



# Manuel Schneidmiller Post 154, Inc.

## Rathdrum Idaho

### Newsletter

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#### Commander's Comments:

First, I want to thank our King and Queen of the Easter Bunny's for all of their hard work. They work almost all year putting all of this together. I don't have words to say THANK YOU!! Another great Easter Egg Hunt! April is all about "**Children and Youth**," one of the American Legion Four Pillars. The roots of the fourth pillar - Children & Youth - reach back to the combat-weary doughboys who founded The American Legion. They survived trench warfare, machine-gun firefights, mid-air dog fights and mustard gas. When they called their first caucus at Paris in 1919, they focused not on themselves but on the children and youth of America. They knew that children were made orphans by the war, and that many had little chance to succeed without help. The slogan they coined resonates today: "A Square Deal for Every Child." Millions of dollars have since been raised and innumerable hours have been volunteered by Legionnaires, in order to help children who are sick, in need or simply looking for opportunities to achieve their goals.

Today's American Legion is as focused on the welfare of our country's children and the issues facing our young people as it has ever been. The structure of this organization is forever supported by the balance that our founding architects envisioned. Therefore, this pillar – Children & Youth – and its programs remain committed to serving the nation's youth. Members of The American Legion Americanism Commission's Committee on Children & Youth have been entrusted with the awesome responsibility of upholding this pillar – the one that braces our nation's veterans by caring for their children, and our nation's children.

The purpose of the committee is to formulate, recommend and implement plans, programs and activities designed to:

- Assure care and protection for the children of veterans.
- Improve conditions for all children and youth, with due concern for maintaining the integrity of the family home.
- Prevent social and physical ills of children and youth where possible.
- Maintain a balanced program that provides for their physical, emotional, intellectual, and spiritual needs.

Don't forget elections are this month. Remember it is important to start to think about leadership and how you can get involved - in the decision process of the Post and the Legion. For all our new members that have shown an interest in getting involved this is the time to stand up and be recognized

In closing, thank you all for giving me the opportunity to serve as your Commander. It's been a privilege to be a part of this great organization and post! For God and Country! - Dee Sasse, Commander

## Finance Officer:

We have finished our first quarter of operations and are close to being on budget. That is good, because many of our large reoccurring expenses come at the first of the year – website renewal, post office box renewal, insurance renewal, Chamber membership, several of youth sponsorship programs, etc. etc.

Our bank account is now lean and mean but we have not had to dip into our reserves. Additionally, in May we have our major fundraiser with our **annual MEMORIAL DAY RED POPPY Distribution**. This event provides us with the funds to do all the things our Members ask us to do in approving our annual Budget, so it is VITALLY IMPORTANT!!

Paula Atwood and I have completed all the planning and organizing for our MEMORIAL DAY RED POPPY Distribution this year. This is an event that greatly increases our profile in the Community by allowing us to remind the public of the service and sacrifice made by those we lost in wars, and the service and sacrifice of those currently serving in our Armed Forces and of our Veterans.

This year we have secured permission to hand out Poppies at two Wal-Mart Stores (Post Falls and Hayden), two Super One Food Stores (Rathdrum and Post Falls) and the Post Falls Yokes Fresh Market. We have ramped up our efforts to reach as many members of our Communities as possible to remind them of the sacrifices made by our men and women in uniform in our many wars and conflicts, including those currently on-going.

WE WILL BE DISTRIBUTING POPPIES AND TAKING DONATIONS ON FRIDAY AND SATURDAY OF THE SECOND, THIRD AND FOURTH WEEKENDS OF MAY, AND **WE NEED YOU TO PARTICIPATE.** Len Crosby, Finance Officer

**Editor's Note: The schedule is listed on page 3.**



## Legislative Chairman:

The Idaho Legislature is out of session (you can bring your wallet out of the safe and your daughters out of their rooms). Since this is an election year (VOTE IN THE PRIMARY IN MAY that is your one opportunity to have an impact), a lot was said and a little of consequence was accomplished.

