



# Manuel Schneidmiller Post 154, Inc. Rathdrum Idaho Newsletter

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## **BLOOD DONATION WILL COST YOU NOTHING, BUT IT WILL SAVE A LIFE!**

### **American Legion Post 154 Rathdrum Blood Drive**

We all know someone who has needed blood for cancer treatment, a trauma accident or heart surgery, just to name a few of the innumerable uses for blood. Our need locally is 200 units a day. Blood supplies are down to a critical low, and blood donation sites are having great challenges keeping up with the needs of our community.

One in four of us will someday rely on donated blood if we haven't already needed it. Can I count on you to pay it forward? The life you save could be your own, a Post member's or that of a loved one.

**Editor's Note: Recently, Helen & Bill Kinder's granddaughter, suffering life threatening complications after delivering premature twins, could only receive 1 unit of blood of the several she needed because no more was available. This affects us directly! Some of us cannot donate for health reasons, so please step up to help if you can. O negative (universal donor), and types A & B are vitally needed! Blood types are: O positive and negative, both A and B positive and negative, and AB positive and negative. All are in critically low supply!**

Most everyone is eligible to donate if they are at least 16 years of age, weigh 110 pounds or more and are in good general health. As of August 16, 2022, all geographic restrictions have been lifted for those of us veterans who served in Europe and the United Kingdom. Still have eligibility questions? Check out <https://www.Vitalant.org/blood-donation-requirements>.

Our American Legion Post 154 and Vitalant of Coeur d'Alene are teaming up to have a blood drive in the Lions Club parking lot from 2:30pm to 5:30pm on June 22nd, before our general meeting. Their Blood Mobile can take two donors every 15 minutes so sign up with a friend or your significant other. Rally your troops, be they family neighbors or friends. Mark your calendar and sign up with this [LINK](#) for SienUpGenius and include it in emails to friends and family so they too can sign up. Every drop counts and THANK YOU!!! - Kelly McMahan

### **Manuel Schneidmiller Post 154 Mission Statement**

The American Legion Post 154 is a patriotic veterans organization devoted to mutual helpfulness to support Veterans and the Community at large. We are committed to mentoring and sponsorship of youth programs, advocating patriotism and honor, promoting a strong national security, and continued devotion to our fellow service members, veterans, and their families in our communities. Our success depends entirely on active membership, participation and volunteerism. This organization belongs to the people it serves and the community in which it thrives.

## Commander:

HELLO American Legion Family: Welcome to our summer season at the Post. The Post had a grand turn out for the Memorial Day Remembrance Ceremony. As always our Honor Guard did a fantastic job. Thanks also go out to the folks that worked the program table and all who helped make this event such a success for our community. We all make a great team!!

As we get into the swing of summer we are having a Flag Retirement Ceremony in a couple of weeks and people across the United States celebrate Flag Day on June 14 each year to honor the United States flag and to commemorate the flag's adoption. On the same day, the United States Army celebrates its birthday. So, on the 14<sup>th</sup> wish all of our Army members a "Happy Birthday" Army.

In May we also did our annual fundraiser and Memorial Day reminder "the Poppy Program" to the public and rose around \$6,000. I want to say thanks so much to Lonnie Morris for heading the program and the other volunteers for all of their countless hours putting this program together and manning the tables at the stores. Bravo Zulu!! God Bless America - Dee Sasse, Commander

## \$\$\$ EARLY MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL INCENTIVE \$\$\$

American Legion Post 154 is offering an early renewal incentive to all Post members. Two, Post 154 members will have the opportunity to each win \$50. It would be great if everyone would renew early. Let's give it a try. Here are the rules:

1. Each Post 154 member that renews their membership during the period specified below will receive one ticket for a chance to win \$50. We will offer two \$50 prizes this year.
2. For this contest, renewals must be made starting July 1st and ending at 5pm, July 15th.
3. Dues can be paid online at <https://www.legion.org/renew> (This is the preferred method) or received in hand by the membership committee no later than Friday July 15th, at 5:00 pm.
4. Any renewals that are mailed and not received in our Post PO Box, by July 15th will be ineligible for the prize.
5. Paid-Up-For-Life members are automatically renewed on July 1st and will not be eligible, but they do receive our gratitude for their commitment.

Please Note: Everyone's membership runs from January 1st to December 31st. No matter what date they join. Early renewal is for 2024. Bill Kinder, 1st Vice Commander, Membership Chairman

**Help Needed for Two of Our Members.** Bill and Helen Kinder, who do so much for our Post, now need help from us. Bill is still recuperating at the rehab facility. Helen has her own medical issues, as well as watching over Bill, their hospitalized granddaughter and new premature twin great grandbabies. So, they need help at home. Helen has hired someone to mow their lawns, but she is unable to clean up the flower beds.



Dave Porter has volunteered to come help out, but she would like a few others to help him. He doesn't know his schedule yet, but if you can help, please contact Helen at 208-660-5464 or [hlkinder41@gmail.com](mailto:hlkinder41@gmail.com). She will let you know when this will take place as soon as Dave has a date (it may be as soon as this weekend). Thank you for stepping up to help our own.

## Finance Officer:

During the month of April 2023, Post 154 received income of \$983.03 and had expenses of \$5004.71. Net loss for the month of March was \$4,021.68. Income was from donations to our Boys State Program from the Post Falls and Hayden Eagles (\$800), membership renewals (\$180); donation from the flag box (\$2.00) and interest income of \$1.03.

