



Commanders Corner

Comrades, Sisters, and Brothers,

Our membership year is nearly complete - but we are still just a few members short of our goals for All-

American. If you have not yet paid your dues, please send them to the Quartermaster as soon as possible.

Thank you to those who participated in our annual poppy drive. Revenue from our poppies is our primary revenue for Veterans' assistance.

Taks note of our Community Sercie Report. Our Post looks good, but I know we can do MUCH better. Please send any Community Service to the Quartermaster and he will report it to Department. Even Auxiliary Community Service is now reported by the Quartermaster. A copy is sent to the Auxiliary after it is reported.

At our last meeting, we addressed and approved the institutiono of a Cootie Pup Tent. However, as this actually amounts to a change of our by-laws, it is important that all members have the opportunity to vote on the issue. Please come to the meetings to address any issues you may have related to our Post. The Post meeting is open to all members in good standing. The House Committee is open to all members of the Post AND Auxiliary.

Thank you to all our volunteers for all you do.
Mike Fagan
Post Commander

The Military Order of the Cootie of the United States (MOC, or simply Military Order of the Cootie) is a national honor degree membership association

separately constituted as a subordinate and as an auxiliary order chartered by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW).The organization's services include supporting the VFW National Home and veterans hospitals. Founded in 1920, it became a subsidiary of the VFW in 1923.



Vote to approve sponsorship of a Cootie "pup tent" will occure at our next meeting, June 15th.

If you have anything to contribute to the newsletter, please try to get it in by Tuesday following the Post meeting. Ed.

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES

President's Message

Auxiliary and Post Members;

The programs we support are Veterans and Family Support, Americanism, Buddy Poppy and National Home, Community Outreach, Historian and Media, Hospital, Legislation, Membership, Scholarships, and Youth Activities. We have chairmen for all these programs, but we all work together and if you would be interested in helping out, please let us know.

Our last breakfast before summer will be Father's Day on June 15th, father's will get a free breakfast, all others only pay \$6.00. The hours for breakfast are 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. We are taking the summer off but will return the Sunday after Labor Day week-end. We would like to thank everyone that have been supporting us.

REMINDERS:

Memorial Day, May 25th at Noon we will be doing a ceremony at our Evergreen Cemetery. Hope you will try and attend to show respect for our Veterans. We are having our service so the Scouts can be there also.

We will be setting up Poppy tables on May 23rd and 24th at (4) grocery stores, we need your help. If you would like to help, please contact us or sign up at the Post.

Our State Convention is in Yakima this summer. It is June 25-29, 2025, and the meetings will be at the Yakima Convention Center. The joint meeting will be on Thursday, June 26th at 9:00 a.m. Registration is at 8:00 a.m. All members are welcome! The banquet is scheduled for Friday the 27th. Elections and the Installation is scheduled for Saturday, June 28th and the reception will follow at the Yakima Post. The National Convention will be in Columbus, Ohio this year and it will be August 9-13th.

The next Auxiliary meeting is June 14th at 10:30 a.m. Come and join us!

This will be my last meeting as President. Thank you to all the members that made our auxiliary grow. I feel our auxiliary works well together and do what they can for our Veterans. Jake Ingram will be your new President starting July 1st, so please show him the respect he deserves. I know he will do an outstanding job!

Thank you again for all your help over the last several years.

Loyally,
Karen Flynn, Aux. President



Honor Flight fundraiser dinners every other month. Raffle in place right now.

We support our Active Duty & Reserve members:

All these comrades are members of Hillyard VFW Post 1474:

Rett Burroughs, Army

Jared Bordwell, Army

Brett Downey, Air National Guard

Thank you for your service!

Please let us know if you are still serving so we can add you to this list.

Birthdays:

90 and Over:

F E Jordan (95)

Richard Nicholson (93)

Karl VanTine (96)

80 and Over

Linda Elliott

James Montague

If we've missed you, please let us know. We don't have all birthdays on file. Many of the Auxiliary members have ONLY the year on file. If your name is here, and your birthday is NOT in June, please let us know the correct date!



