



Post 379

COMMANDERS CORNER

Hello my fellow comrades,

I hope that these last three months have treated you all well. It has been nice seeing everyone's smiling faces back down at the post. I know that it brings me joy seeing the comradeship that we all share and the love that we have for each other. We recently have held our yearly post elections and I want to say that I am thankful for this past year, even though it has been a difficult one, that I have had the chance to serve as your commander. But with that same breath I look forward to serving you another year. I want to thank the out going post officers and our auxiliary officers. It truly has been a pleasure working with each and everyone of you and I know we will continue the work going forward. I also want to welcome the new officers from both sides who will be being sworn in and take over office in June. I know that you will hit the ground running and in the next year we will continue the good fight amongst other great endeavors.

With all this being said we have some major events coming up like our annual State Conference that will be held in Spokane this June. If you are interested in being a delegate and attending the State Conference please reach out to Del or myself. The Chuck Austin Place is coming along nicely and we will be putting a monument up in remembrance of Chuck Austin himself. So if you would like to donate to that, please let us know. Also there are many other great things coming down the pipe so please pay attention to our Facebook along with our website and emails. I look forward to seeing you all down at the post.

Shadrick Kautzman, Commander

MEMORIAL DAY

We will be having our normal Memorial Day program at Tahoma Cemetery at 10:00am on May 31st. At this time we do not know who the guest speaker will be. We will keep you informed by email, Facebook, and on our Web page.

DEPARTMENT CONVENTION

Department Convention will be held in Spokane at the Centennial Hotel. The dates are June 23-27. If you plan on going, the Post has information on rooms and banquet tickets. Deadline for reservations are May 28th for rooms and June 18th for banquet and awards luncheon.

William Wharton

Post 379

Post Script

May-June 2021

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

Hello members,

Our Auxiliary is continuing to make a difference for our Veterans, their families and our Community. We have made donations to our VA Hospitals and the National Home in Michigan. We were able to raise funds through donations to the Buddy Poppy and National Home Program. Our Stay at home fundraiser raised funds for Veteran and Hospital services. Thank you for your donations. We look forward to having a booth in the Yakima Farmers' Market in Union Gap at the Sears parking lot on Sundays starting in May. We will take donations for the Buddy Poppy and National Home and we will provide VFW membership and information.

Some Post and Auxiliary members have participated in Keeping Yakima Clean activities. Thank you to Gene and Elena Hazen, Susan Lippincott and Judy Dawson.

I would like to thank our Chairpersons for their participation and support for the programs our Auxiliary is responsible for. Thank you for getting the reports completed and sent to the State Department Chairmen.

The District 17 meeting was held at our Post on April 24. Lunch was provided by the Post and Auxiliary. Thank you to Danny and staff.

Our State Convention is planned for June 23-26 in Spokane at the Centennial Hotel. Reservation deadline is May 28. We look forward to attending and working with our fellow Post and Auxiliary members.

Our current membership total is 318. If you have not renewed, please consider and send in your membership for \$25.00. If you have a friend or colleague who qualifies, and would like to join, please let me know.

Thank you to Ellena Hazen for her support and leadership with our local students during this difficult school year to contact the students and teachers for their participation in the Patriotic contests.

Just a note, that all 80 Bicycle Apartments have been filled. Our Auxiliary helped 5 Veterans with their deposits.

On August 1, the opening of the Chuck Austin Place for Veteran Housing and Services Center on 16th Avenue near Tahoma Cemetery will be held. Our Auxiliary purchased a bench at the Center. We miss our friend and Veteran, Chuck Austin.

In closing please stay safe and continue to support our Veterans and their families. Please keep Bunny Gaither and Carolyn Hope in your thoughts and prayers.

Sincerely, Judy Dawson, President

CLUB MANAGER CONTEST WINNERS

Spring is here!

Thank you to all our members that are here each week for dinner and breakfast. ***We appreciate you!***

Over the next month or more you will notice some price increases to our dinner and breakfast menus and Thursday night. This is due to the rising cost of food. For the last couple of months our food costs have been going up each week. We will try to keep our prices as low as we can and thank you in advance for your understanding.

Thursday night dinner recap:

5-6 Baked Ham/Scalloped Potatoes

5-13 Fried Chicken/Mac and Cheese

5-20 Burger Dips/ Potato Salad

5-27 Steak**

6-3 Baked Potato/Taco Bar

6-10 Hot Beef Sandwich

6-17 Country Fried Steak

6-24 Steak**

****If available**

DREAM FLIGHTS

Are you a WWII Veteran or do you know a WWII Veteran? Here is an honor program just for WWII Vets. Operation September Freedom is the largest barnstorming event in history and may be our last opportunity to thank the brave men and women who served. The Veteran will be taking a flight on a restored WWII era Stearman biplane. Tour begins on Aug 1st, 2021 and runs through Sept 30, 2021. Application deadline is May 31st. Apply at dreamfflights.org/honor. To receive priority add Sponsored by VFW to comments. You do not need to be a VFW member to apply.

