



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

Upcoming Events for the 2013-14 Year

June 1st	Post Election Reports due to National Headquarters
June 5th-8th	Department Convention—Yakima
July 20-25th	National Convention—Louisville, KY
August 17th	District School of Instruction—Alderwood Boys and Girls Club 1:00PM
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
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

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

www.vfwwadistrict1.org



NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS

Post 1561 Selected Post of the Year



Willy Hughes, Commander of Post 1561, accepts the Post of the Year Award from Commander Jim Traner at the District Convention.

District Convention

The District Convention was held on May 18th. Officers for the year will be Jim Traner, Commander, Don Wischmann, Sr. Vice, Willy Hughes, Junior Vice, Ron Haley, District QM, John Beam, Adjutant, Jim Raymond, Chaplain, Ken Kosters, Judge Advocate, Al Boyett, Surgeon, Richie Richter, 1 year Trustee, Frank Martinez, 2 year Trustee, and Dennis Peterson, 3 year Trustee. The revised District By-Laws were approved as was an increase in Per Capita dues from 20 cents to 50 cents for the 2013-14 year. A special thanks to Posts 2554 and 1561 for hosting the luncheon. If anyone would like a copy of the revised District by-laws, please let me know and I will email you a copy once it has been approved by Department and National.

District Newsletter Selected Best in the Nation

District 1's newsletter was selected by National's publication department as the best newsletter for a mid-size District in the Nation. District 2 to our immediate south was awarded 2nd place for small Districts. Not bad for a couple of adjacent Districts

Around the District

Changes in Post Meeting Times

Please note that Post 7511 has permanently changed their meeting time from 12:00PM to 7:00PM. The date will remain the same—the second Thursday of the month. The Auxiliary will continue to meet at noon.

Post 1040 will be changing their June and July meetings. The June meeting will now take place on June 4th as their regularly scheduled meeting was during the Department Convention in Yakima. In July, their meeting will be changed to the 2nd as the regularly scheduled meeting was scheduled to be held on July 4th.

Again, if you changed your meeting times, please let both District and Department know of the changes.

Buddy Poppy Donation Cans

Nathan Farmer and Eric Welter of Post 1561 have designed and come up with a very unique container for Buddy Poppy collections. Made from wood, they have all the branches of the service engraved on the sides. These are computer generated engravings so they are crystal clear. If you're interested in obtaining one, Eric's email is ericbw_2000@yahoo.com.

District I Pup Tent in Planning Stage

Comrade Eric Welter from Arlington Post 1561 is attempting to form a Pup Tent in District I. Designated as the Honor Degree of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, the Military Order of the Cootie is a subordinate order of the parent organization composed exclusively of VFW members in good standing. The MOC, established in 1921 for the primary purpose of creating a "fun degree" within the parent body, is also dedicated to serious purposes. Organized in nearly every department as a Grand Pup Tents with local Pup Tent units, the Cootie sponsor a continuous program of hospital work and visitations. If you have any questions or wish to participate, email Eric at ericbw_2000@yahoo.com Although I think most of the Comrades and Auxiliary members reading this newsletter are familiar with the Cooties, I would appreciate it if you would discuss this under the "Good of the Order" at your next Post meeting.

Election Reports Due June 1st

If you are reading this and your Post election reports are not at Department and National (not just post-marked) by June 1st you have a delinquent report. I know that several Posts have submitted them already. If your Post hasn't, please see that it gets faxed or emailed to Department and National on the 1st.

National Convention Fees

Even if no one from your Post intends on making the National Convention this year, you still must pay a \$25 registration fee to National. Your Quartermaster should have received a registration form which needs to be completed and mailed to National.

Aquasox Game—August 17th

My previous newsletters detailed our VFW day at the park so I suspect everyone is familiar with what is going on. Please send me an email with the number of tickets your Post would like. I have to place an order with the AquaSox fairly soon in order to get all the seats in one area. I will need a check (\$10/ticket) for the amount of tickets when I deliver them in June.

