

Artist-AMVET: Roger McGee



Statue Dedication 1996

# AMVETS

Jonathan M Wainwright  
Post # 1111  
Walla Walla, Washington  
Chartered in the year 2000



Veterans Serving Veterans and our Community

December 2008

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## MERRY CHRISTMAS

COME TO THE PARTY

SATURDAY DECEMBER 20TH

AT THE VFW.

COLVILLE & ROSE STREETS

THIS YEAR AMVETS POST #1111 IS JOINING WITH

VFW POST #992, POST #466

AND AMERICAN LEGION POST #32

FOR A CHRISTMAS POTLUCK DINNER

ALL MEMBERS AND SPOUSES ARE INVITED!

THE DOORS OPEN AT 6:00 PM

AND FESTIVITIES BEGIN AT 7:30

MEAT WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE POSTS

LAST NAMES BEGINNING WITH:

A THRU L—PLEASE BRING SALADS

M THRU Z PLEASE BRING DESSERTS

**PLEASE RSVP BY DEC. 17TH 525-1310**

**Macy's downtown Parade of Lights**

**December 6th 6:00 PM**

**AMVETS Post #1111 float will be in the Parade**

**Volunteers welcome for set-up and to ride, start 5:00 PM**





### Post Commander

Happy Holidays! The last years activities have again demonstrated to me the Post's commitment to helping veterans in the community and I have been proud to represent you as the Post Commander. I am most impressed with the commitment of the current and past elected officers and Post members who continue to represent AMVETS in our community positively through individual commitment and initiative.

As I think about the blessings of the last year I would like to thank all our post members who continue their commitment through membership alone. Both membership and active involvement are important, however in joining AMVETS you believe in the AMVETS Aims and that is of great value and your commitment is accepted heartily.

Often only a few find time to serve as officers and volunteer for programs so I remind myself not to forget that as an officer I serve the members without precondition and with thanks for their commitment to the AIMS of AMVETS. Over the coming year we will have many more opportunities to continue showing the Post's commitment to the community and to honor those who are serving and have served.

A project I would like us to recommit too over the next year is Wainwright Memorial Improvement Project at the VA Parade Grounds. As has been reported the Wainwright Committee has stepped back from its activities while we waited as the long term plans for the VA Campus to unfold. Based on the news we have received and the progression of the Enhanced Use Lease process it looks like the Wainwright committee will be able reactivate in the coming year and bring the vision of a new and improved memorial to light.

Wishing you and your families well! Steve Bird

### 2<sup>ND</sup> VICE COMMANDER'S REPORT

Here it is almost the end of year 2008 and it will soon be time to reflect on the past and look forward to the future. Here's hoping every member had a tremendous Thanksgiving Dinner with families and friends. Let's, however, never forget those who are serving in the far corners of the earth, have been injured in the line of duty or will never return home to their loved ones. Ours is a difficult life but one we would never do without.

The Annual AMVETS Report is being finalized and will be summarized in the January New Letter and presented at the January Post Meeting. It will be a strong indication of our involvement in Post activities.

You are encouraged to review the Post Calendar for the coming months and make note of the events on your home calendar. Your participation is appreciated and ensures success as we provide services for our veterans. Please call 2<sup>nd</sup> VC Norm at 522-0939 and participate in our Vets Visiting Vets and VA Bingo programs.

Thanks again to the fifty-one (51) members, Scouts and friends who assisted with the Downtown Flags during the month of November. We were a little short on Thanksgiving. However, despite the cold, managed to get the flags posted.

Don't forget the Christmas Dinner, December 20<sup>th</sup>, at the VFW Hall. See the details in your News Letter. Let's have a great turnout and then see you at the January Post Meeting. Norm Graybeal



### AMVETS POST #1111 NEWSLETTER

Published monthly for members and those who support American Veterans.

