

Lake Washington Veteran

All American VFW Post #2995

Phone 425 883-2995

4330 148th Ave NE, Redmond, WA 98052

August 2010

www.vfwpost-2995.org

Troop Support Update from John Kenny

Rules of Engagement Afghanistan versus WWII

The *Seattle Times* had an article in their July 10 edition about the Rules of Engagement our troops are under. They tell of soldiers manning an outpost in Afghanistan coming under mortar fire. Abiding by their orders they called their headquarters which was 20 miles away to ask permission to return the fire. They were denied. The reason given was there may be civilians nearby where the fire was coming from. This is an outrage. Our servicemen are being served up as human targets because some rear area person, who has never been in combat, wants to be politically correct.

Would you play in a baseball game where only one team is allowed to bat or a football game where only one team is allowed to be on the offense? No one would participate or even permit this to happen as the rules would be totally unfair, yet we allow this to happen to our troops. They are risking their lives. Why should they have to ask permission to defend themselves?

Rules of Engagement in World War II

In July of 1944 our infantry company was defending the West Bank of the Driniumor River in Aitape, New Guinea. We were awaiting a massive Japanese counterattack. Each day a small Piper Cub airplane would fly at treetop level over the jungle where the Japanese were preparing for their attack. The two people in this plane were the pilot and an artillery observer. This plane could easily be shot down by anyone with a small caliber rifle, however, there was a good reason it was not shot at. Within five minutes after that shot there would be a barrage of 105 howitzer shells coming to that position. Our artillerymen did not need permission to fire at the enemy. If we had these as politically correct leaders in World War II we would all be speaking German or Japanese now.



Mallory and Steve Harwood

Box number 8,000 accompanied by 149 other boxes left for Afghanistan Friday, July 16. Packing this special box was Steve Harwood a Purple Heart veteran who served three tours in Iraq with the US Marines. Packing box number 8001 was Steve's lovely sister Mallory. She's a very talented artist who upgraded all our signs and posters. Our special thanks to our wonderful Troop Support team members. Our team is composed of the finest most caring people in this state.



Packing box #8,000 for mailing

VFW Service Officer



VFW Service Officer, Sherrie Bell is available to assist all veterans with VA Claims on Mondays (holidays excluded) at Post #2995 from 11am until 2pm. Veterans are served in order of appearance at no charge. Please call 206 412-1280 if you need assistance.

Meet Your Post Commander Doug Hoople



Our editor has asked me to provide a short Bio so more of you will know my background so grab a cup of strong coffee, to keep you awake, here's the short version.

I was born in Buffalo, New York, in 1942. After attending Public schools #36 and #76, I attended Burgard Vocational High School. In 1960, to avoid being drafted into the Army, I enlisted in the Navy. Upon graduation from the Great Lakes Training Center's Boot Camp, I was assigned to VA-44 at NAS Jacksonville, Florida. My rating was Aviation Machinist Mate-Turbojet, so I served as a plane captain on A-4Ds and A-4D-Ns as well as F7Fs. The squadron also had a few AD-1, AD-5 and AD-6s.

From there I was sent to "A" school at Millington, Tennessee, and then on to Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron 9 in Quonset Point, Rhode Island for cruises aboard the USS Essex CVS-9. We went on two NATO Cruises (Northern Europe and the Mediterranean) and participated in the Cuban Missile Blockade. Here I was a plane captain for our HSS-2 helicopters and flew as a SAR crewman and as a sonar operator.

In 1964, as my enlistment was ending, I applied for and was accepted into a Navy scholarship program called the Naval Enlisted Scientific Education Program. At the University of Kansas I earned a degree in Aerospace Engineering and was sent off to OCS at Newport, Rhode Island. Off for a string of training assignments in Pensacola, Florida; Corpus Christi, Texas; San Diego, California and finally San Jose, California (Moffett Field) then on to Patrol Squadron Six, stationed at Barbers Point, Hawaii.

