

# American Legion

Lloyd E Hutcheson

## Post 113 Bugle Gazette

*For God and Country We Associate Ourselves*



Volume 3 Issue 7 July , 2022

# July 4



This is what it looked like on July 4, 2022 at Storey Park in Meridian. We actually got many more pictures, but this is the photo the City took of our booth. We had as many as eight people on hand to help talk to people at the event and hand out information and goodies. We passed out American Flags, U.S. Constitutions, Flag comic books, and candy. The candy and flags were the most popular. We arrived at 4:00 PM and stayed until 7:00 PM when the band started up. It was a good event as we got to meet a lot of people and introduce them to the American Legion. The City invited us back again next year. Special thanks to those who helped set up and take down.

### IN THIS ISSUE:

- Commanders Notes
- Radio Club
- Honor Guard
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- AND MORE

### A Few Months Out

July 14—17— Summer Convention

July 19, 2022—Post Meeting

July 27, 2022—Radio Club Meeting

October 20, 2022—Trunk or Treat

November 11, 2022—Veterans Day

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# Commanders Call

By: Rich Dees

June was a busy month. We had a flurry of events right at the end of the month and at the beginning of July. I appreciate all the people who came out for the events. The success of the activities were only possible because of you. August will be a slow month by comparison. Things pick back up in September as we begin our preparations for the American Legion Oratorical competition.

This month, we were involved in the Meridian Dairy Days parade, and the 4<sup>th</sup> of July event at Storey Park along with the Koffee Klatch and a national amateur radio event. You will also see elsewhere in the newsletter where our Honor Guard was very active as usual.

Last month you heard about a couple of grants that we applied for from the City of Meridian. One was for the installation of a flag pole and an American Flag on Cherry lane. While not specifically approved, the Council decided they could let the Parks Department install and maintain the pole and flag. Post 113 would have been a middle-man with no real function. The other grant application related to the flag destruction program was approved. It is in the City Legal Department now getting the final touches prior to awarding the grant.

The disposal grant will pay for two collection sites within the city. One will be located at City Hall and the other at the Meridian Senior Center. The other piece of the grant is to purchase two burners and place them at Post 201 at the Idaho State Correction Center (ISCC). ISCC has the space and the personnel to conduct the flag disposal according the Flag Code.

In other news, Ralph Cavalieri not only is continuing with the training series during our meals, he is undertaking a project to upgrade our sound system for Zoom at the Post. He is working with a company to write another grant for the purchase and installation of the equipment.

Other significant activities on the horizon in addition to the Oratorical Contest are the Post 113 Christmas party, the Post 201 family's Christmas party, and Veterans Day celebration. All will require help to make them a success, so stay tuned. We also need to decide on our money making project. I will unveil one plan at the next meeting. Our September meeting will be attended by our Boys State and the Auxiliary Girls State attendees. The Auxiliary will be helping with the meal.

During the last meeting, you heard John Brekke talk about a Peer support team. That team will be available to offer assistance to veterans and families should difficulties arise. Please stay tuned as we flesh out the details of the team and how to contact them.

In case you hadn't noticed, we have a lot going on. If there is something you would like to see us do, please let us know. As it stands right now, September through December will be busy months!

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# POST 113 HONOR GUARD



Rifle Salutes- 7

Flag Presentations-2

Meridian Dairy Days Parade 1

Total for Fiscal Year 2021-2022- "98"

Larre Robertson-Bugles Across America

TAPS-20

TOTAL YEAR 2022- "159"



SOME OF US AT CARRINGTON COLLEGE GRADUATION

YOUR POST 113 HONOR GUARD HAS GIVEN A LOT FOR THE GOOD OF THE POST, LEGION AND VETERANS THIS YEAR, BE PROUD OF THEM.



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### GEM BOYS STATE 2022

Boys State 2022 wrapped up a very productive year. Another successful group of young men learned the basics of setting up and operating state and local governments.

Again, this year the program was held at Gowen Field.

Getting acquainted with boys from across Idaho, by the end of the week friendships were made which will continue maybe forever.

Post 113 sponsored 10 boys this year. They came from several high schools in the West Ada School District. None from this group were selected this year for Boys Nation.

Speakers included; Governor Little, Mayor Simison from Meridian and the Kuna Mayor.

You can see a lot more about the activities on Facebook-Idaho Gem Boys State

By: Doug Hanks  
Vice President-Gem Boys State Board of Directors

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# N7LGN—Post 113 Amateur Radio Club

By: Rich Dees



N7LGN radio club had an active month and it isn't going to stop. Amateur Radio Field day, a national event, was conducted on June 25 and June 26. We had a great group of folks attend and we made a respectable showing. Several things happened at the event including an information table, an education session, and transmission of several radiograms via the National Traffic System. The final score for our event is due out in a week.

This month we will hear from Scott Burgess, an expert in Parks on the Air (POTA). If you attend the meeting you'll hear how to conduct a POTA and then we will schedule an event at a park.

