

## From the Commander

*By Pete Krawitz*



First, I'd like to thank you all for voting to have me stay on as the post commander for another year. I'm very humbled by the privilege to serve you and the community in this capacity. The

rest of the leadership team and I look forward to continuing to work with you to build off the momentum that we've been building over the years.

I'd like to take a minute to reflect and celebrate some of our successes in the 2017/2018 term. It's been a busy 12 months for Ballard Eagleson, but our hard work has paid off. This was evident at the Department of Washington convention when we were informed that we achieved 111% of our membership goal, which now makes 3063 the largest post in the District. We also achieved the coveted "All State" status for the second year in a row. We even earned 1st place in the Department's newsletter competition. We have a

long list of successes this year and needless to say, I'm very proud to be a part of this post. Many thanks to all of you who helped get us here.

As our post community continues to grow, so will the challenges. Ballard, like the rest of the Seattle area, is changing rapidly. If we want to continue to be relevant in the community and serve veterans, we need to adapt and change with the city. "Change or Die" was the message that the VFW national rep delivered to us at the Department Convention. Thankfully, Post 3063 is in much better shape than some other posts around Washington State, but we still have a lot of work to do if we want to ensure our relevancy and long-term existence in Seattle. Over the next month, I'll be working with the post leadership team to draft up our strategy, goals, and initiatives for the 2018/2019 term. We will need your help to make this next term just as successful as the last. I look forward to working with you all for another year!

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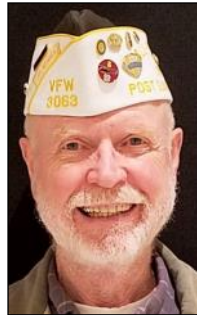
## Post to Host Shredding Truck July 16

We will have a ProShred shredding truck in our parking lot from 1 to 3 p.m. July 16. You are encouraged to bring sensitive papers that you want to shred. Watch the operation from the time you deposit the papers into the bins until they are turned to confetti before your eyes. Post members, members of other veterans organizations, and members of our community may shred documents in return for a donation to help defray the cost of the operation.



## Quartermaster's Update

By Harold Rodenberger



Having recently returned from taxing my body physically while

climbing in the Himalayas, it's back to taxing my brain while serving as your post quartermaster.

Those of you who followed along on my blog are aware of the rigors entailed in climbing to Everest base camp. If you didn't follow my reports, I can assure you that it was one of the biggest challenges I've ever faced.

While the trekking pretty much was a solitary quest, the tasks and burdens of quartermaster are shared by many of you. Our Commander and Adjutant have picked up parts of the load, many volunteers have stepped up to share the day-to-day jobs that need to be done to keep our post operating. All of you,

whether sharing a word of encouragement, signing up a new member or renewing your own membership early, have helped keep our post alive and growing.

At the recent Washington State VFW Convention in Bremerton, Commander Pete and myself were awarded white hats as All State Commander and Quartermaster. These honors reflect well on us, but, to continue the trekking comparison, they reflect the great job you, as members and volunteers, have done to keep the heart of this post throbbing and its blood pumping.

This month marks the beginning of the new VFW year. Again, we are starting from ground zero to help veterans and their families in our post, in our community and wherever we find them.

As veterans of foreign wars ourselves, we are uniquely positioned to

reach out to our fellow veterans of all generations. Having been there we alone can understand their problems and their achievements.

To get this new year off to a good start, please keep an eye out for new recruits to our post. Invite them to join with our veterans in comradeship and a community effort to help themselves and others in an ever-widening circle of influence.

Finally, as the year progresses, please help us get the credit we are due for helping in our community by reporting any of the good things you do. We are making the feeder forms easier to send in and, if each us could find the time to complete the report we will help our post, state and national organization get the credit we deserve as Veterans Helping Veterans.

The **Ballard Eagleson Patriot** is published by the newsletter editor for Post 3063, Seattle, WA. This official newsletter is an authorized publication for members of Post 3063. Editorial content is edited, prepared, and provided by the newsletter editor. Its contents are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the VFW.

This newsletter is published quarterly and submissions must be received by the editor five days before the last day of a quarter for inclusion in the next quarter's issue. We reserve the right to edit submitted articles for timeliness, clarity, and syntax. Be aware that newsletter images and/or text appearing on the website may be shared by readers.