LEGISLATION:

Veterans should never go into debt to access their earned benefits! The VFW has repeatedly expressed concerns about charging veterans for initial claims assistance based on their future benefits, and thus, we strongly oppose H.R. 3132, *CHOICE for Veterans Act of 2025*, as written. This would potentially put veterans into debt even before utilizing their benefits. The VFW is grateful that the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs staff sought our input on the legislation and included some safeguards in it, but the fee structure is a poison pill that should ultimately kill this bill. Maybe the committee advanced this bill to finally get the aggressive Claim Shark lobbyists out of their offices, but we urge our legislators in the House not to consider passing such a blatant cash grab for illegal companies who know they're breaking the law and lining their pockets with taxpayer dollars intended for disabled veterans. The VFW opposes this legislation and will continue to fight any effort to put veterans into debt to access their earned disability benefits.

Hillyard VFW Food Pantry

Opens Thursday,

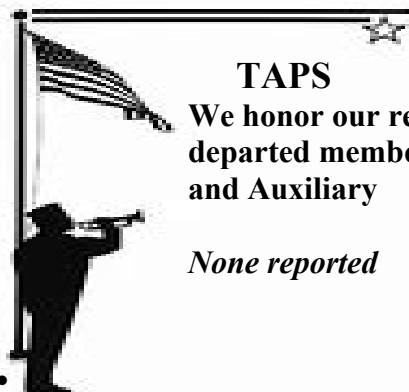
Open to any needy veteran

Open, as food permits, to needy Hillyard residents.

Call ahead on Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday to request food, 509-487-3784. or Crystal: 208-704-5738

Pick up on Thursday, noon to 4, at 2902 E Diamond Ave.

Limited to 1 request per month



TAPS

We honor our recently departed members of the Post and Auxiliary

None reported

Community Service

Community Service Report Information:

Who? Name and Post or Aux member

When? Date of Activity

What? What type of activity, or what did you do as community service

How many hours, including driving time

How Many Miles? Round trip miles

Number of Veterans Helped (if any)

Community Service Report:

This year-to-date, Post 1474 has reported the following community service:

1980 hours, 12,725 miles, 187 member days, 507

Auxiliary days, 2,478 veterans helped, \$31,364 spent in the following categories:

Community Service :

Americanism, 8; Blood donations 11; Community Activities 5; Honor Guard 14 Memorial Service 8; Public Safety Recognition 1, Wreaths Across America 3, Other 48,

Legislative: Local 6; State 1; National 3; Other 1

Veterans Assistance: Buddy Visits 5, Homeless Vets 1, Hospital 21; Information booth 6; National Home 4; Standdown 1; Unmet Needs 6; Veterans & Military Support 2; VFW Mental Wellness 1, Other 15

Youth Development: Patriot's Pen 2, Multiple Essay 2, Other 5

Scouting: BSA 11, GSA 5, Eagle Scout 5

You, too, can be part of this report. Send community service to the Quartermaster. If in doubt, ask, but generally any assistance (especially for veterans) outside the Post building counts. Blood bank donations all count.

Please send community service reports (Post and Aux) to: Paul Manly at pmanly@icehouse.net



D-Day Ceremony on June 6th, 4:00 at the Post.

SUN Breakfast 9-11 Texas Hold-em 2:00	MON Bowling 12:00 BSA Troops 242 & 243 6:30	TUE \$2 Tacos Dice 3:00 Bobby & Tommy 5-7	WED Bar Bingo 5:00	THU	FRI Bingo 1:00 Bar Bingo 5:00	SAT Dinner 5-7
ABOVE: THESE EVENTS HAPPEN EVERY WEEK!						
1 Breakfast: Eggs, sausage, O'Brien potatoes	2	3	4	5	6 D-Day 4:00 Ceremony	7 Dinner: Shepherd's Pie \$12
8 Breakfast: Surprise! Poker Tournament *	9	10	11	12	13	14 Flag Day Aux 10:30 Kaiser 1:00 2:00 flag Ceremony Holey Board 4:00 Dinner: Chicken fried steak \$12
15 Breakfast: Fathers Day - Chicken-fried steak, egg, hashbrown, fruit	16	17	18	19	20	21 FRA 9:30 Dinner: Spaghetti \$12
House 12:00 Post Mtg 1:00		Am Leg 6:00		BSA Order of the Arrow – 6:30	Parking Lot Sale 9 to 4 Donations welcome	
22 Breakfast: tbc	23	24	25	26	27	28 Karaoke 5:30 Dinner: Tater tot casserole \$12
Parking Lot Sale 9-2			State Convention - Yakima			
29 Breakfast: tbd	30		JUNE 2025			

Please, please, please!

