



Stephen Holmes Morrison

VFW Post 9301

7011 Hannegan Road, Lynden, WA 98264

May - August 2022 Newsletter

Commander's Corner



Salutes! Spring is here and summer is so close. I am looking forward to all the fresh & new things that are going on at Post 9301. Our election of Post officers in April brought in several new members taking positions starting in July, including a new Commander. Navy Veteran Comrade Leah Rosetti.

Leah has stepped up to continue the outstanding reputation that this Post has for helping Vets, active Military and for being a vital part of the community. I will be taking a lesser role here and putting more time into my position as Chaplain for the Vietnam Veterans local chapter. I will continue to serve here at the post to help in any way I can to insure the continued success that we have had since December of 1937.

Our Post is dedicated to supporting Veterans, Active Military and their families. As being the representative for the last 7 years in and around the community, my goal has always been for our Post to be visible and to be known as "being on hand" to help Veterans and their families. We have the ability to aid them with 'one-of-a-kind' assistance and services designed to help and support them. With that, we will have a more in touch and healthier community of Veterans. I am confident that will continue for years to come.

Summer will be upon us soon and we are planning for our spring and summer events: Memorial Day ceremonies, Parades, Flag Day and fishing with Veterans, (my personal favorite !!) So, plenty of things will be happening with us in and around the community. Keep an eye on the attached calendar. Please consider becoming more involved. It's a great way to help others, have fun and enjoy the camaraderie of our comrades and their families. No matter what our walks of life have been, we all have a common denominator. Don't wait until you are in need to get to know us.

Respect, Dignity, Teamwork, Commitment, Integrity: We should remember these values as the very cornerstone of every military organization since our great country established the services for "Those in Uniform"

Keep in touch and don't hesitate to call me with ideas and or question/comments.

Lonnie Rose, Post Commander, 360-220-5676

Farewell to a Friend...

Walter (Walt) DeKraai, who lived in Lynden, WA, went to be with his Heavenly Father on April 6, 2022.

Walt recently celebrated his 100th birthday on February 15th with distinction as the oldest living Navy Seabee. Walt was born February 15, 1922 to Charles and Eurith of Ottumwa, Iowa. Walt was the oldest of seven siblings who grew up during the Great Depression.

On March 2, 1941, Walt married his sweetheart, Jean, in Ottumwa, Iowa. In 1942 Walt enlisted in the United States Navy wanting to do his part to support the war effort. He was a Shipfitter Second Class assigned to the Navy Seabees 83rd Battalion and was sent to various locations across the globe. After the Navy, Walt, Jean and their family moved to California. Walt worked as a union pipefitter for the City of Los Angeles until his retirement in 1979. After retirement Walt and Jean continued to live in California until they relocated to Lynden, Washington.

Walt's sense of country and patriotism compelled him to join the Lynden VFW Post 9301. During his time with the VFW, Walt took part in many of the local Veteran and Memorial Day services. Everyone in the community knew when Walt was out and about because of the flags flying from his vehicle. Walt took pride in knowing his community and spending time the local Police and Fire Department personnel. Walt would make his rounds to deliver donuts to them and those that work for Dave's Sporting Goods and Ace Hardware.

Military honors were bestowed graveside at Moles Farewell Tributes Greenacres Memorial Park in Ferndale on Friday April 15, 2022.



Incoming Commander's Corner

Greetings,

My name is Leah Rosetti and I have been elected as the new Post 9301 Commander starting July 1, 2022. It will be an honor to serve you and this post. I served many officer positions with the Daughters of the American Revolution from 2015 to current with the Chief Whatcom Chapter, Bellingham, WA. I am also a life time member of the AVVA, DAV and an advocate for Wounded Warrior (soon to be the local peer mentor).

I served in the United States Navy in as an AO on F/A-18's. I served in various locations including: USS Abraham Lincoln with VFA 113 "Stingers" F/A 18 C with two tours to the Persian Gulf, Operation Southern Watch and Desert Fox. NAS Whidbey Island, WA EA6 B, NAS Lemoore CA, NAS Fallon, NV, Bomb Assembly and NAF El Centro, CA Strike Fighter Maintenance Unit with Super Hornets. I served honorably, finishing up as an E-5 from the military. I dedicate my free time to my family and volunteering.

Since leaving the service in 2004 it has been a personal mission of mine to continue serving with and for military veterans. It is a great honor to continue this mission with like minded comrades. Veterans serving veterans. The VFW's motto is, "No one does more for veterans." This motto could not be closer to my heart. We veterans understand each other on a level that is more profound than those of our civilian friends. With this we can advocate for each other all the way to Washington DC. I stand proudly next to you to continue the watch. Commander Lonnie Rose and Elizabeth Rose have been my constant advisors and mentors and will continue the mentorship over the next year. I could not be more blessed with their help and to call them my friends. (Cont'd on Back)

Auxiliary President's Corner

Dear Auxiliary Family,

The past year has been exciting...moving into a little more normalcy after COVID has been a blessing and challenging.

In the next few months, we have some fun events. Over Memorial Day weekend there will be the annual barbeque at Ace Hardware, ceremonies at the Lynden and Greenwood Cemeteries, and the Farmer's Day Parade in Lynden. In July the Auxiliary will be changing over leadership as it does every year, so show a big welcome to incoming President Judy Carlson.

Don't worry I'll still be around as your Senior Vice President and I look forward to seeing you at meetings and events. Thank you all for your Unwavering Support for Uncommon Heroes.

