



# AMVETS Newsletter

## Post 1 Tacoma

December 2023

Chartered by Congress, 23 July 1947  
Veterans Helping Veterans

[www.amvetswa.org/post1](http://www.amvetswa.org/post1)

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### A MESSAGE FROM YOUR COMMANDER

“**Happy Holidays**” to all our Amvets Veteran members, family and friends. The holidays are here. I love this time of year. We see family and friends, enjoy parties, and beautiful light and all kinds of decorations...beautiful trees, yards and smiles. What a fun time of year. The Amvets will have a Christmas dinner for our members in Chappie’s Lounge on Christmas Day. Come join us. Check your calendar for details.

On Dec. 15th, we will have a “White Elephant Exchange Potluck “with \$25 limit, in Chappie’s Lounge starting at 6PM. This is so fun...with good food, friends and exciting gifts. So, get those thinking caps on and bring your favorite homemade food along with that mystery gift—and let’s have fun.

We are having s New Years Eve Potluck Party in our big banquet hall with Rock n Roll Magic playing 50’s, 60’s, 70’s, and 80’s. For a UNFORETTABLE night...come experience the Magic again!! Enjoy some good food, games, and music. The Magic starts at 6:30PM! See you there.

Just a great reminder that we are having game night every Wednesday in Chappie’s Lounge.

We will be having a “**Silent Auction**” in our hallway from Dec. 1st-15th. The auction will close at 7PM on Dec. 15th. Donations of quality items will also be welcomed for this fundraiser. Please visit the Post during our open hours and make that special bid! Be sure to be there on the 15th with your cash before &PM—if you have made bids.

I am also seeking donations of “**Stuffed Animals**” for the New Years Eve party.

Note: Just a friendly reminder that the lounge closes early on Christmas Eve at 4PM.

Come and join us for the next **Post** meeting on **Thurs. Dec. 14th at 6PM**. and the Post **Trustee** meeting on **Thurs. Dec. 21st at 6PM**.

Happy New Years!

**Brenda Martin, Commander**

Phone: (253) 677-5727

Email: [amvetswapost1@gmail.com](mailto:amvetswapost1@gmail.com)

### OFFICER’S CORNER

I would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year—be safe!

**Mike Hardy, 1st Vice**

Email: [membership@amvetswapost1.org](mailto:membership@amvetswapost1.org)

The year is running out quickly. Thank you for your continued support. Keep up the good work on the volunteer slips.



Remember **RED** shirt Friday. 8 hours on Friday plus mileage per Friday wearing a **RED** shirt.

Also, we still have raffle tickets for the gold nuggets to pay for HONOR Flights to Washington DC. Drawing on Dec. 14, 2023. Honor flight is a national program. Tickets available from Dennis Peterson (253) 266-2042 or Richard Holcomb (253) 359-5890.

Happy Holidays!

**Richard A. Holcomb, 2nd Vice**

Email: [programs@amvetswapost1.org](mailto:programs@amvetswapost1.org)

Happy Holidays Post 1! As we move into the holiday season there will be a holiday party planning meeting November 29th at 6PM at the post. We will be discussing the party and decorations. If you are interested in volunteering for the party, please reach out to me.

SAVE THE DATE: The party is December 17th at 6PM and we will have a new flyer out after the planning meeting with all the information.

**Rachel Murphy, 3rd Vice**

Email: [rachel.murphy141@gmail.com](mailto: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.

**RENT THE HALL**—Want to rent our hall for a wedding, birthday party, graduation, or other events? Please contact our Adjutant between Tues-Fri, 9-4PM. Prices: Small Hall \$500; Medium Hall \$1,000; and Large Hall \$1,500.

