



AMVETS Newsletter

Post 1 Tacoma

March 2024

Chartered by Congress, 23 July 1947
Veterans Helping Veterans

www.amvetswa.org/post1

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A MESSAGE FROM YOUR COMMANDER

The **State of Affairs at AMVETS Post 1**: We have been reopened for one year now. Great job to all the members, whether you were Post, Auxiliary, Sons, Riders or friends—to our sponsors, donators and volunteers—along with our new partnership with Calvary Church. We made it! Thank you for all your wonderful support to Post 1. We are still recovering from the Pandemic-Recovery hardship, so please keep up the great work! Thank you for your help.

Our Department of Washington will be having a Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner on Mar. 15th—along with the D.E.C. meeting on Saturday morning in the lounge. Come join us and find out what is going on in the State and at other AMVETS posts.

Elections are coming up and the first nominations are on Mar. 28th at the Post. We need members to step up to the following AMVETS positions: AMVETS Post 1 Commander, 1st Vice Commander, 2nd Vice Commander, 3rd Vice Commander, Finance Officer, Judge Advocate, Provost Marshall, Trustee Position #5 and Trustee Position #6.

If you haven't heard—Glenn Skinner is retiring from his position as Adjutant—which he held for the last 10 years. We need a member who wants to take over this position. You will have big shoes to fill—but you can do it! Please let the Commander or the Adjutant know—or just talk to Glenn to see if you would like to take the position.

Silent Auction: I will be starting up a new Silent Auction on Mar. 7th through Apr. 6th—bring in your goodies for the auction and buy yourself a few new items supporting the Post. This will be helping us with getting our equipment working. Thanks for your help.

Come and join us for the next **Post** meeting on **Thurs. Mar. 28th at 6PM** and the Post **Trustee** meeting on **Thurs. Mar. 21st at 6PM.**

If you have any questions or suggestions that would help us—my ears and eyes are open. Have a great Easter!

Brenda Martin, Commander

Phone: (253) 677-5727

Email: amvetwapost1@gmail.com

OFFICER'S CORNER

We are having our first nominations for officers on Mar. 28th at 6PM. Your VOTE counts! Please come and see how we vote for our officers. The 2nd nominations will be in April and an early meeting in May to cast our votes.

Mike Hardy, 1st Vice

Email: membership@amvetwapost1.org

Thank you all for your continued support. The Super Bowl potluck was very good—plenty of good food.

Keep up the good work on volunteer slips. I am getting a number of late slips (Oct, Nov. and Dec.) I am trying to close out 2023. Please get slips in a timely manner.

Richard A. Holcomb, 2nd Vice

Email: programs@amvetwapost1.org

Join us for a Painting party!!

March 8-10 we will be giving our Hall a facelift with some new paint. If you would like to volunteer your time to grab a brush and spruce up the hall, we will be cleaning, taping and prepping starting March 8th, 5-8PM. We will finish up any prep needed and begin painting on March 9th 9AM-5PM and finish any work left over and cleaning up on March 10th.



Many hands make light work and we would love to see you there.

Rachel Murphy, 3rd Vice

Email: rachel.murphy141@gmail.com

New Phone Numbers

(253) 472-2552 Main

(253) 677-5727 Commanders

(253) 472-0560 Chappie's Lounge

ADJUTANT

When you receive a letter from the Adjutant requesting proof of member eligibility, please show your copy of your **DD214 or alternate documentation**. Drop it by, mail it to the Post or email a scanned document (see below). Can't find your DD214 or other Proof of Service? The Service Office can help you.

Please contact me if a Post member passes away.

Planning a move or a switch in email service? Let us know so you can continue receiving your newsletter.

Glenn Skinner, Adjutant

Phone: (253) 472-2552

Email: Adjutant@amvetwapost1.org

CHAPPIES RESTAURANT/LOUNGE

Lounge Hours:

Wed 3-10PM

Thurs 3-10PM

Fri 3-1AM

Sat 3-1AM

Sun 3-10PM



Daily activities:

Wed: Texas Hold'Em, LCR, Camel races, Bunko & Yahtzee

Thurs: Bar Stool Bingo & **DARTS** are back!

