

**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS & LADIES AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF WASHINGTON MID-WINTER CONFERENCE
VOICE OF DEMOCRACY - BANQUET RESERVATION FORM**

January 21, 2012



Buffet Style Menu:

Entrée: Baron of Beef, Chicken Breast Supreme
Side: Mac-n-Cheese, Garlic Red Roasted Potatoes
Vegetables: Green Beans, Ginger Baby Carrots
Salads: Tossed Green, Pasta, Ambrosia
Fresh Fruit tray
Rolls w/ Butter
Assorted Desserts
Coffee, Tea, & Milk

\$ 22.00 per person

Reservation Deadline – January 15, 2012

Name _____ Phone # _____

Please reserve the following:

Number of Dinners _____ @ \$ 22.00 = \$ _____

Enclosed is my check for a total of \$ _____ Check # _____

There will be no reserved tables except for Districts & Honored Guests.

You must have banquet ticket to enter banquet hall for award ceremony.

Complete form and make check out to: Veterans of Foreign Wars

**Send to: 5213 Pacific Hwy E
Fife, WA 98424**

Statement of Policy

OPERATION, MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL OF CLUBS AND / OR CANTEENS

The objects of the Veterans of Foreign Wars are fraternal, patriotic, historical and educational.

To preserve and strengthen comradeship among its members.

To perpetuate the memory and history of our dead, and to assist their widows and orphans.

To maintain true allegiance to the government of the United States of America, and its fidelity to its Constitution and laws.

To foster true patriotism.

To maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom.

And to preserve and defend the United States from all her enemies whomsoever.

The operation, management and control of clubs and/ or canteens were not envisioned in the purposes of our organization as described above both in our Constitution and Ritual and Congressional Charter. The first and foremost consideration of Posts shall be to the objects of the VFW listed above. VFW clubs and/ or canteens shall be of secondary interest and concern and compatible with our stated purposes.

Rules and regulations and Management Guides for the operation of Post sponsored clubs and/ or canteens have been adopted by some Departments in compliance with State and local regulations and the applicable mandates of Section 708 and 709 of our National By-Laws which address incorporation and control of units. Also, many Posts have incorporated the above in their By-Laws or adopted rules and Regulations for the operation, management and control of their canteens and/ or clubs in accordance with the above.

Although differing laws at the local and state levels preclude the promulgation of universally acceptable rules and regulations, certain policies are mandatory to insure total compliance with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Veterans of Foreign Wars both as to incorporation and control of its units and to be in keeping with the objects of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

In adopting rules and regulations for the operation, management and control of clubs and/ or canteens, the following PROVISIONS of the National By-Laws must be adhered to:

ANY ACTIVITY, CLUBROOM, HOLDING COMPANY OR UNIT SPONSORED, CONDUCTED OR OPERATED BY, FOR OR IN BEHALF OF A POST, INCORPORATED SEPERATELY FROM THE POST OR UNINCORPORATED, SHALL BE AT ALL TIMES UNDER THE DIRECT CONTROL OF THE POST, AND ALL FUNDS DERIVED THEREFROM SHALL BE AT ALL TIMES UNDER THE DIRECT CONTROL OF THE POST.

ALL MONEY, PROPERTY OR ASSETS OF ANY KIND OR NATURE, AS WELL AS BOOKS AND RECORDS OWNED, HELD OR USED, BY ANY SUCH ACTIVITY, CLUBROOM, HOLDING COMPANY OR UNIT SPONSORED, CONDUCTED OR OPERATED BY, FOR OR ON BEHALF OF A POST, SHALL BE THE PROPERTY OF THE POST AND MUST BE PLACED IN THE CARE AND CUSTODY OF THE POST QUARTERMASTER.

Suggested Guide to Good Management of Post Clubs/ Canteens

Proper Post Inspection must include a complete check of all club activities. Club regulations, and their enforcement, are very important. Quite often difficulties arise because no definite regulations governing clubs have been approved by the Department Convention or Council of Administration.

It is suggested that Posts check with their Department Headquarters regarding laws, requirements, etc, for club operations that have been adopted and are in force in their Department.

We offer the following recommended guide for establishing a House Committee and providing rules for its operation of the club.

1. The composition and manner of selection of the House Committee, either by election or appointment, shall be in accordance with Department rules and/or as set forth in Post By-Laws. In the absence of Department rules and/or By-Laws, the Post shall determine the composition and manner of selection either by election or appointment.

By Election: The House Committee shall be elected by the Post members to manage the business affairs of the club. It shall consist of not less than three (3) members, one each of whom shall be elected annually for a three year term. Trustees shall not serve on the House Committee. (Elected House Committee members are not held to be Post Officers as set forth in Section 216 of the By-Laws). In addition to the above, the Post Commander and Post Quartermaster, by virtue of their offices, shall be members of the House Committee.

