



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

VFW Post 8870  
and Auxiliary  
Edmonds, WA  
[www.vfw8870.org](http://www.vfw8870.org)  
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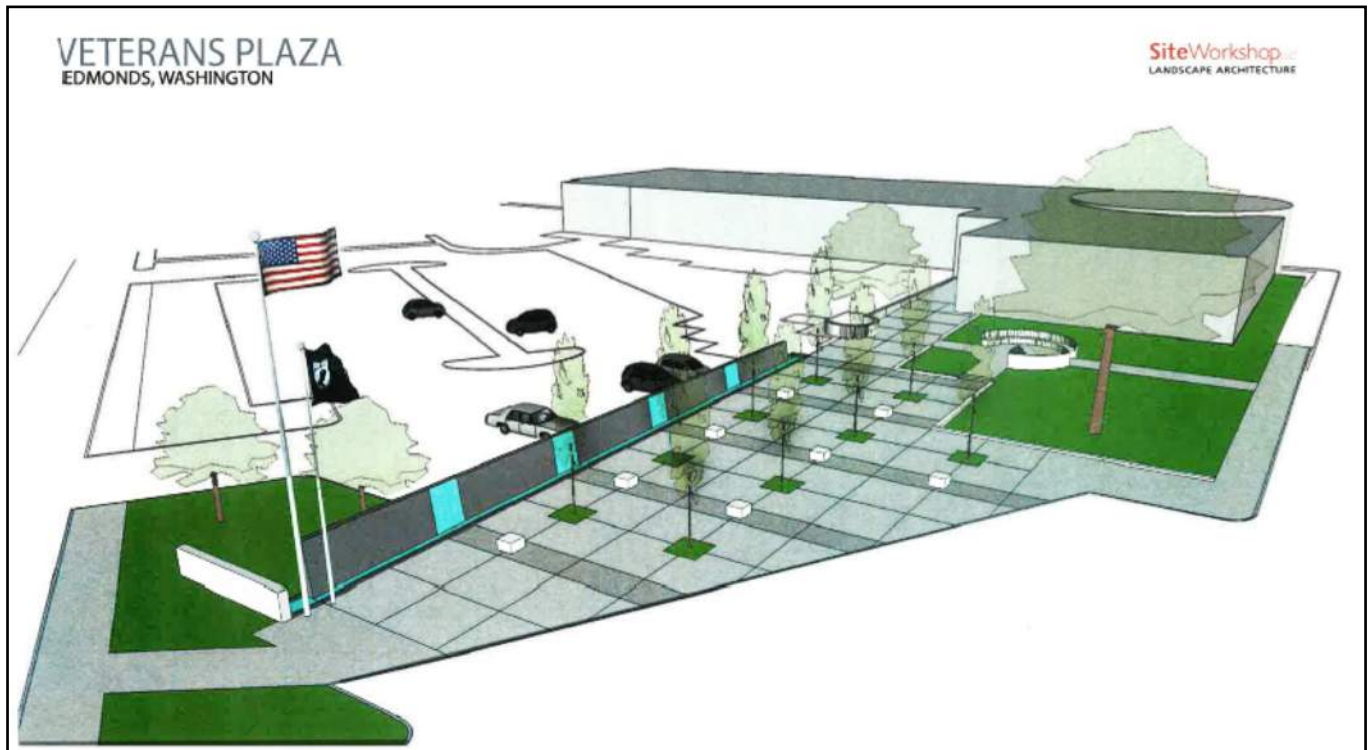
Jan. 2017  
Vol 13 No 1

### Events on the Horizon:

Staff Meetings: 9:00 AM, First Tues., American Legion Hall, 117 6th Ave. S., Edmonds  
Post Meetings: Second Tues., American Legion Hall; Dinner at 5:00 PM (\$5) Meeting at 6:00 PM  
January Post meeting takes place on Tuesday, January 10  
Wellness Wednesday: **January 25 @ 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm**

## Edmonds Veterans Plaza Bid Accepted!

Edmonds City Council Unanimously Approves Contract



At the December 13 meeting of the Edmonds City Council, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Director Carrie Hite announced the low bidder as K-A General Construction for \$290,967.92. (This number does not include the seats, pavers etc, contacted separately)

The audience, including veterans attending the meeting, broke out in applause after the construction funding was **unanimously** approved.

Construction is scheduled to start in January, to be completed in time for a Memorial Day dedication ceremony.

## VFW - Legion Christmas Party a Smashing Success!



More than eighty Legion and VFW members and guests attended this year's Christmas party on December 10. Those in attendance enjoyed an abundance of turkey, ham and assorted goodies and, at the same time collected a record number of toys for disadvantaged children.



Buck Weaver and Terry Traner were clearly enjoying the festivities.



The ladies behind the party: Terry Traner, Becky Murdock, Jay Abel



## It Happened at the December Post Meeting

It was a busy, if efficient December Post meeting, with a fascinating speaker in the person of Col. Bill Reeder and presentations as shown below, following which a sizable contingent retired to the Edmonds City Council Meeting in support of the Edmonds Veterans Plaza vote, details of which are covered on page 1. We should all be very proud of our active and dedicated membership.