Fri: Meat/Bottle Raffle and 50/50 Raffle

Sat: Horse Races & Karaoke

Sun: Texas Hold'Em & Jam Session

Phone: (253) 472-0560

SONS of AMVETS

Our next meeting is on **Tues., Mar. 5th @ 7PM** in Chappie's Lounge.

Donations for the Sons monthly bottle raffle, on the 3rd Friday of the month, are always welcome. For your convenience you may drop off donations at the bar.

The Sons welcome new members Stetson Bird, Ross Gailey and Jeff Bailey. Everyone who has submitted an annual renewal should now have their 2024 memberships cards. Contact Tom Arter if you haven't received your card.

Sons' Easter Egg Hunt, Sat. Mar. 30th, 11AM. Check our Facebook page for up-to-date information!

Tom Arter, Adjutant

Sons of AMVETS Squad 1

Email: arter57@yahoo.com

New Phone Numbers

(253) 472-2552 Main

(253) 677-5727 Commanders

(253) 472-0560 Chappie's Lounge

AMVETS RIDERS

Our next meeting will be **Sat., Mar. 9th at 10AM** in Chappie's Lounge.

The Rider's raffle will be Fri. Mar. 8th at 5:30 in Chappie's Lounge.

**Eric Davis (Sugarfoot), President
AMVETS Riders, Chapter One**

Email: fishn4samn@comcast.net

AUXILIARY

THANK YOU!

- Therese Burke—for helping out with bottle raffles and bingo
- Sheri Smith—for helping with raffles and bingo
- Sheila Angell & Yvonne Crockett—for helping out with bingo
- Janine Beyers & Patty Mack—for monthly bake sales
- Desarie—for helping out with raffle ticket sales
- Barbara Byrn & Sharon Stacy—for helping out with bottle raffles and bottle donations
- Maxine Tyler—for bottle donations



Mar. 14th Business Meeting:

- Second read and vote on proposed amendments to the AMVETS Post 1 Ladies Auxiliary Bylaws and Standing Rules.
- First nominations for our Elected Officers will be heard: President, 1st Vice, 2nd Vice, 3rd Vice, Secretary, Treasurer, Chaplain & Sergeant-At-Arms
1st Nominations for Officers Prerequisite for the 8-9 elected Auxiliary Officers: Must be a member in good standing who attended 50% of all business meetings (6), one-year preceding elections. Additionally, 1-7 Officers & Chairpersons shall be appointed by the President-elect.

April 11th—2nd Nominations voting, elections and installation at the Auxiliary Business Meeting

Upcoming Events:

- Fri. Mar. 1st—Bottle raffle
- Thurs. Mar. 7th—Auxiliary Child Welfare Bake Sale, 6-8PM
- **Thurs. Mar. 14th—Auxiliary Business Meeting @ 6:30PM in person**

Barbara Skinner, President

Cell Phone: (253) 678-1256

Email: Auxiliary@amvetwapost1.org

**Save the Date
Raucous Band
Friday, April 5th**

COMMUNICATIONS

I hope to see some women Veterans at the 2024 Women Veterans' Conference on Sat. Jun. 8th in Yakima. If you are interested and would like to attend, please register at <http://tinyurl.com/yjes9mt4>, sponsored by Washington State Department of Veteran Affairs. I hope to see you there!

Danette Gundy
Communications Officer & Newsletter Editor
Email: communications@amvetswa.org

HALL RENTAL

Want to rent our hall for a wedding, birthday party, graduation, or other events?

Please contact our Adjutant
Tues-Fri, 9-4PM.

Prices:

Small Hall: \$500
Medium Hall: \$1,000
Large Hall: \$1,500

(253) 472-2552

HISTORIAN

I would like to share with you folks an Army Veterans biography that I have put together from my piecework research online, who just happens to be one of our AMVETS National Commander of the past. With perseverance, it's unremarkable what one person can accomplish in living this life. Please be sure to read his book he wrote: "Victory in my Hands" (link provided in his biography).

