



VFW Post 8870

Edmonds, WA
www.vfw8870.org
 Jim Traner, Editor

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Calendar 2009-2010

August 14th-16th	Traveling Wall—Acacia Cemetery
August 17th-20th	National Convention— Phoenix
August 22nd	District #1 Picnic—Silver Lake -Camp Patterson 1200 to 1500 hrs.
August 28th-31st	Smokey Point Fundraiser
September 12th	District I Conference & School of Instruction—Noon -Alderwood Boys & Girls Club
November 1st	Patriots Pen & Voice of Democracy Essays Deadline Teacher of the Year Deadline
November 6th-7th	Veteran's Day Poppy Fundraiser
November 7th	District I Conference—Noon Alderwood Boys & Girls Club
November 20th	Post Meeting on 3rd Friday—Not 2nd Friday
January 9th, 2010	District I Conference—Post 8870 will host
March 1st	Scout of the Year Scholarship Application
March 6, 2010	District I Conference—Noon- Alderwood Boys & Girls Club
May 1st, 2010	District I Convention—Noon— Alderwood Boys & Girls Club
June 24th-25th	State Convention—Yakima

Lynnwood Rotary Club Invites WWII Veterans to Lunch

The Lynnwood Rotary Club which meets at the Nile Temple Country Club is inviting all WWII vets to attend their meeting on August 27th at noon for a free lunch to listen to Joe Moser speak about his experiences as a P-38 pilot. Mr. Moser was shot down on a mission over Europe and spent the remaining time as a POW in Germany. Rock Roth and I are going to attend (even if we have to pay for our meals since we are both Vietnam vets) and urge anyone who wants to join us to do so. I would like to get a count of the number of individuals who plan on attending at the next meeting. If you can't attend the Post meeting but do intend to be at the Rotary meeting, please let me know as I told the Rotary club I would give them an approximate count.



July 4th—Parade & Picnic

The parade was great—and the American Legion were gracious hosts in opening the doors of the American Legion Hall to the veterans who marched in the parade for a hot dog and beer following the event. The picture above is our group marching by the review stand. You can see a number flags from VFW Posts and American Legion Posts that marched together. The comradeship was great and the crowds all rose to their feet to welcome us as we marched through Edmonds. For those who couldn't walk, we had a Deuce and Half, 3/4 ton, and two cars so there was plenty of room for all. Again, for those of you who didn't make it, mark your calendars for next year. Later in this bulletin, I have several more pictures which I think you will enjoy. As both editor and Post Commander, I want to express my thanks to the American Legion on both a personal and Post level for hosting the picnic.

Smokey Point Fund Raiser

If you haven't done so already, please contact John Casapiedra at 206-440-9152 to get on the schedule. We need volunteers from 1PM on Friday, August 28th, to 1PM on Monday, August 31st. This is a key fund raiser for the Post. If we all pull our own weight, it will be easy. Thanks for the help.

Upcoming Speakers

August 14, 2009	Sgt. Major Jesse Mafnas, USMC
September 11, 2009	Mr. John Lee, WA State Department of Veterans Affairs
October 9, 2009	Glenn Holloway, WWII POW
November 20, 2009	Patriot's Pen & Voice of Democracy Winners
December 11, 2009	Holiday musical entertainment



More 4th of July Pictures



Would you let this man drive your cherry '57 Chevy? Well, Ken Chaplin did and we have to give Ken a thanks on two levels, trusting Duane wouldn't wreck his car and providing his pride and joy to us for the parade. Julie Pounds, Dexter Miller, and Jim Harness rode with Duane.



Buck Weaver and your editor pose for a picture before the parade starts with Erv Schmidt in the background. Buck is our best ambassador in the parade as he knows everyone on the streets and can't resist a friendly wave to the kids lining up on the curbs.

Everett Aquasox Game



For those of you who missed the game, you missed a really great outing. Although Les Abel was wearing his American Legion jacket, we let him sit with us. I missed the guys in the first row (I'm not great with a camera) but we had a good showing for the first annual VFW 8870 Aquasox outing. Besides having fun, the guys all looked good in their new Aquasox camo hats.

