



American Veterans Jonathan M Wainwright Post Eleven-Eleven Walla Walla WA



Chartered in the year 2000

September 2011

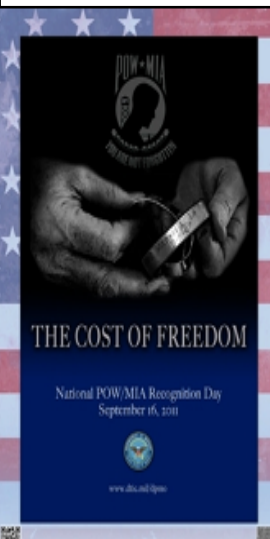


9-11-11 Observation in Downtown Walla Walla

You are invited to the POW/MIA Recognition Day Ceremony this Friday, Sept. 16, 2011. We hope to see you there. Contact Linda Wondra, Walla Walla VA Medical Center's Public Affairs Officer at (509) 525-5200, Ext. 22811 for more information or if you have any questions. Link to Walla Walla VA POW/MIA Announcement:

http://www.wallawalla.va.gov/news/POW_MIA.asp

Inside this issue:



The Jonathan M. Wainwright Memorial VA Medical Center
honors our POWs and MIAs.
Everyone is invited
DATE: Friday, Sept. 16, 2011
TIME: 10:00 am – Flag ceremony
10:45 am – Missing Man Ceremony
11:00 am – Refreshments
Come share in remembering those who are no longer with us.



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AMERICAN VETERANS—AMVETS

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. AMVETS National: www.amvets.org 1-877-7AMVETS

AMVETS Washington State: www.amvetswa.org

AMVETS Walla Walla: www.amvets-wallawalla.org



Post Commander

September has started off to be a busy month with the flags and fair parade to kickoff the month. I would like to thank Jim & Loraine Harting for the use of their jeep; it was a big hit in the parade. If you were at the fair on Saturday you may have noticed some of our members volunteering to drive shuttle golf cars around the grounds and if you happened to attend the rodeo on Sunday night you would have seen the American and military flags that our post loaned the rodeo for their annual recognition of veterans ceremony.

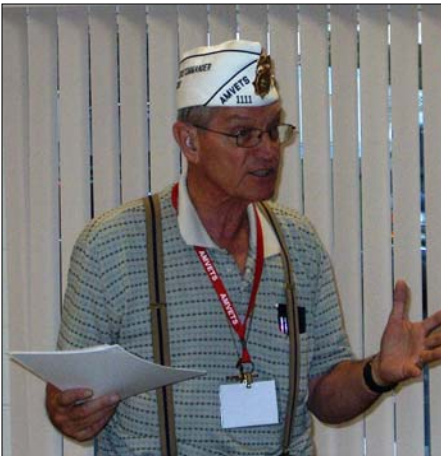
We had Wheelin Walla Walla Weekend on the 10th and Patriot Day on 9/11, and on the 16th will be POW/MIA Recognition Day with a ceremony at the Jonathan Wainwright VA Medical Center. Thanks to everyone who

helped put these programs together.

Membership is something we can all work on. If you need some applications please contact me. Remember Life dues increase the first of the year.

Look forward to seeing you all at the next post meeting on the 21st.

Larry Cunnington, Post Commander



**Department of Washington
State Commander**

Donald Schack

promotes

**The
Hometown
Heroes
Raffle**

★★ THE HOMETOWN HEROES RAFFLE ★★

BEGINS SEPTEMBER 5, 2011
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OVER 3,000 TOTAL PRIZES

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The Hometown Heroes Raffle ticket proceeds go directly to the Washington State Veterans Innovations Program (VIP). The VIP helps National Guard, Reserve and active duty service members and their families. The brave men and women have served in Iraq, Afghanistan and other locations around the world.

To find out more visit walottery.com or dva.wa.gov.



To learn more about how to play Washington's Lottery games visit learntolottery.com



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- 2 Scan coupon bar code.
- 3 Collect \$10 for Raffle ticket.
- 4 Tickets for both games will be produced.
- 5 Keep coupon and process as required.
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- 7 For help call 1-800-732-5101, M-F, 8-5.

Raffle sales end at midnight November 10, 2011 or when tickets sell out.

Overall odds of winning a cash prize 1:52. Overall odds of winning Match 4 are 1:8.7. 300,000 tickets available. Raffle tickets cannot be canceled. Non-sold tickets placed. Evidence of lottery sales sufficient to cover redeemed coupons may be required. Coupon can be redeemed only for indicated product at time of purchase. All other use constitutes fraud. Must be 18 to play.



