



# Manuel Schneidmiller Post 154, Inc.

## Rathdrum Idaho

### Newsletter

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Volume 3 Issue #8

August 2017

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### Commander's Message:

Greetings Post members, and welcome to August. July proved to be a very busy month with work on the Pumpkin Patch and Rathdrum Days. Our Post Honor Guard looked very sharp and did an awesome job representing the American Legion. In addition, I want to thank all who were available to help with painting and decorating the float. It looked so patriotic! Bravo Zulu to all who stood the Booth Watch. It was a big success.

The Pumpkin Patch is coming along. We were very lucky to have some church camp volunteers come and pull weeds. Bill and Helen sent them certificates of appreciation for helping. I want to say a big THANK YOU to Legion Farmers John and Sue Fevold. They are doing a wonderful job out there at the patch!

I would like to do something different this month. I am going to ask a Legion trivia question and the first to bring the information to the next Membership Meeting will receive a prize. Here is the question: when to gavel strike the podium, how many times to strike it, and what to expect from the number of strikes.

I also wanted to pass on the value of the entire Legion family, volunteerism and the hard work involved by many to sustain our Post and the support of Veterans and their families. As it was once said "We are nothing without you!"

See you at the next meeting and have a great August. - Commander Dee Sasse

Editor's Note: In remembrance of the upcoming Coast Guard's 227th birthday, Dee has submitted a story. Find it on page 5.

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### 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Commander:

Larry Carstensen, our newly elected 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Commander, is working to bring programs back to the Membership Meetings. These will be offered once every few months and will be topics of interest to Veterans. Beginning this month, a reminder email will be sent out to the membership about three days before the meeting, and any scheduled program will be explained.

### **Finance Officer:**

We received some very nice donations at Rathdrum Days. Thank each of those members who participated in the decorating our Parade Float, in the Parade (especially the Honor Guard) and in manning our booth at Rathdrum Days. The Booth was an excellent recruiting tool, and we garnered more than \$60 in community donations.

Our financials are stable, and we are on budget through the end of July. - Len Crosby, Finance Officer

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### **Legislative Officer:**

All the Veterans Service Groups, including the American Legion have opposed the U.S. House of Representatives version of the FY 2016 Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriation bill, which passed in late April. Lawmakers voted 255-163 to pass H.R. 2029, despite warnings from the White House that the proposed \$76.6 billion bill would not adequately fund veteran's health care, programs and services. The bill comes with a \$585 million reduction to the FY 2016 VA Medical Care request and a \$582 million reduction to the FY 2016 VA major construction request that would negatively impact medical care and service for tens of thousands of veterans.

It is incomprehensible for lawmakers to support further underfunding the VA and thereby denying veterans access to the health care, programs and services they were promised. VA leaders have made clear their funding requests are critical to fixing these issues within the system. If Congress wants to stand behind veterans on the stump, they need to stand behind them with their votes as well.

The shortfalls in the funding provided by this legislation will diminish the VA's ability to properly staff and equip facilities, make necessary upgrades and expansions at medical facilities and national cemeteries, and will reduce needed medical research into issues resulting from the Gulf War, the Iraq and Afghanistan wars and the healthcare for women Veterans. – Len Crosby, Legislative Chairman



Captain Crosby on CC Chopper

### Chaplain's Pew:

August is here! Hurrah! And what is there to be so happy for besides the sunshine and flowers and fresh vegetables and blue skies and and and and... there is so very much to be thankful for. And not just thankful, but deep down grateful.

Gratitude is a personal choice...and we can choose to be grateful at any given moment in our lives. Thinking with a grateful heart lightens our thoughts and may improve our quality of life. Look around you and find first just one thing to be grateful for...and amazingly you can easily come up with many more. Being grateful doesn't depend on whether you are healthy, wealthy or wise. It is a conscious effort to appreciate what is around us on every level. You don't need to make a laundry list of items, but focusing on one single thing that gives you food for thought is probably the best.

Yes, we are grateful for the biggies...family, home and health. But truly look around you with fresh eyes...you will find little surprising acts of kindness happening all around you. Stop, appreciate, and be grateful. Some people write these things down, and others say their thoughts of gratitude out loud to others. But whether you write your ideas down, speak it out loud, or simply think, focus and reflect on gratitude, try to make it a daily practice.

And remember, your Chaplain is always available to you for a card of cheer, a helpful visit or phone call...and you will find me waiting in the pews for your call. Respectfully, Paula Atwood, Post 154 Chaplain

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### Thank You

We wish to acknowledge the teen and adult helpers from a variety of Methodist church youth groups from Utah, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Colorado that assisted us in our Pumpkin Patch on Highway 53 in Rathdrum. There were 52 people who worked over 150 hours, primarily weeding

our pumpkins in early July. These folks were from Camp Twin Low in Twin Lakes. Camp coordinator, Kathrine Cronin was extremely helpful in putting this together. Lonnie Morse with Post 154 was a<sup>st</sup> Vice-Commander John Fevold and wife

big help in finding out about this group of young people. 1

Sue were responsible for managing in the field. We still need people to volunteer to come out to

the patch and pull weeds.

