Veteran Resources Coordinator Newsletter  
(January 11, 2013)

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:**

**Most Vets to See GI Bill Stipend Go Up**  
This week the Department of Defense announced the release of the 2013 Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) rates, which go into effect Jan. 1, 2013. Overall rates will increase an average of 3.8 percent this year. Veterans and eligible family members using the Post-9/11 GI Bill will also see an average increase in their housing stipend, which is based on the BAH rate for an E-5 with dependents. However, unlike the active duty BAH payment, which will go into effect at the first of the year, the GI Bill housing stipend will not go into effect until the start of the 2013-2014 academic year on August 1, 2013.  

**VA Registers “GI Bill” as a Trademark**  
The Department of Veterans Affairs announced that GI Bill is now a registered trademark with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and VA is the sole owner of the mark. “We will continue to support our Veterans by helping them obtain the best education of their choosing—a right for which they have bravely served, and which they have truly earned,” said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki. “We all want Veterans to be informed consumers in their educational pursuit.” On April 26, 2012, President Obama signed Executive Order 13607, directing the VA, the Department of Defense, and the Department of Education to undertake a number of measures to “stop deceptive and misleading” promotional efforts that target the GI Bill educational benefits of Servicemembers, Veterans, and eligible family members and survivors. One of the key components of the order was for VA to register the term “GI Bill” as a trademark in order to protect individuals and ensure they are directed to the right resources to make informed decisions. In addition, VA obtained the rights to the GIBill.com website after the original owners agreed to give up the site. VA is taking a proactive approach in continuously taking action to eliminate fraudulent marketing and recruiting practices. Trademarking ‘GI Bill’ is a great step forward in continuing our mission to better serve this nation’s Servicemembers, Veterans, and their families,” said Allison A. Hickey, VA undersecretary for benefits. VA will issue terms of use for “GI Bill” within the next six months. “We want to ensure the right balance with these new guidelines so that our stakeholders can still promote GI Bill and we can prohibit others from using it fraudulently,” said Curtis L. Coy, deputy undersecretary for economic opportunity. Since August 2009, VA has paid over $23.8 billion in Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits to over 866,000 Veterans, Servicemembers, and dependents. VA received over 478,000 Fall 2012 enrollments for Post-9/11 GI Bill. For more information on GI Bill programs, please visit [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov) or call 1-888-GI-Bill-1 (1-888-442-4551) to speak with a GI Bill representative.

**Index of Military Forms**  
Accessing military and veteran benefits requires filling out the correct military forms. See an index of official military forms from the DoD, Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and Department of Veterans Affairs will help you access your earned benefits. One of the most important documents you
need is the DoD form known as the DD-214. Nearly every Department of Veterans Affairs benefit claim and most state veterans benefit applications require vets to submit this military form.


**Employment Opportunities:**

**Paid Service Opportunities for the Summer**
Veterans Green Jobs is seeking student veterans to be placed in paid positions with our conservation corps partners in eight western states this summer. These positions, which focus on wildland firefighting training and outdoor conservation, provide you with meaningful summer employment that will challenge and develop you. Whether you're interested in a career path with state or federal resource and land management agencies or just looking for a summer job, these positions will connect you with fellow veterans in the outdoors, provide you with a renewed sense of purpose, and allow you to give back to your communities and environment. Some benefits may include:

- S212 Wild land Fire Chainsaw certification
- Basic Wild land Firefighting "Red Card" certification
- First Aid/CPR training
- Living stipend and AmeriCorps education award
- Networking with state and federal land management employers
- Regain a sense of camaraderie through shared experiences with fellow veterans

Crew dates, locations, and specific details to be published in early February. Contact vgc@veteransgreenjobs.org or fill out our interest form for more information or to be added to our mailing list.

http://campaign.r20.constantcontact.com/render?llr=6e4mredab&v=001FWOIEyOKRSIMH3wMajhwcq39zrFINnWZycnk7fDZD73MUpg0DRt5jxqnRpoq81z287mpP8F9va7aMf56moRrVjo7k42aeGvaixzbW0dKnMM-rwQuMR7klBA%3D%3D

**Safety-Kleen Committed to Hiring Veterans**
Safety-Kleen is focused on providing safe, dependable environmental services that protect our customers and the environment. We are the largest used oil collector and re-refiner in the world as well as the leader in parts cleaning services. We serve businesses of all sizes, helping them balance their financial objectives with their sustainability goals. We have great opportunities for the skilled men and women who have served in the U.S. Military to join our team of experts that enable our customers to Make Green Work(R). Search and find employment opportunities just right for you.


