

Department of Oregon Award Winning Newsletter, Earle B Stewart American Legion Post 16



PO Box 1124 406 SE Oak St Roseburg, Oregon 97470 541-672-4392

January 2016

www.roseburglegionpost16.org/
Post website

**ORATORICAL
JANUARY 9TH**

Regular Post meeting
and luncheon to
follow.

As of this publication
there are no
contestants for the High
School Oratorical
Scholarship
Competition

On Saturday January 16th
the Post will be hosting
the District 9 Meeting. We
encourage all members to
attend this meeting. A catered
luncheon will be
served following the meeting – a
head count is
needed. Contact the Post
if you are going to attend.

Those who have not renewed
their membership since 2014-
15, will no longer get the
Newsletter mailed.

Same will be true for those
who receive the full color
email edition. Their name and
information will be dropped
from the Post Roster.

It's never too late to renew
your American Legion
Membership!



Happy New Year 2016 Executive Board tells the City of Roseburg "Negotiations for the sale of the building is over"

Monday December 14th City of
Roseburg Manager C. Lance
Colley and Relocation Specialist
Regina Thompson came to the
building and sat down with a
number of the Executive Officers
of Post 16.

The meeting was called by Com-
mander Bergadine after attempts
to find out exactly where the City
stood on the issue of purchasing
the property failed. The Com-
mander thought that hearing from
the City Manger would give the
executive Board a better idea on
the nature of the Master Plan
and the Waterfront Project and
what options we had.

While the discussion was unoffi-
cial in nature, there were still
many points brought out that
highlighted the true nature of the
project and the viability of the
sale actually taking place. Project
Manager Regina Thompson has
been the point for contact for
many months and has attempted
to present properties that she
thought were of equal value for a
Post relocation. There was the
initial offer from the City for
\$190,000, along with special

allowances that would pay for
moving and other expenses. The
problem with this picture was that
the properties shown were all infe-
rior to the Post Building, and
would take thousands of dollars to
improve, and take it up to the
standard of our current building.
Post Leadership told the reloca-
tion specialist and the City man-
ager that after an insurance ap-
praisal by our agent, we insured
our building for over \$500,000.00.

City Manager Colley told the
Board at Mondays meeting, that
while the City is serious to acquire
the property and would like to in-
clude it in the Water Front Project,
the City is not serious enough to
take it. Colley agreed that the
\$190,000 dollars would never get
us a \$500,000 building.

After Commander Bergadine told
the City Manager that our name-
sake Earle B Stewart built this
building, and that this location is
important for Veteran access ; the
Commander told the City Man-
ager the only way it would work is
with a turn key agreement, with a
building of similar size and layout.

Over to page 2

Post 16 vs City of Roseburg

Continued from page 1



C. Lance Colley

The City Manager agreed that this sale would never happen, the offer comes nowhere close to what it would take to move.

Post Adjutant Dale Nelson pointed out the costs of just engineering a flag pole, and the cost of a building sign, that would cost thousands of dollars in addition to the cost of moving.

He asked the manager if any of the City permits would be waived for the Post, and Colley immediately said no.

With the discussion coming to an end, the officers thanked the City manager and Regina Thompson for taking the time to come over and discuss the project, and said goodbye.



Post Building @ 406 SE Oak Ave.

Immediately following their departure an executive meeting was called to order. A motion was unanimously passed that we contact the City of Roseburg and tell them we are not interested in selling the building, and relocate at this time.

Rick Sciapiti

Food Pantry is Full

With the American Legion having two successful food drives this past fall, the Fleet Reserve Association donated more food to the party coming off a successful food drive of their own.



Post 16 Food Pantry

The Post has spread the word to all Veteran Organizations at the Douglas County Veterans Forum Meetings that our party is open Mondays and Fridays from 1-3 PM, we have plenty of food. With widespread notice we still haven't seen much traffic.

The Post would like to distribute the food to veterans whether they are single or have a family. There are no qualifications except that a Veteran ID of some sort be shown.

