



**Fleet Reserve Association
Inland Empire Branch 038, Inc.
Spokane, Washington
www.frabranch38.org**

**JULY – AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2025
BRANCH BULLETIN**

Calendar of Upcoming Events

July 2025

- 04 Jul** Independence Day
- 11 Jul** U.S. Marine Band Established (1798)
- 19 Jul** Qtrly Meeting at **10:00 AM** at
 *VFW Post 1474,
 2902 E. Diamond Ave, Spokane, WA*
- 21 Jul** Guam Liberation Day (1944)
- 27 Jul** Korean War Armistice (1953)
- 30 Jul** WAVES Established (1942)

August 2025

- 04 Aug** US Coast Guard Birthday (1790)
Vietnam Conflict Began (1964)
- 14 Aug** Nat'l Navajo Code Talkers Day
VJ day (Japanese Surrender 1945)
- 16 Aug** Monthly Meeting at **10:00 AM** at
 *VFW Post 1474
 2902 E. Diamond, Spokane, WA*
- 29 Aug** USMC Reserves Founded (1916)

September 2025

- 01 Sep** Labor Day
- 02 Sep** VJ Day – Japan Signs Surrender 1945
- 06 Sep** NWR Convention in Oak Harbor, WA
- 07 Sep** Grandparents Day
- 11 Sep** United We Stand/Patriot Day
- 17 Sep** Citizenship Day
- 19 Sep** Nat'l POW/MIA Remembrance Day
- 20 Sep** Lunch/Monthly Meeting at **NOON**
at Twiggs Bistro & Maartini Bar
 *4320 S. Regal
 Spokane, WA **SOUTH***
- 21 Sep** First Day of Autumn



**2025 NWR Convention
September 5 – 7, 2025 at the
Best Western Plus Hotel
33175 State Route 20, Oak Harbor, WA 98277**

The Northwest Region FRA cordially invites all Shipmates and FRA Auxiliary to the 2025 Northwest Regional Convention on September 5-7, 2025, located on Whidbey Island, in Oak Harbor, Washington.

Convention Site: Best Western Plus Hotel & Convention Center, 33175 State Route 20, Oak Harbor, WA 98277. *Oak Harbor is located on Whidbey Island, in Washington State - Home to NAS Whidbey Island and Fleet Reserve Association Branch 97.*

Room Rates: Group Rates apply to both **Best Western Plus**, and **Candlewood Suites**, which both have walking distance access to the **Convention Center**. Rates are good for September 4 to September 7, 2025.

DO NOT book online or you will not get the convention rate. **Reservations are available on a first-come, first-serve basis only.** Guests are encouraged to book early! **Group Rates will not be available after September 4, 2025.**

Reservations: Call **360-679-4567** and mention the group name **Fleet Reserve Association** to get the above rate.

Best Western Plus: Standard Double Queen Room; or Standard King Room: \$185 per night plus 9% sales tax and 2% lodging tax.

Guest Amenities

Continental Breakfast * Guest Laundry - Free Parking - Pet fee of \$40/night - Internet Access - Business Center - Exercise Room - Outdoor Pool/Hot Tub.

In-room Fridge / Microwave / Coffee Services / Iron/ Ironing Board / Hairdryers

* **NOTE:** Continental Breakfast is **NOT available at the Candlewood Suites** rooms (they have kitchenettes).

Candlewood Suites: One-bedroom Queen Suite w/Kitchenette: \$240 per night plus 9% sales tax and 2% lodging tax. **Reservations:** Call **360-279-2222** and mention the group name **Fleet Reserve Association** to get the above rate. **DO NOT book online** or you will not get the convention rate.



Go see their remodeled club, The Crow's Nest. They reopened in August 2024 after a devastating fire in 2021.

The 2025 NWR Convention Newsletter #2 with the meal information, etc., is posted online on the Branch 38 and NW Region Websites. **Note the deadline for ordering your meals: 25 August 2025**

YOU MUST ORDER YOUR MEALS AHEAD OF THE CONVENTION SO THE CATERERS WILL KNOW HOW MUCH TO PREPARE !!!!!



The 97th FRA and the 92nd Auxiliary National Conventions November 3 - 8, 2025
Oasis Hotel and Conference Center
2546 N. Glenstone Ave. Springfield, Missouri
Ph# 417-866-5253.

The Hotel is located seven miles from Springfield / Branson Regional Airport and 45 miles from Branson. The Flagship store for Bass Pro Shops is located in Springfield and a Buc-ee's is located five miles east off I-44.