Fortunately, there was strong support for an increase in Education spending – especially for Community Colleges (NIC) and Continued Technical and Professional Training – which strengthens our workforce. Having a strong and technically proficient workforce is a major incentive to attracting new employers and in retaining our existing employers and helps our young people stay in our Community because they can find good paying jobs here. REMEMBER TO VOTE – WE FOUGHT FOR THAT RIGHT AND PRIVLEDGE! – Len Crosby, Legislative Chairman

**THE POPPY CAMPAIGN SCHEDULE IS AS FOLLOWS:**

Friday May 11 – Wal-Mart in Hayden.

TWO Shifts (9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 5 p.m. – 4 people per shift **(total of 8)**)

Saturday May 12 – Wal-Mart in Hayden.

TWO Shifts (9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 5 p.m. – 4 people per shift **(total of 8)**)

Friday May 18 – Super One in Rathdrum.

TWO Shifts (9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 5 p.m. – 2 people per shift **(total of 4)**)

Saturday May 19 – Super One in Post Falls.

TWO Shifts (9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 5 p.m. – 2 people per shift **(total of 4)**)

Saturday May 19 – Super One in Rathdrum.

TWO Shifts (9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 5 p.m. – 2 people per shift **(total of 4)**)

Friday May 25 – Yokes Fresh Market in Post Falls.

TWO Shifts (9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 5 p.m. – 2 people per shift **(total of 4)**)

Friday May 25 – Wal-Mart in Post Falls.

TWO Shifts (9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 5 p.m. – 4 people per shift **(total of 8)**)

Saturday May 26 – Yokes Fresh Market in Post Falls.

TWO Shifts (9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 5 p.m. – 2 people per shift **(total of 4)**)

Saturday May 26 – Wal-Mart in Post Falls.

TWO Shifts (9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 5 p.m. – 4 people per shift **(total of 8)**)

PLEASE SIGN UP FOR AT LEAST ONE SHIFT PER WEEK OVER THE THREE-WEEK PERIOD WE RUN THIS PROGRAM. ENCOURAGE YOUR SPOUSE OR SIGNIFICANT OTHER TO JOIN YOU – IT IS FUN AND REWARDING. YOU MEET OTHER VETERANS AND MAY EVEN ENCOURAGE SOME TO JOIN OUR POST.

If a time or store you want is taken, SIGN UP ANYWAY – we can always use more than two members or spouses per shift and that allows some of our volunteers to take a bathroom break. This program is very important in keeping our Post and the sacrifices of our Veterans in the forefront of our fellow Citizens. PLEASE - DO YOUR PART!



## Chaplain's Pew:

For the month of March newsletter, I shared John Wesley Conaway's Civil War/Medal of Honor story. To finish my part in honoring this soldiers' memory, I visited his grave at Evergreen Cemetery, Post Falls, Idaho. There I placed a wreath, created with the same shape of star as his Medal of Honor...and shared these words:

John Wesley Conaway...you served with the Army,  
and we thank you for your service.

And during your service, you fought in the Civil War  
battle at Vicksburg.

And you volunteered for a "forlorn hope" mission at  
the call of your commander.

For your contributions during that battle, you were  
awarded the Medal of Honor.

We, American Legion Post 154, Rathdrum ID, are  
here today to remember your service, your  
heroism, and life...and to make sure you are not  
forgotten.

Respectfully, Paula Atwood, Chaplain



## About Temporary Financial Assistance

Since its establishment in 1925, The American Legion Temporary Financial Assistance (TFA) program has awarded cash grants to minor children of current active duty or American Legion members. These grants help families in need meet the cost of shelter, food, utilities and health expenses, thereby keeping the child or children in a more stable environment.

### Who is eligible for a grant?

The minor child must not be older than 17, or 20 if still enrolled in high school or is physically handicapped. The minor child must be the biological child, stepchild, or in the legal custody of, a qualifying veteran. A qualifying veteran is defined as a member of the United States Armed Forces serving on federal orders current under Title 10 of the United States Code, inclusive of all components, OR any veteran possessing an up-to-date membership in The American Legion. Active duty applicants can be considered without being a member of The American Legion. A single onetime non-repayable Temporary Financial Assistance grant of up to \$1,500 will be permitted for the minor child(ren) of a qualifying veteran.

No child is considered eligible for Temporary Financial Assistance until a complete investigation is conducted at the post or department level, a legitimate family need is determined, and all other available assistance resources have been utilized or exhausted. Additionally, the TFA application must originate and be filled out by someone at the local level.

