



Manuel Schneidmiller Post 154, Inc. Rathdrum Idaho

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Meeting at: Lions Club 16114 N. Meyer Rd Rathdrum

Editor: Jean Bledsoe

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Win a 4x4 in the Newby-ginnings raffle. Purchase one or more raffle tickets for a chance of winning the Grand Prize which is a 2016 CAN AM Outlander 650 XT.

2ND ANNUAL RAFFLE IDAHO OUTDOORS! \$10 EACH!

GRAND PRIZE: 2016 CAN-AM Outlander 650 XT
Winner will be responsible for license and tax

2ND PRIZE: Stay and Play Golf Package

3RD PRIZE: Pair of Caddis Navigator IV Float Tube

Name: _____
Phone: _____

2ND ANNUAL RAFFLE IDAHO OUTDOORS!

DRAWING TO BE HELD
SATURDAY, AUGUST 20, 2016 AT 12:00
Newby-ginnings of North Idaho
570 S Clearwater Loop, Post Falls, ID
208-610-6996

NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN!

Thank you so much for your support of our mission to improve the lives of those that have served and sacrificed for our country!

NEWBY-GINNINGS OF NORTH IDAHO, INC.
"With support from and in partnership with the community, NEWBY-GINNINGS OF NORTH IDAHO, INC., a non profit organization will provide, with honor, respect and integrity, essential items, resources and referrals to area active military, veterans and Gold Star families in need of such services."

"Humble support and steadfast honor to those who served and sacrificed"

For tickets contact one of the following Post 154 members:

Larry Carstensen by phone (208) 777-9684 or email lcarsty@yahoo.com

Bryan Bledsoe by phone (509) 990-6769 or email BryanDBledsoe@gmail.com

Newby-ginnings of North Idaho, Inc. is a non-profit organization providing, with honor, respect and integrity, essential items, resources and referrals to area active military, veterans and Gold Star families in need of such services.

Since they moved to their new location they have been extremely busy working with veterans and their families. – Submitted by Bryan Bledsoe, Adjutant

2nd Vice-Commander & Finance Officer:

Very few expenses this month, and proceeds from our Poppy distribution within the City of Rathdrum, so we had a positive net income, and are in a good financial position.

Our Post continues to operate on budget and we are looking forward to a successful fundraiser in conjunction with Rathdrum Days and the Rathdrum Parade on July 15 – 17.

– Len Crosby, 2nd Vice-Commander & Finance Officer

Legislative Chairman:

In Congress, House and Senate negotiators this week reached agreement on the fiscal 2017 Military Construction-Veterans Affairs Appropriations bill, which funds the Department of Veterans Affairs. The House passed the compromise bill yesterday and next week the Senate will vote on it before they recess for the July 4th holiday.

The reason this is important to us is that while The American Legion supports passage of the bill, we are concerned that it is tied to an unrelated funding bill and disappointed it does not meet the Administration's VA funding request.

While the agreement does provide a 4.1% funding increase over the 2016 level, including increases for health care, benefit claims processing, the Board of Veterans Appeals, the VA Inspector General, medical and prosthetic research, and information technology;

The American Legion is pleased to see that the bill allows VA for the first time to cover fertility services, including in-vitro fertilization (IVF), for veterans with injuries that cause infertility, an issue The American Legion has strongly urged Congress to support. Currently, veterans who have service-related injuries that prevent them from having children naturally must cover the high costs of IVF out of pocket. The Department of Defense offers fertility services to those serving now, so it's only fair that veterans receive them also.

The Legion also supports the reinstatement of the requirement for VA to report its capacity to provide specialized services, to include spinal cord injury or disease, and the authorization of beneficiary travel for non-service connected catastrophically disabled veterans.

I urge you to send Sen. Crapo and Sen. Risch an e-mail supporting the passage of this bill, and asking them to also support an increase in the funding level for the construction of Veterans Homes. The State of Idaho has submitted its request for funding of a fourth Veterans Home in Post Falls on land that has been donated. Our State legislature has committed the required matching funds, and our project is "shovel ready". At current funding levels, it could be seven to ten years before this project could be built given the funding levels of the VA matching grant program. – Len Crosby, Finance Officer

Chaplain's Pew:

Chaplain's Pew

Our Preamble states...."For God and Country, we associate ourselves...." Do you believe in God? I do. Do you believe in our country, this United States of America? I do. Plain and simple...I believe. With everything in my being, I believe.

For this 4th of July, as we celebrate our country's founding...search your heart. Know what you believe. Stand up and say it out loud. Know it and say it and live it and be not afraid. This is our Country...land of the free...home of the brave.

