

American Legion

Lloyd E Hutcheson

Post 113 Bugle Gazette

For God and Country, We Associate Ourselves



Volume 5, Issue 5, May 2024



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IN THIS ISSUE:

Commander's Corner
Chaplain's Corner
Honor Guard
Scouts
Radio Club
Officer Reports

AND MORE

As many of you are aware, we are working on a project to keep our kitchen safe. As many in Idaho are joining in to donate to worthy causes, we urge you to consider a donation to American Legion Post 113 so we may finish this campaign and begin programming meals and events for our community. We accept donations at PayPal using this link:

https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=8RYPMM4L7MMGS

This Month's Events

- May 1 – Post Potluck Dinner @ 1730
- May 14 – SAL Squadron Meeting @ 1800
- May 18 – HAM Radio Testing @ 0900
- May 19 – HAM Elmer in the House @ 1400
- May 21 – Post Dinner (1800) and Meeting @ 1700
- May 22 – HAM Radio Club Meeting @ 1900
- May 23 – American Legion Riders Meeting @ 1730
- May 25 – Lloyd's Koffee Klatch @ 0900 – downstairs
- May 25 – American Legion Auxiliary @ 0900 – upstairs
- May 27 – Memorial Day Ceremony @ Meridian's Rock of Honor @ 1100
Located at Julius M. Kleiner Memorial Park in Meridian
- May 27 – Memorial Day Ceremony @ Boise Idaho State Veterans Cemetery @ 1000

American Legion
Lloyd E Hutcheson
Post 113 Bugle Gazette

For God and Country, We Associate Ourselves

Page 2

Commander's Corner

As Memorial Day approaches, we at American Legion Post 113 take time to honor the fallen heroes who gave their all for our nation's freedom. Their sacrifice is the foundation upon which our liberties stand, and their memory deserves our continued reverence. Let us not forget the true meaning of this solemn occasion as we gather to remember those who answered the call to duty.

There will be many opportunities to show honor to the fallen on Memorial Day. I want to especially point out the ceremony at the Meridian Rock of Honor at 1100 on Monday, May 27. The Rock of Honor is in Julius M. Kleiner Memorial Park at 1900 N. Records Avenue.

The ceremony this year has been planned by the Rock of Honor Committee representing various veterans' organizations, individuals, and the Meridian Department of Parks and Recreation. Post 113 will participate with our Chaplain, Dan Pruett, giving the Invocation and Benediction. We will also participate in the Laying of the Wreath and our Honor Guard will provide the Rifle Salute and Echo Taps. The latter activities will be in partnership with the local VFW post. Please come and share in this event.

Kitchen Update: This project has moved to the Canteen where new cabinets have been installed. The cabinets are the work of Dan Pruett. We welcome the completion of the construction activities. While the acquisition of a larger range and an exhaust hood remains to be done, both the kitchen and the canteen are now functional again. Many thanks to Mark Grothe, the Duty Officers, and others who have helped with the project.

New Format For Post's Monthly Meeting: We used a new procedure at the April meeting and the report from those present was quite positive. To keep the meetings to approximately one hour, I've asked all those who routinely provide reports to the Post to write their report so it will be in the Newsletter or sent along with the meeting agenda. At the meeting, the presenters may highlight the most significant items in their reports, but primarily they will ask if there are any questions regarding their written reports. For this procedure to work, **please read the reports in the Newsletter and those attached to the email with the meeting agenda and come to our meeting prepared with your questions.**

Election Results: The election of officers for the Post occurred at the April meeting and concluded with their installation. Your officers for the coming year are:

Elected Positions:

- Commander – Ralph Cavalieri
- First Vice Commander – Dan Pruett
- Second Vice Commander – Ernest Cook
- Finance Officer – Rich Johnson (see note below)
- Service Officer – John Brekke (see note below)
- Sergeant at Arms – Al Carlson

American Legion
Lloyd E Hutcheson
Post 113 Bugle Gazette

For God and Country, We Associate Ourselves

Page 3

Commander's Corner (Continued)

Executive Committee Members: Doug Hanks, Mark Grothe, Jay Romlein

Appointed Positions:

- Adjutant – Rich Dees
- Chaplain – Dan Pruett
- Historian – Doug Foote

A few days after the meeting, I contacted Rich Johnson, who was unable to be at the meeting. He regretfully informed me that he would not be able to fulfill his commitment to serve as finance officer because he had just been informed that he would be entering cancer treatment for leukemia. We wish Rich well and I encourage you to keep him in your prayers.

John Brekke has agreed to step into the finance officer role effective June 1, 2024. We will need to take official action at our May meeting to elect him to this office. One effect of this change will be that we will need a new Service Officer. If you are interested in serving in this position, please let me know.