Expenses were for the cost of sending 11 young men to the Boys State program (\$4,400), Chaplin's expenses for cards (\$9.54), Membership renewal (\$37.50), Honor Guard mileage expenses (\$423.13), Honor Guard supplies (\$82.89) and Honor Guard expenses for rifle repair (\$51.65). NOTE: The Post Honor Guard also raises its own funds from donations from family members for whom Military Honors are provided at a Veteran's funeral so their expenses – although shown in our financial reports are not a cost borne by the membership. - Len Crosby, Finance Officer

## Chaplain's Pew:

### Thank God for all the Blessings Prayer for Today

Lord I thank you for your continual blessing. Thank God for all the blessings you give me. I thank you because I am a blessing. Help me to set my eyes, and my hearts on you afresh. Renew my spirit, fill me with your peace and joy. I love you and I need you, this day and every day. I give you praise and thanks, for you alone are worthy! Teach me to be joyful always, to pray continually and to give thanks in all my circumstances. Lord, I want more blessing. Blessing that can't be hidden, a blessing that will broadcast you through me. I want you to bless me this day so that my enemies would be put to shame and I will reason to laugh. I believe you have done it Lord. Amen.



All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is our merciful Father and the source of all comfort. He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us.  
2 Corinthians 1:3, 4

## Sick Call & Taps:

- Bill Kinder & Leroy Kronval continue to recuperate at the Advanced Health Care of CDA in Riverstone. Bill is recovering from life threatening pulmonary blood clots and 2 episodes of septic shock. His planned release date is June 8<sup>th</sup>. Leroy is recovering from pneumonia and pulmonary effusion which required chest tubes to drain. His release date is June 14<sup>th</sup>. Both enjoy visitors. Bill is in room 110 and Leroy in room 105.
- Margaret Ogram is recuperating at home after surgery on her arm.

## 2023 POPPY REPORT

What a successful year with the poppies! We set a new record that will be hard to break, although we will try. Are you ready for this - \$6,699.00!

Total Thursday donations were \$2,123.28, total Friday donations were \$2,524.28 and the total Saturday donations were \$2,051.44. I want to thank the members that helped make this a success and also all the volunteers. We could not have done this without you. I will send thank you letters to the two stores for allowing us to do this. - Lonnie Morse, Committee Chair

[Editor's Note: another \$150 was received at the Memorial Day Ceremony, after Lonnie's article was submitted]

## Service Officer:

And it's June already. Time for some home repairs?

Information and help was the name of the game at the North Idaho Veterans Stand Down held at NIC on Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup>. Two such tables caught my eye:

1. **Bath Fitters:** provides bath and shower remodeling, replacement tubs, and tub-to-shower conversions for easy access. They work with veterans and the VA HISA (Home Improvements and Structural Alterations) grant program for financial assistance. Call Jerry Sparling at 509-474-9191 or view [bathfitter.com](http://bathfitter.com)

2. **Service Peace Warriors:** raises and trains service dogs for honorably discharged veterans diagnosed with PTSD. They match veteran to dog in a personal way with an eight-week training (your lodging costs are free) at their facility in Eltopia, Washington. Call 509-539-7962 or view [www.servicepeacewarriors.org](http://www.servicepeacewarriors.org).

Here are more resources:

- **Elder Help** – (208) 661-8870 - Elder Help may be able to help with minor home repairs and based on a case-by-case basis: Ramp building, ramp repair, roof repair (low pitched)
- Based on the applicant's income, **Habitat for Humanity** has a program that may be able to help with minor repairs (208) 762-4663 Ext#3. See the brochure at the following page.
- **Bartolo Builders LLC**, Post Falls, Idaho (208) 714-7751, Contractor Number: RCE-58579 Anthony (Tony) Bartolo. This company is a licensed general contractor in the state, he is accredited through the BBB and rated A+. There are no complaints filed within the 6-12 months.
- **Dave Bruyette** (208) 691-5587. Dave is the Chaplin for American Legion Post 14, Coeur d'Alene, and a church Pastor.
- Based on the applicant's income, the **City of Coeur d'Alene** has a program to assist with minor repairs.

There are NO recommendations or endorsements for any of the above. You must conduct your own due diligence, ask questions, and talk to your family and trusted friends. – Ruth Aresvik, Service Officer



**Post charter member, and our first Service Officer, Charlie Till's** interment of cremains and Memorial Service were held last week at the Veterans Cemetery in Medical Lake and Post 143 in Post Falls respectively. Both were well attended by family and friends from the veteran community, competition shooters and many others, with about 100 attending the Memorial Service. Charlie's wife Carol and daughter Amber, as well as several other family members came from across the country for the ceremonies. Bob Hunt, from the Fort Sherman DAV gave the eulogy and conducted the service, and our Honor Guard presented the colors and preformed the rifle salute. Three polished brass from spent cartridges were presented to Carol. A lunch of Charlie's favorite foods including pulled pork sandwiches, cole slaw, cherry pies, tuxedo cakes, and more, was provided by the DAV Auxiliary.



Bob Hunt presenting the eulogy.

# a brush with kindness

A brush with kindness (ABWK) is a repair program through Habitat for Humanity of North Idaho that provides simple home repairs for low-income homeowners in Kootenai County.

## what services are offered through ABWK?

We will work with families to identify the most important repair needs for their home. Some of the services may include:

### house painting

to alleviate health, life and safety/code issues. Including prep work and minor repairs to ensure a quality paint job.

### yard cleanup

including brush and junk removal. (not offered as a maintenance service)

### handicap accessibility

ramps, handrails and more.

### critical repairs

to alleviate health, life and safety/code issues.

### weatherization

to improve energy efficiency and indoor air quality.