May you have a great month. Enjoy. And, if you know of someone who needs a visit or a card of cheer, please contact me. - Paula Atwood, Chaplain

Service Officer:

vets.gov

How can we help?

The VA is trying to get information to us in an easy to use format by creating a web site that is topic driven. This could make finding needed resources much easier for a veteran.

A Message from VA Secretary Robert McDonald

"I'm proud to introduce you to the beta version of vets.gov. It's still a work in progress, but it's a huge step forward in bringing Veterans the online services they need and deserve.

Veterans have been speaking and we've been listening. You've told us VA has too many websites containing too much confusing information. You've said that you want a site that's clear – one that's written in plain language and is easy to **use**."

A Message from a Service Officer

DAV Chapter 9 Fort Sherman launched dav9.com to help veterans easily find out about earned benefits and the claims process. The Website also lists many sources for meeting veteran needs locally as well as state wide and nationally. As the Veterans Administration's vets.com site grows from **it's** beta version, it should also be an excellent place to easily get information regarding veteran services.

We are all Service Officers

Outreach is every veterans duty to his or her comrades whether they served with, before or after their times of service. We all meet veterans who have no idea of the benefits they earned when they left the service. Remember we all signed up to give our all, up to and including our very lives. Our duty to our comrades still continues today and two easy to use tools we have to help them are:

www.dav9.com & www.vets.gov

- Charlie Till, Service Officer

Mark Your Calendar:

July 1st – 3rd - Bayview Days
July 2nd - Bayview Daze Parade - 11am Start
July 4th - Coeur d' Alene Parade - 11am Start
July 8th – 10th Post Falls Festival
July 9th - Post Falls Days Parade - 10am Start
July 13th – Post Executive Committee Meeting – 6pm
July 15th – 17th - Rathdrum Days Parade - 10:30 Start
July 17th - Sled Hockey Tournament, Frontier Ice Arena, Coeur d' Alene

July 22nd – 23rd – Hayden Days
July 23rd - Hayden Parade - 10am Start
July 27th – Post General Membership Meeting – 6pm
July 30th - Priest River Timber Days
August 6th Pinehurst Days
August 6th - Veterans Council Pancake feed - \$10, Coeur d' Alene Applebee's - 8-11am
August 13th – Athol Days

Bits & Pieces

- ★ Post Member Helen Kinder is compiling a list of senior and/or veteran discounts for Coeur d'Alene, Post Falls, and Rathdrum areas. If you know of a business that offers such a discount, please email the details to Helen at hkinder41@gmail.com . Also, when you patronize a local business, ask them about a senior or vets discount. You may save yourself some money too.
- ★ Member John and Sue Fevold are looking into shirts in various sizes and styles, with the American Legion logo on the back and our post number and Rathdrum Idaho on the front. They will all be navy blue. These would be available for members to purchase, allowing us to publicize our post when we are out in the community. More information will be forthcoming as plans are finalized.
- ★ Save The Date! A Post picnic is being planned for Sunday September 25th at Rathdrum's Majestic Park & Splash Pad. The Post will be providing hamburgers & hot dogs and attendees are asked to bring side dishes. The picnic is open to all Post 154 members and their guests and you are encouraged to invite veterans and their families from the community who are not already legion members. Watch for an invitation in your snail mail box for more details. John & Sue Fevold are chairing this event.

Rathdrum Days!

Rathdrum Days will be on Friday, July 15th, Saturday, July 16th, and Sunday, July 17th.

Friday Night kicks of this annual event on Main street. Enjoy live music, street dancing, beer garden, classic car cruise, great food and fun.

Saturday morning 10:00 sharp on Main Street for the annual community parade. This year's theme is Military Veteran's.

Lakeland High School, located at the intersection of Highways 41 and 53 will be the hot spot for food vendors and craft vendors of all sorts.

Rathdrum's American Legion Post 154 will be selling hot corn on the cob and cold water.

Entertainment throughout the day, magic shows, Watermelon eating contests, Wiener dog races, Ronald McDonald Big Wheel Races, 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament, and so much more.

Lakeland Jr High campus will host the Lion's Annual Classic Car Show.

