



Post 379

COMMANDERS CORNER

Hello my fellow comrades,

These last two months have been a complete whirlwind. The post being shut down has not been easy for anyone but we are so happy to be back open and operating again. Giving our fellow veterans and their families a place to come and enjoy some great food, great company and great drinks. I know every time I walk through the doors and see everyone smiling and having a good time it feels like home. I thank you all for making it feel that way. It is very important that we have a place to come to that allows a bit of peace and gives us a form of a sanctuary. I know that our fellow brothers and sisters feel this.

One brother and a Past Commander of Post 379, who we recently lost, Mr. Chuck Austin knew that the post was important to everyone. I remember many times that if I hadn't seen him in awhile he would always give me a hard time about it. Telling me he wanted to see my butt around more. He always wanted everyone to be happy and to have a good time. He was known for making sure people were doing good. He truly was like a bright light where ever he was at and was loved by absolutely everyone and he will truly be missed along with all of the rest of brothers and sisters we have lost. But with that being said, Chucks legacy will live on forever and he will be continuing to help out his fellow brothers and sister in arms even while he is gone with the Chuck Austin Place. If you haven't seen it yet I encourage you to drive down 16th headed towards Washington and check it out. This will be a home and place for our struggling veterans out there in the valley. Giving them a place to stay and get the help they extremely need. Construction is moving along and hopefully it will be up and operational later this year. I know I will be there to check out the final product when it is all done. I will keep you posted.

There has been many great things going on out there so please if you haven't liked our Facebook page please do to keep informed. Now let's get down to some serious business. Post Elections are coming up and if you are interested in running for a position I encourage you to do so. I am letting it be known now that I will be running for a second term as Commander because I feel that we started to do some great work this year even with the monkey wrench that was thrown into this year with COVID-19. There is still so much more we can do together in the coming year. It's important we keep the momentum up, so if you are interested in a position please reach out.

I have babbled on long enough but there is just so much information to get out and not enough room in these post scripts. So to receive updated information please get on our email list along with following our Facebook page. See you all around the post.

Shadrick M Kautzman, Post 379 Commander

William Wharton

Post 379

Post Script

Mar-April 2021

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

Greetings and some GOOD NEWS!

Our POST is now able to open on Friday February 19! Can't wait to see everyone again! Even though the POST has been closed, our Auxiliary has been meeting and supporting our Veterans and their families. We also have been involved in our Community as much as possible.

Our Patriotic Instructor, Ellena Hazen, says that there's still time! Time for students to enter the Young American Creative Patriotic Art contest for high school students and the Illustrating America art contest for grades 1-8, plus the Get Excited for the Red, White and Blue national anthem singing contest for ages 6-16. Deadline for entries to these 3 contests is March 31, 2021. Please direct students to vfwauxiliary.org/what-we-do for the scholarship and youth activities for information and application forms. First, Second and Third place winners receive an award in Yakima and the first place winner is sent on to compete at the next level for additional prizes. Send entries to VFW Post 379, 118 S 5th Ave, Yakima, WA 98902. Contact Ellena Hazen at 509-961-6671 for drop-off information if you'd rather not mail your art work.

On February 10th, the Post and Auxiliary awarded the winners of the Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen essay contests. The Patriot Pen winner was London Risley from Naches Valley Middle School. Marie Hannon, Natalie Keller and Saemira Gray, respectively, were our winners for the Voice of Democracy competition. Marie Hannon went on to place third in the District competition. Congratulations to our Contest winners. Thank you Ellena for all of your efforts.

Susan Lippincott, Community Outreach Chairman, writes that The Auxiliary Community Outreach energy is looking forward to COVID Phase 2 and more freedom to get out in the community. We are still working with the Red Cross Blood Center to sponsor a blood drive in the future. They are really short of O+ blood, so we encourage everyone to give blood if you can. All Auxiliary members are urged to contact Susan Lippincott to report any community outreach activities that are performed. Activities may include: flying the flag; watching legislative proceedings or contacting legislators; visiting Veterans or nursing home patients; providing rides to Veterans or nursing home patients; recycling; donating time or supplies to Camp Hope, Salvation Army, Goodwill, or Union Gospel Mission. Also included are government hearings. All of our efforts make a difference. These are just a few of the common, everyday ways to reach out to our community and to our Veterans! Susan's contact number is 575-317-1810.

