

# Lake Washington Veteran

All American VFW Post #2995

Phone 425 883-2995

4330 148<sup>th</sup> Ave NE, Redmond, WA 98052

September 2009

[www.vfwpost-2995.org](http://www.vfwpost-2995.org)

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## Get your E-mail Updates Now!



"The UPdater" is the way to keep you up-to-date with brief descriptions of new events and reminders about current happenings in and around the VFW. **The UPdater** will be updated on a weekly basis (hopefully!!). If you wish to receive this information regularly via e-mail, you must submit your name and e-mail address to Clark Bartell at [updater@vfw2995.org](mailto:updater@vfw2995.org). **Do it now** before you forget.

## 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Post #2995's Honor Guard

Saturday, September 5<sup>th</sup>

As a thank you to the Post and its members for their support, the Honor Guard is preparing a delicious chicken dinner for \$10.00 per person  
Music for your listening and dancing provided by *Dream Chasers*.

A limited number of tickets are available at the bar now.

There will be 'specials' offered from 4 until 6 PM.

Invite your friends and family and let the Honor Guard know you appreciate their service to our community.

If you are interested in joining the Honor Guard, this will be a good time to meet the members and get more information.

## 8-Ball Pool Tournament

Sunday, September 6<sup>th</sup> in the VFW Pool Room

Doubles, Blind Draw

Double Elimination

\$5.00 entry fee with all money received paid out in prizes

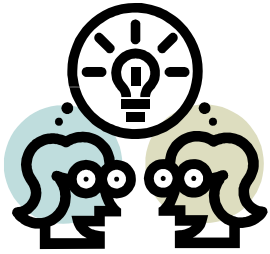
Sign up sheet available on September 6<sup>th</sup>

See Reggie Watts for more information



**This is the last issue of the Lake Washington Veteran that you will receive in your home mailbox unless you have requested, in writing, for further mailings.**

## From the Ladies Auxiliary President, Diane Glenn



Our auxiliary has great plans for the coming months and I want to thank all the ladies that have stepped up and volunteered for a position, event, or other participation to make the post a great place for all the members.

We will be combining efforts with the other groups of the post and the American Legion to present a number of events for this year. Check the calendar for all the great happenings. The next event to be hosted by the Ladies Auxiliary will be Oktoberfest. Check with an Auxiliary officer if you would like to help and we will get you set up on the committee.

The auxiliary will be working on some new decorations for the post, standing rules for the auxiliary, regular committee work and a new roster

of current members. The roster will include an E-mail address and phone number. We must get permission to list this information, so please let me or Louise Sodawasser, chair of roster committee know this information if you would like it listed. Contact Louise at 425 558-4703. This will give us an opportunity to better organize by immediate contacts.

We have an open position of Junior Vice President of the Ladies Auxiliary. Please contact me if you are interested in this nomination at the next meeting and I will review the responsibilities of the position. You can reach me at 425-351-0940. Our next meeting is September 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

Looking forward to a wonderful year!

## The Convention



The 2009 Department Convention was held in Yakima and the weather was warm and dry. The meeting rooms were air conditioned and the chairs hard. Kinda tough to stay wide-eyed awake! If you are the type who likes large gatherings, hangin' out in hospitality rooms, telling lies, politics, and occasionally alert to how the vote is going on any particular issue, or candidate positions.....this is for you! Actually, it

wasn't all that bad. We did attend all of the sessions and did cast our ballots when called upon.

Dick Whipple is your new Department Quartermaster. Steele was elected as the new Surgeon. The position of 3-year Trustee went to Beckwith. Carlos Almeda was elected Department Junior Vice Commander. All good comrades.

Your delegates, Ritch and Wilde spent zero time doing Hospitality rooms! HmMMMM!



## VFW Service Officer, Sherrie Bell

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.

