



**VFW & Ladies Auxiliary
District I
Department of Washington
January 2013**



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS

Upcoming Events Calendar

January 1st, 2013	Deadline for Public Servants Award
January 5th	District 1 Award Presentation Voice of Democracy, Patriots Pen, Teachers of the Year — Alderwood Boys and Girls Club—Lunch 12 PM Presentation 12:30 PM
January 19th	Mid-Winter Convention—Yakima
January 29th	Raffle drawing—Post 2100
February 1st	Deadline for Newsletter of the Year competition
March 1st	Deadline for Scout of the Year
March 16th	District 1 Auxiliary Chili Cook-Off Fundraiser
March 30th	District 1 Meeting —Alderwood Boys and Girls Club—Lunch 12 PM Meeting 1 PM
May 18th	District 1 Convention — Alderwood Boys and Girls Club—Lunch 12 PM Meeting 1 PM
June 5th-8th	Department Convention—Yakima
July 20-25th	National Convention—Louisville, KY

District I Raffle

We really need everyone to help in selling your Post's raffle tickets. As you know, we have a great prize for the winner. Remember, this fund raiser is in lieu of spending a night or two at Smokey Point coffee stop. In the past, only a few individuals volunteered to help out District. By having a raffle, everyone can assist just by buying and/or selling raffle tickets. The funds will be used to for awards for District winners and runner-ups of VOD, PP, Youth Essay, and Teacher of the Year awards. Any assistance you can give us is most appreciated. If you would like tickets, please contact Jim Traner at commander@vfwwadistrict1.org

January District Meeting

Just a heads up on the January meeting. We will be hosting the Essay, Patriot's Pen, and Voice of Democracy winners as well as the Teachers of the Year winners. Rather than having a business meeting first, we will begin by having them show up and eat lunch with us and immediately begin the presentations. Post 1040 and Post 8870 will host the lunch. So please mark your calendar to be at the meeting by 12:00PM as the awards will begin as soon as we get everyone settled. After the awards have been issued, the students and teachers will be excused and we will have a business meeting. Hopefully, no snow is planned for that day.

Fallen Heroes Project Receives VFW Foundation Grant

Mike Reagan recently learned the VFW Foundation is awarding his non-profit \$25,000 a year for the next three years. Department Commander Krist Huseby will make the award at Post's 8870 February 8th meeting. As I hope everyone knows, Mike is a Vietnam veteran who served with the Marines and was in-country in 1968. He has drawn over 3,100 portraits of KIA's free of charge. If you would like Mike to speak to your Post, let me know.

Minutes at the District Website

Minutes of the last District meeting can be found at www.vfwwadistrict1.org. Contact commander@vfwwadistrict1.org for the password to view them.

Last Chance for a Tax Deduction

A contribution to your own Relief Fund before year end will result in a charitable donation. Might as well keep your funds local rather than a distant organization where you don't know how the funds are used.

Around the District

Danny Houghton, District membership chairman, Elmer Johnson, Post 921, Doug White, Post 9417, and Eric Welter, Post 1561 all participated in a District membership drive at the Monroe Gun Show in December. Thank you comrades for your support to VFW.

Post 1561 is on the move again. The next meeting will be January 8th at Arlington High School ROTC portable. That is at 8821 Crown Ridge Blvd Arlington, WA 98223. Willy Hughes will have signs out to guide you to the portable. The Auxiliary will meet at Alf's Pizza in Smokey Point at 15:00. That is 3405 173rd Place Northeast Arlington, WA 98223.

I attended Post 1040's December meeting and found a packing line—getting boxes off to line troops overseas. This is an annual event for them. I remember being in a remote firebase in '67 and getting a "care" package around Christmas so I know some troopers will appreciate 1040's efforts as much I liked opening that package many years ago.

Post 2554's new Quartermaster is John Morehead who is taking the place of Ed Rasmussen who resigned. John is a former Commander of the Post and a recipient of a White Hat. He will do a great job.

