



NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.

July, 2022 - Vol. 20 No.1

The Veterans' Voice

Edmonds VFW Post 8870

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

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Post Calendar

Staff Meeting: First Wed., **5:00 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)

Post meetings - Edmonds American Legion Hall (or online via "Zoom")

(Look for invitations with the link from which to join the meeting via Zoom in your email.)

Next Post Meeting Wednesday Aug. 17, Supper at 5:00 Meeting starts 6:00 PM

District 1 VFW Booth at Evergreen State Fair - Monroe, Aug 25-30 & Sept 1-5, 2022 in Monroe (See article on page 1)

July Post Meeting



Early arrivals enjoy a meal prior to the meeting.

We had 14 Veterans present plus three attending by zoom.

Probably the most significant item on the agenda, was replacing Cal Barnard, who has resigned as Quartermaster to assume the appointed position of Adjutant. Past Post and District 1 Commander Jim Traner was nominated and elected as our new Quartermaster. Traner, who is a local CPA, has long served as the Post's financial

advisor with our elected Quartermaster, as well as serving as a Department of Washington Trustee, auditing the books of the state organization.

Sign up for District 1 VFW Booth @ Evergreen State Fair Aug. 25-29 and Sept. 3-5

District 1 has scheduled a booth at the Evergreen State Fair in Monroe, to be staffed by members of District Posts. The purpose of the booth is to represent VFW and promote membership. We need volunteers for each shift to talk about VFW and accept membership applications. We are also able to distribute poppies, with the proceeds to be split between the on-duty posts of each shift.

Shifts are 10:00-16:00 (1st shift) and 16:00-22:00 (2nd shift) There will be 2 admission tickets and 2 parking passes provided for each shift. Two admission tickets and parking passes will be provided for each shift.

If you can participate, let Commander Kurfess know as soon as possible, or **sign up at the August meeting.**

July Post Meeting, cont'd from page1.

In other Post business:

The Quartermasters report was reviewed/approved & all bills were approved for payment.

Buddy Poppies for Veterans Day is scheduled for November 4 & 5.

It was approved that the Quartermaster will “e-pay” all expenses. Signatures are not required for checks.

A proposal was approved to change Post by-laws to allow keeping our meeting minutes in an electronic format.

A booth at the Edmonds Market & at the Edmonds car show were discussed.



VFW Youth Essay Contests Underway

The following article is being published in our local media to promote our annual Youth Essay Contests. If your have family members or friends who qualify in these age groups, please encourage them to apply.

Every year, Edmonds Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 8870 sponsors a group of student essay contests, along with the rest of the VFW throughout the nation. Applications are made available through the local schools but students may also enter directly by filling out the application and submitting their entry to VFW Post 8870 prior to Oct. 31. Home schooled students are welcome to participate. The Oct. 31 deadline may seem a long way off, but it's not too soon to start thinking about these competitions, which are also scholarship opportunities:

Voice of Democracy - audio essay competition for high school students.

Patriot's Pen - essay contest for sixth-, seventh- and eighth-graders.

Youth Essay - contest is open to elementary students in grades 3-5.

VFW sponsors these contests to promote patriotism and help students further their education by awarding more than \$2 million in educational scholarships and incentives, to regional, state and national winners.

This year's theme for the Patriot's Pen written essay contest is "My Pledge to Our Veterans," and the theme for the Voice of Democracy audio essay competition is "Why is the Veteran Important?" The younger essayists are asked to write on "Why are Veterans So Important to Us?"

Contest rules and entry forms can be found via the following link to the VFW Department of Washington web site: <https://vfwwa.org/di/vfw/v2/default.asp?pid=79734>.

Entries may be submitted to Edmonds VFW Post 8870, PO Box 701, Edmonds, WA 98020

Edmonds Kind of 4th Parade!



For many years our local veterans groups have provided the color guard to lead our “Edmonds Kind of 4th Parade” and 2022 was no exception.

(L-R) Adjutant Cal Barnard, Chaplain Dan Doyle, Sr. V. Commander Duane Boman and Commander Carl Kurfess/

This year’s parade featured over 80 entries of local groups, from our local community.

Parade announcers were, once again, Past Commanders Jim Blossey and Mike Denton, who have performed that role for over ten years.

VFWPost 8870 color guard, with our comrades from Post 66 American Legion, once again lead the parade



Above is one of the entries in the children’s parade, which precedes the main parade and features our local youngsters, who bring considerable creativity to their entries. (no doubt with a bit of help from Mom & Dad) Always nice to see these young patriots waving their flag.

Above right is the Northwest Jr. Pipe band, providing a bit of Marching music.



Les Abel catching a ride with Terry Crabtree

- Followed by the annual BBQ

Of course, we can't have Independence Day without our annual picnic/barbecue at the Legion Hall.

Approximately 60 members of Post 66 American Legion and VFW Post 8870 and their guests enjoyed hamburgers, hot dogs, potato salad and assorted other sides following the parade.

Your editor was pleased that his comrades had left some food for him, since he always arrives a bit late after announcing duties.