District 3 Spring Meeting: The American Legion Department of Idaho District 3 met on April 29th. Post 113 was well represented with 8 members present. There was an open session discussing the issues affecting the Department of Idaho. The agenda also included the election of new officers for the District. The incoming commander of District 3 will be Ralph Perez.

Meals at Post 113: Our regular Post meeting on May 21 will include a special dinner at 6 PM. The dinner will be provided by the local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, which meets in our building. They will provide a brief overview of their organization and what it does.

Help! We need a new chief cook for our events. Susan Barnett has transferred to Post 2 and is serving as its finance officer and will no longer be able to help us as chief cook. If you are interested in serving as the lead person for our meals, along with other volunteers, please let me know. We intend to include breakfast with our once-per-month Lloyd's Koffee Klatch on the fourth Saturday morning of each month. We have a Potluck meal on the first Wednesday of each month at 5:30. And, of course, I can't forget the meals at 1800 before our monthly Post meetings. Our chief cook, along with Janet Cook from the Auxiliary have been taking care of these events. Once a quarter the Scout Troop hosts the meal before our Post meeting.

Watch for Upcoming Events: Please watch the Post 113 FaceBook page for announcements of special events and plan to be at the Rock of Honor on May 27.

I hope to see you at our May meeting and other events and thank you for honoring me with another year as Post 113 Commander. It is truly a privilege to work with so many dedicated veterans.

Very Respectfully, Ralph Cavalieri

American Legion
Lloyd E Hutcheson
Post 113 Bugle Gazette

For God and Country, We Associate Ourselves

Page 4

Chaplains Corner



May 2024
"Memorial Day Celebration"



Memorial Day Observance: May marks a significant time for remembrance as we honor the brave men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our country. Our Legion post participated in various Memorial Day observances throughout the community, paying tribute to our fallen heroes. We gathered in solemn reflection, ensuring their memory lives on through our collective gratitude and respect.



Memorial Day commemorates U.S. men and women who died while in the military service. It is a holiday many of us spend doing family gatherings, backyard BBQs or enjoying a nice evening out with friends and family. However, we choose to celebrate Memorial Day in Idaho by honoring those who have lost their lives for our great freedoms. Some things to do on

Memorial Day 2024 Idaho include [camping](#), [fishing](#) and [golfing](#). Want to do something at night in Idaho for Memorial Day 2024? Check out the [Idaho Nightlife Guide](#) or the [Idaho Restaurants Guide](#).

American Legion
Lloyd E Hutcheson
Post 113 Bugle Gazette

For God and Country, We Associate Ourselves

Page 5

Chaplains Corner (Continued)

Dear Veterans, Members, and Friends,

As we embrace the beauty of May, let us also take a moment to reflect on the blessings that surround us. May is a time of renewal and growth, both in nature and within our hearts. Let us be mindful of the opportunities this month presents for spiritual growth and connection with one another.

As we witness the flowers bloom and the trees regain their vibrant colors, let us be reminded of the resilience of life. Just as nature undergoes its cycles of change, so do we. May we find strength in knowing that each challenge we face is an opportunity for growth and transformation.

Let us also take time to appreciate the relationships that enrich our lives. Whether it's with family, friends, or members of our community, let us cherish the connections that bring us joy and support.

In this month of May, let us cultivate gratitude for the blessings we have and compassion for those who may be facing challenges. May we find peace in the midst of uncertainty and hope in the promise of tomorrow.

May this month be filled with love, kindness, and spiritual renewal for us all. May we continue to walk this journey of life with faith, courage, and grace. Blessings to you all.

In Service and Faith,

Dan Pruett, Post 113 Chaplain



Staff Duty Officer *volunteers at the post play a vital role in supporting veterans, their families, and communities. They contribute their time, effort, and skills to various programs and initiatives aimed at honoring veterans, advocating for their needs, and fostering a strong sense of community. They give freely of their time to do an important task here at the post.*

Our list of names is growing, but we still need more participation. The dedication and commitment of these volunteers contribute immensely to the American Legion's overarching goals of serving veterans, advocating for their rights, and making a positive impact on society. They are as follows:

- | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| • John Brekke | Dan Kujawski | Ernest Cook |
| • Kevin Neumann | Ralph Cavalieri | Dan Pruett |
| • Thom Juul | Jay Romlein | Matt Ouellette |
| • Ira T Smith | Bryce Keck | |

After our email campaign asking the members to be a volunteer, won't you consider volunteering for Staff Duty Officer! Just 1 day a month could make a real change!