*Jerrie Luginbill, Auxiliary 9301 President
Secretary, Whatcom County Cemetery District #10
360-510-0407*

Incoming Auxiliary President's Corner



Greetings,

My name is Judy Carlson, and I am honored to be elected the next President of 9301 Auxiliary starting July 1st. We have a unique opportunity to educate our communities about our organization, what we do and stand for. My theme is to be Loyal and Strong for our Veterans. I believe this reflects what brought each of us into this organization. My personal goal is to make this year one of promise and hope. I promise to do my best for you and the VFW and I hope I have your support and dedication to reach all of our goals. We are a team, and we will work together.

As we come out of a year of uncertainty and restrictions let us do what we do best...Serve our veterans! Be friends! Be hopeful! Be kind to one another!

Together we can do great things.

Loyally,

Judy Carlson, Incoming Auxiliary 9301 President

Auxiliary Chaplain's Corner





Order number 11, issued June 1868. Gen. John Logan made the first official national proclamation of a day, designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country, "Let no ravages of time testify "He wrote". To the present or to the coming generations. That we have forgotten as a people. The cost of a free and undivided republic".

Let us never forget why we as a nation, set May 30th as a day to remember and honor the men and women who gave their lives in defense for our nation.

Vincent Juarez, Auxiliary Chaplain



2022 Calendar of Events

MAY			
10 th	Tuesday	Post/Aux Meeting, Dinner/Fellowship at 5:30pm	6:30pm
15 th	Sunday	Peace Officers Memorial Day	
21 st	Saturday	Armed Forces Day	
27 th	Friday	Place flags on Veterans graves at Monumenta Cemetary, North side of Front St, Lynden. Please come help!	5:00pm
28 th	Saturday	VFW having a community BBQ at Ace Hardware in Lynden	11:30-2pm
28 th	Saturday	Buddy Poppy Drive Lynden Safeway	9am-5pm
29 th	Sunday	Buddy Poppy Drive Lynden Safeway	9am-5pm
30 th	Monday	Memorial Day flags at half staff till Noon	
30 th	Monday	Buddy Poppy Drive Lynden Safeway	
30 th	Monday	Lynden Cemetery Memorial Day Ceremony	10:30am
30 th	Monday	Greenwood Cemetery on Wiser Lake Rd	1:00pm
30 th	Monday	Vietnam Veterans Picnic Hovander Park ~Bring dish!	4:00pm
JUNE			
4 th	Saturday	Lynden Farmer's Day Parade	10:30am
		Honor Guard Leads the Parade, to carry a Fallen Soldier Banner be at Front St & 10th by 10:00 am	
14 th	Tuesday	Post/Aux Meeting, BBQ at 5:30pm dogs provided, bring dish to share	6:30pm
14 th	Tuesday	Flag Day, Distribute stick flags at Veterans Park in Lynden (Grover & 4 th)	12:00pm
JULY			
4 th	Monday	Acme Parade	3:00pm
12 th	Tuesday	VFW/AUX Meeting, Dessert only at 6:00pm	6:30pm
15 th	Friday	Raspberry Festival in Lynden ~Post has a booth!	10am-8pm
16 th	Saturday	Raspberry Festival in Lynden ~Post has a booth!	8am-5pm
			
AUGUST			
9 th	Tuesday	VFW/AUX Meeting, Dessert only at 6:00pm	6:30pm
16 th	Tuesday	NW Washington Fair Military Day, Post has a booth that day!	



Visit our website to stay up to date on events as well! www.vfw9301.org



Brigadoon Service Dogs

"Offering a Helping Paw"

Denise CoStanten
Founder/Executive Director



www.brigadoondogs.org

denise@brigadoondogs.org

4759 Mission Rd, Bellingham WA 98226

Office: 360 410-8620

VFW Post 9301

7011 Hannegan Rd, Lynden WA

Coffee with Veterans
First Saturday of
every month
8 am to 11 am



Providing trained service dogs for Veterans, Children, and Adults with physical, developmental, and behavioral health disabilities to promote a more independent and enriched life.


Stephen Holmes Morrison
VFW & Auxiliary Post 9301
7011 Hannegan Rd
Lynden, WA 98264

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Incoming Commander's Corner (Cont'd from page 2)

Our first project together that has been voted on is the start of our monthly coffee group. The first Saturday of every month starting the 4th of June 2022 from 8am to 11am. We will have coffee and donuts with a sugar free option available. Please bring and invite all veterans that you know and spouses. The DAR will also help host our coffee. Feel free to reach out to me with thoughts and ideas. I will be available Monday through Friday 10 am to 6 pm and Saturday coffee. If in the event of an emergency I will be available at all times for you. I look forward to seeing you at the next meeting.
Patriotically Yours,

Leah Rosetti, Incoming Post Commander
PO Box 28908, Bellingham, WA 98228, vfwpost9301@gmail.com - (360) 922-0428



Current Post Officers:

Commander: Lonnie Rose 360-220-5676
Senior Vice: John Kershner / Junior Vice: David Schrengohst
Quartermaster: Darwin VanDerPol / Chaplain: Cliff Ellyson

Incoming Post Officers:

Commander: Leah Rosetti 360-922-0428
Senior Vice: Lonnie Rose / Junior Vice: Andy Sauer
Quartermaster: Jim Neyens / Chaplain: Margarita Rhodes

Current Auxiliary Officers:

President: Jerrie Luginbill
Senior Vice: Judy Carlson / Junior Vice: Jenna Schrengohst
Chaplain: Vincent Juarez

Incoming Auxiliary Officers:

President: Judy Carlson
Senior Vice: Jerrie Luginbill / Junior Vice: Ray Van Beek
Chaplain: Vincent Juarez

Stay Connected:  VFW Post 9301 - Lynden, WA

 Visit our website: www.vfw9301.org

Post email: vfwpost9301@gmail.com / Aux email: vfwaux9301@gmail.com