## POW-MIA Recognition Day

Friday, September 18th

**You are not forgotten**



## Tahoma National Cemetery News from James Trimbo, Director

As volunteers, you all know how I feel. This is the best cemetery volunteer organization in the entire U.S. The service you provide and the professionalism that is displayed is unequalled. We have the distinction of having the only Public Informational Center that is entirely manned by volunteers.

As for upcoming construction, in 2009 we are on a fast track to install 3,653 crypts in sections 28B and 28C, which is just outside on the road coming into the administration. Phase two construction, the next major expansion, is scheduled to create a 6,000 casketed site and 18,000 cremation sites. Construction is to begin in 2012 and completed in 2014. When phase two is completed, plans to do the final phase three will be in the mill and prior to the year 2024 it will begin. With the installation of crypts and more people opting for cremations the expectancy of the cemetery closing, which is 2030 now, will go to 2040 and maybe beyond.



The following information is based on the government fiscal year which is October 1, 2007 to September 30, 2008.

The total hours of volunteer service during this period was 18,216. 11,302 hours were volunteered for military services providing Honors, Chaplain services and Taps. The Veterans' Day and Memorial Day programs are also included in these numbers. 6,902 hours were volunteered at the PIC (Public Informational Center).

During this period we made 2,683 interments

861 casketed interments

484 in-ground cremation interments

1,338 columbaria interments

1,882 services were conducted of which 1,377 had Honors

An estimated 35,000 to 40,000 visitors were assisted by the volunteers at the PIC.

So far this year, October 1, 2008 to March 2009, a total of 8,698 hours have been volunteered so far; 5,537 hours for Honors detail and 3,161 for PIC duty.

### Of Interest to Veterans

- ☆ Military Appreciation Days at the Puyallup Fair. Mondays, September 14 and 21, 2009. Gate admission is FREE to all active, reserve, and retired military and National Guard and their dependents, plus disabled veterans with valid military ID at any Fair gate.
- ☆ Half Price for Heroes - Sage Hospitality & Marriott Courtyard is offering 50% off nightly room rates at participating locations. Check with your location of choice for details and participation.
- ☆ If you are printing copies for the VFW you may be eligible for a discount at Kinko's.
- ☆ Sport Clips barbershop has discounts for veterans. Ask Andrew, our bartender for more information.



You knew it was coming - now you know when. **Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup>**

It's the **ALL SERVICES BALL**. There will be a delicious dinner, dancing and lots of fun for everyone. Watch for more information in your upcoming newsletters.

## From the Troop Support Group Leader John Kenny

We had some very positive things happen with our program this month. Bob Michalak and his veteran buddies at Trilogy ran a donation drive for our Troop Support program on August 8<sup>th</sup> at their local QFC. In just one day they broke all our previous records for collections other than Safeco Field. They took in \$1,569 in cash and \$5,000 in merchandise. A GREAT job guys

Our friend Richard Bucheim, assistant manager of the Bellevue Village Bartell drugstore, has again initiated his three months collection drive for items for our troops. Richard's previous efforts have brought in several thousand dollars of quality items for our troops. He is an outstanding caring individual.

Our high school students and our other super team members did a super carwash for us on August 9<sup>th</sup>. It started out as a cloudy day but that does not matter to our students. They bring sunshine wherever they go. We had a great turnout from our members despite the overcast day. Our students are the best our community has to offer. One girl

who is a junior at Washington State University was returning to school a few days after the carwash. She chose to spend her last Sunday in the area washing cars to help the troops. Two of the girls, after working all day with us, had to set up a camp for Girl Scout encampment that night. Another girl who worked all day with us had to report to her regular job that night.

Our community has every right to be proud of these students. They are totally unselfish caring individuals as our other team members are.

As always, our post has been very supportive of our program. Many of our members donate money or items on a monthly basis to the program. The post home board has authorized the purchase of a new storage shed as we have now outgrown the present storeroom. As the needs of our combat troops grow - so must we.

We want to thank all the post members for your continued support



Sheri Dolemier is holding one of the 50 packages sent to her son in Afghanistan surrounded by Troop Support volunteers that packed 100 comfort boxes this night. Fifty boxes were also sent to a Marine unit. To date, our troops have received over 6,100 boxes from us.