Commander: Pete Krawitz

Sr Vice Commander: Joe Tiffany

Jr Vice Commander: Joe Fitzgerald

Quartermaster: Harold Rodenberger

Adjutant: Alyson Teeter

Judge Advocate: Dan Stokke

Chaplain: Bill Griffith

Surgeon: Tiffany Cavin

Officer of the Day: Anthony Rose

3-Year Trustee: Jon Guncay

2-Year Trustee: Russ Seelig

1-Year Trustee: Aaron Stoltz

Service Officer: Gail Engler

Guard: Anthony Rose

Newsletter Editor: Alyson Teeter

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### We're on the web and Facebook!

<http://www.vfwseattle.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/vfwpost3063>

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## 2018-2019 Officers Installed by Department Senior Vice



**Commander:** Pete Krawitz  
**Sr. Vice Commander:** Joe Tiffany  
**Jr. Vice Commander:** Joe Fitzgerald  
**Quartermaster:** Harold Rodenberger  
**Adjutant:** Alyson Teeter  
**Judge Advocate:** Dan Stokke  
**Chaplain:** Bill Griffith  
**Surgeon:** Tiffany Cavin  
**Officer of the Day:** Anthony Rose  
**1-Year Trustee:** Aaron Stoltz  
**2-Year Trustee:** Russ Seelig  
**3-Year Trustee:** Jon Guncay  
**Service Officer:** Gail Engler  
**Guard:** Anthony Rose  
**1-Year House Committee:** Doug Maines  
**2-Year House Committee:** Jordan Houghton  
**3-Year House Committee:** Alyson Teeter

Department of Washington Senior Vice Commander, Linda Fairbank, installed the 2018-2019 slate of elected and appointed officers of VFW Post 3063 on May 3. First nominations were made in March, followed by second nominations and an election in April. Officers take office in July after the department commander is installed. Congratulations and good luck to the new team!

## Auxiliary President's June 2018 Update

*By Donna Limric*

I would like to introduce myself as the current president of the VFW Auxiliary of the Ballard Eagleson Post 3063. We have an all-new board of officers: Senior Vice President Margo Clutter; Junior Vice President Dorothy Harrell; Treasurer Liz Guncay; Chaplain Kristine Sawycky; and Conductress Karen Flynn.

What we need now is a secretary and trustees. We also need people who can chair our committees: Hospital, Americanism, Community Service, Legislative, Publicity, Scholarship, Sunshine, and Youth Activities.

Most importantly **we need members!**

Do you know someone who is a spouse, widow, parent, child, grandparent, grandchild or sibling of someone who served their country fighting in a foreign war? If you know anyone who is interested in becoming a member of the VFW Auxiliary, please forward my con-

tact information to them.

If you are a member who has not been active in a while, please come see the new and exciting plans that will revitalize this organization.

I would like to invite you all to come join us the third Thursday of each month for the VFW Post 3063 Social. The first Thursday of each month is our auxiliary business meeting. Please come learn about the exciting new changes and plans we are making to continue the good work of supporting our veterans and our community. Please contact me if you have any questions. I can be reached by phone at 206-852-5434. You can e-mail me at [auxiliary@vfwseattle.org](mailto:auxiliary@vfwseattle.org). You may also send mail to 2812 NW Market St, Seattle, WA 98107.



# Post 3063 Members: No One Does More for Veterans!



Comrades Walter Michl and Pete Krawitz and auxiliary member Clare Krawitz give out pastries, refreshments, and buddy poppies to passersby during the Nordic Museum opening May 5.



Volunteers from Post 3063 teamed up with Auxiliary Post 3063 and VFW Post 3436 (Issaquah / Mt. Si) on May 22 to put on bingo night for patients at the Seattle VA Medical Center.



Post 3063 Commander Pete Krawitz presents the VFW Award to University of Washington Air Force ROTC Detachment 910 Sophomore Cadet Ryan Lowery during the UW ROTC Joint Service Award Ceremony May 24.



