



Frank Spicklemire American Legion

POST 60 NEWS

LEGION OFFICERS

Commander
Mike Keithly

1st Vice Commander
John Pearson

Finance Officer
Tim O'Leary

Adjutant
Terry O'Keefe

Service officer
Rob Garrison

Sgt at Arms
Ed Bulgin

Chaplin
John Pearson

Co-Bar Commanders:
John Pearson
Archie Banbury

Ex Officio Officers:
Jack Knoblock
Archie Banbury

AUXILIARY

President
Donna Rushby

Vice President
Reina Pearson

Secretary
Robin Miller

Treasurer
Sheri Conrad

Chaplain
Louise Peterson

Sergeant at Arms
Sandie LaLone

Historian
Helen Posluszny

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

**Bar opens: 5pm
Dinner: 6:30pm**

SANTA'S VISIT TO CASCADE

Jolly old Saint Nick, and his able assistant Mrs. Claus, had their hands full the evening of 16 December at the American Legion Hall in Cascade. He had 127 youngsters tell him what they wanted for Christmas and he checked twice to make sure that they have been nice. Each child received a new wrapped gift, a bag of candy, and had their photo taken in Santa's lap. Santa's elves processed the photos on the spot or arranged to forward the photos to their parents via e-mail. The crew at Post 60 provided plenty of hot chocolate and delicious cookies for the children while the spirit and joy of the season was heavy in the air. We were able to donate over 200 unwrapped toys to WICAP, Pediatric Ward at Saint Luke's Mountain States Tumor Institute (MSTI), and the "Marine Corps Toys for Tots Program". The members of our Auxiliary visited their "adopted" Veterans at the Veterans Home in Boise and gave them the Christmas gifts that they had requested. The Legion and Auxiliary donated a significant cash gift to the Veterans Home from our "Veterans Assistance Fund" to help meet their needs. The men and women of Post 60 extend our grateful appreciation to the generous folks of the Cascade area who donated gifts at our drop boxes and helped us to make this possible. Thank you!



HAPPY NEW YEAR

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Legion - Ben Collins, David Cascio, Donald Jussane, Jerold Evan, John Laster, John Roundtree, Sidney Kompst

For those that have not renewed their membership, please do. You may renew your membership on line by going to www.eltr@legion.org

Auxiliary: Annie Laster, Phyllis Bulgin, Maria Schuman, Mary Ann Brewer, Shirley Coughlin

AMERICAN LEGION, POST 60 YEAR-IN-REVIEW FOR 2012

The year 2012 came to a close with many memories and another great year for our members to reflect on our many accomplishments. I never cease to be amazed when I prepare this report and look back at all the events and fun times that were had in the blue-roofed building housing our Legion Hall. Our members can be very proud of all the positive impacts that we have had on the community of Cascade. Our membership has held steady at around 165 Legionnaires (several of our members are currently on active-duty), nearly 50 members in our Auxiliary and 9 Sons of the Legion members.

As you know we are a non-profit volunteer Veterans organization dedicated to serving fellow Veterans, children and youths, and our community. We receive a stipend from Valley County to assist us in maintaining the Hall as the Valley County Veterans War Memorial. This stipend helps, but the bulk of our funding comes by raising money through our Friday night dinners, leasing the Hall for fundraisers, weddings, etc. and catering meals for various events. Our annual fixed costs (operations and maintenance) averages between \$24,000 and \$26,000. The majority of those costs are spent for utilities, water/sewer, liquor licenses (state, county and city) food service license, state sales tax, insurance, cleaning fees, snow removal, propane, and normal maintenance/equipment servicing requirements. All of our profits are used to buy food for catered events or our Friday night dinners, restocking the bar or used to purchase items that enhance our facilities, like our new flooring that we installed this year and the new three-door freezer that we purchased. We keep a significant cash balance in our emergency fund to offset any serious problems that might occur. And as you will see in the narrative below we provide our Hall at no charge for various events/organizations and try to be good neighbors by contributing funds and donations to numerous local causes.

