

Upcoming Events Calendar

Please take time to review the calendar and if there are additions that are necessary, please contact the editor at commander@vfwdistrict1.org

May 6th	Staff Meeting—Traner's Office 0900
May 9th	Post Meeting—Edmonds Senior Center—Lunch at 1130—Meeting at 1230—Installation of Officers
May 17th	District Convention—Alderwood Boys and Girls Club—Lunch at noon, meeting at 1:00PM
May 23rd-24th	Buddy Poppy Distribution—Volunteers needed
May 26th	Memorial Day Ceremony—10:30AM—Edmonds Memorial Cemetery
May 27th	Memorial Service for Snohomish Veterans—Edmonds Memorial Cemetery—10:45 AM

Post Officers 2014-15

Commander	Jim Blossey
Senior Vice	Chris Edwards
Junior Vice	Terry Crabtree
Quartermaster	Dennis Peterson
Chaplain	Fred Apgar
3rd Year Trustee	Dan White
Appointed—	
Adjutant	Dick Simmons
Judge Advocate	Don Stapleton
Surgeon	Al Boyett
Sargent at Arms	John Shelton
Officer of the Day	Jim Collins
Service Officer	Don Whedon

Post Donates Flag to Cemetery



Following the Military Funeral Honors Ceremony that was conducted on March 25, 2014, VFW Post # 8870 presented a new American flag to the Edmonds Memorial Cemetery and Columbarium. Commander Fred Apgar presented the flag to Cemetery Board member Melissa Johnson and Sexton Cliff Edwards, after which they were joined by Junior Vice-Commander, Jim Blossey in raising the new flag.

The Edmonds Memorial Cemetery and Columbarium has played a leadership role in the Edmonds community to honor the memory of deceased veterans and to honor all of those who have served their country as a member of the Armed Forces. Each Memorial Day, the Cemetery is the site of a very moving Memorial Day Ceremony, and each month, the Cemetery is the site of a Military Funeral Honors Ceremony that confers honors on those deceased veterans who did not receive such recognition at the time of their death. The ceremony is conducted by Sgts. Glenn Jones and Oleg Chudak of the Washington State National Guard. Glenn and Oleg are both members of VFW Post #8870. The Military Funeral Honors Ceremony is conducted on the last Tuesday of each month at 10:45 AM.

Allen Noyes



Loren is a Seattle native and attended Lincoln High School. He served in the Army 1952-1969, primarily in the Army Security Agency. He served in Korea October 1953-54 attached to the 3rd Infantry Division. He also served in Germany Occupation 1954-55. Loren left the service as a Captain. His civilian occupation was a Lineman and Construction Inspector. Loren and Jean live in Edmonds and have a daughter.

David Mirgon



David is from Richfield, WA. He served with the Air Force 1951-1956. He was with Military Police and performed security duties. He served in Korea Jun 1952 – Mar 1954. David has a Masters Degree from the University of Washington in social work administration. He resides in Edmonds and has 5 daughters. David is holding a book published by the Korean Government for service men and women who served in Korea.

Memorial Day Ceremony & Poppies

The old adage that 10% do 90% of work is very true when it comes to handing out Buddy Poppies. If you would like to join the 10% and help out with our annual fund raiser, send an email to me at jtraner@tranersmith.com and I'll make sure someone contacts you. We just gave away funds to assist veterans and their families who were affected by the Oso slide. These funds came from our Buddy Poppy donations.

Memorial Day at the cemetery is simply showing up and honoring our dead. This year the veterans from D Day are being recognized. Our own Fred Dietrich will be the guest of honor. Fred parachuted into Normandy and participated in many operations during WWII.

Roy Raudebaugh (no picture)

Roy is originally from Lynnwood, WA where he resides now. He served in the Army 1966-68 and Vietnam 1967-68. Trained as a radio operator, the Army chose to have him cook on board a Landing Craft Utility (LCU). He was part of the 97th Transportation Company, Cam Ranh Bay, RVN. LCU's, with a crew of about 10, were 115 ft in length and could carry 50 short tons. With a front ramp, they were used to deliver cargo and personnel along the coast of Vietnam. Roy has an AA degree in Air Transportation Management from Green River Community College. He is retired from Boeing. He and Gabriele have one son.

