



FFICER'S CALL



May 2008

Memorial Day 2008

This day of remembrance will be observed throughout our nation on Monday, May 26.

Central Oregon will have numerous observances and ceremonies- please attend and participate wherever you can.

Here are several planned events in our area:

Bend: Wreath Memorial Observance, Deschutes Memorial Gardens, BG Charles Yariate, speaker @ 1300.

Sisters: Flag dedication at Village Green Veteran's Memorial, VFW/Crook JROTC @ 1100

Check your local papers for time and place:

Redmond: Memorial Day Parade

Bend: Parade of Flags (display)

Prineville: Memorial Day Parade

MOAA Congressional Charter

Senator Bill Nelson (D-FL) and Rep. Chris Van Hollen (D-MD) have sponsored companion bills that would establish in public law a Congressional Charter for MOAA. A charter essentially is public acknowledgement that a particular group -- in this case a veterans' organization -- serves the public interest by providing member services and community support.

Please send a MOAA-suggested message urging your legislators to establish a Congressional Charter for MOAA.

In the past, congressional charters have been largely ceremonial, so MOAA did not seek one, even though large numbers of other military and veterans associations did so. But now, several states have established that only members of organizations that have congressional charters may serve on the governor's veterans advisory committee.

MOAA is the largest military association in the country, and the fourth-largest veterans association, with 370,000 members. MOAA is a leader in the military community, co-chairing the 35-association Military Coalition. MOAA distributes over 1500 scholarships and interest-free loans to children of servicemembers every year and has 425 chapters throughout the country engaged in award-winning community service.

Please ask our congressional representation to cosponsor H.R. 5854 to support awarding a congressional charter to this exemplary organization to ensure that MOAA is not inadvertently blocked from continuing its contributions to the military and veteran's community at the state level.

COMOAA members may log on to MOAA.org and click "Legislative Affairs", under Congressional Charter you may select an editable Email message which will be automatically sent to Senators Smith and Wyden, and Representative Walden once you add your mailing address.



Due to some bad weather in late March, the Veteran's Habitat House got off to a delayed start, and the progress has not been as fast as anticipated... more volunteers are needed and a second Veteran's Habitat House may be jeopardized unless the veterans community meets its obligations

Want to Volunteer ? The Two Steps to Getting Involved:

1. Register online on VolunteerUp at <http://www.bendhabitat.org/>.
2. Stop by our office to sign a waiver and watch our 11 minute safety video.

What is VolunteerUp?

VolunteerUp is our new online registration and scheduling system, for all areas of volunteering, including the construction site, ReStore, committees, the Board, Office, Family Partnership, Sweat Equity, and Community Service. Bend Area Habitat for Humanity has approximately 500 volunteers. We are often reporting number of volunteers and hours to grantors who are interested in what kind of matching support we receive from the community and who we are engaging. VolunteerUP is the method for tracking these figures, as well as scheduling volunteers where and when they are needed most. This allows us to make sure we do not have too many folks trying to volunteer on the same day. We want to show every volunteer how much we value their time and commitment and we need to plan for their participation by having appropriate projects and tasks. Every year Habitat is challenged with the goal of building ten homes, and the information provided by VolunteerUp is vital. Please call or email the Volunteer Coordinator, Sheila Pyott, if you have any questions, at 541.385.5387 x225 or spyott@bendhabitat.org. I am available to help you!

VolunteerUp!

"To register online look for the VolunteerUp logo on our website: <http://www.bendhabitat.org/> "

COMOAA LADIES LUNCHEON

THURSDAY, MAY 15TH - 12:00 O'CLOCK NOON

PLEASE NOTE:

LOCATION HAS BEEN CHANGED

FROM AWBREY GLEN RESTAURANT TO **ANTHONY'S** DOWN
IN THE OLD MILL DISTRICT. WE WILL ORDER FROM THE
MENU.

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED BY MONDAY, MAY 12TH.
CALL JO HARDIE (330-3954), OR CHARLENE BLAHNIK (388-9095).

SEE YOU THERE!

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

Military spouses embody the courage, nobility of duty, and love of country that inspire every American. On Military Spouse Day, we pay tribute to the husbands and wives who support their spouses in America's Armed Forces during times of war and peace.

The legacy of military spouses began when colonial Americans were fighting for independence. Martha Washington boosted the morale of her husband's troops by visiting battlefields and tending to the wounded. Since then, members of our Armed Forces have served our Nation accompanied by the steadfast love and support of their spouses and families.

While our men and women in uniform are protecting our country's founding

ideals of liberty, democracy, and justice, their spouses live with uncommon challenges, endure sleepless nights, and spend long periods raising children alone. Many military spouses are also committed volunteers, serving other military families and local communities. Our Nation benefits from the sacrifices of our military families, and we are inspired by their courage, strength, and leadership.

On Military Spouse Day and throughout the year, we honor the commitment spouses have made to freedom's cause. To learn about ways to support our troops and their spouses and families, I encourage all Americans to visit www.americasupportsyou.mil.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE W. BUSH, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim May 9, 2008, as Military Spouse Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities and by expressing their gratitude to the husbands and wives of those serving in the United States Armed Forces.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this fifth day of May, in the year of our Lord two thousand eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-second.

GEORGE W. BUSH