

From the Commander

By Nestor Tamayao



It is nice to see the Post so involved

in many activities lately. We have members doing visits at the VA Hospital and to nursing and retirement homes, performing Color Guard duties, giving blood, distributing Buddy Poppies and hosting events.

A recent example is the November Social where WWII veterans from our post and other WWII veterans were hon-

ored. Thank you to those comrades who have taken the time and effort to make an event or activity successful.

We had a busy Veterans Day last month. Some of the events are highlighted in this issue of the newsletter.

A reminder that December's social is on Thursday the 15th. To ensure we have enough food, please let Quartermaster Harold Rodenberger know if you are attending and if you are bringing a guest. Contact him by email or call the post no later than Dec.

10. There will be a gift exchange. Bring a small gift if you want to participate in the exchange.

As we approach the end of the year, it is gratifying to know of all the successes our post has had. It is through the efforts of all of our comrades and auxiliary members that Post 3063 continues to be an involved and active post. And I thank each of you.

Here's wishing you a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and a prosperous New Year.

Inside this issue:

Quartermaster Update	2
WWII Vet Ceremony	3
Wall of Heroes Induction	4
Blood Donations	4
UW Vets Event	5
Events Calendar	6
New Member Spotlight	6

Thank you to Half Price Books!

The post's lending library has been enhanced with the generous donations of military books by Tim Batson, manager of Half Price Books at 4709 Roosevelt Way NE in the University District. Batson has already donated two boxes of books with more to come. The post, on behalf of its members and all veterans using the post's facilities, extends its appreciation for the donations.

**HALF
 PRICE
 BOOKS
 RECORDS®
 MAGAZINES**



Quartermaster's Update

By Harold Rodenberger



This month the days are short and the nights are long here in

Seattle. It's time to figurately gather around the fire and stay warm while telling stories, developing plans and sharpening tools for spring-time hunting and fishing expeditions.

This month also marks the halfway point of our VFW year. Time to assess our progress, adjust goals and hone our tools for the remainder of the year.

We've had some firsts so far this year:

- We held two flag retirement ceremonies and a community document shredding day.
- Our Honor Guard attended two military funerals and posted colors at our post and at the WWII Allen Library WWI Centennial grand opening.
- Our service officer, Gail Engler, initiated office hours once per month at the Ballard Senior Center for veterans who might need help.
- Thanks to Chair Bill Griffith and his crew we held a nice WWII remembrance ceremony last month complete with Certificates of Appreciation and longevity pins for our

WWII veterans.

- Our editor, Alyson Teeter, earned a promotion in one of her other jobs. In November, her daughter pinned her with a silver Lt Col leaf. Congratulations, Aly!

- Teams from our post visited patients at the VA Hospital on Fourth of July, Labor Day and both Veterans Day and Thanksgiving last month, bringing cheer and goodies to those veterans. We also made many visits to other retirement and nursing homes in the area to visit veterans and other community members. First time for so many visits.

- Jessica Chacko won our Post 3063 Voice of Democracy contest. We wish her well as she now competes at higher levels. Jessica and her father, Sanu, have been regular participants when we visit the VA Hospital.

- We have our annual Christmas party scheduled Dec. 15. There will be a prime rib dinner, a visit from Santa with gifts for the children and seasonal music so be sure to mark your calendar. Not a first but worth attending.

Looking forward to the second half of our year:

- We have signed up seven new members but have lost some of our older members so we need your help to

reach 100% membership as soon as possible.

- Our Color Guard is sharpening skills under the direction of Chair Bill Hoeller and will be participating in more events.

- Our military-themed post library is growing quickly. If you're interested in reading the old-fashioned way, from actual paper books, drop by and check it out. You might find something you can't resist.

- Early in the summer we will have another flag retirement ceremony so bring your old flags to the post for proper retirement.

- Our post will hold a "Grand Reopening" ceremony this spring to celebrate the centennial of America's entry into WWI.

- We are planning another St Patty's Day corned beef dinner/fundraiser for our relief fund. Save the date for a good dinner and a chance to contribute to a good cause.

- If you have an idea for something our post could do in the community or to help veterans, please let us know. Good ideas are always welcome.

Finally, from me and my family to you and yours, we wish you the best of the Holidays and a prosperous, peaceful and productive New Year.

