



THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY STEVENS-CHUTE POST #4 and AUXILIARY BEND, OREGON



COMBINED MEETING
Wednesday, Feb. 14, 2024
6 p.m.



MEETING LOCATION
VFW POST 1643
1503 NE 4th Street, Bend

OUR IN-PERSON MEETING PROCEDURE: Before the meeting, social time and potluck dinner starts at 6 pm, and Post and Auxiliary meetings follow about 6:30 pm. We enjoy the company of veterans and hope you'll join us. It doesn't matter where you served in the military, only that you served honorably. Families are always welcome. BYOB if you want something to drink other than water or soda. A small donation is encouraged to help defray costs of entree and supplies. Thanks!



COMMANDER'S CORNER

Happy February Everyone. Hope all did well through the snow and ice storms.

Well our meeting this month falls on Valentines Day, so bring your smiles and come out

and enjoy each other's company.

Commander JW Terry

FROM THE ADJUTANT

Hello all! I hope you made it through our snow and icy days! We stayed home as much as we could. The warmer days have been glorious! Kind of a spring teaser.

Our Post membership has been a bit slow in January.

Our meeting this month happens to land on Valentines Day! I'll be making something special for dinner and will try to show the "love"! Hope to see you there!

Post Adjutant Vivian Shannon

WHAT'S FOR DINNER?

Vivian is preparing homemade lasagna and focaccia bread for the February potluck. Side suggestions for members to bring: salad or dessert.



HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!
Remember your sweetie!

HONORING GOLD STAR FAMILIES

The law designating the 477-mile US Hwy 30 across Oregon as Oregon Gold Star Families Memorial Highway became effective on January 1, 2024.

Bend Heroes Foundation Chairman Dick Tobiason is requesting donations to fund 10 signs. For more information, call Dick at 541-390-9932.



American Legion Auxiliary

Sponsor Group

1/17/24

Date of Drive

36 Total Number of Donors	3 First Time Donors
16 Type O Donors	24 Units Collected

One single blood donation can help save more than one life.
Thank you for supporting our lifesaving mission!

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WWII life-saving hero , Coast Guard Petty Officer Charles W. David, Jr., ceremony awarding him posthumously

AUXILIARY THANKED FOR SUCCESSFUL BLOOD DRIVE

Unit Chaplain Bonnie Wilkins chaired our hosting of the January blood drive and received thanks from Red Cross:

“Hi Bonnie- Wow! We had the highest collecting drive for the Legion yesterday!

We had 36 donors present (Wow!), more than what was scheduled, and collected 24 good pints of blood. And look at all the type O! 16, yeah!

Thank you so much for all the marketing and posters hanging you did. It was a really good blood drive. I appreciate you being there all day and the other ladies that volunteer to help! I will see you next time!

Please share the attached results poster with the Legion leadership and your team! Thank you, always a pleasure to see you!”

Jennifer Shaw

**Donor Recruitment Supervisor
Northwest Blood Services Region**

RED SHIRT FRIDAY

(RED—Remembering Everyone Deployed)

Wear a red shirt on Fridays to show support of our service men and women

ANSWER TO THE FOUR CHAPLAINS’ PRAYERS

The week of Feb. 3, American Legion posts across the country will observe Four Chaplains Day, named for four Army chaplains – George L. Fox (Methodist), Alexander D. Goode (Jewish), Clark V. Poling (Reformed), and John P. Washington (Catholic) – who gave up their life jackets so others would live after a U-boat torpedoed their transport in the North Atlantic on Feb. 3, 1943.

In his 2021 book *“The Immortals,”* Steven Collis offers a detailed narrative of *Dorchester’s* sinking, the chaplains’ sacrifice and, for the first time in print, the full story of Charles W. David Jr., the young Black Coast Guard petty officer who, with his shipmates on the escort cutter *Comanche*, helped rescue 93 of 227 survivors. He died from pneumonia a month later, and was posthumously awarded the Navy & Marine Corps Medal for heroism. In 2013, the Coast Guard named a *Sentinel*-class cutter for David.—*From American Legion Website, by Max Grills February 3, 2022 (Thanks to Unit Asst. Chaplain Bonnie Wilkins)*

(For those of you who would like to know more about the writing of the book, the entire article is attached to this email.)



**Happy 82nd
birthday
US COAST GUARD
RESERVE
February 19, 1941**

NOTES FROM THE PREZ

Greetings again from sunny (?), warm (?) Arizona. In three months, we have had four major rain storms, a few below-freezing nights with people covering even the cacti to protect them. It's winter in Arizona, too... but at least we are not shoveling snow!

Watching weather in Central Oregon, we have sympathized with you for the heavy snow and ice storms and dangerous conditions, causing cancellation of our January meetings. Thanks, Cdr. JW, for helping to keep our members safe!