By Appointment: The House Committee shall be appointed by the Post Commander to manage the affairs of the club. It shall consist of not less than three (3) members. Trustees shall not serve on the House Committee. In addition to the above, the Post Commander and Post Quartermaster, by virtue of their Offices, shall not be members of the House Committee.

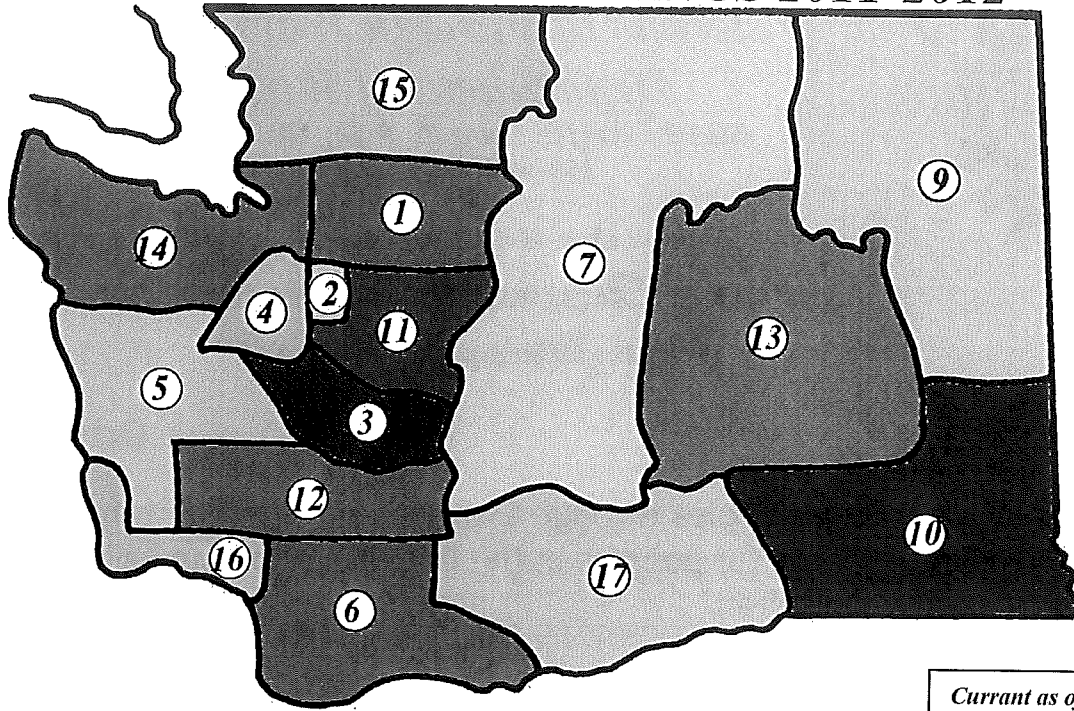
2. The House Committee shall employ such personnel, including manager, as shall be necessary. No member of the House Committee shall serve as manager.
3. The House Committee shall have authority to suspend all club privileges of any member for misconduct on club premises for whatever time shall be deemed proper subject to appeal to membership.
4. All actions of the House Committee shall be subject to ratification by the Post by regular vote at a Post meeting.
5. The manager or any employee handling club monies shall be bonded to the Post for twice the amount normally handled.
6. The manager shall be responsible to the House Committee and the Post Commander for conduct of all patrons. He shall deny club privileges to any member or guest violating club rules, state laws or these regulations.
7. The club manager and House Committee shall be held responsible by the Post Commander and the Post membership for strict enforcement of club regulations, local ordinances, and state laws applicable to the operating of clubs.
8. Violations, or permitting the violation, of any of these rules and regulations shall be deemed sufficient cause for discharge of the club manager. If the House Committee fails to act upon proof of such violations, the Post membership may initiate action at a Post meeting under the provisions of paragraph 4 above.
9. Any member of the House Committee, if appointed, may be removed by the Commander or, if elected, may be removed by vote of the Post, upon proven charges of failure to comply or failure to enforce compliance with these rules and regulations, or for failure to attend three consecutive meetings of the House Committee, except that the validity of any action taken under this rule pertaining to the removal of the Post Commander or Post Quartermaster shall be based on full compliance with the provisions of Section 220 and other applicable provisions of the National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure.
10. The House Committee and manager shall keep accurate records, open to inspection of Post members at all reasonable times.
11. The Post Quartermaster, by virtue of his office, shall be treasurer of the House Committee.

