



The Dispatch



The Organization for Military Officers

<https://mowwpugetsoundchapter.org>

May 2024

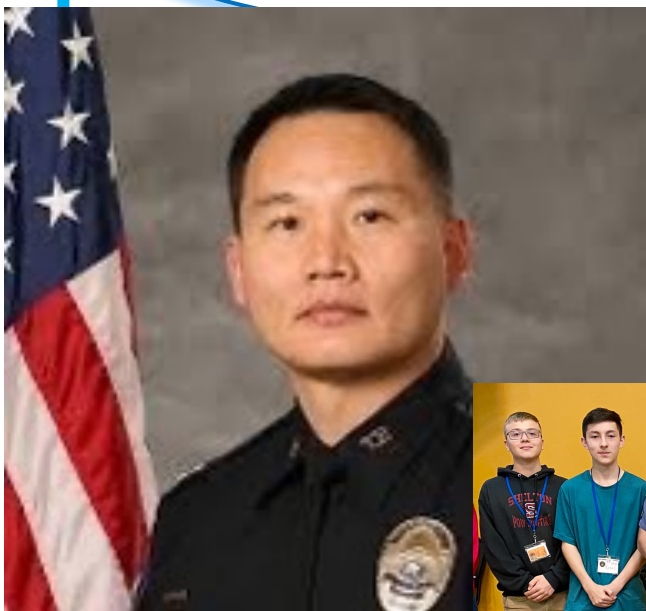
Puget Sound Chapter The Military Order

You are invited: May 4th,
Steilacoom Town Hall, 1730
social, **1800 Start**, Catered Dinner,
Honored Guest below

Law and Order
program

The Puget Sound Chapter Outreach for Law and Order in our communities. Come and meet Brigadier General Michael A. Ake, recognized for his dedicated law enforcement and military service.

He retired in 2022 as Interim Chief of the Tacoma Police Department where he served for over 32 years



Convenient Meeting Links

RSVP <https://mowwpugetsoundchapter.org/monthly-meeting-rsvp/>

PAY Online <https://mowwpugetsoundchapter.org/monthly-meeting-payment/>

ZOOM <https://mowwpugetsoundchapter.org/zoom/>

April Puget Sound Chapter Report



Say hello to new chapter members: Alan Mandigo inducts Don Brewer, Dr Wheeler, (sponsor Muri), Frankie Rasmussen, and Ray Rasmussen

Commander Ed thanks guest speakers Colleen Carmichael and Bill Brown who talked about Veteran outreach that the Puget Sound Chapter values as our priority



AJROTC instructor Judy Roberson and her guest Colleen Carmichael



Mayor Muri addresses the Puget Sound Chapter on April 14 at the Steilacoom Town Hall



First Youth Leadership Conference for the Puget Sound Chapter was held on 20 April for peninsula students on a beautiful spring day



The USS Turner Joy was the venue for the 2024 YLS of 15 students for the one-day leadership event



Commander's Corner: Capt Ed Murphy

LIFE IS FULL OF SURPRISES: Yes, and most of them are less than pleasant. I know whereof I speak, having lived through one of those surprises just last weekend, Sunday to be exact. Let me tell you about this surprise because there was a lesson in it for me (more than one actually) and there might be one there for you, too. Here it is.

I was attending one of our monthly Chapter meetings, conducting the meeting really, and things were going along just swimmingly when I happened to cast a glance toward the back of the room where the serving tables for lunch--empty. That was my first clue that all might not be well. Since our guest speaker was still presenting, I stepped outside and looked up the street hoping I'd see the caterers pulling up to the curb. I didn't. What I did see was a young lady from our Chapter worriedly speaking on the phone to someone and saying to that person that our lunch had not arrived. Surprise #1.

Now lest you think we might have been jumping the gun, consider that our caterer had never missed a delivery in the year and a half since she had been bringing us hot meals. Last Sunday was a first and had to be added to that long list of surprises that, as the title of this little tome suggests, life is full of. There would be no hot lunch that day for hungry guests who had paid for the lunch they were now not going to get. Surprise #2: Did I mention there were 45 guests; so there was not one surprise but one set of surprises, a set, in this case, of 45. But Dame Luck wasn't done with us yet.

A short phone conversation with the Caterer revealed that we had given her the wrong delivery time. We had originally scheduled an evening meeting and later rescheduled to early afternoon, without letting her know. We were also told that the meals we ordered were now in the oven but couldn't be ready for delivery until after our meeting adjourned, leading to one final surprise. As specified in our contract, we were obligated to pay 50% of the cost of our cancelled order, a rather sizeable sum. Surprise #3.