At our last Auxiliary Meeting on February 10th, Appreciation Awards were given out to Judy Dawson and Ellena Hazen for their outstanding and tireless work for our Veterans and our community!

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CLUB MANAGER

WELCOME BACK!

We are once again open for business and hope to see all our members soon. Please take note of our hours of operation that are listed below.

Thursday night dinner recap:

3-4 French dips

3-11 Baked Potato/Taco Bar

3-18 Corned Beef & Cabbage

3-25 Steak

4-1 Spaghetti & Meatballs

4-8 Meatloaf

4-15 Hot Turkey Sandwich

4-22 Ribs & Baked Beans

4-29 Steak

AUXILIARY FUNDRAISER

Join us for this exciting opportunity! We are throwing the "Non-Event Gala Fundraiser of the Year" to generate funds for our various projects. This keeps us all safe while still meeting our obligations! Here is how it works:

You determine your ticket price to the event—Send us your ticket contribution—Pop your favorite popcorn and settle in for your favorite show—Enjoy knowing you have helped Veterans.

Just think, wear what you want, no raffle tickets, no designated drivers, cheap food and drinks!!! We are just asking you to donate a portion of what a normal fundraiser costs.

Please consider contributing to our "Non-Event Fundraiser" and send your donation today. Please make checks payable to VFW Auxiliary Post 379 and mail to our Treasurer Annette Buck at 1302 Rock Ave, Yakima WA 98902.

Auxiliary President continued

Our Legislative Chairman, Brandy Garner, reported the following information. Several Veteran related bills will be presented to the Washington State House & Congress this 2021 Legislative Session. Some of the more impactful ones that I found are the following: **HB 1181**: Suicide Prevention, outreach & prevention through community-based services grant program **HB 1247 & 1247** Mobile home tax exemptions for seniors, veterans & disabled persons in mobile home communities (scheduled hearing FEB 11th at 8am) **HB 1314** Behavioral Health services required to be coordinated w/Veterans Health Admin facilities (scheduled hearing FEB 12th) **HB 1438** Property Tax exemptions expanded for veterans with service-connected disabilities through health care deductions (hearing scheduled for FEB 11th at 8am) **SB 5435** Purple Heart & Disabled Veterans license plate holders to utilize handicapped parking spaces Contact your local representatives to voice your support for these & any other matters important to you. To find & contact your area representatives visit <https://leg.wa.gov/LIC/pages/hotline.aspx>. Brandy's number is 760-694-2727.

Our Auxiliary is planning a Non Event Gala Fundraiser while you Stay at Home and Watch TV. Please see the Fundraiser information in this PostScript. Funds will go to support the Hospital Budget and Veteran Family Services. Thank you for your support.

***If you have not renewed your membership dues yet, please renew As Soon as Possible to be in good standing. You can go to MALTA at malta.vfwauxiliary.org. We also look forward to welcoming new members to our Auxiliary. You can contact Judy Dawson at 509-580-1353 or Annette Buck at 509-307-1977.

Please keep Carolyn Hope and Sami Church in your thoughts and prayers as they are recovering from surgery. Also remember Janet Hill who is recovering from a fall.

CLUB HOURS

Welcome back, club hours are as follows:

Closed: Monday, Tuesday, Saturday

Open: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, 2:00PM TO CLOSE

Open Sunday 8:00am to 1:00pm

We will be open at other times for special events. Watch your calendar, the Facebook page, or the web site to keep up to date.

Wreaths Across America Voice of Democracy

Thanks to all that helped in putting out and picking up the wreaths at Tahoma. It is because of you that this project went so well during these trying times. Well done to all that were involved.

POST & AUX MEETINGS

The Post and Auxiliary will have their regularly scheduled meeting on March 10th and April 14th. The March meeting for the Post will be 1st Nominations for next years Post Officers. The meeting in April will be elections for both the Post and Auxiliary. Be sure to attend and make your vote and your voice count.

SERVICE OFFICE

The Service Office, providing VA claims assistance, remains open during the Covid-19 pandemic. Two Accredited Service Officers are available by phone, Monday through Friday. Please call the Service Office at (509) 654-7191 for assistance with disability or pension claims, surviving spouse claims, and burial claims.

