



NCW Vets Gazette

Issue 17 - Oct / Nov 2021

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

Service and Community

As summer winds down and cools off, we begin our preparations for winter: harvesting the garden, enjoying the fruits (and vegetables) of our labor, and ensuring we have what we need set aside to stay warm, comfortable, and healthy throughout the colder months. A big harvest meal is a connection to the natural world as well as our friends and family, and can be a real joy when it involves sharing the rewarding taste of your group efforts.

Then we move into early November – a time of recognition for ALL veterans. We wear our ball caps and embroidered jackets, we hear numerous “thank you for your service” comments, and we claim our freebies. While we may feel somewhat lonely throughout the rest of the year, this time of year makes it somewhat easier to see just how many others out there understand, even just a bit, how we feel, what we’ve done, and why we are the way we are. When you spot fellow veterans, take a moment to reach out and connect with them.

No matter what branch or rank, whether you deployed or not, years or era of service, we are all veterans. We are a community, built upon service. Do not forget that. Community comes together to support each other, to serve the needs of one another and the group as a whole. A community divided only serves to build walls, not bridges or shared tables.

As a member of the Veteran Community, I hope your continued Service (in whatever form it may take these days) is focused on togetherness and lifting people up. The “us versus them” mentality has no place in Service or Community, where we focus on positive change rather than fostering fear and anger.

Let’s come together over our shared experiences this fall, and build up our community through service to others.



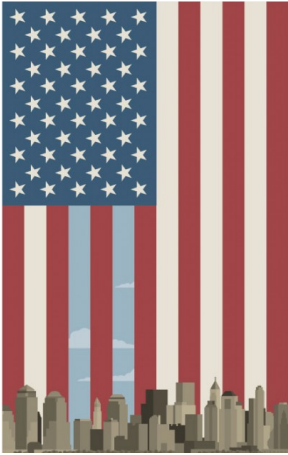
Airborne Hazards & Burn Pit Exposure

As of August 2, the VA is now processing disability claims for asthma, rhinitis and sinusitis on a presumptive basis based on presumed particulate matter exposures during military service in Southwest Asia and certain other areas (including Iraq and Afghanistan, the Gulfs of Aden and Oman, the Persian Gulf, Arabian Sea, Red Sea, and airspace above these locations).

This is the first step in ensuring service members who were exposed to the Burn Pits are cared for in a manner that covers various chronic symptoms related to such exposure.

For full details on this expansion of benefits, qualifications (including full list of locations and dates), application process, and the Burn Pits Registry, please visit the VA site below:

<https://publichealth.va.gov/exposures/burnpits/index.aspx>



Remembering 9/11

Around the region, people came together to honor and remember those lost on that fateful day in 2001. Both Chelan/Manson and Cashmere hosted events, which are highlighted on the website.

Feel free to comment and share if you know of other events which took place this year, marking the 20 year anniversary of the deadly events.

<https://ncwveterans.info/local-events/remembering-9-11-twenty-years-later/>

Service Peace Warriors

Are you a veteran being treated for service-connected PTSD? Have you thought about getting a service dog to help with management?

Check out Service Peace Warriors, a 501c3 nonprofit organization located in Eltopia, WA (just north of Tri-Cities) with the mission to give fully-trained service dogs to veterans with diagnosed PTSD.

This looks like a great program, and they have a number of dogs currently ready to go home with a veteran in need.

Visit their website for more information, to donate to their cause, or to apply to receive a service dog.

<https://servicepeacewarriors.org/>



Afghanistan: Reconciling Service

As the final draw down from Afghanistan took place early last month, a lot of emotions were stirred up, especially in veterans who had served during the “forever war” as well as Vietnam veterans who saw similar cycles and actions related to service. There was a sudden, and heavy, influx of very deep emotions most of us were not ready to face.

The Department of Veterans Affairs put together this really good series of 4 blog posts regarding Afghanistan and how Veterans can address their thoughts and feelings on the subject. Please take some time to read over it, review all of the resources that are included, and share with your fellow veterans who may be struggling.

