



Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U. S.

Department of Washington

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FEBRUARY 2018

HAPPY SPRING!

Department Website — new website!

www.vfwwa.org

I've been getting a lot of phone calls from people going to the OLD website. It is not our website anymore. We are still in the process of updating some stuff, but it is available. If an old version of what you are looking for is on the site, or not on the site at all, just let me know, so I can fix it and get you a current copy.

State Commander's & President's Homecoming — this year it will be at the South Sound Manor in Tumwater on April 14th from 6PM to 10 PM. More information to come.

Anniversaries —

Happy Birthday to the following Posts:

Native American Post 11481 in Neah Bay — 25 Yrs. old

Monroe Post 7511 in Monroe — 50 Yrs. old

Sumner — Bonney Lake Post 3070 in Sumner — 75 Yrs. old

North Kitsap Weaver Post 2463 in Kingston — 75 Yrs. old

M/A Wild West Post 91 in Tacoma — 100 Yrs. old

This Year, you have the opportunity to order the Anniversary poppies in celebration.

25 Yrs. — Silver poppies 50 Yrs. — Gold poppies 75+ Yrs. — Diamond poppies

Just notate the order form to reflect if you want the Anniversary poppies instead of the red poppies.

Payment is the same

June Convention — This year's June Convention is in Bremerton at the Bremerton Convention Center. Banquet is \$40. Hotels are the Hampton Inn & the Fairfield Inn. Forms are enclosed.

Membership — Please see the attached recruiting incentives

All State Awards — The deadline for everything to be into Department is April 15th. The requirements are listed in the State Roster in the Membership section.

Elections - It is almost time for electing the new Post / District officers. If you are the Post/ District Quartermaster/ Adjutant, please be sure to fill out the election reports FULLY. Which means phone numbers & addresses for EVERYONE

DO NOT USE THE POST ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER AS PERSONAL ADDRESSES AND PHONE NUMBERS for anyone! Per National By-Laws - All Election reports must be received no later than June 1st!

Voting at Convention — Delegate strengths & fees are configured by the membership numbers of the post as of April 15th. (1 delegate per every 30 members {or fraction thereof} + Commander)

Please do not send in your fees until you have received the delegate letter showing what is needed from your post You must also have all 4 audits in, current 990, complete election report, and delegate list.

Everything must be received by Department by June F. If these items are not in, your Post members will not have a vote at convention.

Heroes in the Ballpark — Both in Tacoma, WA and Spokane, WA information enclosed.

2018-2019 Department Shirts — Flyer is enclosed.

Community Service Reports — Community Service is helping others in the community (not your spouse or family). Not taking yourself to the hospital, etc. Please remember, if it is part of your job, service to your Post or Auxiliary (kitchen, etc.), attending meetings, any church activities, or fundraising - it is not community service. This year, you will only get the 100% award IF you have submitted your CSR's each month. Sending them in a bulk of 2 - 3 months at a time or on 1 form, will no longer make you eligible for 100% in reporting at the end of the year.

Hospital Reporting — When filling out your hospital report, please remember, report ONLY what you do FOR OTHER PEOPLE Going to your own appointments or tests or taking your family, is not reportable. Only report events that have to do with hospitals, nursing homes, home visits, taking people to appointments/ hospital/ treatment, medical equipment out on loan, etc.

ONLY THINGS RELATED TO HOSPITAL OR NURSING HOMES BELONG ON THE HOSPITAL REPORT. Not food bank, or meals on wheels, etc.

Poppies — The wait can reach up to 3 months around Memorial Day, Labor Day and Veterans Day, so order now!

Order form is online or call me for one,

We do not have poppies at Department.

Department Communications — Mailings from Department go out after every Quarter (April, July, October & January) by EMAIL.

Within these mailings, is needed information for upcoming events and deadlines. We do not have emails for every member of this organization, so we depend on the Commanders to distribute the information that is sent out to them, to their membership at their meetings.

When Department sends out mailings and other communications, it is the District & Post Commander's duty to make sure that their members get the information needed for events, etc. (IE: Parades, Conventions, Conferences, etc.). Department has gotten complaints about information like this not being provided to the members, this may be why we have less members participating in programs and events. COMMUNICATION IS KEY!

Podium Editions — The 2018 podium editions are available at Department. They are \$10 each.

We will not mail them out.

You can also order them on the VFW Store website for \$7.25 + shipping (\$4 & up), at which it would get mailed to you. www.vfwstore.org

Membership Recruiting Supplies - Make sure you order your own membership applications from National, along with any other recruiting supplies you might need. Department only has enough on hand for the Department Membership Chairmen.

Like always, if you have questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to call or email Department.

We are here to help you!

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