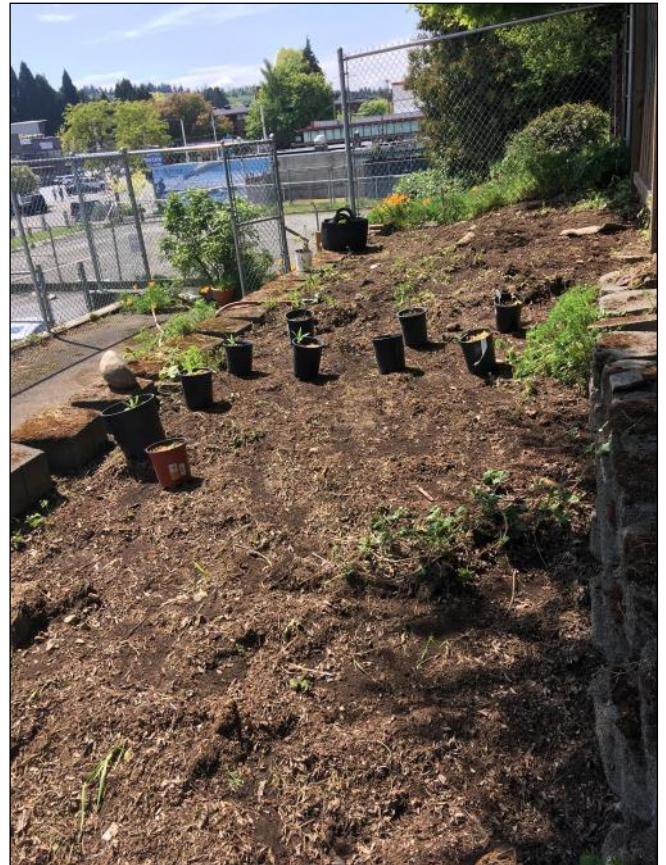
Service Officer Gail Engler presides over the Fort Lawton Memorial Day Ceremony May 28. The post provided a color guard detail for the event. (Photo by Chris Dresnek)



Honor Guard members Tiffany Cavin and Anthony Rose rushed from Fort Lawton to QFC to support the auxiliary and post's joint Buddy Poppy Drive. Here, comrade Kettle's daughter receives a poppy from Anthony Rose.



Quatermaster Rodenberger (left) reaches Everest Base Camp May 30 after a multi-week hike. Read about his adventures at: <https://hrodenbergersblog.blogspot.com/>.



America is at war. Ballard Eagleson VFW Post 3063 therefore is creating its own Victory Garden behind its post location! Thanks to Comrade Tiffany Cavin for such great initiative and to all those who helped to get this garden going. Look for updates as our Victory Garden continues to grow.



Post 3063 Color Guard members Tiffany Cavin, Kieran Bessert and Joe Fitzgerald participate in a ceremony at Lake View Cemetery May 18, 2018 for the interment of Ardis Clinton Jr., who served in the Air Force from 1955 to 1961. Mr. Clinton was an active member of American Legion Post 1 and held positions as chaplain, sergeant-at-arms, and commander. (Photo by Chris Dresnek)

Post 3063 Color Guard member, Comrade Norm Limric represents the post at Comrade Herb Leake's private interment at the Acacia Mausoleum in Bothell on April 9, 2018. You can read more about Comrade Leake at <http://vfwseattle.org/index.php/2017/12/28/herb-leake-engineer-aid-to-macarthur-devoted-husband/>.





## Post Garners Recognition at Convention: All State, Newsletter

By Alyson Teeter

Post delegates attended the VFW Department of Washington's 2018 State Convention in Bremerton June 21-23. The convention started with a joint session with the auxiliary that featured numerous guest speakers, including Governor Jay Inslee and VFW Auxiliary National President Dee Guillory. During the joint session, awards were also presented, and our post newsletter, the Ballard Eagleson Patriot, won first place in the Class I category.

Various committees met for business, by-law changes were voted on, and department leadership was elected and installed for the new year. Our very own District 2 comrade, Linda Fairbank, was installed as the 2018-2019 VFW Department of Washington Commander.

Friday evening there was a banquet and more awards were presented. Commander Krawitz and Quartermaster Rodenberger received white hats for achieving All State Post status, which was achieved by completing various reports on time, reaching membership goals, attending district meetings/workshops, participating in community activities, and other factors. Post 3063 attained approximately 111% of the post's membership goal for the year. Around 10% of commanders and quartermasters in the state receive the white hat.

