



VFW & Ladies Auxiliary
District I Dep't of Washington
July 2013



www.vfwwadistrict1.org

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS

Upcoming Events for the 2013-14 Year

July 20-25th	National Convention—Louisville, KY
August 17th	District School of Instruction—Alderwood Boys and Girls Club 1:00PM
August 17th	Aquasox Game—7:00PM— VFW Night
October 18th	Commanders Meetings— Post 2100-6:00PM
January 4, 2014	District Meeting-Alderwood Boys and Girls Club— Lunch 12 PM— Awards Ceremony for VOD, PP, Youth Essays, and Teachers of the Year-Commanders Visit
January 16th-19th	Mid-Winter Conference, Yakima
February 21st	Commanders Meetings— Post 2100-6:00PM
April 19th	District Memorial Service and meeting, Lunch 12PM, Meeting 1:00PM
May 17th	District Convention-Alderwood Boys and Girls Club-Lunch 12PM, Meeting 1:00PM
June 4th –6th	Department Convention, Yakima
July 19th-23rd	National VFW Convention— St. Louis, MO

Department Convention

The Department Convention was held on June 6-8th in Yakima. The annual elections were held and Ted Streete is our Department Commander. Dick Whipple retained his position as QM and John Bradburn defeated Linda Fairbank for Surgeon (which means John will be Commander in 5 years). Both Linda and John were excellent candidates and hopefully Linda will run again next year.

I learned a couple of things that you may want to pass along to your Posts. First, every VFW member is covered with a \$1,500 accidental death policy. Post 8870 had a member fall down the stairs resulting in his death several years ago and no one knew this insurance was in place. Hopefully, none of your members will need it but it's there if you do.

Free legal services are provided on the 3rd Saturday of the month at JBLM and the Yakima Firing Center for Wills, Power of Attorneys, and Medical Directives. No appointment is necessary. The Firing Center may be your best choice as the demand is much less over there than at JBLM. Besides, the drive through the Yakima Canyon is nice this time of year.

If you have individuals that wish to purchase life membership on the installment basis, do not use a the National VFW website and enter their credit card. What happens it the entire amount will be charged to the credit care, not just the first installment. You must use the good ole fashion method and mail it in.

Aquasox Tickets

I now have tickets for the game on August 17th. They are \$10/each. You can email a request and I'll send them to you or wait until I attend your meeting.

Department and National are both facing budget deficits due to declining membership. It is imperative that we reach out to veterans in our community and seek their membership. For the second year in a row, Department has missed 100% by only a few members. This year I hope District I will do their share.

Around the District

Changes in Post Meeting Times

Due to the Fourth of July, we have several Posts with changes to their meetings. Post 1040 has moved their meeting from July 4th to July 2nd. Post 9417 is moving their meeting from July 4th to July 11th. As was previously noted, Post 7511 has moved their meeting to 7PM on the second Thursday and 921 has moved their meeting to 2nd Saturday of the month. Post Commanders please remember that if you change your meeting you must notify both Department and District of the change. A simple email will suffice

Special Olympics

Jim Raymond is our District chairman of Special Olympics and Gordon Huggins is the Department Chair. I would ask that you let Jim know of any donations you make so that I can keep track of them. This program slipped between the cracks at both Department and District last year and we are trying to revive interest in it this year. Jim attended a meeting in June with the Special Olympics committee. There will be a fund raising event on September 21st at the Tulalip Amphitheatre call "Ride of Dreams". I have flyers of the event and I will distribute them when I visit your Post. I would hope that all the Posts will make a donation to this worthy cause.

Department Commander Pins

I have Commander Streete's Commander Pins available for \$3. If you are interested in one, let me know when I visit you Post and I will see you get one.

Per Capita Fees

Just a reminder that when you prepare your 2013-14 budget you factor in that per capital fees to the District have increased to \$.50/member. This increase brings the District into alignment with the other Districts in Department.

Reporting What We Do

While I think we all do a great job in Community Service Reports, Hospital Reports, and Chaplain's reports, we need to make sure that our efforts in Voice of Democracy, Patriots Pen, Youth Essays, Safety, Americanism, Community Activities, National Home, National Military Services, and Scouting are being reported to Department or to the respective chairman of that activity. Our District has a chairperson for each of these activities. At the School of Instruction, I want to make sure that we have a structure that will insure that each Post is credited for their efforts in each of these activities. While you must have 100% to earn a White Hat, that is simply the make/break line. For instance, a Post in Division 8 needed a 125 points out of 150 to earn a White Hat. Membership counted for 10 points. While a Post may have done the necessary activities to achieve 125 points, if those activities go unreported there is no way for Department to give the Post credit. I would like each Post to keep their own Tally sheet based on the criteria for All State Post Commanders. I would like to review those sheets at the scheduled Commanders' meetings to insure that we have done all we can do to get each of you a White Hat.