American Legion
Lloyd E Hutcheson
Post 113 Bugle Gazette

For God and Country, We Associate Ourselves

Page 6

Chaplains Corner (Continued)



Are You Curious About Church?



Did you know that the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem is one of the oldest continuously operating churches in the world? Built in the 4th century AD, it is believed to be located on the site where Jesus Christ was born. The church has undergone numerous renovations and additions over the centuries, but its original structure remains largely intact. Today, it is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and a major pilgrimage destination for Christians around the world.

**This Days
Thought**

" Staying positive doesn't mean ignoring life's challenges; it means choosing to focus on the possibilities rather than the obstacles. Each day offers a chance to find something to be grateful for, to learn from, or to enjoy. Embrace the journey with optimism, knowing that even in the toughest times, there is always something good waiting to be discovered."



And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him. Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. ~ James 5:15, 16 ~

American Legion
Lloyd E Hutcheson
Post 113 Bugle Gazette

For God and Country, We Associate Ourselves

Page 7

Chaplains Corner (Continued)

If you know of someone who is recovering from a illness, has any health related issue or a death in the family



please contact me at :

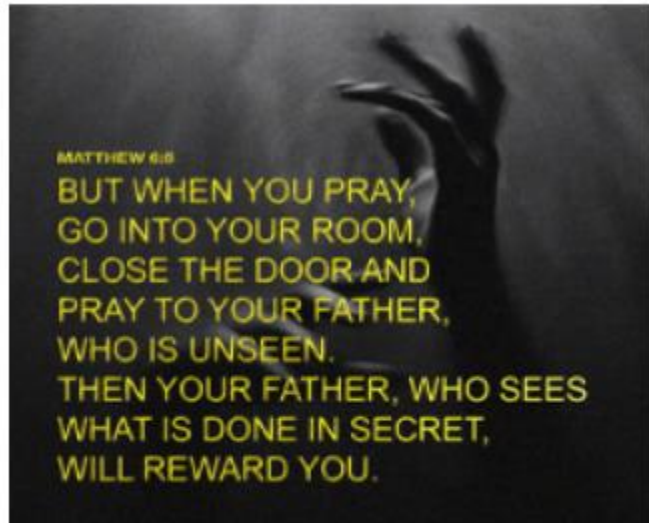
208-890-3384 Cell

dan@anywhereusa.org

208-202-5737 X103

American Legion Post 113

And one last thing:



That is all for this month but remember to always:

Be Grateful, Give Thanks, Be Honest, Stay Humble, Be Kind,
Laugh, Dream Big, Be You and always Love One Another.

Blessings from Chaplain Dan Pruett

American Legion
Lloyd E Hutcheson
Post 113 Bugle Gazette

For God and Country, We Associate Ourselves

Page 8

Membership - Dan Pruett



May 2024
Membership
Report

Membership Status as of 05/01/2024

<u>Legion</u>	<u>(As of This Date)</u>	<u>SAL</u>
Dept = 98.62%		Dept = 101.06%
Area B = 103.76%		Area B = 91.07%
Post 113 = 118.18%		Post 113 = 63.89%
Goal 374 Actual 442		Goal 36 Actual 22
IDAHO IS 4 TH IN THE WORLD SAL IS 11 TH IN THE WORLD		

We are continuing to beat our 2023-2024 membership goal. We have 115 new members and I want to thank everyone for their hard work in making this come true. Our reward from the Dept. of Idaho was a check for \$1,000 and it sure will help us with remodeling our kitchen.

Staff Duty Officer:

We are seeking dedicated volunteers to serve as Staff Duty Officers for our organization. This is a crucial role that helps ensure the smooth operation and security of our facilities during the 1000 to 1400 hours that we want the post open. Volunteers will play a vital part in maintaining safety and readiness.

Requirements:

- Availability during the 1000-1400 hours.
- Strong sense of responsibility and commitment.
- Ability to handle emergency situations calmly and effectively.
- Excellent communication skills.

Responsibilities:

- Monitor and secure premises during designated shifts.
- Respond to any security or safety incidents as they arise.
- Maintain accurate logs of activities.
- Make a pot of coffee and hot water for hot chocolate!
- Serve as a point of contact for any inquiries or emergencies.
- The link below is to our calendar for Staff Duty Officer.
Please click on the link and pick a date to volunteer for Staff Duty Officer.
<https://calendly.com/meridianamericanlegionpost113>
- Then, click on the Post 113 Duty Officer and pick a date that is available.

