



PO Box 820203  
Vancouver, WA 98682

25 September 2012

**SUBJECT: Update of Recent VBMA Fundraisers and Open House**

I wanted to take the opportunity to mention some recent VBMA activities, both fund raising and an open house. I did not want to wait for the next VBMA meeting, in part because I wanted to recognize some outstanding people.

### **Fundraiser at Joe's Crab Shack**

On 18 September, the VBMA had a fundraiser at Joe's Crab Shack in Vancouver. Joe's is located at 101 SE Columbia Way, in Vancouver. My wife Janine did the main coordination for this event by contacting the managers and working out details of who, what, when, where, how, etc. The way this fund raiser worked was Joe's staff gave us small coupons, which we passed out to patrons as they entered the restaurant. If the patron turned the coupon in to the server or cashier, Joe's would donate 10% of the check to us. The end result was an estimated \$300 or so in donations. Meaning, that the restaurant served over \$3000 worth of food and drink that day.

Janine tried arranging VBMA volunteers to hand out coupons in shifts. First to arrive was Jack Giesen in his WWII uniform. Janine and I also helped Jack for part of the morning. Later, Chris Heagy and Keri Conway arrived, and passed out coupons in the afternoon, off and on until about 7 PM. Bruce Mulkey arrived in mid-afternoon and handed out coupons for a time, until he left for an appointment around 5 PM. Monique M. arrived in time for the regular VBMA meeting, as did Lyle Wold. They also left to go to a meeting at 5 PM. I have to admit that the worst volunteer (in handing out coupons) was myself. Keri and Chris did an outstanding job of greeting customers and getting them to accept the donation coupons.

Before we left, the manager in charge of fund raisers asked us to come back for another fund raiser event in 2013. So I am looking for volunteers in the coming New Year.

As an interesting historical note, Joe's Crab Shack, and the other nearby restaurant, Who Song and Larry's were both built on the military pier that served the old Vancouver Barracks. The present day Joe's restaurant incorporates part of what must have been some kind of warehouse guard/quartermaster building. According to one of the staff I spoke with, this older portion has been listed as being historically significant.

## Open House at the Hathaway Chapel

A few days after the Joe's Crabs Shack fund raiser, we held our first open house at the Hathaway Chapel. It ran from noon to four pm on Saturday, 22 September. Again, Janine was the number one planner for this event. We had GREAT support from many different people and organizations.

Robert Durham of the Kamlu Retirement Inn arrived early with his chef and enough deserts for 100 people. Part of a troop of Young Marines assisted with the set up and break down of chairs, tables and our displays. They even staffed our information table. It was nice that this troop was affiliated with the staff of the Memorial Lutheran Church, who own the Hathaway Chapel.

While we did not have a mass of 100 visitors, we made up for it with some significant individuals. One lady, aged 91 years came to visit because she had worked in the Vancouver Barracks Laundry in World War II and was married in the chapel. She brought a copy of the post newspaper of the day and allowed me to copy it. I will try to turn the pictures into a PDF document to forward to the rest of you.

We also received visits from KPTV News, who filmed a segment on the chapel, which aired on the 10 O'clock News, on Chanel 12. I want to thank them and Tom Vogt of *The Columbian*, who wrote quite a long piece on us, which aired Saturday morning. VBMA members and friends showed up for the open house, including Jack Giesen, Lyle Wold, Tim Shotwell, Bill Houser, Keri Conway, and several other friends, such as Frank Krone of Northwest Historical Perspectives.

In a way, this was a great practice run for the future. On 27 October, we will be having a fundraiser Halloween Ball. Although the Young Marines will not be able to help us, Robert Durham, and Kamlu has offered to provide refreshment for the event. In the coming days we will firm up our plans for the event and begin circulating them.

I hope that I did not miss praising anyone for all the work both behind the scenes and in the forefront in supporting our recent activities. I also hope that everyone who receives this update thanks them as well and passes it on to everyone they know. I look forward to the hard work in the coming weeks, and the reward it will bring.

Jefferson Davis  
President  
Vancouver Barracks Military Asn