## who is eligible?

Habitat uses a partnership housing model that provides families with

**a hand up,  
not a hand out**

To qualify, families or individuals must:

- ✔ Applicant must own and occupy property to be repaired.
- ✔ Earn 80% or less of the median area income. Income guidelines based on family size and percentage of median area income.
- ✔ Be able to repay a loan for the cost of the repair.
- ✔ We offer 20% discount for paying in advance.
- ✔ Be willing to partner on the repair, which includes "sweat equity".

## how do families apply?

To apply to ABWK, please call or email us for an application. If you need help completing it, just let us know.

**(208)762-4663 Ext. 3**  
**abwk@northidahohabitat.org**

## do you need volunteers for ABWK?

**Yes!** ABWK is a volunteer driven construction program, just like our home building program. We are looking for skilled people who can be volunteer Crew Leaders and for anyone else (skilled or unskilled) who would like to help with a home repair.

### 2018 HUD INCOME GUIDELINES FOR KOOTENAI COUNTY

Family Size	Monthly Gross		Family Size	Monthly Gross	
	Minimum	Maximum		Minimum	Maximum
ONE (1)	\$1546	\$3096	FIVE (5)	\$2329	\$4775
TWO (2)	\$1546	\$3538	SIX (6)	\$2329	\$5129
THREE (3)	\$2203	\$3979	SEVEN (7)	\$2835	\$5483
FOUR (4)	\$2203	\$4421	EIGHT (8)	\$2835	\$5838



## Flag Retirement Chair Needed

Would you please step up and volunteer to chair this event this year? Bill Kinder has chaired it for the past few years but he is recovering from surgery and is unable to do so this year.

Flag Day is Wednesday June 14<sup>th</sup> which is the day flags would usually be retired at the Lions Club. However, it can be done on another weekday if you would like (there is too much activity on the weekends at the Lions facility with baseball and the Farmers Market).

A program is available from previous years ceremonies. A list of items needed is available. The Honor Guard will be there. All that is needed is a little of your time to make this event happen.

Please contact Bryan Bledsoe at [bryandbledsoe@gmail.com](mailto:bryandbledsoe@gmail.com) or 509-9906739



**For those that have not renewed for 2023 you still have time.**

But!!! There are not many days left!

You have until June 16th, to get your dues paid for 2023. Your membership runs January through December. We have 30 members whose memberships have been expired since the end of December 2022. I do not want anyone to lose their continuous membership. Some of you have quite a few years already. If you are planning on renewing, do so now, as National begins sending renewal notices out in July for 2024. Anyone renewing after June 17th will be renewed for 2024, and will lose their continuous years.

Please check your American Legion ID cards, if it says it's for 2022, you are expired! If you aren't sure give me a call at 208-661-6850 for assistance. Thank you.

You may renew online at [legion.org/renewal](http://legion.org/renewal) (quickest) or  
send your \$45.00 Check to:

American Legion Rathdrum Post 154  
PO Box 1116  
Rathdrum, ID 83858

Submitted by: Bill Kinder 1st Vice Commander, Membership Chairman



**Post 154 Honor Guard:**

Our Honor Guard is very active. They march in parades, present the colors at ceremonies, and most importantly, provide a rifle salute to honor Veterans at their funerals. However, more members are always needed to serve in this capacity. If you are interested in participating in this very fulfilling activity, contact Todd Halvorson at [keltod11@gmail.com](mailto:keltod11@gmail.com) or by phone at 509-953-0885.

The Honor Guard participated in 10 funerals in the last month for 3 Navy veterans, 6 Army veterans, and 1 Marine veteran. They also presented the colors at Stand Down. There were 268 volunteer hours donated and 1,726 miles driven to accomplish these missions. – Bryan Bledsoe, Honor Guard Member

## **Faces of Agent Orange – Because we all need to be reminded.**

**MAYNARD KADERLIK** By Jim Belshaw

Joshua Kaderlik came home one day from his fourth grade classes in Minnesota and said to his father, Maynard, “Dad, I’m really dumb.” It was not said jokingly. It came from the little boy’s heart. He meant every word of it. And every word of it stunned Maynard Kaderlik. The words carried a sadness that defied description or definition. “That one really hit home,” Kaderlik said. “All his life, he has been degraded by other children who did not realize his learning disability.” It would hit home again when Kaderlik read the book, *My Father, My Son*, by Admiral Elmo Zumwalt. It was then that Kaderlik began making connections between the difficult lives led by his children and his exposure to Agent Orange in Vietnam. Adm. Elmo Zumwalt had ordered the Agent Orange defoliation to protect riverine sailors and others from attacks along the heavily vegetated riverbanks of Vietnam. Zumwalt’s son was one of those men. After Vietnam, his son developed two kinds of terminal cancer, and his own son was born with a severe learning disability. When Maynard Kaderlik, president of the Minnesota State Council, read the book, he took note that each boy was the same age and that each father had served in the same area of Vietnam. Kaderlik served for two years off the coast of Vietnam and another year in the Mekong Delta on riverine duty with the Navy and the 9th Infantry Division of the Army. “Zumwalt felt the spraying took his son’s life,” Kaderlik said. “When I was there, it was pretty obvious what had been sprayed. Something that had been green was all gray and dead. We drank the water on the rivers and bathed in it.” Kaderlik’s health had been good until 2010, when he was diagnosed with prostate cancer, a disease connected to Agent Orange exposure. He believes his children paid for that exposure long before that.

