



**Fleet Reserve Association  
Inland Empire Branch 38, Inc.  
Spokane, Washington**  
[www.frabbranch38.org](http://www.frabbranch38.org)

**August 12, 2023 - MEETING MINUTES**

Introduction of non-member guests and visiting shipmates: Tina Tuell, the recent champion of the Military Wheelchair races visited the branch to see what the organization does. Zoom attendees were RPNW Rex Faubion and Branch 38 member George Peck.

The Blessing of God was given by Chaplain Dennis McCully.

The Meeting was declared convened at 10:03 a.m.

Read Minutes of July 2023, Branch 38 meetings which were approved as read.

**Standing Committee Reports**

Americanism-Patriotism – Chair, **Rick Baldwin** stated Essay Contest information is on the FRA Website. He also stated that the Branch will be participating in the Military Appreciation Night at the Spokane Indians ball game on September 1, 2023. We will be manning an information table from 5:00 p.m. until it gets dark. There are about five branch members planning on being there.

Hospitals, Welfare & Rehabilitation – Chair, **Michelle Davis** thanked everyone for keeping her updated on everything they participated in as it helps her end of year report.

Membership & Retention – Chair, **Michelle Davis** Branch 38 membership is holding steady at 62.

Public Relations – Chair, **Peg Burke** will be putting out the Quarterly Bulletin at the end of September. Shipmate Waid stated that they were in the Brewster, WA area last month for the for the Vets Salmon Fishing trip. She was asked to provide a write-up of the event for the Bulletin.

Veterans Service – Chair, **Dave Lord** reported he now has a total of tene VSO Claims in process with the VA. He will be attending the September 1 Spokane Indians game for their military appreciation night to help with our outreach.

Youth Activities – Chair, Jr Past President, **Robert Bean** was appointed to be the new Chairperson.

Communications received since the July 2023 meeting were discussed.

Treasurer’s Report – 7/31/2023 was given and approved.

**Unfinished or Deferred Business**

**Milestone Awards for July – August - September 2023**

None in July 2023		None in August - 2023
Carla Scott	5 years	September 2023
PRPNW Marian Dent-Hoglundq	50 years	September 2023

**2023 Northwest Regional Convention** – will be held August 18-19, 2023, at the Holiday Inn in Nampa, ID. It will be sponsored by Gem State Branch 382. **Room Rates are \$110 per night plus 8% tax.** The rates are good August 15 through August 21, 2023. Phone the hotel directly at **(208) 468-0944** and tell them you are with the **Fleet Reserve Association block.** Deadline for reservations at this rate is July 18, 2023. After that it will be on space availability.

**Newsletter #3 (Final newsletter) is on the Branch and NWR Website. Take note of the cut off dates for the Room Rate and the Meal Choice Selections.**

*Branch 38 delegates for this year's convention will be Shipmates Dave Lord, Rick Baldwin, Michelle Davis, Anna Martin, and Peg Burke. The latter three are NW Regional Officers/Committee Chairs.  
**Email from NWR Convention Hosts regarding Silent Auction.***

### **NWR Nominating and C&BL Resolutions**

RPNW Rex Faubion is running for another term in 2023-2024.

Branch 38 President is running for NW Region Vice President in 2023-2024. (He has sent an email to the RPNW regarding accepting the position if elected since he will not be attending the convention).

- *Rumor has it that the incumbent RVPNW may not be running for the position again.*
- *Reallocation of funds from Silent Auction.*
- *Raising NWR PCT Dues to \$0.50 person (currently \$0.35 person)*

