Outlook

Scuttlebutt

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VFW-Vancouver Logo

Scuttlebutt

April 2026

VFW7824.org

Commander

Post 7824 Members,*(Veterans Helping Veterans)*

Happy Easter and welcome to April! Spring is officially here, and the year is certainly flying by.

Recent Successes

A huge thank you and a **"Bravo Zulu"** to our Auxiliaries for their hard work last week. The **VFW Auxiliary** did an outstanding job with the Vietnam Veterans Day Luncheon, and the **AMVET Ladies Auxiliary** hosted a wonderful, well-attended Western Round-Up. We appreciate everything you do for the Post!

Post Evolution & SOPs

Thank you to everyone who attended the March 29th Town Hall. We had great discussions regarding the evolution of our Canteen, Kitchen, and Honor Guard.

- **SOP Committee:** Members are currently drafting Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for all three areas. We expect to have the Canteen, Kitchen, and Post SOPs ready for a membership discussion and vote by June.
- **Honor Guard Update:** The Honor Guard SOPs are nearly finalized. Special thanks to our new Deputy Honor Guard Commander, **Benny Asanoma**, for his leadership, and to Sergeant of the Guard **Mike Teague**, who will be training cadets at Cascadia Tech Academy.

Call for Volunteers: Honor Guard

We are looking for VFW or AMVETS members to join our Joint Honor Guard. Whether providing a solemn final salute to a fallen comrade or posting colors at civic events, we need a dedicated team. Monthly training will be provided.

- **Administrative Support Needed:** We are also seeking a Point of Contact (POC) to help Benny and Mike with scheduling, emails, and coordination. This role is open to any member of our Post organizations, including the Auxiliaries.

April Meeting & Officer Elections (April 9th)

I will be on vacation for Spring Break on April 9th, so Senior Vice Commander **Barry Hesketh** will lead the meeting, assisted by Adjutant **Bruce Maas**.

- **Elections:** We will hold the second round of nominations and an immediate vote for Commander, Senior Vice, Junior Vice, Quartermaster, and Trustee #3.
- **Delegates:** We will also vote on delegates for the Department Convention in Wenatchee (June 18-21).
- **Personal Note:** I will be returning to the full-time workforce in May and will not be running for an elected Post Officer position this year. However, I have offered to serve as Post Adjutant for the incoming team if appointed.

May Meeting Date Change

To avoid confusion, we are separating the Officer and House Committee elections.

- **House Committee:** First-round nominations will occur in April; the second round and voting will be held in May.
- **Schedule Shift:** The May meeting will move to **May 7th** (instead of the 14th) due to a work commitment. The AMVET Ladies Auxiliary has graciously agreed to swap dates and will meet on May 14th instead.

Upcoming Events

April

- **April 18 (1000):** Honor Guard meeting and training.
- **April 19:** District Meeting in Woodland (Cmdr, Sr. Vice, QM).
- **April 22 (1830):** "Our Community Salutes" at Skyview High School. Please join us at the VFW table to support our local recruits.

May & Beyond

- **May 2 (0900):** VFW Day of Service. Post and Andresen Road cleanup, plus Memorial Plaza maintenance.
- **May 21:** Flag placement at Vancouver Barracks Cemetery for Memorial Day.
- **June 5:** Honor Guard detail for VFW Legacy Life member Deanne Bray (Evergreen Cemetery).
- **June 27, July 4, Sept 5:** VFW Recruiting Table at Esther Short Park Farmers Market.

Post Reminders

- **Health & Wellness:** Please keep all members experiencing serious or declining health conditions in your thoughts and prayers.

- **Feedback:** Please utilize the Suggestion Box on our Post website.
- **Stay Informed:** If you aren't receiving the *Scuttlebutt*, update your email by contacting Matt Wells at **web@vfw7824.org**.
- **Culture of Respect:** Let's remember to support and respect our Kitchen/Canteen staff, veteran members, and guests.

Next Meeting: 09 April 2026 @ 1900

Thank you respectfully in Comradeship,

Greg Gilbertson
Post 7824 Commander

Auxiliary President

Greetings to All!