Club Finances

1. The club manager shall keep an accurate, approved set of records and accounts.
2. The largest sum which the manager of the House Committee may spend without a vote of the Post authorizing same will be \$_____.
3. All income and profits shall be held or deposited in the name of the Post, and in no other name.
4. The Post Quartermaster shall be the treasurer of the House Committee.
5. The House Committee and club manager shall turn over to the Post Quartermaster, at least weekly, all net profits and property acquired over and above a specific sum which shall be prescribed in the club By Laws, and which sum shall be retained for current club expenditures.
6. At least once each month the club manager shall furnish the Post Quartermaster a complete written profit and loss statement to be read to the Post bulletin board – all expenditures to be supported by bills and vouchers.
7. All club books and records shall be subject to a quarterly audit by the Post Trustees or qualified accountants approved by them.
8. All club regulations may be amended by majority vote of members present at any regular or special Post meeting, subject to written notice to members at least ten (10) days prior to such meeting.

SUGGESTED GUIDELINES FOR POST BY LAWS, ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION ARE AVAILABLE FROM NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS UPON REQUEST.

DISTRICT MEETINGS 2011-2012



Currant as of - 31 OCT 2011

DIST	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
AUG					21 318 NOON	21 12028 NOON		13 51 NOON		19 1263 7 PM		13 7395 NOON			06 10882 NOON	27 3207 NOON
SEP	10 1040 NOON	10 3063 10 AM	18 5580 1 PM		10 318 NOON		17 1373 NOON		11 1443 NOON		17 8044 NOON		18 9106 NOON	11 9474 11:00		
OCT				02 2669 1 PM		09 10435 NOON		01 7815 NOON		15 * 9430 1 PM					08 1045 NOON	
NOV	12 1040 NOON	19 2713 11 AM	20 969 2 PM		12 968 NOON		19 10445 NOON			19 9430 1 PM		19 11446 NOON	20 7498 NOON			
DEC								03 3386 NOON		3 * 2995 1 PM	17 5878 NOON			11 1585 11 AM		10 3482 NOON
JAN	14 1040 NOON			14 4992 1 PM	14 1135 NOON	08 * 4278? NOON										
FEB			12 11401 2 PM			12 1927 NOON	18 6853 NOON	04 1435 NOON	12 2351 NOON	11 1263 1 PM	18 5522 NOON	04 24 1 PM	19 1024 NOON	12 5056 11 AM	04 3721 NOON	18 5785 NOON
MAR	10 1040 NOON			11 239 1 PM	10 1694 NOON											
APR										28 * 1949 1 PM						
MAY	05 1040 NOON	05 2289 11:30	20 91 2 PM	06 239 1 PM	12 1948 NOON	7824 NOON	05 683 NOON	2 Jun 1474 Noon	06 992 11AM	19 9430 1 PM	19 5439 NOON	7395 NOON	20 4760 NOON	06 7392 11 AM	05 5297 NOON	06 379 NOON
DIST	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17

NATIONAL CONVENTION 27 AUGUST - 1 SEPTEMBER 2011 / WESTERN CONFERENCE 4 - 6 NOV 2011
MID-WINTER CONFERENCE 20 - 21 JANUARY 2012 / STATE CONVENTION 20 to 23 JUNE 2012



Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Department of Washington

FROM THE SECRETARY

October 31, 2011

Good Morning everyone!

Here's just a few notes to fill you all in.

Poppies – Don't wait to order your poppies. It takes 2-3 months for delivery. If you don't have the 2 months needed for your red poppies to be delivered, you do have the choice of ordering the anniversary poppies which come in Gold, Silver, and Diamond (white). These poppies are actually kept at National and can be sent out to you within a week. The price is the same.

Recruiting Supplies – There are many free items for recruiting that can be sent directly to your post from National. Order Form is included in this mailing.

Essay Contests – Entries were due Nov. 1st to the post. Check with your district Commanders to find out the due date to get essays to the District. Get your Awards Banquet Tickets now!


Mid-Winter Convention – Don't wait to reserve your hotel room and buy your banquet tickets for the Voice of Democracy Awards Banquet. Mid-Winter runs from Friday, January 20th to Saturday, January 21st in Yakima, WA. There will not be extra banquet tickets at the door, unless a student's family needs some. So don't delay, buy your banquet tickets today.

Veterans Day – Many schools are looking for Veteran Speakers for assemblies, for the week of Veterans Day. Try to work in a little speech with your local school to help the children understand who Veterans are and what they have done for our country.

Website – If you have an event, dinner, or fundraiser coming up and want to get the word out, let us know. Send us a copy of the flyer, and we'll get it put onto the Washington VFW website for all to see.

Don't hesitate to call Department with any questions or concerns. We are here to help you!

Thank you.


