

NCW Vets Gazette

Issue 3 - June/July 2019

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

Military Appreciation, Honoring Those Gone Before Us, and Celebrating Freedom

Early summer is a very Patriotic time around the United States. **Armed Forces Day** is the 3rd Saturday in May, established as a way to recognize those currently serving in our nation's military and national guard. This year, **Wenatchee Valley College Veteran Knights** hosted their 4th annual Armed Forces Day event on May 17th. With support from the College, local veterans organizations, and community-focused businesses, the public was able to learn about the military, our area resources, and grab a free lunch.



Volunteers placing flags, Wenatchee Cemetery, May 25th

On the last Monday of May, we honor those men and women who died while serving in the military. **Memorial Day** is a solemn occasion to reflect on those American patriots who made the ultimate sacrifice. Here in North Central Washington, we take this responsibility seriously. All around the region, veterans organizations and patriotic groups come together with their local communities to honor our fallen comrades.

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Memorial Day Around the Region



Wenatchee Cemetery



Brewster Cemetery



East Wenatchee Cemetery



Quilts of Valor – Electric City



4th of July Events

As the May holidays wind down, we begin to prepare for the next patriotic event, our nation's celebration of Independence. Most localities feature some sort of public, community event with food, music, and family entertainment, often culminating in a fireworks display after dark. Here are just a few of the events in our area.



Wenatchee Valley

"Breakfast for Heroes" by Cashmere Valley Bank at Pybus Market, 7-10:30am

Food, Music & Family Entertainment at Walla Walla Point Park all day

Fireworks w/ Symphony starting 9:45pm

Festival of America, Grand Coulee Dam Visitor Center July 3 & 4, with fireworks immediately following the laser light show the second night.

Moses Lake Freedom Festival, McCosh Park July 5 & 6
www.moseslakefreedomfest.com

Osoyoos Lake Veterans Memorial Park, Oroville, July 4

Manson Bay fireworks July 4, **Chelan Bay** fireworks July 6

Kinderfest, Leavenworth, July 4

Chesaw Rodeo, July 4



Successful WWII Dance

Our WWII themed community dance and launch event for Operation Creation went really well. Everyone loved the Pin Ups on Tour and felt the entertainment was top notch. With around 100 attendees, many from Wenatchee, we raised just over \$1,000 while gaining valuable exposure and directly connecting with our community. We made sure to honor those WWII veterans that came out, as well. If you missed it, fear not! We are already planning our next annual event.



More photos online – www.facebook.com/OpCreate

From Your Veteran Service Officers



Tony Sandoval
Chelan County VSO
428 Orondo Ave,
Wenatchee
9am – 4pm Mon – Thurs
(509) 664-6801
tony.sandoval@
co.chelan.wa.us

Our office phone number will be changing in the near future. We will keep the old number active for about a month overlap, to ensure a smooth transition.

I will be in Leavenworth on Friday, June 7th and July 5th (10am - 1pm) at Kristall's, and in Chelan on Thursday, June 13th and July 11th (9am – noon) at the Apple Cup Cafe.

There is news that the VA is halting the decision about all Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veteran claims until final decisions are reached internally on how to grant them benefits. As you've heard, these decisions will potentially affect over 90,000 Veterans.

The Vet Corps end of year celebration will be held at the DayBreak Star Indian Cultural Center in Seattle on June 28th.



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

The Facebook page is live! I'll be sharing events and information from the local veterans organizations I am connected with, so make sure to Like and Follow the Douglas County Veterans Service Officer page.

www.facebook.com/douglascountyvso

My first outreach in Bridgeport went well. A local veteran from the VFW Stopped by and let me know he'd spread the word. I'll be up there again on June 18th and every month on the 3rd Tuesday.

I hope you all had an opportunity to attend one of the many Memorial Day events. I was honored to sing the Anthem at 3 of the events, and I am grateful for the opportunity to recognize the sacrifices of those who've gone before me.



Eric Fritts
Okanogan County VSO
1 Tonasket Shop Rd
8am – 4:30pm Mon–Thu
(509) 486-2121
vso@co.okanogan.wa.us

Jerry Gingrich
Grant County VSO

(509) 237-2162

“And now there are two...”

There are now two County Veteran Service Officers in Okanogan County. Newly hired, **Pamela Steven y Perez** came on board May 20th and is now in the accreditation stage of her new position. Pam will be accredited through WDVA and will be focusing on outreach and learning the ropes of the system. Pam has a background in working with Veterans and will serve Okanogan County Veterans well in the coming years. Stop by and welcome Pam to our office weekdays 8am – 3pm.



Hilton Honors Military Program

The Hilton Honors Military Program is aimed at giving back to military service members, Veterans, and their families.

This program allows Veterans or transitioning service members to receive 100,000 points to stay at Hilton brand hotels for approved job search related activities. Individuals must be a Veteran, an active-duty transitioning service member, or National Guard/Reservist.

To be eligible, individuals must be registered at a WorkSource Center, have a current Hilton Honors account, and have a specific employment-related need to travel (job interview, relocation, or training for a new position).

For more information about the Hilton Honors Military program, please visit your local WorkSource office.

Upcoming Job Fairs

Business Expo & Job Fair
June 11, 4-7pm
Quincy Valley Business &
Conference Center
Quincy, WA

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

Veteran Owned Businesses



The Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs certifies businesses owned by Veterans, and there are some valuable potential benefits for pursuing the process.

Being certified may increase your marketability, not only in the larger business community, but also to local and state governments, to contractors who are hired by the government and offer subcontracting opportunities, and to agencies and prime contractors who search for certified firms in centralized databases.

