

APRIL 2010



Frank Spicklemire American Legion

POST 60 NEWS

LEGION OFFICERS

Commander Jack Knoblock

1st Vice Commander Mike Keithly

2nd Vice Commander John Pearson

Finance Officer Wes Hardin

Adjutant Ken Charles

Service officer Terry O'Keeffe

Sgt at Arms Ed Bulgin

Chaplin Jack Creason

Members at Large John Ernsberger Mike Waite

AUXILIARY

President Jan West

Vice President Donna Rushby

Secretary Robin Miller

Treasurer Sheri Conrad

Sgt at Arms Emily Sullivan

Chaplain Reina Pearson

We look forward to seeing you at the Legion Dinners held on Fridays at the Legion Hall:

Bar opens: 5pm Dinner: 6:30pm

CHAPLIN JACK CREASON

Story by George Greenfield, SAL Member

At 92, Jack Creason has seen a thing or two in his life! And he has a thing or two to say! Jack was born on a cattle ranch in Colorado. After WWI ended cattle prices dropped to \$1.50 a head so his Dad decided to hold the cattle over the winter thinking they would be worth more the next year. He mortgaged the ranch to buy hay and the next year the cattle were not worth the hay he fed them so he lost the ranch. This prompted the move to Cascade when Jack was 2 years old. He attended school and began working and learning a trade here in Cascade. In his 92 years Jack has experienced The Great Depression, WW II, the Korean Conflict, Vietnam, the Atomic era (more about this below), the Space era, and the move from film to digital photography (more about this also).

Jack and his wife Thelma live in Donnelly on a pretty finger of the lake in a beautiful mountain home. Jack's first wife Gail of 54 years passed away during heart surgery. He met Thelma on a bus tour to Calgary, Canada (2 widowers and 16 widows – pretty good odds) and they have been married for 15 years. Thelma grew up in New Meadows and had stayed close to home most of her life. Together they have travelled to New Zealand, Australia, The British Islands, and Canada.

When WW II started Jack volunteered for induction which meant the military could put him in any branch of the service they desired. At his first physical the doctor felt his recent appendices operation was too fresh to stand basic training so they told Jack to come back in 30 days. An air force Colonel gave him a letter saying he was to report to Lowry Field near Denver. On his return he handed the letter to a Navy Lieutenant who was the first in line at the assignment Desk. He told Jack that he would look good in a sailor suit and when they had gathered six recruits they swore them in and put them on the train for Farragut in Northern Idaho – a Navy training camp.

After basic training they asked Jack to stay and work in the Farragut photo lab but he turned them down. Before the service Jack had worked for local Cascade photographer George Nock, and was interested in doing something in the Navy with his photography. He was assigned to Pensacola to photography school and was now doing what he wanted to do. After school ended he was asked to stay on as an instructor but instead went to Washington, DC to photolithography school and then was assigned to San Diego to the Fleet Air Photo Lab. When the squadron set sail Jack volunteered to go with them with the first stop being Hawaii where he went through aerial gunnery school. From there it was off to the South Pacific and a couple of Battle Stars for service in Okinawa and flights over enemy territory.

Shortly after arriving at Okinawa... A voice in the middle of the night told Jack that his brother was on the island. He went to the Skipper and requested permission to find him. His Skipper asked, "How do you know he's here?" Jack answered that, "A voice told me." "I don't believe in that crap" said the Skipper but he gave the OK to go find him with the stipulation that "You better show up with a brother." Jack began looking and found his brother Floyd the very next day.

Jack served his time in the Photographic Interpretation Squadron One all his overseas service years. This organization was under Admiral Nimitz who commanded all operations in the Pacific at that time. In this capacity Jack developed the photographs his squadron took of the bombing of Hiroshima. This was top secret work and Jack was the only photographer in his squadron allowed to do the job of developing these vitally important pictures.

After the war Jack worked for several portrait and commercial studios before opening his own photographic studio in Meridian, ID where he had a very successful 25 years. His busy schedule typically included 125 – 150 weddings and over 600 senior pictures each year. In 1979, seeing the digital revolution coming Jack decided to hang up his film camera and retired to Donnelly.



Jack has seen several miracles in his life and feels his belief in God has sustained him over the years. "I've been under His guidance." When asked about the world and US situation today, Jack believes, "the moral climate in this country is such that we're going downhill. We're not going to get good leaders. The **only** solution is a return to God and Godly conduct!"

When asked about Jack, Thelma quips, "He's a neat guy, a very good guy!"

A foot note to the above story:

Jack's nephew Jess William Creason Jr. – SP4 – US Army – Helicopter Crewman & gunner.

Born July 23, 1947

Killed in action in Vietnam April 26, 1968

Jess's helicopter was responding to a medevac mission. Shot down and killed all on board.

A memorial plaque is mounted on the national flag base in front of the American Legion Hall in Cascade

A MESSAGE FROM THE POST COMMANDER

First let me start off by thanking the members for intrusting me as your Commander for another year. The Commander is only as good as the team that supports him, and I have been blessed to have such a team. Two of my goals I set out this past year have not been realized, but I assure you, we will fulfill those this coming year.

As the years pass our fellow Legionnaires and Veterans from WWII are leaving us, so I want to dedicate this Newsletter to them for their service to our country and the American Legion.

Over the past year our post has continued to grow, with over 20 new members of which five are active duty. These new members represent the future leadership that will insure the continued viability of Post 60. Each year the state sets a goal for each post based on its membership - ours was 116, we surpassed that with 131!

