

# THE NORTH BEND - SNOQUALMIE LEGIONNAIRE

## NOVEMBER 2022



### RENTON-PICKERING POST 79 THE AMERICAN LEGION

PO BOX 359

38625 SE RIVER STREET SNOQUALMIE, WA 98065

## EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES CALENDAR



**NOV 5 (SATURDAY) 11:00 AM AUBURN VETERANS DAY PARADE. POST WILL HAVE A VEHICLE IN PARADE. RIDERS WELCOME!**



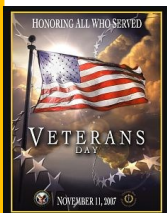
**NOV 10TH (THURSDAY - Mt Si High School Veterans Day Celebration, November 10th. CALLING ALL VETERANS . Are you a veteran or someone who you know? Mount Si High School is pleased to announce the return of our in-person Veteran's Day celebration on Thursday, Nov. 10.**

**Veteran's Day Breakfast from 9:23-10:05am**

**Veteran's Day Assembly 8:37-9:15am**

**NOV 10 (THURSDAY) 7:00PM MONTHLY POST MEETING AT THE POST HALL.**

**SOCIAL AT EAGLES FOLLOWING MEETING**



**NOV 11 (FRIDAY)VETERANS DAY - LOCAL EVENTS TO BE ANNOUNCED.**

**Tahoma National Cemetery Veteran's Day Ceremony Friday, November 11th @ 11am. The ceremony will begin promptly at 11am at the main flag pole. Snoqualmie Casino complimentary buffet for all Veterans with ID.**

## FROM THE DESK OF THE COMMANDER

### Why You Should Belong

Each year, American Legion department service officers help thousands of veterans receive VA benefits they earned through service to their country. The Legion conducts, promotes and supports hundreds of career fairs for veterans and transitioning servicemembers, bringing employers face to face with job hunters. Through Operation Comfort Warriors, the Legion raises funds to provide comfort items for U.S. troops recovering in military hospitals and transition units worldwide. Legion staff lobbies Congress for better quality of life for U.S. military personnel.

Through American Legion Baseball, nearly 100,000 young men get to experience teamwork and competition each year. The Legion provides more than \$138,000 in scholarships through The National American Legion High School Oratorical Contest. And Legion Riders, through the annual Legacy Run, have raised more than \$2 million for the Legacy Scholarship, helping ensure the children of U.S. servicemembers killed on or after Sept. 11, 2001, have a chance at a college education.

None of these facts may be news to active Legionnaires, but chances are most prospective members do not realize all The American Legion does for people of all ages



*Michael Pollina  
Commander, Post 79,  
Snoqualmie, WA*

## THE CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

**Waiting tests our Faith** Just as God tested David's faith while he waited to become King, God will test our faith as well. Waiting is a form of adversity because we like things to happen, to move, to produce, so when we're in a season of life where those things aren't happening, we feel frustrated and alone. But we must understand that, many times, God works the most when we're waiting, primarily because He has our attention since things aren't "happening in our lives." But get this: waiting isn't doing nothing; David was busy when he was waiting. Faith means to "follow" Christ. We aren't called to just sit and wait for God to move. God moves quicker when we move. This leads to the action step that we're called to take.

Michael Pollina

A.L. Post 79, Commander & Chaplain

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## INTRODUCING OUR SERVICE OFFICER - DAVE WAGGONER



David retired from active duty, United States Army in 1993 as a Lieutenant Colonel with 26 years of service. He served as a Combat Infantry Platoon Leader during the Viet Nam War and received a Purple Heart for his wounds. David is in his 15th year serving on the King County Veterans Advisory Board where he has held the office of Sergeant-at-Arms. He has been a Life Member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars for 30+ years and has served as Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, and Quartermaster of Post #3436 in Issaquah, WA. He is currently the Service Officer of VFW Post #3436, and serves as Service Officer in the American Legion, Renton-Pickering Post #79. He is a Life Member of the VFW, American Legion, and Vietnam Veterans of America. David retired from King County Metro Transit as a transit operator in April 2015. He drove busses, even during his Army career, for over 53 years.

David is married to Roberta Waggoner, and they have a grown son (Paul David). David also volunteers as a Master Docent at the Issaquah Salmon Hatchery (21 years); served as a board member of Puget Sound Honor Flight (8+ years). He serves as a Docent at the Museum of Flight where he is on the committee for Project Welcome Home (Vietnam Veterans Memorial Park). David, along with a fellow Vietnam Veteran (Al Adams), has started a local chapter of a national organization called Veterans Last Patrol, which works with Veterans in hospice to provide support and comradery in the Veterans final days. He is a 1962 graduate of Issaquah High School, a 1967 graduate of Pacific Lutheran University, a 1981 graduate of the U.S. Army's Command & General Staff College, and a 1983 graduate of the U.S. Army's Logistics Executive Development Course.



Dave and Roberta

David's U.S. Army awards include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal (with Oakleaf Cluster) Purple Heart, and Combat Infantryman's Badge. David's most recent civilian honor was being inducted into the Issaquah's Hall of Fame for 2020.

