



Fleet Reserve Association Inland Empire Branch 38, Inc. Spokane, Washington

www.frabranch38.org



APRIL 13, 2024 - MEETING MINUTES

Introduction of non-member guests and visiting shipmates:

- *Welcome to new member Craig Liebler of Kennewick, WA. Shipmates Peck and Thompson joined us via Zoom.*

Invoke the Blessing of God – **Acting Chaplain** James Grisham

Pledge of Allegiance (Page 5)

Preamble to the Constitution of the Fleet Reserve Association (Page 5)

Declare Meeting convened at 10:05 by Branch VP Michelle Davis

Read Minutes of February & March 2024 meetings. Accepted as read.

Standing Committee Reports

Americanism-Patriotism – Chair, **Rick Baldwin**

- *Branch 38 did not have any placements in the NW Region level judging. Requested that we invite Parker Smith to the NW Region Convention to honor her participation in the contest.*

Hospitals, Welfare & Rehabilitation – Chair, **Michelle Davis** had nothing to report this month.

Membership & Retention – Chair, **Michelle Davis**

- *Branch Membership has increased to 63. This moves the Branch to Group IV again.*

Public Relations – Chair, **Peg Burke**

- *Shift Colors (newsletter for Navy Retirees) is out.*
- *DFAS Newsletter*
- *Second Quarter 2024 Branch Bulletin distributed.*
- *Two articles to FRA Today, i.e. Table @ Spokane Indians game & PRPNW Dent-Hoglund 50-Yr Awd*
- *NWR Scuttlebutt Distributed.*

Veterans Service – Chair, **Dave Lord**

- *VSO Meeting with Stevens County*
- *Congresswoman Cathy McMorris Rodgers' Vet Council*
- *VLC & New Native American Vets Svc Organization*

Youth Activities – Chair, **Robert Bean**

- *Spokane Indians Armed Forces Appreciation Night is May 17, 2024, at 6:35 pm.*

Communications received since the February 2024 meeting.

Treasurer's Reports – 2/29/24 and 3/31/2024

Treasurer's Reports – 12/31/2023 and 1/31/2024

- *Shipmate Burke stated that last year at the NW Regional Convention, that Branch 38 reimbursed at least four delegates for their expenses at the convention as representatives of the Branch. In the past, we usually only reimbursed two, the Chair and the backup. A motion was made and seconded that we only reimburse the Chair and the backup in the future starting in 2024. Motion was carried.*

Unfinished or Deferred Business

2024 NW Region MID-YEAR Convention – RPNW Rex Faubion stated that there will be a Mid-Year Convention in the NW Region this year on **May 4, 2024, via ZOOM**. He is planning on holding a virtual event after the NBOD mid-year meeting to check in with all the regional branches on the progress in getting their reports submitted. More information to come regarding this meeting.

Shipmate Burke invited any branch member that wants to attend this meeting to come to her house since she has to connect the Zoom link anyway. This is a BYOB (bring your own beverage) and Snack event.

2024 NW Regional Convention

The 2024 Northwest Regional Convention will be held on September 6-7, 2024, at the Clover Island Inn located in Kennewick, Washington. It is being held later than normal since the 2024 National Convention won't be held until November to coincide with the FRA 100-year Celebration.

Shipmate Rick Baldwin will be the Chair of the Branch Delegates for the upcoming convention in September 2024.

Inland Empire Branch 38, Spokane, WA will be coordinating with all the Northwest Branches to contribute their ideas into this convention. Our idea is to make this a “true” northwest regional convention by having each Branch in the Northwest Region take responsibility for one of the activities that happen during a convention.

Room Rates are \$114 per night plus 10.7% tax and \$3 Tourist Fee. These rates are good for September 4 to September 8, 2024. Call **509-586-0541** and mention **Fleet Reserve Association** to get the above rate. **DO NOT book online** or you will not get the convention rate. Reservations made after August 26, 2024, at this rate will be on space availability.

So far, the only shipmates registered at the hotel for this convention are from Branch 38 and RPNW from Branch 104.

Shipmate Peck, the Convention President has sent out an inquiry to the local Kennewick Sea Cadet contact person to see if they would be willing to help us with the Presentation of Colors at the convention.

- *Shipmate Peck has made contact with the person who works with them, a deputy sheriff, when he has a break in his law enforcement duties.*
- *He is also contacting the Coast Guard Commander to see if he would give us about 10-20 minutes of his time that weekend.*

The 2024 (96th FRA/91st LAFRA) Convention

The Centennial Committee applied for and was granted by the 2022 National Convention delegates permission to host the 96th FRA/91st LAFRA Convention in conjunction with the FRA Centennial Celebration. The convention itself will be held at the DoubleTree by Hilton, 210 Holiday Court, Annapolis, Maryland, on **November 10-16, 2024**. **The Centennial will be on November 11, 2024, and the Convention itself will be held November 12-25, 2024**. Information is now available on the FRA Website.

Robert Bean, Jr Past Branch President will be the branch delegate to the 2024 FRA Centennial and National Convention since he is already scheduled to go as the Northwest Regional Vice President. He is running for Regional President also. His nominating resolution will be ready to sign by the April Branch Meeting.

Room Rates are \$125 plus 13% tax. The cut-off date for the block of rooms is October 5, 2024. Due to the anticipated demand, we encourage attendees to book by September 1st.