American Legion
Lloyd E Hutcheson
Post 113 Bugle Gazette

For God and Country, We Associate Ourselves

Page 9

Membership – (Continued)

Benefits:

- Opportunity to demonstrate leadership and responsibility.
- Gain valuable experience in security management.
- Appreciation and recognition for your contribution to Post 113.
- **Even 1 day a month will be tremendously helpful.**
- **If we are going to be successful at this, we must have more participation.**

Or if you are interested in volunteering as a Staff Duty Officer, you can contact:

Dan Pruett at 208-890-3384 email post113.1stvice@gmail.com or
Ernest Cook at 408-858-1995 email post113.finance@gmail.com.
Training will be provided for selected volunteers.

Thank you for your dedication and commitment to keeping our American Legion Post 113 open, safe, and secure!

Growth Strategies for 2025

Here is my growth strategy for the new 2025 year:

- I plan on contacting every member of our post at least 4 times a year. Whether it is by email or telephone.
- I plan on sending out a survey to ask the membership what they would like to see both in the newsletter and what they would like to see from our officers and our post.
- I would like to find out what it would take for those who don't attend our meetings to start participating more.
- Identify challenges faced in recruiting and retaining members.
- Discuss strategies or solutions implemented to overcome these challenges.
- Address any ongoing issues or concerns related to membership.

Membership Dues Raised:

- It has been voted on and passed by all at the October Post 113 meeting to raise our dues by \$10.00 to \$55.00 per year starting 7/1/24. National increased their dues by \$5.00 and Post 113 voted to increase their dues by an additional \$5.00.

American Legion
Lloyd E Hutcheson
Post 113 Bugle Gazette

For God and Country, We Associate Ourselves

Page 10

Membership – (Continued)

- The dues increase comes at a time when the need for American Legion advocacy, expertise, influence, services, and programs are needed in every corner of our nation and because of the current membership standings and economy. This is a time to continue supporting The American Legion's ability to serve veterans, members of the U.S. armed forces and young people.
- The American Legion's Post 113's ability to succeed over the next decade depends on positive cash flow and the ability to invest in the future.
- Our post survives on that money. Money is very tight now and we will suffer tremendously if we don't raise our dues.
- We are aware of what this does to our veterans. But the post simply cannot survive on the money we would be getting if we hadn't voted to raise the dues.
- **This is why it is so important to attend the meetings and be able to cast your vote. We always have a delicious dinner before the meeting starting at 6pm. Please come!**

Incentive Program Passed:

- A **\$5.00 discount** for renewing in the month of **July 2024**, if you renew your membership through Post 113's adjutant.
- Look for more Incentives in the coming months.

Buddy Check Week :

- We are featured by National at Legion.org. Here is the link to that <https://www.legion.org/buddycheck/260287/idaho-post-every-week-buddy-check-week> (Copy & paste in your browser).
- You can find the on-line interview for our Post Buddy Checks here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-PuBOI3GIwI> (Copy & paste in your browser).

As Duty Officers rotate each day, they will continue to do Buddy Checks. We will start the calling over and try to get those that we left messages.

American Legion
Lloyd E Hutcheson
Post 113 Bugle Gazette

For God and Country, We Associate Ourselves

Page 11

Membership – (Continued)

Members who have renewed (As Of The Dates): Thank you!

- **04/16/24**
 - **Ronald Mroski, Lloyd Gilbertson, Jay D Romlein**

Members who are Repatriated as of 05/01/24:

Heavenly Father holds them in your hands and give them peace for eternity!

- **Vorel, Charles Albert** – PFC – US Army – Korean War - B Company 1st Battalion 19th Inf Reg South Korea – 4/22/24
- **Young, Charles E** – TSG – WWII – US Army – 429 Signal Co (Aviation) – Nueva Ecija – 4/17/24
- **Browning, George Coe** – PVT – WWII – US Marines Reserve – USMCR HQ 1st Bat 23 Marines 4th Marines – Iwo Jima – 4/15/24
- **Rytthter, John Paul** – SGT – Korean War – US Army – A Battery 82nd Antiaircraft Artillery Automatic Weapons Batt – North Korea – 4/08/24
- **Mitchell, Jesse Leroy** – CPL – Korean War – US Army – C Company, 1st Batt, 19th Inf Reg, 24th inf Div – North Korea – 4/08/24
- **Beaty, Charles Edwin** – SGT – Korean War – US Army – I Company, 3rd Batt, 31st Regiment, 7th Inf – 4/05/24
- **Cash, Robert W** – PVT – WWII – US Army Air Forces – 28 Materiel Sqd 20 Air Base Group – Nueva Ecija – 4/03/24.
- **Murphy, Joseph C** – PFC – WWII – US Army – 31st Inf Regiment – Nueva Ecija – 4/01/24

That is all for this month but remember to always:

Be Grateful, Give Thanks, Be Honest, Stay Humble, Be Kind, Laugh, Dream Big, Be You and always Love One Another.