Josh had always had a rough time in school. He is 32 today, and the road has not gotten any smoother. “Today, he still struggles in the workforce, which can be very cruel,” he said. In addition to being born with a dislocated hip requiring him to wear a metal brace to put the hip back in place, Josh was born with a severe learning disability. After the day he came home to announce that he was “really dumb,” Josh’s parents decided to transfer him to a Catholic school, though the expense was difficult to bear. The Catholic school tailored Josh’s classes to his abilities, and within a year his father saw changes. “It helped a great deal with his self-esteem,” Maynard said. “After one year, it really soared.” His daughter, Melissa, did better in school than Josh, but had her own problems, too. She is the mother of Jayda, Maynard Kaderlik’s granddaughter. Jayda has been diagnosed with autism. Kaderlik pays for the insurance that keeps his granddaughter in a program offering therapy eight hours day, five days a week. “It’s a challenge for her mother and her grandpa,” he said. “But she’s getting better. I pay for the insurance so she can be in the program, and I would spend my last nickel to keep her in it. She is such a loving and thoughtful child. For her, learning has been a huge challenge. The cost of the program is very high, but I’d do anything to help her.” As it is with so many other Vietnam veterans whose children and grandchildren have struggled with exotic diseases, learning disabilities, and other health problems, Kaderlik finds it difficult to face the prospect that it was his exposure to Agent Orange that afflicts them. “It makes you feel bad that her disability was caused by my service in Vietnam and what my country sprayed on us when we were there,” he said. “She’s [Jayda] going to be a wonderful person in this world.”  
(cont’ below)

He has no doubt about the U.S. government's responsibility, not only to its veterans, but to their children and grandchildren. "We went off to serve our country, and now our government that ordered the spraying should take care of the children and grandchildren of the veterans, because it's affected us in one way or another," he said. "The veterans are in the fourth quarter of their lives, but the children have their lives ahead of them. They should be compensated monetarily and receive the special care and education they need so they can survive in the world." Significant numbers of Vietnam veterans have children and grandchildren with birth defects related to exposure to Agent Orange. To alert legislators and the media to this ongoing legacy of the war, we are seeking real stories about real people. If you wish to share your family's health struggles that you believe are due to Agent Orange/dioxin, send an email to [mporter@vva.org](mailto:mporter@vva.org) or call 301-585-4000, Ext. 146

Editor's Note: this is how descendants can register if they suffer from the effects of Agent Orange and other toxins to which their parent or grandparent were exposed.

### Veterans' Descendants Health Registries

[CLICK HERE to register](#). The National Birth Defect Registry is the only National birth defect registry in the United States. This registry is sponsored by Birth Defect Research for Children. It has two special sections that collect data on military exposures in Vietnam and during the Gulf War. National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD) offers two rare disease patient registries as well.



## Did you know...?

What factors will VA use to assign you to a priority group and determine your co-pay, if any?

**The VA will base your priority group on:**

- Your military service history, **and**
- Your disability rating, **and**
- Your income level, **and**
- Whether or not you qualify for Medicaid, **and**
- Other benefits you may be receiving (like VA pension benefits)

The VA will assign Veterans with service-connected disabilities the highest priority. They assign the lowest priority to Veterans who earn a higher income and who don't have any service-connected disabilities qualifying them for disability compensation (monthly payments).

If you qualify for more than one priority group, they'll assign you to the highest one.



## Mark Your Calendar:

June 1<sup>st</sup> - National Heimlich Maneuver Day

June 6<sup>th</sup> – D – Day

**June 8<sup>th</sup> – Executive Committee Meeting 6 PM at Rathdrum Lions Club**

June 14<sup>th</sup> – World Blood Donor Day

June 14<sup>th</sup> – US Army Birthday

June 11<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> – Men’s Health Week

June 18<sup>th</sup> – Father’s Day

June 19<sup>th</sup> - Juneteenth commemorates the emancipation of enslaved Black Americans

June 21<sup>st</sup> - World Peace and Prayer Day

June 21<sup>st</sup> – Summer begins

**June 22<sup>nd</sup> - Post 154 Membership Meeting & Potluck @ 5:30 pm meeting at 6 pm**

June 22<sup>nd</sup> – National Kissing Day, have FUN!

June 25<sup>th</sup> - Korean War started 1950

June 27<sup>th</sup> – National PTSD Awareness Day

**Help honor and remember** these Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Guardsman and Marines by carrying one of their banners in the Post Falls Parade. It’s on Saturday July 8<sup>th</sup> when the group will meet behind Walgreen’s on 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue just east of Idaho. The Parade starts at 10 am so come around 9-9:30 am to pick up a banner to carry in the parade. I did it last year and it was a wonderful experience. Bring your family and friends as there are over 300 banners. If you have questions contact me, Bryan Bledsoe 509-990-6739 or [bryandbledsoe@gmail.com](mailto:bryandbledsoe@gmail.com)



## Bits & Pieces

- Get Your Free Military Service Plaque. Preserve your military memories with a FREE printable military service plaque from Together We Served. [CLAIM YOURS HERE](#)
- Get Your DD214 and Other Service Records  
Are you looking for your service records or those of a family member? Here's how you can get them fast and easy. [LEARN MORE](#)
- US Government Made Easy For Veterans <http://www.usa.gov/index.shtml>

## Honoring and remembering heroes

By JOSA SNOW Staff Writer

Some Memorial Day traditions — the barbecues, appliance sales and being able to wear white again — used to irritate Rathdrum Mayor Vic Holmes, he said Monday, while speaking to a crowd at the city's Pinegrove Cemetery.

But now, Holmes finds honor in even the small things.

"It comes to me that what happens this weekend is not in spite of veterans; it's because of the sacrifices veterans made," Holmes said. "We enjoy all of these things because someone was willing to put their life on the line. I can't say that enough. We enjoy all of the things we enjoy in this country because of veterans. And especially because of those who have fallen."

The mayor and Rathdrum American Legion Post 154 led the Memorial Day gathering of at least 100 people, including the Northwest Guardian Riders and Boy Scout Troop 911, among the families of veterans and veterans.