Members of the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and American Heritage Girls along with our own Troop Support members pause for a picture after assembling and packaging boxes for our troops overseas.

### **Friday Night Steak-Outs Start at 6:30 pm**



Bring your own steak or choice of meat and cook it to perfection on our big BBQ or you can purchase an 8 oz. center cut sirloin steak at the bar for \$7.00 to BBQ.

Add a baked potato and a trip through our salad bar for only \$6.00.

Better yet, purchase a steak and salad bar combo for only \$11.00

### **Coming Up**

Ladies Auxiliary to celebrate Oktoberfest

Crab Feed date TBA

Halloween party, start planning your costume now.

**Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup>** Save this date for the **ALL SERVICES BALL** at #2995

Honor Guard will be deep frying their famous turkeys again for Thanksgiving

Christmas party at the post

New Years Eve celebration at the post

Football at the post on New Years Day

## Post Home Board Report from Bob Nelson, Chairman



First of all I want to point out that it is the Post Home Board that is responsible for all daily operations and maintenance of all Post property, Canteen, operations, buildings, equipment and supplies. We have a new Post Home Board now that is motivated to bring positive changes, such as implementing actions that are brought to the Board. We will be concentrating on closing the financial gap. We are working at renting the main hall as much as we can. This in itself will do a lot towards closing the gap. This, along with cutting costs and providing new ideas, such as Paddle Wheel games, new entertainment that will get more people in the Canteen, drink specials, and Taco Tuesdays.

We are also making changes to the game room, bringing back darts and putting a shelf around the wall by the pool tables. A big change will be the new addition of 4 flat screen TV's furnished by Post #161 of the American Legion. Thank you very much.

Please talk to the Post Home Board or Post Officers if you have some ideas.

A big thank you to all of our great volunteers. You are the reasons that we are moving forward.

The Post Home Board needs and wants your input. Please come to the Post Home Board meetings and participate. Also, I would like to see at least one, if not more, representatives of each group at least once a month. Stay tuned, the best is yet to come. Also I want to thank all of you who have been so kind to me.



The American Legion is sponsoring a seminar designed to educate members about their government Veteran burial benefits and will address many questions regarding prearrangements.

There will be two programs on Wednesday, September 23rd at 11:00 AM and 4:00 PM at the VFW Post #2995 in Redmond, Washington.

J & J Catering will be providing lunch and dinner; therefore, reservations will be accepted through Thursday, September 17th by calling Gary Kemper at 206 427-7423 or 425 746-1400, ext 131.

## From the Editor, Karin Ridge

A copy of the VFW monthly newsletter is available at the Post before the first of each month. It is also available every month on our website at [www.vfwpost-2995.org](http://www.vfwpost-2995.org) and in **full color**, thanks to our Webmaster Dan Nelson.



If you want to receive the newsletter via 'snail' mail, you must send a written request with your name and complete address with zip code to: VFW Post #2995, 4330 – 148<sup>th</sup> Ave NE, Redmond, WA 98052 or stop by the Post and sign up at the bar

If anyone has something that may be of interest for the newsletter, please

e-mail the information to [karin773@aol.com](mailto:karin773@aol.com) or leave a written copy in the "Newsletter" box at the Post to be considered. Please include your name and phone number and submit all articles for the next newsletter to me no later than the date specified in the calendar. Remember - You can always find the latest newsletter, in color, on line at: [www.vfwpost-2995.org](http://www.vfwpost-2995.org)

**Be sure to get all the latest information each week emailed to you from the Updater. All you have to do is send your email address to: Clark Bartell at [updater@vfw2995.org](mailto:updater@vfw2995.org)**

### Canteen Hours

Monday - Thursday	11am – 10pm
Friday	11am - midnight
Saturday	noon - midnight
Sunday	9:30am – 5pm

### Food Service

Lunch - Monday thru Friday 11am until 2pm  
Dinners available on Wednesdays and Fridays when there is entertainment from 6 until 7:30 pm  
Breakfast is available every Sunday morning From 9:30am until 12:30pm

**Post Newsletter Final Printed Edition!!!** The September issue will be the last edition to be distributed via mail unless you have already requested that it be mailed to your home address. If you wish to continue receiving a printed version of the newsletter, please notify the post. After September the newsletter will be available only at the post or on the post website . [www.vfwpost-2995.org](http://www.vfwpost-2995.org).

