
NCW Vets Gazette

Issue 1 - Feb/Mar 2019

A Newsletter for the Veterans in Chelan, Douglas, Grant, and Okanogan Counties

Welcome!

Hello everyone, and welcome to the first edition of the NCW Vets Gazette. This is my way of trying to reach out across the north central region of Washington State and bring veterans, service providers, organizations, and vet-friendly businesses together with the common theme of sharing information and making connections.

You may have already seen the website I use towards that goal: www.NCWVeterans.info - That is a project I started after serving as the Vet Corps Navigator at Wenatchee Valley College in 2015. Since its inception, the site has grown to include a resource directory of over 55 listings, an Event Calendar with over 110 unique entries, and a Discounts list featuring nearly 20 opportunities for Veterans to save money around the region. With your help and input, this will continue to grow. But enough about that, onto this newsletter!

I understand that the veteran population in our area is varied, far-flung, and may not be able to get all of the relevant information from the website or Facebook regularly. That's why I've expanded into a newsletter, distributed among service providers and area resources, with the opportunity for individuals to subscribe to future issues for free.

What you'll find inside comes from your Veteran Service Officers, your American Legion and VFW posts, WorkSource, and other area resources who want to reach veterans across the region. I may also include upcoming events and VA and/or military related news as I come across them. Information about subscribing and submitting to this newsletter can be found on the last page.

Without further hesitation, please dig in and enjoy!



*Connie Hill, editor,
NCWVeterans.info
and Vets Gazette*

Save the Dates

Saturday, March 9, 3-6pm
NCW Veterans Social
Badger Mountain Brewing
1 Orondo Ave, Wenatchee

Once a quarter, veterans from around the region gather for some chill, laid back networking-disguised-as-socializing. Open to all Veterans and family from across the region.

Thursday, Feb 7/Mar 7, 1-2pm
Service to Armed Forces meeting
American Red Cross office
12 Orondo Ave, Wenatchee

Each month, service providers and veteran organizations come to share and hear how they are "serving veterans and military" in their area, ask for or offer help, and otherwise connect with the community.

Your Veteran Service Officers

Tony Sandoval served in the US Army 2001 – 2004 as an M1A1 Armor Crewman out of Fort Carson, CO with a deployment to Iraq in 2003.

Tony was born and raised here in Wenatchee, and after his time in the service, he has continued to serve, first as Vet Corps Navigator while attending WVC for Music, then Vet Corps Regional Coordinator while completing his Bachelor's in Interdisciplinary Studies from Central Washington. He accepted the role as County Veteran Service Officer in early 2016, and has been helping thousands of area veterans with disability claims, resource referrals, and more.



Tony is the **Chelan County Veteran Service Officer**, office located at 428 Orondo Ave, open 9am – 4pm Mon - Thurs. **(509) 664-6801** Email: **tony.sandoval@co.chelan.wa.us**



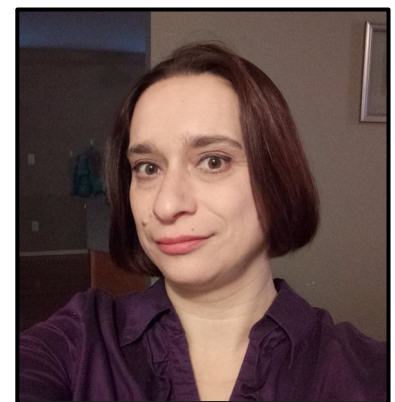
Eric Fritts served in the US Army 1985-1997 first as a Mechanic, then moving into a position training and preparing troops for deployment. He developed a computer program to guide Administration NCOs through the mobilization preparedness process and evaluation reporting. Shortly after separation, he quickly moved into a career as a corporate trainer and standards manager.

Having been raised in Okanogan, it seemed fitting for Eric to return home and serve his community by using his previous experience to build a program for Veteran Service Officers and the VA Claims process, which has become a model program in WA, while also serving as the **Veterans Service Officer for Okanogan County**. For his development, Eric was awarded the Distinguished Service Award from Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs for outstanding service to Veterans in 2018.

Office: 1 Tonasket Shop Rd,
8am – 4:30pm Mon – Thurs
(509) 486-2121
vso@co.okanogan.wa.us

Sarah Simonson served in the Air Force 1999 – 2004 as a Security Forces journeyman at the Air Force Academy with a deployment to Saudi Arabia in support of Operation Southern Watch.