Robin Piatt
VFW Secretary
Dept. of WA

Department Headquarters - 5213 Pacific Hwy East - Fife, Washington, 98424
Phone # 253-922-2114/ Fax # 253-922-2208 vfwstateofwa@aol.com



Hotel Reservation Form



Red Lion Hotel
607 E Yakima Avenue
Yakima, WA. 98901
Phone # 509-248-5900
Fax # 509-575-8975
\$75 a night

For your convenience, the preferred check in time is after 2:00 PM. Early arrivals may be accommodated, as rooms become available. Rooms will be held until 5:00 PM unless arrival is guaranteed with first night's deposit or major credit card. Guaranteed rooms will be held until 8:00 AM the following day. No charge for children under 17 staying in the same room with an adult. All rates subject to Washington State taxes.

Cancellations must be received at least 24 hours in advance.

Reservation Deadline is January 13, 2012

Name _____ Telephone # (_____) _____

Address _____

City _____ State WA Zip _____

Arrival Day _____ Departure Day _____

No. in party _____ Sharing room with: _____

of Beds: () 1 King () 2 Queens

A credit card will be required by the hotel at time of check in for any incidentals charged to the room.

Charge my credit card: () VISA () MasterCard () American Express () Diners Club () Discover

Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____

I am affiliated with: Veterans of Foreign Wars & Ladies Auxiliary

You must make your own reservations.

Department will not be making room reservations for anyone except the Department Line Officers and Award Recipients.

10 FOR 10: VFW WON'T STAND FOR BROKEN PROMISES

VFW MOBILIZES TO PROTECT MILITARY BENEFITS AS CONGRESS LOOKS TO SLASH SPENDING

Recently, when Congress voted to raise the nation's debt ceiling, they specifically **targeted national security spending** to absorb many of the cuts, indicating that Department of Defense personnel programs and VA benefits would not be spared.

Leaders in Congress have already discussed cutting or eliminating 10 benefits affecting military members, veterans and their families in recent months, and the VFW believes that these toxic proposals will once again gain momentum as Congress looks for ways to tighten its belt. An in-depth explanation of each proposed cut is included below.

America's all-volunteer military has shouldered a multi-theater war all by themselves for almost 10 years. They did so without question, and often with tremendous sacrifice to themselves and their families.

Americans understand the scope of the national debt crisis; a crisis that could have serious repercussions on a military at war and a veterans' population that has already sacrificed much for the nation. However, instead of debating and enacting meaningful fiscal reforms, some in Congress have proposed plans that would leave America's military and her veterans to shoulder more of the national debt.

This "10 for 10" plan — to cut 10 specific benefits to pay for 10 years of war — is a breach of faith with America's military and veteran families, and the national commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. and its Auxiliaries is calling upon his 2 million members to fight it.

"Our military and veterans have earned each of the 10 benefits Congress is proposing to cut," said VFW National Commander Richard L. Eubank, a retired Marine and Vietnam combat veteran from Eugene, Ore.

"Our nation broke a similar promise to her World War I veterans," he said. "It took the VFW to lead thousands of them in a march on Washington until Congress made the responsible choice to support them. The VFW wouldn't stand for broken promises then and we won't stand for it now."

The 10 ways Congress is targeting military and veterans' benefits during today's difficult fiscal times are to:

- **Increase healthcare premiums for military retirees on TRICARE**
- **Increase pharmaceutical fees for troops, families and retirees**
- **Eliminate presumptive service-connected conditions for disabled and ill veterans**
- **Lock out or increase fees for Department of Veterans Affairs Priority Groups 7 and 8 veterans**
- **Reduce cost-of-living allowances**
- **Freeze military pay**
- **End government subsidies to military commissaries**
- **Eliminate Department of Defense elementary schools stateside**
- **Eliminate the 20-year military retirement plan**
- **Eliminate DOD tuition reimbursement programs for service members**

While Congress publicly debated raising the nation's debt ceiling, the VFW was concerned that many of the proposed cuts were being discussed behind closed doors. The VFW has the same concerns over the new bipartisan "Gang of 12" Super Congress tasked to develop the nation's debt reduction plan. Eubank said the VFW recognizes that the nation must make difficult fiscal decisions, but the programs and benefits provided to veterans and military families were prepaid in full through their honorable service and sacrifice.

"Unlike other government-funded entitlement programs, veterans earned their benefits by making a national commitment that 99 percent of other Americans are simply unwilling to make," said Eubank. "To ask these same men and women to sacrifice more is simply unconscionable."

The VFW also believes that cutting the 10 benefits could have tremendous impact on military recruiting and readiness, and threaten the future viability of the all-volunteer force. Healthcare, education, a retirement system and family programs are critical factors in retaining talented personnel in a low-paying and extremely dangerous profession.

Eubank said as the debate over fiscal responsibility continues to unfold in Washington, the VFW will work to ensure that military and veterans' benefits remain intact.

In the coming weeks, the VFW will continue to put pressure on Congress to ensure proposed fiscal reforms do not negatively affect troops, veterans or their families.