National Military Services

Comrade Traci Williams, Department's Chairperson for National Military Services, pointed out that you can get NMS lapel pins for your Post's donation to NMS. They come in different denominations:

Gold \$20

Silver \$15

Black \$10

Bronze \$5

If you want them, you need to indicate on the check "Lapel Pins" and I assume you indicate the quantity and denominations. It's a bit late for this year, but they would make excellent gifts for outgoing officers from your Post. Traci's email is seahawksoldier@hotmail.com if you are interested in getting more information. You can also go National's website www.VFW.org for additional information.

Department Mailings

If you haven't seen them, it's because Department doesn't mail them any more. Make sure you visit http://www.vfwofwa.org/dept_mailings.html before your Post meetings for the latest postings.

Possible By-Law and Manual of Procedure Changes

The National Convention in Louisville, KY is July 20th to the 24th and there are several proposed rule changes that will have a significant impact on Posts. The first is an increase in dues from \$11.50 to \$21.50 in National dues. I am quite certain there will be a lengthy discussion on this proposal. Section 216 of the by-laws are proposed to be changed to reflect the fact that the officers of each Post will remain as they are currently but the elected officers will only be the Commander, Senior Vice, Junior Vice, Quartermaster, Chaplain, and three Trustees. This will allow the Judge Advocate and Surgeon to become appointed positions. As many of you know, the smaller Posts have difficulty filling all the elective positions. Since an elected officer can also fill an appointed position (assuming this change passes), it would be possible for a Chaplain to also be the Surgeon. This was a hotly debated item last year when the Chaplain's position was included in appointed positions. I suspect that it will be much more acceptable in the current version but any change seems to bring out the naysayers in force. Hopefully, some change can be made as a Post who can't fill all the elected positions faces the loss of their Charter.

The Commander's Corner—Jim Traner

This is a bit of an abbreviated newsletter this month. Post elections are over, the District Convention is behind us, and Memorial Day has been observed by all our Posts in their respective communities. The next significant event will be the Fourth of July. I've included the "final" membership numbers for this year and they are somewhat disappointing. Even though we recruited a number of new members, our retention of continuous members was quite low. We can get them in, but we can't keep them. The "why" is interesting. I suggest that each Post send a letter with their "final billing" asking that question. There may be as many reasons as there are Comrades dropping out, but if there is a trend, it needs to be discovered and corrected.

From a District standpoint, our next meeting will be August 17th and will be the School of Instruction. I envision this to be a working school of instruction. We have new Quartermasters, Surgeons, and Trustees that I hope will attend. With one exception, our Post Commanders remain the same. If any of you have any thoughts on what you'd like covered at the School, please let me know. If we lack a certain expertise, I would like to be able to bring someone from Department to cover that area.

Final Year-End Tally of Post Membership

Here are the final numbers as of May 30th.

Post	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Adjusted		N/R LM	Prior	
						Prior Year	Percent		Annual	Retention
921	55	1	0	5	61	66	92.42%	0	6	83.33%
1040	198	15	9	63	285	310	91.93%	1	109	62.39%
1561	100	18	6	39	163	144	113.19%	1	48	85.42%
2100	737	12	4	70	823	848	97.05%	7	103	78.64%
2554	28	0	1	4	33	35	94.28%	0	4	75.00%
7511	30	1	1	4	36	35	102.85%	0	5	80.00%
8870	144	17	2	50	213	214	99.53%	2	82	65.85%
9417	52	0	3	11	66	65	101.53%	1	11	100.00%
	1344	64	26	246	1680	1717	97.84%	12		

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 June meeting will be on June 4th & the July meeting will be held 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 (Changed from 7:30PM)

Monroe #7511

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

Meeting Date: 2nd Thursday - 7:00PM (Changed from Noon) - 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-Auxiliary 1st Thursday—4:00PM