

VFW Post 1263

January-February 2012 Newsletter



416 Burnett Avenue South
Renton, WA 98057
425.255.9010

The Post's December 2011 award event to recognize its Youth Essay and Patriot's Pen winners was a huge success!



Commander: Perspective, activism crucial for vets returning home from battlefield duty

HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE. In an online article at www.VFW.org, Commander-in-Chief Richard DeNoyer stressed that the VFW is available to assist all veterans with their issues upon returning from the battlefield. This includes assistance in areas such as education, housing, medical and jobs, just to name a few.

The Chief said that the greatest guidance VFW members can provide is perspective since every VFW member once returned from their wars and have successfully moved on with our lives.

We also have well-versed Service Officers to provide them with pertinent information that they may need. We need to make great efforts to help returning veterans and ensure them that we are here for them and encourage them to join our ranks.

They will be our future leaders in this great organization and its auxiliaries that have survived for the last 112 years with a 2 million plus membership.

Now that our troops are coming home, our nation's commitment to our veterans is only the beginning. Call

your Congressional representatives and senators today and tell them they must demonstrate their commitment to those who have fought our nation's wars over the last decade by ensuring our veterans have quality economic opportunities when they return from the battlefield.

And speaking of opportunities, if any of you are interested in assuming the position of Post Chaplain, the position is now open. Please contact me or the Post if you would like to volunteer to fill the position. The duties of Post chaplain may be found online at:

I thank all of you who have provided all of your time and effort in supporting the VFW during the past year. And a reminder to all of you who haven't renewed your membership, please do so, because we need lots more numbers to achieve 100%. Right now we were at 85.9% so we need another 70 members or so to get there. Thank you very much.

Yours in Comradeship,
Commander John Sentino
425-793-3611
johnbarbie@earthlink.net

Prez thanks Ladies Aux for '100 percent'

Dear Sisters, I want to say THANK YOU to all of you that paid your dues on time. Between you and recruiting new members, we attained our 100 percent by Dec. 24!

This is not the first time our Ladies Auxiliary has been 100 percent, but it is the first time that we reached 100 percent before the end of December!

However, this does not mean we don't have some unpaid members, because we do. If your membership card does not say "2012" on it, you are in arrears and can either mail in or drop off to the Post home your 2012 dues of just \$25.00 for the whole year.

You need to do this immediately so you can attend meetings, be welcome at any VFW canteen you visit, continue to receive your magazine and continue to aid our organization in assisting our Veterans of Foreign Wars, which is what we all joined the VFW to do in the first place.

I also encourage all program chairs to take out the copy of the end-of-year report they were given last summer and see what you still need to work on so you will have time to complete all that you need to do before May so this can be another major award winning year for all of you who have worked so hard this year to reach our goals!

Thank you to all my Sisters for all you do for our VFW.

Barbie Sentino
Ladies Auxiliary President

Students are knowledgeable, patriotic and proud!



We received a large number of fantastic entries for the VFW Youth Essay "What is an American" and the Patriot's Pen Essay "Are you Proud of your Country?" And even more exciting -- TWO of these students won awards at DISTRICT level!

An Award Ceremony and Ice Cream social

was held for the students, their teachers, parents and extended family Dec. 4 at our Post. District Level awards were Dec. 3 at Lake Washington Post 2993. These students make us ALL proud!

Dec. 18 was the Children's Christmas Party, complete with Santa and his Elves -- even Grand Elves! Children played musical chairs, sang carols and each received a filled stocking from Santa. After visiting with Santa, they enjoyed ice cream sundaes and cookies.

To my Sisters in the Ladies Auxiliary that always volunteer and give 110 percent, I sincerely appreciate and thank you. I encourage other ladies of the Auxiliary to consider volunteering for an hour or two when able. We need your help! I look forward to seeing you in the New Year.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Moran
Junior Vice Chair
Ladies Auxiliary

Cancer aid fundraiser set

Please join us for our Cancer Aid and Research fundraiser dinner, Friday Feb. 10, 2012 at 5 p.m. Dinner will be baked chicken breasts, mashed potatoes, gravy, veggies, a roll and dessert.

Tickets are \$10 per person and will be available for sale at the bar until Wednesday Feb. 8, 2012.

We also will hold a raffle for two baskets, Barbie Sentino and Twylla McAlpine will hold a meat raffle There will also be a silent auction and door prizes and some great music by Lauren that starts at 7:30 p.m.

All proceeds will go to the Cancer Aid and Research fund. So please join us for a great dinner and some great music as we raise money to help fight cancer.

Take care and have a great day!