SUGGESTED TOPICS FROM VFW LEGISLATIVE HEADQUARTERS

- 1. TRICARE Fees Increase:** Annual TRICARE Prime fees for working-age military retirees will increase by 13 percent beginning Saturday, which ups the single rate from \$230 to \$260, and the family rate from \$460 to \$520. In an attempt to justify the increase, the Defense Department said rates had not increased since they were first created in 1994, whereas health costs for almost 10 million active duty personnel, retirees, reservists and their families, have ballooned from \$19 billion in 2001 to \$53 billion this year. Some veteran and military service organizations acquiesced to the fee increase because it was "reasonable," but the VFW did not, and will continue to lobby against all attempts to balance the budget on the backs of those who have worn the uniform. Survivors of active duty deceased sponsors and medically retired service members and their dependents are exempt from the increase, and retirees already in the program will not pay the new fee until January. Pentagon spokeswoman Cynthia Smith said more "modest annual increases" are planned in the future.
- 2. Senators Want Military Retirement Protected:** The VFW was instrumental in helping to get a bipartisan letter opposing changes to the military retirement system sent to Defense Secretary Leon Panetta. The letter, signed by Sen. Ben Nelson (D-Neb.) and 14 others, asks for assurances that the current military retirement system will remain unchanged for those currently serving in uniform and those who have already retired. "Balancing the budget by cutting the retirement benefits of our current military forces while they continue to serve in harm's way is not only patently unfair, it puts in jeopardy the recruitment and retention of our country's future all-volunteer force," they wrote. To read VFW's letter to Senator Nelson, click here: <http://www.vfwonthehill.org/2011/09/vfw-letter-sparks-senate-action-on.html>. The VFW also has concerns about future service member retirement benefits, and believes that the military retirement system may come under fire as discussions continue on how to balance the budget and reduce the federal deficit. The VFW will work with Congress to defeat those plans once they are formally introduced by the Administration. Read more here: <http://www.vfw.org/News-and-Events/Articles/VFW-CALLS-WHITE-HOUSE-PROPOSALS-A--BREACH-OF-FAITH/>
- 3. Threats to TRICARE and the Military Retirement system** and are just two of 10 services and programs that the VFW believes Congress or the Administration want to reduce or eliminate to help pay for 10 years of war. Click here <http://www.vfw.org/News-and-Events/Articles/VFW-CALLS-WHITE-HOUSE-PROPOSALS-A--BREACH-OF-FAITH/> > to read the latest about the "10 for 10" plan, as well as how you can help stop efforts to balance the budget on the backs of veterans, service members and their families.

Survey Says Troops Won't Stay:

A simple VFW online poll last week revealed that any changes to the existing military retirement system could have a devastating effect on the viability of America's all volunteer force. Based on 1,400 responses: * **95 percent** of respondents would leave the military if the retirement system was changed. Currently, only 8 percent of the force stays to 20 or more years. Lowering the retention percentage would impact the availability and quality of future military leaders. * **93 percent** of respondents would not make the active military a career if they could not collect retirement pay till age 60, which is the full retirement age for Guard and Reservists. * **And 76 percent** of respondents would separate after 10 years if they knew they would receive a full GI Bill educational benefit and a vested 401(k). This would strip the ranks of midcareer officers and NCOs who are in their prime working age, because a civilian style 401(k) retirement plan can be earned anywhere, and much more safely. To add your voice to this discussion, click here: <http://www.vfwonthehill.org/2011/09/vfw-to-testify-on-gi-bill.html>



Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U. S.
Department of Washington
5213 Pacific Hwy E, Fife, Washington 98424
253-922-2114 F# 253-922-2208

November 1, 2011

Greetings Comrades and Sisters,

We are now starting on our 5th month. Every Post should be contacting all their unpaid members. Let's not lose them because we did not extend our hand to them. Call them, or better yet, organize in teams of three and go visit them. Find out first and foremost if they are doing well, or is there something they need? Can we be of any help? Let's make them feel wanted, as a person, as a family, and as comrades that have gone through the same experiences we have. They deserve our time and understanding.

For the benefit of our new Officers and some of the older members that may have forgotten, the Ladies Auxiliary exists, thanks to the Post that allows them to form under their charter. They are a unit of themselves, with their own By Laws and programs that they must accomplish every year along with being committed to assist the Post. We must address any request or grievance we may have to their Floor. This way, there is no misunderstanding of what was required of them because it will be recorded in their minutes. This should be the standard operating procedure. If you need their help for a fundraiser, let them know for what it is, what is expected of them and if they are going to get any funds from the profit for their programs. The clearer you make it, the least misunderstandings there will be later on. Please remember that courtesy goes a long way and this goes both ways.

If at any time, you have a grievance, you should address it through the chain of command, starting with the Post Commander, then the District Commander, and then on to Department Commander. On the Ladies side, you also start at the Post level; the President, District President, and Department President. All complaints must be in writing, signed, and dated as per Article IX; Section 901.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars does not recognize canteens; therefore any disciplinary action within such establishments must be addressed by the Post floor through the proper channels per the National By Laws.

