



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS



VFW Auxiliary

The Veterans' Voice

Edmonds VFW Post 8870

PO Box 701, Edmonds, WA 98020 - 425-245-8545

October 2019 Vol.16 No.10

Commander Rose Gilliland: commander@vfw8870.org

Newsletter Editor, Mike Denton: editor@vfw8870.org

Post Calendar

Staff Meetings: First Wed., 4:30 PM at American Legion Hall, 117 6th Ave. S., Edmonds

Post Meetings: Third Wed., American Legion Hall, Dinner at 5:00 PM (\$5) Meeting at 6:00 PM

Post Auxiliary Meeting: Second Thurs., at Holy Trinity Church, 657 Daly St in Edmonds, No host lunch.
(Questions: call Patsy Ethridge-Neal phone: (206) 919-6533

Our next regular Post meeting will be on Wed. Oct. 17

Veterans Day Poppy Distribution Fri & Sat, November 8 & 9

Meeting and event information can be found on the Post website: www.vfw8870.org

Follow us on Facebook: VFW Post 8870 - Edmonds, WA

Four Member Veterans Awarded Quilts of Valor

On Saturday, September 21, at the Edmonds American Legion Hall, Four World War II Veteran members of Edmonds VFW Post 8870 were each awarded an individually designed and personalized "Quilt of Honor". In the photo below, are shown, L to R, Fred Deidrich, Amos Chapman, Buck Weaver and Norm Goldstein. These veterans range in age from 96 to 101 years, with Weaver being the senior. Shown with the Awardees are Gold Star Mothers Monica McNeal and Lee Ann Prewitt Doerflinger



At right, Commander Rose Gilliland, with Quilts of Valor Lead Marj Woody making the presentation



continued page 2

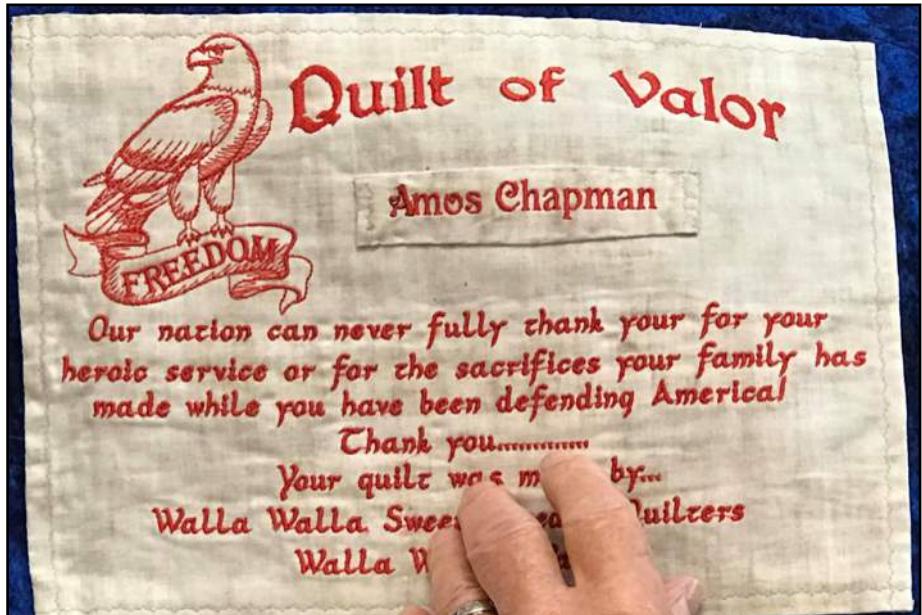
Quilts of Valor Foundation History

Quilts of Valor Foundation began in 2003 with a dream, literally a dream. Founder Catherine Roberts' son Nat was deployed in Iraq. According to Catherine:

The dream was as vivid as real life. "I saw a young man sitting on the side of his bed in the middle of the night, hunched over. The permeating feeling was one of utter despair. I could see his war demons clustered around, dragging him down into an emotional gutter. Then, as if viewing a movie, I saw him in the next scene wrapped in a quilt. His whole demeanor changed from one of despair to one of hope and well being. The quilt had made this dramatic change. The message of my dream was:

Quilts = Healing".

Each quilt is personally labeled as shown in the photo at right of Amos Chapman's quilt, including the name and location of the quilting group.



Veterans Day Poppy distribution - Sign Up Now

Please mark your calendars to help out on **November 8th and 9th** at our usual locations. You will be able to sign up online or at the Post meetings in October. Spouses and friends are welcome to help out also.

Shifts will be in four hour increments. Please note that if you sign up online, don't also sign up at the meetings. Make sure to include your contact phone number, as you may be asked to help out at a different store than the one you signed up for, if necessary.