**Upcoming Events:**

**Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service, Saturday January 19th, 2013, 8:30am to 1:30pm:**
http://oregonstate.edu/cce/MLK

**Reclaiming the R(evolution)ary Dream**
The annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service is about coming together to honor Dr. King's life and legacy and help further his dream for peace by serving our neighbors and communities. MLK Day is
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a perfect opportunity for us to honor Dr. King’s legacy through service. The MLK Day of Service empowers individuals, strengthens communities, builds bridges, breaks down barriers, addresses social problems, and moves us closer to Dr. King’s vision of strong, beloved communities. Students, staff, and faculty are invited to take part in this event and celebration. 8+ service projects will be offered for the 2013 event addressing diverse issue areas and including various types of projects. Pre-registration is required. Participants will assemble at McAlexander Fieldhouse between 8:30 and 9am on Saturday January 19th. Continental breakfast and hot tea/coffee will be provided during the check-in process and a hot lunch will be provided upon return to campus between 1pm and 1:30pm. The 2013 MLK Day of Service is sponsored by the Center for Civic Engagement, the Student Events and Activities Center, and HandsOn Willamette. Take time to learn more about Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. from The King Center and the National MLK Day of Service.

REGISTER NOW for the 2013 MLK DAY OF SERVICE: [http://oregonstate.edu/cce/mlk-day-service-projects](http://oregonstate.edu/cce/mlk-day-service-projects)

**Corvallis Parks and Recreation:**
30 volunteers needed. Volunteers will meet at the Avery Park Rose Garden, and then be distributed across multiple project needs serving Avery and Pioneer Parks. Volunteers will do park clean-up, pruning, and invasive species (Ivy) removal. Please be sure to wear clothes that are appropriate for the weather and that can get dirty and will keep you warm and dry. Please bring layers, rain gear (jackets, pans, shoes), and closed toe, sturdy shoes. Volunteers will walk to the service site (12 minute walk).
To volunteer, please register here: [http://oregonstate.edu/cce/corvallispandr](http://oregonstate.edu/cce/corvallispandr).

**Habitat for Humanity-Benton:**
12 volunteers needed. Volunteers will complete projects on two homes in Philomath. Please be sure to wear clothes that are appropriate for the weather and that can get dirty and will keep you warm and dry. Please bring layers, rain gear (jackets, pans, shoes), and closed toe, sturdy shoes.
To volunteer, please register here: [http://oregonstate.edu/cce/habitat](http://oregonstate.edu/cce/habitat).

**Boys & Girls Club-Corvallis:**
36 volunteers needed. Volunteers will be in two groups of 18 each. One group will clean-up the clubhouse to maintain a safe and clean environment for the youth served. The second group will complete office work including copying, laminating, cutting, sorting, and assembling mailings. The goal of this project is to provide inexpensive, reusable curriculum for the kids and promotion of the site.
To volunteer, please register here: [http://oregonstate.edu/cce/boysgirlsclub](http://oregonstate.edu/cce/boysgirlsclub).

**Edible Corvallis Initiative, Corvallis Environmental Center:**
24 volunteers needed. Volunteers will sheet mulch the bee/pollinator garden to help create a new pollinator habitat for the bee hives. This will involve wheel barrowing leaves, laying down cardboard, weeding, and more. Please be sure to wear clothes that are appropriate for the weather and that can get dirty and will keep you warm and dry. Please bring layers, rain gear (jackets, pans, shoes), and closed toe, sturdy shoes.
To volunteer, please register here: [http://oregonstate.edu/cce/ediblecorvallis](http://oregonstate.edu/cce/ediblecorvallis).

