



NEWSLETTER



707th WEBSITE is: www.af-acw.com

Issue #11 October 2006

General



By Gene Walker

Well Gene was able to pull another Huck Finn on me and guess your going to have to put up with my ranting one more time. Actually Gene is under the weather but he's on the way to recovery.

I'd like to touch on something that is starting to take hold in this area and across the nation. We all learned that the hand salute was a gesture of recognition and respect, which we have all rendered thousands of times during our years of service. It has been the time honored **tradition** as civilians to remove our cover/place our hand over our hearts, there is nothing which dictates this custom. This movement was actually started by retired officers and is slowly catching on, what they contend is that all veterans should render the hand salute in place of the hand over the heart. This will show the recognition and respect due but also set the veteran apart from the civilian population, and send a patriotic message to the crowd and perhaps the TV audience. It would be visual evidence, by saluting, of how many have served, all still patriots - a fact otherwise unknown. I feel much more at ease rendering the hand salute and use it regularly as a greeting to other veterans. I'd like to hear your comments on this and encourage you to salute if you're comfortable doing so, and I welcome the help of all in promoting it through your organizations, associations, and social circles. I believe this movement will pick up momentum and proliferate and, very soon, have a life of its own.

The Flag Code, which formalizes and unifies the **traditional** ways in which we give respect to the flag states the following:

1. When carried in a procession, the flag should be to the right of the marchers. When other flags are carried, the flag of the United States may be centered in front of the others or carried to their right. When the flag passes in a procession, or when it is hoisted or lowered, all should face the flag and salute.
2. To salute, all persons come to attention. Those in uniform give the appropriate formal salute. Citizens not in uniform salute by placing their right hand over the heart and men with head cover should remove it and hold it to left shoulder, hand over the heart. Members of organizations in formation salute upon command of the person in charge.
3. The pledge of allegiance should be rendered by standing at attention, facing the flag, and saluting.
4. When the national anthem is played or sung, citizens should stand at attention and salute at the first note and hold the salute through the last note. The salute is directed to the flag, if displayed, otherwise to the music.



Bulletin Board by Barney Fisher

How many of you knew the Air Force Monument was dedicated in Washington D.C. on Saturday the 14th? I really would have liked to went, just too much family stuff going on, but I did get to watch it on TV. It took me awhile to get the meaning of the 3 spires arching into the sky but as they talked and gave the meaning behind them it started to grow on me. I know there were some AC&W types from other groups that made the trip but don't know about our folks. If you were there, please let me know, I'd like to get your first hand impression.

Don't forget that you can go to your local library and use a computer to bring up the website at www.af-acw.com and see all the latest happenings and to get the most current Master Roster. I update the Master Roster 2 times a month at the same time I post the RAO Bulletin. It's worth your time just to read this and see what the latest legislation is that will affect veterans. I did hear back from some of you and I take it from your response that you'd like to keep the newsletter going, I appreciate the feedback. Believe me it's hard to keep something up and running if you don't know how it's being received. As always I'm open to suggestions as to what you'd like to have covered.

Get Together: The Yellow Hats, Gene Walker – Pete Sessions – Tom Nielson – Don VonBank – Barney Fisher along with our wives took a long awaited Alaskan Cruise. The Sessions and Fishers took the tour cruise, a week land tour before the cruise, and the rest joined us on board the Diamond Princess for a week long trip down the Inside Passage. A great time was had by all and we would highly recommend this to anyone looking for something to do. We took the 2nd to last cruise as this was a good time of year for seeing the true Alaska, scenery and wildlife. The weather was fantastic and as for the ship and accommodations I can't say enough. I can tell you I gained 8 lbs and I don't really enjoy all that fancy food.

Mel and Meredith Townsend (Mn) met Jerry and Judy Pierce (Va) in St. Cloud recently, the Piereces were traveling in the area and gave them a call. They had a nice dinner while talking over old times and enjoying each other's company.