A tremendous thank you all of these folks and God bless. - Bill Kinder, Sargeant-at-Arms

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**Center Target Sports** is gearing up for its annual Customer Appreciation Day on August 12<sup>th</sup>. Festivities run from 9AM until 2PM. This year's community event promises to be bigger and better than ever. This FREE event is all about our customers and the community. They will give away at least 4 firearms, and will collect food for the Post Falls Food Bank, Toys for Tots, and Blood for the Inland Northwest Blood Bank. Free hotdogs and lemonade starting at 11AM until they run out. Call the range to make your appointment for Blood Donations. 773-2331

Various Veterans' groups, including our Post, will have tables there for outreach and other opportunities. - Bryan Bledsoe, Adjutant

## **Service Officer:**

### **Burial Flags**

#### **Why Does VA Provide a Burial Flag?**

A United States flag is provided, at no cost, to drape the casket or accompany the urn of a deceased Veteran who served honorably in the U. S. Armed Forces. It is furnished to honor the memory of a Veteran's military service to his or her country. VA will furnish a burial flag for memorialization for any other than dishonorably discharged:

1. Veteran who served during wartime
2. Veteran who died on active duty after May 27, 1941.
3. Veteran who served after January 31, 1955.
4. Peacetime Veteran who was discharged or released before June 27, 1950 after serving at least one enlistment, or for a disability incurred or aggravated in line of duty.
5. Certain persons who served in the organized military forces of the Commonwealth of the Philippines while in service of the U.S. Armed Forces and who died on or after April 25, 1951
6. Certain former members of the Selected Reserves.



#### **Who Is Eligible to Receive the Burial Flag?**

Generally, the flag is given to the next-of-kin, as a keepsake, after its use during the funeral service. When there is no next-of-kin, VA will furnish the flag to a friend making request for it. For those VA national cemeteries with an Avenue of Flags, families of Veterans buried in these national cemeteries may donate the burial flags of their loved ones to be flown on patriotic holidays.

#### **How Can You Apply?**

You may apply for the flag by completing [VA Form 27-2008, Application for United States Flag for Burial Purposes](#). U.S. Post Offices are the primary issuing point for burial flags. Generally, the funeral director can help you obtain a flag. Call and confirm with the post office in advance. Not all local post offices have burial flags on hand but they should be able to direct you to the closest issuing post office. Regional VA Offices can also help identify local issuing points.

Can a Burial Flag Be Replaced?

The law allows us to issue one flag for a Veteran's funeral. We cannot replace it if it is lost, destroyed, or stolen. However, some Veterans' organizations or other community groups may be able to help you get another flag. **How Should the Burial Flag Be Displayed?**

The proper way to display the flag depends upon whether the casket is open or closed. [VA Form 27-2008](#) provides the correct method for displaying and folding the flag. The burial flag is not suitable for outside display because of its size and fabric. It is made of cotton and can easily be damaged by weather. - Ruth Aresvik - Service Officer

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**Revenue Captain Michael A. Healy**, commanding officer of the cutters *Chandler*, *Corwin*, *Bear*, *McCulloch* and *Thetis*, became a legend enforcing federal law along Alaska's 20,000-mile coastline. In addition to being a friend to missionaries and scientists, he was a rescuer of whalers, natives, shipwrecked sailors, and destitute miners.

Captain Michael A. Healy, USRCS, was born near Macon, Georgia in 1839. He was the fifth of ten children born to Michael Morris Healy, an Irish plantation owner, and his wife Mary Eliza Smith, a slave. This family produced a number of distinguished individuals. Three brothers entered the priesthood; James became the first black bishop in North America, Patrick was president of Georgetown University, and Sherwood became an expert in canon law. Three sisters became nuns, one reaching the level of mother superior. Michael Healy was uninterested in academic pursuits and so began a seagoing career as a cabin boy aboard the American East Indian Clipper *Jumna* in 1854. He quickly became an expert seaman and rose to the rank of officer on merchant vessels.

In 1864 he applied for a commission in the U.S. Revenue Marine and was accepted as a Third Lieutenant, his commission being signed by President Abraham Lincoln. After serving successfully on several cutters along the east coast, he began his lengthy service in Alaskan waters in 1875 as the second officer on the

cutter *Rush*. He was given command of the revenue cutter *Chandler* in 1877. He took command of the cutter *Corwin* in 1882 and was promoted to Captain the following year. In 1884, he and the *Corwin* participated in a controversial bombardment of the native village of [Angoon](#) at the request of an officer of the U.S. Navy on patrol in the area.

