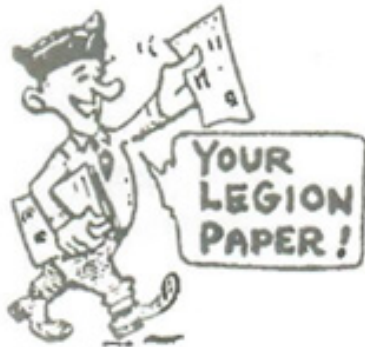




**AMERICAN LEGION**  
**GRANT HODGE POST #17**  
 111½ WEST MAIN STREET  
 CENTRALIA, WA 98531

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Issue: May 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	Kiason 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

**Please show your card. It's mandatory!**

*All times are subject to early closing*

## LOUNGE BOARD

Vacant	1 Year
Vacant	2 Years
Vacant	3 Years
Vacant	4 Years
Vacant	5 Years

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

TJ Mendez • Mike Williamson  
 Roger Tower

## FROM THE COMMANDER

As summer approaches, we would like to highlight several important activities occurring this May. Numerous memorial services are scheduled for Memorial Day weekend. We encourage your attendance or assistance at these events if your schedule permits. If not, please consider observing a moment of silence to honor our fallen.

Regarding facility updates, the hot water heater in the women's restroom has been replaced, and new lighting has been installed in the women's restroom, men's restroom, and the Legion meeting room. For SAL and Legion membership meetings, Zoom access will be provided. The link can be found on our webpage by navigating to the calendar and clicking on either "SAL Meeting" or "Legion Meeting." Currently, these are the only two meetings scheduled for Zoom; however, we may expand this to include planning and executive meetings for the Legion in the future.

Additionally, I am pleased to announce that four of our veterans were honorably recognized with a Quilt of Valor during the Legion Tenth District meeting, as may have been noted in our Facebook postings. I also extend my gratitude to the auxiliary unit 17 for providing an excellent breakfast. We encourage your attendance at future breakfast events.

Finally, we wish to express our appreciation to TJ Creations for his generous donation of a magnificent shadow box commemorating our 1958 State Baseball Champions. This display is prominently located at the top of the stairs. The Legion is also considering sponsoring another baseball team this year, and further updates will be provided as details become available.

For God and Country,

"BE THE ONE"

Respectfully,

Robert "Bob" Clark  
Commander, Grant Hodge Post 17

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Trivia Answers:  
1 - At half-staff from sunrise until noon, then at full staff until sundown  
2 - 1914 3 - 1971

## FROM THE AUXILIARY

Our May meeting is especially important, as we will be voting on new Auxiliary positions. Your participation matters, and we encourage all members to attend and have a voice in shaping the future of our group. Please plan to be there and take part in this important decision-making process.

We will not be meeting in July or August, so we have just two more meetings before our well-deserved summer break. Meetings will resume on September 3rd, and we look forward to seeing everyone back refreshed and ready for a new year.

Please note that we will not be hosting a breakfast in May. Instead, we will celebrate with a special Father's Day breakfast on June 21st. All fathers will eat for free, so bring your family and join us for a morning of good food and company.

We are also in need of volunteers to help hand out poppies on May 22nd. This is a meaningful way to support our veterans and connect with the community. If you can spare even an hour or two, your help would make a big difference. Please reach out to sign up or to get more information.

Thank you all for your continued support, participation, and dedication we truly appreciate everything you do to make our Auxiliary strong.

*Sincerely,*

*Chris Anderson, President*

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## Mr. Crunch

Last month, James Boggs rose to the challenge, outsmarted the competition, and captured the elusive Mr. Crunch, legendary move! We trust that victory tasted even better with a free drink in hand. But don't get too comfortable... Mr. Crunch is already plotting his next escape. On the first of the month, he'll be slipping into a brand-new hiding spot somewhere around the bar, probably laughing to himself the whole time. Think you can track him down? Keep your eyes sharp while you're hanging out, he's sneaky, but not unbeatable. If you find him, report your discovery to the bartender and claim your well-deserved free drink. Game on.

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

## FROM THE S.A.L.

As I make my final entry as your SAL Commander, it's hard to believe how quickly this past year has gone by. I plan to remain involved and continue volunteering where I can; however, this past year has presented some personal challenges, and I recognize that I was not always able to fulfill my duties to the standard I hold myself to.

At our upcoming meeting, we will be electing new leadership. I strongly encourage all members to attend; whether you are interested in serving in a position or simply want to have a voice in the future of our squadron. Please remember that the strength of the SAL within this post depends on its leadership, but even more so on the members who show up and participate. Without that involvement, our squadron cannot succeed, and our standing within the post is diminished. Participation can be as simple as an hour a month. Come by, enjoy a drink or a meal, and take part in the meeting. We are also working toward offering a virtual attendance option to make participation even more accessible.

Thank you all for the opportunity to serve.

