

ATTENTION – ALL VETERANS

As Veterans Day draws nearer it is important that all of us reflect on the sacrifices made by past and present Veterans on our behalf. It is easy to grow complacent here in this beautiful valley of ours and forget the strife and misery confronted by Americans in uniform a half a world away. The Veterans of past wars here at Post 60 of the American Legion in Cascade, are asking again for your help in identifying those men and women who are serving, or have served, in Iraq and Afghanistan.

As you may know, Post 60's Legion Hall serves as the Valley County Veterans' War Memorial. It is our honor and duty to recognize the service of Valley County's citizens who have honorably served in America's defense of freedom and liberty, at home and abroad. Within Post 60 we have plaques with the names of Valley County Veterans who served during World War I, World War II, Korea and Viet Nam. God willing, our involvement in Iraq and Afghanistan will soon end and we will need to create a plaque honoring those who served in these conflicts.

Unfortunately, due to the restrictions of the Privacy Act, we can no longer place requests to the Armed Forces, State or local agencies to identify those who have enlisted while a resident of Valley County. We are asking again for Veterans, their friends or families to please tell us about those who have served in Iraq or Afghanistan. And we also ask for information about those who served in places such as Bosnia or Panama between the larger conflicts of Viet Nam and Iraq.

We need the following information, all Veterans who enlisted in the Armed Forces while a resident of Valley County, their full name, rank, branch of service and which conflict they served in (Iraq, Afghanistan, Panama, Bosnia etc.). Please help us in this request so that we can appropriately honor their service.

The American Legion would like to remind our friends and neighbors that we also provide assistance to Veterans in various other aspects. Post 60 has had in place for several years our "Veterans Assistance Fund" where we donate funds to the Idaho State Veterans Home in Boise for our elderly Veterans, and this fund also is used to assist local Veterans who have fallen on hard times. Each Veteran's situation is reviewed to determine the actual basis of need and support will be provided so long as our funds can cover the expenses. Please contact Mike, Terry or Jack at the numbers noted below if you know of a Veteran in dire need.

Another time-honored service provided by the members of Post 60 is the provision of an honor guard detail for the burial or memorial service for any Veteran with honorable service. Sadly, in the past few months we have seen the passing of three Veterans who had either no known next of kin or we were not notified of their death. Please notify one of the individuals identified below so that we can arrange to provide our rifle honor detail, chaplain, bugler and flag-presentation to family at the time of burial. Mike Keithly, 382-3842, Terry O'Keefe, 325-3987 or Jack Knoblock, 382-3771. And if you are a Veteran or know a Veteran who needs assistance in seeking health care, or

determining their eligibility for benefits from the Veterans Administration Hospital in Boise; please contact your Valley County Veterans Service Officer, Mike Keithly at 382-3842 or majmike@frontier.com. Thank you for your help, it is important!