All Posts with Canteens are reminded that during all meetings (Post and Auxiliaries) they are to keep all the noise down to a minimum so as to not interrupt such meetings.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carlos Almeda".

Carlos Almeda
State Commander



Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U. S.
Department of Washington
5213 Pacific Hwy E, Fife, Washington 98424
253-922-7422 F# 253-922-2208

From the desk of the
State Quartermaster
Dick Whipple

October 28, 2011

Please order your poppies through Department Headquarters. If you don't, you will not show a credit for poppies in the Post file or on our tally report that gets posted on the web site.

There are a few posts that have not purchased their bond yet. Last years bonds have expired as of August 31st. Remember, the bond must have a zero deductible per national by laws. The words "equal to" are the key words. Quartermasters must be bonded for the amount of the Post liquid assets. If you have two or more signatures on your checks, each additional person must be bonded for at least the minimum of \$3,000 = \$11.

This is the last couple weeks to purchase your hometown Hero Raffle tickets. The drawing will be on the 11th of November. Last tickets sold will be on the 10th. This is to help the returning Veterans that are protecting our nation. They are \$10 each and can be purchased at any lottery location.

Your IRS 990 forms are due prior to November 15th if you are on a fiscal year. Be sure to send a copy to Department for your Post/ District file.

Please get your audit reports in so we can get the records up to date.

Be sure to reserve your banquet tickets for Mid-Winter. Reservation cut-off date is January 15th.

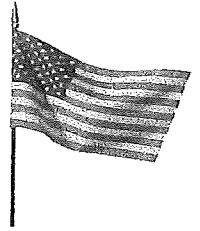
Do not hesitate to call me at Headquarters if you have any questions, concerns or need assistance at all.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dick Whipple".

Dick Whipple
State Quartermaster



Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Washington Mid-Winter Conference Tentative Agenda January 20 & 21, 2012



Friday, January 20, 2012

9:00 AM – 2:00 PM
2:00 PM - 6:00 PM
4:00 PM
5:00 PM
8:00 PM

Post Service Officer Training – Yakima Convention Center
Registration – Yakima Convention Center (Members will be charged a \$3.00 registration fee)
Department Line Officers Meeting – Commander's Suite
Council of Administration Meeting – Yakima Convention Center
Reception for National Representatives – Commander's Suite

Saturday, January 21, 2012

7:00 AM – 8:30 AM
7:00 AM - 12:00 Noon
8:00 AM - 9:30 AM

9:45 AM – 12:00 Noon

Past State Commanders Breakfast –
Registration
Joint Opening Session - Carlos Almeda, Commander – Madge Parks, State President
Introduction of Guests and Dignitaries
Roll Call – Corky Berthiaume, Adjutant
Membership & Dues Round-up - Rex Cook, Membership Director
Robert Failor & Ron Jacobson, Asst. Directors
National Military Service - Brad Pieratt, Chairman, Traci Williams, Deputy
Junior Activities – Ted Streete, Chairman; Special Olympics – Larry Severin;
Scouting – Jerry Johnson; Patriot's Pen/Essay–Ted Wright;
Voice of Democracy – James Daly
Hospital – Glenn Albert, State Surgeon
Audit Committee - Ted Beckman, Chairman, John Rust & Tom Leonard
Inspections - Bill Broadwater, State Inspector
Public Relations/ Publications - Ray Fairbank, Chairman
Community Activities – Manuel Soto, Chairman
Americanism/ Loyalty Day – Roger Padie, Chairman
Teacher Awards – Jerry Slater, chairman
Veteran of the Year – Robert Roche
Safety, Law and Order – Robert Hearin
Chaplain – Tom Darling
Emergency Disaster/Building - Dick Whipple, Chairman
Service Division Meeting

10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon

12:00 Noon - 1:00 PM

Break for Lunch

Service Division - Court Fraley, State Service Officer
POW/MIA - Darrell Pilat, Chairman
Legislative, Fed. - John Rust, Chairman, Legislative, State - Tony Woods, Chairman
Buddy Poppy - Rex Cook, Chairman
National Home - Ted Streete, Chairman
Homeless Veterans - Randy Hahn, Chairman
USO Military Lounge - Al Bragg, Chairman
Scouting Meeting – JW Johnson, Chairman
Voice of Democracy Students Reception
Annual Voice of Democracy Banquet, Junior Vice Cmdr Ted Streete presiding
Guest Speaker – National Rep

3:00 PM
5:30 PM - 6:30 PM
6:30 PM

Service Division

Training class for Mid Winter conference

Date : January 20, 2012

Time: 9:00 am

Cindy Kartes:

- 1. Homeless veterans, Incarcerated Veterans, and Incompetent Veterans.**
- 2. Skin Diseases and Scars**
- 3. Reduction of Benefits**
- 4. Dental Care through the VA**

Ross Walker :

- 1. Basic PSO Training**
- 2. Eligibility for VA Health Care**

Ross will also pass out handouts on National Guard and Reserve benefit requirements

This is going to be a new direction for training PSO's, we encourage as many to attend this session as possible.