VP-6 had three deployments to Vietnam while I was assigned to them (and several special operations). Flying responsibilities were as a Tactical Coordinator (directing the crew while managing sensors and weapons for antisubmarine flights) and ground responsibilities as Avionics Division Officer, Tactics and ESM Operations Officer and Naval Flight Officer Training Officer. Next was a tour of duty as a navigation instructor at Corpus Christi, Texas, for airborne electronic and

celestial navigation. I also coordinated NROTC aviation indoctrination training. The USS Kitty Hawk was my next duty station; I was assigned as the Hangar Deck Officer (V-3 Division) and the Air Department Training Officer. The ship came to Bremerton in 1976-77 for an overhaul. My final years in the Navy were at the Fleet Combat Direction System Support Activity, located on Point Loma in San Diego, California. I was in charge of software support for the computer controlled communication system onboard the LHA Class ships.

During active duty; I was awarded the Navy Expeditionary Medal (Cuba), the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (Korea and Cuba), the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with device, the Vietnam Service Medal (with 3 bronze stars), the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces Meritorious Unit Citation (Gallantry Cross Medal with palm) and the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces Meritorious Unit Citation (Civil Actions Medal); which qualifies me to join the VFW. I've also received the Navy and Marine Corps Medal for heroism during the crash of a P-3A during Vietnam and two Good Conduct Medals. I left the Navy as a Lieutenant Commander (O-4).

In 1980 I moved up here to accept a job working for Boeing on the 737-300. Since then I've worked on all Boeing model aircraft as a SPEEA Technical Employee, a SPEEA Professional Employee and as a Manager in Renton, Everett and Harbour Point. Since "retiring" in 2001, I have spent most of my time volunteering in our community. I spend from 10 to 15 hours per week helping the 5th grade teachers at Enatai Elementary with math. Do a 4-hour shift at the Seatac USO on Tuesdays and volunteer for their special projects. Serve on the City of Bellevue Human Services Commission (for the past seven years). I have served on the King County Veterans Program Advisory Board for over 10 years. Since 2003; I have been involved with the development, planning and implementation of the 2005 Veterans and Human Services Levy (I'm currently serving on the King County Veteran Citizen levy Oversight Board and was the Chairman for the first 3 years). On open weekends you can find me volunteering to drive a van for the programs at OutDoorsForAll or driving a safety boat at a Seattle Parks Department Green Lake Crew Regatta or at the Special Olympics Summer and Winter games. And of course I help John with his Support the Troops effort.

For recreation; I enjoy canoeing, camping and astronomy. The best vacations are primitive camping/canoe trips to the Ouetico Provincial Park in Canada just north of Minnesota or attending an astronomy star party.

(From the Editor - Thank you Doug. Hopefully our members will come to a meeting and meet you in person along with the other officers of this Post.)

From the Ladies Auxiliary, Diane Glenn



The Auxiliary had its first meeting for the new year on July 5th and we are off to a great start for a very active year. The new Post Commander Doug Hoople stopped by and said some very encouraging words.

Thanks to everyone that purchased tickets for the 4th of July raffle basket. These are our fundraisers for the auxiliary and we appreciate the enormous support.

Ladies, remember that dues should be sent in this month for the new year. Annual dues are \$25.00. Please make your check payable to **VFW Ladies Auxiliary #2995** and send it to **VFW Post #2995, 4330 148th Ave N.E., Redmond, WA 98052** in care of the Ladies Auxiliary. If you are a Life Member, remember to send your cancer insurance dues of \$9.00 per year to the same address.

Congratulations to Members of #2995

that recently received special recognition for their recruiting efforts.

- ☆ Andrew Baker earned special recognition for his efforts in recruiting new and reinstated members for this great organization. He received 15 Commander-in-Chief citations as well as 10 Special Recruiting pins.
- ☆ Don Mancini received 5 Special Recruiting pins.
- ☆ Brent Wilde received 5 Special Recruiting pins.

From the Yard Boss, Louise Sodawasser



Alas! Summer has arrived (if you wait till 4 PM for it to come along). We are still waiting to hear whether or not we can obtain some (newer) cigarette receptacles for free. I love that price. Thanks to Sydney the muddy area by the BBQ has been

much improved with placement of stones. Also a Big Thank You to Jim Trelstad and John Censky for taking on the job of getting an old printer off the property and down to the Redmond Recycle for FREE! Me struggling in my dress and heels to get it to the trunk of our car did the trick.