**I will be out of the office and unreachable from Dec. 15th to Jan. 2nd.**

### Glenn Skinner, Adjutant

Phone: (253) 472-2552

Email: [Adjutant@amvetsswapost1.org](mailto:Adjutant@amvetsswapost1.org)

## CHAPPIES RESTAURANT/LOUNGE

### Lounge Hours:

**Wed** 3-10PM  
**Thurs** 3-10PM  
**Fri** 3-12AM  
**Sat** 3-12AM  
**Sun** 3-10PM



### Daily activities:

**Wed:** Camel races, Bunko & Yahtzee  
**Thurs:** Bar Stool Bingo  
**Fri:** Meat/Bottle Raffle and 50/50 Raffle  
**Sat:** Horse Races & Karaoke  
**Sun:** Texas Hold'Em and the Gate Keepers playing at the Jam Session

Phone: (253) 472-0560

## 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

## AMVETS RIDERS

There will be no meeting in December.

The Rider's raffle will be Fri., Dec. 8th, 5:30 in Chappie's Lounge. In addition, the Riders and Sons present the Northwest Blend (Hawaiian band) starting at 8PM. Come and support the Post, Riders and Son of AMVETS.

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

Email: [fishn4samn@comcast.net](mailto:fishn4samn@comcast.net)

## SONS of AMVETS

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

The Son's have joined with the Riders to sponsor the band Northwest Blend on Friday Dec. 8th, 8PM. Come out and enjoy a special evening of music Hawaiian style!

Special thanks go to Lew Foster III who once again has spearheaded the Son's child welfare project providing Thanksgiving dinners to the families of five students at Mary Lyon school. Mary Lyon is amongst those Tacoma schools with the highest percentage of low-income families. The Son's also provided turkeys for the school's "Turkey Trot", a kind of musical chairs game with turkeys as the prize.

### Tom Arter, Adjutant Sons of AMVETS Squad 1

Email: [arter57@yahoo.com](mailto:arter57@yahoo.com)

## COMMUNICATIONS

There will be a Santa Parade on Dec. 3rd...come on out and have some fun.

I would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

### Danette Gundy Communications Officer & Newsletter Editor

Email: [communications@amvetsswa.org](mailto:communications@amvetsswa.org)



### New Phone Numbers

(253) 472-2552.....Main

(253) 677-5727.....Commanders

(253) 472-0560.....Chappie's Lounge

## AUXILIARY

We are so very grateful to ALL of our donors! **THANK YOU** to Diane, Pamela, Rosemarie, Christie, Marie and Patti M for your contributions to our Child Welfare and community projects.

**THANK YOU** to Stacey for the turkeys to our employees.

**THANK YOU** to Barbara B for your Veterans Day Dinner contribution and the Nov. 17th band.

Veteran's Day Dinner—**THANK YOU** to the **volunteers** that helped with the Veterans Day Dinner. We served 40 Veterans and 30 family members.

Pre-Pandemic: Our Ladies Auxiliary was the only nonprofit holding monthly bingo parties at the American Lake VA Blind Rehab (In-Patient) Center. Volunteers are now able to return to Blind Rehab. Please consider volunteering 3 hours of your time, once a month—to call Bingo or assist a blind patient at the VA. Contact Barbara Skinner (253) 678-1256.

The VA Transitional Housing 22 residents are always in need of bus passes, Safeway gift cards, kitchen supplies (i.e., dish soap, tall trash bags, sponges & scrubbing pads) and bathroom supplies (i.e., Clorox wipes, bathroom cleaner, toilet paper). Please deliver your donations to the American Lake VAVS office or drop them off at the Post.

**Christmas Meals Canned Food Drive:** *Gloria Harris* is collecting non-perishable food to supplement Holiday Meals for our active-duty & Veterans Families In-Need: mac & cheese, stuffing, vegetables, cranberry sauce, cake mixes & frosting. Our donation bin is located in or near Chappie's Lounge. Please no "Expired" or **past** "Best Buy" dated non-perishables.

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(253) 472-2552 ..... Main

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(253) 472-0560 ..... Chappie's Lounge

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

[newsletter@amvetswapost1.org](mailto:newsletter@amvetswapost1.org) or go online

[www.amvetswa.org/newsworthy](http://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.

**THANK YOU** to James Trabert, Roberta Walker, Mattye Evans and our generous AMVETS donors! Barbara Skinner & Gloria Harris distributed complete Holiday Turkey Dinner baskets and extras to 6 active-duty & Veterans' families, 2 Tacoma families and 42 American Lake VASH families.

