

**PRINT  
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 This will be your  
 last monthly news-  
 letter. Quarterly  
 newsletters will  
 begin in January.**

## From the Commander

*By Pete Krawitz*



November, without a doubt, is one of the busiest times of the year for our organization. Our voicemail, e-mail, and snail mail boxes start to fill up with all sorts of Veterans Day event advertisements and requests. Many of these communications are from groups throughout the local region seeking veterans to participate in everything from speaking events to parades.

While I wish our post could send official representation and assist with all of the events and activities, it's just not logistically feasible at this time. However, I genuinely believe that we'll be able to significantly expand our reach and capabilities as our member count continues to grow. As we continue to gain new members, we need to think about re-activating many of the post's programs and committees. We've already seen how successful our color guard has been. I hope that we can continue to find members who'd like to lead or be a part of similar programs. I plan to talk about this some more during our November business meeting.

The one Veteran Day event that I am proud we regularly repeat during the holidays is visiting our brothers and sisters in the VA Hospital. I'd like to thank Comrade Jon Guncay, who has volunteered to be the coordinator for this

year's Veterans day visit. I look forward to seeing some of you on the 10th of November at the Seattle VA hospital.

Switching gears, I'd like to talk about an exciting new opportunity that will allow some of our comrades who can't always make it into the post to still attend meetings from the comfort of their home, ship, yurt, etc... (assuming they have internet connectivity). During our October business meeting, the post agreed to a limited 3-month trial of the Zoom Web Conferencing service. Zoom will give some of our members the ability to log into a private, password protected website which will be broadcasting our live business meeting's slideshow and audio content. In the early stages of this test, we are only going to allow 1-way communication. For example, remote participants will be able to hear and see the content, but they won't be able to communicate back to the meeting (so no ability to vote, etc...).

The first Zoom test (November 2nd) will be limited to 5 individuals. If successful, Zoom should allow some of our members, who have difficulties getting down to the post on business meeting days, to still feel involved and keep up-to-date on the latest post events.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the November business meeting and social. For those that won't be able to make it, have a Happy Veterans Day and Thanksgiving.

### Inside this issue:

Quartermaster Update	<b>2</b>
Legacy Life Membership for Mike	<b>3</b>
Buffalo Soldiers	<b>3</b>
Post Donation	<b>4</b>
In Memoriam	<b>5</b>
Events Calendar	<b>6</b>



## Quartermaster's Update

By Harold Rodenberger



Last week another visitor came into my office asking where to find our

clubroom. As always, I tell such visitors we don't have a bar but that we do many other things for veterans, their families and our community.

For those readers who haven't had a chance to attend meetings or join in our outreach efforts, here's how our national headquarters describes our mission:

**Our Mission:** To foster camaraderie among United States veterans of overseas conflicts. To serve our veterans, the military and our communities. To advocate on behalf of all veterans.

Locally, we help fulfill this mission in many ways.

First, we take care of our own members and their families. Last month, for example, we donated from our relief fund to help a member whose young daughter is being treated for cancer; we rou-

tinely subsidize the meals served at our social and meeting nights; we maintain a library on military subjects for veterans; and our service officer gives top priority to helping our members get the benefits they have earned from the VA and other government agencies.

For other veterans and members of the community we operate a website, manage a Facebook page and publish a newsletter publicizing specialized information for our community; we visit the VA Hospital to bring a little cheer to the patients; we allow other veterans' organizations to use our hall at no cost and allow non-profit organizations of many kinds to rent our hall at minimal rates.

For the larger local community, we accept unserviceable flags for proper retirement and disposal, we donate food and other items to our local homeless camp and we visit local retirement homes. Our Color Guard has performed color-posting ceremonies in several venues and is scheduled for more.

Next time someone asks you what our members do besides drink and tell war stories, please let them know the many ways we support the VFW mission by serving veterans and our community.

We have been publishing this newsletter for almost three years now. It draws praise from members, other VFW members and readers in the community but we have found that those who receive the on-line edition don't read the paper as much as we would like. To encourage more people to read the newsletter we are going to a quarterly printed publication mailed to all our members.

Our website and Facebook page will carry breaking stories as they develop. The printed newsletter will consolidate that news and carry it to all members.

Happy Thanksgiving to you and your families.