Legion Post Chaplain Helen Kinder read the names of three local veterans who lost their lives this year — Marine Larry Winston Parker, and sailors Robert Bedard Sr. and Donald O'Malley — while Ruth Aresvik rang the memorial bell, tolling their loss.



Photos by JOSA SNOW/Press  
Rathdrum Mayor Vic Holmes leads the Northwest Guardian Riders carrying a memorial wreath decorated with poppies to place on the Fallen Soldiers Memorial in Pinegrove Cemetery Monday, during a Memorial Day celebration.



Rathdrum City Administrator Leon Duce places a poppy [Post Newsletter Editor's Note: Correction; carnations] on the memorial wreath honoring the fallen during a Memorial Day ceremony Monday at Pinegrove cemetery.

"When politicians debate the cost of veteran benefits, we should remember that the price has already been paid," said master of ceremonies and Legion Post 154 Commander Dee Sasse.

Attendees placed poppies [Post Newsletter Editor's Note: Correction; carnations] in an enormous 4-foot wreath before the Guardian Riders placed it on the Pinegrove Fallen Soldier Memorial. Poppies are a reminder of a living legacy, Sasse said.

She asked the audience to remember fallen Coast Guardsmen, many of whom were not awarded Purple Hearts for nearly a century in some cases.

"A flaw in the award system did not permit Coast Guard veterans to receive the Purple Heart for actions until just before World War II," Sasse said. "This injustice has been corrected. The Coast Guard actively seeks families whose ancestors did not receive their Purple Hearts they earned, to honor all fallen heroes, regardless of how many decades or centuries ago they passed away."

As an example, Sasse talked about Coast Guardsmen Angus Nelson MacLean and James Frost, who lost their lives in a U-boat attack during World War 1 and received their Purple Hearts posthumously in March.

Sasse also asked everyone to also honor the Chinese rail workers buried nearby and to remember the impact their efforts had on transportation through the country, the county and the local history and economic development of Rathdrum.

"They were the ones that paved the way for us to bring our soldiers to Farragut," Sasse said. "To create the lumber industry- that brought the people here, the mining industry. They brought the Americans to this part of the republic that is our America."

An American flag and a Chinese flag from the rail workers' era will be erected in the cemetery to remember the Chinese immigrants there.

The Post 154 Honor Guard fired a 21-gun salute before Chaplain Kinder gave a closing prayer. She held back tears as she made apologies for two veterans who were unable to attend the service for the first time in decades. Her husband, Bill Kinder, and Leon Cromwell [Post Newsletter Editor's Note: Correction; Leroy Kronvall] could not be there because of their health.

"Heroes never die," Kinder said "They live on in the hearts and minds of those who have the privilege to follow in their footsteps." [Post Newsletter Editor's Note: Correction; That quote should be attributed to Ruth Aresvik before she read the names of the fallen.]

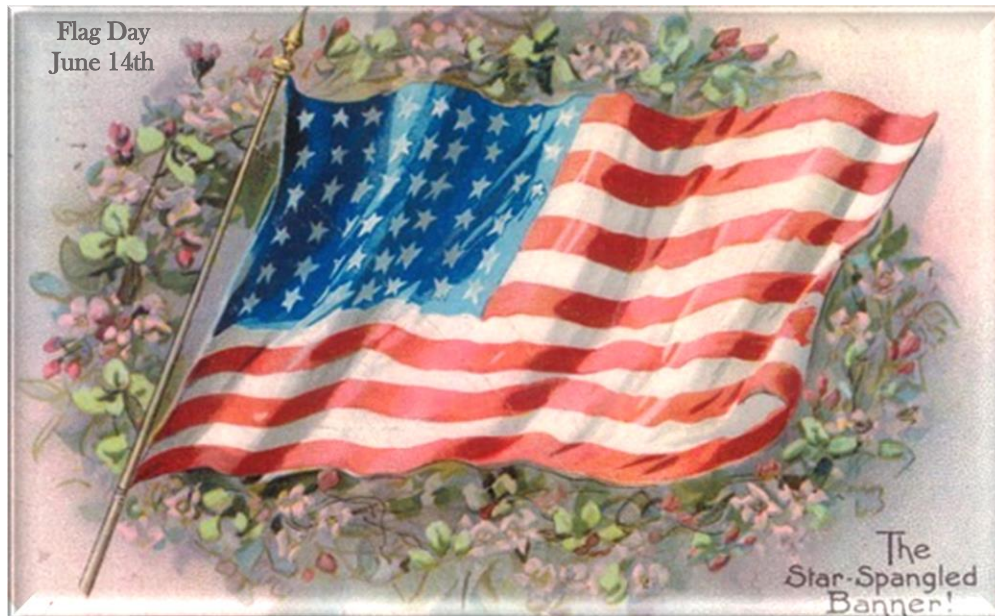
May 30, 2023 8:06 am (GMT -7:00)



Northwest Guardian Riders take pictures as a little girl places a poppy, [Post Newsletter Editor's Note: Correction; carnation] a reminder of the living legacy of fallen service members, in a wreath at the Rathdrum Memorial Day celebration at Pinegrove cemetery.

Powered by TECNAVIA

In honor of **Flag Day on June 14<sup>th</sup>**, here are 2 articles you may find both useful and interesting.