For hotel reservations copy and paste this link into your browser:
[https://www.hilton.com/en/attend -my-event/anpdttdt-90d-bcdab4c5-7f18-47ce-9b69-435dc9ec0f80/\(http://](https://www.hilton.com/en/attend -my-event/anpdttdt-90d-bcdab4c5-7f18-47ce-9b69-435dc9ec0f80/(http://)

Transportation:

- Planes: The closest airport is Baltimore/Washington International Airport (BWI) 20 miles from the hotel. Additional airports include Ronald Reagan Washington (DCA) and Washington Dulles International (IAD).
- Trains: The closest train station is BWI. Free on-site parking.

It is off US-50. The hotel offers a free shuttle within five miles, including the Westfield Annapolis Mall, restaurants around Annapolis Town Centre, and the US Naval Academy. Enjoy free parking, their Olympic-sized pool, and dining at their on-site restaurant, Ports of Call. They welcome you with a fresh DoubleTree Chocolate Chip Cookie.

In addition to the above pool, on-site restaurant and free parking, other amenities are:

Free WiFi	Room Service	Fitness Center	Digital Key
EV Charging	Non-smoking rooms	Connecting rooms	Pet Friendly rooms.

Nominations for National Offices:

NP Nominations	NVP Maria Behm	NCR Branch 32
NVP Nominations	Rick Fetro	WCR Branch 101
	Pete Lazzaretti	NWR Branch 18

Resolutions are due to HQ by July 15, 2024.

RPNW Faubion stated that the Centennial Convention Committee would like to know what type of celebration we are planning at the Branch level

Newsletters #1 and #2 are out and posted on the Branch and NW Regional websites.

New Business

Milestone Awards for April – May - June 2024

- Michelle Davis 30 Years April 2024
- Gerald Sand 45 Years April 2024
- Rick Baldwin 5 Years May 2024

Branch Vice President Michelle Davis presented Shipmate Baldwin his 5-year pin and PRPNW Peg Burke presented Michelle Davis with her 30-year pin at the meeting.

Nomination of Branch Officers for 2024-2025 Term

Branch nominations were finalized for the 2024-2025 Branch Officers are as follows:

- Branch President Michelle Davis
- Branch Vice President James Grisham
- Branch Secretary/Treasurer Dave Lord

Installation will be held during the May meeting.

Good of the Order

2024 Spokane Khaki Ball – After the March 9, 2024 luncheon notification was sent to all Chief Petty Officers of the Branch regarding the 2024 Spokane Khaki Ball on April 6, 2024 at the VFW Post 1474 club at 1700.

There was a good turnout for the Ball and everyone enjoyed themselves.

Burial Benefits – Possible future presentation by Rudy Lopez, WDVA Vets Cemetery. It was suggested that we try to get to join us for our June luncheon meeting.

Upcoming Events:

Spokane Indians Armed Forces Appreciation Night is May 17, 2024, at 6:35 pm.

Shipmate Burke will loan her 10x10 pop-up cover for the FRA table at this event.

Shipmate Grisham reminded everyone that we could get more tickets at the group rate if more than two were coming to the game. We can do this also for the August game as we plan on setting up a table for it also.

Lilac Armed Forces Day Parade, May 18, 2024

Reminder for Shipmate Burke to bring the banners and flags to the May meeting so they can be used at the parade on May 18th.

Newport Grand Rodeo and Parade, June 20-22, 2024, in Newport, WA

Hillyard Festival in Spokane, WA August 4-6, 2024

Southeast Spokane County Fair, Rockford, WA on September 20-22, 2024

Spokane Indians Home Games July 4-6 and 9-14, 2024.

Closing Prayer – **Chaplain**

Meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Margret “Peg” Burke, Branch Secretary

Michelle E. Davis, Branch Vice President

2023-2024 Branch Officers

President Dave Lord
Vice President Michelle Davis
Sec/Treasurer: Peg Burke

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**

Dates for Calendar Year 2024

*All meetings are on the **SECOND Saturday** of the month.*

Fourth Quarter FY 2023 VFW Post 1474 and Luncheon Meetings

April 13, 2024 Qtrly Meeting at 10:00 AM at the VFW Post 1474
2902 E. Diamond Ave, Spokane, WA

May 11, 2024 Monthly Meeting at 10:00 AM at the VFW Post 1474
2902 E. Diamond Ave, Spokane, WA

June 8, 2024 Luncheon Meeting at NOON at the
Shari’s Restaurant, 320 N. Sullivan, Spokane Valley, WA – **East**

First Quarter FY 2024 VFW Post 1474 and Luncheon Meetings

July 13, 2024 Qtrly Meeting at 10:00 AM at the VFW Post 1474
2902 E. Diamond Ave, Spokane, WA

August 10, 2024 **Monthly Meeting at 10:00 AM** at the VFW Post 1474
2902 E. Diamond Ave, Spokane, WA

September 14, 2024 **Luncheon Meeting at NOON** at the
McKenzie River Pizza, 2910 E, 57th, Spokane, WA - **South**

Second Quarter FY 2024 VFW Post 1474 and Luncheon Meetings

October 12, 2024 **Qtrly Meeting at 10:00 AM** at the VFW Post 1474
2902 E. Diamond Ave, Spokane, WA

November 9, 2024 **Monthly Meeting at 10:00 AM** at the VFW Post 1474
2902 E. Diamond Ave, Spokane, W

December 14, 2024 **XMAS LUNCH** at the **Ranch Chico Mexican Restaurant**,
2023 W. Northwest Blvd, Spokane, WA – **West**