From the Commander

Hello Comrades & Ladies,

Our Dec/Jan snow/ice is hopefully finished for the year. Cold and rain is ok.

The Queen of Hearts will change with the next game. The post 50% will go to a general fund for upkeep/maintenance and relief as needed. For example: We need a new cold table as the current one leaks and has been repaired numerous times. The rules will also change:

QUEEN OF HEARTS = Entire Value of Raffle Pot
QUEEN OF DIAMONDS = 10% of the POT
BLACK QUEENS = 5% of the POT
JOKER = 5% of the Pot and game starts OVER
ANY ACE or FACE card = $25.00
ALL OTHER cards = $20.00

On another subject, we will be taking down the casket flags on the wall. We keep getting requests to hang more and we don’t have the room. These flags properly belong to the family for display. So if you have someone with a flag on the wall, would you please pick it up.

In one month, March, we will have new officer first nominations. So think about running for an office. I will not be running again, so now’s your chance!!

Regards to All,
Jim

From the Auxiliary

Can you believe it! Super Bowl is already here and the VFW Auxiliary is going to have a “Chili and Soup Cook off on Super Bowl Sunday. There will be one prize for each category. The entry fee will be $10.00, the tasting fee will be $7.00 and the event will start at 1pm. So, please bring your best chili or soup to the post by 1230pm. If you do not want to participate in the cook off but want to contribute then salads, corn bread, deserts etc. will be greatly appreciated. The proceeds for this event will be for Veterans Relief.

Well our mid-winter conference went very well here in Vancouver. As you all may know by now we are all very proud to have a Patriot’s Pen winner from our post going all the way to National again. What a wonderful experience this young woman will have. Our scholarship chairman did a wonderful job on the Post and Auxiliary. We have such dedicated members. Hopefully I will have some pictures to share with you all soon.

For those of you that are interested, LaVonne Eggen will be making arrangements on February 25th at 1pm to tour the Fisher House. If you want to go and car pool over please be at the post by 1230pm. Please give LaVonne or me a call if one of us know a week in advance if you are interested so that LaVonne knows how many want to go. She may have to do two tours if there are a lot of members interested.

On March 11th from 12pm to 3pm our Auxiliary is planning on having a sewing get together to make wheelchair bags for the patients at the VA hospital. All members are welcome to come and help out. If you have a sewing machine, then please bring it down. Those that do not have a machine can assist in cutting out the patterns. There are a lot of veterans in wheel chairs that have been needing these bags for quite some time.

If you are a chairperson for one of our programs and have any questions or more information about that program you can directly to the vfwaux.org website, or you can go to vfwauxdeptofwa.org website.

If you have any other questions, comments or request to please give me a call.

Best Regards,

Jenifer – Auxiliary President
From the Canteen Manager

Welcome to February!! I’m not sure how we got here, but here we are with one month of 2017 under our belts. I hope everyone enjoyed their New Years. We had a nice crowd here at the Post for our celebration, a little on the small side but it was a great evening and the band was fantastic.

Our weather has been something else. And of course it affects the Canteen in many ways. We did our best to keep it safe around the Post throughout our inclement weather. I want to thank Bob Garrett, Scott Wilson and Dan Lee for their help clearing our parking lot that miserable Wednesday afternoon. If it weren’t for friends stepping up to help I would’ve been lost.

As many of you know, I lost my Mom on January 6th and her service was planned for that Wednesday. It was of course cancelled but with the help of Family and friends we were able to celebrate her life the next afternoon here at the Post. Thank you to all that help make it happen and again sharing your great food. And then BOOM here we are in February...

You know what I love about this month...? No not Valentines...SUPERBOWL!! We will be having a party in the Canteen starting at noon. The Auxiliary will be having a chili/ soup cook off that day prior to kickoff. So please help support the Auxiliary, either by entering your best chili/soup or paying to taste/judge all of the varieties entered. We will still be holding our Queen of Hearts that day also. Come out and enjoy the game. (Go Falcons ;)

Our next scheduled event is of course is our Valentines Dinner. We will be serving a Rib-eye steak with Lobster tail, baked potato and salad with a dinner roll. All of that for $19.50! Originally I was not going to take reservations but I’ve changed my mind. So if you plan on coming, please sign up at the bar or call and get your name on the list no later than February 5th. Seating is always an issue in our Canteen so this will help us have a successful evening. Thank you in advance. Also don’t forget our after 4pm specials on Monday and Tuesdays, as well as our game night Tuesdays starting at 6:30. Its a lot of fun!!

Looking into next month, we have St. Patrick’s day falling on a Friday this year. I will update you next month on those plans. I bet something green is involved.

There really isn’t much more to update you on at this time. I’m looking forward to better months ahead. I wish you all a very good month. Stay healthy and may God Bless all of us.

Michelle Rex

THE MAKING OF A LEADER

BY Bob Myers

Every year the Veterans of Foreign Wars sponsors and conducts several programs in the fields of art and patriotism. The Vancouver Washington Post 7824 is an active participant in these programs, sponsoring an essay program for school grades three through twelve. There are three categories. Grades three through five are encouraged to write about patriotism and how it effects them personally, this year the theme centered around why they feel people in the military are special. The sixth through eighth grades essays center on their beliefs in America. The last category is for the ninth through twelfth grades. Each category winner proceeds to the District level to compete there. The winners of the District level go on to compete at the State level, and winners at this level have the opportunity to compete at the National level in Washington D.C.. For the Voice of Democracy level, grades nine through twelve, there is a Thirty Thousand Dollar scholarship which goes to the National Winner. The winners of each of these categories are required to read their essay at each level.