Past Commanders / Past Presidents Get-together

If you are a past Commander or past President of Lake Washington Post #2995, please stop by the Post on Saturday, August 7th at 1:00pm for a little get-together. This will be very informal. If you know of someone that might not know about this, please invite them.

Wanted: One Quartermaster and One Trustee

Jason Grubb is no longer the Canteen Manager. Ed LaBouy, our Quartermaster, has been asked by the Post Home Board to be our temporary Canteen Manager. Since he can't hold both positions, he must resign as the Quartermaster. Ron Fuller has volunteered to be a temporary Quartermaster, so he must resign as a Trustee.

Now, we need a new Quartermaster and a new Trustee. Are you a candidate or do you know a good candidate for these positions?

The Post needs you to step forward and work with the newly elected Officers to make us the best we can be.

From the Past Commander, Dave Ritch

The membership chase during 2009-2010 came up short of goal by 18 members. We still topped 1,000 for the year. We had a long way to go to finish where we did with a total of 1,008.

A special round of kudos to Andrew Baker, our bartender who is also the **Post Top Recruiter** for the year. Thank you Andrew and thanks to all of you who brought new members into your Post.

From the Honor Guard Commander Paul Magat

It is August 2010 and I can't believe that it has been a year since I inherited the Honor Guard Commander leadership from Jim Weaver. It has been a year full of challenges, struggles, and yes, surprises and yet we still manage to provide services to our fallen veterans and their families in spite of all these. I would like to say a million thanks again to Jim Weaver for trusting me to take his position as Honor Guard Commander. I also want to thank him for giving me his big shoes which I cannot walk with in the process. Yes they are too big for me so I stumbled and bumbled around to get the job done but Jim Weaver stood behind me and supported me all the way.

The Honor Guard and members of Post #2995 led the July 4th parade in Kirkland last month with pride. We will be at Tahoma National Cemetery on August 11th to provide Military Honors for our fallen veterans and their families. On August 21st we will render honors for our Submariner's *Tolling of the Boats* at the Kirkland Marina at 12:30pm. We will be taking our bus and all are welcome to join us. We will leave from the post at 10:30am. If you have never attended this program, it is a beautiful ceremony.



We are also preparing to hold a Flag Retirement ceremony on Patriot's Day, September 11, 2010 at the Post. Watch for more details and time to be announced. Meanwhile, if you have any flags that are no longer serviceable, please drop them off at the post as soon as possible as we need time to prepare them. Please be sure to include a note that they are to be properly disposed of.

Last, but not least by no means, I would like to say thank you to all of you for your support over the years. For those of you who do not know, we are currently in our 11th year of doing what we do for our Post and community. It takes a lot of dedication and time to make all this happen and I think we have one of the best and most dedicated teams around. So, as we approach another year of service, take time to tell an Honor Guard member thank you for doing what they do. They just quietly get the job done because they know what it means to our Post, our veterans and their families and also to our community. I SALUTE YOU ALL!

Unserviceable Flags

If you have any American flags that are no longer serviceable, worn out, torn or very dirty, drop them off at the post before September 11th. The Honor Guard will be retiring them in a very solemn service on September 11th at the post with the time to be determined.

From the Chaplain Robbie Robertson



- ☆ Taps were sounded for Stanley Holmes, Past Commander of Post #2995 (1996-1997) February 4, 1932 – June 24, 2010.
- ☆ Tom Asaif and Harry Ruby are recovering from recent surgeries.
- ☆ Doni Gord is continuing to recover at home.

Every day my wife and I read to each other poems. My favorite poet is a gent named Clay Harrison and here is a sample of his work.

*May the wings of faith uphold you when your cross is hard to bear,
As temptations surround you and no one seems to care.*

*May the wings of faith surround you and shield you from the pain and teardrops fall like rain.
May you know that God is with you in times of deep despair.*

*May the Spirit, who's within you, confirm that he is there!
May the valley of the shadow provide angels unaware.*

May the wings of faith uphold you when your cross is hard to bear.

Remember to pray for all of our service men and women, especially those in our Armed Forces currently engaged overseas. If you know of a member that is ill or died, please let me know so I can send a card from the Post members.