All **Ladies Auxiliary members renewing after 12/31/23** will need to show proof of eligibility again—this is a new National Bylaw. When renewing please send a copy of credentials so we can stay in compliance with National.

### WISH LIST

- Volunteer Experienced with SAGE 50 Accounting Software
- Volunteer Computer Techs to update and network our computers and software
- Volunteer bakers or donated baked goods needed for Auxiliary fundraisers
- Commercially packaged diapers & new or gently used baby clothes

### Upcoming Events:

- Dec 1st—Auxiliary sponsored Bottle Raffle (Christmas Themed) Live Music
- Dec 7th—Auxiliary Child Welfare Bake Sale, 6-8PM
- **Dec 14th—Auxiliary Business Meeting @ 6:30PM in person**
- Dec 25th—Post 1 sponsored Christmas Dinner, 2-4PM

**Barbara Skinner, President**

Cell Phone: (253) 678-1256

Email: [Auxiliary@amvetswapost1.org](mailto:Auxiliary@amvetswapost1.org)



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Come and join us for the Kid's Christmas Party Dec. 17th, 6PM Look for more details—coming soon</p> 					<p><b>1</b> Chappies OPEN 3-12AM Kitchen Open Auxiliary Raffles 6-8PM Music: 8PM-11PM Randy Litch</p>	<p><b>2</b> Chappies OPEN 3-12AM Horse Racing 4PM Karaoke 7PM</p>
<p><b>3</b> Chappies OPEN 9:30AM-10PM Texas Hold'Em 3PM sign up 3:30PM starts Jam Session with Gatekeepers 5PM</p>	<p><b>4</b> Building Closed</p>	<p><b>5</b> Chappie's Closed PTSD 10-12 Noon</p>	<p><b>6</b> Chappies OPEN 3-10PM Camel Racing 5PM</p>	<p><b>7</b> Chappies OPEN 3-10PM Kitchen Open BAKE SALE 6-8PM Barstool Bingo 4PM National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day</p>	<p><b>8</b> Chappies OPEN 3-12AM Kitchen Open Riders Raffles 6-8PM Music: 8PM-11PM Northwest Blend</p>	<p><b>9</b> Chappies OPEN 3-12AM Horse Racing 4PM No Karaoke</p>
<p><b>10</b> Chappies OPEN 12:30-10PM 1:05PM Seahawks vs 49ers/POTLUCK Texas Hold'Em 3PM sign up 3:30PM starts Jam Session with Gatekeepers 5PM</p>	<p><b>11</b> Building Closed</p>	<p><b>12</b> Chappie's Closed PTSD 10-12 Noon Marine Corp League 6PM</p>	<p><b>13</b> Chappies OPEN 3-10PM Yahtzee 5PM</p>	<p><b>14</b> Chappies OPEN 3-10PM Kitchen Open Post Mtg 6PM Auxiliary Mtg 6:30PM Barstool Bingo 4PM</p>	<p><b>15</b> Chappies OPEN 3-12AM Kitchen Open Sons Raffle 6-8PM Christmas Fun White Elephant Xmas Exchange &amp; Potluck 6PM</p>	<p><b>16</b> Chappies OPEN 3-12AM Horse Racing 4PM No Karaoke </p>
<p><b>17</b> Chappies OPEN 1-10PM 1:25PM Eagles vs Seahawks/Potluck Kids Christmas Party 6PM Texas Hold'Em 3PM sign up 3:30PM starts Jam Session with Gatekeepers 5PM</p>	<p><b>18</b> Building Closed</p>	<p><b>19</b> Chappie's Closed PTSD 10-12 Noon</p>	<p><b>20</b> Chappies OPEN 3-10PM BUNCO 5PM NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE</p>	<p><b>21</b> Chappies OPEN 3-10PM Trustee Mtg 6PM Barstool Bingo 4PM</p>	<p><b>22</b> Chappies OPEN 3-12AM Commander's Meat Raffle 6-8PM Music: 8PM-11PM Billy Shew</p>	<p><b>23</b> Chappies OPEN 3-12AM Horse Racing 4PM Karaoke 7PM</p>
<p><b>24</b> Chappies OPEN 9:30-4PM 10AM Seahawks vs Titans/Potluck Texas Hold'Em 10AM sign up 10:30AM starts</p>	<p><b>25</b> Building Closed </p>	<p><b>26</b> Chappie's Closed PTSD 10-12 Noon</p>	<p><b>27</b> Chappies OPEN 3-10PM Turkey Run 5PM</p>	<p><b>28</b> Chappies OPEN 3-10PM Barstool Bingo 4PM</p>	<p><b>29</b> Chappies OPEN 3-12AM Commander's Bottle Raffle 6-8PM</p>	<p><b>30</b> Chappies OPEN 3-12AM Horse Racing 4PM Karaoke 7PM</p>
<p><b>31</b> Chappies OPEN 12:30PM-12:30AM 1:05PM Steelers vs Seahawks/Potluck Texas Hold'Em 3PM sign up 3:30PM starts Jam Session with Gatekeepers 5PM</p>	<p><b>New Years Eve Party</b> Dec. 31, 2023 8PM-1AM Potluck (main meal provided)</p>			<p>Doors open @ 6:30PM Music: Rock-n-Roll Magic Party favors and champagne provided</p>		

