

HISTORY of the ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON GENERALS

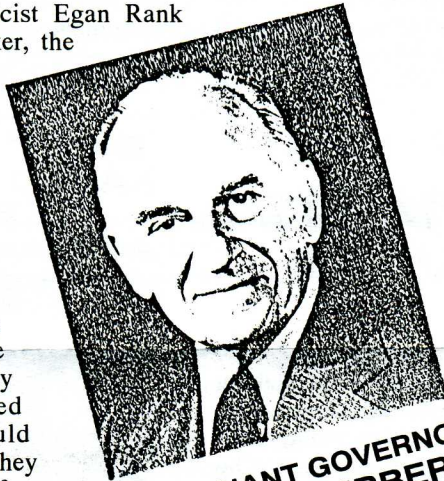
In April, 1970 publicist Egan Rank approached Willis Tucker, the Editor of the Western Sun, with an idea. He noted that Kentucky had their Colonels, Tennessee had their Squires, Nebraska had their Admirals and Washington, the only state named for a president, did not have an organization. They whole-heartedly agreed that Washington should have its Generals, and they began the formation of an organization whose members would represent the highest ideals of the State of Washington.

They enjoined Lieutenant Governor John Cherberg, whose enthusiasm for the idea is shown in the accompanying poetic letter, and who became the official signer of commissions issued to Washington Generals. Rank and Tucker began commissioning their most influential friends as General and when Rank brought the great Kentucky Colonel Harland Sanders to Tuckers office, the Colonel graciously accepted his promotion.

Though Egan Rank and Willis Tucker were the founders of the organization, much appreciation must be given to the many Generals who helped put the organization together and make it grow, starting with Al Barron of the Phone Co., then Realtor R.C. Schiefelbein and his friend Basil Hoke, who organized the books and the records; Cartoonist Gris Griswold who drew the logo and put out the first newsletters; Jack Ballard who was

anointed the first Commanding General; Norm O'Donnell and Eddie Carlson who commissioned his pilots and hotel managers and leaders around the

country; Willard Rhodes of hydroplane fame; Jim Owens the Washington football coach; Lloyd Cooney of editorial fame; Banker Joe Epler and John Fluke, the manufacturing genius; Ken Hatch a n d attorney Mike Herb;



**LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
JOHN A. CHERBERG**

Generals of Washington, Greetings:

Since the primary function of this world-wide group of distinguished personalities is to inform the citizens of the world of the unique charms of the state of Washington, it is well to reiterate those charms.

This is the land where the bountiful prairies lie in the lap of majestic mountains. Where militant steelhead fight for the lure of the fortunate fisherman. Where tumbling rivers fall to the mighty Pacific. Where the wily chukkar walks the novice hunter into perspiring frustration. Where the gentle doe stands in patient curiosity at the roadside to watch the busy people. Where hunting, skiing, fishing, boating, snow-mobiling, camping, hiking, unlimited hydro-racing, horse-racing, picnicking, bird-watching, bicycling, all lie within an hour of a great metropolitan center.

Where the rolling Palouse offers more of its golden wheat harvest than any other acreage in the world. Where at night Grand Coulee Dam offers the world's grandest Light Show. Where great universities contribute to one of the nation's strongest intellectual climates. Where throbbing industry pulses in harmony with the dreams of world-renowned scientists. Where medical research shares the spotlight with creative art.

Where a warmhearted people vigorously protect the quality of their matchless environment. Where today's stranger is tomorrow's neighbor, and Western Hospitality finds its most sensitive manifestation.

This is Washington State.

This is the jewel in the crown of the sisterhood of states.

This is the product which Washington Generals wish to extoll.

Let us be on with this happy task.

Cordially,
John A. Cherberg

B i l l
Walker and Harry
Sherman and many many
more, including yours truly Don Culver.

Honorary Chartered Generals included Richard Nixon, Harry Truman, Lynden Johnson, Dan Evans, Warren Magnuson and Henry Jackson

Though the purpose of the Association was to promote the State of Washington, the Association took on other projects such as The Boys Village, a haven for young men, and a flag installation at the Arboretum. At the Annual Dinner and Auction held on or about Washington's Birthday, they presented the "Friend of Man" award which later became the "Washingtonian Award". At the end of this article is a list of the prominent winners of this prestigious award.