Art contests and National Anthem singing contest winners:

Responses to the spring contests were down somewhat from previous years, but we did have enough entries to award prizes. Our young artist contest, Illustrating America, was won by 8 year old Maia Dahlin of John Campbell Primary school in the Selah School District.

For our new National Anthem singing contest we had 5 applicants, all with nice singing voices. The judges chose 14 year old Rylin Soptich for first place, 6 year old Kassia Dahlin for second place and 12 year old Makenze Clark for third place. All of these young ladies are from the Selah School District.

We'll be having an awards ceremony in May, time and date to be announced.

We're looking forward to a great year next year when all the schools will be back to "normal" attendance!

THANK YOU

We again want to thank all the members and friends that donated and supported Post 379 during the last year. You are the reason that we survived the last year and came out stronger than ever. Lets make sure we go another 100 years.

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 12:00pm

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.

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.

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

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

ELECTION RESULTS

Post elections: Commander— Shad Kautzman, Sr-vice-Roger Althoff, Jr-vice-Steve Saunders, Quartermaster-Del Gilliland, Chaplain-Rick Beck, House & Club-Gene Thorpe.

Auxiliary elections: President-Judy Dawson, Sr-vice-Susan Lippincott, Jr-vice-Trina Garlock, Treasurer-Annette Buck, Chaplain-Sami Church.

Club wants your input!

The Post House & Club Committee needs your input on menu items and changes you would like to see at “your” Club. Please email us at vfw379@gmail.com or drop off a note to the bar. We will have a file at the bar for your suggestions.

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.

Donations needed

Post 379 and the Post Foundation is creating a monument for honoring Chuck Austin at Chuck Austin Place. This will be a stone monument with some of the details of who Chuck Austin was. He was one of our own and we don't want to forget him or what he meant to the VFW and to Yakima. Donation may be mailed to 118 S 5th Ave or dropped off at the Post. Mark your donation “for Chuck Austin”.



Queen of Hearts raffle had its first big winner. The Queen of Hearts was drawn and the winner received \$365.00. A new game has started. 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.

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.

OUR GREAT SPONSORS

Field Group

Rays Retail Meats

Brumback Law Group

Betterall Auto Sales

Powerhouse Mini Storage

COVID VACCINE INFO

VA is listening to your questions about the COVID-19 vaccine and this blog series answers your questions. Want to ask a question? Leave your comment below.

I have to stand in line to get vaccinated. Is that safe?

Yes, you can safely stand in line to get vaccinated as long as proper safety measures like masking and social distancing are enforced. VA and other health care providers have taken steps to ensure that everyone can receive the COVID-19 vaccine safely. If you have to stand in line to receive the vaccine, you may safely do so. Remember to stay six feet away from others, wear your mask, and wash your hands after receiving your vaccine.

I'm worried that I might be allergic to the COVID-19 vaccine. What should I do? If you are worried that you might be allergic to a COVID-19 vaccine, you should talk to your health care provider before receiving the vaccine. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has issued [guidance for those who may be allergic to COVID-19 vaccine](#). If you have had allergic reactions to other vaccines before, you should talk with your provider to determine if you should receive the COVID-19 vaccine. It is possible to be allergic to one type of vaccine, but not the others. You can review ingredients of the different types of COVID-19 vaccine and discuss your best options with your provider.

Can I get vaccinated if I'm currently receiving treatment for cancer? What if I'm a cancer survivor? You may receive the COVID-19 vaccine safely. Talking with your health care provider first may be helpful, particularly if you are currently being treated. The American Cancer Society (ACS) notes that [many experts recommend that most people with cancer or a history of cancer should receive the vaccine](#). Experts are still studying whether COVID-19 vaccines are as effective in those being currently treated for cancer, but evidence suggests it is safe to receive the vaccine.

Was the COVID-19 vaccine tested on a variety of ages and ethnicities? Yes, the COVID-19 vaccine was tested on a variety of ages and ethnicities. Tens of thousands of adults of many ages, genders, ethnic and racial backgrounds were included in studies. Testing results showed that the vaccine was consistently safe and effective across all of these groups.

Keep an eye out for more answers to your COVID-19 and vaccine questions, and remember to follow good health habits in the meantime. To keep it simple, follow the three W's: wear your masks, wash your hands, and watch your distance from others!

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 Gaiter