<https://blogs.va.gov/VAntage/92631/afghanistan-how-veterans-can-reconcile-service/>

You aren't alone: there are people and resources willing and able to help. Reach out.

Veterans Day Around the Region

*This year, Veterans Day (Nov 11th) falls on a Thursday. As a Federal Holiday, any school assemblies for the occasion will most likely take place on the day before. Most events and details were not yet available at time of publish, especially with COVID safety concerns. **ALL EVENTS LISTED ARE TENTATIVE** - please check with your local American Legion, VFW, or other VSO for more info as the day gets closer.*



Chelan & Douglas County

Look for VFW Post 3617 to be handing out Poppies at area grocery stores on Sat, Nov 6th.

Manson High School Veterans Breakfast typically occurs the on the Saturday before – check w/ Legion Post 108 for details.

Nov 11th:

Breakfast at Legion Post 10

Wenatchee Parade

meet at Wells Fargo parking lot, 10:15am; parade starts at 10:45, stops in front of Memorial Park for playing of Taps, and continues back toward the starting area. Free Lunch at the Wenatchee Fire station after the parade.

Manson Ceremony

American Legion Park, Downtown Manson. Featuring guest speaker and High School band; 11am

Ephrata Parade, Nov 11
meet at 21 C St SW, 10:30am;
soup & sandwiches at Legion
Post 28 afterwards

Tonakset Parade, Nov 11
starts at 1st & Whitcomb 10am
ends at US Armed Forces
Legacy w/ brief ceremony

Lunch hosted by Legion Post
82, open to all, by donation

Electric City, Nov 11
Breakfast hosted by Legion
Post 157 at the Veterans Hall

Veterans Day Discounts and Deals

This list is definitely not complete, as most places won't be posting specials until after this newsletter publishes. But it gives you an idea of some things coming up, so be sure to ask around your area for more info on Veterans Day deals.

Free Meals:

Denny's Applebee's Haircuts Massages
Olive Garden Red Robin Car wash / service

Free coffee: Starbucks

Look for other freebies like:

There's also a lot of shopping discounts, so ask around.

And join us on Facebook to share any Veterans Day deals you discover:

www.facebook.com/NCWVeterans

From Your Veteran Service Officers



Tony Sandoval
Chelan County VSO
 428 Orondo Ave,
 Wenatchee
 9am – 4pm Mon – Thurs
(509) 667-6906
 tony.sandoval@
 co.chelan.wa.us

Our Chelan County Veteran Service Office has grown! First, in August we welcomed Trent Mortensen who quickly completed the training to become accredited through the WDVA. Next, in September, we were joined by Howard Lane as a WDVA Vet Corps Navigator.

Each of these tremendous veterans has brought forward energy, new ideas, and incredible passion for assisting our Veteran brothers and sisters along with their families. Trent is a Veteran Service Officer now and can start assisting veterans right away. Howard has really wonderful programs he is working on like the Chelan County VSO Facebook page (facebook.com/VSOchelanco), the Veteran Recording Project, and a new Podcast.

We are excited to serve our community and look forward to hearing from you soon.



Sarah Simonson
Douglas County VSO
 211 11th St NE (VFW Post
 3617, East Wenatchee)
 9am – 3pm Tues – Friday
(509) 683-3605
 vso@co.douglas.wa.us

I am glad I had a chance to get out to the (Wenatchee Valley) Stand Down this September. It was a little smaller than in years past, but I'm glad to see events like this happening again.

I am currently helping Work Source plan the upcoming Job & Resource Fair in October. It will be at Pybus Market from 10am – 1pm on October 14th. If you're looking for work, this will be a great opportunity to meet some local businesses looking for workers. If you're a business owner and would like to have a spot, please reach out to Eileen Boylston eboylston@esd.wa.gov and she'll let you know if there's still room.

If you are in Douglas County but not Wenatchee and need my assistance, I am able to travel and would be glad to set up a time to come visit as needed.