Tickets on sale now in Chappie's Lounge--\$30 per person

# Historian/Trustee #2 Report

December 2023

I LOVE what our AMVETS predecessors have created for us which is AMVETS POST 1. We are the only Post in our state that owns its own property. We have been in existence in WA since 1945 before receiving our AMVETS Congressionally National Charter on August 23, 1947.

This is a great place for a veteran(s), with our subordinates to come to and become involved in supporting our active-duty military, our veterans and our community by attending our Post and Board of Trustee's meeting, (and full filling our obligations as a non-profit) along with the ability to converse with each other by socializing inside our Chappies Lounge creating wonderful camaraderie amongst us. WE ARE FAMILY HERE.

I LOVE what we do and what we stand for: LIFE, LIBERTY and the PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS. We must continue to accomplish this throughout our city and state and for future generations. It is our patriotic duty as a member to keep AMVETS POST 1 in business.

## **AMVETS POST 1-501 (C) (19) VETERANS ORGANIZATION/IRS/Yearly Obligations**

Along with in-kind donations from Post 1 and other Americanism programs that we have attended throughout this year, we have been able to continue to support annually some of our homeless Veterans in Tacoma. Recently in November we donated to the Tacoma Rescue

### **Write your check to AMVETS Post 1 Corporate**

Address your envelope to:

AMVETS POST 1 Corporate  
C/O Brenda Martin  
5717 S. Tyler St.  
Tacoma, WA. 98409

Mission Homeless Veterans with 10 new pillows, bedding sheet sets and new blankets for a cost of \$461.85 and all of that money was donated by our members at our Post meeting!

Those veterans there at the mission are very appreciative and they THANK-YOU!

## **AMVETS POST 1 MEMBERS/LADIES AUXILIARY/SON'S of AMVETS/AMVET RIDERS**

We have our local regular dedicated & loyal members that have been "EXEMPLARY!" They have donated their time, merchandise, and monies to our Post since the end of February to keep AMVETS Post 1 alive financially since our public bingo was dissolved. There have been some members who have personally paid for a band for our members to enjoy, keeping Chappies Lounge open. I cannot THANK-YOU enough for being so generous and helpful to Post 1.

The year may be ending but our struggle here to pay our monthly bills continues.

I would like to reach out to the members of our Post who do not come in physically and support our post as our regular members have. We need your financial support as well. Please consider making a donation for TEAM WORK will prevail!

### **Do you need a tax receipt?**

AMVETS Dept of WA Service Foundation  
C/O Danette Gundy  
5717 S. Tyler St.  
Tacoma, WA 98409



*From the bottom of my heart—! Thank You!!*