In 1986 a small group of board members and helpers formed a group called the "Steering committee" and we met in the loft of the Down Factory. This ambitious group helped start more projects and introduced new by-laws which instituted promotions to Major Generals and to active Generals.. On this committee were names I should record. Our host Don Schingler, Jim Washington, Ken Ritchey, Bob Junell, Joe Feldman, and Egan Rank who was our first Commanding General.

At this time the Governor & Secretary of State joined the Lieutenant Governor in signing the Commissions for new Generals. The Association also recognized November 11th as the day the state was admitted to the Union. On its 100th birthday the AWG joined in the celebration by restoring the original great wood seal of the State of Washington.. This costly project was a highlight of the celebration and was displayed across the state.. It now

is in the Washington State Museum in Olympia. Joining the prestigious Smithsonian Institute and the State Museum, the Association assisted in the presentation of the major exhibit, Washington Salutes Washington.

When the Goodwill games came to Washington, the Generals under the leadership of Len Scott, took on the task of organizing and presenting the Awards to the athletes of the world. We could write a book about the venues and the leaders like Jim Washington, Bill Rose and Bill Riley. We then continued that effort with the Washington State Games.

The Association of Washington Generals has supported the Columbia Boys Choir, which won awards internationally. The AWG also helped with the National History awards and have presented scholarships to deserving students. AWG fun activities include visits to the State Legislature and the Governor's Mansion.. Annually, there's a bivouac or picnic for the families, and occasional outings of many kinds, a social event at the brewery, or baseball with the Mariners, or a four foot cherry pie cutting and serving at the Kingdome ..

It is impossible to name all the Commanding Generals, and officers and just plain workers who contributed to the growth of the Generals, but they are all important. In 1993, Past Commanding General Harry Sherman instigated the growth program with his State Wide Expansion Committee, and from that group came another change in the by-laws, permitting Divisions to be organized throughout the state. The Snohomish Division was chartered in 1996

In 1995, Commanding General Ruth Walsh McIntyre started the statewide Essay Contest and Scholarship awards. Paul LeGault was the first chairman and Senator Slade Gorton the first Presenter. From a good beginning, the Essay Contest grew. In 1996 General Tom Bowers became chairman with State Supreme Court Justice Barbara Durham as his presenter. In 1997 Past CG Ruth McIntyre chaired the award dinner with singer and TV personality Dick Fowly as the presenter. The Essay contest in 1997 had over 500 participants. One teacher commented that the award contest and presentation was the best she ever experienced. In 1998 Ruth Walsh McIntyre again took on the leadership of the dinner program. Because of the strong support of Seattle School Superintendent John Stanford, all major scholarship winners were from the Seattle School district. This has now become the prime project of the Washington Generals.

The Annual Meeting of the AWG is held each February as close to

Washington's Birthday as possible. Election of state officers and the presentation of the Washingtonian Award is part of the program. The auction held at this time is also the prime fund-raising event to finance the scholarships. Recently, our new Snohomish Division has taken on the support of a Women's Shelter in Everett. They supply the shelter with items which make life a little easier for those women in need.

In August we hold our annual bivouac or picnic. For many years it was held at MacDonald's Farm. Then at Rhododendron park in Kenmore for almost a decade. In 1996 the picnic was transferred to the Loutsis farm in Duvall. In September, the Generals gather at Emerald Downs, following a tradition of meeting once a year at Longacres for the horse races.

Many thanks to all the Generals, past or present, over the years who made this record possible.



WASHINGTONIAN AWARDS

Following is a list of those persons chosen for this special honor.

- 1975 Dr. Belding Scribner
- 1976 * Earl Averill
- 1977 * Rabbi Rafael Livine
- 1978 * Dr. Harry A. Kretzler
- 1979 * Earl A. Phillips
- 1980 * Marguerite Kelly
- 1981 Joseph Feldman
- 1982 * Justice William Goodloe
- 1983 Ruth M. Stefling
- 1984 * Senator Warren Magnuson
- 1985 * Joseph Marshall
- 1986 Ke.nneth Ritchey
- 1987 * Lt Governor John Cherberg
- 1988 Dr. Stan Bigos
- 1989 Dr. Lester Sauvage
- 1990 Bob Walsh
- 1991 Jean Gardner
- 1992 Egan Rank
- 1993 Don James
- 1994 Michael K. Copass
- 1995 Donald Nielsen
- 1996 Lennie Wilkins
- 1997 David M. McIntyre MD
- 1998 Don & Sunny Culver
- 1999 Priscilla Bullitt Collins
- * Deceased



- Why do they call it a TV set when you only get one?
- How did a fool and his money get together in the first place?