Listed below, in no particular order, are those events and functions that Post 60 conducted during 2012. We had over 35 Friday night dinners, the Hall was leased on 19 occasions, Cinco de Mayo fundraiser for the Post, St. Patrick's Day dinner, the Thanksgiving Day free community dinner, Legion members' picnic and steak fry, appreciation dinner for the ladies' of the Legion, and the Post collaborated with community organizations during Casino Night, Four Summit Bike Challenge and the Cascade Jamboree Fun Run. On the military side the Post performed 5 Color Guards, 5 ceremonies on Memorial Day in the Cascade area, placement of flags on all Veteran's gravesites, participated in Cascade's 4th of July Parade, conducted the 9/11 Ceremony at the Post, conducted the Veterans Day ceremony at the Post, and several Legionnaires addressed the Cascade School Assembly on Veterans Day. We continue to support a local outfitter with funds to take Wounded Warriors on hunting trips. Sadly, we had four funerals or memorials for local members of our community, and we conducted four ceremonial funerals/memorials for fellow veterans.

On the civic side we worked with the Chamber of Commerce to repair the Christmas lights on the trees lining Main Street in town. We continue to sponsor the local Boy and Girl Scout Troops. There were three Red Cross Blood Drives and two elections held at the Post. We awarded \$800 to four local students, three for "good citizenship" and one college scholarship. We sponsored one boy and two girls to Boys and Girls State. The Legion donated \$150 to the Boise Veterans Home, and the Legion and Auxiliary donated \$300 to the Veterans Food Convoy. The Auxiliary also donated gifts to their "adopted Vets at the Veterans Home and sent four large "care" packages to our troops overseas. Over 900 frozen meals were donated to WICAP and the Donnelly Food Bank. And last, but not least, we had our annual visit from Santa. Over 130 children came to sit in Santa's lap, have their picture taken, get a new wrapped gift and a bunch of candy. Generous folks helped us with toy or cash donations, so that after Santa's visit we were able to distribute nearly 200 new toys to WICAP, the Pediatrics Ward at St. Lukes Hospital (downtown) and the Pediatrics Ward at MSTI and to the Marine Corps' Toys for Tots Program.

None of the above would have happened if it were not for all the efforts and sacrifice made by the wonderful volunteers and members of this Post. You all deserve a great big round of applause! To start the new year off right, your Post is in the process of renewing our Web Page. Paul Meyer and John Ernsberger are working to get the kinks out; stay tuned there will be a lot of useful information coming out on this project.

OBSERVATIONS FROM THE POST COMMANDER

Greetings to my fellow Legion Members and our wonderful counterparts in Post 60's Auxiliary. I sincerely hope that each of you had a joyous Christmas and that the New Year of 2013 will bring you continued good health and prosperity. As some of you may know we again hosted a successful free Community Thanksgiving meal for our friends and neighbors. Our volunteers served up a delicious meal to over 250 folks at the Post, we delivered 24 meals to people who were homebound and we provided meals to those great law enforcement folks and First Responders who were on duty on Thanksgiving Day. Our annual visit from Santa Claus took place on the 16th of December. Santa visited with 130 youngsters, giving each a new wrapped Christmas gift, candy and hot chocolate. Santa's elves took photos of each child and provided their parents with the free photos. The generosity of donors allowed us to also donate over 200 unwrapped toys to WICAP, children undergoing treatment at MSTI in Boise and to The Marine Corps "Toys for Tots". I am always amazed at how much good will can be generated by a group of dedicated volunteers. I salute each of you and you have my deep appreciation.

As you know, beginning the first of October, we reduced the number of Fridays that we would be open for dinner from each Friday to just the first and third Friday. The reasoning behind this was to give those members of the Post who were the only folks volunteering to prepare the meal, tend bar and set up and decorate the tables a break. It was hoped that more members would start volunteering so that the work load could be spread out more evenly amongst ourselves. It appears to have worked, more folks are stepping up to help and the general consensus is that our members desired to have the Post open on all Fridays. Therefore, beginning on the first of January, the Post will be open on every Friday. Hopefully members will continue to volunteer to help when they are asked to do so by Joe Posluszny (kitchen), Robin Miller (decorating and cashiers) or John Pearson (bartenders and dishwashers).