Room rates are \$119 per night; more for suites. Room block is 171 based on activity at the Hoover, Alabama National Convention. If required, overflow hotels are nearby.

Rooms come with complimentary hot breakfast. ALL ROOMS have WALK-IN SHOWERS & RAISED TOILETS. Fully handicapped rooms .are limited.

Transportation to and from the Airport is included; **YOU MUST CALL the HOTEL and GIVE THEM DETAILS of YOUR ARRIVAL!!!!**

The newsletters for this convention are posted on the Branch 38 and NWR Websites.

Branch Birthdays

July – August – September 2025

Ralph Bean	July 4
John Norris	July 5
Tom Grieb	July 8
Dennis McCully	July 10
Gary Weiler	July 23
Earl Lockie	July 24
Jeff Burke	July 25
James Grisham	August 5
Gerald Ellig	August 17
Anna Martin	August 17
Harold Young	September 1
Steve Toland	September 9
Roscoe Moore	September 19
Gerald Sand	September 24
James Linville	September 29
Terry Gaffney	September 30

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU ALL!



Veterans Service Officer's (VSO) Notes

From the desk of the Veterans Service Officer:
 I continue to follow legislation and new studies from the VA Hospital to pursue claims. Please seek an accredited VSO. Do not use the "Claim Sharks", as they will charge exorbitantly.

Thank you for entrusting me with this position.

Veterans Services Officer, Branch 38
Dave Lord, QM1(SW)

SECRETARY'S NOTES

Dave L. Lord, Secretary/Treasurer
davelordpo1ret@gmail.com / 360-631-2873
Dave Lord, QM1(SW)

Inland Empire Branch 038 is still providing Zoom capabilities, *in addition to meeting locally*, in the first two months of each quarter.
(The Zoom connection will be for outside the commuting distance of the VFW 1474 Meeting Place.) There will be no Zoom capability in the months we have a meeting at a restaurant.
 Everyone in the outlying areas will be sent an email with the connection to Zoom one week before the meeting.

The Zoom Meeting Login Directions document has been updated to the new meeting dates (same Meeting ID and same Password) and it is posted to the Branch 38 website.

Branch 38 Officer Elections for 2025-2026

Election of the Branch 38 Officers was held at the May 2025 monthly meeting. Those elected for the 2025-2026 term are as follows:

- President:** PRPNW Michelle Davis
- Vice President:** James Grisham
- Sec/Treas:** Dave Lord
- Board of Director:** Val Moon
 (Replaces Rick Baldwin)

Milestone Awards

JULY – AUGUST – SEPTEMBER 2025

George Stevens Jr	50 years	August
Paul Manly	5 years	September
Doug Harms	55 years	September

Membership Dues

The cost of renewing your membership is as follows:

1 Year	\$40.00	
2 Years	\$75.00	(6% discount)
2 Years	\$64.00	(1st time new mbrs)
5 years	\$180.00	(10% discount)

Branch 38's policy for new members to the FRA and Branch 38 is it will pay \$24.00 and the new member pays \$40.00.

Fleet Reserve Association Dues

Listed below are those shipmates that are due. Also listed are those Shipmates that will be receiving renewal notices of their dues. Please renew. Your voice and help is needed in the FRA.

Past Due FRA Dues

Ray Kuhn	February 2025
Tammy Waid	May 2025

Upcoming FRA Dues

Dave Danley	August 2025
Jerome Duffney	August 2025
Robert Hunt	August 2025
Steve Toland	August 2025
Roscoe Moore	September 2025

We do not have any Shipmates due in July 2025.

Included in the last page of the bulletin is the Application Form for the FRA.

Please make all checks out to the FRA.

Newsletter Delivery Via E-Mail – If you received this newsletter by regular mail and are willing to receive future copies via email, please contact the Branch Public Relations Committee Chair at: FRABranch38@gmail.com.