### **Flag Etiquette - When to Display your Flag**

The flag should be displayed, from sunrise to sunset, on all days when the weather permits, especially on:

- New Year's Day, January 1<sup>st</sup>
- Inauguration Day, January 20<sup>th</sup> every 4 years.
- Martin Luther King's Birthday, Third Monday in January.
- Lincoln's Birthday, February 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Washington's Birthday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- Easter Sunday, changes each year.
- Mother's Day, Second Sunday in May.
- Armed Forces Day, Third Saturday in May.
- Memorial Day (half-staff until noon), last Monday in May.
- Flag Day, June 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Independence Day, July 4<sup>th</sup>.
- Labor Day, First Monday in September.
- Constitution Day, September 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Columbus Day, October 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Navy Day, October 27<sup>th</sup> (Theodore Roosevelt's birthday).
- Veterans Day, November 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Thanksgiving Day, Fourth Thursday in November.
- Christmas Day, December 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Election Days (various).
- Federally observed dates of the above holidays which may be different from the actual dates.
- Such days as may be proclaimed by the President of the United States.
- State and Local Holidays.

## How the Flag Came to be Called Old Glory

New research may settle a family feud over the origins of an American icon.

Sally Jenkins

October 2013

Hugh Talman / NMAH, SI

A tale of fidelity, family feud and argument over ownership is the subject of a new inquiry by the Smithsonian National Museum of American History. Old Glory, the weather-beaten 17- by 10-foot banner that has long been a primary NMAH artifact, is second only to Francis Scott Key's Star-Spangled Banner as a patriotic symbol, and is the source of the term now applied generically to all American flags. "It represents success, righteousness, sovereignty," says museum director John Gray, but also a conflict that is still "deeply contested in our souls."

During the Civil War, no flag became a more popular symbol of Union loyalty than the worn and imperiled standard belonging to 19th-century sea captain William Driver, who was originally from Salem, Massachusetts. His defiant flying of it—from his Nashville, Tennessee, household during the midst of the conflict—made national news.

Civil War-era citizens felt so passionately about flags that after the surrender of Fort Sumter, the garrison ensign toured the country for the duration of the war. The poet and hospital attendant Walt Whitman lamented the amount of blood spent to retain a simple, four-cornered regimental rag. "I have a little flag....It was taken by the Secesh [secessionists] in a cavalry fight, and rescued by our men in a bloody little skirmish," Whitman wrote. "It cost three men's lives, just to get one little flag, four by three."

The flag was originally designed to unfurl grandly from a ship's mast. Driver received the homemade flag with 24 stars in 1824, sewn for him by his mother and a group of young Salem female admirers to celebrate his appointment, at the age of just 21, as a master mariner and commander of his own ship, the *Charles Doggett*. According to legend, when Driver raised the flag up the main mast, he lifted his hat and declaimed, "My ship, my country, and my flag, Old Glory." However, Salem historian Bonnie Hurd Smith has found "no evidence whatsoever" that Driver made such a stiffly grandiose pronouncement. He more likely named the flag when reflecting on his adventurous 20-year career as an American merchant seaman who sailed to China, India, Gibraltar and throughout the South Pacific, at one point ferrying survivors of the HMS *Bounty* from Tahiti to Pitcairn Island under the flag.

"It has ever been my staunch companion and protection," he wrote. "Savages and heathens, lowly and oppressed, hailed and welcomed it at the far end of the wide world. Then, why should it not be called Old Glory?"

A portrait of Driver as a young captain shows a dashing man with black sideburns, a confident smile and a frothy white shirt. He made profits in the tortoise-shell trade, and could converse a bit in Fijian. Family memoirs tell stories of him seizing the wheel of his ship himself in gales, and facing down a hostile tribal chief in New Zealand with a pistol in hand and a dirk in his mouth.

"The flag embodied America as he knew it at that point, going across the world," says NMAH curator Jennifer Locke Jones. "He carried it with him and it was the pride of this independent free spirit. He was taking a bit of America to uncharted territories and he felt very proud that this was the symbol he flew under. He took a piece of his home with him wherever he went."

In 1837, Driver gave up seafaring after his wife, Martha Silsbee Babbage, died from throat cancer, leaving him with three young children. Driver decided to settle in Nashville, where his three brothers had opened a store. Only 34 years old, he quickly remarried the next year, choosing a Southern girl less than half his age, Sarah Jane Parks, and started a second family that grew to nine children.

Driver flew his flag on holidays "rain or shine," according to one of his Nashville-born daughters, Mary Jane Roland. It was so large that he attached it to a rope from his attic window and stretched it on a pulley across the street to secure it to a locust tree. In 1860, according to Roland, he and his wife and daughters

repaired it, sewing on the additional ten stars, and Driver himself appliquéd a small white anchor in the lower right corner to signify his career.

But as secession neared, Driver's flag became a source of contention, and by the outbreak of the war, Driver's own family was bitterly riven. Two of his sons were fervent Confederates and enlisted in local regiments; one of them would later die of his wounds at the Battle of Perryville. One can only imagine the tensions between the Salem-born and Nashville-born Drivers, whose relations may have already been strained by first- and second-family rivalry.

In March 1862, Driver wrote despairingly, "Two sons in the army of the South! My entire house estranged...and when I come home...no one to soothe me."

Local Confederates attempted to seize Old Glory soon after Tennessee seceded. When Gov. Isham G. Harris sent a committee to Driver's house to demand the flag, Driver met the men at the door. Picture a defiant 58-year-old with a chest still barrel-full and an out-thrust chin. "Gentlemen...if you are looking for stolen property in my house, produce your search-warrant," he declared. Cowed, the committee left the premises.

Unsatisfied, local guerrillas made another attempt to seize the flag. When an armed squad arrived on Driver's front porch, he stalked out to confront them. "If you want my flag you'll have to take it over my dead body," he threatened. They retreated.

Driver, by now convinced that the flag was in imminent danger, decided to hide it. With the help of the more loyal women in a neighboring household, it was sewn into a coverlet. It remained there until late February 1862, when Nashville became the first Southern capital to fall.