The process to nominate and select the Post's Officers starts in March. I would ask each member to look within themselves and seek one of these positions. It is a tremendous way to learn first hand how this Post works and each of us should do our part and serve in a leadership billet at least one time. — Respectfully, Mike Keithly, Post Commander

SINCE OUR LAST NEWSLETTER

September 11th – Held a ceremony in recognition of 9/11 with first responders

September 12th – Legion Annual Picnic

November 11th – Held Veterans Day Celebration, followed by proper Flag Disposal

November 13th – Veterans Day Presentation for Cascade School

November 22nd – Held our Annual Free Community Thanksgiving Day Dinner

December 5th – Auxiliary Kids Christmas Wrap

December 7th – Honored those fallen hereos by recognizing Pearl Harbor Day

December 12th – Legion Members honored our Auxiliary Members and other ladies by preparing and serving dinner for them. They were also greeted by Carolers from the Cascade School

December 16th – Santa arrived for our Annual Kids for Santa Night

OTHER ACTIVITIES with Legion Support

Supported "Casino Night Fundraiser" for Cascade Chamber of Commerce; Helped with installing and replacing City Tree Lights; supported Candidate Forum; catered private Christmas party



Thanks to Mrs. G & the generosity of those that bought raffle tickets, the Auxiliary received \$2,444 for 2012 for her pies!

WORDS FROM THE AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

Happy New Year from all of us at The American Legion Auxiliary Unit #60! This past year has been a busy and productive one for us. We have seen two members move away and some have left for the winter. The ladies put on two bake sales and we had a very successful Poppy Distribution. Small flags were purchased and handed out at The Fourth of July Parade; the Legion men, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts helped out as well. We gave out longevity pins to honor those ladies that have been longtime members in good standing. The State Convention was attended this year by two members of our group. We were able to help out Veterans this summer by donating funds for haircuts, newspapers, and personal items. We worked with our Legion in serving those in the Four Summit Race a barbecued rib lunch. Much needed silverware was purchased in the amount of \$200; we also purchased food containers to give meals to WICAP.

Blankets were made for children at MSTI (Mountain States Tumor Institute) and Cascade children. Diane O'Keeffe generously donated 60 hats for children and some lap-gahns and afghans for our ISVH Veterans as well. Items were donated to the Veterans Home Christmas gift table and \$100 was given to help Veterans mail presents to friends and relatives. Canteen vouchers were purchased for our five Vets living at the Idaho State Veterans' Home. Huckleberry Patch of McCall made Quilts of Valor for Post #60 Veterans. They were very much appreciated. We held a raffle for "dinner for two" as an incentive for early Auxiliary membership renewals. We have to say a big thank you to Joe Posluszny and the Legion for absorbing that cost.

The Auxiliary purchased Christmas toys for children in our community. Four children identified by the school as needing clothing for our harsh weather were given new hats, coats, gloves, and boots. We sent a check in the amount of \$150 for the Veterans' Food Convoy. This year we sent Christmas Goodie packages to three deployed servicemen. The Auxiliary also purchased much needed burgundy-colored tablecloths for our Legion Hall. We would like to thank everyone who donated items, time, and money to the Auxiliary for Christmas and otherwise. The Women of The Auxiliary want to thank all of the Legion men and Joe Posluszny for the wonderful Christmas Auxiliary Appreciation Dinner that was served to all the ladies in such a wonderful setting. That meant so much to us all. A thank you goes out to all that helped wrap presents, decorate the hall, bake and serve cookies, make and serve hot chocolate, as well as to the ladies who helped parents sign in their children for the Santa Party. Our generous volunteers are why our events are successful. We strive to be of help, not only to the Veterans but to our community as well. Looking forward to new goals in this year ahead.

——- Sincerely, Donna M. Rushby, Auxiliary President





American Legion Hall
105 E. Mill Road / P.O. Box 984
Cascade, Idaho 83611

Phone: 208-382-3694



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

I know we have said this before, but now we can assure our members that soon they will be able access an all new Post 60 web-site. Paul Meyers and John Ernsberger are hard at work to make that happen.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Yes, we are open every Friday Night at 5 P.M. for our members and friends to enjoy drinks and a great meal.
(Note: this will be dependent on volunteer support)

Legion/Auxiliary Membership meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month at 7 PM.

January 23rd - Catered meal for a private party

January 26th - Registration and a Chili Dinner will be provided in support of the **Idaho Youth Ice Fishing Derby**

February 16th- Catered meal for the **Cascade Chamber of Commerce Winter Jamboree**

March 2nd - Catered meal for the **West Mountain State Snowmobile Club**

April 20th - The Spring American Legion 9th District meeting will be sponsored by Post 60

