

# Veteran Service Advisor Newsletter

(November 1, 2012)

This newsletter was created for the intent of keeping you informed of the Military and VA Communities. This newsletter is also a tool to communicate events and resources both at OSU and the community at large. The opinions and viewpoints expressed in the articles are not those of the Oregon State University Veterans Advisor Office or its counterparts.

## **VA and Military Updates:**

### **Feedback on New App for VA Claims**

This past summer, the American Legion developed the new Claims Coach app, which helps veterans and their families connect with a service officer and navigate the VA claims process. In order to improve the app's functionality, the American Legion now is seeking input from those veterans using the app. By downloading the app and then participating in a short online questionnaire, you can help the American Legion improve the Claims Coach. Survey participants must download the Claims Coach for iOS or Android to their mobile device. Once the app is loaded onto the device, participants can go to the survey and follow the instructions while answering a series of questions based upon user experience. All opinions are valid and useful.

<http://www.military.com/veterans-report/feedback-on-new-app-for-va-claims?ESRC=vr.nl>

### **2013 COLA Military Retirees and Vets**

The 2013 cost-of-living adjustment for military retired pay, SBP annuities, Social Security checks, and VA disability and survivor benefits will be 1.7 percent. The COLA will go into effect on December 1, 2012. The January check will be the first to reflect the increase. Retirees who left the military in 2012 and those who took the REDUX retirement package will not see the full 1.7 percent increase next year.

<http://www.military.com/veterans-report/2013-cola-military-retirees-and-vets?ESRC=vr.nl>

### **National Veterans Day Ceremony**

The Veterans Day National Ceremony is held each year on November 11th at Arlington National Cemetery. The ceremony commences precisely at 11:00 a.m. with a wreath laying at the Tomb of the Unknowns and continues inside the Memorial Amphitheater with a parade of colors by veterans' organizations and remarks from dignitaries. The ceremony is intended to honor and thank all who served in the United States Armed Forces.

<http://www.va.gov/opa/vetsday/>

*Also check out the Teachers Guide to Veterans Day*

[http://www.va.gov/opa/vetsday/docs/2012\\_veterans\\_day\\_teacher\\_guide.pdf](http://www.va.gov/opa/vetsday/docs/2012_veterans_day_teacher_guide.pdf)

## **Employment Opportunities:**

### **The Best (and Worst) Jobs of 2012**

2012 is nearly over, and CareerCast has published a fresh evaluation of what it sees as the top 10 jobs in the country -- as well as the worst 10. Evaluating each job using five components (Physical Demands, Work Environment, Income, Stress and Hiring Outlook) they came up with these picks for the top 10 and worst 10 jobs of this moment. For the full list, including salary figures and profiles of each job, visit the Jobs for Veterans blog.

<http://www.military.com/veterans-report/best-and-worst-jobs-of-2012?ESRC=vr.nl>

**Are you interested in working on behalf of student parents?**

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If so, please consider joining the Student/Parent Advisory Board. We have been working since 2006 to eliminate barriers to student parent participation and success at OSU. The board allocates Our Little Village student fee funds, which are used to operate the Childcare and Family Resources office and drop-off child care centers in the Valley Library and Dixon Recreation Center. We administer the need-based ASOSU child care subsidy, which can cover up to half of student parents' child care costs. We also advise the university on various matters that affect parents on campus, advocate for increased family-friendliness across campus, and administer the Beaver Beginnings childcare center contract. The board is composed of faculty, staff, and students. We meet monthly during the summer and every other week during the school year. If you are interested in joining the board or attending an upcoming meeting, please email Michelle Marie at [michelle.marie.xyz@gmail.com](mailto:michelle.marie.xyz@gmail.com). Further information about the SPAB is available at: <http://oregonstate.edu/childcare/studentparent-advisory-board>.

## **Timber Sale Contracting Officer GS 462-12**

The Willamette National Forest anticipates having a vacancy for a permanent, full-time Timber Sale Contracting Officer, GS 462-12 by the end of the 2012 calendar year. The duty station is the Forest Headquarters' Office, Springfield, Oregon. The purpose of this Outreach Notice is to inform the potential applicant pool of the potential for this vacancy.

If you are interested in this position please complete the attached Outreach Response Form and return it to Jeff Trejo : [jtrejo@fs.fed.us](mailto:jtrejo@fs.fed.us) , no later than November 9, 2012.

**For more information: Handout – Timber Sale Contracting Officer**

## **Recreation Staff, GS-401-11**

The Siuslaw National Forest is advertising for a District Recreation Staff position, GS-401-11. The duty station is located at the Reedsport/Oregon Dunes NRA office of the Central Coast Ranger District in Reedsport, Oregon. If you are interested in this position please apply to Vacancy Announcement Number 13-06120008-10352G-HMc on USAJobs.gov. The closing date is November 7, 2012. For more information, please contact Michele Jones, District Ranger, at 541-563-8445 or [mhjones@fs.fed.us](mailto:mhjones@fs.fed.us).