Make reservations for all Special dinners
at least 2 nights before the dinner or you
june not get fed.

Bar Hours: 12 noon to 7 p.m. or later.

Check the white board for other specials & events

**Specials: Thursday– Happy Hour 1-5,
 \$1 off all acoholic drinks
 50¢ off all non-alcoholic drinks**

**See the board for specials:
 Daiquiri \$7, Spiked Lemonade \$6**

** Poker Tournament -Must have played 3 times since the
 last tournament to be eligible. Check-in at 12:00. Play
 starts at 1:00*

***We will have Silent Auctions to support the
 Post beginning May 31st and ending July 4th.
 Donations for these auctions are welcome.***

VFW 1474, HILLYARD
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
2902 E Diamond Ave
Spokane WA 99217-6117
509-487-3784

**CELEBRATING
OUR
92ND YEAR**

Non-profit Org.
US Postage
PAID
Spokane WA
Permit No.504

HILLYARD HI-LITES
www.VFW1474.org
QM@VFW1474.org

Return Service Requested

June 2025
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ALL MEETINGS IN THE HALL
2826 E Diamond Ave

POST MEETING
3RD SUNDAY 1:00 p.m.

AUXILIARY MEETING
2ND SATURDAY 10:30 a.m.



Hosted by Girl Scout Troop 2242
JUNE 14th, 2025
2902 E. Diamond Ave.
Spokane, Wa. 99207
2PM



Join Us for an Unforgettable Evening!

Date: Saturday, May 31st

Location: VFW Post 1474
2902 E. Diamond Ave
Spokane WA 99217
(509) 487-3784

Enjoy:

Delicious Pork Chops & Sides
\$12 Members | \$15 Non-Members

Silent Auction:

Bid on exciting themed baskets!

More baskets available through June, ending July 4th.

Proceeds Benefit:

-VFW Foundation VFW Post 1474

***Special Projects - including:**

-Free Community Food Pantry

-Support for Veterans, Military, First Responders & Families

-Community & Youth Activities

Open to the Public!

Indulge in a great meal and support a worthy cause.

We can't wait to welcome you!

Gone, but not forgotten.





BOY SCOUTS

Post 1474 sponsors two Scout Troops and a Cub Scout Pack

BSA Troop 242 for boys, middle school through high school and **BSA Troop 243** for girls, middle school through high school – both meet on Mondays at 6:30 p.m.

Cub Scout Pack 242 meets on Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at Cooper Elementary School (the Pack is too large to meet comfortably at the Post). Boys and girls both can participate in this group. All groups are looking for new members. Our Scout troops are very active. If you know of a youth who would like to join, let Paul know and he will get you in touch with the scoutmaster, or, come to the meeting hall during the scout meeting time. If you would like to participate as an adult, there are many leadership opportunities.



Girl Scout Troop 2242

Auxiliary has taken over sponsorship of Girl Scout Troop 2242 of the Girl Scouts of America. If you know of a girl that would be interested in this group contact Natasha Porter or Karen Flynn.

Girl Scouts were giving back to our Veterans by giving them cookies at our Sunday breakfast. They raised over \$40,000 for veterans from their cookie sales!



Thanks again to No-Li Brewhouse for their generous fund-raising!



Date: June 14, 2025

Time: 10 a.m. To 5 p.m.

Registration: 5401 N Market St., Hillyard

(Note: This is an empty lot)



American Legion Post 243

If you have dues unpaid for 2025, please send them in as soon as possible. As of December 31st, you will no longer be a member in good standing.

If you find you are having difficulties and need help, please reach out and ask for assistance. As former service members, we have been taught to give a strong front, hide our true feelings and fears. Also, if you know of any individual in trouble, please help.

We held elections at our last meeting. All officers will remain the same for another year. Installation will be next meeting.

Dennis McCully

Commander, Post 243



American Legion

Richard Cummings, a SAL (Sons of the American Legion) member of Post 243, Spokane Washington, has completed and received a degree of "Doctor of Divinity" from the College of The Open Bible, February 2025. Congratulations Richard. Your dedication to the Legion Family and this community is appreciated by all. Richard is also a member of our Auxiliary

Fleet Reserve Association

The Fleet Reserve Association is open to all members

who served in the Navy, Air Force, and Coast Guard and have an honorable discharge. They meet at the Hillyard VFW Post on the 2nd Saturday of each month at 9:30 a.m. New members are welcome!