In the past the Post has dealt with expiration dates on some of the canned food and have had to dispose of it. We ask that if you donate food, that you not give us food that has passed its expiration date.

As a way to utilize all the food that was donated, if it isn't distributed to Veterans, it will be taken to the UCAN food bank before the food reaches its expiration.

DANIEL E. DILLMAN Across the street from the Post

DIAMOND DAN'S

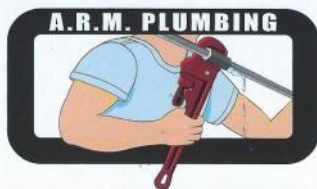
Appraiser ****Buyer**** Consultant

Phone (541) 672-2761 • Fax (541) 440-1039 • Cell (541) 670-9940

Email: dillmandan@gmail.com

423 S.E. Oak • Roseburg, Oregon 97470

"Make new friends, but keep the old. One is silver, and the other is gold."



541.621.0969

Service & Repair • Drain Cleaning • Remodels • New Construction

Arnold R. Myrick

ArmPlumbing.com • Licensed, Insured, and Bonded CCB# 205026

Veteran Owned

Serving Oregon for 20 Years
Now servicing Roseburg and Surrounding Areas

Commitment to quality and customer satisfaction:

10% Discount
For Veterans



One-year limited warranty on all labor.

<http://armplumbing.com>

FLEET RESERVE ASSOCIATION Branch 328

USN-USMC-USCG
JOIN US TODAY

Free pizza and drinks at quarterly meetings
For information call: 541.863.3144

Veterans Scammed Out of Benefits

beware of unsolicited calls

Military.Com--- As the veterans from our country's greatest wars continue to age, their need for health care is increasing. Many of those veterans are unaware Veterans Affairs offers a financial benefit to ease the burden but some financial planners are taking advantage of those in need.

"The greatest generation doesn't know about it and how would my mother? When I've called, they've said 'Can your mother go online?' My mother can't really even turn on a computer at this point," said Cyndi Celmer, the daughter of Lucille.

Lucille and her husband a WWII veteran were married for 50 years. He passed away in 1994 and now Lucille is in need of extra care. Celmer discovered the VA offered a financial benefit that could help pay for her medical expenses.

"I was really surprised because I had never heard about it. My brother who is career Air Force had never heard about it," said Celmer.

It's called the Aid and Attendance Benefit which gives monthly compensation to veterans or their spouses who served during war time if they require daily assistance due to their medical conditions. Compensation can reach \$2,133 for a veteran and spouse, \$1,788 for a single veteran and \$1,149 for a veteran spouse.

When Celmer called a financial planner for help applying for the benefit, she was met with a hefty price tag.

"Warning bells went off in my head that this wasn't right and at the end of the conversation, it always came up 'Oh, by the way, it's \$700 or it's \$500,'" said Celmer.

"Someone wants to charge you just to complete an application? That's against VA rules to do that," said John Wessler, a financial planner at Senior Care Planners in Waco.

Wessler works mainly with elderly clients and their children and says when it comes to the Aid & Attendance Benefit, no one should charge you a dime to apply.

"The second thing might be if someone tells you that you have to buy a particular financial product in order to qualify. There is nothing in the VA regulations that say anything to that extent," said Wessler.

"After the salesperson has received their commission, whether or not the veteran actually ends up qualifying, they are out of pocket the money that they pay and may not end up benefiting at all," said Attorney Mark Hobbs who specializes in estate planning and elder law.

Hobbs says while he's heard of those scams, they are not extremely common in central Texas. In fact, the Texas Attorney General's Office can only find one complaint in the last year.

In most cases, Wesley and Hobbs say the local VA



office or non-profit veterans' organization can help you fill out the application. If you need help moving assets or adjusting your financial situation, attorneys and planners can be of service.

"That's where we feel like we can help people to know what they need to do and help them get

there so when they do apply their application is more likely to be approved," said Hobbs.