Sarah and family moved to Wenatchee to be closer to some good friends in 2009. Since then, the Wenatchee Valley has become home. She has spent 13 years being a stay-at-home mom. In 2015, she joined VFW Post 3617 (Wenatchee Valley) and has been active in the local veteran community since. She has served as the Quartermaster for VFW Post 3617 and the Secretary on the Douglas County Veterans Advisory Board.



Sarah is the **Douglas County Veteran Service Officer**, office located at 211 11th St NE, open 9am – 3pm Tues – Friday. Phone: **(509) 683-3605** Email: **vso@co.douglas.wa.us**



WorkSource

WorkSource is a statewide partnership of state, local and nonprofit agencies that provides an array of employment and training services to job seekers and employers in Washington.

Federal law entitles veterans and eligible spouses priority access to WorkSource services. This includes priority referrals to jobs that are listed with WorkSource, as well as other employment and training programs.

If you were discharged after 9/11/01, you can sign up for intensive one-on-one employment support through the federal Gold Card program to help with your job hunt.

In addition to individualized job hunt support, local WorkSource offices host a variety of free classes and workshops on a regular basis, including Resume Writing, Job Search Strategies, Office Computer Basics, and Interview Practice Sessions. Connect with your local office for details and schedule.

For more information about WorkSource services, to sign up, or to look through available jobs, please visit www.WorkSourceWA.gov

Upcoming Job Fairs

Big Bend Career & Job Fair
Feb 28, 9am - 3pm
7662 Chanute St NE
Moses Lake

Veteran Job & Resource Fair
March 21, 10am - 1pm
Pybus Public Market Event Ctr
Wenatchee

WorkSource Veteran Reps for NCW:

Eileen Boylston

Eboylston@esd.wa.gov

(509) 766-4111

Terrie Garcia-Hernandez

mgarcia-hernandez@esd.wa.gov

(509) 423-6678

WDVA News

Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs would like to hear your opinion on the services they provide. A short survey awaits you at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/F859P7N>



"Serving Those Who Served"

(800) 562-2308

www.dva.wa.gov

Washington State Patriotic Day is just around the corner. Join us at the Stadium High School Gymnasium in Tacoma on **23 Feb** for a Massing of the Colors event, celebrating the birthday of our first President, George Washington.

Details and registration information: www.washingtonstatepatrioticday.org

Or follow along with planning and preparation at

www.facebook.com/groups/WashingtonStatePatrioticDay/



From the American Legion

*More details for each Post
are available at
ncwveterans.info/resources*

Post 10 (Wenatchee)
208 N Wenatchee Ave
(509) 663-5912

Post 28 (Ephrata)
276 8th Ave NW
(509) 754-2761

Post 56 (Okanogan)
860 N 2nd Street
(509) 826-2610

Post 64 (Cashmere)
401 Sunset Highway
(509) 782-2232

Post 82 (Tonasket)
319 S Western
(509) 486-2382

Post 97 (Brewster)
102 N Main
(509) 689-3307

Post 108 (Manson)
142 Pedoi St
(509) 888-3831

Post 157 (Electric City)
31 Coulee Rd
(509) 631-1839

Post 209 (Moses Lake)
538 W Broadway
(509) 765-1126

Post 10, Wenatchee

During the holiday season, our members and families raised over \$5700 for our annual Holiday Gift Baskets, which were provided to needy families in the area.

We will be hosting the Western Region Vice Chair and WA Department Leaders (and family) for a Membership Drive on 1-2 March.

We are currently planning our 100th birthday celebration.

Monthly meetings on 2nd Thursday at 7pm.

Art Semro Post 28, Ephrata

Our Annual Crab Feed & Prime Rib Dinner is on 23 Feb at 5pm at the post. As this is our fundraiser, there will be multiple raffles available.

Meetings on 2nd and 4th Thursday at 7pm.

Post 82, Tonasket

Join us for lunch Mon-Friday, or breakfast on Saturday. Open for lunch on Saturdays during NFL season. We also host a holiday dinner, with the next being Chicken Fried Steak for Valentine's (14 Feb) and Corned Beef & Cabbage for St Patrick's Day (16 Mar).