In 1886, he took command of the cutter *Bear*. Although already held in high regard as a seaman and navigator in the waters of Alaska, it was as commanding officer of *Bear* that Healy truly made his mark in history. During the last two decades of the 19th Century, Captain Healy was the United States Government in most of Alaska. In his twenty years of service between San Francisco and Point Barrow, he acted as: judge, doctor, and policemen to Alaskan natives, merchant seamen and whaling crews. He operated in an eerie echo of what would become the mission of his Coast Guard successors a century later: protecting the natural resources of the region, suppressing illegal trade, resupply of remote outposts, enforcement of the law, and search and rescue. Even in the early days of Arctic operations, science was an important part of the mission. Renowned naturalist John Muir made a number of voyages with Healy during the 1880s as part of an ambitious scientific program. With the reduction in the seal and whale populations, he introduced reindeer from Siberia to Alaska to provide food, clothing and other necessities for the native peoples.

The primary instrument in Healy's capable hands, to accomplish all of this, was the cutter *Bear*, probably the most famous ship in the history of the Coast Guard. Under "Hell Roaring Mike", *Bear* became legendary as "Healy's Fire Canoe". Healy and *Bear* proved to be a perfect match, a marriage of vessel capability and unrivaled ice seamanship that became legend. He served as her commanding officer until 1895.

During that time, he became something of a celebrity. A January 1894 article in the New York Sun described him thusly:

"Capt. Mike Healy is a good deal more distinguished person in the waters of the far Northwest than any president of the United States or any potentate of Europe has yet become. He stands for law and order in many thousands of land and water, and if you should ask in the Arctic Sea, 'Who is the greatest man in America?' the instant answer would be 'Why, Mike Healy.' When an innocent citizen of the Atlantic coast once asked on the Pacific who Mike Healy was, the answer came, 'Why, he's the United States. He holds in these parts a power of attorney for the whole country.'"

Healy was "on the beach" for four years following a controversial court-martial conviction for gross irresponsibility and "scandalous conduct," however, in 1900, due in part to a need for more cutters in

Alaskan waters following the Alaska gold rush, Healy was placed in command of the cutter *McCulloch*. His last two years of sailing in Alaskan waters were aboard the cutter *Thetis*. He officially retired in 1903. Captain Healy crossed the bar in 1904. – Submitted by Dee Sasse

## Mark Your Calendar:

Aug 2<sup>nd</sup> – Invasion of Kuwait (1990)

Aug 4<sup>th</sup> – Coast Guard Birthday – founded in 1790

Aug 7<sup>th</sup> – Purple Heart Day

**Aug 9<sup>th</sup> - Executive Committee Meeting @ 6 pm Lions Club in Rathdrum**

Aug 10<sup>th</sup> – 91<sup>st</sup> American Legion Baseball World Series

Aug 12<sup>th</sup> - Applebee's Fundraising Breakfast for Kootenai Veterans Council -

\$10<sup>th</sup> – Center Target Sports Customer Appreciation Day – see details on page 3

Aug 12

Aug 14 - V-J Day (1945) Victory Over Japan Formal surrender on Sept 2<sup>nd</sup> so also called V-J Day

**Aug 23 - Membership Meeting @ 6 pm Lions Club in Rathdrum**

## Bits & Pieces

- We will need pop-ups for the Pumpkin Patch Harvest Festival. We need a total of 8. If anybody has one that we can use, they can call John [\(208\) 916-5148](tel:2089165148) or email me [schoolmarm66@hotmail.com](mailto:schoolmarm66@hotmail.com). Sue Fevold

- "Preston Lightle, 11, finished second at Golf Canada National Future Links Canadian Finals at Glen Abbey, Ontario last Saturday. There were 658 golfers in the qualifying rounds to play in the finals. Preston was born in Coeur d'Alene and his grandparents, Larry and Charlotte Carstensen live in Post Falls." From Kerrie Thoreson's Main Street column in the CDA Press.



## A Healthier You: From The People's Pharmacy...



### Will Your Diet Help You Avoid Dementia?

Most people think of a diet rich in fruits, vegetables, nuts, beans, olive oil and fish as being good for the heart. The Mediterranean diet is in the news again because of its benefits for the brain. Could it help you avoid dementia? What You Eat May Help You Avoid Dementia: The Health and Retirement [...] > [Read Article](#)

### **Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events**

Kootenai County, ID: The Kootenai County Sheriff's Office offers its ninth class on "Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events."

On September 9<sup>th</sup> 2017, the Kootenai County Sheriff's Office will be offering a free 2 1/2 hour Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events class at our Volunteer Search & Rescue (VSAR) building for any citizen that would like to attend.