Testing continues each month for those wanting to get a license or upgrade. Contact me for more information.

On the horizon is the formation of a Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) group and Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training. That along with the POTA event and a fox hunt thrown in for good measure will keep us engaged through November. In December we will help with the children's Christmas party and again exercise the Nation Traffic System (NTS).

If you don't know what all that means, you should come to the meeting on July 27, 2022 at the Post and hear all about it. Meeting begins at 7:00 PM and pizza is delivered at 6:30.

73

Rich

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### American Legion Post 113 Service Officer Announcements

The following summarizes the June 2022 Service Officer announcements for American Legion Post 113:

#### Suicide Prevention – Courage Survival's Peer Support Team

Courageous Survival is an Idaho 501(c)(3) Non-Profit that has established a peer support team to connect active and retired veterans as well as first responders with resources for mental health. Their goal is to fill the gap for agencies and organizations like the American Legion that don't have these resources. Post 113: Do we want to get involved with their peer support team?

<https://courageoussurvival.org/peer-support>

#### Sign in to My HealtheVet for Boise VA Users Change on July 23

Are you are receiving health care from the Boise VA? Beginning on Saturday, July 23, users of My HealtheVet portal (MHV) will be required to migrate to My VA Health portal. If you get stuck trying to get the new login process to work call the MHV Help Desk 877/327-0022. However, be advised you will need to continue to use the My HealtheVet portal to request prescription refills or renewals for medications ordered by VA providers from other VA medical facilities that are not using the new Electronic Health Record System. In addition, if you had VA health care from other VA facilities you will need to continue using MHV to access those records. The VA states this new process gives your account an extra layer of security to keep your VA information safe.

<https://myhealth.va.gov>

<https://www.myhealth.va.gov/mhv-portal-web/home>

<https://blogs.va.gov/VAntage/103117/sign-in-to-my-healthevet-changing-soon-heres-what-to-expect/>

#### Fast and Affordable Internet Service

If you or a Veteran you know is struggling to afford internet service, the [Affordable Connectivity Program \(ACP\)](#) may put fast and reliable internet service within reach. ACP-eligible households can receive a discount of up to \$30 per month for broadband service and access to affordable high-speed internet plans from 20 leading internet providers. Find out if you qualify and how to sign up.

<https://blogs.va.gov/VAntage/103295/fcc-program-offers-affordable-low-cost-internet-access-to-eligible-households/>

#### Eyewear Discount

Get up to 35% off your next pair of glasses with [Veterans Canteen Service \(VCS\)](#) for veterans enrolled in VA health care, their families, and caretakers. They will have access to discounts on a wide variety of both on regular prescription glasses and sunglasses.

#### Appeal your Service Disability Rating or Eligibility for Medical Retirement

Your separation, retirement and military disability rating is a personnel decision rather than a medical decision. While Military Health System (MHS) providers do the medical exams used by the Services, the MHS does not make the decision on your eligibility. Each Service has its own military appeals process. However, it's best to use a certified Idaho Service Officer to help you navigate and submit your appeal.

Navy & Marines - <https://www.secnav.navy.mil/mra/CORB/Pages/NDRB/ha.aspx>

Air Force - <https://www.afpc.af.mil/Support/Frequently-Asked-Questions/>

Army - <https://arba.army.pentagon.mil/>

#### The PACT Act

This Act was passed by the US House in March 2022 and by the Senate earlier this month with broad bipartisan support. It's a comprehensive solution to provide access to VA health care and benefits for toxic-exposed veterans. This legislation will help veterans by establishing a permanent presumptive framework to address toxic exposure, foreign or domestic, past, present, and future. To access the Senate version of this bill visit the following URL.

<https://rules.house.gov/bill/117/hr-3967-sa>



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### Other Thoughts:

#### From Ralph Cavalieri:

“America has no kings or queens, but we do have nobility: our nobility is called Veterans. These men and women were heroes, not celebrities and much of America no longer knows the difference. A true hero does not feel they did America a favor by their service; he feels God did them a favor by allowing them to be born in America.” Major General Pat Brady, USA(ret) MOH and 53 Air Medals

#### From Jay Romleim:

Please note that the Idaho Veterans Parade will not change the parade route this year. Assembly area and route are to be as it was in 2019 and the years before.

#### From Legion National:

The member impact report document is available at: June22MIR in My Legion.org

## Post 113 Officers for 2021— 2022

Commander	Richard Dees	208 870 7928	rjdees@aol.com
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1st Vice Commander	Steve North	208 631 5291	snorth5401@gmail.com
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander	Ralph Cavalieri	208 336-0012	rpcavalieri@gmail.com
Finance Officer	Ernest Cook	408 858 1995	ernestdcook@gmail.com
Service Officer	John Brekke	801 989 6764	brekke1@msn.com
Chaplin	Dan Pruett	208 890 3384	dan@anywhereusa.org
Past Commander	Doug Hanks	208 506-7801	dandghanks@q.com