

## President's Message - July, 2021

I hope the glow of last month's Convention – in person! – is still with you, as it is with me. Congratulations to Jr. Past Department President Marjorie Stetson for a wonderful time despite many challenges! So nice to have National president Sandi Onstwedder here again; she was a wealth of knowledge and a lot of fun! Congrats also to all of our Auxiliary and District of the Year awardees, and the many certificate and medallion winners. I think we are all winners just to be lucky enough to attend. To our friends who stayed home: we understand, and missed you. Hope to see you down the road.

There will be two Schools of Instruction this August: Please see the flyer in this bulletin, and plan to attend one. Chairmen are asked to attend both, or find someone to represent them at the one they will miss. Please let me know if you are having a problem with the schedule. Dept. Commander, Chad Hassebroek, wants the post and Auxiliary Chairman to present their programs together when possible. I will match you up with your counterpart ASAP. This is a pretty big endeavor. If you can help with a great idea, please e-mail me. If you want to complain – please call someone else. I am doing the best I can!

I am excited about the visit of our incoming National President Jean Hamil on Sept. 24-26, in Wenatchee. See the information and the Springhill Hotel flyer in this Bulletin. Please plan to attend the Leavenworth parade and the potluck in the RV park after. If the parade is cancelled due to Covid, we will have a plan B and let you know ASAP.

If you missed the Installation, you might be wondering about my pin and slogan: I will explain a little. My pin is an Air Force jet with a turtle flying it. I was a cook in the Air Force in 1975, and stationed Udorn, Thailand at the end of the Vietnam Era. I loved being an Airman, and was proud of the contribution I was making. Back home I had two box turtles, and I still do. They live a long time! They have their own Turtle Palace in the back yard. When I was young I was asked what my totem animal is. I always knew I identified with the turtle. I like that they could close up into their shell for protection. But also that they are hard on the outside, soft on the inside, and stick their necks out to get ahead. That is what we do in the VFW Auxiliary. I hope that everyone this year will "Stick Your Neck Out for Our Veterans!"



Loyally, Barbara Heston-Moore  
VFWA Department WA, President