Union troops led by the Sixth Ohio entered the city. When Driver saw the Stars and Stripes and regimental colors of the Sixth Ohio go up the flagstaff of the capitol, he made his way there and sought out the Union commander, Gen. William "Bull" Nelson. As Nelson's aide Horace Fisher recalled it, "A stout, middle-aged man, with hair well shot with gray, short in stature, broad in shoulder, and with a roll in his gait, came forward and asked, 'Who is the General in command? I wish to see him.'" Driver introduced himself as a former sea captain and loyal Unionist and then produced his coverlet.

Fisher recalled: "Capt. Driver—an honest-looking, blunt-speaking man, was evidently a character; he carried on his arm a calico-covered bedquilt; and, when satisfied that Gen. Nelson was the officer in command, he pulled out his jack-knife and began to rip open the bedquilt without another word. We were puzzled to think what his conduct meant."

Finally, Fisher added, "the bedquilt was safely delivered of a large American flag, which he handed to Gen. Nelson, saying, 'This is the flag I hope to see hoisted on that flagstaff in place of the [damned] Confederate flag set there by that [damned] rebel governor, Isham G. Harris. I have had hard work to save it; my house has been searched for it more than once.' He spoke triumphantly, with tears in his eyes."

General Nelson accepted the flag and ordered it run up on the statehouse flagstaff. Roland claimed to have witnessed what happened next: It was greeted with "frantic cheering and uproarious demonstrations by soldiers," many of them from the Sixth Ohio. The regiment would adopt "Old Glory" as its motto.

The confusion over flags began later that night, when a storm threatened to tear the banner to pieces. Driver apparently replaced it with a newer, stronger one, and once again stowed Old Glory away for safekeeping. There were also reports that Driver gave a flag to the Sixth Ohio as it left the city. According to Roland, however, the main flag remained stored in the Driver home until December 1864 and the second battle for Nashville.

Confederate Gen. John Bell Hood fought his army to bits trying to retake the city. As the battle raged, Driver hung his flag out of the third-story window "in plain sight," according to Roland. He then went to join the defense of the city, telling his household before he left, "If Old Glory is not in sight, I'll blow the house out of sight too." Driver spent the rest of the war as a provost marshal of Nashville and worked in hospitals. According to Roland, several years before his death, he gave her the flag as a gift, on July 10,

1873. "This is my old ship flag Old Glory," he told her. "I love it as a mother loves her child; take it and cherish it as I have always cherished it; for it has been my steadfast friend and protector in all parts of the world—savage, heathen and civilized."

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William Driver died on March 3, 1886, and was buried in Nashville. That same year saw the genesis of the family feud over the flag when his niece, Harriet Ruth Waters Cooke, daughter of his youngest sister and a Salem-born socialite highly conscious of her genealogy, claimed to have inherited it. She presented her version of Old Glory to the Essex Institute in Salem (now the Peabody Essex Museum), along with family memorabilia that included a letter from the Pitcairn Islanders to Driver. Why Driver would have given his precious flag to a niece in far-off Massachusetts is unclear—perhaps because he didn't trust his Confederate-sympathizing children to care for it? Cooke also produced a family memoir that she self-published in 1889, in which she omitted the existence of Driver's daughter Mary Jane.

Roland fought back. She set about documenting the history of the flag her father had given her, and in 1918 published her own account, *Old Glory, The True Story*, in which she disputed elements of Cooke's narrative and presented documentary evidence for her claim. In 1922, Roland presented her Old Glory as a gift to President Warren G. Harding, who in turn delivered it to the Smithsonian.

That same year, the Peabody Essex also sent its Old Glory to the Smithsonian. But the museum chose to regard Roland's flag as the more important one: It was directly descended from Driver, and documentary evidence in the Tennessee State Library and Archives strongly suggested it was the one hidden in the quilt and presented to Union troops who took Nashville. It also had common sense on its side: Driver would have hoisted his largest flag over the capitol dome.

The Peabody flag sank into insignificance. It has remained on loan at the Smithsonian since 1922, but has gone largely unexamined, given the emphasis on the larger Old Glory. However, it became the subject of renewed curiosity this July during a conservation evaluation of both flags by curator Jones and textile conservator Suzanne Thomassen-Krauss. As they surveyed both flags, they began discussing the odd family history, which has been periodically resurrected in local Salem news stories along with suggestions that the Peabody flag might have a legitimate claim. They decided to embark on a more exhaustive analysis of both flags.

It's unlikely that the Smithsonian project will lay to rest the 125-year-old family quarrel. Nor is it likely that the smaller, 12- by 6-foot Peabody flag will supplant the traditional Old Glory in the eyes of Smithsonian curators, who report that the preliminary study indicates that the larger flag still has the much stronger claim.

But the Peabody flag is a historical curiosity in its own right, says Jones. Initial analysis shows it is a legitimate Driver family heirloom and Civil War-era relic, but it is also something of a mystery, with several anomalies.

According to textile preservationist Fonda Thomsen, who has helped conserve articles ranging from flags to the garments President Lincoln was wearing when he was assassinated, a single thread can tell a story. Each flag will contain signatures, clues left in seams and stitching, as well as in the dyes and materials used. "You can determine, were they made by the same person?" Thomsen says. "Did they finish their seam the same way, the stars the same way? How did they knot it off? Everybody leaves a little trail of their work."

Although the Old Glory textile project is just beginning, there have already been a couple of definitive conclusions. While the Peabody flag clearly dates to the same era as the larger Old Glory, it lacks the wear and tear of a seagoing flag. The fly edge is intact and not worn. In fact it seems as if the flag was hardly flown. "What we're hooking at is inconsistent with use on a naval vessel," Jones says. There are also baffling soil lines on the flag, and parts of it appear to be newer than others. "We're thinking parts of it are older, and parts are questionable," Jones says. "It could be that it was remade."