This class will consist of information on Disaster Response Psychology, how to increase your chances of surviving an Active Shooter Event (Avoid, Deny, and Defend), several past Active Shooter cases, and case study of the Active Shooter Virginia Tech case.

Date: September 9, 2017

Time: 10:00 AM to 12:30 PM

Location: VSAR Building 10865 N. Ramsey Road - Hayden, Idaho 83835

Class seating is by Reservation Only and limited to the first (50) Kootenai County citizens. To reserve a seat, please call Community Service Officer Gary Shults at 208-446-2121.

**Editor's Note:** It is our understanding this will be the last class offered as the instructor is retiring.

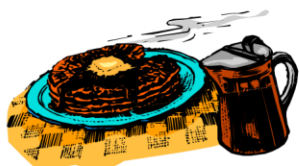
SAVE THE DATE!

**VETERAN'S 5K  
RUN WALK  
9.24.17**

**FOR INFORMATION, CALL 208.416.4726**



**American Legion  
Post 154  
Rathdrum, Idaho**



**Flapjack  
Fundraiser**

**Saturday  
September 30, 2017  
9 - 11 A.M.**

**at Applebee's   
280 W. Hanley Ave.,  
in Coeur d'Alene.**

**Menu: Scrambled eggs, Pancakes,  
sausage,  
orange juice or coffee.**

**Tickets are \$10 each**

**To purchase tickets in advance, call  
Bill Kinder (208) 661-6850  
wakinder@roadrunner.com or thru the  
American Legion Post 154  
email: rathdrum154@gmail.com**

**\*\*Tickets will also be available  
at the door. Cash or check.  
Sorry, NO credit cards\*\***



**MANUEL SCHNEIDMILLER  
AMERICAN LEGION POST 154  
RATHDRUM, IDAHO**

Dear Post 154 Member:

You and your family are invited to the Manuel Schneidmiller American Legion Post 154 Summer Picnic to be held Sunday, September 17, 2017 from 1:00 – 4:00 PM at Rathdrum's beautiful City Park, 15456 N. Latah St. (corner of Highway 53 and Latah St.)

Please join us to socialize and celebrate our accomplishments of the past year.

The Post is providing: Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Buns, Ketchup, Mustard, Relish, Mayo, Chips, Water, Coffee, Cups, Plates, Napkins and Plasticware.

Please bring a side dish to share such as: Potato Salad, Jello Salad, Fruit Salad, Dessert, Deviled Eggs, Beans, or whatever your specialty dish is.

**\*\*If you prefer soda or iced tea, please bring your own\*\***

**\*\*Please NO GLASS containers of any type\*\***

**\*\*Please NO Alcohol \*\*Dogs are not allowed at this park.**

***Please RSVP by September 8th , and direct questions to John or Sue Fevold at (208)916-5148, (208)916-5149, or email: [schoolmarm66@hotmail.com](mailto:schoolmarm66@hotmail.com)***

If you know a veteran who is not already a member of the American Legion, please invite them to attend also.

NOTE: We will have access to the kitchen, refrigerator, sheltered area, picnic tables, and indoor restrooms. Feel free to bring your favorite picnic chair.

Sincerely,

*John Fevold*

SAVE THE DATE

September 14<sup>th</sup>



**FOUNDATION  
FITNESS**

Live and Silent

Auction Dinner

Benefiting Our Local Veterans,  
After School Kids Program and Tactical Force

***CATERED BY TEXAS ROADHOUSE***

September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017

5:30 PM

The Eagles Club

209 Sherman Avenue

Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814

**A FEW OF THE LIVE AUCTION ITEMS:**

- Round of golf for two & lunch with WAYNE GRETZKY at Gozzer Ranch.
- Date night for two, one per month, at local restaurants (12 dinners)
- A customized one-of-a-kind buck knife
- Three autographed hockey jerseys from WAYNE GRETZKY
- Fly fishing trip on the Coeur d' Alene river for two
- Salmon guided fishing trip for four (full day) on the Columbia River
- Autographed hockey stick from WAYNE GRETZKY

**Many more Live Auctions items to come!**

**Plus, over 40 Silent Auction items!**



# FOUNDATION FITNESS

## Live Auction & Dinner

Benefiting Our Local Veterans, After School Kids Program,  
and Tactical Force

September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017

5:30 PM

The Eagles Club

209 Sherman Avenue

Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814

Buy a Table of 8 for  
(corporate)

\$500.00

*or*

\$75.00 per person

\*Corporation / individual name \_\_\_\_\_

\*Contact person \_\_\_\_\_

\*Contact email \_\_\_\_\_

Make Checks payable to WITH FOUNDATION

501C3 Organization TAX ID #81-1781527

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