.oregon.gov/odva

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

HIPAA Statement

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

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

reported to have been a deliberate attempt by Iraqi forces to shield off U.S. Marine forces.

Most active hostilities slowed in early 1991 after the completion of Operation Desert Storm and a short ground war. Immediately following, U.S. forces began Operation Southern Watch (OSW) enforcing the Iraqi no-fly zones in support of United Nations (U.N.) resolutions and weapons inspections. OSW continued up until the current Global War on Terrorism and OIF.

To qualify for the medical check-up, the honorably-discharged Persian Gulf War veteran must have served in one of the following Gulf War zones; waters of the Persian Gulf, Arabian Sea, Red Sea, Gulf of Oman, and Gulf of Aden, Iraq, The Neutral Zone (between Iraq and Saudi Arabia), Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, The United Arab Emirates, and Oman. Persian Gulf War veteran means a veteran who served on active duty in the Armed Forces in the Southwest Asia theatre of operations during the Persian Gulf War and includes current combat operations in Iraq (OIF).

Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, and Marines alike remain engaged on-land and at-sea in the Persian Gulf region. These servicemembers face similar combat hazards that Gulf War veterans faced, including: smoke from oil well fires, contaminated water supply, depleted uranium, vaccinations, and a myriad of known and unknown chemical/weapon attacks.

In a recent report from the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Randy Reese, the National Service Director stated, "Because there were inadequate screenings and medical examinations before and after deployment, some veterans have difficulties with their



Sailor dons his MCU-2P gas mask during General Quarters (GQ) Chemical, Biological and Radiological defense training.

claims for service-connected disability compensation." The report found further complications because there was minimal monitoring of direct exposure to contaminants. The report further finds that many Gulf War veterans suffer from psychological conditions such as depression, anxiety, or Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

There may never be a clear connection between certain chemical exposures to an associated illness. In other words, exposures

that occurred during service in the Persian Gulf may never be known. Gulf War veterans may be eligible for compensation not only for disabilities due to diagnosed illnesses, but also for disabilities due to undiagnosed illness and chronic multi-symptom illnesses. Those illnesses include:



An F/A-18C aircraft makes an arrested landing on a flight deck of a U.S. aircraft carrier.

- (1) Fatigue.
- (2) Unexplained rashes or other dermatological signs or symptoms.
- (3) Headache.
- (4) Muscle pain.
- (5) Joint pain.
- (6) Neurological signs and symptoms.
- (7) Neuropsychological signs or symptoms.
- (8) Signs or symptoms involving the upper or lower respiratory system.
- (9) Sleep disturbances.
- (10) Gastrointestinal signs or symptoms.
- (11) Abnormal weight loss.
- (12) Menstrual disorders.

The presumptive period expires December 31, 2011. The veteran must suffer from a "qualifying chronic disability" which exists for six months or more. The qualifying disability must have appeared during active duty in Southwest Asia, or it must have manifested to a degree of at least 10 percent during the presumptive period.

To schedule the Gulf War Medical Exam, veterans residing in northern Oregon should call the Portland VAMC at 1-888-233-8305 option 1, extension 54261 while southern Oregon veterans should call the Roseburg VA Health Care System at 1-800-549-8387, option 1, extension 44256.

After scheduling an appointment with the VA, veterans will receive the Persian Gulf Registry Code Sheet (VA Form 10-9009) in

the mail. The code sheet covers Gulf War exposures to environmental and chemical factors and experiences in a self-assessment format. The questions are very detailed and assistance from a veterans' service officer is recommended for completing Part I. Part II

will be completed by the VA physician performing the medical examination.

The code sheet does not provide an explicit question about the availability or use of the chemical/biological protective gas mask. Only one question (19F) alludes to this important issue. It asks, "Did you witness chemical alarms?" If a war veteran wore the protective gas mask while in the Persian Gulf, then it is encouraged they answer "Yes" or "Unknown." In addition, veterans are encouraged to discuss concerns about gas mask use and experiences in the combat zones with their medical doctor and service officer.

