

VFW *The Veterans' Voice*

NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.

April 2021-Vol. 19 No.4

Edmonds VFW Post 8870

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

Commander Rose Gilliland, commander@vfw8870.org
Newsletter Editor, Mike Denton, editor@vfw8870.org

Post Calendar

Staff Meeting: First Wed, **4:30 PM American Legion Hall (or online via Zoom)**

Post Meetings: Third Wed., **6:00 PM American Legion Hall (or online via Zoom)**

Post Auxiliary Meeting: (Questions: call or email Jo Boyett, 206-818-4212, joaboyett@cs.com)

Beginning in April, Post meetings will again be held at the Edmonds American Legion Hall or join online in the "Zoom" format.

Look for invitations with the link from which to join the meeting in your email.

Masks required for in person attendance, meals will not be served

We're Back!

Remember This Place?



Yes, we're back. After more than an year of COVID quarantine, we will once again be meeting at the Edmonds American Legion Hall. We are still in the phase of needing to keep the hall at 50 percent capacity, but do not anticipate a problem, since our regular Post meetings rarely approach that number of attendees.

We expect members attending in person to be masked and to maintain social distancing. We are not yet able to serve meals again, so plan on supper before or after the meeting.

If you are not yet vaccinated, or just not comfortable attending in person, to sign in to participate via Zoom. (A link will be sent to your email) The Post has invested in new equipment to better facilitate that option and we expect to continue to provide it going forward. We look forward to seeing all of our comrades once again.

We have one very important item of business on the agenda for this meeting; the annual election of Post Officers. The current officers have proposed a slate of officers for the coming year, which is shown on the following page and, of course nominations from the floor will be accepted.

(elections, cont'd from page 1)

If you are interested in serving in any of these positions, you may place your own name in nomination. Please do not nominate anyone else unless you have obtained that person's permission to do so in advance. If you wish to serve in an appointed position, there may be some currently listed who would be interested in a relief. See the new Commander after elections if you would like to offer your services.

VFW Post 8870 Proposed 2021-2022 Officers

Commander: Carl F. Kurfess	(425) 776-1656 Commander@vfw8870.org
Sr. Vice Commander: Duane Bowman	(425) 281-6720 dvbow@comcast.net
Jr. Vice Commander: Rose Gilliland	(206) 818-1434 Roseag67@gmail.com
Quartermaster: Dennis L Peterson	(425) 772-3404 Quartermaster@VFW8870.org
Adjutant appointed: Nathan Wortinger	(425) 743-4319 nwortinger@hotmail.com
Service Officer appointed: Alden Gilliland	(206) 818-7789 ServiceOfficer@VFW8870.org
Surgeon appointed: Jay Hansen	(425) 315-9025 Surgeon@VFW8870.org
Chaplain: Dan Doyle	(425) 773-2400 Chaplain@vfw8870.org
Judge Advocate appointed: Jim Traner	(425) 218-0101 jtraner@tranersmith.com
Officer of the Day: Jim Traner	(425) 218-0101 jtraner@tranersmith.com
Guard appointed: John Shelton	(206) 546-5476
1st Year Trustee: Kerry Watkins	(425) 478-9739 kerryjwatkins@hotmail.com
2nd Year Trustee: Donald Stapleton	(425) 743-4435 rosemarydon@comcast.net
3rd Year Trustee: Mike Denton	(425) 280-3757 Mikedenton44@gmail.com



The photo at left is of the swearing in ceremony of the 2018-19 officers at the May 2018 Post meeting. A reminder of the both the job at hand and how we normally do things. Let us all look forward to doing it this way again, rather than virtually.

News from VFW National

Complete the VFW's 2021 COVID-19 Health Survey: Last April the VFW tallied responses to our COVID-19 survey and used that data to advocate for veterans with Congress and VA. The VFW has developed a follow-up survey to evaluate your health care experiences, how your health care may have changed in the last 6 months, and your perceptions of your overall physical and mental health over the past 30 days. Your feedback is vital to our advocacy efforts and to compile a report on this important topic. Help the VFW hold VA and Congress accountable by taking this short survey regarding your experiences during the COVID-19 pandemic. Take the survey: (enter this address in your browser) <https://blogs.va.gov/VAntage/86196/covid-19-vaccine-questions-answered-need/>



Sign Up For COVID-19 Vaccine at VA: Veterans, spouses, caregivers, or CHAMPVA recipients need to sign up to let VA know you would like to receive a COVID-19 vaccine. Once signed up, you will be contacted by VA as soon as a vaccine is available for you. Be advised that availability will differ by location. VA encourages everyone to take the first opportunity you have to receive the vaccine. (Whether from VA or state and local providers)

Give back to those who gave





OPERATION SEPTEMBER FREEDOM
AUG 1 — SEPT 30, 2021
A national effort to honor America's WWII veterans



**CALLING ALL WORLD
WAR II VETERANS FOR
ONE MORE MISSION**



Locating and honoring WWII veterans requires a national effort.



MAY 24, 2021 DEADLINE

Last national recognition for WWII veterans, we estimate over 1000 WWII veteran Dream Flights. This is the largest ever national barnstorming effort with six airplanes flying every day for 61 days and we will touch over 300 cities

Please assist in this effort to locate our WWII Veterans interested in doing this 20 minute flight in one of six Boeing Stearman biplanes.

WWII Veteran information (Please Print Clearly)

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

VFW Member YES NO

TURN IN NAMES TO ME BY MONDAY, MAY 24, 2021 SO I CAN CONTACT AND GET APPLICATION COMPLETED PRIOR TO 1 JUNE

Return form to Department Sr Vice Commander Chad Hassebroek
vfwmember@yahoo.com questions call me 580-704-7995

National Vietnam War Veterans Day



March 29 is set aside to honor the men and women who served and sacrificed during the longest conflict in United States history. Involving five U.S. presidents, and over five million American service men & women, it left an indelible mark on the American psyche. This year we were not able to gather for an observance of the occasion that means so much to such a large group of Post 8870 members, but we remember it here and remember to tell these veterans they are **“Welcome Home”**.

VFW Department of Washington State Convention Slated

The annual Department convention will be held in Spokane this year, presently scheduled for June 23-27 at the Centennial Hotel in Downtown Spokane. Dept Commander Tracey Williams advised that the agenda is still somewhat tentative, so we suggest members check the Department web site for updates: <https://vfwwa.org/di/vfw/v2/default.asp?id=91966>.

Memorial Day Planning

It appears that the Memorial Day events at the Edmonds Cemetery will not be held again this year due to the ongoing pandemic. The Post will conduct its own small ceremony at the Edmonds Veterans Plaza on Monday, May 31, so mark that event on your calendar. Check next month's edition of this newsletter for more detailed information.



Military Trivia

by Carl Kurfess



Shavetail

Inexperienced person.

Mules have irksome and painful qualities, so those that ran the mule-trains of the mid-19th century American army would shave off the tail of any new mule as a warning to others that its behavior might be unpredictable. It was not long before the troops were using the term for any newcomer. By the time of the Spanish-American war of 1898, “Shavetail” had become specific to describe a newly commissioned lieutenant.

Works cited: Donald, G., Wiest, A., & Shepherd, W. (2013). *Sticklers, Sideburns and Bikinis: The military origins of everyday words and phrases*. Bloomsbury Publishing.