Wet Bus to Mid-Winter

District 4 will be hosting a bus to the Mid-Winter conference in Yakima. It will depart Department HQ at 0930 on January 18th and return Sunday, January 20th. The cost is \$110.00 per person. For reservations, call Dean Miller at 360-536-2597. Mail your checks to Dean Miller, P.O. Box 5494, Breerton, WA 98312.

Poppy Orders

Just a note to those Posts who haven't ordered Buddy Poppies. It takes a couple of months for them to be delivered. I recommend you get your order in ASAP. Memorial Day seems a long way off but it has a way of creeping up on you.

There seems to be an attitude among some Posts that Buddy Poppies are an "overhead" item. They are not. They provide a method of raising funds for your Relief Fund and, just as importantly, provide you an opportunity to raise your visibility in your community.

Membership

Sometimes we get so caught up in getting new members, we forget about our current members. My column this month is directed at that subject. Unfortunately, about the only time some of our members hear from us is when we are after dues for the next year. Hopefully, your Post isn't into the "once a year" to see if your member is still alive.

Never the less, it's time to get serious about our continuous members. Remember, a member who hasn't paid by December 31st is no longer a continuous member and must be reinstated upon receipt of payment. In addition, if the comrade is an officer they no longer are eligible to hold their position. Bottom line, get busy and contact your membership for dues. A personal call with a follow-up note from the Post Commander or Quartermaster will go a long way in getting to 100% membership. Also, a return envelope with your Post's address is a must. If District can help you, let us know.

Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

Erv Schmidt was the featured speaker at the Naval Station Everett's services. Erv, a member of Post 8870, spoke about the attack on his ship, the USS California, and the hours following the first wave of Japanese fighter planes and bombers. Erv, who is 96, did an excellent job and I watched a number of young sailors approach him after the ceremony just to shake his hand. We had representation from a number of Posts in the District and wish to thank those who attended.

Post Trustees' Report of Audit—Do Your Trustees Do Their Job?

The VFW does not provide a manual of instruction for Trustees per se. However, the Quartermaster's Manual that is found on-line at VFW.org does have what I would consider the minimum requirements. As a CPA, I would add reviewing the bank reconciliations to insure the balances agree to the Trustees Report. If this was a private business that I was advising, the bank reconciliation would be prepared by someone other than the Commander or QM but that is asking a lot from a Post.

Test Question 1: Do your Trustees do their job or simply put their signature when presented with the Post's Report of Audit? The preparation and completion of the Post Trustees' Report of Audit at the end of each quarter is the duty and responsibility of the Post Trustees. In those instances where, upon recommendation of the Post Trustees and authorization by the Post, qualified accountants are engaged to perform the quarterly audit, it continues to be the duty and responsibility of the Post Trustees to submit the Post Trustees' Report of Audit as set forth in the By-Laws. Department Inspectors and Deputies are charged with the responsibility of seeing that Posts comply with the requirements of this section.

- (a) Post Trustees must ascertain if all receipts and disbursements have been properly listed and that properly approved vouchers/orders are in evidence to cover and authorize all disbursements.
- (b) They should satisfy themselves that the receipts of the previous meeting have been properly deposited in the bank by examining either the bank passbook or receipted deposit slip.
- (c) They should require all checks to be countersigned by the Post Commander.
- (d) Upon examination and audit of the statement, if found to be correct, they should so certify by placing their signatures thereon.
- (e) The triplicate or yellow copy should be given to the Post Adjutant so the information appearing thereon may be included in the minutes of the meeting.
- (f) The original or white copy should be returned to the Post Quartermaster in exchange for the duplicate or blue copy.
- (g) The duplicate or blue copy should be retained by the Trustees to verify and assist them in their quarterly audit of the Quartermaster's books.