**How to Apply?** Contact your [local American Legion post](#) or [department \(state\) headquarters](#).

## Service Officer:

Happy Spring! Happy April! And that's no foolin'! Here's hoping the tulips and daffodils pop up very soon. It's a season for rebirth and new life...but let's face it, our bodies do not get this memo! This month, G is for GeriPACT...



**GeriPACT** stands for **Geriatric Patient Aligned Care Team**. These care teams provide healthcare for Veterans with more than one chronic disease and with declining mental and physical capabilities. GeriPACT integrates traditional healthcare services with community-based services. The goal is to provide Veterans with these challenges with as much independence and quality of life as possible. GeriPACT teams include primary care providers and multi-disciplinary teams who have expertise with the special healthcare needs of these Veterans.

GeriPACT offers expert care for Veterans whose healthcare needs present a challenge due to:

- More than one complex chronic disease
- Dementia or cognitive decline
- Geriatric syndromes (e.g., frailty, falls, incontinence, memory loss, taking lots of medicines, age 85 or older)

GeriPACT is offered in about two thirds of VA medical centers.

- Helps integrate and coordinate health care services provided by VA with community-based services.
- Strives to optimize independence and quality of life.
- Includes healthcare team members who possess expertise and advanced training to assess and address the illnesses and issues of vulnerable and elderly Veterans.
- Serves Veterans who require a level of care that is *not* generally available to them through a regular patient aligned care team (PACT) – for example, they might have complex care needs or require care management.

GeriPact may be appropriate for you if:

- You have more than one complex chronic disease
- You suffer from dementia or cognitive decline
- You have geriatric syndromes (e.g., frailty, falls, incontinence, memory loss, taking lots of medicines, age 85 or older)

Ruth Arevik, Service Officer



## Mark Your Calendar:

**April 1<sup>st</sup> - Easter**

**April 1<sup>st</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> - American Legion Child Welfare Foundation Week**

**April 11<sup>th</sup> - Post 154 Executive Committee Meeting at 6 pm @ Rathdrum Lions Club**

**April 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> – 81<sup>st</sup> National Oratorical Finals**

**April 25<sup>th</sup> - Post 154 General Membership Meeting and Potluck at 5:30 pm @ Lions Club**

**April 26<sup>th</sup> - Volunteers to help with Lions Backpack Program 9 am to 10:30 am**



## Bits & Pieces

- **American Legion Basic Training**

If you have ever wondered what the American Legion does or have questions about its history and charter, then this is a great short course to take. There is no cost and is available by just enrolling. It is an online self-paced course where you will learn about the American Legion. Just go here to register <https://www.legion.org/alei> . You can start the course, stop and come back to it at any time. It takes about one and a half to two hours' time total and is very interesting. Bryan Bledsoe, Adjutant

- Since we now have a potluck dinner before each membership meeting, we'd like to put together a tub of serving pieces to keep for our use. If you have extra serving spoons, spatulas, or other useful implements, please bring them to the next meeting. Thanks so much!
- The last Lion's Backpack packing for the school year is on April 26<sup>th</sup>. Extra help will be needed this time as they will be packing for 5 weeks. Please come to the Lion's Club at 9am to help. Many hands make light work!

## A Healthier You: from The Peoples' Pharmacy



### Pricey Nail Fungus Treatment vs. Inexpensive Home Remedies

Let's be honest. Nail fungus looks disgusting. When your nails get thick and misshapen, yellow, brown and crumbly, they are not nice to look at. Why do some people develop fungus and others don't? How does the fungus get under the nail in the first place? Why are older people more susceptible? Such questions don't [...] [> Read Article](#)

Drawing  
to be held  
July 31!

# NEWBY-GINNINGS IS HAVING A STUFF-RAISER!



## Enter to win this beautiful patriotic quilt!

Help us restock our supply of essentials for our newly-housed Veterans by bringing in a **new-in-the-box kitchen item** (ie. *coffee maker, toaster, blender, cookware, bakeware, dish ware, flatware, glassware, cooking utensils, etc.*).

Receive a raffle ticket for each new item

570 S Clearwater Loop, Unit A, Post Falls, ID 83854

208-610-6996

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 9-5

\*Crafted and donated by our friend Patty Hunt\*