The **Ballard Eagleson Patriot** is published by the newsletter editor for Post 3063, Seattle, WA. This official newsletter is an authorized publication for members of Post 3063. Editorial content is edited, prepared, and provided by the newsletter editor. Its contents are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the VFW.

This newsletter is published monthly and submissions must be received by the editor five days before the last day of a month for inclusion in the next month's issue. We reserve the right to edit submitted articles for timeliness, clarity, and syntax. Be aware that newsletter images and/or text appearing on the website may be shared by readers.

Commander: Nestor Tamayao

Sr Vice Commander: Pete Krawitz

Jr Vice Commander: Joe Tiffany

Quartermaster: Harold Rodenberger

Adjutant: Pete Krawitz

Judge Advocate: John Hoglund

Chaplain: Bill Griffith

Surgeon: Justin Mamallo

Officer of the Day: Mike Mahar

3-Year Trustee: Aaron Stoltz

2-Year Trustee: James Williams

1-Year Trustee: Russ Seelig

Service Officer: Gail Engler

Guard: Vacant

Newsletter Editor: Alyson Teeter

Contact Us:

Ballard Eagleson VFW Post 3063

2812 NW Market St.

Seattle, WA 98107

206-782-8618

editor@vfwseattle.org

We're on the web and Facebook!

<http://www.vfwseattle.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/vfwpost3063>

[vfwpost3063](http://www.vfwseattle.org)



Old soldiers don't just fade away: Post honors its World War II veterans

By Alyson Teeter

Post 3063 members, friends, and family gathered with some of the post's World War II veterans to honor their service at the post's monthly social on Nov. 17, 2016.

Five of the post's 14 living World War II veterans, along with two World War II veteran guests, were present at the ceremony. Members included Oscar Borchelt, Genaro Garcia, Herbert Leake, Al Linden, and Orville Mall, and the two guests were Richard Smith and Kristian Nielsen.

During the course of the night, members and guests mingled, recounted war stories, dined, and then participated in the recognition program. Commander Nestor Tamayao started the program with welcoming remarks and the Pledge of Allegiance.



Orville Mall, a Post 3063 World War II veteran, examines his certificate after receiving it during the recognition ceremony.

"Freedom isn't free and what you did kept our freedom," said Commander Tamayao. "Our thanks extends from the World War II veterans to all veterans. Thank you to those attending."

Commander Tamayao also noted that his father was a survivor of the Bataan Death March so he especially understood how important it was to recognize their sacrifices.

Certificates that featured an illustration of the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C., and membership longevity pins were presented to every World War II veteran in attendance.

Post 3063 Chaplain Bill Griffith then narrated a slideshow that included photos provided by the veterans and a historical overview of World War II.

"Old soldiers never die, they just fade away," Chaplain Griffith said, recounting General Douglas MacArthur's famous quote. "The VFW doesn't want our veterans to fade away. But we noticed that World War II veterans weren't attending meetings anymore."

He went on to explain that they hoped to devise a program to track veterans closer. Part of this effort was the nexus for creating the night's recognition program.

After the slideshow, the night ended with group photos, words of gratitude, and farewells. These veterans will not be forgotten.



From left, Richard Smith, Oscar Borchelt, Orville Mall, Herbert Leake, Genaro Garcia, and Al Linden.



Chuck Murrell added to Seattle VAMC's 'Wall of Heroes'

Post 3063 member, Charles Murrell, was inducted into the VA Puget Sound's Wall of Heroes on November 9, 2016.

VA Puget Sound (also known as the Seattle VA) honors the exceptional military service of individual patients, staff and volunteers through the Wall of Heroes display.

To be considered for induction, veterans should be affiliated with VA Puget Sound Health Care System as a patient, staff member or volunteer. They should have received decoration or commendation with a personal award and citation for heroism or valor, which will be validated by the Department of Defense.

The Wall of Heroes is located in the Veterans Lobby of the Seattle VA.



From left, Paula Roychoudhuri, Assistant Director; Glen Boje, Fisher House Assistant Manager; Mr. Charles "Chuck" Murrell, FY17 Wall of Heroes Inductee. Photo courtesy of VA Puget Sound Health Care System Facebook Page.

Give blood, save a life

By Harold Rodenberger

When I was younger, a lot younger, I used to give blood regularly every couple months. Then we moved to a tropical country and I visited various other tropical countries so my blood-letting was restricted. Then I retired from the Army and got so busy I didn't have time. Then I was borderline anemic and couldn't give. Then there was always an excuse not to give. THEN I stopped in at BloodWorks NW one day and gave blood!