We are honored to have Dave Waggoner as our Accredited Veterans Service Officer and he is always ready to assist any and all Veterans with VA claims and matters as well as obtaining any assistance needed. You may contact Dave by Email at [davids\\_waggoner@msn.com](mailto:davids_waggoner@msn.com). Accredited American Legion Service Officers are specially trained to provide expert assistance, free of charge, to veterans and their families. While the majority of a service officer's work involves an application for VA disability benefits, these compassionate professionals also provide information, referrals, and resources on education, employment and business, death benefits, and other important topics.

## OUR HONOR GUARD AT TAHOMA NATIONAL CEMETERY



On Friday Oct 7, 2022 at **Tahoma National Cemetery** we had our designated 1st Friday with nine services with military honors for US Army, Air Force and Navy veterans from the Korean and Vietnam Wars. Thank you to Post 79 Member **Mike Johnston** for volunteering to give us three rifles firing.

**Eastside Veterans Honor Guard** again provided Military Honors for six Veterans on its regular day Oct 13th for two each Army, Navy, and Air Force Veterans including two Retired USAF MSGs with services from WW2, Korea, Vietnam, Persian Gulf with only two rifles firing. This will not be the case on our next Duty Day on Nov 9th thanks to our 1st Vice Commander **George Townsend** who signed up to join the Rifle Team on our Eastside Veterans Honor Guard. We welcome him and are grateful for his joining!

Visit Tahoma National Cemetery on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/NatCemTahoma> and our Eastside Veterans Honor Guard at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/eastsideveteranhonorguard>

## GOOD COMMUNICATION

*“The single biggest problem in communication is the illusion that it has taken place.” ~George Bernard Shaw.*

Post Members, I'd like to don a few hats I have had the opportunity to wear at times as a psychologist, organizational development trainer, business leader and professional writer. At this late point in a 60-year professional career, I have discovered that the super glue that holds a group together is **good communication**.

### Let me just list a few bullet points to define what good communication is:

- Good communication starts with two-eared listening and one mouth speaking—to truly understand what the other person is meaning, rather than just preparing a clever reply.
- It allows for you to express your honest feelings and exercise your legitimate rights *assertively* without disrespecting those of others by offending them.
- Using a supportive tone by conveying qualities like acceptance, empathy, tentativeness, freedom, and equality gets much better results in opening up healthy two-way communication, than implying the opposite qualities of judgment, insensitivity, certainty, control, and superiority, which cause defensiveness and shut down communication.
- Don't ask questions you already know the answers to or mask statements you have in mind, dishonestly as questions.
- Good questions are always better than smart answers.
- Behind the scenes, side-bar personal conversations are the termites that can eat away the foundation of team-building. Avoid gossiping.
- When you communicate the right thing in the right way at the right time and place, you get the right results.

I hope you will consider practicing this model of good communication at our meetings and on our Facebook page, so we can move past any conflicts which are hindering our performance.

*“It is not what you say that matters most, but how you make people feel.” Red Auerbach.*

**Dr. Bill Cottringer, Post 79 Historian** Email @ [ckuretdoc@comcast.net](mailto:ckuretdoc@comcast.net)



## FROM ARMISTICE DAY TO VETERANS DAY

Throughout my younger life before enlisting in 1955 this holiday was known as Armistice Day. Armistice Day marked the cessation of hostilities between the Allied nations and Germany in World War I in 1918. In 1954, after lobbying efforts by veterans' service organizations, the 83rd U.S. Congress amended the 1938 act that had made Armistice Day a holiday, striking the word "Armistice" in favor of "Veterans." President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed the legislation on June 1, 1954.

The holiday was celebrated with parades in every town and city. I still remember seeing a Civil War Veteran riding in an open car wearing his blue Grand Army of the Republic uniform, of Spanish American War Veterans marching in their old uniforms, and the American Legion and VFW groups marching in the uniforms they wore back then. Active Army Navy troops marched with their bands.

As we observe Veterans Day this year with the annual Auburn Veterans Day Parade and other events let not forget those who have served and those serving today and remember them in your prayers!

Lord God, Almighty Father, creator of mankind and author of peace, as we are ever mindful of the cost paid for the liberty we possess, we ask you to bless the members of our armed forces. Give them courage, hope and strength. May they ever experience your firm support, gentle love and compassionate healing. Be their power and protector, leading them from darkness to light. To you be all glory, honor and praise, now and forever. Amen.

Art Farash, 2nd Vice Commander/Sergeant at Arms, Post 79 [Artfarash@gmail.com](mailto:Artfarash@gmail.com)

## THE SNOQUALMIE LEGIONNAIRE NEWSLETTER

*This is the fourth edition of our re-born Newsletter which is our effort to spread the news of Post 79 activities among the larger Veterans Community as well as our friends and neighbors in the Snoqualmie Valley and elsewhere. All comments and submission of articles are welcome. Please download and share this newsletter with your own Veteran friends and others who have an interest in the affairs of our Post and the American Legion.*

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VETERANS DAY | NOVEMBER 11