Volume 9 September 2009

The Lake Washington Veteran

Published Monthly by VFW Post #2995  
Free to members and Auxiliaries at Post #2995  
Editor: Karin Ridge

# September 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Civil Air Patrol meets at 7pm	2 American Legion #99 meets at 1:00pm  Dinner 6-7:30pm  <b>Brookharts</b> entertains 6-9pm  Honor Guard meets at 6:00pm	3 Troop Support Group meets at 7pm	4 Steak-out tonight from 6:30 - ?  <b>Dream Chasers</b> entertain tonight 6:30 – 10:30pm	5 <b>Honor Guard celebrates 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary w/dinner and entertainment by Dream Chasers.</b>  <b>Dinner tickets \$10.00 at the bar.</b>
6 Breakfast 9:30 – 12:30  Honor Guard meets at 10am  <b>8 Ball Pool Tournament at 12:30 PM Entry fee \$5.00 Blind Draw Double Elimination</b>	7 <b>Labor Day</b>  No meetings tonight	8 <b>Post meeting tonight at 6:30pm</b>  Civil Air Patrol meets at 7pm	9 Dinner 6-7:30pm  <b>Tom Smith</b> tonight at the piano 6-9pm  Tahoma duty day  Marine Corps Lge meets 7pm	10 Troop Support Group meets at 7pm	11 <b>Patriot's Day</b>  Steak-out tonight from 6:30 - ?  <b>Greg Sheehan</b> entertains tonight 6:30 – 10:30pm	12 <b>Bits &amp; Pieces</b> entertain tonight 6:30-10:30pm
13 Breakfast 9:30- 12:30  Honor Guard meets at 10am	14 VFW Service Officer 11-2pm  <b>Post Home Board meets at 6:30pm</b>	15 Civil Air Patrol meets at 7pm  American Legion #239 meets at 7pm	16 Men's Auxiliary Dinner 6-7:30pm  <b>Mockingbirds</b> entertain 6-9pm  Submariners meet at 7pm	17 Troop Support Group meets at 7 pm	18 <b>POW-MIA Recognition Day</b>  Steak-out tonight from 6:30 - ?  <b>Lee Howard</b> entertains tonight	19 <b>All articles for the October newsletter are due today</b>
20 Breakfast 9:30- 12:30  Honor Guard meets at 10am	21 <b>Post and Auxiliary meetings at 6:30pm</b>	22 First day of Autumn <b>Men's Auxiliary meets at 6:30pm</b>  Civil Air Patrol meets at 7pm	23 Dinner 6-7:30pm <b>Soft Touch</b> entertains 6-9pm <b>American Legion Seminar 11:00 &amp; 4:00 PM</b> Honor Guard meets at 6:00pm	24 Troop Support Group meets at 7 pm  American Legion #161 & Auxiliary meet at 6:30pm	25 Steak-out tonight from 6:30 - ?	26 <b>Greg Sheehan</b> entertains tonight 6:30-10:30
27 Breakfast 9:30- 12:30  Honor Guard meets at 10:00am	28 <b>Gold Star Mother's Day</b>  VFW Service Officer 11-2pm <b>Post Home Board meets at 6:30pm</b>	29 Civil Air Patrol meets at 7:00pm	30 Dinner 6-7:30pm  <b>Soft Touch</b> entertains 6-9pm  Honor Guard meets at 6:30pm			<b>It's your turn to be a Cootie!</b>