Blessings,

Dan Pruett

1st Vice Commander

American Legion

Post 113 Meridian ID

American Legion
Lloyd E Hutcheson
Post 113 Bugle Gazette

For God and Country, We Associate Ourselves

Page 12

HONOR GUARD – Doug Hanks



**“LLOYD E HUTCHESON”
POST 113 HONOR GUARD
APRIL 2024 HONORS
By DOUG HANKS**



**Honors April 2024 “8”
Total for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 “74”
Hours April 2024 “107” Fiscal Year Total “961”
Donations April 2024 “\$550.00” Total Year “\$3910.00”**

MEMORIAL DAY MONDAY 27 MAY 2024

Memorial Day Celebrations, events remembering fallen Veterans, are scheduled all over the Treasure Valley each Memorial Day.

It has become a tradition for Meridian Residents to observe this day at Kleiner Park at the “ROCK OF HONOR MEMORIAL”. This Memorial is a tribute to Veterans who resided in Meridian, served their country, and gave everything so future generations could enjoy the freedom we have. The namesake of AL Post 113 “Lloyd E Hutcheson” is on the wall, also a Memorial stone for him is located at the Meridian Cemetery. The memorial was envisioned by John H Burns, a past member of AL Post 113 and VFW 4000. Post 113 and VFW 4000 have held a service Memorial Day and Veterans Day since it was built. We ask all to attend again this Memorial Day. Starts at 1100 hours with a flyover with vintage airplanes.

Memorial Day is an American holiday, observed on the last Monday of May, honoring the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. military. Memorial Day 2024 will occur on Monday, May 27.

Originally known as Decoration Day, it originated in the years following the Civil War and became an official federal holiday in 1971. Many Americans observe Memorial Day by visiting cemeteries or memorials, holding family gatherings and participating in parades. Unofficially, it marks the beginning of the summer season.

American Legion
Lloyd E Hutcheson
Post 113 Bugle Gazette

For God and Country, We Associate Ourselves

Page 13

HONOR GUARD (Continued)

"Our debt to the heroic men and valiant women in the service of our country can never be repaid. They have earned our undying gratitude. America will never forget their sacrifices." — [Harry S. Truman](#)

To request flag folding, taps or rifle salute, please contact a Post 113 officer or Doug Hanks, 208-809-7519

HONOR GUARD REPORT APRIL FIS YEAR 2023-2024								
#	Date	For	Location	Req. by	people	Hours	Miles	Donations
1	30-Mar-2024	PATRICK GRIFFIN, IANG, SFC	LA PINE RD, NAMPA	TOBY GRIFFIN	6	18	372	\$150.00
1	30-Mar-2024	BABE RUTH BASEBALL	STAMPEDE FIELDS, NAMPA	CASEY MOORE	6	12	192	
1	8-Apr-2024	ROBERT CARTON, USNAVY	ISVC	CLOVERDALE FUNERAL	7	14	186	
1	16-Apr-2024	ZE TODD, USAF	HILLCREST GARD. CALDWE	ZEYER FUNERAL	3	9	112	\$250.00
1	16-Apr-2024	JOE WHILDEN, USAF	ISVC	ZEYER FUNERAL	4	8	80	\$100.00
1	18-Apr-2024	ROBERT PENN, USNAVY	ISVC	SUMMERS FUNERAL	6	12	116	
1	20-Apr-2024	BABE RUTH BASEBALL	STAMPEDE FIELDS, NAMPA	CASEY MOORE	8	24	238	
1	23-Apr-2024	RICHARD ZANCKER, USARMY	ISVC	IANG HG	5	10	136	\$50.00
					Honors	Hours	Miles	donations
Month total								
accumulated totals to date								
from last month >>>>					66	854	9534	\$3,360.00
					Honors	Hours	Miles	Donations
Honors this month					8	107	1432	\$550.00
Total Honors-fisc year					74	961	10966	\$3,910.00

American Legion
Lloyd E Hutcheson
Post 113 Bugle Gazette

For God and Country, We Associate Ourselves

Page 14

Boys State – Doug Hanks



March 31st, 2024

American Legion Boys State is among the most respected educational programs of government instruction for high school students. Each participant becomes a part of the operation of his local, county and state government.

Boys State has been a program of The American Legion since 1935.

At American Legion Boys State, participants are exposed to the rights, privileges, duties and the responsibilities of a franchised citizen. The training is objective and practical with city, county and state governments operated by the students elected to the various offices. Activities include legislative sessions, court proceedings, state and local dignitary presentations, assemblies, bands, chorus and recreational programs.

