



**NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.**

**January 2023 - Vol. 20 No.5**

# ***The Veterans' Voice***

**Edmonds VFW Post 8870**

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

Commander Carl Kurfess

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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](mailto: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.)

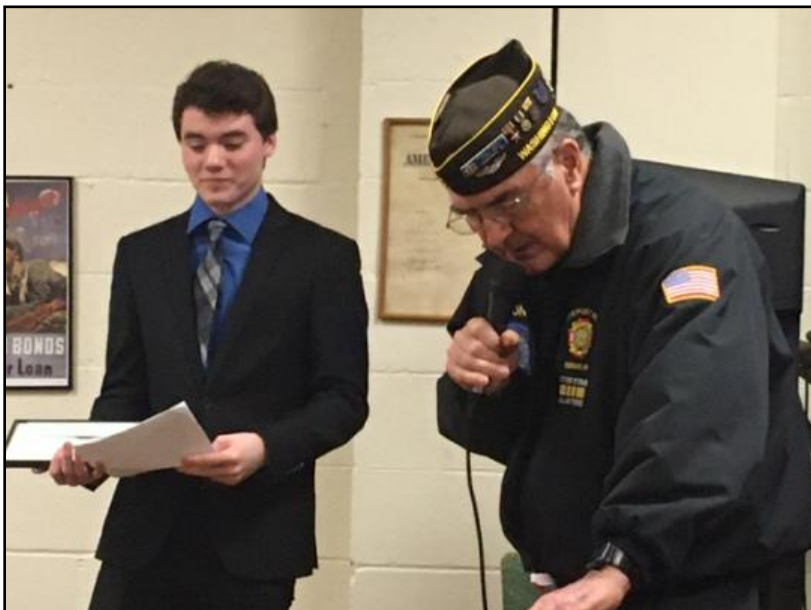
**Next Post Meeting Wednesday Feb. 15, Supper at 5:00 Meeting starts 6:00 PM**

**February Post meeting speaker: Dennis Gibb - Scout Helo pilot in Vietnam**

**March Post meeting speaker: Jim Armstrong - Engineer NCO in Iraq/Afganistan**

## **January Post Meeting**

Before our business meeting began, awards ceremonies were held for our Post winner of Patriots Pen, Voice of Democracy and Teacher of the year. Shown below with Don Stapleton, are Voice of Democracy winner Maverick Cradduck at left and 5th grade essay winner Cataleya Moore who were present and read their essays to the assembled membership. Two other younger winners, Harper Seal and Fletcher Seal were not able to be present, but we hope to have them at a future meeting.



## January Post Meeting, cont'd



Our Teacher of the Year is Olivia Peterson of Serene Lake Elementary in the Mukilteo School District. Peterson teaches 5th grade at Serene Lake and is aid to incorporate a variety of activities to creatively engage kids in the curriculum.

For Veterans Day, Peterson had students write essays to acknowledge and honor the day and the people who served. Peterson is shown at left being introduced by Don Stapleton.

We inducted two new members into the Post at the January meeting. Shown below as they take the oath are, at left, Darryl Roberts a Navy Veteran of Vietnam and on the right, Katherine Lindsey, an Army nurse, also serving in Vietnam. Please help us to welcome these new comrades to our ranks.



Commander Carl Kurfess presented a plaque to Past Commander Rose Gilliland, in recognition of her ongoing service to the Post, both during and since her command period. Well done, Rose!



Past Commander Fred Apgar, present via our Zoom hook-up, expressed thanks for our support in replacing the fence surrounding the Captain John Herbert Dent, USN Family burial plot at the Old Bethel Presbyterian Church in Jacksonboro, South Carolina.

Fred has done an exhaustive tour of historical places in the east since leaving our area a few years ago and found this burial place of an honored veteran in very poor condition. Fred reports that he was successful,



Dent was an officer in the United States Navy during the Quasi-War, (with France) the First Barbary War, and the War of 1812. He was acting captain on the USS Constitution during the attacks on Tripoli in 1804.

### 2023 “Buddy Poppy” Schedule

Senior Vice Commander Duane Bowman announced the schedule for Poppy distribution for Memorial Day and Veterans Day. Memorial Day will be on May 25 and 26, with Veterans Day to follow on Friday November 4 and Friday November 10. The Veterans Day schedule will be something of an experiment, spreading the work out over two weeks, due to the holiday itself falling Saturday. Times and locations will be announced at a later date, but put those dates on your calendar. We need everyone who who is able to participate, in order to fund our long list of relief fund projects.



### VFW Department of Washington Mid-Winter Conference Held January 18-22, Yakima



At left, the Department Command Staff is shown presiding at Mid-Winter.

Post 8870 was represented at Mid-Winter by (LtoR) Sr. Vice Commander Duane Bowman, Commander Carl Kurfess, House Keeping Chair Parnia Parvini and Quartermaster Jim Traner.





## District 1 Student essay and Teacher of the Year Awards!



District Commander Otis Wolf and District Auxiliary Tami Wagoner presented awards to the students and teachers hosted at VFW Post 2100 in Everett, WA.

Present during the District 1 awards ceremony was VFW Washington Commander Paul Herrera. Paul thanked the students, parents, and teachers for their efforts in the VFW essay and teacher of the year competition. Paul also told a story about citizenship and how we as leaders, educators, and parents can teach future generations. Big thanks to VFW Post 2100 for hosting yesterday's District 1 awards ceremony and their hospitality.

### For the Good of the Order

#### We need the help of the membership:

1. A Post member to take the position of **Public Servant/Safety Committee Chair**.

See Commander Kurfess if you would like to serve in this capacity. The position involves soliciting nominations for and selecting Post Police officer and Fire Fighter, EMT of the year to participate in District, Department and National Competitions.

2. Your editor needs input from the membership for this newsletter.

We know you are out there serving in various capacities about which we should be reporting, but we can't read your minds and we can't be everywhere. A quick monthly report to your editor on what is going on with Veterans service activities you attend and participate in, honor guard activities, etc, including any photos you might snap. (Pretty sure you all carry a phone with a camera around with you these days. Send submissionss to [mikedenton44@gmail.com](mailto:mikedenton44@gmail.com). Please be sure to idenify people in photos where possible.

**Sure could use your help!**