#### Officers of the Post

#### Commander

Stephen "Steve" Bird (541) 938-4780

#### 1st Vice Commander

James "Jim" Irwin (509) 529-2411

#### 2nd Vice Commander

Norman "Norm" Graybeal (509) 522-0939

#### Finance Officer

Arnil Hoffarth (509) 522-2175

#### Adjutant

Kelly Elliott (509) 525-3027

#### Provost Marshall

Larry Cunnington (509) 525-1964

#### Judge Advocate

Chester "Art" Bergman

#### Past Commander & Chaplain

Donald "Don" Schack (509) 525-5723

#### Service Officer

Tammy Siddle (509) 481-3963

#### Newsletter Editor

James "Jim" Irwin (509) 529-2411

Send articles to: jimirwin@charter.net

## In Memory of Marshall Sturdevant, WWII POW

### Marshall Sturdevant

July 18, 1916 – Nov. 10, 2008

Dayton resident Marshall G. Sturdevant, 92, died Nov. 10, 2008, at Providence St. Mary Medical Center.

The memorial service will be 2 p.m. Friday at Mountain View-Colonial DeWitt Creations & Funeral Services, 1551 Dalles Military Road. The Rev. Greg Brownell of United Brethren Church of Dayton will officiate. The AMVETS, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 992 and Post No. 466, and the Washington National Guard Funeral Honors program will also participate. A reception will follow at the funeral home. Inurnment will be in Willamette National Cemetery in Portland.

Memorial contributions may be made to AMVETS or a charity of the donor's choice through the funeral home.

Mr. Sturdevant was born July 18, 1916, in Dayton, to Robert M. and Margaret Lulu Ireland Sturdevant. He graduated from Dayton High School. He attended the University of Washington and



STURDEVANT

graduated from Washington State University with a bachelor's degree in business.

Following graduation, he worked for the Retail Credit Bureau in Spokane. He then worked for Morrison/Knudson Construction Co. in Boise. While working for the company as a civilian, he was stationed on Wake Island in the South Pacific. When World War II began, he was a prisoner of war and taken to Japan.

Upon his release in 1945, he returned to Dayton and worked for Pacific Power & Light Co. for 34 years. On Sept. 1, 1950, he and Audrey J. Munden married in Dayton. During his tenure with Pacific Power and Light, he was transferred to Pomeroy, Pendleton and Portland. He returned to Dayton when he retired in 1980. Congress in 1981 classified Sturdevant and other civilians captured on Wake Island as U.S. Navy veterans.

He enjoyed working on

model kits. He also enjoyed the outdoors, camping with family and fishing. After retirement, he and his wife enjoyed traveling, taking many cruises. The cruise they enjoyed the most was to Hawaii and around the Hawaiian Islands to celebrate their 50th anniversary.

Mr. Sturdevant was a member of the VFW Post No. 5549, AMVETS Post No. 1111 of Walla Walla, American Ex-Prisoner of War in the Tri-Cities, Disabled American Veterans and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local No. 124 in Portland. He was also part of a social group of survivors of Wake Island that met yearly.

He is survived by his wife, at the home; two daughters, Billie Jo Hunter of Lincoln City, Ore., and Deborah Cummings of Portland; a son, Ron Sturdevant of Pacific City, Ore.; nine grandchildren; and numerous great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a brother, Robert; and a sister, Lucille.

On December 7, 1941 the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. On the same day they attacked Wake Island, only it was across the International Date Line making it December 8th there. At that time Marshall was working on the island as a civilian employed by Morris Knudsen Construction Co. After the attack he was taken prisoner along with other employees and after nine months was taken by ship to Japan where he spent the rest of the war as a slave laborer working on building a dam and later working in a coal mine near Nagasaki.

Marshall was born and raised in Dayton, Washington and after a 34 year career with Pacific Power, he returned to live in Dayton in the house he was raised in and was built by his father in 1916. On September 1, 2000, he and his wife Audrey celebrated their 50th anniversary. They have three children and nine grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

In 1940, after studying at both Washington State University and the University of Washington, he completed a degree in wholesale marketing. Shortly after college he heard about the job on Wake Island which put him into the war and three and a half years of suffering starvation, disease, brutality, hard labor, extreme weather, and humiliation at the hands of his captors. Many of the his friends and fellow workers did not survive.