In-person appointments are not available at this time.

The Service Officers can also be reached by email - nadine.warren@va.gov or annettebuckvso@gmail.com

Nadine Warren, Accredited Claims Consultant

VFW Dept. of Washington

Phone: 509.654-7191

E-mail: vfvyakimavso@gmail.com



Our Post 379 winner Marie Hannon took 3rd place at the District level. Congratulations to Marie. She will be one of our front runners for next years VOD competition. This is such a good program. If you have children or grand or great grand kids please put the information out to the families. Great chance to win money and chance of National recognition.

If you are thinking about changing insurance companies check out one of the VFW National Sponsors. USAA provides home and auto plus other benefits. You must be present or past military.

Re-opening

There will be required rules that have been set forth by the State that we will have to follow now we are allowed to re-open. We have moved our tables around to keep with the requirement for 6 foot distance and no more than 6 at a table. Sanitizer and masks will be available for your use. Single use menus are required and changes in some of our procedures will be implemented. Please be understanding to the staff. This is going to be a learning experience for all of us. We will be trying to provide the best environment for your enjoyment that we can while following the rules.



Queen of Hearts raffle had its first big winner. The Queen of Hearts was drawn and the winner received \$365.00. A new game will start when we reopen. Stop in to see what it is all about. Drawing is every Thursday evening. Pot grows until the Queen of hearts is picked.

Veterans of Foreign Wars

William Wharton Post 379

118 S. 5th Ave

Yakima, WA 98902

509-457-5400

vfw379@gmail.com

Vfw379.org

We have the Post Script in a E-mail version. This will be in color and have more content. We can update the Post Calendar as often as is required to keep up with changing events. Sign up at the Post or send me your email address to vfw379@gmail.com. Like us on Facebook and check out the web page. Vfw379.org

KEY CARDS

Due to being closed for 8 months, we will not be changing the key cards this year.



We will be having Corned Beef & Cabbage on Thursday March 18th to get our green on!!!

OUR GREAT SPONSORS

Field Group

Carey Motors

Rays Retail Meats

Brumback Law Group

Betterall Auto Sales

Powerhouse Mini Storage

PTSD

PTSD is real. It has had different names over the years , Shell Shock, Battle Fatigue, etc. If the trial of any war has effected your quality of life you have PTSD. Help is available through the VA and their support groups. Contact the VETS Center in Yakima at 509-457-2736

If you are an annual member please be sure to check your renewal date on your membership card. We would hate to lose you as a member.

Veterans suicide is at an all time high. If you or someone you know is having problems and need to talk, help is available thru the VA or the Veterans Crisis Line 1-800-273-8255 press 1.

FUNERAL TEAM

We need Comrades to join our team. We have lost some of our members to medical issues. We provide Military Honors to over 100 Veterans per year. We need some new blood for the rifle team and some to work into Commander and Chaplain. Please if you have an interest in honoring our passing Vets then call Russ McLaughlin at 961-2007.

POST 379 OFFICERS

Commander Shad Kautzman

Sr-vice Clint Hede

Jr-vice Duane Garlock

Quartermaster Del Gilliland

Adjutant Del Gilliland

Judge Advocate Fred Camerer

H & C Chairman Don Welshimer

Aux Officers

President Judy Dawson

Sr-vice Susan Lippincott

Jr-vice Trina Garlock

Treasurer Annette Buck

Secretary Bunny Gaither

VA News

VA Continues COVID-19 Debt Relief: VA will continue to suspend debts in order to provide critical financial relief for veterans affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. VA's suspension of collections will apply to all veteran benefit overpayments and medical copayment debts incurred after April 1, 2020. VA will notify veterans of their current debt and their options for relief. For benefit overpayment questions, you can [submit a request online](#) or call 800.827.0648. For health care debts, veterans should contact the Health Resource Center at 866.400.1238

VA Extends Existing Moratorium on Evictions and Foreclosures: VA's current moratorium on evictions and foreclosures was set to expire on March 31, and is now extended to June 30, 2021. VA will also extend VA loan forbearance requests. VA home loan borrowers can find helpful information from the [Consumer Financial Protection Bureau](#), [online from VA](#), or they can call VA at 877.827.3702