In the photo below are a few of the members and guests who attended.



Post 8870 General Fund Depleted

It is that time of the year, once again, when Post expenses tend to exceed revenues significantly, as annual payment for such things as the Post officers security bonds, purchase of supplies for Buddy Poppy events etc., come due, and our general fund is rapidly being depleted.

Other than the modest share of annual dues that is returned to the Post, our general fund is entirely dependent on donations from members and friends of the Post. A great many of our present roster being Life Members, who pay no annual dues to VFW, they do not generate even that modest sum. Further complicating matters, is the ongoing impact of the COVID pandemic, which has significantly reduced meeting attendance, where our monthly raffle and meal donations also contribute to our coffers.

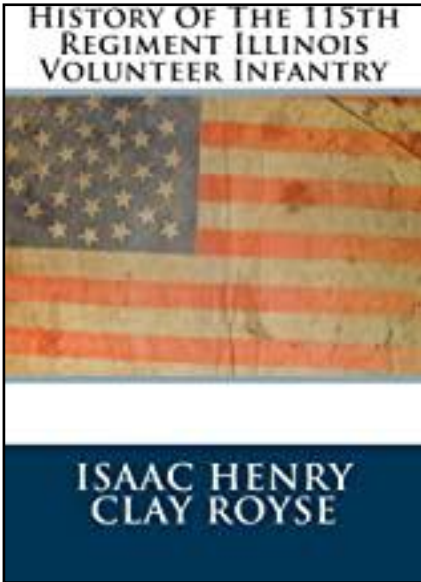
If members could see their way to a modest donation (or even one not so modest) to the general fund, it would be very helpful. It's our post, let's take care of it.

At present, our Relief Fund is in good shape and we expect ongoing Buddy Poppy events to keep it so, however, those funds cannot be used for Post operations.

Thanks for considering a donation.

From The Bookshelf

by Mike Denton



History of the 115th Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry

by Isaac Henry Clay Royse

Recently Past Commander Fred Apgar gifted your editor with a copy of this book, I having mentioned to him that my great-grandfather, Micager Denton, served in this unit from the time of Lincoln's early call for volunteers to prosecute the war against the confederacy. Denton and his brother, David, enlisted on the same day in June 1862 and served in Company A, until the regiment was mustered out in in July 1864.



*Pvt. Micager Denton, 115th Illinois
Infantry -1862*

Royse, the book's author, was a Lieutenant in Company E of the regiment. The book is based on official records and the memories of Royse and his comrades. Micager Denton died about the time Royse started work on the book, which was published in 1900) so Micager's personal experience is not included.

Since moving away from Edmonds, Fred has been touring civil war battlefields, all over the southeast, including the Battle of Chickamauga, fought September 19–20, 1863, in southeastern Tennessee, in which the 115th Illinois played a significant role. Chickamauga was one of the bloodier battles of the war featuring Union forces under General William Rosecrans and Gen. Braxton Bragg's Confederate troops. The two sides suffered over 35,000 casualties in those two days, distributed as shown below:

Union Casualties:

17,170

1,857 killed

9,956 wounded

5,157 captured or missing

Confederate Casualties

18,454

2,313 killed

4,674 wounded

1,468 captured or missing

Bragg out-generaled Rosecrans, as the southern generals often did, but as was also so often the case, took more casualties than the south could readily replace, thereby bringing the eventual Union victory that much closer.

Royse vividly describes three years of marching around Tennessee and Kentucky, chasing small Confederate units, skirmishing along the way, in the lead-up to Chickamauga and the subsequent battles to near Nashville., which preceded Sherman's "March to the Sea"

Also included in the book is an exploration of the experience of Union troops captured and held as prisoners of war in such notorious places as the Andersonville POW camp. The experience of a POW is never pleasant and that of captured troops in the Civil War was no exception, on both sides.

Royse' descriptions of camp life would probably not seem unfamiliar to any infantry soldier in the field to this day, absent modern communications, transport and medical care, (though one has to think that today's MRE rations would beat the civil war soldiers' hard tack and salt meat, supplemented with local foraging).

If such histories interest you, this is one well worth reading. Following Apgar's travels around the civil war battlefields, as he reports them on Facebook, which is what started us on this journey, has also been a worthwhile activity.

Thanks Fred!

A Golf Outing with Fellow Vets

To benefit VFW Post 7511, Monroe

Saturday, October 8, 2022

\$10 Off Worldwide Golf

FLAGS FOR OUR FALLEN GOLF TOURNAMENT

50/50 Raffle

All proceeds benefit the Ward Roney Jr. VFW Post 7511

\$10,000 Hole-in-One Prize

Saturday, October 8, 2022
8:00 AM Shotgun Start
Echo Falls Golf Club
20414 121st Ave SE, Snohomish, WA
Register at www.Flags4RFallen.com
Cutoff date is September 17th

Free Patriot Golf hybrid or Wood

\$600 for a team of four (\$150 for singles and \$300 for pairs. Singles & pairs will be placed into a team of four)
18 holes, shared cart, a bucket of range balls, and lunch!