**Stone Soup:**
12 volunteers needed. Some volunteers will be helping to prepare, serve and clean-up a meal for the hungry in the community. Others will be working on beautification and maintenance projects around the building. Volunteers will walk to the service site (10 minute walk).
To volunteer, please register here: [http://oregonstate.edu/cce/stonesoup](http://oregonstate.edu/cce/stonesoup).
Heartland Humane Society:
12 volunteers needed Volunteers will be in two groups of 6 each, and rotate volunteer tasks so everyone can have a turn with everything. Tasks include deep cleaning and interacting with the dogs to care for them. Please be sure to wear clothes that are appropriate for the weather and that can get dirty and will keep you warm and dry. Please bring layers, rain gear (jackets, pans, shoes), and closed toe, sturdy shoes.
To volunteer, please register here: http://oregonstate.edu/cce/heartland.

Corvallis Environmental Center:
24 volunteers needed To promote the Clean Energy Works Oregon in Corvallis, Philomath, and Albany, we will be distributing door hangers in a residential neighborhood. Volunteers will be assigned a section of a city and will walk through the neighborhood distributing door hangers. Please be sure to wear clothes that are appropriate for the weather and that can get dirty and will keep you warm and dry. Please bring layers, rain gear (jackets, pans, shoes), and closed toe, sturdy shoes.
To volunteer, please register here: http://oregonstate.edu/cce/environmentalcenter.

Oregon State University College Forests (McDonald-Dunn Forests):
24 volunteers needed Trail re-surfacing project: involves the addition of gravel to existing trails within the Arboretum to facilitate interpretive access throughout the extensive trail network. Work involves using power gravel carriers, shovels, rakes and other trail tools to create a high quality / low maintenance trail surface. Please be sure to wear clothes that are appropriate for the weather and that can get dirty and will keep you warm and dry. Please bring layers, rain gear (jackets, pans, shoes), and closed toe, sturdy shoes.
To volunteer, please register here: http://oregonstate.edu/cce/OSUforests.

For Additional Questions please contact Emily E. Bowling, Civic Engagement & Service Coordinator Student Leadership & Involvement Oregon State University 156 Snell Hall; Corvallis, Oregon 97331 Phone 541.737.7673 Fax 541.737.7504

Veterans Resources:
American Corporate Partners
American Corporate Partners offers free career mentorships to post 9/11 service members as our way of saying thank you for their service. We pair veterans with a seasoned professional at one of the nation's top companies (such as Accenture, Boeing, Deloitte, Johnson & Johnson, Wells Fargo) to help with their professional development. These mentorships offer an array of opportunities for networking and can help veterans translate their military experience to civilian terms. To hear what ACP's Veteran Protégés are saying about the Mentoring Program, please watch "With ACP I found..." on ACP's Mission & History page. There are currently limited openings for new Protégés available. To apply, visit www.acp-usa.org for the Protege Application!

VetNet: A place for veterans and military spouses to build civilian careers
For several years now, we've been working to help the veteran community through outreach programs and by connecting veterans and their families to useful Google products and services. For example, we've built tools like the Veterans Job Bank to connect veterans with employers, today populated with more than a million jobs. And we created a Resume Builder to help job-seekers represent their experience in just a few clicks with Google Docs. After years of working with the community, we've come to realize that it isn't more tools that are needed, but rather organizing the ones that already exist, and making them easier to find. Perhaps the most complex challenge facing the veteran community today is the sheer volume of resources available to help them transition to civilian life. While this abundance is the measure of a grateful nation, and a tribute to those who served, in the end, the most important result is individuals and families getting the help they need.

American Legion Scholarships
www.legion.org/needalift

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.

Gus L. Bedwell
Veteran Resources Coordinator
Oregon State University
Office of the Dean of Student Life