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: Pete Krawitz

Sr Vice Commander: Joe Tiffany

Jr Vice Commander: Joe Fitzgerald

Quartermaster: Harold Rodenberger

Adjutant: Alyson Teeter

Judge Advocate: Norm Limric

Chaplain: Bill Griffith

Surgeon: Dan Stokke

Officer of the Day: Vacant

3-Year Trustee: Russ Seelig

2-Year Trustee: Aaron Stoltz

1-Year Trustee: James Williams

Service Officer: Gail Engler

Guard: Vacant

Newsletter Editor: Alyson Teeter

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### We're on the web and Facebook!

<http://www.vfwseattle.org>

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

[vfwpost3063](https://www.facebook.com/vfwpost3063)



## Michael Lawrence Receives Legacy Life Membership

Post 3063 presented a Legacy Life Membership to Comrade Michael Lawrence for his exemplary service and tremendous generosity at the October business meeting on Oct. 5, 2017.

Mike headed up the post's visits to the Seattle VA Medical Center for numerous years and donated large amounts of money to the VFW Children's Home and Post 3063 Relief Fund. He is the epitome of a veteran serving veterans and his impact will be felt for years to come. Thank you, Mike!

Mike made a heartfelt appeal that a Post 3063 comrade step up and take charge of the VA Volunteer Coordinator position. The Seattle VAMC needs our help! Please contact Commander Krawitz if interested.



Comrade Michael Lawrence (center) is presented with a plaque and a Legacy Life Membership for his service to other veterans by Commander Pete Krawitz (right) on Oct. 5, 2017.

## Members visit Tacoma's Horse Cavalry Buffalo Soldiers Museum

By Nestor Tamayao

Recently Comrade Aaron Stoltz and I visited a museum that we never knew existed. Nestled within a residential neighborhood in Tacoma is the 9th and 10th Cavalry Buffalo Soldiers Museum. Founded in 2005, the museum showcases an overlooked part of American history: the Buffalo Soldiers. The museum began operating in 2012.

Buffalo Soldiers originally were members of the U.S. 10th Cavalry Regiment of the United States Army, which was formed on September 21, 1866 at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. Buffalo Soldiers later comprised other regiments, including the 9th, 24th, 27th and 28th cavalry divisions. These African American Soldiers got their nickname by the Native American tribes they fought. The term became a generic term for all-black soldier units and is used by U.S. Army units that trace their direct lineage back to the 9th and 10th Cavalry.

Notable facts about the Buffalo Soldiers include:

- First to experiment with bicycles.
- In 1898, saved the 71st New York in the now famous

charge up San Juan Hill.

- Instrumental in the victory of the Spanish American War.
- Represented over 20 percent of all U.S. Cavalry Units until early 1890.
- 19 Congressional Medals of Honor.
- Five West Point Graduates.

The museum is filled with many artifacts, memorabilia and fascinating information and facts. It is one of only two of its kind in the country dedicated to the Buffalo Soldiers. The other is the Buffalo Soldiers National Museum in Houston, Texas. The museum has hosted a tribute to the famed Buffalo Soldiers with an evening with famed actor Danny Glover, who starred in the 1977 film Buffalo Soldiers.

The museum is open Wednesdays and Saturdays. For more information go to <http://www.buffalosoldierstacoma.org/> or 253-272-4257.



## Comrade Turner's Daughter Winning Fight Against Cancer

You may remember the story of Comrade Evan Turner's daughter, Lillian, who was diagnosed with Neuroblastoma, Stage 4S in April.

Post 3063 voted to donate \$500 to Evan and his family to help with her fight against cancer. The check was presented to the Turner family during the post's monthly business meeting Oct. 5, 2017. We are ecstatic to report that Lillian's prognosis is good and she's a true warrior in her fight against cancer!

If you would like to donate to Lillian's fight, go to <https://www.gofundme.com/lillians-battle-with-neuroblastoma> and updates are posted at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1936194449992290/>.



Left: Comrade Turner and his oldest daughter receive the \$500 check. Center: Comrade Turner thanks the post for the donation. Right: The Turner family.

## King County Vets Consortium Chair Discusses Prop 1

During the Post 3063 October Social on Oct. 19, 2017, Ryan Mielcarek, chair of the King County Veterans Consortium, presented information about Proposition 1, "The King County Veterans, Seniors, and Human Services Levy."