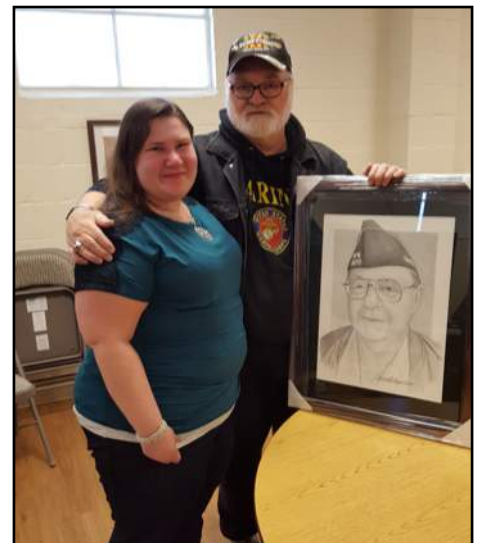
Representatives of VFW (Terry Crabtree) and American Legion (Jim Collins) present checks to Mike Reagan to support Mike's Fallen Heroes Project. Mike has drawn portraits of well over 4,000 of our fallen comrades to date.

Sarah Browne presented a check from Spaulding Ski Bus in memory of Jim Harkness. Jim's wife Dorothy has long been part of the ski bus project and the Post long a beneficiary.



Our December Speaker, Bill Reeder, author of *Through the Valley*, in which he related his experience as a POW held captive in jungle prison camps as well as the "Plantation" and the "Hanoi Hilton". At left, Bill receives a drawing of his Cobra attack helicopter from our resident artist, Mike Reagan.

Mike Reagan presented a portrait of Ken Hicks to his daughter, Melissa Hicks at the December Post Staff Meeting. Ken, a Vietnam Veteran, passed away in July. (Ken and your editor were inducted into the post at the same meeting)



## Holiday Spirit from VFW Post 8870 To Benefit Active and Retired Military



Chris Edwards presented gift cards to Chaplain (Col) Marc Gauthier at JBLM. The Post donated \$500 in gift cards to the Chaplain's offices at JBLM, Naval Base Everett, and Coast Guard Station 16. In addition, \$1000 in gift cards to Fred Meyer were donated to the Washington State Veterans Homes in Orting and Retsil.

### Welcome New Member Joseph Camden

Joe is an Edmonds native. He is a transfer VFW member and a retired Regular Army LTC. He served from 1967-1988 as a Military Intelligence Officer. Vietnam service was Jun 1968-Jun 1969. He was an Assistant Professor of Military Science for 2 years at the University of Washington. Joe's awards include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star and Army Commendation Medal. Joe has a degree from Seattle University and a Masters from Clark University. Joe and Margaret reside in Edmonds and have 2 children.



### Wellness Wednesday

**January 25 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm**

The American Legion and VFW are sponsoring new programs as we work to help Veterans and Veterans families of all ages.

We'll have these meeting on the last Wednesday of each month except July and August. 6-7 pm. VFW member Clare Walderman, MPA, MA, RN, Certified Wellness Coach



# Post Honored With Flag Flown Over U.S. Embassy in Kabul, Afghanistan

Pictured below is the mounted and framed flag presented to the Post by member Josh Crabtree, currently a Special Agent with the State Department, assigned to the Kabul embassy, along with a certificate certifying that the flag was flown over the Embassy in honor of our Post. *(The flag is shown cropped from the original photo and reduced in size to allow the certificate to be large enough to be read.)*



*Be it known by all, this flag was flown in the face of the enemy, illuminated in the dark by the light of justice, and bears witness to the removal of terrorist forces threatening the freedom of the United States of America. It was flown with great honor and pride over our nation's Embassy, where each day Americans fight the Global War on Terrorism in remembrance of all who lost their lives.*

*Flown on November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016*

*United States Embassy, Kabul, Afghanistan*

*In Honor of*

*Veterans of Foreign Wars*

*Post 8870 – Edmonds, Washington*



*Flown by:*

*Joshua A. Crabtree*  
*Special Agent, DoS*

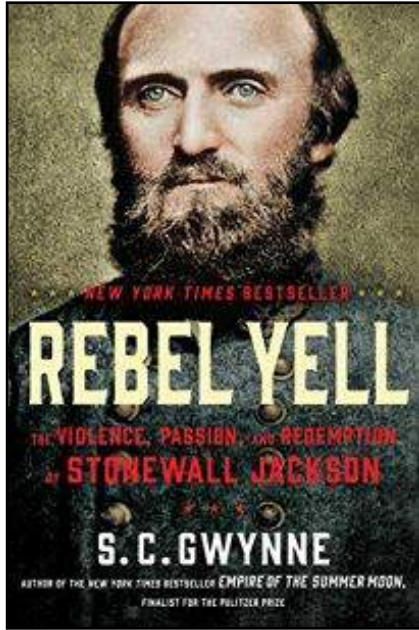
*Certified by:*

*David J. Nisbeth*  
*Gunnery Sergeant, USMC*



*"Let every nation know, whether it wishes us well or ill, that we will pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe, in order to assure the survival and the success of liberty."  
- President John F. Kennedy*

## From the Book Shelf



### **Rebel Yell:** **The Violence, Passion, and Redemption** **Of Stonewall Jackson**

**By**  
**S. C. Gwynne**

This is a wonderful biography, exhaustively researched, that provides an intimate look at one of our nation's most celebrated warriors, General Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson.

For anyone with an interest in the history of the Civil War, this is a must read.

*"From the Bookshelf" is a recurring series of book reviews that will appear in the VFW Post #8870 newsletter from time to time. This review was written by Fred Apgar.*

## USS Shoup In Action



No doubt our members who participated in the Shoup Tour recently will enjoy this photo of her firing a missile from her forward battery during the Pacific Rim Naval exercise (RIMPAC) off Hawaii this past summer. A relatively small ship compared to the big carriers, but she packs an impressive punch! Her sailors tell us that a missile launch leaves a heck of a mess on her foredeck!