**2023 FRA/LAFRA National Convention** will be held September 23-30, 2023 at the Nugget Casino Resort, Sparks, Nevada. The room rates are \$102 plus 13.5% tax and a \$2.00 Tourism Fee per night for a single or double. There is a fee of \$10 per person for each additional person, with a limit of four per room. The hotel provides a free shuttle service to and from the Reno/Tahoe Airport. The reservation link for the hotel is posted on the FRA Website if you wish to make reservations that way or you may call either of these numbers: 1-800-648-1177 or 775-356-3300. **Be sure to use the code GFAC23.** If you need to make reservations for an ADA (handicap) room you need to call the hotel directly and not use the link. **A standard ADA room has a tub/shower with grab bars, but if you need a roll-in shower this will need to be specified also. The rooms with roll-in shower are in the other tower so additional walking will be needed,** (but if you are using a scooter it shouldn't be any problem). Remember as with any hotel the number of ADA rooms is limited so please make your reservations early. If you want a room other than the standard king/double queen room you will need to call directly to reserve (**do not forget to use the code GFAC23**). **The reservation cutoff date is 31 August.** All rooms have a refrigerator and a Keurig coffee maker. Though Keurig cups are provided, if you drink a lot of coffee or like a special brand it is recommended you bring Keurig coffee cups with you.

Newsletters #1 through #5 are on the NWR and Branch 38 websites. They have information on all the meals, tuxedos, scooter rentals, etc.

*The Branch delegates for this convention are Shipmates Michelle Davis and Peg Burke.*

### **FRA National Officers Nominating Resolutions**

NVP John Handzuk is running for NP in 2023-2024.

JrPRPNC Maria Behm is running for NVP in 2023-2024.

*She has already sent the Branch her request for support and the Branch has voted to support her.*

*Our support notification has been sent back to the FRA NED.*

PRPNW Pete Lazzaretti is a candidate for NVP in 2023-2024 also.

**Navy Chief's Organization Rep Report** – Branch 38 James Grisham, the Navy Chief's Rep has a couple of issues to bring to the FRA's attention.

- Letter to NOSC Spokane regarding the use of Branch 38 EIN for Navy Ball if the Branch is not included in the planning/activities?

*Have we heard back from the NOSC if they are going to have a Navy Ball this year?*

**Frank J. McPherson Memorial Award** – HQ expects a nominee from each Region to be submitted.

“One shipmate who exemplifies the FRA three cardinal principles, Loyalty, Protection, and Service, especially in membership endeavors. The shipmate selected must have expended extensive effort towards the overall growth of the FRA. The selectee does not have to be a top recruiter, but an individual who has maintained a positive public attitude as it affects the membership and retention of members in the Association.”

*Shipmate Burke, the Branch Secretary/Treasurer was nominated, and she was asked to type up the nomination form.*

*The nomination form was submitted to the Branch, approved, and signed by the Branch President for submission to the RPNW.*

## **New Business**

**Fair Winds and Following Seas to:** Branch 38 Shipmate Dale A. Stevenston who joined the Supreme Commander’s team on June 24, 2023.

### **2024 NWR Convention Assignment**

RPNW Rex Faubion called the Branch 38 Secretary about hosting the convention for 2024. It seems the previous hosts have withdrawn their offer to hold it. Branch Secretary Burke called the Branch Board of Directors to give them a **HEADS UP** that this is being requested. During these calls, it was suggested that we have the convention in the Tri-Cities, WA area, i.e. Pasco/Kennewick/Richland area. **This would put all branches in the Northwest Region driving to the convention.** The following are plusses for the area:

- ❖ There is a Coast Guard detachment down there.
- ❖ We have branch members living in the area.
- ❖ Our Branch VP lived in the area for quite a while, and our JrPast President was raised there.
- ❖ The Branch Secretary drilled at the Pasco Naval Reserve Facility until 1980 until she moved to Spokane.
- ❖ **Shipmate George Peck** has agreed to act as Convention Chair, as long as he has advice on what to do.
- ❖ Shipmate Burke, Branch 38 Secretary, has told the RPNW Faubion that we should draw from all Branches in the Northwest for help and make it a “true” NWR Convention – **everybody helps!** Nampa Branch/Unit 382 (2023 NWR Convention Hosts) have been asked to run the 50/50 and/or Silent Auction next year also. Lewis & Clark Branch 63’s President has said he would help, but they don’t have the manpower to run a convention on their own.