The larger Old Glory has wear and tear consistent with seafaring. It was indeed made during the 1820s and has all the earmarks of a heavily used naval flag. Its fly edge shows signs of wear, suggesting it spent a lot of time flapping in stiff winds. "When a flag is flown, you get distortion of the fabric, and wear on the leading edge," Thomsen says. "It beats the bejesus out of them."

This does not mean the Peabody flag is illegitimate. Captain Driver would have had more than one flag: Ship captains carried ceremonial flags, storm flags and flags designed to be visible from very long distances. Driver family memoirs and other records contain references to a "merino" flag owned by the captain, a storm flag, and then there was the flag that was draped over his coffin. The Peabody flag surely has a story in its own right. "We're looking at where it resided, the history of it and then, at the object itself, asking, 'What are you telling us?'" Jones says.

Paula Richter, curator for the Peabody Essex, is awaiting the outcome of the analysis before she offers an opinion. "It does seem like there is a growing consensus that the Smithsonian's is the actual Old Glory, but it's interesting to think about the relationship [of the two flags] to each other," she says.

Also intriguing is the fact that the Peabody Essex Museum's card catalog contains other "remnants" of flags purporting to be pieces of Old Glory, gifts from various donors. These may well be pieces of Old Glory—"souvenir" patches that were cut away, a common practice with treasured Civil War banners. There is no evidence of "souveniring" of the Peabody flag. But Jones believes that other items from the Peabody Essex catalog may match the weave of the Smithsonian flag.

Each vestige, even the most fragmentary scrap, is potentially meaningful. "Pieces of those flags are held sacred," Jones says. "They embody a common experience."

Submitted by Paula Atwood, Post 154 Member



**Below is information about the Veteran Resource Guide** made specifically for Idaho Veterans. It is full of resources for all sorts of needs and is very informative. You can go [HERE](#) to see it all or scan the QR code in the graphic below:

**VETERAN RESOURCE GUIDE**  
QUICKLY FIND VETERAN RESOURCES NEAR YOU

Benefits Education Social Work Legal Housing & more

**Where Idaho Veterans Can:**

- Find trusted organizations in your area
- Search anonymously from anywhere
- Customize search options to find all local available resources

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CONNECTING VETERANS TO RESOURCES  
IDAHO VETERANS GUIDE

## Greetings!

My name is Katrina Coffman and I am reaching out from the North Idaho Young Marines. We are a youth leadership program with a cornerstone in Drug Demand Reduction.

We are looking to bring on a Unit Commander and increase our Adult Volunteer base. I have included a brochure, if approved, would be grateful for you to post in a public area at your site to gather new volunteers.

This is a wonderful program and we are growing! If you want to have an opportunity to make a positive impact on our children for the benefits of our future - please let me know!

Thank you! Katrina

## North Idaho Young Marines

# Unit Commander and Adult Volunteers; *Accepting Applications*

## Want to make a difference?

The North Idaho Young Marines is a youth program with its roots in drug demand reduction! We work with our youth to instill physical fitness, community awareness and respect! We are looking for an individual who would like to lead this amazing unit!



## Come To A Training or Event!

The majority of our Adult Volunteers got their start from coming to a training or event. It doesn't take long to see what sets us, the North Idaho Young Marines, apart from the rest!

## Requirements to Apply

- Ability to pass background check
- 3 references
- Availability on 2nd and 4th Saturdays

## How to Apply

<https://youngmarines.org/unit/northidaho/JoinVolunteer>

Call: 208.916.3778





# DATES TO RECOGNIZE OUR VETERANS OF WAR

March  
29<sup>th</sup>

Vietnam  
War Veterans



July  
27<sup>th</sup>

Korean  
War Veterans



August  
8<sup>th</sup>

Persian Gulf  
War Veterans



September  
~3<sup>rd</sup> Friday~

National  
POW/MIA



October  
7<sup>th</sup>

Global War on  
Terror Veterans



December  
7<sup>th</sup>

World War II  
Veterans



# Rathdrum Days Car Show

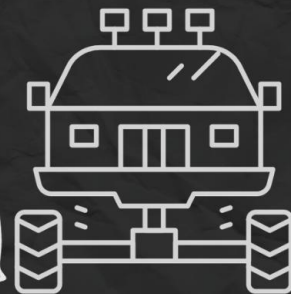
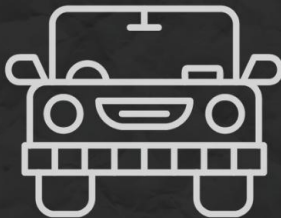
CALLING ALL VEHICLES  
JOIN US JULY 22ND

We are excited to announce the *2023 Rathdrum Days Car Show*, on Saturday July 22nd at Lakeland High School. All classic, fun, modified, tricked out or non-traditional variety of vehicles are welcome!

We invite you to apply with the attached application or scan the QR Code to apply electronically!

July 22nd, 10am-2pm  
Lakeland High School

For questions please reach out to:  
Aaron Bradley 208-770-0888  
Michael Castillo 916-690-2507



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**WHO: AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY #149**

**WHEN: SATURDAY, JUNE 25TH**

**WHERE: American Legion Hall located at 5525 E Highway 54 in Athol, Idaho**

**DESCRIPTION: The menu for this dinner will consist of ORIENTAL BROCCOLI /BEEF, DINNER ROLLS and DESSERT. Price (per person) is a \$10 donation.**

**Please note that you do not need to be a member of the American Legion to attend. Our building is now a non-smoking environment but offers an enclosed area for our patrons who do smoke. COVID-19 protocols are in place.**