Kelly Lehman
Women's Auxiliary Secretary &
Chairperson for Cancer Aid and Research

Member lauds New Years Eve efforts

Having been on both sides of the counter, so to speak, promoting a huge extravaganza such as a New Year's Eve social event at VFW Post 1263, I want to commend and thank our dedicated hardworking crew who gave us one great big glittering heartwarming 2011 party! The decorations, hats, toys -- everything -- were absolutely beautiful. A sumptuous dinner was perfectly served and the music was exactly the kind we love to dance to. There was something for all ages.

We do not stay out late anymore, but for what time we could spend there, it was glorious. Thank you!

Happy New Year to all
Betty Chapman -- Post 1263 Women's Auxiliary

Ladies Aux chaplain reminder: 'Remember dues and join our activities'

Happy New Year to All. We wish you good health and happiness in 2012. This is the flu season, be sure to get your flu shot if you haven't already done so.

Some of our sisters have been ill with the flu or other medical problems. Joye Schmidt and Cheryl Burkhardt have been ill, Mary Lou Gilbert, Cindy (Soledad) Brown and Terri Woolston recently underwent surgery, and Pat Clayton will undergo surgery this month. Please keep them all in your prayers. Please let me know if any of our sisters are ill or are in need of help.

Remember, your 2012 Auxiliary dues were due Jan.1. If you have not payed them you will not be eligible for a cancer grant from National or from our Ladies Auxiliary. Life Members need to send the treasurer, Carol Whipple, \$5 for their insurance.

Please try to come to our Auxiliary meetings this year. We are in need of more ladies to help the few that do attend with our many programs, children party's, dinners and breakfasts. Our meetings are, as always, the first Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. This is where you find out what is going on at our Post.

Stay healthy and happy.

Loyally, Twylla McAlpine
Ladies Auxiliary Chaplain

Post music offers variety, entertainment for all

MUSIC FOR JANUARY

MUSIC FOR FEBRUARY

JANUARY---6---*LAUREN PETRIE
 JANUARY ---8---KARAOKE---PATTY
 JANUARY---11---JAM SESSION
 JANUARY---13---*LAUREN PETRIE
 JANUARY---18---JAM SESSION
 JANUARY---20---MARK STERN
 JANUARY---25---JAM SESSION
 JANUARY---27---RANDY LITCH

FEBRUARY---1---JAM SESSION
 FEBRUARY---3---*LAUREN PETRIE
 FEBRUARY---8---JAM SESSION
 FEBRUARY---10---*LAUREN PETRIE
 FEBRUARY---12---KARAOKE---PATTY
 FEBRUARY---15---JAM SESSION
 FEBRUARY---17---MARK STERN
 FEBRUARY---22---JAM SESSION
 FEBRUARY---24---BEAT&FEET
 FEBRUARY---29---JAM SESSION

* Please note that music by Lauren Petrie now requires a \$3 cover charge due the night of the event.



JANUARY 2012



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 New Years Day	2 7:00 PM Pool 7:00 PM Civil Air Patrol	3	4 5:30 PM Mens Aux Dinner 6:00 PM Jam Session 6:00 PM Texas Hold'em	5 7:00 PM Ladies Auxiliary	6 7:30 PM Music Meat Raffle	7
8 9-11:30 PM Breakfast 2 PM MOC/MOCA	9 7:00 PM Pool 7:00 PM Civil Air Patrol	10	11 5:30 PM Mens Aux Dinner 6:00 PM Jam Session 6:00 PM Texas Hold'em	12 7:00 PM Mens Aux 7:30 PM Post Meeting	13 7:30 PM Music Dinner - Traci Meat Raffle	14
15	16 7:00 PM Pool 7:00 PM Civil Air Patrol	17	18 5:30 PM Ladies Aux Dinner 6:00 PM Jam Session 6:00 PM Texas Hold'em	19-20 Mid Winter Convention in Yakima		21
22	23 7:00 PM Pool 7:00 PM Civil Air Patrol	24	25 5:30 PM Post Dinner 6:00 PM Jam Session 6:00 PM Texas Hold'em	26 6:30 PM House & Club Mtg 7:30 PM Post Meeting	27 7:30 PM Music Meat Raffle	28
29	30 7:00 PM Pool 7:00 PM Civil Air Patrol	31				
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This calendar is available online at: http://www.vfw1263.com/home/monthly_newsLetter.html

VSOs offer all veterans help to navigate VA claims process



The VFW understands the frustrations that can arise with making a VA claim and offers a nationwide network of skilled VFW Veterans Service Officers to help veterans navigate the claims process. Veterans DO NOT need to be

members of the VFW in order to receive this free assistance. As a veteran, this is a free service they have earned. Offer research and advice to veterans who wish to handle their own claims. VFW Service Officers will:

- Assist veterans who are filing original **claims** for compensation and/or **pension** with the Department of Veterans Affairs and complete the required **VA forms** on behalf of the claimant.
- Assist veterans in reopening claims for **service-connected disabilities** and complete the required VA forms.
- Follow up on **status of claims** filed by veterans with the VA Regional Office.
- File **Notice of Disagreement** with the VA Regional Office if a veteran believes the decision made by the VA was incorrect.
- **Review statements** of the case from the VA regarding denials of claim and assist veterans with the **preparation of responses**.
- Assist veterans or surviving spouses in the preparation of **appeals** for denial of claims and file the appeals with the local VA Regional Office for forwarding to the Board of Veterans Appeals in Washington, D.C.
- Complete VA Forms other than for original claims.
- Answer/research telephone inquiries regarding medical, death/burial and other miscellaneous benefits.