Although the men of Camp 18, Wake Island, were non-military civilians, President Ronald Reagan recognized their service to their country by changing their status from civilian to military, which made them eligible for VA benefits. Marshall received an honorable discharge from the U.S. Navy in 1945. The framed Pacific battle ribbons and POW medals in his home testify to his courage. The Sturdevants faithfully attended POW reunions held around country that also include widows and relatives.

AMVETS Jonathan M. Wainwright Post #1111 was very proud to have Marshall Sturdevant as one of our members. The post was named in honor of General Wainwright who was captured and also spent three and a half years in Japanese prison camps.



YOU ARE NOT FORGOTTEN

### November Meeting

Welcome Aboard to **Lucy Bergman**,  
New Member for Life (Navy)

**Mal Harnett** (Marine) cuts the cake honoring  
the U.S. Marine Corps' Birthday.



**We Salute These Walla Walla American Flag Sponsors for their Support and Patriotism — Please Support our Sponsors**

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**5 Star General**

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**4 Star General Wainwright**

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**VFW Grant Farmer Post #992**  
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**1 Star Brigadier General**

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 American Legion Post 32  
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 Fenton Stahl Gallery  
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 Forgeron Cellars  
 Garrison Creek Lodge  
 Gary's Paint & Decorating

**1 Star Brigadier General**

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 Touchet Grange  
 WW Therapeutic Massage Center  
 Walla Walla Alliance for the Mentally Ill  
 Walla Walla Wagon Wheelers  
 Wild Rose Studio

# Veteran's Day Parade November 11, 2008 Walla Walla WA



**December 2008**

- 6 Macy's Parade of Lights Downtown Walla Walla
- 7 Pearl Harbor Day (Downtown Flags)
- 10 AMVETS of WWII founded 1944
- 17 AMVETS no meeting—Christmas dinner 6 pm at the VFW Post 992—Colville & Rose Streets
- 18 Bingo at VAMC 6:30 PM Building 66
- 22 Post Exec. Comm. Meeting 6 pm
- 25 Christmas

**January 2009**

- 1 New Years Day
- 15 Vets Visiting Vets, 6:30 PM, Eagle Meadows
- 19 Martin Luther King Jr. (Downtown Flags)
- 21 AMVETS meeting—Pot luck dinner 6 pm
- 22 VA Bingo, 6:30 PM
- 26 Post Exec. Comm. Meeting 6 pm

**February 2009**

- 8 Boy Scouts of America (1910)
- 14 Valentines Day—Salute to Hospitalized Vets
- 16 Presidents Day (Downtown Flags)
- 18 AMVETS meeting—Pot luck dinner 6 pm
- 19 VA Bingo, 6:30 PM
- 23 Post Exec. Comm. Meeting 6 pm
- 25 Vets Visiting Vets, Park Plaza, 6:30 PM

**March 2009**

- 8 Daylight Saving Time Begins
- 12 Girl Scouts of USA (1912)
- 18 AMVETS meeting—Pot luck dinner 6 pm
- 19 VA Bingo, 6:30 PM
- 20 Spring begins; yahoo
- 23 Post Exec. Comm. Meeting 6 pm
- 26 Vets Visiting Vets, Wheatland Village, 6:30 PM

**April 2009**

- 1 AMVETS "Because We Care Day" VAMCs
- 9 Vets Visiting Vets, Pioneer House, 6:30 PM
- 12 Easter Sunday
- 22 AMVETS meeting—Pot luck dinner 6 pm
- 23 VA Bingo, 6:30 PM
- 27 Post Exec. Comm. Meeting 6 pm

