



# Manuel Schneidmiller Post 154, Inc.

## Rathdrum Idaho

### Newsletter

Volume 2 Issue #8

August 2016

Email: [rathdrum154@gmail.com](mailto:rathdrum154@gmail.com)

Website: [Rathdrumpost154.org](http://Rathdrumpost154.org)

Facebook: Manuel Schneidmiller Post 154

Mailing Address: PO Box 1116, Rathdrum ID

Meeting at: Lions Club 16114 N. Meyer Rd Rathdrum

Editor: Jean Bledsoe

Associate Editor: Lonnie Morse

## Commander

Greetings from your commander:

I want to start out by saying a good post like ours knows the needs of the community because of good communication and support. It will know them by a simple process of planned contacts by Post members with city officials, educators, community leaders and other civic and fraternal groups. We have accomplished so much in such a short time. We have been very successful in working with the community of Rathdrum and it has been very evident by the highly successful events we have participated in. We as legionnaires do a good job for the community and deserve recognition and thanks from the Post. So I am saying to each one of you, thank you, and Bravo Zulu!!

I also want to say thank you for the prayers and support during my illness. Wow, what a shocker. I have never been so sick. I am now on the mend even though I am still a little bit housebound and on oxygen.

I am looking forward to our upcoming picnic on September 25th. Please make plans to come and meet and spend time with some of your fellow members. It will be a lot of fun. Have a great month of August. – Dee Sasse, Commander

## Mark Your Calendar:

Aug 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> – American Legion Baseball Regional Tournaments

Aug 6<sup>th</sup> – Kootenai County Veterans Council Applebee's fundraiser – see page 7 for details

Aug 7<sup>th</sup> – Purple Heart Day

Aug 10<sup>th</sup> – Post 154 Executive Committee Meeting 6pm @ Lion's Club Rathdrum

Aug 19<sup>th</sup> – Honor Guard participating in up to 7 veteran's services at Washington State Cemetery

Aug 24<sup>th</sup> – Post 154 General Membership Meeting 6pm @ Lion's Club Rathdrum

Sept 13<sup>th</sup> - Washington State Cemetery abandoned & unclaimed remains ceremony 1pm

Sept 16<sup>th</sup> – POW\*MIA National Day of Remembrance Dinner – see page 8 for details

Sept 18<sup>th</sup> – Chili Cook-off for the Kids – see page 5 for details

Sept 25<sup>th</sup> – Post Potluck Picnic – see page 6 for details

## **2nd Vice-Commander:**

During this time of political campaigning and rallies in support of political parties or specific candidates for public office, post members are reminded that the Constitution and Bylaws of the American Legion specifically prohibits the endorsement of a particular political party, candidate, or elected official, or attendance at political events in any manner that might suggest such an endorsement, including the wearing of the uniform, or part of the uniform, of the American Legion. Likewise, you are prohibited from condemning or impugning any political party, candidate, or elected official under the banner of the American Legion.

You, as an individual veteran, wearing apparel showing your service or medals earned is completely acceptable, as long as none of what you are wearing contains the name and/or logo of the American Legion.

Nor should you be listed as "representing" the American Legion, or "speaking on behalf of" the American Legion. You speak for you, and represent yourself as an individual veteran.

The prohibition on partisan activity, while acting in your capacity as a member of the American Legion extends to your chapter and department newsletters. You shall not print or reference any materials that support or attack any political party, candidate, or elected official in any publication that implies affiliation with the American Legion in any way. –

Len Crosby, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Commander

## **Adjutant:**

The 98<sup>th</sup> Annual American Legion Department of Idaho Convention took place in Moscow in July. I attended on behalf of Post 154 and have notes on the sessions I went to. If you would like them I will send them to you. Lots of dedicated people working on behalf of veterans and the community attended this 5-day event. I accepted a 100% plaque on behalf of the Post for reaching the membership goal set by the Department. Then a check for \$100 was presented as the Post had the highest percentage of membership increase for its size in Idaho (215%).

On the return trip on Saturday morning three officers from Post 143 in Post Falls were injured in an automobile accident. They are Commander Dennis Wheeler, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Commander Doug Wheeler and Adjutant Chuck Buttz. They are at home now and we wish them all speedy recoveries.