**For more information: Handout – Recreation Staff GS 401-11**

## **Fire Management Officer GS-0462-10/11**

The Willamette National Forest is advertising one permanent, full-time GS-0462-10/11 Supervisory Forestry Technician (Fire Management Officer) position. The duty station is the Middle Fork Ranger District located in Westfir, Oregon. The purpose of this Outreach Notice is to inform the potential applicant pool of this position. If you are interested in this position, please complete the attached Outreach Response Form and return it to Duane Bishop at: [dfbishop@fs.fed.us](mailto:dfbishop@fs.fed.us) no later than November 19, 2012.

**For more information: Handout – Fire Management Officer GS-0462-10/11**

## **Deputy District Ranger GS-0340-12**

The Middle Fork Ranger District will soon be advertising one permanent, full-time GS-0340-12 Deputy District Ranger position. The duty station will be Westfir, Oregon. The purpose of this Outreach Notice is to inform the potential applicant pool of this position. If you are interested in this position please complete the attached Outreach Response Form and return it to Duane Bishop at: [dfbishop@fs.fed.us](mailto:dfbishop@fs.fed.us) no later than November 23, 2012.

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For more information: [Handout – Deputy District Ranger GS-0340-12](#)

## **Upcoming Events:**

### **November 9, 2012 ROTC Joint Air Force and Navy Event includes:**

- Joint Color Guard, National Anthem
- Invocation
- Missing Man Drill Sequence
- Keynote Speaker: Lt Col Andrew Poorman
- Reading of Oregon's POW/MIA
- Joint 21 Gun Salute
- Benediction
- Reception is MU Journey Room
- 24-Hour Candlelight Vigil
- 12-Hour POW/MIA Flag Walk
- Everyone should attend to honor our Veterans.

### **November 10, 2012 Military Stand Down at National Guard Armory Springfield 8am-4pm**

- Transportation provided;
- Event for student Veterans to receive DOD gear and resources. Deadline for sign up November 2, 2012

### **November 10, 2012 Albany Veterans Day Parade Student Veterans walk in the parade or ride in cars.**

- Transportation to the parade is not provided.

### **November 12, 2012 Women at War; Fighting for Country and Recognition.**

- Women Veterans give their experiences in a question answer format in the MU main lounge 3-5pm, Refreshments 5-6pm.
- Featuring:
  - o WW II U.S. Navy Wave Veteran Jo Weaver
  - o U.S. Army Lt. Col Desert Storm Veteran Alisha Hamal
  - o U.S. Army Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) Tonya Sartor (Recipient of the Combat Action Badge, Combat Medics Badge, and the Bronze Star.)

### **November 14, 2012 Veterans Administration Outreach**

- Student Veteran will be able to sign up for My Health Vet Program with Jaya Conser Lapham ASOSU Veterans Affairs health officer
- VA eBenefits program with ASOSU Veterans Affairs financial officer Skott Swanson to streamline services for Veteran.
- Veteran will also be able to connect with the American Corporate Partners Mentoring program with Akili King ASOSU Veterans Affairs task force outreach officer.

### **November 15, 2012 The Invisible War documentary showing.**

- This event sponsored by many departments on campus promotes the education and support of military sexual trauma (MST). This documentary shows the testimony of enlisted and officer women and men survivors, their struggles with the Veterans Administration for treatment,

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blockades to recognition and justice from the U.S. military and government. This is a powerful film with adult content and parents should be warned that children should not attend or be under parental supervision. Memorial Union International Forum building 5:30 -8pm. Light snacks, finger foods and beverages provided.

## **November 17, 2012 Oregon State University football game to honor Veterans.**

- Veterans will be honored through ceremony at the football game. Oregon State University Veterans will present OSU challenge coins through the “palmed handshake” to attending Veterans. Veterans will receive discounted tickets. The Vets Center van will also be present at the game to service Veterans. The Memorial Union will honor Veterans in the Lounge where the game can be viewed on a flat screen T.V. with food provided. Veterans and others are encouraged to come to the Memorial Union to get a carnation and place it at the memorial. A tour with a showing of the Allworth video will be shown in the Allworth room in the memorial union.

## **Veterans Resources:**

### **Emerging Leaders Class (AHE 499, 2 credits, CRN 37522)**

This is an interactive course that provides an introduction to leadership theory and practice; builds a foundation for group development, collaboration and communication; as well as exploration of self, including: personal communication style, values, talents, strengths and leadership identity. The course is grounded in the Social Change Model of Leadership Development and the Relational Leadership Model, and specifically focuses on the individual and group values of leadership development. Students are challenged to apply and demonstrate their knowledge in a variety of ways including personal reflections, presentations, writings, and group discussions. Contact Melissa Yamamoto for more information. Melissa's email is [Melissa.Yamamoto@oregonstate.edu](mailto:Melissa.Yamamoto@oregonstate.edu)

**For more information: [Handout – Emerging Leaders Class](#)**

OSU Veterans on Facebook

<http://www.facebook.com/VeteransAtOregonStateUniversity>.

OSU Veterans Website:

<http://oregonstate.edu/veterans/home/>

Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs Website:

<http://www.oregon.gov/odva/Pages/index.aspx>

Oregon Department of Employment Veteran Representatives:

<http://www.oregon.gov/EMPLOY/Pages/index.aspx>

OSU Veterans and Family Student Association Facebook page:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Veterans-and-Family-Student-Association/25373662133527>

Thank you and have a great day.

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