**May 2009**

- 14 Vets Visiting Vets, Garrison Creek Lodge, 6:30 PM
- 16 Armed Forces Day (Downtown Flags)
- 22 US Merchant Marine (1933)
- 20 AMVETS meeting—Pot luck dinner 6 pm
- 21 VA Bingo, 6:30 PM
- 25 Memorial Day (Downtown Flags)
- ?? Post Exec. Comm. Meeting 6 pm

**June 2009**

- 14 US Army (1775)
- 14 Flag Day (Downtown Flags)
- 14 Odd Fellows Hall, Time TBD, Flag Day Ceremony
- 17 AMVETS meeting—Pot luck dinner 6 pm
- 21 Summer begins
- 22 Post Exec. Comm. Meeting 6 pm
- TBD Annual Post Picnic

**July 2009**

- 2 US Army Air Corps (1926)
- 4 Independence Day (Downtown Flags)
- 16 AMVETS meeting—Pot luck dinner 6 pm
- 27 Post Exec. Comm. Meeting 6 pm

**August 2009**

- 4 US Coast Guard (1790)
- 19 AMVETS meeting—Pot luck dinner 6 pm
- 24 Post Exec. Comm. Meeting 6 pm
- 29 WW Fair & Frontier Days (Downtown Flags)

**September 2009**

- 7 Labor Day (Downtown Flags)
- 11 Patriot Day (Downtown Flags)
- 16 AMVETS meeting—Pot luck dinner 6 pm
- 18 POW/MIA Remembrance (Downtown Flags)
- 18 US Air Force (1947)

**October 2009**

- 12 Columbus Day (Downtown Flags)
- 13 U.S. Navy (1775)
- 21 AMVETS meeting—Pot luck dinner 6 pm
- 26 Post Exec. Comm. Meeting 6 pm

**November 2009**

AMVETS Post #1111  
Jonathan M Wainwright  
PO Box 2535  
Walla Walla WA 99362

This newsletter is now on our new web site  
[www.amvets-wallawalla.org](http://www.amvets-wallawalla.org)  
For Notification by e-mail  
Send request to: [jimirwin@charter.net](mailto:jimirwin@charter.net)

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## AMERICAN VETERANS

A leader since 1944 in preserving the freedoms secured by America's Armed Forces, AMVETS provides, not only support for veterans and the active military in procuring their earned entitlements, but also community services that enhance the quality of life for this nation's citizens [www.amvets.org](http://www.amvets.org) [amvets@amvets.org](mailto:amvets@amvets.org) 1-877-7AMVETS

**Post #1111 Current Membership 102  
Annual Members 29 / Life 73**

**Annual Dues: \$35.00 per year / Life Member: \$150.00**

To be eligible for membership, you must have served in the U.S. Armed Forces, including the National Guard and Reserves, anytime after Sept. 15, 1940. Additionally, unless still serving, your discharge must have been under honorable conditions. If you served as an American citizen in the armed forces of an allied nation, under honorable conditions, between Sept. 15, 1940 and May 8, 1975, you are also eligible, as are wartime members of the Merchant Marine. Proof of eligibility can take the form of a DD-214, an honorable discharge certificate or other appropriate document.

**[Dues can now be paid by credit card](#)**

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### **WAINWRIGHT MEMORIAL MONUMENT**

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Jonathan M Wainwright Memorial  
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**527 Bricks**

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**[jimirwin@charter.net](mailto:jimirwin@charter.net) or (509) 529-2411**

## **December 17th Meeting** **No Meeting in December**

**See front page  
Christmas Potluck dinner  
VFW 6:00 pm on the 20th  
102 N Colville Street  
Walla Walla WA**

### **DOWNTOWN WALLA WALLA FLAGS**

We are now in our 8th year of providing the downtown with holiday flags.

**Please support OUR Sponsors - page 4**

Flags will fly on the following upcoming holidays.

**Dec 7th- Pearl Harbor Day  
Jan 19th—Martin Luther King Day**