We will be holding our Annual Cinco de Mayo fundraiser, May 8th. We need all of our members to help support this event, since it is our main fundraiser for the year. This year has taken on even more importance to raise additional funds, since we recently had to repair our main sewer line and water line.

Once again I want to encourage our members to submit articles or let us know what you would like the Communication Committee to include in the newsletter.

A MESSAGE FROM THE AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

It is time for me to step down as your President and give others the opportunity to bring new ideas and energy to Unit 60. It has been an honor to have served as your President this past year, and I thank the members for making my job easier. I will continue to be an active member as part of this great group of ladies and look forward to this coming year.

This year we are sending MyKayla Tuning to Girls State from Cascade School, plus we again helped Post 119 select two girls for Girls State from McCall. In addition, it was decided to offer a \$1000 scholarship to a daughter/granddaughter, giving preference to a member of Unit 60. This year's recipient is Ammany McFadden, Lavonna Shown's granddaughter – Congratulations!!!

NEW LEGION MEMBERS (SINCE JANUARY 2010):

Robert Yelton, Christopher Barnett (active duty), Bruce McCoy (Sons of American Legion), Ron Jordan, Juan Bonilla, Jess Ellis, Newt Basey (active duty), Dick Wyma, Jack Hart

NEW AUXILIARY MEMBERS (SINCE JANUARY 2010):

Pam Yelton

IN MEMORIAM: Jerry Nadeau

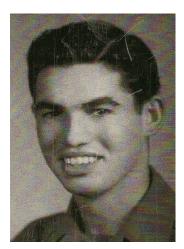
SUPPORTING OUR LOCAL STUDENTS:

American Legion Post 60 is continuing to support our local school:

Three Cascade high school juniors will represent the area at the upcoming 67th annual American Legion Boys State program to be held in Nampa. Michael Theisen, Nicholas Hullinger, and Joey Kennedy will take part in Boys State June 6-12, 2010. The program will be held at the Norwest Nazarene University.

The Cascade post also announced the creation of a new educational scholarship. The scholarship will be merit-based and available to graduating seniors from the local high school. The value of the scholarship for the current school year is \$500.00 The applications for the current school year is \$500. The application for scholarship will be available at the school's guidance counselor office and must be completed and filed with the counselor by May 7, 2010.

In June the post will be continuing with its Citizenship award program. Three students, one each from the local grade school, middle school, and high school will be awarded \$100 class EE savings bonds.



WHO IS THIS?

Send your guess to Commander Jack @ knoblockjack@hotmail.com and win a free drink @ Legion! If there is more than one correct guess, there will be a drawing to determine the winner.

Jen Hardin was the winner from our last (and premier issue) newsletter. The picture was Rod Miller. We're thinking that the fact she was one of Rod's nurses while he was in the hospital may have had something to do with it—what do you think?????

REMINDER:

Legion/Auxiliary dues are due now for 2010.

Please remit your dues (if you haven't already) to:

American Legion/Auxiliary,
P.O. Box 984, Cascade, ID 83611

Legion dues = \$40.00

Auxiliary dues = \$25.00

Sons of the Legion dues = \$7.50.00

RECOGNITION OF POST 60 SUPPORTERS

During our last membership meeting on 14 April, 2010 the Post recognized the outstanding support given by seven folks, most of whom are not members of the Legion or Auxiliary. Each person was presented a framed Certificate of Appreciation for their dedicated service to Post 60. Those who received this recognition were: George Greenfield for his assistance in computer technology, our Audio-Visual system and his aid in the establishment of the Post's Web site; Gail Greenfield for her help in decorating the Post for various events, helping in the kitchen and her role as "Mrs. Santa Claus"; Shauna Keithly for her long and capable assistance in the kitchen for many big catered events; Bruce MacCoy for his help in obtaining quality cleaning supplies, helping in the kitchen washing dishes and being on the serving line; Bill Heathman of "All American Electrical" for his donation of time during the installation of energy efficient lighting and installing our new ceiling fans; Dwain Rushby for his ability to help in any endeavor at the Post and in helping take the payment for meals at the front door during Friday Night Socials; and Vern Ward for all his help and donation of the beautiful pine slabs when we renovated the bar counter. Without friends and volunteers such as these folks we'd be hard pressed to do all the things that Post 60 has gained the reputation for doing, thank you all.











Frank Spicklemire American Legion

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We're on the Web! www.post60news.com

KNOW A SOLDIER WHO WON'T BE HOME FOR MOTHER'S DAY?

Canvas on Demand, a company that turns your photos into canvas portraits, will send a 16" x 20" canvas to any mom of a deployed service member for free (\$112 value). The soldier just needs to go to canvasondemand.com to register for "Operation: Hi Mom!!" and upload a photo. What a great gift when they're so far away! (Thanks to Donna Rushby for this info.)

UPCOMING EVENTS:

May 8th—Cinco de Mayo - Our Annual Fundraiser
May 29th—Legion will help host "Sober Grad Party"
July 4th—Legion/Auxiliary will lead off the Cascade Parade with colors
(the Parade will be held July 3rd)
July 31st—Legion/Auxiliary will provide food for "Three Summit
Challenge Bike Ride" - 500+ riders are expected
September 4th—Legion/Auxiliary/Cascade Chamber will hold a "Casino Night"

COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE/EDITORIAL STAFF:

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Your Communication Committee welcomes your suggestions for your newsletter. You may contact any member of the Committee via phone or email.

