



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



**COMBINED MEETING**  
**Wednesday, May 8, 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!

**ANNUAL MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES**

The annual Memorial Day service at Deschutes Memorial Gardens will take place May 27 at 1 p.m.

Post 4 Cdr. and COVO Executive Director JW Terry will be the keynote speaker at the service.

Due to nearby highway construction, this year the service will be held at the Vietnam Memorial at the Gardens.

All are invited to come and remember our Heroes who went before us.

The reading of names of US Service Members killed in Afghan-Iraqi Wars, at Troy Field, 60 NW Kansas Ave. in Bend, 8 a.m. to 11:30 p.m.

In Redmond, the American Legion/VFW Memorial Day ceremony will be at the Redmond Memorial Cemetery, 3545 S. Canal Blvd., Redmond, at 11 a.m.



**ALA POPPY DAYS MAY 25 and 26**

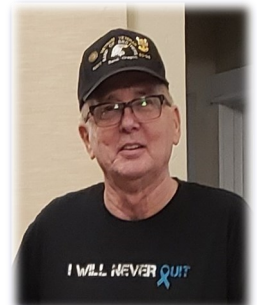
Stevens-Chute Unit 4 Auxiliary and Post 4 veterans will be handing out poppies at the Bend Fred Meyer Store, Friday and Saturday, May 24 and 25, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Please stop by the north entrance of the store, get your poppy, and enjoy some conversation with our members and veterans.

On September 27, 1920, the poppy became the official flower of The American Legion family to memorialize the soldiers who fought and died during the war. In 1924, the distribution of poppies became a national program of The American Legion.

**COMMANDER'S CORNER**

Hello everyone, I hope this newsletter finds everyone doing well. We lost a dear friend this past month. Bonnie will be sorely missed by all of us.



May is a busy month with a number of events you can get involved in. Memorial



Day weekend is also our big fundraising weekend, please help us where you can.

I am very proud of this merry band of people. Lets continue to make each other laugh and just as importantly let's take care of one another. *Commander JW Terry*



*Manning the Stevens-Chute Family table were (l. to r.) Unit President Yvonne Drury, Post Finance Officer Denny Drury, Post Vice Commander Denny Shannon (dual member), and Unit Chaplain Sr. Barbara Etter, (dual member)*

## STAND DOWN & RESOURCE FAIR

Central Oregon Veterans Outreach, in partnership with Bend Elks Lodge, hosted the Fair Wednesday, April 24, with a multitude of organizations offering supplies and services to Homeless Veterans and others in need, such as food, clothing, health screenings and Social Security Benefits Counseling. Also available were groups providing referrals to other assistance, such as health care, housing solutions, employment, substance use treatment and mental health counseling.

Post 4 and Auxiliary held a table at the event and enjoyed meeting and talking with the various service organizations and the veterans who came for help.

Post 4 Commander and COVO Executive Directors J. W. Terry and Kathy Skidmore were presented with Certificates from Oregon Employment Department 541 VETS program, in recognition of their outstand-



ing service to and unwavering support of Central Oregon's Military Veterans.

Thanks to Denny Shannon, Sr. Barbara Etter, Denny and Yvonne Drury who set up and manned our table.

## WHAT'S FOR DINNER?

Yvonne is cooking this time, and will bring Swedish meatballs and noodles. Suggested sides for members to bring: Vegetables, salad, or dessert.

## ADJUTANT SAYS

Hello everyone, thank you all for your membership renewals, especially online.

Please stay well and we hope to see you all at our next meeting. Please pray for Bonnie Wilkins's family. She will be sorely missed!

God Bless! *Adjutant Vivian Shannon*

## NOTES FROM THE PREZ

Here we are nearly at the end of our fiscal year, and it is always the busiest time of all! Blood drive and Memorial weekend Poppy Days and service this month, as well as various District meetings, etc.

All of these events are part of our continuing mission to serve our veterans and our military personnel and their families.

If you have not yet renewed your membership in ALA, please consider doing it now. Even if you are not a "meeting goer", it's okay. Your dues play a large part in helping us serve those in need.

We are absolutely crushed at losing our very good friend, Bonnie Wilkins. Our little ALA group will not be the same without her smiling face, kindness, and dedication.

Hoping to see you all at our May 8 meeting!

*Unit President Yvonne Drury*

## COVR PLANT SALE

Central Oregon Veterans Ranch is holding its 7<sup>th</sup> annual plant sale Saturday May 25, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m, at the Ranch, 65920 SW 61<sup>st</sup> Street, Bend, Oregon.

Support the Central Oregon veterans community and get a jump start on your

home garden! Choose from their wide selection of veggie and herbs starts, annuals, perennials, hanging baskets, and color bowls. Also explore their makers and vendors and food, and shop their new and exclusive COVR merchandise.