According to the King County Voter's Guide, "If approved, this proposition would replace an expiring levy and fund capital facilities and regional health and human services for veterans and military servicemembers and their families, seniors and their caregivers, and vulnerable populations. It would authorize an additional property tax for six years beginning with a 2017 rate of \$0.10 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation for collection in



2018."

"Funded services would promote outcomes related to healthy living, housing stability, financial stability, social engagement, service system improvement and access, criminal justice system diversion, education and workforce development, and civil legal aid to vulnerable populations. Proceeds would also be used to provide small organizations that offer such services with technical assistance and capacity building, such as legal, accounting, human resources, and leadership development and services support."

For more information about Prop 1, go to <https://tinyurl.com/y7rt5nqq>.



## VA Hospital Visit on Nov. 10

Post 3063 members are encouraged to participate in a visit to the Seattle VA Medical Center on Veterans Day (Observed), which is Friday, Nov. 10. The visit will include passing out snacks to veteran patients and partaking in good conversation.

The meeting time is noon. Volunteers will meet at the hospital's emergency room entrance. The Seattle VAMC is located at 1660 South Columbian Way, Seattle 98108.

People who want to participate should contact Comrade Jon Guncay at [jonguncay@gmail.com](mailto:jonguncay@gmail.com).



During the October and November business meetings, the post charter will be draped with a black cloth for the following comrades who recently passed away. The charter will stay draped for 30 days in their honor.

**Al Linden**, U.S. Army, World War II: <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/seattletimes/obituary.aspx?n=albert-d-linden&pid=186751217>

**William Mattson**, U.S. Army, World War II: <http://m.legacy.com/obituaries/seattletimes/obituary.aspx?n=william-j-mattson&pid=186975750>

**flu shots  
for VA patients**



No cost to you\* | Records updated with VA  
Just walk into your local Walgreens




\*This wellness benefit is only for veterans enrolled in the VA Health Care system. Family members and Tricare members are not eligible. Services for shot option is for quadrivalent vaccine only, available now through March 31, 2018. Vaccines subject to availability. State-, age- and health-related restrictions may apply. Vaccine may be in limited supply after March 1, 2018. This does not constitute an endorsement of Walgreens or Walgreens products. Patients will also be asked to complete a vaccine consent form at time of service.  
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## Auxiliary Holiday Food Drive

The Auxiliary will be collecting nonperishable portable snack items at the post during the holidays.

Cash and gift cards will also be accepted. All proceeds will benefit homeless clients of the Downtown Emergency Service Center (DESC).

For more information, contact Donna Limric at 206-852-5434.





## Upcoming Events

**Wednesdays, 9 a.m.** - Free yoga class, Post 3063 (bring a mat)  
**November 2, 2017, 7 p.m.** - VFW Post 3063 Business Meeting  
**November 11, 2017, 11 a.m.** - Auburn Veterans Day Parade, Main Street in downtown Auburn  
**November 11, 2017, 11 a.m.** - University of Washington Veterans Day Ceremony at the Medal of Honor Memorial  
**November 11, 2017, 5 p.m.** - Ballard Elks Veterans Day Dinner, veterans eat free, otherwise \$10 donation  
**November 12, 2017, 11 a.m.** - OARS for Women Veterans 5th Annual Women Veterans Appreciation Sunday Brunch, buy tickets at <http://oars4vets.org/fifth-annual-veterans-day-brunch-2017/>  
**November 16, 2017, 6:30 p.m.** - VFW Post 3063 Social Dinner, traditional turkey dinner, \$5 donation

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

### November Birthday Greetings!

**Members receive a free social dinner in their birthday month**

Stephen Barclay  
Oscar Borchelt  
Hugh Brechtel  
Donald Corning  
Gail Engler  
John Hamilton  
Hans Heia  
Norm Limric  
Doug Maines  
Paul Pioli  
Anthony Rose  
Joe Tiffany  
Barry Zimmerman

## New Member Spotlight



**Joey Hernandez**  
U.S. Navy  
Iraq and  
Afghanistan



**Harrison Vicente**  
U.S. Marines  
Iraq and Republic  
of Korea



**Daniella Young**  
U.S. Army  
Afghanistan