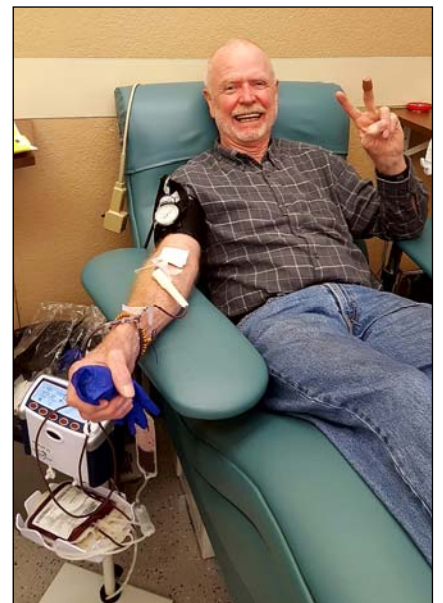
Compared to how it used to work the new system is amazingly user friendly.

- You save time by making an appointment on line or by phone.
- The screening questionnaire is done quickly on a small electronic device.
- The hematocrit is a modern spun version so less blood is needed and it saves time.
- The reclining couch is more ergonomically designed and extremely comfortable.
- The actual blood draw is easier from beginning to end with modern crimping devices and even a covered needle extraction shroud.

- They have machinery on site to separate out various parts of blood such as platelets, plasma or coagulation factors and return the rest to your body.
- The last time I gave blood I was in and out in less than twenty-five minutes.

It seems the staffers and volunteers are friendlier and more efficient. Only the cookies, crackers and drinks are about the same.

I understand that, for various reasons, many people can't donate blood. But if you can, follow the lead of this old guy and give a pint to save a life.



Harold Rodenberger giving blood.



UW hosts post color guard at Veterans Day library event

UW Libraries held an open house at Allen Library on Veterans Day, Friday, Nov. 11, in conjunction with the current World War I-themed exhibit, "Washington on the Western Front: At Home and Over There." The event opened with a color guard from Ballard Eagleson VFW Post 3063.

The exhibit features photographs, diaries, newspapers, letters and ephemera from the World War I



From left, Harold Rodenberger, Joe Fitzgerald, and Bill Hoeller in color guard formation for the UW event.

era. Notes with the exhibit discuss how the UW responded to the war with the formation of a hospital, ambulance unit and training camp. About 4,000 students, staff, faculty and alumni served, 58 of whom lost their lives in what was at the time called "The War to End All Wars."

For more information about the exhibit, go to <http://tinyurl.com/jskm6gc>.

Post members distribute Buddy Poppies on Veterans Day



Gail Engler, Robert White and Chuck Tuft distribute Buddy Poppies at QFC on Holman Road Nov. 11, 2016. Robert joined Post 3063 Nov. 10 and volunteered right away to help! According to VFW.org, "Before Memorial Day in 1922, we conducted our first poppy distribution, becoming the first veterans' organization to organize a nationwide distribution. The poppy soon was adopted as the official memorial flower of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, as it remains today."



Upcoming Events

Dec. 1, 2016, 7 p.m. - VFW Post 3063 Business Meeting: Chicken, potato salad and Jojos

Dec. 15, 2016, 6:30 p.m. - VFW Post 3063 Social Dinner and Holiday party: Prime Rib (FREE for members and guests)

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. for business meetings and social dinners.

December Birthday Greetings! (Free dinner in your birthday month)

Jesse Basher
Jonathan Guncay
Daniel Maines
Jennifer Moen
Elizabeth Mutter-Servey
Georgia Porter
John Shrewsbury
Leo Stull
Alyson Teeter
Charles Tuft

New member spotlight: Robert White



Robert White is one of our new members. Robert gained his eligibility from service in the U.S. Army Signal Corps in Vietnam.

Welcome to our post, Robert!



Holiday Party Dec. 15!

Come and celebrate the holidays with your Post 3063 comrades, family and friends Dec. 15. Prime Rib by Marco is on the menu. Bring a small gift if you'd like to participate in the gift exchange. Santa will also be there with gifts for kids. **RSVP by Dec. 10** to Quartermaster Harold Rodenberger at quartermaster@vfwseattle.org or call 206-782-8618. (FREE for members and guests.)