



Director's Message

*A Monthly Report from the Washington
State Department of Veterans Affairs*



Director John Lee

Phone: (360) 725-2152 E-mail: john@dva.wa.gov

September 10, 2008

WDVA CENTRAL OFFICE TO PILOT A 4 – 10 WORKWEEK

As part of a statewide effort to reduce spending, Governor Gregoire has asked 9 agencies to experiment with a four-day work week and implement additional energy savings measures.

Some of the advantages that might be gained by the new schedule include:

- Reduced environmental impact due to reduced energy use and fewer commute trips.
- State budget savings in reduced energy and janitorial costs.
- Increased employee satisfaction.
- Increased customer service by offering extended hours Monday - Thursday.

For WDVA, the schedule change will only impact the Olympia Central Office. Our staff are in the process of determining how the new schedule will be implemented to ensure veterans and their families receive the same level of customer service from our Olympia Service Center as always! We will also be discussing this at the Sept. 25 Governor's Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee meeting.

We do not know yet when the new schedule will go into effect, but stay tuned to our ListServ and website for more information.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON VETERANS & MILITARY AFFAIRS HEARS FROM WDVA PROGRAMS

On September 3, the Joint Committee on Veterans & Military Affairs held a hearing in Vancouver, WA. The agenda included the following updates:

- WDVA PTSD Program – Deputy Director Alfie Alvarado updated the committee on the work being done to reach veterans and families in remote parts of our state. The program is also focused on services being provided to college and university staff members. Read more at:

<http://www.dva.wa.gov/news.html#school>

- State Veterans Home being planned for Walla Walla – Chief Financial Officer Gary Condra provided a briefing on the status of the pre-design currently being conducted for the Walla Walla State Veterans Home. More information on this project will be posted to the web page as it become available.
- Veterans Conservation Corps Academies – Program Manager Mark Fischer and Field Coordinators Ed Bowen, Aidan Murray and Doug Robberson briefed the committee on the locations and progress of the 2008 VCC Academies. Read more about the academies at:
<http://www.dva.wa.gov/PDF%20files/VCC2.pdf>

WINGED VICTORY GETS A FACELIFT

On September 2, I had the opportunity to visit the [Winged Victory](#) Monument on the Capitol Campus.



The bronze sculpture was painted gold in 1988 in preparation for the State Centennial. However now the gold paint needs to be removed in order to properly clean and care for the monument.

The Department of General Administration has begun the task of returning the sculpture to its original coloring. You can follow the progress of this project at:

<http://www.ga.wa.gov/Campus/WingedVictory.htm>