

KWVA Chapter No. 321 Roster of Officers

Commander

- Jerry Keesee
- 573-1035

1st Vice Commander

- Harold Olson
- 694-0279

2nd Vice Commander

- Norm Ballard
- 666-9617 or 790-0090

Adjutant and Treasurer

- Shel Rama
- 910-0212

Membership

- Bobby Worden
- 263-3688

Sergeant-at-Arms

- Bob Peake
- 835-2543

Calendar of Events

Fridays - Korean War veterans are invited by 40 et 8, Voiture 99, to join the group for breakfast each Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.

November 11

Veterans Day Ceremony

11:00 a.m. at the Post Cemetery (on 4th Plain by the I-5 exit, across the street from the VA Medical Center.

November 13

Free Veterans' Dinner

Vancouver Elks Lodge #823
11605 SE McGillivray Blvd.

Free dinner to all Veterans and their families starting at 5:30 p.m.
Program will start at 7:00 p.m.
Featured speaker will be Larry Smith. Mayor Pro Tem

Leadership is understanding people and involving them to help you do a job. That takes all of the good characteristics, like integrity, dedication of purpose, selflessness, knowledge, skill, implacability, as well as determination not to accept failure.

- Admiral Arleigh A. Burke

THE PATROL

Korean War Veterans Association ~ Richard L. Quatier Chapter No. 321

Clark County, Washington

October 2012

Editor - Bill Yorke

No. 5

26th Annual Veterans Day Parade Will Stage at Fort Vancouver National Site

On November 10th -- rain or shine -- the 26th Annual Veterans Day Parade will be staged in honor of our nation's veterans at the Fort Vancouver National Site. The community Parade is presented by the Lough Legacy.

The event starts at 10 a.m. with a keynote speech by Medal of Honor recipient Joe Jackson, on the front lawn of the Marshall House. A cannon salute, at 11:00 a.m., will kick off the parade.

Starting point for the parade is the corner of East Reserve and Evergreen Blvd. It travels east along Evergreen Blvd. (Officer's Row), turns south on Fort Vancouver Way, and turns west on East 5th Street, concluding in front of Pearson Air Museum.



The American Red Cross will provide coffee, hot chocolate and doughnut holes to attendees. Each person at the parade will receive an American Flag to wave during the parade, courtesy of Creekside Mortgage Company.

This year over 120 units and 2,500 participants march in the one and a half mile parade around the Fort Vancouver National Site. It is one of the largest Department of Veterans Affairs-sanctioned parades on the West Coast.

The parade is one of several Celebrate Freedom programs that

is coordinated by the nonprofit Fort Vancouver National Trust.

Past participants include veterans service organizations representing all branches of the service, local high school marching bands, several college and high school ROTC groups, Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops from throughout the region, equestrian units, and military and civilian vehicle collector clubs.

Chapter Commander Jerry Keesee is calling for volunteers to join him as a Christmas Season Salvation Army Volunteer Bell Ringer. If you are interested check with him for details on this enduring, worthwhile program.

POW/MIA Recognition Day: "We will never forget them."

On Sept. 21, 2012, Americans across the United States paused to remember the sacrifices and service of those men who were prisoners of war (POW), as well as those who remain listed as MIA -- Missing in Action.

A local ceremony was held at the Vancouver Campus of the Portland VA Medical center, on the Veterans Affairs campus,

1601 E. Fourth Plain Blvd. Royce Pollard, former commander of Vancouver Barracks and former Mayor of Vancouver, noted America's determination to account for our war casualties. "Our goal is to not leave people on the battlefield," Pollard said.

Even though some people might feel like that was such a

long time ago, Pollard said, "We will never forget them."

That principle was put into practice as recently as April, when a Korean War veteran, Army Sgt. 1st Class Richard L. Harris was buried at Tahoma National Cemetery in Kent.

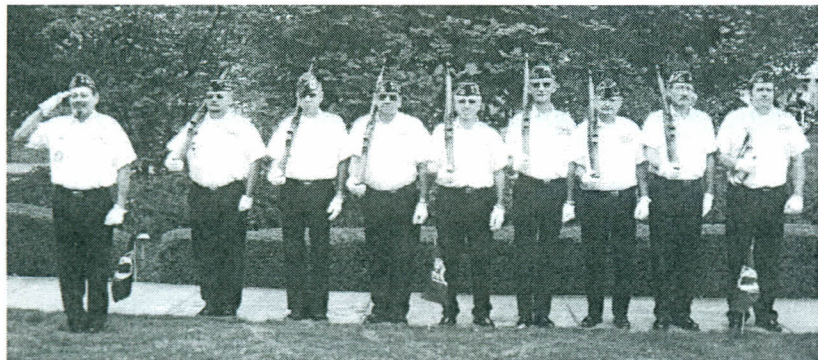
Sergeant Harris, attached to parts of the 2nd Infantry Division, were north of Kujang, North Korea, when they were attacked by Chinese forces in what became known as the Battle of the Chongchon.

Harris, 23 at the time, was reported missing on November 30, 1950. Later, repatriated American soldiers said Harris had died on January 22, 1951, from malnutrition, while at a POW camp.

In 2005, a joint effort by U.S. and Korean governments excavated a burial site in Unsan County in North Korea.

Using DNA identification technology, scientists identified Harris' DNA among the remains recovered.

Harris was buried with full military honors on April 10 in Kent, Wash.



Members of the VFW Post 7824 Honor Guard

About 100 veterans, family members, and others gathered to remember members of the military who were held captive or never returned home.



VA Intends to Make Things Clearer for Veterans

The Veterans Affairs Department plans to make itself better understood.

The department received a failing grade from the Center for Plain Language for not complying with the Plain Writing Act of 2011.

That act required all federal agencies to take certain steps toward making their rules and policies easier for the general public to comprehend.

Agencies are graded on how well they meet the requirements of the

law and how well they train employees and take other steps. VA received an F in both departments - getting 10 out of a possible 100 points on the evaluation.

"VA intends to do better," said representative Josephine Schuda. "We are confident that future 'report cards' will reflect the progress we are making. She further stated: "VA is committed to providing veterans [and others] with clear, useful information about the benefits and services provided by the VA."