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AMVETS POST #1111
NEWSLETTER
Published monthly
for members
and those who support
American Veterans.
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1st Vice Commander

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Jim Irwin 529-2411



I'm Shayna Colunga & this is my story, in '02 I joined the Navy & loved the time I was able to spend as a sailor, however due to unfortunate circumstances I was injured and released with a general under honorable conditions in '03. At first I was very upset but I am a true believer everything happens for a reason and this was no different. A month after being home in I met the love of my life Pedro Colunga Jr, U.S. Army Soldier. We were married on Nov 15, 2003 in Walla Walla, WA. On Feb 24, 2004 Pedro was deployed to Iraq. This was one of the hardest days of my life I was in a new place with none of my friends or family with me I was lost and heartbroken especially as a newlywed. At this point I decided to stop with the poor me and worry about what I could do to help my husband's moral and make his deployment better and more enjoyable for the both of us. In March of '04 I start sending care packages with snacks, pictures, love letters and I noticed that it made him so happy which made me happy even if we were thousands of miles apart. He returned Oct. '04. I wish I

could say it was the happiest time in life but I can't it wasn't easy adjusting to what he had seen and been through in Iraq; he had lost a very close friend. In March '05 we received wonderful news, we were having a baby. However the feeling was short lived per say since a few months later we were informed Pedro would be deploying to Iraq in May '06. In Oct '05 our son Camrin was born. This deployment would prove to be harder than the first one as we had a 7 month old son that I now had to raise alone. I decided that in Sept. I would start cosmetology school and start my career. My day started at 6 am and ended at 11pm every day for a little over a year. Pedro was due to come home in July '07 however, we received news that his unit was being extended and their 1 year tour had now become 18 months. Pedro returned Sept. 11, 2007 and our son was nearing his 2nd birthday. In Jan '08 we moved to Fort Gordon, GA and spent 3 consecutive non deployable years, I loved every minute of it. In March '09 we received wonderful news we were expecting our second child. In Nov. '09 our daughter Juliet was born. In May the Army assigned Pedro to Korea on an unaccompanied tour for a year. In Dec '10 he was deployed for the 3rd time since we had been married and the 4th time in his 10 years of military service. I decided to visit my family in California and his family in Washington during this tour. In April '11 Pedro was about to take his mid tour leave and I was visiting his family in Walla Walla and Camrin was in preschool, his teacher asked if the Union Bulletin could do a small article on our surprise for our son. As we walked into the Pre-K building we were greeted by Jeff the photographer, as I walked into the classroom somehow Camrin only saw me and said, "Oh, it's just my mom." And went back to playing with the puzzle he was working on. I told him to look who I had brought with me, when he looked up and seen his daddy he lit up and ran across the room jumping over toys and around kids into his daddy's arms. The next day the article printed in the U.B. and within 24 hours Pedro received a call from Norm Graybeal with the AMVETS Post 1111 asking to meet with him, Pedro agreed and met with Norm and Larry Cunnington for coffee at which time we were invited to our 1st AMVETS meeting at which we became members. Currently I am the 1st Vice Commander/adjutant. I am enjoying every minute knowing I am helping support our Veterans as well as our troops. I love helping others and giving back to my community as well as our soldiers and our fellow veterans.

See page 8 for more face pictures!

Checklist for items needed for boxes for soldiers; please bring items to the next meeting

Razors, Shaving cream, Tooth paste, Tooth brushes, Mouthwash.

Nonperishable food items (beef jerky, chips, cereal bars, sunflower seeds, crackers, etc.)

Bar bath soap, Combs, Sunscreen, Deodorant, Wash clothes.

Reading materials (crosswords, word searches, books, etc.)

Have a child make a thank you card or you may include a thank you letter for the box

Powdered mixes for them to put in their waters (powerade, crystal light, teas, etc.)