## **Membership Renewals**

Each year the American Legion starts the early renewal for membership campaign on July 1. When you renew now your membership is paid through December **2017**. At press time there were already 13 members of our Post that had renewed their membership. These included Paula Atwood who has been a member of the American Legion for 42 continuous years, and Larry Carstensen who has 44 years of continuous membership. Thanks to all that have renewed. Your early renewal reduces the cost of repetitive mailings by the National organization. – Bryan Bledsoe, Adjutant

### **Finance Officer:**

No income this month, except for food convoy donations and very few expenses, although we have committed to some expenses associated with the State convention in Moscow in mid-July, which will show up in late July or August.

The membership will have received a 6-month "Budget vs Actual" report at the June membership meeting. That will show that we are on track year to date, but many of our planned fund-raising projects; Wine Tasting, Gun Auction, and Quilt Raffle, have not been accomplished. Fortunately, our operating expenses continue to be low, so we are running at a net income of \$757 for the first six months of the year.

In the coming six months, we will need to continue to control expenses, and focus on the income side of our financial statement to insure we don't operate at a loss in Fiscal Year 2016. – Len Crosby, Finance Officer

---

---

### **Legislative Chairman:**

Little is happening in Congress or the Idaho Statehouse this month, as all eyes are focused on the Presidential elections and the Conventions that the two respective parties are conducting this month.

Each Convention has its drama, but I remind you that the American Legion is not a political organization. Please vote and encourage everyone you know to vote for those running for office in our Local, State and National election in November. Support those candidates that you feel will support our Veterans and the men and women currently serving our nation in the military, uphold the Constitution and – most importantly – provide solutions to the national and international issues currently facing our Country.

We also need to contact our State Legislators to insure the final application for a new Veterans Home in North Idaho is submitted by the State in August – to get us on the VA's grant appropriation list. – Len Crosby, Legislative Chairman

---

---

### **Chaplain's Pew:**

This is a quiz! What month has no overblown holiday? August, of course. Think on it: Jan; New Year's Day, and Martin Luther King Day, Feb; Valentine's Day and President's Day, Mar; St Patrick's Day (and maybe Easter), Apr; April Fool's and Easter, May; Mother's Day and Memorial Day, Jun; Father's Day & Flag Day, Jul; 4th of July, August... Sept; Labor Day and Patriot Day, Oct; Columbus Day and Halloween, Nov; Veterans' Day and Thanksgiving Day, and Dec; Christmas. There's lots more observances official and non-official in status, but that's the short version here.

'Holidays' of any variety, not only impact our time at our jobs, but also our daily lives and our focus with family, friends, and our other affiliations.

Let's go back to the month of August. Maybe not widely celebrated, but truly significant to every member of our military family.... the anniversary month of a famous military medal.... the Purple Heart. It was originally entitled the Badge of Military Merit and was created by Gen George Washington in... AUGUST 1782.

Every recipient of the Purple Heart did something 'above and beyond' his or her job at hand. The actions and contributions of these recipients (whether we know the exact details or not) are specifically to our military and our country, but also connected with each of our lives, and need to be remembered.

Did you know our Post 154 is considering a proposal to create a Purple Heart designation for our City of Rathdrum, Idaho? Think on it and what it means to you.

If you know of any veteran, whether in our Post or not, who needs a card of encouragement or a prayer, please contact me.... any time.... your Chaplain is waiting the pews. - Paula Atwood, Chaplain

## Sick Call & Taps:

Our Commander Dee Sasse is home recovering after spending 8 days in the hospital with a severe lung infection. She is using oxygen, but hopes that will end in about 2 weeks. Our best wishes and prayers are with you Dee.

## Service Officer:

**“Suicide Prevention is Everyone’s responsibility.”**

Some say we lose 22\* veterans a day, others say one. In any case just one is too many.

I’m Good. But are you ready to listen?

[Watch These Two One Minute Videos And Save A Life](#)

[Signs of Crisis Described Here](#)

[Identifying Signs of Crisis • Learn how Here](#)

- Charlie Till, Service Officer

**\*Editor’s note: This number is based on data received from only a sample of states, not including some with the highest veteran populations including CA, TX, GA, AZ, and NC. –**

Information from The Washington Post

## VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION UPDATE: AGENT ORANGE

The Agent Orange Newsletter includes important information for Vietnam-era Veterans and their families. Read the recently released summer 2016 issue to learn more about:

- Research on the health effects of exposure to Agent Orange and other herbicides
- A new study on the health of Vietnam Veterans
- Locations where Agent Orange and other herbicides were used
- Benefits for Camp Lejeune Veterans

Visit [www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/publications/agent-orange/agent-orange-summer-2016/index.asp](http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/publications/agent-orange/agent-orange-summer-2016/index.asp) to start reading today.