Americanism/Patriotism Committee Notice

Americanism Essay Contest **National 2024-2025 Winners**

2024-2025 Overall Winner

***Elizabeth Mayela Mercado Branch 293
East Coast Region***

National 2024-2025 Essay Contest Winners Cont'd

Grade 7 Winners

1 st place	Sophia Ortega	Br 101	WC Region
2 nd place	Sanvi Mokasi	Br 089	SE Region
3 rd place	Charlotte Doering	Br 070	SW Region

Grade 8 Winners

1 st Place	Samdeesh Thukral	Br 089	SE Region
2 nd Place	Saanvi Sri Karnakanti	Br 017	NC Region
3 rd Place	Tyler Nixon	Br 115	NE/NewEng Region

Grade 9 Winners

1 st Place	Evelin Quinonez	Br 197	WC Region
2 nd Place	Genevieve Miranda	Br 070	SW Region
3 rd Place	Natalia Torres	Br 181	EC Region

Grade 10 Winners

1 st Place	Elizabeth Mercado	Br 293	EC Region
2 nd Place	Johnny Vattuone	Br 070	SW Region
3 rd Place	Allin Murphy	Br 307	SC Region

Grade 11 Winners

1 st Place	Conner Stevens	Br 101	WC Region
2 nd Place	Kylie Anderson	Br 238	NC Region
3 rd Place	Asa Scott	Br 184	SE Region

Grade 12 Winners

1 st Place	Samuel Bonsall	Br 029	NW Region
2 nd Place	Emily Hite	Br 161	NC Region
3 rd Place:	Isabella Philip	Br 087	NE/NewEng Region

2025-2026 Branch Officers

President	Michelle Davis
Vice President	James Grisham
Secretary / Treasurer	Dave Lord
Chaplain	Dennis McCully
Master-at-Arms	James Robertson

Board of Directors

Plus Branch Officers

Harold Young	Term 2021-2026
James Grisham	Term 2023-2028
Val Moon	Term 2025-2030

2024-2025 Branch Committee Chairs

Americanism-Patriotism	Rick Baldwin
Health, Welfare & Rehab	Michelle Davis
Membership	James Grisham
Public Relations	Peg Burke
Veterans Services	Dave Lord
Youth Activities	Robert Bean

**Businesses owned by
Coast Guard / Navy / Marine Veterans**

Beardsley Family Restaurant—26009 N Hwy 395, Orient, WA—Owned by members of a retired navy husband and wife Chiefs.

Hat ‘N Patch—Website at www.hatnpatch.com – owned by Rod Truitt. They carry military & patriotic hats, patches, pins & more.

Popular Patch—don@popularpatch.com, 9030 N. Hess St, Ste 111, Hayden, ID – Owned by Branch Shipmate Don McGrogan (Ask for military discount).

Sailor Girl Soap and Supplies—www.sailorsoapgirl.com. Plummer, ID—owned by a former Navy member.

Seventh Heaven Bakery
105 S. Madison St., Spokane, WA 99201.
Website: twentyseventhheaven.com
Phone #509-279-9872
Owned by Lydia Cowles, US Navy Veteran.

Uncle Sam’s Flag & Gift –14109 E. Sprague Ave, Suite #1, Spokane Valley, WA 99216
Owned by James Martin, U.S. Navy Veteran

Iron Horse Restaurant – 407 E. Sherman Ave, Coeur d’Alene, ID 83814. 208-667-7314
Owned by Blair Bryce, U.S. Navy Veteran.

Nurse Next Door - home health care (serving five (5) Idaho counties.
Douglas Holcomb, franchise holder, and a Navy HM2 with 10 years of service.
418 E. Lakeside Ave, #6-1
Coeur d’Alene, ID 83814-2805
Telephone: 208-600-0760

Ashley Intelligence – an online HR firm
Website: ashleyintelligence.biz
Owned by Ashley Tilton, retired Navy CPO Kootenai County, ID

**Branch 38 Meeting Dates for the Rest of
Calendar Year 2025**

REVISED CALENDAR

*Meetings beginning in April 2025 and beyond are now on the **THIRD Saturday** of the month.*

July 17, 2025 – Qtrly Meeting at **10:00 AM** at VFW Post 1474, 2902 E. Diamond Ave, Spokane, WA

August 16, 2025 – Monthly Meeting at **10:00 AM** at VFW Post 1474, 2902 E. Diamond Ave, Spokane, WA

September 20, 2025 – Lunch meeting at NOON at Twiggs Bistro. 4320 S. Regal in Spokane, WA

October 18, 2025 – Qtrly Meeting at **10:00 AM** at VFW Post 1474, 2902 E. Diamond Ave, Spokane, WA

November 15, 2025 – Monthly Meeting at **10:00 AM** at VFW Post 1474, 2902 E. Diamond Ave, Spokane, WA

December 20, 2025 – XMAS Lunch meeting at **NOON** at Rusty Moose, Hwy 2 in Spokane, WA

In Loyalty, Protection, and Service,

Margret (Peg) Burke
Public Relations Committee Chair
14707 N. Farragut Ln, Mead, WA 99021-9286
(509) 385-7275
Or
FRABranch38@gmail.com
