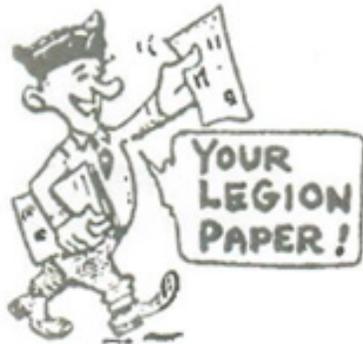




AMERICAN LEGION
GRANT HODGE POST #17
 111½ WEST MAIN STREET
 CENTRALIA, WA 98531

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Issue: March 2026



Outpost

AMERICAN LEGION OFFICERS

Commander	Bob Clark
1st Vice Commander	Clint Larson
2nd Vice Commander	Jim Baker
Adjutant	Ron Keller
Finance Officer	Robyn Olson
Chaplain	Steve Hatfield
Sergeant at Arms	Roy Corson
Historian	Vacant
Judge Advocate	Wade Samuelson

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

Director	Dennis Geiger
Asst Director	Greg Bower
Secretary	Paul Stray
Treasurer	Toni Stray
Road Captain	Geoff Moore
Safety Officer	Bob Johnson
Historian	Craig Bower
Sergeant at Arms	David Belles

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Commander	Gary Mersereau
1st Vice Commander	James Boggs
Adjutant	Vacant
Finance Officer	Vacant
Sargent of Arms	Kaison Mendez-Martinez
Squadron Advisors	Bob Terrell
	Bob Clark
	TJ Mendez

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

President	Chris Anderson
Vice President	Darlene Hughes
Secretary	Nancy Rodriguez
Treasurer	Judy Carter
Chaplain	Margo Blue
Sergeant at Arms	Mary Justice
Membership	Kim Ronnell

CLUB HOURS

MONDAY - FRIDAY
 2 pm - 9 pm
 Saturday: 1 pm - 9 pm
 Sunday: 1 pm - 7 pm

LOUNGE BOARD

Judy Carter	1 Year
Chris Thomas	2 Years
Mike Williamson	3 Years
Gary Longford	4 Years
Jim Reeson	5 Years

EXECUTIVE BOARD

TJ Mendez • Mike Williamson
 Roger Tower

Please show your card. It's mandatory!

All times are subject to early closing

FROM THE COMMANDER

I trust that all members of the Legion family are in good health. Should you be facing challenges, please remember that you are consistently in our thoughts and prayers. We encourage you to inform us if there is any way we can assist.

I was contemplating the subject matter for this month's article. A primary upcoming event will be the elections for various Legion officers, including SAL officers, Riders, and Auxiliary officers.

Any member in good standing is eligible to seek an office. On the Legion side, Mr. Bob Terrell is leading the recommendation committee. If you are interested in running for an office, please communicate your interest to him. I would also request that all members visit our website to download and review the bylaws and Constitution, ensuring a thorough understanding of the responsibilities associated with each position and the functions of each committee or commission.

I believe that once everyone has reviewed the bylaws and comprehends the roles and responsibilities of each position, many questions can be self-answered. The analogy I frequently employ is that of a car: the windshield is expensive, while the rear-view mirror is small. This design encourages us to consistently look forward, embracing larger and more innovative ideas. While we should learn from the past, our focus must remain on progression. I am proud to state that this forward-thinking approach is a hallmark of our Legion family at Grant Hodge Post 17.

In closing, please check out the calendar on the website for any updates.

We do have some last-minute events that pop up. So, we make sure at least the website's updated, and we will try our best to send it out electronically.

For God and Country,

“BE THE ONE”

Respectfully,

Robert “Bob” Clark
Commander, Grant Hodge Post 17

Trivia Answers:
1- Orange 2- John F. Kennedy 3- The Third Amendment

FROM THE AUXILIARY

Our Valentine's Dinner was a tremendous success!! Love was truly in the air!

As we turn the page, spring will be here before we know it, bringing longer evenings and warmer days that I'm sure we're all ready to enjoy.

Elections are just around the corner. If you're interested in getting more involved, we'd love to see you at an upcoming meeting.

Membership is going strong, with 22 new members joining us, and 151 members having already paid their 2026 dues. That said, 75 members have yet to renew. Let's aim for 100% participation by the end of the month! We'll be hosting breakfast on the 15th. While these events require a great deal of preparation and time, it's incredibly rewarding to see everyone leave with full stomachs and smiling faces.

As a friendly reminder, our meetings are held on the first Thursday of every month at 6:00. We look forward to seeing you there!

Sincerely,

Chris Anderson, President

Mr. Crunch

Last month, Gordy was the lucky one to track down Mr. Crunch, nice work, Gordy! We hope that victory sip tasted even better knowing you earned it. Now the hunt begins again! Mr. Crunch has snuck back into his hiding spot somewhere around the bar, and he's waiting to be discovered. He could be tucked behind something, perched up high, or hiding right in plain sight. You never know where he might turn up! So keep your eyes open while you're enjoying your time here. If you happen to spot Mr. Crunch, let the bartender know right away and your sharp detective skills will earn you a free drink.