Our Auxiliary hosted a wonderful event last weekend for our Vietnam Veterans. Plans are already in motion to honor those who have served in the many conflicts since. We salute and support all Veterans - not only in our local community but around the world.

Auxiliary Elections: April 23rd

A reminder that **nominations and elections** for the 2026-2027 Auxiliary officers will take place at our next meeting on **April 23rd**. It is vital that you attend to ensure your voice is heard in the leadership of **your** Auxiliary.

The Power of Volunteering

I recently found an inspiring article on volunteering and have adapted its core principles for our VFW Family:

- **Be a Role Model:** When a new activity is proposed, lead the discussion and encourage others to participate.
- **Find a Routine:** Consistency makes a difference. Setting a regular day or time for service gives you something to look forward to.
- **Follow Your Interests:** Choose volunteer opportunities that align with your personal passions or hobbies.
- **Make it Fun:** Volunteering shouldn't feel like a chore. Reframe projects into a friendly game or competition.
- **Incorporate Quick Action:** Give back during your normal routine. For example, pick up a few t-shirts (sizes 2X or 3X) or hygiene products (deodorant, reading glasses) for VA patients and deliver them to your Commander or President.
- **Celebrate Empathy:** Share the pride in your efforts. Celebrating our impact encourages others to join the next opportunity.

Stay Informed & Connected

Attendance at meetings - or at least reading the minutes - is essential to staying informed about the organization you chose to join. To make this easier, **Zoom meetings** are coming in the near future.

Stay tuned as we move into a "21st-century" way of communicating!

Happy Easter Everyone!

The next Auxiliary meeting is 23 April 2026 @ 7 PM at the Post.

Be Kind - Be Loyal

Marie McEnry
President, VFW Post 7824 Auxiliary

Canteen Manager

Welcome to Spring at Post 7824!

We hope everyone had a wonderful March and is ready for a fun-filled April. We have a packed calendar, starting with our popular **Prime Rib Dinner** this Friday, April 3rd - a perfect way to kick off the month!

Easter Weekend Highlights

- **Saturday, April 4:** * **1700:** Easter Party and Egg Hunt.
    - **1800:** Potato Bar dinner.
- **Easter Sunday, April 5:** * Stop in for our **Eggs Benedict** breakfast special to celebrate the holiday.

April Friday Night Dinners & Entertainment

- **Friday, April 10:** * **Dinner:** Chicken Enchiladas with rice and beans.
    - **Music:** Live entertainment by **Slim Jim's** starting at 1900 ($5 cover).
- **Friday, April 17:** * **Dinner:** Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, and vegetables starting at 1700.
- **Friday, April 24:** * **Dinner:** Delicious crusted pork loin with potatoes and vegetables.
    - **Music:** Live music by the **Pacific Rhythm Band** at 1900 ($5 cover).

Special Events

- **Saturday, April 18 (1700):** * **Pajama Party!** Get cozy and come relaxed (appropriate PJ wear, please). We'll have popcorn and a great time.

Looking Ahead to May

- **Saturday, May 2:** Early **Cinco de Mayo** celebration with a Taco Bar.
- **Friday, May 8:** We are excited to welcome **The Boneheads** for a night of live music ($5 cover).

A Note of Gratitude

A massive thank you to our amazing volunteers and the Events Committee. Your hard work, time, and energy are what keep our Post running strong and our calendar full. We truly appreciate the effort that

goes into making this such a great place for everyone.

Thank you for your continued support - we look forward to seeing you at the Post this April!

Michelle Rex
VFW Post 7824 Canteen Manager

AMVETS Commander

Post 7824 AMVETS Members,

April has arrived, and it is time to look forward to a busy and productive spring at the Post. Thank you for your continued dedication to our mission of serving veterans.

Next Membership Meeting

Our next AMVETS meeting will be held on **Thursday, April 16th at 1900** at the Post. We encourage all members to attend to stay informed and involved as we prepare for our upcoming seasonal activities. Your voice and participation are vital to our success.