"It's an absolutely great benefit. Not a lot of people know about it and it's extremely helpful to a lot of people," said Wessler.

Wessler and Hobbs say the Aid & Attendance Benefit is particularly helpful to vets or spouses in assisted living, home care or nursing home situations.

If you think you or your spouse qualify for Aid and Attendance Benefits contact our local County Veterans Service Office at 541-440-4219. Douglas County Veterans Service Officer Pat Plourd or one of our other County Service Officers can answer your questions and can assist you in applying for the benefit.

Visit the CVSO at: <http://www.co.douglas.or.us/veterans/>

You can find a list of qualifications for the benefit by clicking on the following link: http://www.benefits.va.gov/pension/aid_attendance_housebound.asp

Post Adopts Veterans & their Families for Christmas

3 Veterans helped out this year

By Rick Sciapiti

For the past number of years the Adopt a Veteran Family Program was administered by the County Veterans Service Office. Over the years with the Douglas County Veterans Forum coming on the scene, and having access to all the Service Organizations in the county, they have taken the lead in matching Veterans with Organizations that are willing to help.

This year is no different. With the assistance from the National Guard Family Readiness liaison, and the VA, married Veterans were identified as participants in this years program. The criteria is that they have limited income or resources, and would be unable to give their families a decent Christmas of gifts and food.

We should all be proud that Post 16 adopted 3 of the 6 families that were part of the program this year.

With generous donations by Post members, and the fundraising efforts at the food drives, Post 16 donated a total of \$1,500.00 in gift cards to the three Veterans and their families.

With the word being put out that there were a number of Veterans needing help this Christmas season, it wasn't just the American Legion that stepped up, but VVA and their Associates, along with the Fleet Reserve and the Marine Corps League. Thank You to all who contributed!



Post Historian Kirk Conner (L) and Commander Steve Bergadine (R) are pictured with the Hill family, one of three families we helped out in this years adopt a Veteran and Family program.



Commander Steve Bergadine prepares to hand the Duncan Family two \$250.00 gift cards, one for Sherm's Market and the other for Walmart. Other Organizations including the Fleet Reserve, Marine Corps League, VVA and their Associates adopted the other families.



Connect to e Benefits below
[EBENEFITS](#)



Sign-up Today to access and manage your personal VA Healthcare
[MY healthvet](#)