Okanogan County VSO

Tom Even

1 Tonasket Shop Rd
 8am – 3pm Mon–Thu
 8am – 2pm Fridays

(509) 486-2121

vso@co.okanogan.wa.us

Grant County

Jerry Gingrich

Handles county veteran fund,
 provides assistance vouchers

(509) 766-5015 x5212

(509) 237-2162

vets@grantcountywa.gov

Fil Rivera

Accredited Service Officer,
 handles Claims

(509) 629-1735

riverph@hscis.net

Pybus Job & Resource Fair returns

Thursday, October 14th

10am – 1pm

Pybus Market, Wenatchee

Events Center and southern end of Concourse

After over a year, the Pybus Job and Resource Fair is back! Hosted in the Spring and Fall, this event is coordinated by WorkSource and features a large number of employers ready to hire. There is a preference for Veterans, however anyone from the community looking for work may attend.

Come dressed for success and prepared with a resume.



Civil Air Patrol

Read all of the CAP updates on NCW Veterans Info:
<https://www.ncwveterans.info/tag/civil-air-patrol/>



On August 21st, 2021 we held a Cadet Milestone Reception to honor cadets who had recently passed milestone exams and requirements. Held at the American Legion Hall in Wenatchee, Lt Col Tom Green (C.A.P.), Col, Ret, ANG/Army Reserves, presented the awards. Col Green was a C.A.P. cadet in the Wenatchee squadron in 1957.

The Wright Brothers Award, the first milestone of the cadet program, was awarded to Jacob Tate of East Wenatchee, Grey Olin of Entiat, and Zachary Wiser of Leaveworth. This award required the cadets to pass exams in leadership, drill, and physical fitness, and includes promotion to Cadet Staff Sergeant.

The General Billy Mitchell Award, the second milestone of the cadet program, was awarded to Elijah Riinke of Wenatchee. This award required a comprehensive exam of all leadership and aerospace education chapters in the first two phases of the cadet program and earned a promotion to cadet officer as a Second Lieutenant.

Captain Audra Keyanna, C.A.P earned the Senior Member of the Year award for her service in the cadet program during the COVID-19 pandemic, while the program was meeting virtually.



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
3rd Monday at 7pm

Post 64 (Cashmere)
401 Sunset Highway
(509) 782-4973
1st Thursday at 7pm

Post 82 (Tonasket)
319 S Western
(509) 486-2382
1st Monday at 5pm

Post 84 (Oroville)
314 14th Ave
(509) 476-2761
2nd Thursday at 7pm

Post 97 (Brewster)
102 N 3rd St
(509) 689-3307

Post 108 (Manson)
142 Pedoi St
(509) 888-3831
1st Monday at 7pm

Post 143 (Twisp)
626 Bridge St
(509) 997-5322
2nd Thursday at 7pm

Post 157 (Electric City)
31 Coulee Rd
(509) 771-5796

Post 183 (Quincy)
(509) 760-8124

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

American Legion

Please check with each Post for complete details about in-person meetings and any restrictions that may still be in place.



Post 10, Wenatchee

Our honor guard participated in the 9/11 Memorial Event in Cashmere. Many of our leaders and members volunteered at and attended the Wenatchee Valley Veterans Picnic on 25 Sept.

Monthly meetings on 2nd Thursday at 7pm.

Post 28, Ephrata

Steak Nights are back, every other Friday, 5-7pm – these are Post fundraising events: members and their guests are encouraged to attend. We will be hosting a Trunk or Treat event in our parking lot on Sat, 30 Oct, 4-8pm.

Monthly meetings on 2nd Thursday at 7pm.

Columbia Post 97, Brewster

Thanks to everyone who came out to support us at our 9/11 Golf Tournament, and the Luau / Pig Feed on 25 Sept. See our Facebook page for pictures. Join us for a Halloween Party (with \$9 spaghetti feed) on 30 Oct at 5pm. We are also open for Monday Night Football throughout the season. Follow us on Facebook:

[facebook.com/American-Legion-Columbia-Post-97-136344203093823](https://www.facebook.com/American-Legion-Columbia-Post-97-136344203093823)

Monthly meetings on 1st Wednesday at 6pm

Post 157, Electric City

We continue to host monthly blood drives organized by Vitalant.

Monthly meetings on 2nd Tuesday at 6:30pm.