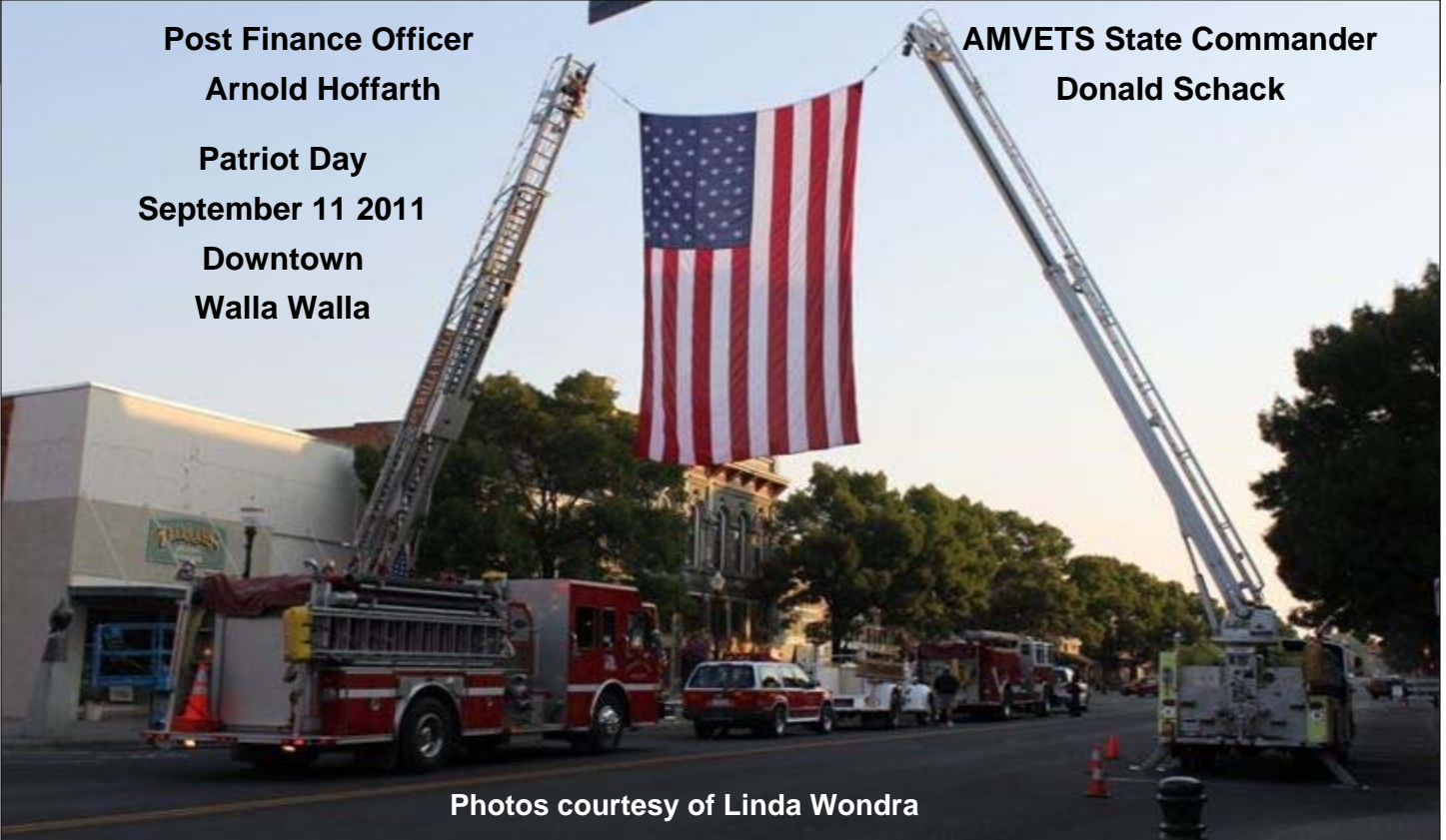
Really anything that you would like to contribute to a box would be wonderful. Please keep in mind that we still have to respect the culture overseas therefore we are not allowed to send ALCOHOLIC beverages or pork products. ***Also remember that we have both male and female soldiers as well deployed.**



**Post Finance Officer
Arnold Hoffarth**

**AMVETS State Commander
Donald Schack**

**Patriot Day
September 11 2011
Downtown
Walla Walla**



Photos courtesy of Linda Wondra

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

2011 Contributors are shown in red.
* **AMVET Member**

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Bataan Death March survivor dies at age 90 in Kennewick WA

By Loretto J. Hulse, Herald staff writer

KENNEWICK America lost another hero when James H. Bogart of Kennewick died last week. The Bataan Death March survivor is remembered as a man who was loyal to his family, friends, wartime companions and country. He died Aug. 25."

He never wanted to be called a hero," said granddaughter Jackie Mahren of Seattle. "He just wanted to be known as a survivor." She remembers her grandfather as someone who loved to tell a joke, loved to dance and loved to fish. He had so much fun and laughter, my memories of him are the greatest," Mahren said. "It was an honor knowing him. I'm very proud of my grandpa. I'll never let my children forget who he was.



