

# VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS



## Frank R. Vaise Post 1263 and their Ladies and Men's Auxiliaries

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The Frank R. Vaise Post 1263 Newsletter is published bi-monthly from September to June of each year. It is the official means of notification to the Post and Auxiliaries' membership and fulfills the requirements of notification according to the rules and By-laws governing the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

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### Post Commander's Message

Comrades,

Summer is upon us and with that, the VFW calendar year ends. It has been a demanding, but an educational year. We proved that we can bypass obstacles placed in our path. We've lost a number of members that have passed on; all of them friends and loved ones. But, we continue to honor and pay homage to each and every one of them. We've laughed and cried, rejoiced and stood somber. But, more important, we kept our solemn promise of honoring the dead, by serving the living.

Your Post was extremely busy this past calendar year. We ended the year at 104.36% membership. That is an increase of 8.35% over last year. All programs were completed. Over the past year, the Post and its Auxiliaries reported 4,659 hours and 19,065 miles of community service; a total value of \$22,098.58. That is extraordinary. The Post and its Auxiliaries have dedicated that service to better aid our community and the Veteran. Whether you cooked a dinner, visited a hospitalized veteran, sent a get-well card or any other selfless activity you did, please accept my sincerest gratitude. I hope that we continue to perform unparalleled service to our community and the Veteran.

May was eventful month for the Post. On May 8, a Commemorative Tribute in honor of Victory in Europe Day (May 8, 1945) was held. Five WWII Veteran Post members were in attendance. It was quite an honor to talk in-depth with each and every one of them. The Post conducts 13 commemorative tributes each year. I invite all members, especially those associated with the tribute to attend. I promise that it will be worth your time. Advanced notices will be listed on the event calendars and posted at the Post. The District Convention was held on May 15. Our very own Past Post Commander, Ron Jacobson, was elected for his second term as District 11 Commander and our Ladies Auxiliary President, Robin Major, was elected for her initial term as District Auxiliary President. Please extend your congratulations to these officers.

The Post and its Auxiliaries formed a team and participated in the 2010 Renton Relay For Life. This was an 18 hour continuous walk at Renton Memorial Stadium. Our 12 member team raised \$2998.66 for the American Cancer Society. Many thanks to all members that walked and/or donated to the cause. A big thanks goes to Doug and Vicky Bourland. As in years past, they have volunteered their time to cook food for all the Renton Relay For Life participants. Their profit was donated to the ACS on behalf of VFW Post 1263.

Please ensure that you read the event calendars that are included in this newsletter. You don't want to miss some of the activities scheduled for the summer.

## Post Commanders Message (Continued from Page 1)

Memorial Day, 2010, was another high visibility event for the Post. As this event will occur after publication, details will be provided at the Post meeting on June 24, 2010. But, rest assured, our Post will be busy.

The Department of Washington Convention will convene on June 17 with the Department Commander being installed on June 19. On June 19, the newly elected VFW Post 1263 Officers will begin their term. Some of the Post officers are new this year, so there will be some learning. But, I have full confidence that the entire command will exceed the standard and successfully complete our mission this year.

All commanders are expected to state a goal for their command. My goal for this calendar year is for our Post to attain an All-American status. We have not achieved this honor since the 2002-2003 year. Is it impossible? No. Will it be difficult? Probably. But, if we work as a team, we can do it.

VFW Post 1263 is our Post. We have great membership that accomplishes great things. I don't work for anyone, except the Post membership. If you have ideas on programs for the next year, please let me know.

It has been my privilege and honor to serve as your Post Commander. I continue to pledge my dedication and selfless service to further benefit our Post and the Veteran.

Yours in comradeship,

Christopher D. Briggum  
Post Commander  
Afghanistan & Iraq Veteran  
[cbriggum@comcast.net](mailto:cbriggum@comcast.net)

## Ladies Auxiliary President Desk

Dear Sisters and Comrades

The end of our VFW year is upon us and this is our last regular edition of the newsletter until September. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all the Ladies Auxiliary members that donated so much time, effort and items. It's all of you that make this organization great and I appreciate each and every one of you! I'm happy to say that this year we've reported over 6000 hours of time donated from the Ladies Auxiliary. This includes community involvement, Americanism, Aid to Others, Youth Activities, Military Assistance, support to our veterans, and support to our Post. The hours also include over 100 hours of time spent with our veterans at the VA Hospitals; either helping with writing and reading letters from loved ones or just a plain and simple visit. Our veterans look forward to a visit from us, even if it's just to say "Hi. How are you doing? Is there anything I can get for you?"

We had two troops in Afghanistan that we adopted. We sent 50 boxes of needed items (toiletries, etc.) and comfort items. This is just a very small part of the thousands of hours we spent volunteering and donating items from the Ladies Auxiliary. There is no way that I can cover, in detail, everything that we do in this article, but if you are interested, just let me know and I would be happy to go over the monthly Community Service Reports that are sent to the VFW Department of Washington.