Post 16 Officers

Commander

1st Vice



Steve Bergadine

Rick Sciapiti

2nd Vice

Adjutant



Doug Page

Dale Nelson

Finance Officer

Chaplain



Dirk Kruysman

Ted Blann

Sgt. At Arms Service Officer



Mike Harper

Bud Bessey

Historian

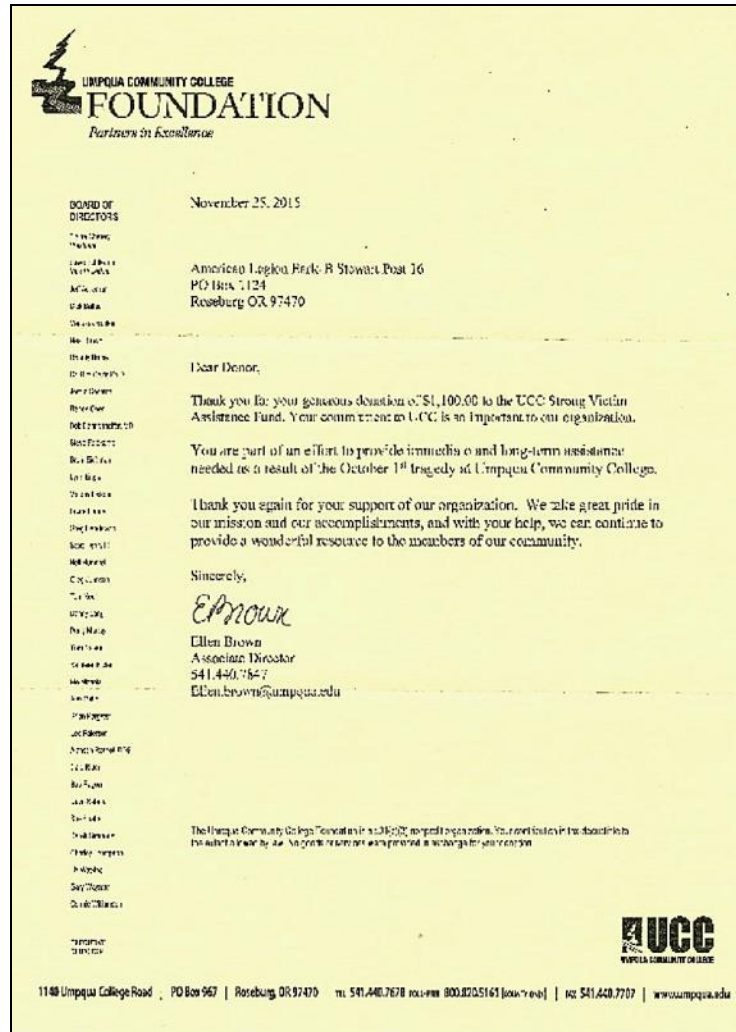
JAG



Kirk Conner

Mike Hampton

UCC Foundation acknowledges our donation Veterans Day Breakfast Fundraiser



As the local community continues to pour out their support to Umpqua Community College after the October 1 tragic events, Post 16 diverted from our regular Veterans Day Breakfast Post Fundraiser and turned it into a UCC Strong fundraiser.

Commander Steve Bergadine would like to share with all American Legion members the thank you letter received from the UCC Foundation.

The Post wants to thank everyone who made donations on the morning of the Veterans Day breakfast that made our donation possible.

Death Benefits Seminar

On Thursday January 21, A DEATH BENEFITS SEMINAR will be held in the VA Auditorium, Building 16 - From 3:30-5:30.

This is a must attend for veterans their spouses or caregivers. The seminar will address all aspects of end of life planning from Advanced Directives, Dependency and Indemnity Compensation, to veteran burial benefits; the what the VA pays for and what is the responsibility of the Veteran's survivor.

Don't miss this informative presentation.

4 Chaplains Coming in February Meet and Greet before the event

Mark your calendar for Noon Saturday February 13, 2016. Earle B Stewart American Legion Post 16 will once again be hosting this years Four Chaplains Memorial Ceremony.

The Ceremony commemorates the 4 "Dorchester Chaplains" who gave up their lives to save civilian and military personnel as the torpedoed Troop Ship sank on February 3, 1943 during WWII.

A "Meet and Greet" is scheduled for 11:30 AM with the Ceremony beginning at Noon. The regular Post meeting will follow along with the luncheon.

AMERICAN LEGION POST 16
 PO BOX 1124
 ROSEBURG, OR 97470

NON-PROFIT ORG.
 U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
 ROSEBURG, OR
 Permit No. 116






Post Meeting Saturday January 9th 2016 at Noon
Following the High School Oratorical



January 2016



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 News Years Day	2
3	4 Post Open 1-3	5	6	7	8 Post Open 1-3	9 Post Meeting & Oratorical NOON
10	11 Post Open 1-3	12	13	14	15 Post Open 1-3	16 Post Hosting District Meeting –Noon
17  Desert Storm Begins -1991	18  MLK Day Post Open 1-3	19 DCVF Meeting 5pm @ the Post	20 DC Veterans Advisory Committee (VAC) 3PM	21 <small>VA 1/4 Chapel Service Noon Death Benefits seminar @ VA Auditorium 3:30-5:30</small>	22 Post Open 1-3	23  1973—Peace in Vietnam Announced
24	25 Post Open 1-3	26	27	28	29 Post Open 1-3	30 Anniversary of the Tet Offensive 1968
31						