Taryn Hopey, Historian

QUARTERMASTER

Quartermaster will be available only on the following days and times: 2nd Thursday of the month 6-8PM and 4th Thursday of the month 5:30-8PM.

Danelle Wyatt, Quartermaster
Phone: (253) 988-1538

AMVETS SERVICE OFFICE

Hours:

The Service Office is temporarily closed.

If you need immediate service, please contact the VA at (800) 698-2411.

Vacant, State Service Director

Thank You To Our Supporters



Service Foundation
Dept of WA



New Phone Numbers

(253) 472-2552 Main
(253) 677-5727 Commanders
(253) 472-0560 Chappie's Lounge

To continue receiving important information from our Post, provide your email address to

newsletter@amvetswapost1.org or go online www.amvetswa.org/newsworthy

Newsletters will also be available in Chappies Lounge and the Service Office.

If you feel you're on the list to receive your newsletter by email and you are not receiving it—please check your spam/junk email folder.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
					1	2	
 <p>Fundraiser Mar. 8th T-Bone Steak Dinner</p>						<p>Chappies OPEN 3-1AM Stuff Cabbage Rolls Auxiliary Raffles 6-8PM Music: 8-11PM Karaoke & DJ Music</p>	<p>Chappies OPEN 3-1AM Horse Racing 4PM Karaoke 7PM</p>
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
<p>Chappies OPEN 3-10PM Texas Hold'Em 3:30PM starts Jam Session 5PM</p>	<p>Building Closed</p> <p>National Hug a G.I. Day</p>	<p>Chappie's Closed PTSD 10-12 Noon Sons Meeting 7PM</p>	<p>Chappies OPEN 3-10PM Texas Hold'Em 6PM starts Game Night 6PM Left Center Right</p>	<p>Chappies OPEN 3-10PM Vet Jr Burger Barstool Bingo 4PM AUX Bake Sale 6-8PM Texas Hold'Em 6:30PM starts Darts 7PM</p>	<p>Chappies OPEN 3-1AM T-Bone Steak Dinner Riders Raffles 6-8PM Music: 8-11PM Karaoke & DJ Music</p>	<p>Chappies OPEN 3-1AM Riders Meeting 10AM Horse Racing 4PM Karaoke 7PM</p>	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
 <p>Chappies OPEN 3-10PM Texas Hold'Em 3:30PM starts Jam Session 5PM</p>	<p>Building Closed</p>	<p>Chappie's Closed PTSD 10-12 Noon</p>	<p>Chappies OPEN 3-10PM Texas Hold'Em 6PM starts Game Night 6PM Left Center Right</p>	<p>Chappies OPEN 3-10PM Chicken Grinder Barstool Bingo 4PM Auxiliary Mtg 6:30PM 1st Nominations Texas Hold'Em 6:30PM starts Darts 7PM</p>	<p>Chappies OPEN 3-1AM D.E.C. Dinner Corned Beef & Cabbage Sons Raffle 6-8PM Music: 8-11PM Randy Litch</p>	<p>Chappies OPEN 3-1AM Horse Racing 4PM D.E.C. 10AM Karaoke 7PM</p>	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
 <p>Chappies OPEN 3-10PM Texas Hold'Em 3:30PM starts Jam Session 5PM</p>	<p>Building Closed</p>	 <p>Chappie's Closed PTSD 10-12 Noon</p>	<p>Chappies OPEN 3-10PM Texas Hold'Em 6PM starts Game Night 6PM Bunco Brandy Pond/Jeff Bailey's Wedding 3:30PM</p>	<p>Chappies OPEN 3-10PM Ruben Sandwich Barstool Bingo 4PM Trustee Mtg 6PM Texas Hold'Em 6:30PM starts Darts 7PM</p>	<p>Chappies OPEN 3-1AM Stuffed Pork Tenderloin Commander's Raffle 6-8PM Music: 8-11PM Michael Crain Band Large Hall</p>	<p>Chappies OPEN 3-1AM Horse Racing 4PM Karaoke 7PM NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE</p>	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
<p>Chappies OPEN 3-10PM Texas Hold'Em 3PM sign up 3:30PM starts Jam Session 5PM</p>	<p>Building Closed</p> <p>National Medal of Honor Day</p>	<p>Chappie's Closed PTSD 10-12 Noon</p>	<p>Chappies OPEN 3-10PM Texas Hold'Em 6PM starts Game Night 6PM Left Center Right</p>	<p>Chappies OPEN 3-10PM Double Cheese Burger Barstool Bingo 4PM Post Mtg 6PM 1st Nominations Texas Hold'Em 6:30PM starts Darts 7PM</p>	<p>Chappies OPEN 3-1AM Baked Ziti Commander's Raffle 6-8PM</p>	<p>Chappies OPEN 3-1AM Sons' Easter Egg Hunt, 11AM, Manitou Park Horse Racing 4PM Karaoke 7PM</p>	
31	 <p>Chappies OPEN 3-10PM Texas Hold'Em 3PM sign up 3:30PM starts Jam Session 5PM</p>					 <p>Corned Beef & Cabbage March 15th \$12/plate</p>	 <p>FOR SALE 2011 Ford E 359 Van 117,039 Miles Excellent maintenance records. Asking \$15,000 OBO—call (253) 472-2552</p>