Diedrich Awarded French Legion Of Honor.

Post 8870 member Fred Diedrich received the French Legion of Honor from the French Consulate on Friday September 27 in recognition of his service in France in World War II.



Fred Diedrich with the Legion of Honor . We are very proud of Fred, said Commander Rose.

Vith. They successfully defended the city and delayed the German advance until mid-December when the unit was ordered to fall back.

Fred was assigned to the 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment (Red Devil's), who with other paratroopers, parachuted into Normandy several hours ahead of the storming of the beaches on "D Day" in June of 1944. Their immediate objective was to capture the town of Sainte-Mere Eglise and then to secure crossings at the Merderet laFiere and Chef-du-Pont Rivers. Like most paratroop units that participated in Operation Overlord, they were dropped at wrong locations and experienced difficulty in linking up with each other as planned. Despite huge obstacles, Fred and his unit remained in contact with the Germans until being relieved in early July.

They then participated in Operation Market Garden, an Allied effort to shorten the war by seizing control of strategically located bridges leading to Germany. On 17 September 1944, Fred's Regiment jumped into Holland with orders to seize control of the Nijmegen Bridge. After securing the bridge at Nijmegen and engaging the Germans for six weeks, the Red Devils moved south to the Ardennes and combat operations in the Battle of the Bulge. Fred participated in the defense of St.

Armed Forces Birthdays

United States Navy



October 13, 1775

The United States Navy traces its origins to the Continental Navy, which the Continental Congress established on 13 October 1775. Since 1972 each CNO has encouraged a Navy-wide celebration of this occasion "to enhance a greater appreciation of our Navy heritage, and to provide a positive influence toward pride and professionalism in the naval service."

United States Marine Corps



November 10, 1775

The Marine Corps was founded to serve as an infantry unit aboard naval vessels and was responsible for the security of the ship and its crew by conducting offensive and defensive combat during boarding actions and landing parties as well as defending the ship's officers from mutiny.

Reporting Your Service as a VFW Member

Every month, the Post reports to the Department of Washington on the number of hours and dollar value of our service to the Community as members and as a Post.

The form shown below is provided to guide you in reporting your activities. Essentially, anything you do in the way of service **to the community as a member of VFW and Post 8870** is reportable. This form should act as a guideline to help you report your activities and contributions. Note that the form is in two basic parts: 1. Hospital and 2. Community. The key to the Hospital is section the word 'Hospital'. If it is doesn't happen in or connected with the hospital or nursing home it doesn't belong on this report. You may submit your report to the Guard (as we have been doing) as you come in to the Post meeting or you can email it to Post Surgeon Jay Hansen, (surgeon@vfw8870.org) A copy of this form will be at the front desk to help you identify reportable items. Address questions to Surgeon Hansen, or Commander Gilliland. PLEASE WRITE

Continued on page 5

Continued from page 4

Examples of Actions Reportable As Community service performed by a representative of the VFW

Volunteering at hospitals, schools, senior centers, museums
Taking veterans and families to doctor, dentist, hospital
Helping maintain the Veterans Plaza
Volunteering with Scouts or other youth programs
Visiting or helping sick or disabled veterans at home
Donating blood
Donating items or money to the community
Helping a disabled or elderly neighbor
Raising and lowering the American Flag at PUBLIC locations
If you have other services you think eligible, ask Surgeon Hansen, or simply report them and let him determine whether they are qualified.

PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY

New Post Officers Appointed

Surgeon

At the September August Staff meeting, Post Surgeon Charles Gaul announced his resignation from that position due to business conflicts that will not allow him to continue. Gaul, an Army veteran of Vietnam served as our Post surgeon for the past two years.

Commander Rose Gilliland has appointed Jay Hansen, pictured at right as our new Surgeon. Hansen is a retired USAF pilot and Vietnam Veteran.

The Post Surgeon is responsible for collecting Hospital and Community Service data from members and filing required reports with the Post and the Department of Washington.



Jay Hansen

Adjutant

At the September Post meeting, long time Post Adjutant Dick Simmons announced his resignation from that position due to chronic health issues that will not allow him to continue. Simmons, is a "Blue Water" Navy veteran of Vietnam and a retired Seattle P.I. newspaper writer.

Commander Rose Gilliland has appointed Jim Murdock as our new Adjutant. Murdock is an Army veteran of Vietnam and has been our House Committee Chair for the past few years. We thank Dick for his long service to the post and wish him better health.

The Post Adjutant is responsible, among other things, for minutes of Post and Staff meetings.



Jim Murdock