

Post 11-11 Newsletter -- January 2008

Commander's Corner

Well, another year has come to an end. With all the families getting together, everyone will be busy preparing for meals and gift giving. From everyone at Post 11-11, we wish each and everyone a very Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

Above everything else, remember our service men and women who are away from family and friends during this time of year. If it weren't for them, we would not have the freedom that we do.

Tom Wartella
Commander

Kathie's Campsite

Hi y'all!

A brand new year - can you believe how fast the last one passed by? In sure many of us had a few plans that got put aside in the process of daily living. Hopefully this year, if it is important enough, we can make these plans happen. How about a New Year's resolution to achieve a special goal we've longed to accomplish!

Bob Black & Chuck Ross are making us wings and fries the second Saturday in January. So Bingo players, come on in & order 'em up. I've heard they are really good.

Chuck, Jerry & Dave would like to do a pork chop night instead of steaks on Friday. They do a mean pork chop - if you like the steaks, you'll definitely like the chops! We aren't sure which Friday, it depends on which on when they'll be in town and able to cook!

Everyone had a ball at the Merchandise Pickle night. The guys sold out all the steaks and chops we had! The pickles sold out, I believe, in 1½ hours. Then they sang and danced the night away.

SAL had a great Christmas party for challenged adults. The girls' Angel Tree kids and Janef's kids will be having a better Christmas because of the efforts of you all and the Ladies Auxiliary. Thank you all for caring about the kids.

Reminder: Karaoke 1st & 3rd Fridays; Bingo 2nd & 4th Saturdays

That's about it this month, take care -

Till the next campfire ...

Kathie

Auxiliary

Our Ladies Auxiliary embodied the true meaning of Christmas this year. I really don't have the words to explain adequately the many works of charity and acts of kindness that I personally witnessed from our wonderful women of the Post.

- * The annual Christmas gift and party donation for two special needs classes in an inner city school
- * The Angel Tree Project - providing Christmas gifts for children whose parent(s) are incarcerated
- * The generous donation to Danny Bockenstedt, the soldier whose car was burglarized

The list of good deeds could go on and on. All I want to say is thank you to all of you who worked so hard and helped so many.

My only wish for you all this new year ...

Peace ...

Stephanie Carriveau
President, Ladies Auxiliary

Upcoming Events:

February 15 - Roaring 20's Valentine Party. Watch for more information next month!

From the Editor

Articles for the February newsletter are due on Saturday, January 12th.

Scout Troop 385

The Scout Troop 385 has approached John Baker, Scout Representative for Post 11-11, about replacing the trailer that was stolen out of the Post 11-11- parking lot. As the trailer was licensed in Post 11-11 name it was uninsured when stolen. Further, it was discovered that Post 11-11, as the Charter Representative for Troop 385, is the owner of all of Troop 385's equipment (sleeping bags, tents, stoves, utensils, etc) which are stored in the shed located on the west of our property. This shed and the contents are not insured at the present time. The lost equipment from the stolen trailer was replaced from donations; however, the trailer was not replaced. Troop 385 has raised a large amount of money to replace the trailer and has requested Post 11-11 help replace the trailer.

At the December 11, 2007 Executive Board meeting, the Executive Board voted to table the discussion

regarding the trailer until the January 8, 2008 meeting. In the interim, Troop 385 will get bids on a new trailer, and John Baker will check with our insurance agent regarding the cost to insure a new trailer and the shed and its contents. The Executive Board welcomes your input at the next meeting (January 8, 2008). Please attend.

It's What We Do!

Danny Bockenstedt returned from his second tour of duty in Iraq in September. He had been in the Marine Corps for 5 years, and then reenlisted in the Army. He is a single father of two young boys.

Since returning from Iraq he has been living with his mother in an apartment near Interlocken.

He has had his share of ups and downs in the last years, but his future was looking bright. He was scheduled to be honorably discharged from the Army in December of 2007. He had been saving money for the last couple of years to buy his girlfriend an engagement ring which he intended to surprise her with on Christmas. Everything in his life was falling into place.

In early December Danny packed up all his gear to return to the Army. He was responsible for all the gear he was given, and was to return it before his discharge. He also placed his girlfriend's engagement ring in his car, so he could drop it off to be sized the next morning. He had all the Christmas presents he had bought for his children in the car, but he decided to bring them into the apartment to wrap them - thank goodness.

The next morning he awoke to find that his car had been broken into and everything was gone - all the gear, the engagement ring, his custom car stereo - everything!

This could have been the hardest Christmas season Danny had ever had, but instead it turned out to be one of the happiest.

Thanks to American Legion Post 11-11 and many other caring individuals in the area, Danny was able to pay for all his army gear. A jeweler replaced the engagement ring at no cost.

Post 11-11 ... you should be proud!!!