As I mention in each newsletter, we are still in need of toiletry items; preferably the travel-size, since it is easier to pack and easier for the troops. We also need snack items, writing supplies, cards, and game books. Please drop your donated items at the Post with my name on them and I'll see that it be sent in the boxes. We appreciate everything we get and more importantly, so do the troops.

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### **From the Desk of the Quartermaster**

First of all, we all must congratulate Commander Chris Briggum for getting our Post at over 100% membership. Our total is 104.36%. "Good job Commander". This year, we had two other Posts that reached over their last year mark in membership; Post 1741 of Auburn with 116% and Post 9430 Skyway 105.48% Congratulations to them too for a job well done. What is a little disheartening is that our District 11 Commander, Ron Jacobson is still in need of 71 members so that he too can be at 100%. Thanks to his leadership and recruiting efforts, the District is at 98.03%. He not only recruited for our Post, but he recruited for all Posts in our District and beyond. But there is still time! So if you know of anyone that is eligible to join our organization, sign him up. We still can help Ron reach his well deserved goal.

Just a reminder that we have a couple of Manual Wheel Chairs, Crutches, Walkers and two Electric Wheel Chairs that are available to any of our members at no Charge. All you have to do is come to the Post home and sign them out. If you are in need of an Electric Wheel Chair let us know a few days ahead, so that we can have the Batteries charged and ready to go.

If you do not know, one of the best places to have a Hamburger in Renton is at our Post all you have and at a very reasonable cost to you. So if you are in the area, stop by and ask Cheryl or Sharon to fix you one you will love it! If you need Internet access, let the manager know so that he can give you the password. Your Post is WIFI ready and we do have a computer that you can use (Members Only, as in Post, ladies and Men Aux).

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### **Men's Auxiliary President Desk**

I wish I could announce the newly elected names of the Men's Auxiliary officers that we just nominated and elected, but I can't. It seems there were no changes; same as last year and maybe the year before! Kind of taken to the limit. If it ain't broke don't fix it.

Looking forward to seeing all those smiling and friendly faces of the members and guests at the Post, Auxiliaries' and community functions throughout the summer months. Wednesday, June 2nd will be the last time until Sept. for those tasty Wednesday Jam Session dinners. The cooks need a well deserved summer break. Many thanks for the good food prepared and loyalty by Post and Auxiliary members. Some guests also had an apron on. So, thank you. Byron Pagel won the big buck cash drawing, but he was not in attendance to collect the cash. It does pay to come to the meetings. Men's Auxiliary meetings are the 2nd Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM. See you there.

I support and honor all women and men in uniform; thank you very much.

Ed Eixenberger  
Mens' Auxiliary President  
253.279.4127

### **Post Chaplain's Message**

I am grateful for the opportunity to have served Post 1263 and its members as your Chaplain for the term of office 2009/2010. In retrospect it has been a rewarding experience, one I will never forget.

Thank You to all those members and their families who have notified me when there was a comrade in need or one that had passed on.

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**Ladies Auxiliary Presidents Desk  
(Continued from Page 2)**

Elections are final. Below is a listing of your Ladies Auxiliary officers for the 2010-2011 year. Please help me in extending our congratulations to all of them. President – Robin Major; Senior Vice President – Cassie Babcock; Junior Vice President – Vicky Bourland; Chaplain – Cheryl Burkhardt; Conductress – Patti Eixenberger; Guard – Twylla McAlpine; Treasurer – Carol Whipple; Secretary – Kelly Lehman; Trustee 1 Year – Barbie Sentino; Trustee 2 Year – Twylla McAlpine and Trustee 3 Year – Cassie Babcock.

With this being the Summer Edition newsletter, you will receive three months of calendars. Please review each one so you don't miss any of the exciting events planned for the next quarter. Have a safe and wonderful summer and look for our next newsletter in September!

Respectfully,

Robin Major – Ladies Auxiliary President  
[robin.major@comcast.net](mailto:robin.major@comcast.net)

**Post Chaplain's Message  
(Continued from Previous Page)**

As your Chaplain in retirement, I give you this Prayer:  
Our Father, we thank You for the year we have completed, for its successes, and for the strength You have given us to overcome its failures. As we face a new year together, give us patience and understanding for all our comrades, wisdom in our decisions, and Your aid in building a better Veterans of Foreign Wars organization. Bestow Your special blessings upon all who assume the duties of leadership. Walk with each of us in heart and mind, day by day, so that we may continue to serve God and our Nation.

Thank you for your support.

Doug McAlpine, Chaplain

**From the Desk of the Quartermaster  
(Continued from Previous Page)**

We are still trying to fine tune our finances in the Canteen. You may see changes due to our efforts to keep us solvent and as always, we need your help and participation to keep it going. Again, do not pay attention to rumors in the Bar. If you want good information come to the meetings.

Summer is almost here.

Be aware of those little ones that will be out playing in the streets.

Have a terrific summer vacation all.

Carlos Almeda  
Post Quartermaster

**Ladies Auxiliary Chaplain's Message**

Summer is around the corner and that is when we all take a little time off to spend time with our families. We at the post, do the same. This will be my final article as Auxiliary Chaplain. I will be the Auxiliary Guard for the year 2010-2011. We have elected a new Chaplain and she will be writing the newsletter articles starting in September.