POST PARKING LOT SALE

JUNE 20 TO 22 - FRI-SAT-SUN

LOTS OF STUFF TO SELL

AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP:

The Auxiliary lost (7) members this year due to death. We need new members to keep succeeding.

Dues for this next year are payable, as of July 1st.

Dues are \$30.00 a year!

It's time to **invite**. Recruit a new member today!

VFW Auxiliary Eligibility Wheel

*Step- and adopted parents, children, siblings (and half-siblings), grandparents and grandchildren are considered the same as biological parents, children, siblings, grandparents and grandchildren and may join the VFW Auxiliary under their VFW-eligible veteran.

If you don't want to worry about paying your annual dues every year you should **become a life member**.

* LIFE MEMBERSHIP FEES Life Membership fees are not refundable.

Attained age by 12/31 of year applying for Life Membership.

Through age 20 \$253

21-25 \$242	26-30 \$230	31-35 \$219
36-40 \$213	41-45 \$201	46-50 \$196
51-55 \$184	56-60 \$173	61-65 \$161
66-70 \$150	71-75 \$132	76-80 \$109
81-85 \$86	86-90 \$69	91 and over \$58

Mail your dues to the Post or bring them in and be sure to get a receipt!

SUICIDE AWARENESS: call 1-800-273-8255 and Press 1,

Governor Ferguson Confirms Commitment to Preventing Suicide Among Washington's Service Members, Veterans, and Their Families through Governor's Challenge OLYMPIA – Washington State Governor Bob Ferguson [recently signed](#) a [proclamation](#) renewing the state's dedication to the [Governor's Challenge to Prevent Suicide Among Service Members, Veterans, and Their Families](#) (SMVF). This initiative, in partnership with the [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration](#) (SAMHSA) and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), unites all 50 states and five territories in a collaborative effort to implement comprehensive suicide prevention strategies for SMVF.

"We need the help of all Washingtonians and I urge everybody to raise awareness of the support services that are available for suicide prevention," said Gov. Ferguson during the proclamation signing. "I urge all people in our state to raise awareness of behavioral health, suicide prevention, lethal means safety, and the support services available in our communities. Together we must encourage those in need to reach out for help, hope, and community"

The Governor's Challenge has three focused priority areas:

- ✓ [Identifying SMVF and Screening for Suicide Risk](#)
- ✓ [Promoting Connectedness and Improving Care Transitions](#)

[Increasing Lethal Means Safety and Safety Planning](#)



AMERICANISM:

Fly your flag this month on:

June 6th - D-Day (1944)

June 14th – Flag Day and the Army birthday!

June 15th – Father's Day

June 19th – Juneteenth

June 20th – National American Eagle Day

June 25th – Start of Korean War (1950)

June 28th – Pride Day

June is

PTS(D) Awareness Month

LGBTQIA+ Pride Month

National Safety Month

Alzheimer's Brain Awareness Month

On June 6th the Post will be doing a short ceremony to recognize D-Day. Between 2:30 and 3:00 p.m.

June 14th is flag day and the Girl Scouts that the auxiliary sponsors will be doing a flag retirement ceremony at 2:00 P.M. Bring your old flags into the Post and get a new one.

Hopefully you will stay for the retirement of the old flags we have.

Come Together to Keep the American Spirit Alive

Let us come together, even though we are apart, to keep the American spirit alive. Some of you may be sheltering at home, some may have lost a job and some may still be working. **Always remember you are not alone.** My thoughts are with you all — and for America — and for those in other countries around the world who are suffering.

Some things you can do during this time:

Display your American Flag at home and place small American Flags throughout your neighborhood to boost morale. **Remember June 14th is Flag Day**

Phone a friend.

Donate extra craft supplies to senior homes, group homes for those with disabilities who don't get out to their day programs, or to families who have children who need to be entertained.

Donate food or money to a food pantry, or take a meal to a shut-in or person in need.

Make cards to send to fire and police stations, nursing and Veteran homes, and fellow members. A homemade or store-bought card is sure to brighten their day.



**Veterans
Crisis Line**
DIAL 988 then PRESS 1