

THE NORTH BEND - SNOQUALMIE LEGIONNAIRE

SEPTEMBER 2022



RENTON-PICKERING POST 79 THE AMERICAN LEGION

PO BOX 359

38625 SE RIVER STREET SNOQUALMIE, WA 98065

WWW.POST79.ORG

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES CALENDAR



Thurs, Sep 8th Regular Post Meeting 7 PM at the Post Hall.

Sun, Sep 11th Patriot Day - 21st Anniversary of the 9/11 Attacks. A moment of silence is traditionally observed at 8:46 AM. Flags flown at Half Staff.

Wed, Sep 14th Tahoma National Cemetery Duty Day (times to be determined)

Fri, Sep 16th National POW/MIA Recognition Day



PARADES IN NORTH BEND AND SNOQUALMIE



The Festival at Mt Si Grand Parade on August 13th was viewed by over 2,000 spectators along the parade route in Downtown North Bend. Our own Post 79/Unit 79 Color Guard led the parade followed by the truck with all the 6 military service flags Here are just a few photos from the parade.



The parade route along North Bend Way into Down Town Area was lined by hundreds of spectators.



SNOQUALMIE DAYS GRAND PARADE ON AUG 20TH.....

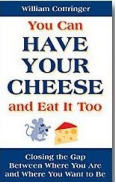
Thousands of people lined the parade route for the Grand Parade and many visited our Booth, thanks to Lori and Michael for setting it up for a very successful event. Marching in the Color

Guard were Faith and Marie McFadden, Ryan Aust and Honor Guards David Andress and Art Farash. MSHS Drummers provided cadence.



Commander Michael Pollina

Our Booth. Shown here are Commander Michael Pollina and Sergeant at Arms Lori Pitman at our Snoqualmie Days booth. Also at the booth was Historian Bill Cottringer and Mrs. Cottringer. The American Legion Post booth was a HUGE success! Hats off to Lori for organizing it, Michael for his superior PR skills with everyone, Bill for donating 125 copies of his book "You Can Have Your Cheese and Eat it Too" and his visual displays.



The American Legion Post 79 participated in this year's Snoqualmie Days Parade. We had four of our members manning the booth, and many of our community dropped in to spend time with us talking about the family members who

were currently in the service or who had served in the past, The most gratifying comments were from people thanking us for being there and we were able to pass out 20 applications. I personally took pride in the fact that we were able to point veterans and families in the right direction in getting them help regarding benefits. This point alone is why we need to be there. Michael Pollina, Commander.

TAHOMA NATIONAL CEMETERY...once again on Wednesday, August 10th our small team of Post 79 members Michael Pollina as Chaplain and Rifle Firers Rob Clark, Lori Pitman, Art Farash and members from VFW Post 2995 Redmond participated in full military honors for five Veterans, including two US Navy, two USAF, and one Retired Army 1SGT who served in WW II, Korea, and Vietnam. Our Honor Guard fired at all five services since no Active Army was there to fire for the Retired 1SGT, only to fold and present the Flag. Traditionally Retired personnel have had the Army firing as well as the Air Force! This is no longer happening due to personnel shortages and training commitments.



DAVE LAKE TURNED 100 LAST MONTH....It was a historic day for Post 79 on Aug 27th when Life Member **Dave Lake** celebrated his 100th Birthday Party with many friends and family members. Dave served in the US Navy in WW II on the USS Whitehurst and in 1946 came to Snoqualmie and immediately joined the American Legion. He has been a Life Member for 76 continuous years! Shown here is Dave with a fellow shipmate from the USS Whitehurst at the Snoqualmie Eagles.

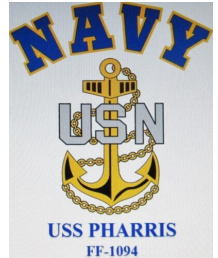


INTRODUCING OUR FIRST VICE COMMANDER

George Townsend, LCdr, USNR (Ret.)

Born on Veteran’s Day in an Air Force hospital attended by an Army doctor with a Navy corpsman in attendance, it was no wonder that George would make a career somewhere in the military. Growing up the third of five children in a Marine Corps family, George attended schools in Texas, California, Pennsylvania, Wyoming and Virginia. Awarded a Navy ROTC scholarship, he attended both the University of Virginia and the University of Idaho, graduating in 1976 and commissioned into the Navy as an Ensign.

After attending Surface Warfare Officer’s School in Newport, R.I., George served 3 years aboard the USS Pharris (FF-1094) in various division officer roles during overseas deployments to the Middle East and NATO Standing Naval Forces (Atlantic).



A follow-on assignment had George serve as plankowner and Navigation Department Head on board the USS Harry W. Hill (DD-986) based in San Diego. Lieutenant Junior Grade (Ltjg) Townsend left the active Navy in 1980 and exchanged his regular commission for a reserve commission in the Navy’s Intelligence branch, where he served for 12 more years in various intelligence/analysis roles, attaining the rank of Lieutenant Commander (LCdr) with expertise in the Middle Eastern and Southwest Asian theaters. By the time Desert Shield/Storm was initiated, George was voluntarily recalled to active duty and served the length of the conflict as a Team Chief in the Pentagon’s Operational Intelligence Crisis Operations group.

LCdr Townsend retired from the Naval Reserve in 1994 and concentrated on his civilian career path which began with Mobil Oil Corporation as an Operations Manager. He also held management and information technology positions with Sequent Computer Systems (Beaverton, OR), Nike (Beaverton, OR), Intel (Hillsboro, OR), Microsoft (Redmond, WA), Premera Health Insurance (Seattle, WA) and The American Quilter’s Society (Paducah, KY).



George is married to Leigh Ann McIntyre and resides just outside of North Bend. He has two grown sons (both Navy and Army veterans) and occupies his time with hobbies that include involvement in the shooting sports along with keeping abreast of current events.

GEORGE AND LEIGH ANN

This is the 2nd edition of our re-vitalized Post Unofficial Newsletter. We hope you enjoy reading it and welcome your comments, articles or anything else. For God and Country! The American Legion Post 79.



The American Legion Family