Post Supports Eagle Scout Project



Eagle Scout candidate, Art Winton, attended our April meeting to present an overview of his very ambitious Eagle Scout project. Art plans to construct a Korean War Memorial to honor our nation's veterans who served in Korea. The memorial will be erected in Veterans Memorial Park in Lynnwood, which is a park that was built by VFW Post # 1040. Our Post donated \$500 to assist in the construction of the Korean War Memorial.

Post Visits Historic Flight



the aircraft in the collection are a B-25 named Grumpy, a P-51 Mustang called Impatient Virgin, an F-8-F Bearcat named Wampus Cat, and an F-7-F Tigercat that answers to the name Bad Kitty.

Post Receives Donation



Thanks to the skiers who travel to their favorite ski resort by means of the Spalding Express bus service, the Post received a significant donation. Dorothy Harkness, the wife of our comrade Jim Harkness, and several of her friends have organized and coordinated the Spalding Express for many years. During winter months, the Spalding Express provides transportation to and from ski slopes. Whatever profits that are earned during a season are donated to a worthwhile organization. This year, VFW Post #8870 was designated as the recipient of any funds that were raised.

At last month's meeting, Dorothy and the other organizers of the service presented Commander Fred Apgar with a check in the amount of \$2340. At the request of the Spalding Express organizers, the funds will be used, exclusively, to fund the four Freedom Scholarships the Post awards to four deserving high school seniors.

Thanks to the efforts of Post member John Rogalski, members of the Post were given a VIP tour of the vintage aircraft in the Historic Flight collection. Eleven members of the Post visited the Paine Field facility on April 16 for a two hour tour of the facility. All of the aircraft in the collection were produced between 1927 and 1957; all have been restored and fly, once again. Among

VFW Ritual and Rules

During prayers conducted by the Chaplain, the Chaplain, not the Commander, determines whether to remove covers or remain covered. Most Chaplains prefer to uncover, but there are some who remain covered. The Post just needs to follow their lead. And just a small side item, when uncovered for a prayer, the cover is held over the heart with the Cross of Malta showing.

Speaking of covers, when attending any VFW meeting, only VFW covers are permitted. If you forgot yours, being uncovered is fine. What isn't allowed are baseball hats, sombreros, cowboy hats, or any other headgear, not even Seahawks caps.

The Last Word—Commander's Column by Fred Apgar

Among the great benefits of being retired, is the time I have had to devote to one of my passions, reading. At the suggestion of a former Air Force comrade, I just finished a book titled Boyd: The Fighter Pilot Who Changed the Art of War. I had never heard of Col. John Boyd until I read his autobiography that was written by Robert Coram. I recommend the book to you.

Boyd's Air Force career began as an F-86 fighter pilot in Korea. While serving as an Instructor Pilot at the USAF Weapons School, Boyd was dubbed "Forty Second Boyd" for his ability to defeat any opposing pilot, while from a position of disadvantage, in 40 seconds. Single handedly, he re-wrote the tactics manual for aerial combat. Along with a colleague, Col. Boyd created the Energy-Maneuverability Theory, which, subsequently, moved the Air Force away from high speed, straight line aircraft toward planes with high maneuverability. Boyd's creative thinking "saved" the F-15 by changing its design and played a critical role in the development of the F-16, F-18, and A-10.

Boyd also created the OODA Loop (Observation, Orientation, Decision, Action), which was applicable not only to aerial combat, but to combat ground operations as well. The OODA Loop had substantial influence on the operations plans for Operation Desert Storm, which featured the bypass of resistance, creation of deception and ambiguity, and multiple thrusts against the enemy. The Marine Corps adopted this thinking in the complete revision of its doctrine.

Col. John Boyd, whom most of us never had heard of, is considered one of our nation's greatest military theoreticians.

The views expressed in this column are solely those of the Commander and do not represent those of VFW Post #8870, its membership, or VFW.

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