Veterans Museum and Post Outing

I attended the Vietnam Veterans Remembrance Day ceremony at the Veterans Museum in Chehalis on July 18th. The speaker, Master Chief Pete Slempla was a member of Seal Team One, in essence, the first class of Seals in the US Navy. Prior to that, everyone was a UDT member. It was a great day mixing with a lot of guys (and a woman) that served in Nam. On Sept. 4th there will a Korean War/POW MIA Remembrance Day, and on December 6 a Pearl Harbor/World War II Dinner. The Post is tentatively planning an outing to the Museum on 9/20 from 1300 to 1500 hrs. departing at 1100. More on this at the meeting.



4th & Main Street. Just an idea of the crowd that lined both sides of the streets for a mile. The parade is rated as one of the 10 best small town parades in America. Buried in the crowd are my wife and several members of my office and their children. Why would anyone be anywhere else on the 4th of July? We would really like to get everyone participating next year—riding or walking.

Need A Lift?

If you need a lift to the meeting, just give Liz Mather, the quartermaster, a call or drop her an email at quartermaster@VFW8870.org. On the other hand, if you are interested in providing transportation to a fellow member, let Liz know and she can match riders with drivers.



Invitation for District #1 VFW Post & Auxiliary 2009 Summer Picnic

When: Saturday, August 22nd 12 PM to 3 PM

Where: Camp Patterson Picnic Shelter at Silverlake (Sullivan Park). 11400 W. Silverlake Road, Everett. Parking is directly in front of the shelter.

Who: All District #1 members and family. Bring a friend/neighbor who is a veteran— past, present, or future.

What: to bring:—a side dish, salad or dessert. Bring a lawn chair if that would be more comfortable and your beverage of choice.

District #1 will provide: Main dish, all plates & utensils, table covers, ice. There will be lemonade stand to raise money for District #1.

Awards/Prizes to: oldest & youngest attendees; furthest traveled; group with the largest turnout.

Plenty of close parking, wheelchair accessible, close to the restrooms. Beach and playground nearby. We'll be setting up around 1130 hrs. if you would like to help, and will also need some help cleaning up.

Contacts: Carol Williams 360-629-4941; Janet Callahan 425-741-3439

Hopefully, we can have a good representation from Post 8870 attend this event.

Bob Reinhart—July's Speaker



Bob Reinhart, retired CIA agent, spoke about the years he spent in Laos during the Vietnam war. Bob was a Marine officer and platoon leader before a long career with the CIA. After retiring from the Agency, Bob and his wife make their home in Edmonds. His stories about being able to bring different groups together and fight the communists in Laos had me on the edge of my seat. While a civilian, Bob basically did everything from being a spotter for bombing runs to supplying various counter communist groups with arms and clothing. One time he couldn't get a group to carry the fight to the enemy and, by accident, during a supply drop the parachutes landed between a group of communists and Bob's reluctant warriors. Their desire for the goods overcame their reluctance to fight and Bob finally got them to engage the enemy. He said if he had known that was what it took, he would have done it a long time before. Bob was great and I got a tremendous amount of positive feedback. If you weren't there, you missed out on a great program.

Just a sidebar, if you know of any individuals who would make great speakers like Bob, please contract Fred Apgar.



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The Last Word

We were marching in the 4th of July parade (OK—marching is an exaggeration—we were walking) when a bystander yelled out to our group and asked “Which war?”. Without really thinking I said “All of them” which brought a chuckle from the crowd, but on second thought was a very accurate statement. Our Post has members who carried Springfield rifles to M-16’s, who flew P40’s to Phantoms, who fought in Europe, the Pacific, Korea, Vietnam, Somalia, Iraq and Afghanistan to mention a few and mostly in places that civilians can’t even pronounce. So our little Post certainly did itself proud in representing veterans of all the wars.