Hospice Volunteers Sought

At Post 2100's meeting, Ms. Sandy Powers, manager of volunteer services for Providence Hospice & Home Health Care Foundation for Snohomish County, spoke about their program to match hospice volunteers with a military background with veterans needing hospice care. One in four dying Americans is a veteran. She passed along several moving stories about how veteran volunteers were able to make the last days of dying veterans much easier. In addition, Hospice has a "pinning" ceremony which is exactly what it sounds like. They have a ribbon and certificate thanking the dying veteran for his or her service. This is a great program and her contact information is sandy.powers@providence.org and her phone number is 425-501-7612. She is looking for veterans and you don't need overseas experience; just knowing the lingo is important to talking to these vets. I would highly recommend her as a speaker at your meeting. She only spent about 10 or 15 minutes and I'm sure your members will find it beneficial.

Past District President Jan Beam's Final Report

Thanks to all Auxiliaries good works I was given the honor of picking up the following awards for the District this year:

Division breakdown:

Division 1 10-45 members

Division 2 46-75 members

Division 3 76-150 members

Division 4 151-275 members

Division 5 276+

Patriot's Pen awards were received from both the Post and Auxiliary for auxiliaries 1040, 1561, 2100, 7511, and 8870.

Scholarship program certificates to 921, 1040, 1561, 2100, 2554, 7511, 8870 & 9417.

Voice of Democracy Certificates to 921, 1040, 1561, 2100, 2554, & 7511.

Community Service Honorable mention certificate to 9417.

Buddy Poppy Award to Verna Mines, Aux. 1561.

Cancer A&R Silver Award to Aux 8870 for donation of \$ 5.00 per member.

Scholarship Program Division 1, 3rd place Mary Stackpole Aux 7511

Community Service Division 1, 2nd place LaVette Moser Aux 7511

Cancer A&R Division 1, 2nd place Connie Daily Aux. 8870

Cancer A&R Diamond Award Aux. 1040 for \$ 8.05 per member.

Healthy Auxiliary awards to 1561 & 7511.

Membership 2nd place award, Ruth Herren, Aux 2100

Legislative 3rd place award, Division 2 Aux 1561

Scholarship 3rd place Division 1, Aux 7511

The Commander's Corner—Jim Traner

Jan Beam did a great job reporting on the various awards each Auxiliary received. I, on the other hand, have already handed out several of the Posts' awards and didn't record them. Next year, I'll make sure I do so. This is the reason I'm District Commander the second time in a row; I'm still figuring the job out.

We had a great time in Yakima at the Convention. The Beams, the Spani's and myself parked our RV's at Sportsman State Park rather than staying at the Red Lion. On the Thursday night we had a BBQ for all the District 1 folks attending the convention and it was nice sitting around and chatting with folks without the noise and distractions of the Convention. Of course, we also had some uninvited guests, mosquitos. I haven't seen that many bugs since Vietnam. I think Marti Spani got anemic from blood loss. Never the less, it was fun, bugs or not.

I just received notification that District's inspection will take place at our District meeting on January 4th. In addition, our Department Commander Ted Streete will be attending. Since this is our "Awards Banquet" for VOD, PP, Youth Essays, and Teacher of the Year Award, this will be a great opportunity so showcase our efforts in this area. I hope all the Posts have entries for all of these contests.

The themes for this year are:

VOD: "Why I'm Optimistic About our Nation's Future:

PP: "What Patriotism Means to Me"

Youth Essay: "My American Hero is.....?"

Remember, that not only public school children eligible for the contest, home schooled and private school children are as well. A Google search of private schools in Snohomish County turned up a list for perhaps 20-30 schools. While many are pre-school, I was surprised by the number of elementary and secondary schools. Remember, you can also nominate a teacher from one of these schools as well.

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: 2nd 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-Except July meeting will be on July 2nd

Boyer Daniel Post #1561

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

Meeting Date: 1st Tuesday—7:00PM

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

Monroe #7511

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

Meeting Date: 2nd Thursday - 7:00PM - Auxiliary 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 (except for the July meeting which will held on July 11th at 6:00PM)-Auxiliary 1st Thursday—4:00PM