Post 183, Quincy

Next post meeting will be October 9th. Email waal183@yahoo.com or call 509-760-0885 for details including meeting location.

Monthly meetings on 2nd Saturday at 9am.

Post 209, Moses Lake

Thanks to everyone who came out and helped with the opening ceremony at the Grant County Fair. We are always looking for more volunteers, both for honor guard and the kitchen.

Join us for dinner on Fri/Sat, coffee on Sat mornings, or Sunday breakfast.

Monthly meetings on 2nd Tuesday at 6pm.

Veterans of Foreign Wars

Please check with each Post for complete details about in-person meetings and any restrictions that may still be in place.



George Washington Post 24

Our yard sale with silent auction on Sat, 28 Aug, had a great turnout.

Monthly meetings on 2nd Saturday at 10am.

Post 3617, Wenatchee Valley

After a short break due to rising community cases of COVID, we are resuming in-person gatherings (1st Thursday Breakfast at Country Inn, 9am; weekly Community Coffee at the Post, Fridays 9am) as well as meetings. Post meetings also include a Zoom option – contact us for more details.

Monthly meetings on 3rd Wednesday at 7pm.

Chelan Post 6853

We continue working on our Post Home – there's a lot of engineering and construction going on, as we convert this building into a useful and welcoming space.

Monthly meetings on 1st Tuesday at 6:30pm.

Post 24 George
Meets at Quincy Senior
Center (even months) /
Moses Lake Elks Lodge (odd
months)
(509) 750-0938

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

Post 6853 Chelan
427 Bradley St, Chelan
(509) 679-4949
1st Tuesday at 6:30pm

Apple Valley Battle of the Beards

The Beard Mobb of Washington is hosting a fundraising event for Tour of Duty with a fun twist – it's a Beard Competition!

There are 9 categories, so you're sure to fit in somewhere.

Saturday, Nov 13, 3-8pm

At Ducks & Drakes in Leavenworth



facebook.com/events/348116157034631



Tuesday Coffee

Looking for some camaraderie with fellow veterans? Come to the **Wenatchee Veterans Hall** (1206 N. Wenatchee Ave) on **Tuesdays** from **8-9:30am** for coffee, donuts, and a casual atmosphere to relax and just chat with folks who "get it". No division, no competition, no expectations, just some friendly conversation with those who have also worn the uniform.

Please support our Sponsors:

| | | |
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|  <p>Veteran Owned</p> <p>Free Estimates</p> <p>509-264-2050</p> | <p>Your AD Here</p> |  <p>Westguard Painting LLC Lic. # WESTGPL852M2</p> <p>free estimates 509.679.0866 westguardpainting.com</p>   |
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Editor's Notes

Happy Fall! My favorite time of year, when summer projects wind down and the ideas for expansion and improvement run rampant. It's also a good time to take stock of what's worked in the past and which direction is worth focusing on moving forward.

And of course, I'm talking about the website, the newsletter, the communication with my resources, as well as some other things in my personal life. But I would love to hear from you as well. What do you like? What is hard to use or unclear? Any suggestions or comments you have, please reach out.

Heck, reach out even if you don't have comments. Questions about the site, about articles, featuring businesses (ad slots are always opening up), follow-ups on anything you read here, whatever it is. Email is the best method (I'm on the computer all the time), and I've added a second address in case the first one gives us issues (there have been legitimate messages lost to the spam folder or even straight blocked at the email server level, so if you don't hear from me at the first one, try the gmail address).

Help me keep doing what I do: stay in touch.

~Connie

Mann-Grandstaff VA Medical Center

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

Wenatchee VA Clinic (CBOC)

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

24/7 Support

Crisis Line:
800.273.8255

Vets4Warriors:
855.838.8255

Your AD Here

NCW Vets Gazette is a newsletter for Veterans in North Central Washington, provided free of charge in print and digital form courtesy of NCW Veterans Info. It is made possible with thanks to the continued support of VFW and American Legion posts across the region, NCW Vets Serving Vets, other local veteran organizations, as well as Sponsors & generous community members (like you).

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