Bogart celebrated his 90th birthday in December last year with family and friends at the American Legion post in Pasco with jokes and war stories. He was born Dec. 16, 1920, in Pine River, Minn., and joined the Minnesota National Guard in 1940. The guard was nationalized the next year and became the Army. Bogart, a staff sergeant with the 194th Tank Battalion, was deployed to the Philippines as a radio technician.

It was peacetime when Bogart arrived, but the bombing of Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941, was just months away. After the attack, he and his fellow soldiers fought the Japanese in the Philippines' Bataan Peninsula for three months before the order was given to surrender April 9, 1942. Bogart was one of the thousands of American and Filipino soldiers forced to march in the infamous and grueling Bataan Death March in 1942. They marched for miles to prison camps.

At his birthday party last year, Bogart told a Herald reporter how supplies ran low and then disappeared, how the Japanese killed anyone who fell down and couldn't march, how people starved to death and their bodies lined the way to a nearby cemetery. When the order for surrender was signed, Bogart weighed 130 pounds. Two weeks later, he believed he weighed about 95 pounds and counted himself one of the lucky ones. Bogart was one of about 700 American prisoners of war who survived being imprisoned at Camp Mukden in Manchuria (Japanese-controlled China) for three years. He was liberated and returned to the United States in October 1945.

In an email to the Herald, Richard Davis, captain of American Legion Post 34 Honor Guard in Pasco, wrote, "Jim was one of the last survivors of the Bataan Death March. Searching on the internet I found that two other survivors have passed in the month of August. I know a few years ago, there were less than a dozen of them still alive."

Bogart married Hazel Meger and moved to Kennewick in 1950. She died May 13, 2009. He was a union carpenter and retired in 1982. Bogart had three children -- the late Don Skinner, Barbara Bruegeman of Lewiston, Idaho, and Patty Head of Seattle. He had nine grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren.

Services, with military honors, will be 1 p.m. Saturday at Mueller's Tri-Cities Funeral Home, 1401 S. Union St., Kennewick. In lieu of flowers, the family asks donations be made to Camp Patriot,

Jim Bogart was a member of the original Wainwright Memorial Committee in 1995-1996 when the Walla Walla VA was renamed and the Jonathan M. Wainwright statue was dedicated. He was one of the charter members of AMVETS Post #1111 in 2000.



Calendar for 2011**September**

3 Fair Parade (Downtown Flags)
 5 Labor Day (Downtown Flags)
 11 Patriot Day (Downtown Flags)
 21 AMVETS Meeting—Pot luck dinner 6 pm

October

8 Italian Heritage Day (WW Court House)
 10 Columbus Day (Downtown Flags)
 13 U.S. Navy (1775)
 19 AMVETS Meeting—Pot luck dinner 6 pm
 31 Halloween

November

6 Daylight Savings Time Ends
 11 Veterans Day (Downtown Flags)
 16 AMVETS Meeting—Pot luck dinner 6 pm
 24 Thanksgiving Day (Downtown Flags)

December

7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance (Downtown Flags)
 14 U.S. Army (1775)
 21 AMVETS Meeting—Christmas Dinner
 25 Christmas

January 2012

1 New Years Day
 16 Martin Luther King Day (Downtown Flags)
 18 AMVETS Meeting—Pot luck dinner 6 pm

February 2012

8 Boy Scouts of America (1910)
 17 AMVETS Meeting - Pot Luck 6 PM
 20 Presidents Day (Downtown Flags)

Membership Meeting

September 21, 2011
 Potluck Dinner 6:00 PM
 Meeting 7:00 PM
 Golden West Estates Community room
 1425 Jasper St
 Walla Walla WA

POW MIA Recognition Day

Public invited

You are invited to the POW/MIA Recognition Day Ceremony this Friday, Sept. 16, 2011. We hope to see you there. Contact Linda Wondra, Walla Walla VA Medical Center's Public Affairs Officer at (509) 525-5200, Ext. 22811 for more information or if you have any questions.

September Birthdays

Happy Birthday to these post members

9 - Michael Dettmer
 12 - Jesse Moore
 16 - Robert Radke Jr.
 18 - Francis Bowen
 20 - Jack Preston
 28 - Jim Irwin

Downtown Flags will fly on the these Holidays

**POW/MIA Day September 16th
 Columbus Day October 10th
 Veterans Day November 11th**

Post #1111 Current Membership 96

Annual Members 15 / Life 81

Annual Dues: \$34.00 per year

Life Member: \$200.00

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.

AMVETS Post #1111
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We Salute the **Colunga Family** for their service to our country and their Patriotism.



My big boy's 1st day of kindergarten and he wants his daddy with him.