6. Section 218 of the Manual of Procedure mandates Post Trustees to make quarterly audits of certain records and to submit proper reports thereof. *Any negligence on their part in complying will make them (Trustees) individually and collectively liable for any loss the Post may suffer. Although the Trustees may not actually misuse Post funds, they do become, in case of loss, accessory to the act by reason of not performing their duties as prescribed by law and in accordance with their obligation. Keep in mind that bonding company liability is contingent with the compliance of VFW By-Laws by Post Officers.*

Answer to Question 1: Each Post Commander has to come to his or her conclusion of the Trustees' performance. However, remember that the Post Commander is ultimately responsible for everything that happens in their Post. As Commander, you are responsible to insure that your Post Trustees follow these procedures as you are signing off on the form as well.

The Commander's Corner

I recently ran into an old friend of mine who is a member of a Post in our District. He made his first meeting after years of being a member because he was finally contacted via a post card that there was a meeting. Gerry is a Vietnam Veteran, retired Special Investigator for the U.S. Government and a heck of an asset to any Post. How many of your members know when and where you meet.? I know we post it in the Everett Herald and they have been great about publishing the information. However, have you considered having a couple of Comrades make 4 or 5 phone calls before each meeting and invite a member to attend a meeting. I hate to admit it, but Col. Buck Weaver of my Post called me every month for a year or so before I relented and attended a meeting. I enjoyed the meeting and the rest is history. You must reach out to your membership if you want to have an active Post. There is a critical mass that has to be achieved at your Post meetings before you can call your Post an "active Post". Every Post has a wealth of talent in its members but you can't tap into that talent if you don't get them to a meeting. It is the Post Commander's responsibility to make a Post successful. I would challenge every Post Commander in the District to reach out to those comrades that don't attend meetings and invite them. They can live in KY like someone I know, but never the less, they should be invited to every meeting and kept informed of the Post's activities. It will make your Post stronger in the long run.

Housekeeping Stuff

I will be visiting each Post in January. As I do so, I would appreciate and accounting of the raffle tickets sold, remaining, and cash or checks collected. You have until the day of the drawing to sell tickets but only if you can attend the drawing at Post 2100 and arrive early with your raffle stubs, cash, and remaining tickets. I will be contacting each Post earlier that week to determine if I need to pick up the items or whether you will be attending the drawing.

I assume that everyone who is attending Mid-Winter has a room and an a banquet reservation as well. If not, I recommend you get on the phone with one of the over-flow hotels ASAP. If you would like to attend but cannot find a room, let me know.

If your QM has not registered with National, you are making a lot of work for yourselves. I find that their website is easy to use when adding a member, recording a payment, or removing a member who is deceased. It is easy to determine your unpaid members including their addresses. The day of the computer has arrived.

The President's Corner

I hope Santa gave you just what you wanted. My wish can't be bought in any store. It's peace around the world as well as 100% in our membership. When our membership drops so does our ability to help our veterans. When the membership is high, the numbers give us a lot of clout in Washington D.C.

We have several fun things coming up soon in our District. Check the calendar of events for them. We should add fun to our list, not just all work. I still need a judge and entrants to make chili in our March 16th cook off. I will make corn bread to go with the chili. If you don't want to cook, be a judge or just come and eat. There will be assorted cakes for dessert.

Please get the list of your deceased members into the District secretary and Adjutant for our Memorial service. Be safe and sober on New Year's Eve. Don't make resolutions that you can't keep. Bless all of you.

Jan Beam

District One President

Post & Auxiliary Meetings (same time and place unless otherwise indicated)

If you change the date or time of your meeting, please let both District and Department know of the change.

Gay Jones Post #921

Meeting Place: Snohomish Boys and Girls Club
402-2nd Street
Snohomish, WA 98290-3097

Meeting Date: 3rd Saturday - 1:00 P.M.