Honor Guard Opportunities

We are looking for AMVETS members interested in joining the **Joint Honor Guard**. Whether providing a final salute to a fallen brother or sister or posting colors at civic events, your service helps us honor our veterans with the dignity they deserve.

- **Get Involved:** Please contact **Benny Asanoma** or **Mike Teague** for more information on training and requirements.

Save the Date: Hazel Dell Parade

Looking ahead to next month, the **Hazel Dell Parade** is scheduled for **Saturday, May 16th, from 1000 to 1400**. We hope to see a strong turnout from our members as we represent our organization with pride in the local community.

Thank you for your steadfast support and your commitment to "Veterans Helping Veterans."

Scott Wilson
AMVETS Commander WA 6

AMVETS Auxiliary President

Greetings to Our Members,

As we settle into spring, we want to remind everyone that the **AMVET Ladies Auxiliary Post 6** meets on the **first Thursday of every month**. Please mark your calendars; your attendance and input are vital as we continue our work here at Vancouver VFW Post 7824.

Fundraising & Community Support

We are currently brainstorming new ways to support our mission and have some exciting ideas in the works:

- **Wine & Paint Party:** We are looking into hosting a creative night at the Post. It promises to be a fun way to gather and give back!

- **Blind Auction:** Historically, this has been a successful event for us. We would love to get this back on the schedule soon.

Where the Money Goes: Funds raised from these events go directly toward **Veterans Relief** and providing **Food Boxes** for those in need within our community.

Meeting Reminder

Please join us to share your thoughts on these projects and help us plan for the coming months. We look forward to seeing a great turnout!

Happy Easter to all, and we will see you soon!

Debra Patten
AMVETS Ladies Auxillary President

Military Order of the Cooties

Listen Cooties!

Just a quick note with a detail or two for you to disregard.

Next Scratch

Our next Scratch is scheduled for **Sunday, April 12, 2026, at 1300**. If there is a Cootie you haven't seen in a while, please reach out. They might just need a reminder, a ride, or a friendly voice to talk to.

Grand Scratch

The Grand Scratch will be held **May 1-2** at **Bellingham Post 1585**.

- **Lodging:** Arrangements have been made with the **Four Points by Sheraton** for a special group rate.
- **More Info:** You can find full details and registration information on the Grand's website under the "Events" tab.

Support the Post

As always, keep shucking down to the Post on Friday nights! Come out to support the **Meat Raffle** and the kitchen staff.

Yours in L.O.T.C.S.,

Norman Rasmussen
Seam Squirrel
Van-Orc PT #6

Military Order of the Cooties Auxillary

Greetings Cooties,

It has been another busy and productive month for our MOCA! We kicked things off with a strong showing at the **Grand Council of Administration** in McCleary, and our recent service projects have been a major success.

Service & Hospital Updates

- **The Coffee Cart:** Our initial coffee cart was a huge hit! We will continue this service on the **second Wednesday of each month**, serving coffee, cocoa, mochas, donut holes, and Oreos to patients and staff (while keeping dietary restrictions in mind).
- **St. Patrick's Day:** Several members brought the cart out for a special holiday visit, delivering St. Patrick's cookies and "Leprechaun Punch" room-to-room.
- **Easter Sunday:** MOCA will be walking the halls of the **CLC at 1300** on Easter Sunday to pass out Easter eggs with surprises and hand-crafted Easter bunnies.

Upcoming Fun

- **Cootie Bingo:** Always a favorite! Join us on **Sunday, April 19th, at 1300**.
- **Cinco de Mayo:** We are planning an **Ice Cream Social** for May 5th at 1300. Mark your calendars and come join the fun!

Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be held on **Saturday, April 11th, at 1100**. We look forward to seeing everyone there as we plan our next round of visits.

Keep them smiling in beds of white!

Yours in L.O.T C.S.

Bea Close
MOCA President

Upcoming Meeting

- **09 April 2026 - VFW Monthly Meeting**

  Join us for our monthly post-meeting to discuss upcoming events and initiatives.

  7:00 PM - 8:00 PM | VFW Post 7824

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