PAST COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF's VISIT

The following is the tentative Travel schedule for Past Chief Richard Eubank. The times are what we are targeting for during his visit. Unless there are unforeseen weather or traffic problems we intend to stay as close to schedule as possible.

DEPART. TIME	LOCATION	ARRIVAL TIME	LOCATION
16 Nov / 9:30 AM	SEATAC INT Airport	10:00 AM	Renton Post 1263 (Coffee Break)
11:30 AM	Renton Post 1263	12:30 PM	Ballard Post 3063 (Lunch)
2:00 PM	Ballard Post 3063	2:45 PM	Everett 2100 (Coffee Break)
3:30 PM	Old Guard Post 2100	7:00 PM	Oak Harbor Post 7392 (Dinner)
17 Nov / 8:00 AM	Oak Harbor	10:30 AM	Sequim Post 4760 (Lunch)
12:30 PM	Sequim Post 4760	2:15 PM	Shelton Post 1694 (Coffee Break)
3:15 PM	Shelton Post 1694	4:00 PM	Tenino Post 5878 (Coffee Break)
5:00 PM	Tenino Post 5878	5:45 PM	Olympia Post 318 (Dinner)
8:00 AM	Tacoma	11:00 AM	E. Wenatchee Post 3617 (Dinner)
1:00 PM	E. Wenatchee Post 3617	3:00 PM	Odessa Post 7395 (Coffee Break)
4:00 PM	Odessa Post 7395	7:00 PM	Spokane Post 51 (Dinner)
19 Nov / 8:00 AM	Spokane	9:30 AM	Moses Lake/Meet recruiters for new post.
10:30 AM	Moses Lake	12 Noon	Yakima Post 379 (Lunch)
2:00 PM	Yakima	7:00 PM	Redmond Post 2995 (Dinner)
20 Nov / 8:45 AM	Hotel in Tacoma	9:00 AM	Tacoma Post 91 (Breakfast)
10:30 AM	Tacoma Post 91	12:15 PM	Fife (Luncheon with National President)
2:00 PM	Restaurant	2:15 PM	State Headquarters (Tour of Building)
2:20 PM	Return to Hotel in Tacoma	6:00 PM	Tacoma Post 10018 (Dinner/Nat. Pres.)
21 Nov / Early	Fly Back Home		

Any questions you might have call VFW State Headquarters or call Corky anytime at his cell phone number: 253 227-7793.

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS PROGRAMS

Last year's totals

Voice of Democracy Audio/ Essay Contest (grades 9-12)

- 65th Year for the program
- Invested \$2,063,379 in the program and in scholarships and incentives
- 46,751 students participate
- Fifty-four national scholarships totaling \$151,000, \$30,000 first place

Patriot's Pen Youth Essay Contest (grades 6-8)

- 16th year for the program
- Invested \$1,220,655 in the program and in US Savings Bonds and Incentives
- 129,481 students participated (*15% increase this year*)
- Forty-five national awards totaling \$91,000 – 1st Place Award is \$10,000 US Savings Bond

Buddy Poppy

- 2009- 2010 Buddy Poppy distribution – 8.75 million
- Money raised – approximately \$10 million plus

Community Service

- VFW & its Auxiliaries performed 11,769,278 hours of volunteer community service valued at \$311,515,917 and donated or expended \$60,124,140 in the completion of these efforts

Citizenship Education & Teacher Awards

- Provided US Flag education and etiquette in more than 9 thousand classrooms last year.
- Veterans shared their experiences with more than 236,000 students last year.
- VFW Citizenship Education Teacher's Award honored 1,193 teachers from 1,317 schools last year with \$212,274 in awards.

Youth Activities (Scouting, JROTC, Cadet Programs)

- VFW Posts sponsored nearly 1,300 scouting units comprising more than 40,000 Cub Scouts, Scouts, Venture Scouts, Sea Scouts and Adult Leaders.
- VFW honored three Scouts of the Year with a \$5,000, \$3,000 and \$1,000 scholarship from nominated Eagle Scouts, Venture Silver Award and Sea Scout Quartermaster Award recipients.
- VFW honored 1,800 Eagle Scouts with a letter from the VFW Commander In Chief
- VFW Posts honored thousands of ROTC, JROTC, Civil Air Patrol and Naval Sea Cadets with Awards.