I am happy to report that I will represent our Unit and Department of Oregon by attending the Washington DC Conference Feb. 25-28. My focus will be on ALA's National Security mission of caring for our military personnel and their families. I will join our Oregon Legion delegation to speak with our national congress people.

After jumping out with early renewals, Unit 4 has fallen behind District 5 Units in membership renewals. If you are hesitating to renew, please read Part 2 of the following article encouraging members with descriptions of the important missions ALA works on for veterans, active military, children and youth and our community.

President Yvonne Drury

ARE YOU ON THE FENCE ABOUT RENEWING YOUR ALA MEMBERSHIP?

(Continued from January Newsletter)
Still unsure about renewing? Maybe you need a reminder of what the American Legion Auxiliary REALLY does!

I will share a few of my favorite programs:

- **Junior Activities:** American Legion Auxiliary Juniors are ages birth until their 18th birthday. ALA senior members teach Junior members to be outstanding citizens. We teach them the importance of giving back to their community and our legacy of *Service Not Self*. Senior members feel rewarded working with Juniors. We can all learn from each other at any age.

- **Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation:** Have you ever assisted veterans at the local VA hospital? The veterans are some of the nicest people. If you get them telling their war stories, they are amazing. They are sharing history with you! You cannot leave the VA without an extra pep in your step! And how about the Veterans Creative Arts Festival at both the local and national levels? That is some amazing work!

- **National Security:** How much pride do you have when you help fill boxes to send to the troops? Do they correspond with you once they have received the boxes? I love it when they send photos! I cannot imagine being out of the country, away from loved ones for an extended period. We have been told over and over that they have so much appreciation for the packages — partially because of the contents — but mostly because we are showing our military that we care about them!

Do you help your unit assist the family of an active-duty servicemember? We clip coupons. We babysit. Have you seen the success of a baby shower for pregnant military/spouses?

- **Poppy:** Who doesn't love the little red flower, as well as the powerful meaning behind it? Many members love to socialize while making poppies or collecting donations for them. When one of our unit members passes away, we show our gratitude for the deceased member with the poppy service at their funeral. The family of the deceased always love the ceremony.

The American Legion Auxiliary is a lot of work. But it is fun work!

We fundraise in many different ways: We have bingo, bake sales, craft shows, turkey raffles, etc. That is hard work, but donating to your community, a servicemember, a veteran, a program, or a scholarship fund is one of the most rewarding things not only for the recipient, but for all of us as well! We offer many opportunities for positive interactions. We have unit meetings, district/county meetings, department meetings, Mission Trainings, and National Convention. Can you imagine missing out on the friendships you can make at these meetings? I honestly cannot! I have so many more friends throughout the United States and beyond because of my membership in The American Legion Family.

Are you ready to renew your membership? You don't have to do everything the ALA offers. Find one program that interests you most, and start asking questions. Ask to be on the committee to gain more knowledge. It will be fun and rewarding. Once you are more involved, you will gain a sense of belonging, which is followed by a greater sense of pride in both the organization and yourself. That's a WIN-WIN!

*Posted On: Wednesday, 06 December 2023.
Guest blog post by Karen Toll, 2023-2024
ALA National Membership Committee Chair*

FEBRUARY EVENTS

- February Black History Month
- Feb. 1 District 5 meeting, Prineville
- Feb. 2 Groundhog Day
- Feb. 3 Four Chaplains Day
- Feb. 4 USO Birthday
- Wk Feb12 Nat'l Salute to Veteran Patients
- Feb. 13 Mardi Gras
- Feb. 14 Valentine's Day
- Feb. 14 Post 4 & Auxiliary meeting
- Feb. 19 President's Day
- Feb. 19 Coast Guard Reserve Birthday



*Join us **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14** for combined meeting*

Please contact us when we can be of assistance. We are here for you!

2023-2024 Post Officers:

Cdr: 541-350-0314

Adj: 541-350-0892

Chap: 541-350-0892

Commander J W Terry

Vice Commander Denny Shannon

Chaplain Vivian Shannon

Adjutant Vivian Shannon

Finance Officer Denny Drury

Mailing address: American Legion Post 4, PO Box 784, Bend, OR 97709

2023-2024 Unit Officers:

President: 541-390-4231

Chaplain: 541-977-5471

President Yvonne Drury

Vice President Katie Terry

Secretary Karen Banks

Treasurer Carole Jura

Chaplain Sr. Barbara Etter

Sgt-at-Arms Bonnie Wilkins

Mailing address: American Legion Auxiliary Unit 4, PO Box 7911, Bend, OR 97708

To be removed from this email list, please email ydrury47@gmail.com with "unsubscribe" in the subject line.

If you have information of interest to Veterans, please submit to Yvonne at: ydrury47@gmail.com