SAL Commander

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

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## PAST COMMANDER'S & PAST PRESIDENTS DINNER

Past Commanders and Past Presidents Dinner will be held on May 16th, with dinner starting promptly at 6:00 PM. We kindly ask that you RSVP by May 14th to ensure proper planning for the evening.

This special event is a proud tradition that has been celebrated at the post for many years, honoring the leadership, dedication, and service of those who have helped shape and strengthen our organization. It is a wonderful opportunity to reconnect, share stories, and celebrate the lasting impact of our past leaders.

We look forward to an enjoyable evening of good food, great company, and meaningful fellowship as we continue this cherished tradition together.

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**“EVERY PERSON YOU MEET IS EITHER A  
LESSON OR A BLESSING.”**

## THE ADJUTANT CORNER

On May 16, we will honor our past commanders and past presidents at our annual steak and salmon dinner. We will also recognize members celebrating 50 and 60 years. Please plan to attend this is a special tradition for our organization. Be sure to sign up in the lounge.

On May 25, we will participate in the Memorial Day service beginning at 10:00 a.m. Please mark your calendar and make plans to attend.

This is also a reminder that officer elections will take place at our May 7 meeting. We need strong member participation to ensure we have a quorum.

A special thank you to Mark Blacklock for volunteering to assist with mailing the Outpost and managing our webpage. We also extend our appreciation to Kin Ronnell for the excellent work she continues to do producing the Outpost.

Bob Terrell Assistant Adjutant

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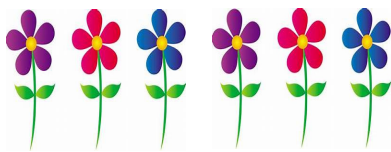


**Mr. Crunch has been hanging around the post for over a year now, yet some members still don't know what our little friend looks like. Hopefully, this picture will help everyone put a face to the name!**

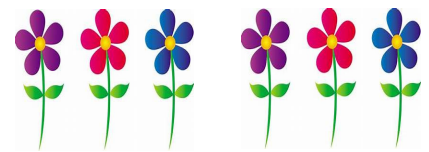
### **Trivia Questions:**

1. How should American flags mark Memorial Day?
2. What year did the president sign Mother's Day into law as a national holiday?
3. When did Memorial Day move from May 30th to the last Monday in May?

**Like us on Facebook  
@ Grant Hodge Post 17**



# May 2026



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
					<b>Game Night</b> 5 pm  May Day  Full Moon	<b>Post Clean Up</b> 1 pm  <b>Burger Night/</b> <b>Meat Draw</b>  <b>6pm</b>
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	<b>BINGO/Dinner</b> 5 pm  <b>May The Fourth</b> <b>Be With You</b>  National Bird Day	<b>Executive</b> <b>Board</b> <b>Meeting</b>  7 pm  <b>CINCO DE</b> <b>MAYO</b>  National Silence Day	<b>Liquor Raffle</b> 5:30 pm  <b>Queen Of</b> <b>Hearts</b>  National Beverage Day	<b>Auxiliary &amp;</b> <b>SAL's Meeting</b>  6 pm  <b>Membership</b> <b>Meeting</b>  7 pm	<b>Game Night</b> 5 pm  National Have A Coke Day	Military Spouse Appreciation Day  National "Sleepover" Day
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<b>Mother's Day</b> <b>Breakfast</b>  9 to 11	<b>BINGO/Dinner</b> 5 pm  National Eat What you Want Day	<b>Sharon Care</b> 10:30 am  <b>VFW Meeting</b> (in meeting room)  7 pm	<b>Honor Guard</b> <b>Meeting</b> 6:15 pm  <b>Liquor Raffle</b> 5:30 pm  Children Of Fallen Patriots Day	<b>Joint Planning</b> <b>Meeting</b>  6 pm  <b>Legion Riders</b>  6 pm	<b>Game Night</b> 5 pm  Bring Flowers to Someone Day	<b>Past</b> <b>Commanders</b> <b>&amp;</b> <b>Past</b> <b>Presidents</b> <b>Dinner</b>  6 pm  Armed Forces Day
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	<b>BINGO/Dinner</b> 5 pm		<b>Liquor Raffle</b> 5:30 pm  <b>Queen Of</b> <b>Hearts</b>  Rescue A Dog Day	National Waitstaff Day	<b>Game Night</b> 5 pm	<b>Color Guard</b> <b>&amp; Veterans</b> <b>Program @</b> <b>Greenwood</b>  National Lucky "Penny" Day
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	<b>BINGO/Dinner</b> 5 pm		<b>Liquor Raffle</b> 5:30  National Flip Flop Day	<b>Legion Riders</b>  6 pm  National Hamburger Day	<b>Game Night</b> 5 pm	
31	<b>Memorial Day</b> Ceremony At Claquato Cemetery-TBA					
<b>Pitch</b> <b>Tournament</b>  12:30						