My Thanks to all those that donated to GRACE house, the Homeless Shelter in Grand Rapids. The 707th made a donation to the director on 24 Aug in the amount of \$1,400.00 this was the largest donation from any individual or organization. Not only was this for a worthy cause but also to show that the 707th still cares about Grand Rapids. If you weren't contacted about donating I apologize as time constraints limited the number of people contacted. You can read more about it on the website. If you would like to donate contact me and I'll give you the particulars.



Day Room by Barney Fisher

Ferd's Words of Wisdom:

Only a Southerner knows;
the difference between a hissy fit and a conniption fit, and that you don't "Have" them, you "Pitch" them.
how many fish, collard greens, turnip greens, peas, beans, etc., make up "a mess."
how to show or point out the general direction of "yonder."
exactly how long "directly" is, as in: "Going to town, be back directly."



Inform and be Informed by Barney Fisher

Changes to the Master Roster: Here are some pen and ink changes to the Master Roster. **Drop the email addresses for the following:** Hugh Johnston – Dave Lehnerr – John Madigan – Dewitt Mitchell – Charles Truscot – Del Turner – Art Wilson. **Change the following email addresses:** Skip Brunetta e.brunetta@mchsi.com – Donald Couch couchd1@peoplepc.com – Chester Edwards maryeedwards85@clearwire.net – Jim Gardner jmgrdnr@verizon.net – Ralph Lobodzinski lobo37@juno.com – Ollie Merritt ocmjr@bellsouth.net – Dee Proctor wtoys@cox.net – and in case you've never had it Joyce Williams jjwms831@aol.com Fred Minifie has **all new info:** 930 N Tamiami Trail Apt 929 Sarasota, FL 34236 Cell # 941-730-7608 email dancingchef01@webtv.net

Sick Call: Please remember the following members that have been having medical problems over the past months: Bill Allison – Ralph Briggs – Barney Fisher – Harley Jenson – Judy Johnson – Benhard Koski – Mike McKeever – Stanley Sakai – Ronald Sam – Ray Sanders – Ron Schumacher – Ken Shoup – Don Starbuck – Gene Walker – Don VonBank We have quite a few members that have family going through medical problems also, so please add them to your list.

I'm sorry if I missed anyone. Please, if you have any input on our members, let me know.



From Headquarters

by Barney Fisher

Last report I had some of the folks aren't doing too well but they are putting up the good fight. Still having the monthly dinners and there is an open invitation to anyone that would like to join them. No word yet on a date for the 2008 Reunion, make sure you mark your calendar though so you don't forget it's coming.



Sound Off

by Barney Fisher

You got a gripe, not happy about the way things are going. Here's your chance, let me know and it'll appear right here for all to see.

Oh, Oh, I spoke too soon. Heard from a few folks that the website was becoming too personal and from another that it was becoming too political. So I've tried to keep away from both topics but it's pretty hard when I'm the only one working on it. Anybody want to help? Suggestions and input always appreciated.

PICTURES: There have been some new photo's added to the Photo Gallery, take a look and stroll down memory lane. Don't forget we're always looking for pictures from the past or present. Thanks.



Taps

by Barney Fisher

This spot reserved for reporting the passing of our brothers. Also, please visit the website and take a few minutes to reflect and say a prayer for a friend now gone ahead.

Well I'm sorry to say we have some additions to the Taps page. Jim Hargreaves – Harley Jenson – Hugh Johnson – Clarence McGillvary – Fred Ronnermann a full list of the deceased can be viewed on the website. If you know of anyone that has suffered a loss, or is ill, please keep us informed so we may acknowledge them, Thanks.



Dismissed

by Barney Fisher

In closing I'd like to appeal to everyone to PLEASE keep me informed of any information regarding our members and yourself. PLEASE, send me stories/memories of the 707th, my contact information is listed below. You might want to keep this page for future reference. In order to cut cost, even further, I might decide to drop it. You can always find my contact information on the Master Roster. Thanks.

That's it for this issue, Take Care and **God Bless America**

Be safe and be happy!

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