The Branch Secretary has been on the phone to three sites in the Tri-Cities, two of which are on the water, and the other is next to the big Columbia Center Shopping Center. She has received two bids back so far.

- The Clover Island Inn in Kennewick, WA - **Bid Received**
- The Red Lion at Columbia Center, Kennewick, WA - **Bid Received**
- Holiday Inn Richland on the River, Richland, WA
- Fall back site has not been contacted yet. That would be The Ramada Inn at the Airport in Spokane where we held the 2022 convention.

**After much discussion, it was decided to present the three bids from the Tri-City area to the Time & Place Committee at the NW Regional Convention. We will find out what they say next month.**

## **Good of the Order**

### **Upcoming Activities**

- August 19th - NWR Convention is 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend.
- September 1<sup>st</sup> – Spokane Indians Military Appreciation Day/Fireworks
- September 8-17th - Spokane County Fair

**Branch 38 will be joining VFW Post 1474 in Bldg A at the Fairgrounds.**

- September 23-30th - FRA 2023 National Convention in Sparks, NV

RPNW Rex Faubion encouraged us to try and recruit new FRA members from the Navy Reserve, etc. Hold an information table event vs active recruiting.

Closing Prayer – [Chaplain](#)

Meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

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Margret “Peg” Burke, Branch Secretary

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David L. Lord, Branch President

**2023-2024 Branch Officers**

President Dave Lord  
Vice President Michelle Davis  
Sec/Treasurer: Peg Burke  
(Sec/Treas NTE 1 year)  
Chaplain Dennis McCully  
Master-at-Arms James Robertson

**Board of Directors**

*Plus Branch Officers:*  
Rick Baldwin (2020-2025)  
Harold Young (2021-2026)  
James Grisham (2023-2028)

**2023–2024 Branch Cmte Chairs**

Americanism Rick Baldwin  
HW&R Michelle Davis  
Public Relations Peg Burke  
Veterans Services Dave Lord  
Youth Activities **Vacant**

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**Revised Calendar Year 2023 Meeting Locations**

**1st Quarter FY 2023 VFW Post 1474 and Luncheon Meetings (Changes)**

August 12<sup>th</sup> 2023 Monthly Mtg at 10:00 AM at the VFW Post\_1474, 2902 E. Diamond Ave, Spokane, WA  
September 9<sup>th</sup> 2023 Luncheon Meeting at NOON at *El Charrito – SOUTH*, 4303 S. Regal, Spokane, WA

**2nd Quarter FY 2023 VFW Post 1474 and Luncheon Meetings (Changes)**

October 14<sup>th</sup> 2023 Qtrly Meeting at 10:00 AM at the VFW Post 1474, 2902 E. Diamond Ave, Spokane, WA  
November 11<sup>th</sup> 2023 Monthly Mtg at 10:00 AM at the VFW Post\_1474, 2902 E. Diamond Ave, Spokane, WA  
December 9<sup>th</sup> 2023 Luncheon Meeting at NOON at the *Longhorn BBQ – WEST / XMAS Party*  
7611 W. Hwy 2, Spokane, WA

**Proposed Dates for Calendar Year 2024**

January 13, 2024 @ VFW 1474, Spokane, WA  
February 10, 2024 @ VFW 1474, Spokane, WA  
March 9, 2024 - LUNCHEON (East side of town)  
April 13, 2024 @ VFW 1474, Spokane, WA  
May 11, 2024 @ VFW 1474, Spokane, WA  
June 8, 2024 - LUNCHEON (South side of town)  
July 13, 2024 @ VFW 1474, Spokane, WA  
August 10, 2024 @ VFW 1474, Spokane, WA  
September 14, 2024 - LUNCHEON (West Side of town)  
October 12, 2024 @ VFW 1474, Spokane, WA  
November 9, 2024 @ VFW 1474, Spokane, WA  
December 14, 2024 - XMAS LUNCH (North side of town)

**Suggestions for Luncheon dates are welcome.**

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