VFW Past National Commander Jim Mueller represented national leadership at the convention and read a speech on behalf of VFW Commander Keith E. Harman at the banquet. The overarching message of the speech was survival. The VFW's numbers are dwindling and posts must evolve or they will disappear. VFW Auxiliary National President Dee Guillory also spoke and she announced a new strategy to allow auxiliaries to stay open if a post closes its doors. Overall the convention was a great success and Post 3063 was well represented.



Commander Krawitz and Quartermaster Rodenberger don their white hats.



Ballard Eagleson Patriot's first place certificate.



During the April business meeting the post charter was draped with a black cloth for the following comrade who recently passed away. The charter was draped for 30 days in his honor.

**Bob Ferguell** – U.S. Army; Vietnam War. Obituary: <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/seattletimes/obituary.aspx?n=robert-bob-franklin-ferguell&pid=188685515>.

## Post 3063 in the News

**“Singapore summit offering hope to Korean war veteran, Korean-Americans, too.”** Comrade Al Simpson spoke to KIRO 7 News about his thoughts on the U.S.- North Korean summit. He reflected on his service during the Korean War and his hope for a brighter future. Check it out at <https://www.kiro7.com/news/local/singapore-summit-offering-hope-to-korean-war-veteran-korean-americans-too/768641285>.

**“Seattle war memorial to lose battle guns, drawing criticism even as city cites safety, costs”** The Seattle Times reported on the removal of the Dewey gun batteries from Woodland Park. The parks department said that Post 3063 suggested the city place a plaque in place of the guns. Read the article at <https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/seattle-war-memorial-to-lose-battle-guns-drawing-criticism-even-as-city-cites-safety-costs/>.

## New Member Spotlight

*This is the first profile in a new recurring column that will highlight new VFW Post 3063 members. Chris Dresnek joined the post in April 2018.*

**What motivated you to join the VFW?** The need to be around my fellow veterans. We get each other in ways non-vets can't.

**What is your military background?** I'm retired Army. I was a Human Resources NCO, part-time supply sergeant, and the lead gunner on both deployments (Twice to Iraq: Kirkush and Kirkuk).

**You've taken great photos of post events. Tell us about your photography.** It's been a hobby for 25 years but I'm looking to make it a career. I am most interested in black and white film photography. I enjoy shooting landscapes and trees.

**What do you hope to achieve being a member of the VFW?** Meet some cool people and be part of a thriving veteran community.

*Please come to the Shoreline Community College Art Gallery Thursday, July 12, 4-6 p.m. to meet Chris and view his documentation of Post 3063. Chris and his fellow students teamed up with local non-profits and images were donated to these organizations. Our post was lucky enough to be chosen by Chris. Thank you for capturing the mission of Post 3063, Chris!*



# Upcoming Events

**July 5, 2018, 6 p.m.** - VFW Post 3063 Auxiliary Business Meeting.

**July 5, 2018, 7 p.m.** - VFW Post 3063 Business Meeting. Food is served at 6 p.m. If you plan to attend and have new business to discuss, please submit your agenda item at <https://goo.gl/ww8kk4>.

**July 12, 2018, 4-6 p.m.** - Shoreline Community College: The Nonprofit Project, Artist Reception. View Chris Dresnek's documentation of Post 3063 at 16101 Greenwood Ave N, Shoreline, 98133.

**July 16, 2018, 1-3 p.m.** - Post shredding event in the post parking lot. Donations accepted.

**July 19, 2018, 6:30 p.m.** - VFW Post 3063 Social Dinner.

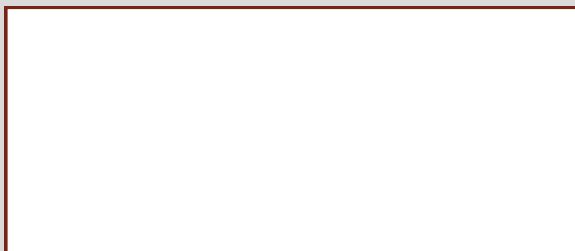
**July 21, 2018, 10 a.m.** - Flag retirement in the post parking lot.

*Doors open at 5:30 p.m. for business meetings and social dinners. Social dinners are free for members who have birthdays in the same month. Additional events are listed at <http://vfwseattle.org/index.php/resources/event-calendar/>.*



*Ballard Eagleson VFW Post 3063 is located in the Ballard neighborhood of Seattle at 2812 NW Market St. The office is open Thursdays and Saturdays 1-5 p.m.*

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