So far, a list of surprises by any measure, wouldn't you say? But we're not quite done. Working through this list we saw one more, a silver lining that had gone unnoticed for, who knows how long. What was it; a team of companions in place who pulled us back together and kept us running; all without breaking stride. Perhaps it just took the vanishing luncheon of April 2024 to give us true appreciation of them. Surprise #4

And for companions reading this, one final surprise, and that is, no more surprises. We promise that if you sign up for our next meeting you will get the hot meal for which you paid. We admit that our record is no longer perfect, but you will admit, we hope, that it is still pretty good. So please give us another chance: Make your reservation now for the Spring Region XIV Convention and May Chapter Meeting. The program will be informative, and I guarantee there will be food, delicious food, all you can eat. Just go to the Puget Sound Chapter Website to sign up. Hope to see you there!

Ed Murphy, Chapter Commander

Note: Need names for 4 May evening meeting, 1730, at Steilacoom Town Hall. Catered dinner, need accurate count by Thursday 2 May by noon--we lose money on no-shows.



Puget Sound Chapter Chaplain Notes—LCDR Skip Stephan USNR

Have you seen a shepherd today? Would you recognize a shepherd if you saw one? We don't have many shepherds in our culture. So what is a shepherd? A shepherd is a leader, or guide who gives endless attention to his flock. He knows each one's needs and is aware of each one's troubles. A flock requires continuous attention because they cannot rest and thrive until they are relieved of fear, tension, hunger and aggravation. A good shepherd is a protector, provider and care-giver. As such, the good shepherd is a very appropriate theme for Mothers' Day which we celebrate this month.

Anyone who has seen a mother has seen a shepherd. You might ask, "How is a mother a shepherd?" The answer is simple. She protects, cares for, loves, feeds, educates, and disciplines her children. This is the same thing any conscientious shepherd would do for his flock. I would like to share a story about a little girl and her shepherd.

Four-year-old Suzie fell down and hurt her knee while roller skating in the driveway. She began to cry. The lady next door heard her, came running over, looked at her and said, "Don't cry Suzie, I can help you. I know all the principles of mother-hood." And Suzie cried all the louder. By now her mother was on the scene. With a couple of reassuring words she picked up Suzie, gave her a hug, checked for injuries and began to wipe away her tears. "It's all better now mommy," said Suzie.

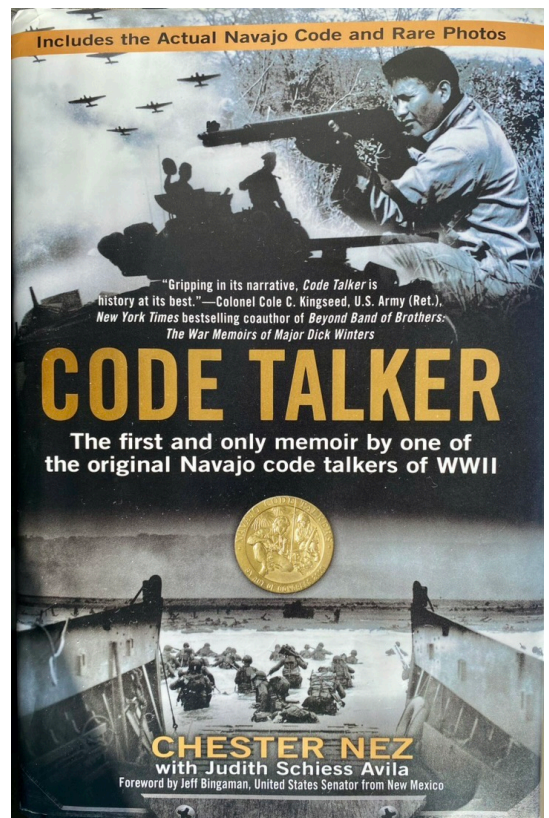
Just knowing all the principles of Christian living is not enough. People need to know the shepherd. Jesus called himself the "Good Shepherd." He knows each of us by name. He loves us, cares for us and looks out for us. Even though He has risen in glory, He continues as an abiding presence to care for His people. He is the Good Shepherd who died for His sheep to rescue them from the wolves of sin. His Resurrection confirms His victory and He continues to live as the shepherd of our souls.

God is the Supreme Shepherd over all of us who are in His flock. Though we might stray or be disobedient to His will, there is no one else who can give us any more protection, comfort, love and forgiveness than God, who is our Good Shepherd.