If you are a Gulf War veteran facing unexplained and undiagnosed illnesses, you are not alone. Veterans should also understand that participation in the free Gulf War Medical Examination does not open a claim for service-connected disability compensation. Veterans should submit claims for medical conditions possibly related to Gulf War service by contacting ODVA or a Veterans' Service Officer (VSO). The VSO can submit compensation claims based on signs or symptoms that may be a manifestation of an undiagnosed illness or chronic multisymptom illnesses.

To locate a local VSO look on page 12 of this publication or visit ODVA online at www.oregon.gov/ODVA.

For more information Gulf War veterans can call 1-800-PGW-VETS or visit the website at www.va.gov/gulfwar.

Christopher Dauterman, Staff Writer - ODVA



MUSEUM, from page 1

learning center where film, photos, books, letters, articles and other military mementos are indexed and the information is stored electronically giving easy access to anyone, especially for educational purposes. "Catalog and video products will be available free online," Mortensen said. "Today's technology will allow us to stream or podcast the videos and other items."

The Archive also has German and American helmets, uniforms, medals and hundreds of still photographs that are being displayed. Two Japanese weapons can be seen—a captured rifle with bayonet and a rusted machinegun recovered by a U.S. Navy veteran on Tinian Island.

Mortensen said much of the original combat footage that is housed at the National Archives in Washington D.C., is still not indexed and remains difficult to view by the general public unless one travels to the D.C. area. A great deal of aging original gun camera footage from World War II, he added, was purposefully destroyed by the U.S. government in the 1980s so as to reduce the amount of film being stored. Most of the

donated film has never been viewed, and there are no measures in place to preserve it.

"The Smithsonian Museum was surprised with the volume of rare footage," Mortensen added. "It includes personal color home videos that show men serving in Hawaii

their collection. A current production is a documentary featuring the Oregon Army National Guard's 2/162 Infantry Battalion that served in Iraq. Mortensen has also written programs for the Military Channel's "Battle Field Diaries" series. "Through these programs, we're building relationships with other museums, TV networks, veterans service groups and schools."

Now a military historian and archivist for seven years, Mortensen was formerly a vice president at Oregon's Sokal-Blosser Winery. Coincidentally, he would later join a "technology start-up" company that gathers and indexes data and information.

Mortensen feels the Foundation's collection resonates with most veterans and opens a door to the past for anyone to access. Veterans' groups have toured the museum and he has taken portions of the collection to various groups.

"We also want veterans to consider donating their personal items to the Foundation for educational purposes and for archiving, he said.

"We aren't here to keep historic items, we want to share them."

The foundation is currently accepting donations of film footage, photographs, memoirs and memorabilia. For information, contact the museum at 503-597-7030, or www.combatarchive.com.

Mike Allegre, Staff Writer - ODVA



Gary Mortensen holds an archived war footage reel and accompanying shot list. The items are among those housed at the National Combat

before Pearl Harbor, PT Boats in the South Pacific and the ravages of war in Italy after a battle. In addition to a vast U.S. military component, the archive also includes captured enemy film footage from the Japanese, Germans, Viet Cong and Russians."

The Foundation is also editing and producing videos highlighting portions of



Helping Oregon's Vets, As Easy as 1, 2, 3

Charitable Check-Off

- 1) Locate the Charitable Check-Off option on your Oregon tax form (Long form, line 62 of Short form, line 32).
- 2) Enter Code # 12 for the Oregon Veterans' Home
- 3) Sit back and relax.
The Oregon Revenue Department does the rest.
Your donation will be automatically sent to the Oregon Veterans' Home in your name.

**The Oregon Veterans' Home...
The Place Where Honor Lives.**

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Benton	541-758-1595 Don Johnson
Clackamas	503-650-5631 Janice Harlan-Raisl
Clatsop	503-325-2429 Kenneth H. Rislow
Columbia	503-366-6580 Joseph Pyle
Coos	541-396-3121 Ext. 362 Mary Ann Sackett
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Wheeler	1-888-804-1817 Paul Conway
Yamhill	503-434-7503 Debbie Gill

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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 Sayler
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 Tom Mann Gus Bedwell
Portland	503-412-4777 Deanna Barnes Ron Kincaid Linda McMillan Laura Henrichs Doug Yerke

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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.

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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City/ State/ Zip	
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City/ State /Zip	

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Changes can also be e-mailed to: stecklr@odva.state.or.us

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