**U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs  
Veterans Health Administration**

## Bits & Pieces

1. The Women Veterans Call Center has a new online, one-to-one chat function. Women veterans can chat online anonymously via text with a trained female representative, many of whom are veterans. [Read the full story](#)
2. View **Agent Orange** spraying missions in Vietnam by date and location. Determine if you were present during documented Agent Orange spraying missions. Here is the link:  
<http://www.chicagotribune.com/chi-091204-agentorange-map-htmlstory.html>
3. Kootenai County Veteran Service Office will be closed as they attend their annual training in Boise provided by Idaho Division of Veteran Services. The office will be closed from the 2<sup>nd</sup> thru the 5<sup>th</sup> of August.
4. Helen Kinder is compiling a list of local businesses that give veterans and/or senior citizen discounts. When you are patronizing local merchants, ask if they give discounts. If they do, you just saved yourself some money. When you find discounts, please email Helen at: <mailto:hkinder41@gmail.com> to let her know.



### **18<sup>th</sup> Annual Chili Cook-Off for the Kids!**

**Sunday September 18<sup>th</sup>**

**Cabela's Parking Lot**

**101 N Cabela Way, Post Falls ID**

**Adult attendees \$10, children \$5 to sample all you can eat!**

**All proceeds benefit:**

**Children's Village**

*Loving Children – Restoring Hope*

*We are dedicated to providing a safe haven and restore hope for children who are abused, neglected or are in severe family crisis.*

**American Legion Post 154 will be participating, so bring your family and come support the Post and Children's Village!**

**Coeur d'Alene  
Honda**

**COEUR D'ALENE  
POWERSPORTS**

**Cabela's**  
WORLD'S FOREMOST OUTFITTER



## POST POTLUCK PICNIC!!

Please join us at our Post Potluck Picnic to socialize,  
make new friends,  
and celebrate our accomplishments of the past year!

Sunday, September 25, 2016 from 1:00 - 4:00 PM at  
Rathdrum's Majestic Park, 5400 W Majestic Ave.

The Post is providing: Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Buns,  
Condiments, Chips, Water, Coffee,  
Cups, Plates, Napkins and Utensils.

Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.  
If you prefer another beverage, please bring your own,  
but NO ALCOHOL and NO GLASS containers.

Please RSVP by September 15th,  
to John or Sue Fevold  
at (208)916-5148, (208)916-5149, or email:  
[schoolmarm66@hotmail.com](mailto:schoolmarm66@hotmail.com)

NOTE: We will have access to the kitchen, refrigerator,  
sheltered pavilion/picnic area,  
and indoor restrooms.

Feel free to bring your favorite picnic chair.



An American flag is shown in the background, waving and slightly faded. The stars are in the upper left corner, and the stripes extend across the right side of the page.

# Pancake Breakfast

**Benefiting Veterans Projects\***

**Kootenai County Veterans Council**

**When:** Saturday, August 6, 2016  
8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

**Where:**  Applebee's  
Hanley at Highway 95, Coeur d'Alene

**Tickets:** \$10 at the door (Sorry, we cannot accept credit or debit cards.)

Includes all-you-can-eat pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, juice and coffee

**Fund Raiser for Local Veterans Projects**



# POW★MIA

## National Day of Remembrance

### Roast Pork Dinner

September 16, 2016, 6:00 p.m.

Christ the King Lutheran Church

1700 Pennsylvania Ave., Coeur d'Alene, ID

**Speakers:**

**John & Stacey Holley**

Gold Star parents and authors.  
Instrumental in The Holley  
Provision Legislation.

**Benefitting:**

- Inland N.W. Honor Flight
- Newby-ginnings
- CTK Military Ministries

**Tickets \$ 14.00 Table of 8: \$ 100.00**  
(additional donations accepted)

For tickets call 208-777-9684,  
208-664-9231. Hosted by Christ the  
King Military Ministry.

WHEN THE BUGLE CALLS HAVE FADED,  
AND THE HONOR GUARD HAS GONE,  
ALL THAT'S LEFT ARE...

*The True Story of  
"The Holley Provision"  
and an American Family's  
Quest to Change the Way America  
Honors its Fallen Heroes*

**MEDALS,  
FLAGS  
AND  
MEMORIES**  
JOHN AND STACEY HOLLEY

**A COURAGEOUS TRUE STORY OF FAITH,  
HEALING, AND ONE FAMILY'S QUEST  
TO CHANGE THE WAY AMERICA  
HONORS ITS FALLEN HEROES**

**MEDALSFLAGSANDMEMORIES.COM**