(See Schedule below)



37th Annual

Rathdrum Days Celebration

July 15th, 16th and 17th, 2016

July 15th Friday Night

Downtown/Main Street

- 5—10 pm Classic Car Cruise
- Burgers and Hot Dogs (Rathdrum Park & Rec)
- Kona Ice of Spokane
- Beer Garden (Chamber)
- 6—10 pm Live Music by "The Spokane River Band"
- Bouncy Castle and kids games

July 16th Saturday

Rathdrum Masonic Lodge

- 7:30 -9:30 Rathdrum Days Community Breakfast
- Order of the Eastern Star #33 fundraiser for R Rathdrum PD Resource Officer

Downtown/Main Street

- 9:15 Kiddie Parade
- 9:30 Opening Ceremony
- 10:30 am Annual Parade

July 17th Sunday

Lakeland High School

- 10—4 Vendor/Food Fair
- 10- 4 Strong Man Competition
- 10—12 Live Music by Gil Rivas
- 12—1 Ronald McDonald Magic Show
- 1 -2 Watermelon Eating Contest (Super One)
- 3—4 Dick Frost Comedy/Magic Show
- 4 -4:15 Skydivers

Stein's Market

- 9 am 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament

Lakeland Jr. High

- 10—3 Lions Classic Car Show
- 12 pm Weiner Dog Races

Lakeland High School

- 10—7 Vendor/Food Fair
- 12— 1:45 Live Music by 3D Band
- 1:45 -2 Mini-Hawks
- 1 Ronald McDonald Big Wheel Races
- 2—3 Dance Theater Northwest
- 3—4 Ronald McDonald Magic Show
- 4—5 Live Music by "Blue Water Strangers"
- 5—7 Live Music by "Not Fragile"



IDAHO RESEARCHERS AWARDED \$7.5 MILLION NIH GRANT

(BOISE, IDAHO) Dr. Dennis Stevens, a world-renown clinician-scientist at the Boise VA Medical Center, has been awarded a 5 year, \$7.5-million-dollar Center of Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE) grant from the NIH's National Institute of General Medical Sciences.

Under the auspices of this award, Dr. Stevens will establish a well-equipped and multi-disciplinary Biomedical Research Center of Excellence (COE) in Emerging/Reemerging Infectious Diseases on the campus of the Boise VA Medical Center. The long-term thematic objective of this COE is to discover, develop and advance novel new approaches to prevention, diagnosis and treatment of severe life-threatening infections plaguing people of all ages worldwide.

This is the first COBRE awarded to investigators at IVREF/VAMC and the fourth in Idaho. The grant is awarded to the Idaho Veterans Research and Education Foundation (IVREF), the VA's affiliated non-profit corporation whose mission is to support research by providing grant management, by supporting educational and outreach activities, and by facilitating research training opportunities for Idaho's next-generation of biomedical research scientists.

The specific aims of this COBRE are 1) to support junior Infectious Diseases researchers and transition them to research funding independence; 2) to improve existing basic science research infrastructure, including establishment of a new, state-of-the-art Histology/Pathology/Imaging core facility; 3) to increase the diversity and critical number of basic science researchers and physician-scientists with interests in Infectious Disease pathogenesis; and 4) expand existing intra- and inter-institutional collaborations to provide exceptional biomedical research and education opportunities in Idaho for gifted undergraduate and graduate/medical students, post-doctoral fellows and physicians. The Histology core facility, the only one of its kind in southern Idaho, will be a shared resource, available to all scientists throughout the region for the benefit of their own research.

The junior investigators participating in this COBRE, Drs. Michael Aldape, Devin Bolz, and Sarah Hobdey, work on a variety of life-threatening infectious diseases including those caused *Clostridium difficile* (cause of severe hospital-acquired diarrhea), *Streptococcus pyogenes* (cause of "the flesh-eating disease") and methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA; commonly called "the superbug"). VA Career Research Scientist Dr. Amy Bryant will provide mentorship and help manage the COBRE.

The investigators receive financial support for salary, technical staff, post-doctoral fellows, and supplies. Importantly, each will receive exceptional mentorship provided by established Senior Investigators to guide the investigator's research progress. As each investigator achieves research independence, s/he will graduate from COBRE support and new junior researchers will be recruited. In this way, program growth is sustained with a constant infusion of new talent, thereby ensuring a continuum of cutting-edge medical advances in this important area.

This award follows a \$7.5 million expansion of VA Basic Science Research through a VA-sponsored new research building that was completed in 2012 and which has the capacity to support 16 investigators with laboratory and office space and state of the art biomedical equipment. Though the VA supported this development, the MJ Murdock Charitable Trust also played a critical role in supporting the purchase of equipment.

"This prestigious award is recognition of the high-quality medical research being conducted by the Boise VA's excellent team of investigators," said David Wood, Boise VA Medical Center Director and IVREF Chair. "It reflects both their dedication and their innovative, collaborative approach to research. Through this award, our researchers will make further progress in combatting devastating infectious diseases, and make healthcare advances for veterans and the general population. I am extremely proud of their efforts."

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