Compiled research PAST AMVETS NATIONAL COMMANDER



Harold T. Russell

Harold T. Russell was born in Sydney, Nova Scotia on January 14, 1914. Harold was six years old when his father, a telegraph manager moved the family to Boston. He graduated from high school in 1933. He then found work in a grocery chain and was a store manager before entering the Army in February 1942.

Russell volunteered and joined the Army in February 1942. He was being trained to become a paratrooper. He then qualified as a paratrooper instructor and specialized in demolition and explosives at Camp Mackell in North Carolina. While he was in training, he made a total of 51 jumps and on June 6, 1944, Russell was handling a fuse cap (that was defective) when it blew up. Both hands were mangled. They amputated both hands the following day three inches above the wrists. From there he was sent to Walter Reed Medical where he would be fitted with two hooks as artificial limbs and remained there for his rehabilitation and did very well in learning how to use them and struggled to join back into the civilian race.

While there, the surgeon general of the army, General Kirk asked Harold to act in a 20-minute Signal Corps motion picture, titled; *"Diary of a Sargent"* for the army to aid in the showing how WWII hand amputees could overcome their handicap based on what happened to him, how quickly he recovered and what was done during his rehabilitation, he accepted and the movie was made.

Consider becoming an AMVETS member, for we need all types of veterans disabled or not, for you never know what you'll be able to accomplish with AMVETS and how it can change your personal life when we brainstorm together.

THANK-YOU so much for your time.

Respectfully,

Taryn Hopey
AMVETS Post 1 Historian
5717 South Tyler St.
Tacoma, WA. 98409

Resources:

Book: "AMVETS 50 years of Proud Service to American Veterans" (Published 1994 by AMVETS National Headquarters) and newspaper articles located through www.newspapers.com and www.ancestry.com

Which this 20-minute clip was widely used in rehabilitating other amputees.

He then decided to have a career in advertising and enrolled into Boston University. But his studies were interrupted when a movie producer; Samuel Goldyn who viewed the short army clip and was impressed on how well Harold's handled himself in that film, asked him to preform in a movie; titled; *"The Best Years of Our Lives"* as Homer Parish, a handless sailor in 1947. Harold Russell accepts. Harold wins two Oscars.

In 1949 Harold Russell writes a book titled; *"Victory In Your Hands"* link available online for you to read <https://archive.org/details/victoryinmyhands00haro> I heard this is a notable book for those with PTSD.

Harold S. Russell becomes the only AMVETS National Commander serving three terms. 1949-50, 1950-51 and in 1960-1961.

During the sixties he was appointed Vice Chair and then Chairman of Presidents Committee Employment of the Handicapped from President's Kennedy, Lyndon B. Johnson, & Nixon. He traveled promoting the world's handicapped of all nations.

Harold also was a founder of the World Veterans Federation.

In his personal life; he did marry, had two children and his one son joined the U.S. Air Force.