## INDUCTED INTO OREGON MILITARY HALL OF FAME

Post 4 member and Historian Dick Tobiason was honored this week by induction into the Oregon Military Hall of Fame. His citation reads:

Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) Allan R. "Dick" Tobiason, a decorated U.S. Army Vietnam veteran, recognized for his exceptional service spanning two tours in Vietnam and significant contributions to honoring veterans in Oregon. Tobiason played a pivotal role in repatriating 27 American POWs during "Operation Homecoming" in 1973 and was instrumental in naming highways across Oregon to honor wartime veterans and Gold Star Families.



Congratulations, Dick, for an honor well-deserved!

## WELCOME NEW POST 4 MEMBER

Post 4 is happy to welcome US Navy veteran Timothy Buren who has transferred in from a Salem area post. We look forward to seeing you at meetings and getting to know you.

## BE A HERO - GIVE BLOOD

Unit 4 is once again hosting at **Red Cross Blood Drive Thursday, May 16, 12 p.m. to 6 p.m.** at the Central Oregon Collective, 62070 SE 27th Street in Bend.

To make your appointment, call 1-800-RED CROSS or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter ALAUNIT4.

You can spend a little time and perhaps save up to three lives. Blood is always in high demand and critical short supply!

## AUXILIARY LOOKING FOR GREETING CARDS

Do you have a stash of greeting cards sent to you by various organizations that you would donate to Unit 4?

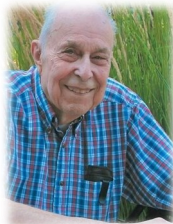
We send out greeting cards to members and friends of the Unit as the occasion arises, and we would like to keep the costs to postage only if possible.

We also send 200-300 Christmas cards to veterans in senior living and nursing homes. Donations of Christmas cards or cash to purchase them would also be greatly appreciated.

Bring cards to our meetings, or contact Yvonne Drury, [ydrury47@gmail.com](mailto:ydrury47@gmail.com) or call 541-390-4231 to pick them up.

## POST EVERLASTING

Sometimes we are not aware that we have lost some of our heroes, but after a recent bit of research, we are sorry to report the following Post 4 members have passed:



**Don Hancock**, 96, US Navy, 1945-1947, WWII, died March 21, 2024. Married to Unit 4 member Sally who survives him.



**Dwaine Jones**, 97, US Navy, joined 1942. He was present in Okinawa Bay on Sept. 2, 1945 when the treaty to end WWII was signed. He died April 1, 2023.



**Philip Peoples**, 98, US Air Force, serving as a fighter pilot in WWII flying the P-47 in Italy with the 346th squadron. He died May 14, 2023.

**Eugene Cotter**, US Coast Guard, Korea, died 2022

**Laurel Davis**, 89, US Army, Korean War era, was a dedicated enlistee at Beale Air

Force Base 1953-1955. He died December 5, 2023.

**William Elkins, WWII, died 2014**

**Thomas Marshall, US Air Force, Korea, died 2022.**

### IN LOVING MEMORY

Unit 4 member Bonnie Wilkins, 77, passed away unexpectedly April 21, 2024, victim of a heart attack.

Bonnie had been a member since 2017, serving as our Chaplain, and this year sharing the duties with Sr. Barbara Etter.



Bonnie was a loyal and hard-working member of the Unit, volunteering for many events throughout the years and heading up our American Cross Blood Drives each winter season. She was a steady contributor to our monthly newsletter, submitting a prayer for our members for publication.

She is survived by her husband, Steve, grown children and grandchildren whom she cherished.

A Memorial Mass was held Friday, April 26, at St. Francis Catholic Church. Contributions may be made to: American Legion, PO Box 7911, Bend, OR 97708 or American Red Cross.

### MAY EVENTS

May 1 - Loyalty Day—for American citizens to reaffirm their loyalty to the United States and to recognize the heritage of American Freedom.

May 1 - Silver Star Service Banner Day-to honor our wounded, ill, and dying military personnel.

May 2- Nation Day of Prayer, inviting people of all faiths to pray for the nation.

May 8 - VE Day—Victory in Europe marks the anniversary of the Allies' victory in Europe during WWII on May 8, 1945.

May 8 - Stevens-Chute Post 4 and Auxiliary combined meeting 6: p.m.

May 10- Military Spouse Appreciation Day to acknowledge the contributions and sacrifices of the spouses of the US Armed Forces.

May 12 - Mother's Day

May 13 - Children of Fallen Patriots Day to honor the families our Fallen Heroes have left behind - especially the children.

May 16 - Red Cross Blood Drive, 12 pm to 6 pm at Central Oregon Collective

May 18 - Armed Forces Day to pay tribute to the men and women in the service.

May 27 - Memorial Day (Decoration Day) to commemorate all who have died in military service for the United States.

*Wednesday, May 8 for potluck dinner and combined meeting*

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

2023-2024 Post Officers:

Commander: 541-350-0314

Adjutant: 541-350-0892

Chaplain: 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

*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](mailto:ydrury47@gmail.com) with "unsubscribe" in the subject line.*