Book Reader

Chester Nez was a Navajo Indian who lived in the New Mexican reservation until he went to boarding school as a young boy in Arizona to learn English and grade school subjects. The Marine Corps accepted 29 Navajo teens when WW II broke out for a crazy idea whereby their fluency of their language formed an unbreakable code, secure from the Japanese, to use in battle. The Navajo language had never been written down and the only ones who could speak it were a small tribe in New Mexico. Chester went on to Guadalcanal, Peleliu, Tarawa, and Guam, constantly relaying messages on the radio between units, a code that was never broken. Chester helped assure victory for the United States over Japan in the South Pacific

Code Talker, Chester Nez and Judith Avila



Coming Chapter Events

Date	Outreach	Time/Date
4 May	MOWW Region XIV Conference	1200 Town Hall
4 May	First Responder Recognition Program	1730 Town Hall
9 June	Awards Program and Officer Induction	1800 Town Hall
23-28 June	Northwest Youth Leadership Conf.	PLU
? July	Picnic with Homeless Veterans	Retsil, WA



Adjutant's Angle Welcome to our evening meetings!
Please remember to check-in as you walk in the door.

We need to verify your payment status and you will need to pickup a place card to reserve your seat. Donations to our raffle table are always greatly appreciated.

17TH ANNUAL

DAY OF REMEMBRANCE MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE

MAY 27, 2024, 11:00 A.M.

Presented by Tacoma Historical Society and
Edward B. Rhodes-Parkland American Legion Post 2



War Memorial Park,
6th Av & MacArthur St
Tacoma, Washington

**Humor
in
Uniform**



New top secret Army weapon

Puget Sound Chapter Staff Officers:

Commander: Capt Ed Murphy santos8@comcast.net

Sr. Vice Commander CAPT Carrie Nielson candmielson@comcast.net

Vice Commander: COL Andy Leneweaver

Adjutant: Annette Mummery 253-278-9346 annette.mummery@gmail.com

Chaplain: Skip Stephan

Historian: CW4 Jory

Marshall: Maj Warren 360 584-8414

Public Affairs: Col Gibson

Surgeon: Vacant

Treasurer: Maj Mummery

Asst. Treas. CDR Mandigo

Chapter Activities: LT McConnel

Finance: Vacant

Hospitality: Vacant

Committee Chairs:

Law and Order: vacant

Nat'l Security: MG Coffey

Membership: Lt Col Muri

Memorials: MG Coffey

NWLC: Col Gibson/CDR Mandigo

ROTC/JROTC: CDR Mandigo

WSPD: Maj Warren

Scouting: CDR Kirkland

Patriotic Ed: Col Gibson/CDR

Veteran Affairs: Vacant

Kirkland

IT Supervisor: Lt Col Snyder

Homeland Security: vacant

Did you get your prize?



Pershing Rifles The Indian wars were over for good, and Lt Pershing was assigned to the U of Nebraska where he could enhance his officer skills and continue as a teacher. State schools like Nebraska were required to sponsor ROTC battalions of the student body. College students seldom drilled or studied military subjects, marching skills were poor and shoes unpolished. Nobody expected to be fighting another war. Into this sleepy, sloppy state of affairs, marched 2Lt John J Pershing—he knew he could make a change. This officer expected everything, he looked and acted like a leader, straight and tall, perfectly tailored, immaculately clean. He called a clear, strong roll and remembered every name. The cadets grew to love him for his commanding presence. Pride grew in this difficult but inspiring taskmaster. The corps of cadets mushroomed from 90 to 350 members. Professors complained that the students were neglecting their studies so they could polish and drill more. The cadet corps soon was running so smoothly that Pershing asked if he could teach math and fencing classes. He taught in his civilian cloths and one day raced to put on his uniform so he could get to the drill field. Returning his adjutants salute Pershing realized he was in uniform but wearing his derby hat. Without a word he marched off the field, changed hats and coolly continued where he left off.

Pershing wanted to win a national drill meet in Omaha and selected 45 top students and rode them hard, even cancelling a night on the town, the evening before the meet, because the team was too smug. Next morning, they won the meet and their fans knocked down an 8-foot fence to congratulate the winners. They became known as the Pershing Rifles.

Convenient Links

FACEBOOK <https://www.facebook.com/groups/43888609799>

WSPD <https://mowwpugetsoundchapter.org/wspd-home/>

NWYLC <https://mowwpugetsoundchapter.org/north-west-youth-leadership-conference/>