

## **AVMM HAPPENINGS**

### **JUL 2007**

- AVMM braved the rain and participated in the Chugiak 4<sup>th</sup> of Jul parade, taking first place. This year we entered a float with 8 veterans on it and an empty chair for our POW/MIA brother. Thanks to all who participated.
- AVMM also was represented in the 14 Jul Bear Paw Grand Parade, of which our own Al Romazewski was Grand Marshall. Our float and two vehicles driven by Mark Schuessler and Forest Brooks won second prize. The rain stopped just before the parade. Again thanks to all participants.
- Anna sent thank you notes to all the participants in the two parades.
- On 17 July Suellyn picked up donated items from Mr. & Mrs. Jimmie Muckridge. These were books and photos from Jimmie's WW II service and Mrs. Muckridge's father's WW I service. Also Suellyn met with Billy Buck, Alaska Scout, to give him an 8 x 10 photo of Billy today holding his Scout picture. His daughter will be back in early Aug and will bring his Scout scrapbook for us to copy.
- The story boards (first draft) were completed and forwarded to Walter Van Horn at the Anchorage Museum. They include the main points in the stories of the Alaska Scouts and the Aleutian Tigers. Suellyn will meet with Walter again in Oct. Our display will open in May 2008 and run through Labor Day.
- On 30 Jul George Darrow and Suellyn went to the home of Clement Boucher to collect his oral history. Clem was an atomic test subject in NM and on Kwajalein. George will also help him start the process to get veteran benefits and potentially a disability rating.
- The VFW donated laptop had a CD read/write/DVD unit installed so it can play the recruiting DVD we made. That'll become the traveling computer and the heavy 17" one will retain the membership program and become the stay at home unit.
- All in all, a quiet month.
- Early Aug update: represented AVMM at Leo Thompsen's memorial 5 Aug. We interviewed Leo in Jan 2007. He was a WW II paratrooper. Will present medals to Alaska Scout Ed Walker on 8 Aug and meet with Chuck White, our diorama builder for the Alaska Scout fish camp and commando scenes for the Anchorage Museum display, on 10 Aug.