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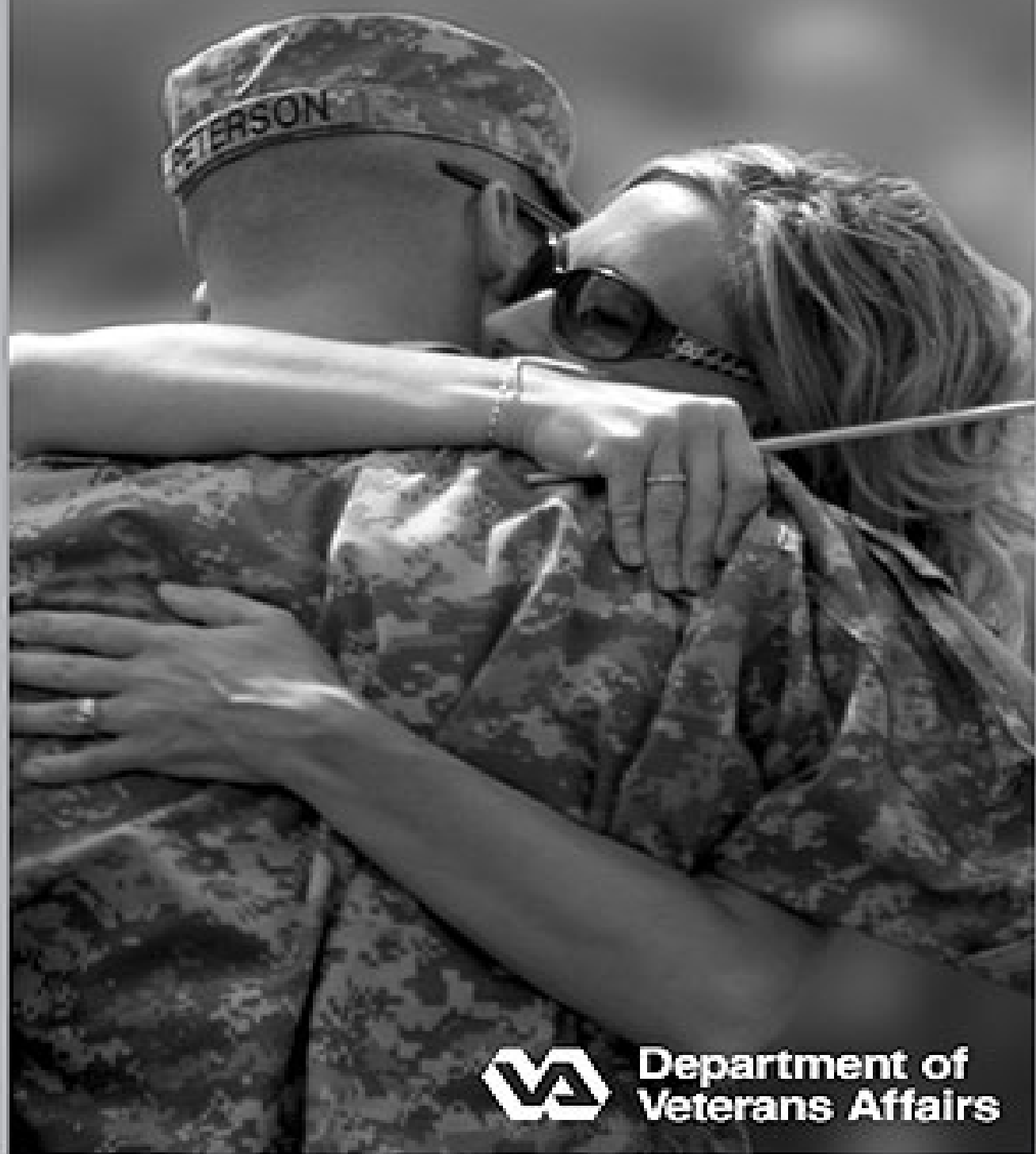
Federal Benefits for Veterans

Dependents & Survivors

Information available online at:

2011 Edition

http://www1.va.gov/opa/publications/benefits_book.asp



Department of
Veterans Affairs