Walter A. Deebach Post #1040

Meeting Place: Alderwood Boys & Girls Club
19719—24th Ave. W.
Lynnwood, WA 98036

Meeting Date: 1st Thursday - 7:00 PM

Boyer Daniel Post #1561

Meeting Place: Arlington High School ROTC portable. That is at 8821 Crown Ridge Blvd Arlington, WA 98223

Meeting Date: January 8th—7:00 PM—Auxiliary 1st Tuesday—6:30PM (Change of Location)
Important—See “Around the District” for the Auxiliary’s Meeting Place and Time

Old Guard Post #2100

Meeting Place: Everett Post Home
2711 Oakes Ave.
Everett, WA 98201
425-252-2100

Meeting Date: Last Thursday of month 6:30 PM—Auxiliary 2nd Monday—6:30PM

Stoehr Glidden Post #2554

Meeting Place: United Methodist Church
211 Birch Ave.
Sultan, WA 98294

Meeting Date: 2nd Thursday -7:00 PM (Changed from 7:30PM)

Monroe #7511

Meeting Place: I.O.O.F. Hall
610 So. Lewis St.
Monroe, WA 98272

Meeting Date: 2nd Thursday - 12:00PM

Edmonds Post #8870

Meeting Place: Edmonds Senior Center
220 Railroad Ave.
Edmonds, WA. 98020

Meeting Date: 2nd Friday-12:30 PM (Lunch at 11:45AM)

Martin-Osterholtz Post #9417

Meeting Place: Gold Bar Post Home
301-3rd St. P.O. Box 663
Gold Bar, WA. 98251

Meeting Date: 1st Thursday - 6:00 PM-Auxiliary 1st Wednesday—4:00PM

Membership & Tally Sheet—as of December 26th

Post	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Adj. Prior Year	Percent
921	55	1	0	2	58	66	87.87%
1040	198	7	5	39	249	310	80.32%
1561	99	3	1	24	127	144	88.19%
2100	732	3	1	50	786	848	92.68%
2554	28	0	0	4	32	35	91.42%
7511	30	0	1	4	35	35	100.00%
8870	144	9	2	32	187	214	87.38%
9417	51	0	0	8	59	65	90.76%
Total	1337	23	10	163	1533	1717	89.28%

Post	bylaws	insp.	audits			poppies	Bonds
			990's	june	Sept		
921	5/22/95	10/20	11	10/2	11/26	2,000	90k
1040	12/13/12	11/1	11	7/9	10/11	2,000	60k/3k
1561	11/2/10	10/2	11	7/30	11/8		90k
2100	3/20/02	10/25	11	9/20	11/20		50k/3k/3k
2554	3/30/04		11	7/30			30k/30k
7511	5/22/01	11/8	11	9/21	12/21	500	15k/3k
8870	3/8/07	10/12	11	9/5	10/17	20,000	35k/ 35k
9417	3/27/02	10/4	11	7/11	10/11		10k/8k
Dist 01	6/17/08	11/17	11	7/17	10/22		5k/3k

CSR

Post	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov
921	6/8	8/9	8/9	9/10	10/10	11/9	12/5
1040	6/8	7/6	8/3	9/7	10/5	11/2	12/3
1561	6/11	7/11	8/13	9/11	10/12	11/10	
2100	8/20	7/17	8/15	9/7	10/1	11/5	12/10
2554	9/18	9/18	9/18	9/18			
7511	11/19	11/19	11/19	11/19	11/19	11/19	
8870	5/22	6/14	7/26	8/15	9/27	10/19	11/21
9417		8/13	8/13				

HSP

Post	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov
921	6/8	8/9	8/9	9/10	10/10	11/9	12/5
1040	6/8	7/6	8/3	9/7	10/5	11/2	11/30
1561	6/11	7/11	8/13	9/11	10/12	11/10	12/12
2100	8/20	7/17	8/15	9/7	10/1	11/5	12/10
2554	9/18	9/18	9/18	9/18			
7511	11/30		11/30				
8870	5/22	6/15	7/26	8/15	9/27	10/19	11/21
9417		11/8	11/8				

Chap

Post	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Notes
921	x	x	x	x	x	x	
1040	x	x	x	x	x	x	
1561	x	x	x	x	x		
2100	x	x	x	x	x	x	
2554	x	x	x	x	x		need sept au- dit
7511	x		x				
8870	x	x	x		x	x	
9417	x	x		x			