Happy searching and may the best hunter win!

The Post is looking for ways to reduce expenses. If you would prefer to receive your Outpost by email only, please let the Commander (Bob Clark) know by sending him a message at commander@granthodgepost17.org

Do you have something you would like to share? Send an email to robinoutpost@yahoo.com, BEFORE the 15th of the month.

FROM THE S.A.L.

Another month in the books and how about those Seahawks with a Super Bowl win! Go Hawks! I hope everyone had the chance to enjoy the game and celebrate a great season.

A quick follow-up on membership: we've had several renewals since the last outpost and follow-up calls; thank you to those who've taken care of that. There are still a few memberships outstanding, so if you haven't renewed yet, please take a moment to do so. Your continued support keeps our program strong and moving forward.

We're also still looking for more participation and input at our monthly meetings. Your ideas and involvement truly make a difference.

We're continuing to work on offering a virtual meeting option to make attendance easier for everyone, so stay tuned for updates on that.

"It's the spirit within, not the veneer without, that makes a man." Lord Baden Powell

SAL Commander

Gary J.C. Mersereau; Sr. - BSN/RN

Dear Legion Family,

They say at the beginning of life it takes a community effort, and at the end of life it is the same. As many of you know, Tony passed away Dec. 27, fighting cancer brought on from his Navy duties decades ago in Vietnam waters. This Post 17 honored his life on Jan. 31st by hosting a huge gathering for family and friends. We all recognized his presence in any setting, especially with the Honor Guard, and that for decades he was a force, in Lewis County especially, that would not be forgotten soon. Thank you for your outpouring of love and support since his death, and the unbelievable celebration of life. The Auxiliary went above and beyond with supplying and cooking food; the Legionnaires pitched in too. Our Commander Bob made sure the service at the funeral home was streamed to the Post, and the Lounge picked up the pace with refreshments and cakes. The kids and I can't say thank you enough for all you did! Tony's life was a blessing, and one that brought me with him to Post 17, to this wonderful 'family' of friends. Hugs to you all

~ From Nancy Rodriguez

"GROWTH COMES FROM RECOGNIZING OUR MISTAKES AND CHOOSING TO IMPROVE!"

THE ADJUTANT CORNER

Hello again!

I hope you all had a wonderful Valentine Day and President Day.

We had a wonderful Valentine dinner at the post put on by the Auxiliary!! Thank you. We have several positions we need to fill. If you are interested, contact Bob Terrell or me. We would be more than happy to guide you to the right position.

Many changes are coming up like a new sign on top of the building.

I would like to know how many people are interested in a bowling tourney. I will leave a sign-up sheet at the social quarters.

Hope to see you all in the post soon we need you to come and enjoy your favorite beverage Until next time!!

Love and Peace
Ron Keller, Adjutant

GREETINGS FROM VFW POST 2200

Welcome March!

We the members of VFW Post 2200 want to thank everyone for their support and allowing us to be considered members of the American Legion Family. March welcomes St. Patrick's Day. Wasn't he the guy who drove all the snakes from Ireland? I wonder how that would look today?

As we move into 2026, make an effort in finding new ways to make our Post better. Consider volunteering, inviting a friend or relative join, serving as an officer, or any other way you can help to make our Legion Better. I wish you all of the best as we move into this new year!

Be Happy and Lucky, Roger

Trivia Questions:

1. Historically, what color is disrespectful to wear on St. Patrick's Day?
2. What U.S. president was the first Irish Catholic to be elected to the office?
3. What amendment to the U.S. Constitution prohibits the quartering of soldiers in private homes during peacetime?

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March 2026



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
National Peanut butter Day	BINGO/Dinner 5 pm	Executive Board Meeting 7 pm Full Moon	Liquor Raffle 5:30 pm Queen Of Hearts National Hug a G.I. Day	Auxiliary & SAL's Meeting 6 pm Membership Meeting 7 pm Legion Riders	Game Night 5 pm National Oreo Cookie Day	Burger Night/ Meat Draw 6pm National Be Heard Day
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	BINGO/Dinner 5 pm National Get Over It Day	Sharon Care 10:30 am VFW Meeting (in meeting room) 7 pm	Honor Guard Meeting 6:15 pm Liquor Raffle 5:30 pm Queen Of Hearts	Joint Planning Meeting 6 pm Cub Scout meeting 6 pm	Game Night 5 pm National K9 Veterans Day	National Potato Chip Day
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Aux Breakfast 9- 11 American Legion Birthday	BINGO/Dinner 5 pm St. Patrick's Day		Liquor Raffle 5:30 pm Queen Of Hearts	National Let's Laugh Day	Game Night 5 pm National Proposal Day	Corn beef & Cabbage 6 pm
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	BINGO/Dinner 5 pm National Puppy Day		Liquor Raffle 5:30 Queen Of Hearts National Medal Of Honor Day	Legion Riders 6 pm	Game Night 5 pm	Corn-hole 5-8 with Hot dogs & hamburgers
29	30	31				
Pitch Tournament 12:30 National Vietnam War Veterans Day	BINGO/Dinner 5 pm National I'm In Control Day					