We are active with the Scouts and welcome new volunteers.

Monthly meetings on 1st Monday at 5pm.

Columbia Post 97, Brewster

Join us for a Steak dinner every Friday night (5-8pm) or breakfast on Sunday from 8-11am.

Our Legion Riders will be hosting a Super Bowl Game Day Chill Cook-off at 1pm on Sunday, 3 Feb.

We'll also be hosting our annual Crab Feed on 23 Feb.

Monthly meetings (Post & Aux) on 1st Wednesday and (Post only) 3rd Wednesday at 6pm.

Is your post not listed? Be sure to reach out and let us know what's happening in your neck of the woods to be included in the next issue.

From the Veterans of Foreign Wars



Post 3617, Wenatchee Valley

Veterans, friends and family are welcome to join us for a Prayer Breakfast on 23 Feb at 9am, featuring biscuits & gravy, pancakes and eggs, and fellowship.

Our Auxiliary will be hosting a Corned Beef & Cabbage feed on 16 March from 1-3pm – this is a fundraiser and potluck, open to all.

We host Bingo every Friday night, with doors opening at 5:30pm, first call at 6:30pm, with drinks and snacks available for purchase as well.

Monthly meetings on 3rd Wednesday at 7pm.

*More details for each Post
are available at
ncwveterans.info/resources*

Post 24 George
Meets at Quincy Senior
Center and Moses Lake Elks
Lodge alternating months

Post 3617 Wenatchee Valley
211 11th St NE
East Wenatchee
(509) 884-3617

Post 6853 Chelan
Meets at Apple Cup Cafe
804 E. Woodin Ave
(509) 679-4949

***Is your post not listed? Be sure to reach out and
let us know what's happening in your neck of the
woods to be included in the next issue.***



**1210 N Wenatchee Ave,
Suite E**
Open weekdays 9am - 1pm
(509) 665-5559

The Bunker

Officially known as **NCW Vets Serving Vets**, The Bunker is a non-profit in Wenatchee formed in 2008 for the sole purpose of helping veterans in need, whether the need be VA paperwork support, emergency assistance, or referrals to other veteran resources in the area. The Bunker is an all-volunteer run organization, with monthly board meetings open to the public on the first Wednesday of each month at 0900 at the Veterans Hall (behind the Community Center) in Wenatchee.

Veterans and dependents can stop in at the Bunker for coffee, snacks, and camaraderie. We're always looking for more volunteers as well, to help manage intakes, donations, and the organization as a whole.

Closing Notes

Thank you for your support as I start this new journey of outreach and connection for area veterans. I know it wasn't much this time around, but I hope you found something useful, interesting, helpful, or otherwise worthwhile in this first issue. I want to keep bringing you valuable updates, but I'm only one person, so I need your help generating content and growing the subscriber list to keep it going.

Submission:

If you would like to be included in future issues, whether as a single feature for your organization or event, or as a regular contributor, please contact me via email for more information on the process.

Subscribe:

If you found this newsletter somewhere (a VSO office, the local Clinic, or online) and would like to continue receiving new issues in your email, you can visit www.NCWVeterans.info/gazette to sign up. I won't spam you (one email per newsletter issue), and I will never sell your information to anyone.

Don't have email or regular internet access? Let your local Veteran Resource (VSO, Post, WorkSource Rep, etc) know that you want to keep getting new issues so they can print and save them for you. Or, if you're interested in receiving a printed copy in the mail, reach out to Connie directly (phone number listed in the box below on the lower right).

Coming Up...

The next issue will cover April and May, so **Memorial Day** will be prominently featured.

If you and/or your organization have plans to celebrate and honor, be sure to reach out with those details as soon as possible.

24/7 Support

Crisis Line:
800.273.8255

Vets4Warriors:
855.838.8255

Mann-Grandstaff

VA Medical Center

4815 N. Assembly St - Spokane
(509) 434-7000
(800) 325-7940
www.spokane.va.gov

Wenatchee VA Clinic

2350 Chester-Kimm Rd
(509) 663-7615
weekdays 7:30am – 4pm

***NCW Vets Gazette** is a newsletter for Veterans in North Central Washington, provided free of charge courtesy of NCWVeterans.info*

Contact:

Connie Hill – (509) 433-7879
whatsnew@ncwveterans.info
facebook.com/ncwveterans