Robbie Robertson
206 525-1553

Steakouts every Friday night-bring your own or buy one in the Canteen

Lunch and Fun at the VFW

Did you know that lunch is available Monday through Friday from 11:00am until 2:00pm in the canteen? Watch for daily lunch specials on the reader board or you can order off the menu. Invite your friends to join you for lunch and a nice visit. You are welcome to stay and enjoy a game of pool or play cards if you wish. Maybe you would like to play Chess or challenge someone in a game of Cribbage. Round up a few people for a game of Pinochle or if you can't find someone that day, there is always Solitaire.



When your friends find out what a good lunch is served, they can come in for lunch on their own. They will need you to sign them in only if they wish to purchase an alcoholic beverage.

Just a reminder: Whenever you bring someone in for drinks and they are not a member, they must be signed in by a member and the member must be present during their stay. The sign-in sheet is near the front door.

Post Hours

Monday-Thursday 11am-10pm
Friday & Saturday 11am-12pm
Sunday until further notice 9am-2:30pm

**Read your monthly newsletter, in color, anytime, online at
www.vfwpost-2995.org**

VetsMeetVets

Here is a brief explanation of a VetsMeetVets networking session that meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at the VA Hospital at American Lake, 9600 Veterans Dr., Tacoma, WA 98493. Registration opens at 6:15pm, the meeting is from 6:30 until 8:30pm in the picnic area or in the Chapel if it is raining.

The sessions and events are open to active duty veterans, past duty veterans, family members and those that have a warm heart for our veterans. It is time for all Seasoned Veterans and Civilians in the area to come together to support our Recent Veterans. In this meeting you will understand about the severity of the situation and how the impact on our Veterans and their families is much higher than all previous wars.

After the opening prayer and flag salute we give an overview of VetsMeetVets and establish guidelines. Our sessions create a safe place for our veterans to share with other veterans, also family members with other family members, ultimately creating a

small community that knows each other and can work together and stay connected. We also introduce our coaching program and offer connections to that program.

Attendees of our events often make statements like; "You must do this again!", "This is the best of Veterans meeting other Veterans", "It's so great to have another spouse to talk with", "Thank you!", "One cohesive voice will do the greatest good".

We invite you to experience the difference that will be made in your life when you join a community of veterans, families and others all pulling for each other.

Please RSVP to Rod Wittmier, Founder / Executive Director VetsMeetVets @ www.VetsMeetVets.org or call 253-861-7100 to let us know how you would like to participate (as a Veteran, as a Family Member, a Coach or a Volunteer).

Details of the following events may be found on our web site: www.VetsMeetVets.org.

Monday, August 9 VMW Networking, Port Orchard at 7pm
Thursday, Sept 2 Operation Welcome Home, Tacoma Rainiers Baseball at 7pm
Saturday, Sept 11 country Hoe Down Fund Raiser, Tacoma at 7pm

Come join us to fulfill our mission to have each Veteran and family member know that 'they are not alone'.

Safely Dispose of Unused Prescriptions



As prescription medicines become a more important part of medical care, we need to be increasingly careful about the proper disposal of unused prescription medicines. Proper disposal helps reduce the illegal uses, risk of theft and other uses not prescribed by a doctor. Fortunately, safe disposal is quick and easy.

- ☆ **Don't flush them!**
- ☆ **Mix medicines in a sealable plastic bag with coffee grounds, kitty litter or sawdust, and water.**
- ☆ **Throw it in your garbage.**
- ☆ **Destroy prescription information.**

In 5 minutes you can help reduce the risk of prescription drugs getting into the wrong hands and it helps keep our water clean! For more information on safe disposal of unused prescriptions, visit www.safedruginformation.org.