This last weekend, I witnessed a phenomenon that was inspirational and gratifying. As the post chairperson of the Voice of Democracy, Patriots Pen, and Youth Essay program for this year, it reminded me at what point the making of a leader becomes a reality. Out of over two hundred fifty applications delivered to the local school districts, both public and parochial as well as to the home schooled, nine were chosen as winners. As such, two of those nine went on to win at the district and in turn, one of the two, a seventh grade parochial student won first place at the state level. This winner in turn goes on to compete at the national level in Washington D.C..

Lauren Stemple was very poised and confident as she read her essay to the state level officers and other dignitaries in a packed room at the Hilton Hotel in downtown Vancouver on Saturday evening. Sunday, she repeated her reading for District six, receiving more accolades. It’s important to note that each one of these young people took the time to put their own thoughts on paper and do so well enough to get the attention of civic leaders of our communities and to express their beliefs with good grammar and clarity of thought. It has been my honor and privilege to be a part of stimulating this important endeavor.
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2016—2017 Auxiliary Officers

President: Jenifer Harris
Sr. Vice President: LaVonne Eggen
Jr. Vice President: Mary Jordan
Treasurer: Pam Vanderheiden
Conductor: George Fich
Chaplain: Carolyn Myers
Guard: Janelle Brossard
Trustees: Pam Hutcheson 3rd yr.
         JoAnn Wisner 2nd yr.
         Debbie Andrew 1st yr.
Secretary: MJ Moran - appointed

General Meeting
Thursday February 9

Auxiliary Meeting
Thursday February 23

AMVET Meeting
Tuesday February 14

Cootie Meeting
Sunday February 12

National Home

National home lifetime memberships only cost $35. This is a GREAT cause so please sign up today.

You may have noticed the little blue house banks sitting on some of the tables at the post. These are for the National Home. Any spare change, dollar bills, 5’s or whatever you want to donate is greatly appreciated. Thank you to all who donated to this most worth while cause.

Thanks to your donations, I have sent over $100 to the National Home so far.
Fellow Comrades

Our post has recently felt a great loss of people who were fellow veterans, family members or someone in our community. For that we honor them with the wonderful memories that they have all given to us.

Post officer nominations for 2016-17 coming up soon, there will be some boots that need filling. I would like to encourage any and all comrades within our ranks to consider becoming a post/district officer.

Our Queen of Hearts game has been going for the last year, come on out on Sunday afternoon and play. Tickets are only one dollar a piece.

Calendar Of Events...
Friday/Saturday night dinner/music from 1700 to closing.
Sunday Morning breakfast from 0900 to 1200
Sunday Afternoon Queen of Hearts Drawing 1530-1730
Wednesday Night Tacos from 1700 to 1900

Feb 04 - VFW Bingo (Vancouver VA) - 1800
Feb 05 - Super Bowl Party - 1300
Feb 05 - House Committee - 1400 (Monthly Only)
Feb 09 - Clark Co. Veterans Meetings (Downtown) - 1400
Feb 09 - Post Meeting - 1900
Feb 11 - Valentine Party — 1700
Feb 12 - COOTIES Meeting - 1300
Feb 13 - DAV Chapter 4 Meeting - 1900
Feb 14 - Valentine Day
Feb 14 - AMVETS Meeting - 1900
Feb 20 - Presidents Day
Feb 23 - Auxiliary Meeting - 1900
Mar 04 - VFW Bingo (Vancouver VA) - 1800
Mar 05 - House Committee - 1600 (Monthly Only)
Mar 06-10 VFW Legislative Congressional Conference
Mar 09 - Clark Co. Veterans Meetings (Downtown) - 1400
Mar 09 - Post Meeting - 1900
Mar 09 - First Round of Officer Nominations for 2017-18
Mar 12 - COOTIES Meeting - 1300
Mar 14 - AMVETS Meeting - 1900

From the Adjutant
VFW Post 7824
Valentines Day Dinner Party

Menu
Rib-eye Steak & Lobster
Baked Potato
Salad Bar
Dinner Roll

$19.50/Plate
Reservations required by February 5th!!

February 11th, 2017
Dinner—5:00-7:00pm
Music to Follow

Music by Mr. Grooves

Happy Valentine's Day
The Back Page with Nelson

Hey, it’s February!! Ok, so it’s only the second month of the year but watch out, January went by pretty fast.

How about that snow?? That should last us for the next 4 or 5 years... I hope everyone came through the storms with minimal damage and/or problems.

Make sure you take a look at our website and Facebook page, as well as read the flyers and bulletins that are sent out. Anything that is happening at your post is listed in these resources.

Valentine’s Dinner is coming up on the 11th, grab your Sweetheart and treat her to a Steak & Lobster dinner. Also, stay tuned for our annual St Patrick’s Day dinner, Super Bowl Chili Cook-off and the many other events which are planned throughout the year.

Elections are coming up again. Help make a difference in your post and consider running for one of the available offices.

February is a short month, so the next edition will be coming out before you know it. I would like to start a ‘Classified’ page, so if you have items to sell, trade, looking for or whatever, send me an email at editor@vfw7824.org and I will get it added to the page. Am also going to try and get a classified page on our website, but that may be a little further out..

Until next month, have a Great February!!

Nelson