High school juniors are selected by local American Legion Posts to attend the program. In most cases, expenses associated with attending this program are paid by a sponsoring American Legion Post, a local business or another community-based organization.

GEM BOYS STATE

Idaho's Boys State "GEM BOYS STATE" Will be held again this year at Gowen Field, June 2nd to June 7th. This will be the 73rd year for Idaho. There will be approximately 100-120 boys. The cost this year is still \$400.00, with Post 113 contributing \$300.00 for each boy we sponsor. We expect applicants to kick in \$100.00.

Post 113 at present time has five applicants for Gem Boys State. We hope to have some more before May 15th.

If you know of any young man, a Junior in high school, who would be interested in participating, please contact us.

Doug Hanks

American Legion
Lloyd E Hutcheson
Post 113 Bugle Gazette

For God and Country, We Associate Ourselves

Page 15

Scouts – Mark Grothe

No update this month.

American Legion
Lloyd E Hutcheson
Post 113 Bugle Gazette

For God and Country, We Associate Ourselves

Page 16

Post Meeting Minutes – Rich Dees



AMERICAN LEGION POST 113

MEETING MINUTES

April 16, 2024

PRE-MEETING PRESENTATION:

The Pow/Mia Corporation made a presentation prior to the meeting asking for support for the organization. The representative was selling raffle tickets for that support.

OPENING CEREMONIES:

1904 hours. Invocation, Pow/Mia, Pledge of Allegiance, and preamble.

GUESTS:

Scout Troop 1 (Boy and girl)

Commander thanked the troop for a fabulous meal they provided the Post. The Scouts also gave a report of their upcoming activities. The crew that made the meal was introduced.

Meeting called to order by Commander Cavalieri.

Roll call of Officers:

Commander	Ralph Cavalieri
1st Vice	Dan Pruett
2nd Vice	Rich Dees
Adjutant	Susan Barnett-excused
Chaplain	Dan Pruett
Finance Officer	Ernest Cook
Service Officer	John Brekke
Sergeant at Arms	Harold Carlson

All present except Susan Barnett who was excused.

American Legion
Lloyd E Hutcheson
Post 113 Bugle Gazette

For God and Country, We Associate Ourselves

Page 17

Post Meeting Minutes (Continued)

CHAPLAIN - Sick Call –Dan Pruett:

Herb Killiam still in rehab

Steve North in rehab facility in Boise

ADJUTANT – Susan Barnett – Rich Dees assisting

Minutes of our last meeting provided at the door and Newsletter.

Al Carlson moved to accept minutes as distributed and Max Badesheim provided a second. There was no discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Rich Dees requested we change the order in the agenda to conduct the election of officers and swearing in prior to conducting any other business. The commander and members agreed.

Nominations were as published. The nominations were:

Commander – Ralph Cavalieri

First Vice-Commander – Dan Pruett

Second Vice-Commander – Ernest Cook

Finance Officer – Rich Johnson

Sergeant-at-Arms -Al Carlson

Service Officer – John Brekke

Appointed Officers:

Adjutant – Rich Dees

Chaplain – Dan Pruett

Historian – Doug Foote

Executive Committee additional members –

Doug Hanks, Mark Grothe, and Jay Rolmin

Doug Foote moved that the nominations be closed. Motion was seconded. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mark Grothe moved to unanimously accept the slate of officers as presented. Max Badesheim seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

The District Three Commander, Doug Foote, Installed the new officers.

American Legion
Lloyd E Hutcheson
Post 113 Bugle Gazette

For God and Country, We Associate Ourselves

Page 18

Post Meeting Minutes (Continued)

SPECIAL REPORT – Commander Cavalieri

Post Commander Cavalieri provided a report on a letter received from Department Commander Huffman regarding the Department Adjutant. The Department Executive Committee was presented with evidence of fraud, theft, and embezzlement on the part of the Department Adjutant. According to communications received, the Department Adjutant, Charles Abrahamson was suspended without pay and removed from all financial accounts. The Idaho State Police are investigating. Sandy Castellano is reviewing all finances and Charlene Kelly is acting as Department Adjutant. Lisa Issack will remain as office administrator. A forensic audit will be conducted to reveal the extent of the activity of Charles Abrahamson. It was reported that Department finances are “a mess” and we may not be able to run some programs this year. All Department banks accounts are empty and there may be over \$700,000 missing. Many bills were past due and the property taxes on the Department building had not been paid in four years.

Lisa Isaak had not been paid from January until last week. The Department conference will not be held as planned, although arrangements are being developed to allow election of officers.