State and local agencies set participation goals to utilize certified veteran-owned businesses for a certain percentage of their annual expenditures, recognizing that improving opportunities for veteran-owned businesses drives innovation and economic growth, and translates to stronger Washington communities.

Washington State Veteran Owned Business Certification is a free process, requiring only veteran discharge status and basic business information. For more details about the process, required documentation, and other benefits the VOB Certification provides, please visit <http://www.dva.wa.gov/program/veteran-owned-business-certification>



*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

From the American Legion

Post 10, Wenatchee

We were honored to lead the way with our color guard at the front of the 2019 100th Anniversary Washington State Apple Blossom Festival Grand Parade in Wenatchee on May 4th.

Our Family Summer picnic is on June 30th 11am – 3pm at Hydro Park, just south of East Wenatchee on Hwy 28.

Apple Valley Baseball is here: www.applevalleybaseball.org

Monthly Board, Post & Aux meetings on 2nd Thursday at 7pm. Legion Riders meet 2nd Saturday at 9am.

Post 82, Tonasket

Our Post initiated a plan to replace the US flags on Whitcomb Ave and 4th St Bridge. Thanks to some very generous donations from the community, not only have all 51 flags been replaced, but we were also able to get all new grave marker flags for the cemetery.

We are co-hosting a Kids Free Fishing Day at Bonaparte Lake on June 8th, starting at 9am. Kids under 14 can fish and compete for prizes, with learning stations and concessions available all day.

On Saturday, June 15th, 11:30am – 3pm, join us for Meatloaf dinner to celebrate Father's Day. Open to the public. Cost: \$8.

Monthly meetings on 1st Monday at 5pm.

Columbia Post 97, Brewster

Father's Day Brunch will be Steak 'n Eggs for \$12, starting at 8am on June 16th.

The 2nd Annual Honor Flight Poker Run is on June 22nd – sign in by 8:30am, eat biscuits & gravy, kick stands up at 10am.

Join us for Steak dinner every Friday evening, with karaoke on the first Friday of the month.

Monthly Board & Aux meetings on 1st Wednesday at 6pm. Legion Riders meet 2nd Sunday at 10am.

Post 157, Electric City / Grand Coulee

Each Summer, we host a yard sale every Saturday June through August, from 8am – 3pm at our Vet Center. Funds raised support our Post throughout the year. Stop by on Saturdays to find some treasures.

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

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 24, George / Grant County

We appreciate everyone that helped with Memorial Day ceremonies in Soap Lake, Ephrata, and Quincy!

During the summer, you can find us at the Quincy Farmer's Market promoting our Youth Essay Program and children's art contest (with cash prizes), which will be displayed on the Quincy Veterans Recognition Wall.

Monthly meetings on 2nd Saturday at 10am.

Post 3617, Wenatchee Valley

Our Auxiliary is hosting the annual Yard Sale on June 8th from 9am – 3pm in the parking lot of our Post. Donations appreciated, shoppers highly encouraged.

We're teaming up with Home Depot for a Gold Star Family project, improving the yard for Sgt. Jasso's mother.

Our Post will be presenting the Color Guard at Wenatchee's 4th of July celebration.

We host Bingo every Friday night, with doors opening at 5:30pm, first call at 6:30pm.

Monthly meetings on 3rd Wednesday at 7pm.

Post 6853, Chelan

Thanks to everyone who has stepped up to help out at all of the events in May. Great show of teamwork.

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

*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
(509) 750-0938

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



Vets Serving Vets
1210 N Wenatchee Ave,
Suite E

Open weekdays 9am - 1pm
(509) 665-5559

Meetings: 1st Weds @ 9am,
Wenatchee Vets Hall

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. Being an all-volunteer run organization, more help is always welcomed.

During the week, Veterans and dependents can stop in at the Bunker for coffee, snacks, and camaraderie, or to request help of any kind. If we can't help you, we know who can.

Our newest fundraiser items have arrived – t-shirts, sew-on 4" patches, and challenge coins. We ask for a minimum donation of \$15 for the shirts and \$5 for the others. Make great conversation starters.

Closing Notes

I hope you found something useful, interesting, helpful, or otherwise worthwhile this time around. In fact, it would be most helpful if you could visit www.ncwveterans.info/feedback and complete the **newsletter feedback form** to let me know what you think.

Because this is still so new, it's bound to change and grow over time. In order to reach more veterans, I'm exploring options for distribution locations and methods. And because this costs money, I'm looking into selling small ad space. I'm also open to receiving support in the form of financial gifts. You can **help cover my costs** by mailing a check to PO Box 3849 Wenatchee, WA 98807, by making a contribution online at www.ko-fi.com/sunfire, or using the Donate link on www.ncwveterans.info

I sincerely appreciate all of your support, in whatever form it takes. Please remember, I can't put all of this information out there if I can't find it, and I can't be everywhere at once (even if it feels that way some days). I need folks like YOU to contact me with any news, events, groups, or other veteran-related **information to share** so I can put it out on the website, the Facebook page, or in this newsletter. You can get in touch with me anytime via email whatsnew@ncwveterans.info or call/text (509) 433-7879.

~Connie

Coming Up...

The next issue will cover August and September, so I'd like to show off some photos of how veterans spend their summer! Also, if there are any plans around **Labor Day** and **Back to School**, I'd love to share.

Save the Date

Saturday, June 8th, 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 across the region.

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 (CBOC)

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

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www.facebook.com/ncwveterans

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