This past September I had the privilege and honor of walking in the Greenfield Country Fair Parade with my brothers and sisters of GCC VetNet. Was a great day to hit the streets with them and show the public a little of what we are about. That we are just like them in most ways, that we are veterans, many of us who have seen terrible things in war. We are different because we lived in military style in fashion some for 2-3 yrs to as many as 40+ yrs. We are proud of our service, our country, our community, and our college.

As we walked down the streets people applauded and waved at us. We shook hands with veterans, passed our beads, buttons and candy to the children on the side line. Was a great day to be out there.

As I walked back from the fairground pushing my grandson in his carriage, I was shocked to see the number of people that would not stand and show respect for our country's flag as it passed by. People that were standing wouldn’t even remove their hats or whatever they had on their head. As I stopped and face the flag and saluted till she passed by, people looked at me with the deer in the headlight stare. This happen 3 different times and there was no respect from the crowd for our flag.

How soon people forget what it costs to have our flag flying high. They forget that we still have troops at war and others waiting to go on a minutes notice to defend their right to disrespect our flag.

So the bottom line here is, as Vets, we need to teach the people out there about respecting our flag. Congress gave veterans the right to salute the flag as it passes by. As far as I am concerned congress didn’t give me a thing. I earned the right to salute our flag along with all my brothers and sisters in arms. That right was earned by us and bought and paid for with the blood of our grandfathers, fathers, mothers brothers, and sisters that have paid the ultimate price.

I suppose, in a way, this has become part of my soul. It is a symbol of my life. Whatever I have done that really matters, I’ve done wearing it. When the time comes, it will be in this that I journey forth. What greater honor could come to an American, and a soldier?

~General Douglas MacArthur
SOC
Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges

In the Spring 2012 semester, GCC joined the ranks of approximately 1900 colleges and universities across the country that ensure that servicemembers and their family are given sufficient educational opportunities.

What does this mean?

Basically, the association recognizes servicemembers frequently transer making it very diffic ult to complete college degrees.

The SOC association of schools has agreed to work together to make it easier for you and your family members to enroll in college programs by simplifying credit transfers and reducing residency requirements (the credits required to earn a degree at a given school).

SOC functions in cooperation with 15 higher education associations, the Department of Defense, and Active and Reserve Components of the Military Services to expand and improve voluntary postsecondary education opportunities for servicemembers worldwide.

SOC is funded by the Department of Defense (DoD) through a contract with the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU). The contract is managed for DoD by the Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES).

As a member of SOC, GCC commits to the following:

Reasonable Transfer of Credit: avoid excessive loss of previously earned credit and avoid course work duplication

Reduced Academic Residency: limited to no more than 25% of degree requirements with no final year or semester in residence (may require 30% for undergraduate degrees offered 100% online)

Credit for Military Training and Experience: recognize and use ACE Guide to the Evaluation of Educational Experiences in the Armed Services in evaluating and awarding academic credit for military training and experience

Credit for Nationally-Recognized Testing Programs: award credit for at least one nationally-recognized testing program such as College-Level Examination Program (CLEP), DSST Examinations, Excelsior College Examinations (ECE)

If you are currently enrolled at GCC and are interested in a review of your transfer credit, please contact Diane O’Heam in the VETS Center for more information.

SOC weblink: http://www.soc.aascu.org/

“Scuttlebutt Monthly”

JOE KNOWS, DO YOU?

Q: What Persian Gulf warrior called his young majors in charge of combat operations "Jedi Knights"?

Q: What was the first war the U. S. took part in that was partially financed with lottery dollars?

Q: What physical ailment is said to have contributed to Napoleon's defeat at Waterloo?

THE LOOP
Stay Connected

Every Wednesday
VetNet Club Meetings
12-12:50 p.m.
VETS Center N215
PIZZA SERVED

10.3
ROCK THE VOTE
Voter Registration
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

10.3
PIZZA with the PREZ
Co-sponsored by VetNet
Noon
C208

No VETNET Meeting – everyone encouraged to join President Pura for lunch

10.15 – 10.17
STUDENT SENATE ELECTIONS
Voting will take place on Moodle!

VETNET
Endorses
John “JD” Madden

STUDENT SENATE
VOTE FOR JD!

GOT PENNIES?
Small Change Makes a Huge Difference!

The VetNet Student Club has challenged itself to fill a 5-gallon water jug with pennies this semester.

The money collected will be used to support local veterans and their families during the holiday season.

The water jug is located in the VETS Center N215. Stop by or call 775-1882 for a penny pick up

FINAL THOUGHTS

Three years ago, one student veteran began promoting support for vets on campus.

Two years ago, several student veterans came together and opened their hearts to this community.

One year ago, GCC dedicated space for student veterans to gather.

Thomas Jefferson said, “Never put off tomorrow what you can do today”

Stop by the VETS Center today and experience student enrollment in action.

We are not retreating – we are advancing in another direction.”
General Douglas MacArthur