Our accounts are accurate and the Department financial issues have minimal effect on our post operations as our operations are autonomous with respect to the Department. Our programs can continue. Our exposure is in the amount of funds that are returned from national in the form of membership dues paid on-line directly to National may be impacted. Our Finance Officer noted that about \$200 may be at risk. Of the bills not paid at the Department were the insurance premiums and bonding insurance.

The Prison Post 201 had all their funds drained. The Boys State accounts were emptied. However, through donations, and the fact that most of the money for the program had not been sent to the department, the program can continue. We have six boys we are sponsoring and have budgeted for ten. Ernest Cook moved we donate up to our remaining budget amount to the Boys State program. That amounts to \$1,200. Doug Hanks seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

American Legion
Lloyd E Hutcheson
Post 113 Bugle Gazette

For God and Country, We Associate Ourselves

Page 19

Post Meeting Minutes (Continued)

REPORTS:

Commander noted he was going to try to keep meetings to one hour. He asked, if at all possible, reports need to be submitted in written form so they can be published.

1st Vice Commander – Dan Pruett:

Membership Reports written and published. Dan noted that we were at 114% of our goal. The District Three is 100% of goal. Department wise, we are number 5 nationally and SAL is number 7 Nationally.

Repatriation of Veterans: None

Buddy Check: On hold because of kitchen remodel

2nd Vice Commander – Rich Dees:

Rock of Honor Memorial Day event: As reported last month, Dan is giving prayer, honor guard doing rifle salute and there will be echo taps by our buglers. The Mayor of Meridian will be a guest speaker.

Radio Club Report: In newsletter

Honor Guard – Doug Hanks:

Report in the Newsletter. They did five salutes, 66 total this year which involved 954 hours. Tom Ressler complemented the Honor Guard for agreeing to provide honors during the National Day of Prayer on May 2, 2024.

Finance Officer – Ernest Cook:

A detailed report printed and provided at entrance. Ernest noted that we just completed a major remodel of the kitchen and our plumbing. The project was completed under budget. We budgeted \$20,000, and we spent \$19,176. There are a few minor pieces that need to be done, but the project is essentially complete. Mark Grothe moved we accept the Finance Report. It was seconded by Dan Pruett and passed unanimously.

Building Manager – Mark Grothe:

Kitchen improvements are essentially complete, a few minor things need to be finished. Mark thanked the many who helped with the project. Commander recognized Mark for his outstanding efforts.

Service Officer – John Brekke:

Report provided at entrance.

Boys State – Doug Hanks:

As reported earlier.

American Legion
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Post 113 Bugle Gazette

For God and Country, We Associate Ourselves

Page 20

Post Meeting Minutes (Continued)

Lloyd's Koffee Klatch – Ernest Cook.

No Report

Legion Riders – Max Badesheim

Treasure Valley Riders minutes were sent to the Post membership. Participating in Ride for 22 and POW MIA Ride this month. Next month, Riders will be with the American Legion in the Nampa parade.

Department of Idaho, District 3 – Doug Foote:

Annual Spring Meeting coming up on 27 April, 2024 at the Scottish Rite Building in Boise. Hosted by Post 2, the meeting begins at 9:00 AM. This is election month for District Three. District is hosting a picnic in June.

Post 113 American Legion Auxiliary –

No report

Post 113 Sons of the American Legion – Thom Juul

Will meet late next week. They are looking for help.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS and CORRESPONDENCE: None

FOR THE GOOD OF THE LEGION:

ADA COUNTY VETERANS' COUNCIL REPORT - John Brekke

Completed a letter to County Commissioners to disburse money from the Council. They proposed to use the money for restorations in Veterans Memorial Park. Also proposed is that if there are funds remaining, that it be allocated to the Veterans Memorial Building (our building). They are being cautious not to disturb our \$20,000 annual grant from the county. The State Veterans Home needs a bus for visits. They now have a new bus on order and it is funded by two other organizations.

TABLES DOWNSTAIRS – Ernest Cook

Ernest suggested we create a better atmosphere down stairs by adding tables so the room is more welcoming. He noted that he will be trying to provide one meal a week with the completed kitchen. He also talked about the importance of the staff duty office position and encouraged more participation.

American Legion
Lloyd E Hutcheson
Post 113 Bugle Gazette

For God and Country, We Associate Ourselves

Page 21

Post Meeting Minutes (Continued)

DELEGATE VOTES AT CONFERENCE – Rich Dees

Rich Dees commented that because we have more delegate votes to use at a conference, we do so by nominating and supporting a person who, through all the consternation caused by the former Department Adjutant, was able to provide documentation two years ago there was a problem but was ignored. That person is Sue Kennedy.