**If you wish to receive this newsletter each month by mail, please submit your name and complete address to:
VFW Post #2995, 4330 148th Ave. NE, Redmond, WA 98052**

Sign up for the **UpDater** in order to receive up-to-date news about activities at your post via email. Send your request to be put on the list to: pm516@comcast.net

August 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Breakfast 9:30 – 12:30 Honor Guard @10am AA @ 8:30am All Marines BBQ 12:00-4:00	2 VFW Service Officer 11-2pm Post & Auxiliary meetings @ 6:30pm Large hot dogs w/trimmings & a draft beer for \$2.75 from 5- 8pm	3 2 tacos and a draft beer for \$2.75 from 5- 8pm	4 Honor Guard 6pm American Legion #99 @1pm ♪LARRY Schacher Broiled chicken, rice pilaf dinner \$8.50	5 Troop Support Group @ 7pm AA @ 4:30pm Post Officers Call @ 6:30pm	6 Bridge Club @10:30am AA @ 4:30pm * Steakout @ 6pm ♪Jigsaw	7 AA @ 8:30am Past Commanders and Past Presidents Club meeting at 1:00pm
8 Breakfast 9:30 – 12:30 Honor Guard @ 10am AA @ 8:30am 82 nd Airborne @ 1pm MMC @ 2:30pm	9 VFW Service Officer 11-2pm Post Home Board @ 6:30pm Large hot dogs w/trimmings & a draft beer for \$2.75 from 5- 8pm	10 American Legion #239 @ 7pm 2 tacos and a draft beer for \$2.75 from 5- 8pm	11 Tahoma Duty Day Marine Corps Lge @ 7pm ♪Jim McKay Fried pork steak w/red potatoes \$8.50	12 Troop Support Group meets at 7pm MVPA Evergreen Chapter @ 6:30pm AA @ 4:30pm	13 Bridge Club @10:30am AA @ 4:30pm * Steakout @ 6pm	14 AA @ 8:30am ♪Mockingbirds Fresh cut fish & chips, salad, dessert \$8.50 /
15 Breakfast 9:30 – 12:30 Honor Guard @ 10am AA @ 8:30am	16 VFW Service Officer 11-2pm Post meeting @6:30pm Large hot dogs w/trimmings & a draft beer for \$2.75 from 5- 8pm	17 Men's Auxiliary @ 6:30pm 2 tacos and a draft beer for \$2.75 from 5- 8pm	18 Honor Guard 6pm Submariners @ 7pm ♪Encore A new band tonight Polynesian steak w/fried rice \$8.50	19 Troop Support Group meets at 7pm AA @ 4:30pm Newsletter articles due today.	20 Bridge Club @10:30am AA @ 4:30pm * Steakout @ 6pm ♪Pacific	21 AA @ 8:30am
22 Breakfast 9:30 – 12:30 Honor Guard @10am AA @ 8:30am	23 VFW Service Officer 11-2pm Post meeting @ 6:30pm Large hot dogs w/trimmings & a draft beer for \$2.75 from 5- 8pm	24 2 tacos and a draft beer for \$2.75 from 5- 8pm	25 Honor Guard 6pm MVPA Puget Sound Chapter @7pm ♪LARRY Schacher Fresh stuffed cod dinner \$8.50	26 American Legion #161 & Auxiliary @ 6:30pm AA @ 4:30pm	27 Bridge Club @10:30am AA @ 4:30pm * Steakout @ 6pm	28 AA @ 8:30am ♪Gee Jay Entertainment Fresh pork roast w/mashed potatoes \$8.50
29 Breakfast 9:30 – 12:30 Honor Guard @ 10am AA @ 8:30am	30 VFW Service Officer 11-2pm Large hot dogs w/trimmings & draft beer for \$2.75 from 5-8pm	31 2 tacos and a draft beer for \$2.75 from 5- 8pm	Dinners are available from 6pm-7:30pm and include salad, vegetable and dessert		Every day holds the possibility of a miracle. Elizabeth David	

Happy Hour from 2pm-6pm Monday thru Friday

Domestic draft beer for \$3.00

Well drinks for \$3.50

New Sunday hours – open from 9am until 2:30pm until further notice

***Friday Night Steakouts**-Every Friday starting at 6pm. Bring your own steak, chicken, fish (whatever you want to BBQ) and complete your meal at the salad/potato bar for only \$6.50. The best deal is purchasing our New York Steak, cut to order, any size, for 45¢ an ounce plus the salad/potato bar for an additional \$6.50. If you bring your own meat to BBQ only, we are asking for a donation of \$5.00 for the propane.

Veterans of Foreign Wars U.S.

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Return Service Requested



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