In addition to participating in all of the above listed VFW National Programs. The Veterans of Foreign Wars, State of Washington's 124 Posts across the state individually contribute to their community by:

1. Donating thousands of dollars and volunteer hours to the five Veterans Administration Medical Centers, (VAMC) in our state.
2. Supporting the troops, both prior to going overseas and returning, by hosting and financing events for the service members and families.
3. Giving financial assistance and volunteer hours to the members of the Warrior Transition Battalion (wounded warriors) at Joint Base Lewis McChord, Madigan Army Medical Center, for many of their family oriented programs throughout the year. (*Family picnics, Halloween parties, Thanksgiving dinners, Christmas parties, and many others.*)
4. Support through volunteer hours and monies the three Washington State Soldiers Homes located in Retsil, Orting, and Spokane.
5. VFW members provide honor guards to put on funeral services and burial ceremonies for veterans at the National Cemetery in the Covington area, and the State Cemetery in the Spokane area as well as other churches and cemeteries around the state.
6. VFW posts across the state provide a multitude of other services to their community to include: taking veterans or family members of veterans to doctor appointments, grocery shopping, and other tasks that they cannot do on their own. They also do yard work, housekeeping, or repairs and home maintenance as needed. They also build wheelchair ramps and do other such special projects in the homes of veterans to make their lives easier.

Veterans Day Discounts and Freebies

Restaurants

- **Abuelo's Mexican Food** - Abuelo's offerings vary by region, be sure to call ahead to see what the discounts or freebies are included.
- **Applebees** - All veterans and active duty military eat free from a limited menu at Applebee's on Veterans Day.
- **Chili's** — Veterans and active duty dine for free from a special limited six item menu on Veterans Day.
- **Golden Corral** — Golden Corral Restaurants' Military Appreciation Monday free dinner will be available on November 15, from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Military retirees, veterans, active duty, National Guard and Reserves are all welcome.
- **Hooters** — All Veterans and active duty eat free. The free entrees must be selected from a special Veterans Day menu.
- **Krispy Kreme** – All active-duty, retirees & veterans get a free doughnut on Veterans Day. Be sure to call ahead to verify your local Krispy Kreme is participating.
- **McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurants** — Participating McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurants offer a complimentary entree to vets from a special menu on a space available basis, online reservations are highly recommended.
- **Outback Steakhouse** — Veterans and active-duty military get a complimentary Bloomin' Onion and non-alcoholic beverage on Veterans Day.
- **UNO Chicago Grill** — UNO is offering a Buy One Get One free offer to Service members or Veterans with a military or veteran I.D. or in uniform or with a photo of themselves in uniform. The Veterans Day BOGO offer includes a free entree or individual pizza, with the purchase of an entree or pizza of equal or greater value.
- **Texas Roadhouse** – Free meal from opening until 4pm. on Veterans Day. Call ahead to your local restaurant for more information.
- **T.G.I. Friday's** – Veterans and Service members Buy one get one free from Nov 11–14. Contact your nearest location for more details on their Veterans Day BOGO offer.

Retail

- **The Dollar General** — Veterans, Service members (Active, Guard, and Reserve), and their immediate families will receive a 10-percent discount with a Veterans Day coupon. The coupon may be found in store circular ads or by asking a sales associate.
- **Home Depot** — Offers a 10 percent discount to all Veterans during Veterans Day, Memorial Day and Independence Day.
- **Lowe's** — All veterans receive the 10-percent discount on Veteran's Day, Memorial Day and the Fourth of July. The offer is available in stores only and is limited to in-stock and special-order purchases of up to \$5,000.
- **Sam's Club** — Sam's give away 36,000 collapsible Hugo Canes on Veterans Day to military veterans in need of mobility assistance. Sam's Club will require membership for this offer, but proof of service may be necessary.
- **Amazon.com** – Free “Veterans Day Honor” MP3 album download. The album includes 12 songs by The Bands and Ensembles of the U.S. Armed Forces.
- **Cabela's Outdoor Store** – Offers their employee discount to all veterans, active-duty military and reserves, law enforcement, fire and EMS personnel November 11-12. Discounts vary from 5% to 50%, depending on the item.
- **Build-a-Bear Workshop** – Members of the armed services including the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, and Reserve Officer Training Corps, will receive a 20% discount November 11-15 on any one transaction at Build-A-Bear Workshop.
- **Fashion Bug** – 20% off all plus-size and misses clothing purchases with a copy of military ID or spouse's military ID.
- **Sports Clips Haircuts** - The men's hair salon chain is offering a free haircut to active military and veterans on Veterans Day.
- **Foot Locker** — Veterans, Service members (Active, Guard, and Reserve), and their immediate families with a Foot Locker Veterans Advantage Card receive a 20 percent discount every day of the year. That offer is good both online and at any store location, including Foot Locker, Lady Foot Locker, Kids Foot Locker, Footaction and Champs Sports — even on sale items.