During the past year we have lost a few of our Sisters. They have gone home to be with their Lord. They are: Joyce McAlpine, Beatrice Hatfield, Helen Bell, Ginger Spillman, Donna Boltz and Helen Spires. We send our condolences to their Families.

We wish you all a wonderful and safe summer. Keep our enlisted men and woman in harms way in your daily prayers that they will soon return home.

Loyally,  
God Bless All,  
Twylla McAlpine – Ladies Auxiliary Chaplain  
425.687.0123 email: [twyllaordoug@msn.com](mailto:twyllaordoug@msn.com)

## Post Service Officer News

Comrades,

I want to extend a helping hand to you if you have questions in regards to the wide range of benefits that are available through the Department of Veterans Affairs. There are many federal benefits available for qualified service members, including; compensation & pension, health care, vocational rehabilitation & employment, education & training, home loans, life insurance, dependents & survivors, and burial benefits.

If you have questions as to what benefits are available to you, please contact me, Zach Wooten. I am your Post Service Officer and am your contact between the Post and the VA and will be able to assist you with your needs. If, by chance, I can't make it happen, I can assist you with access to additional help from the Veteran's Administration Service Officers.

Please don't hesitate to call or email me should you have any questions. I am here to help you!

Respectfully,  
Zach Wooten  
Frank R. Vaise Post#1263 Post Service Officer  
Cell: 425-691-8380  
[stingerwooten@hotmail.com](mailto:stingerwooten@hotmail.com)

## D-Day, Allied invasion of Europe, 1944 Commemorative Tribute

Frank R. Vaise VFW Post 1263 and its Auxiliaries invites you to attend the D-Day, Allied invasion of Europe, 1944 Commemorative Tribute.

**June 6, 2010, 4pm, at the Post**

**Food and drinks will be free of charge ALL day for ALL D-Day Veterans!**

## Club Manager News

Business has been picking up, as we are rolling into summer. A few weeks ago, we started Taco Tuesday. It has been a great success and we are gaining sales each week as the word gets out. Join us for an inexpensive snack or dinner of tacos for just \$1 each. Both the meat and salsa are made fresh at the club. The hours are from 4pm – 7pm on Tuesdays only. We have drink specials at that time on Corona and Negra Modelo beer; only \$2.50 a bottle.

Everyone has a good time visiting with one another; the only thing missing is YOU! We hope to see you soon. Don't forget that we have live music and dancing every Friday night starting at 7:30 p.m. and the Jam Session on Wednesday nights from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Feel free to call me with any questions or suggestions.

David Keever, Club Manager

## Signing of the Korean Armistice in 1953 Commemorative Tribute

Frank R. Vaise VFW Post 1263 and its Auxiliaries invites you to attend the Signing of the Korean Armistice in 1953 Commemorative Tribute.

**July 27, 2010, 6pm, at the Post**

**Food and drinks will be free of charge ALL day for ALL Korean War Veterans!**

**"Far too often, the nation as a whole takes for granted the freedoms all Americans enjoy. Those freedoms were paid for with the lives of other few of us actually knew. That's why they are all collectively remembered on one special day."**

**-Thomas J. Tradewell, Sr.  
VFW Commander-in-Chief**

Frank R. Vaise  
VFW Post 1263  
416 Burnett Avenue South  
Renton, WA 98057  
425.255.9010

## Summer 2010 Volume 12, Issue 1

**Non Profit Org.  
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### **Post Officers**

Commander: Chris Briggum  
Sr. Vice CDR: Wendell Pang  
Jr. Vice CDR: Donald Schmidt  
Chaplain: Gerald P. Darst  
Quartermaster: Carlos Almeda  
Service Officer: Zach Wooten

### **Men's Auxiliary Officers**

President: Ed Eixenberger  
Sr. Vice Pres: Jerry Larson  
Jr. Vice Pres: Tom White  
Chaplain: Jack Grisvold  
Treasurer: Jim Fisher

### **CANTEEN HOURS**

SUN: 11am – 8pm  
MON-THURS: 11am – 9pm  
FRI: 11am – 1am  
SAT: 11am – 9pm

David Keever  
Club Manager

### **Ladies Auxiliary Officers**

President: Robin Major  
Sr. Vice Pres: Cassie Babcock  
Jr. Vice Pres: Vicky Bourland  
Chaplain: Cheryl Burkhardt  
Treasurer: Carol Whipple

### **MOC Officers**

Seam Squirrel: Rick Wilson  
Blanket Bum: Ed Rasmussen  
Hide Gimlet: Chuck Vitiriti  
CCDB: Vacant  
Sky Pilot: Les Jacobs

### **MOCA Officers**

President: Marilyn Willaford  
Sr. Vice Pres: Maggie Wilson  
Jr. Vice Pres: Cassie Babcock  
Treasurer: Pat Rasmussen  
Chaplain: Twylla McAlpine