AUDIT COMMITTEE – Rich Dees

Because of the findings in the Department, Rich Dees suggested we establish an audit committee to review our financial records at least annually. Ernest Cook moved that we form a three-person audit committee to review the books at least annually. John Brekke provided a second. A member asked if we are required to perform an annual audit, and the answer is no. The motion was passed unanimously.

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION – Commander Cavalieri

Commander Cavalieri presented a certificate of appreciation to Susan Barnett for her work as the Post Adjutant.

DRAWING: Max Badesheim won an ammo can. The \$100.00 raffle was not won.

Meeting was adjourned at 2020 hrs.

Respectfully submitted by: Richard Dees, Post 113 Adjutant.

American Legion
Lloyd E Hutcheson
Post 113 Bugle Gazette

For God and Country, We Associate Ourselves

Page 22

Amateur Radio Club -



N7LGN—Post 113 Amateur Radio Club

By: Yers Trooly



May is the start of the “busy” season. There are two swap meets in the month beginning with the Star club on May 4, 2024. Beginning in the morning around 8:00 AM, people will gather at the Star Riverwalk Park in Star, ID for the goodie exchange. Another swap meet hosted by the Southwest Idaho Amateur Radio Club will be held on May 11, 2024. That event will be held at the Peace Valley Charter School in Boise.

A Fox Hunt is scheduled for May 25, 2024 starting around 10:00AM. I say around because we can meet at the Post and have breakfast then proceed to the hunt. Breakfast will start at 9:00 AM. The fox will be located in Meridian. Fox frequencies will be announced later.

Field Day will be abbreviated, albeit a fun kind of day. We will gather at David Hunter’s home on June 22, 2024. In fact, it will be a family affair. He and Annett will host us in a barbecue and a relaxing afternoon while we work some stations across the country during the event. Details will be at the next meeting.

The meeting discussion this month will be from David Hunter, N7MKY where he will talk about an integration between Echolink and things like DSTAR, YSF and DMR. As I mentioned, TALARC (The American Legion Amateur Radio Club) uses Echolink as a means to host a weekly national net. We will also continue the discussion of emergency communications that we delved into last meeting.

And speaking of Echolink, we have in our passion two repeaters, one VHF and one UHF. They are 45-Watt machines complete with duplexer. We will be discussing what to do with the repeaters at the next meeting.

Elmer in the House continues. We had a few people at the last event on the 20th of April and got new club members as well as a new Post member. Radio programming is featured as well as lots of “free” information. The event is the Sunday after the test session.

Testing continues each month. The next session at the Post will be May 18, 2024.

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Lloyd E Hutcheson
Post 113 Bugle Gazette

For God and Country, We Associate Ourselves

Page 23

Post Adjutant – Rich Dees

From the Adjutant's Messy Desk

By: Yers trooly



Greetings All,

As your new Adjutant, I will strive to keep pace with one of the largest American Legion Posts in the State of Idaho. Susan Barnett did a terrific job and will be missed.

Each month, I will prepare a draft of the minutes of the meeting for the previous month to be reviewed by members. A few copies will be available at the door on meeting nights and it will be in the newsletter. It will be voted on during the monthly meeting and placed in the Minutes Book. The Finance report will also be part of the Minutes Book as it is voted on during the meeting. Other reports submitted will be filed by month in the office. Additionally, all minutes and reports sent to me will be placed in an electronic file as a back-up.

I appreciate all your reports. You can send them in to me advance of the meeting in digital form. I will make a few copies of the reports available at the meeting.

During the meetings, if you want to speak, please use one of the Zoom microphones. I use the recording to compose the minutes. I have discovered that people away from the microphones cannot be heard on Zoom nor will I be able to hear what is said so I can write the minutes.

From time to time, the Department and others send items that are of general interest to members. As I receive those, I'll send them to you via e-mail. It's another reason to keep your e-mail address current. Additionally, If your information changes, such as an address or phone number, let me know so I can correct the member database.

YOS

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Post 113 Bugle Gazette

For God and Country, We Associate Ourselves

Page 24

Finance Report – Ernest Cook

As of April 15th, Post 113 earned approximately \$7K more than budgeted! Of that excess approximately \$3K was from member dues, \$2.3K donations for the building use and the Honor Guard surpassed their income expectations by \$1K.

On the expense side, the kitchen project costs was \$19,176 as of April 15th accounting (see the chart below). We may bring that project in slightly under its budgeted amount of \$20K.

Another notable point about the Post expenses is some significant amount of planned program expenses have yet to arrive: \$3K - Boys' State, \$500 - the Boise VA Home donation, \$500 - Awards, \$750 - Post 113's gatherings are making a profit instead of cost the budgeted amount.

Kitchen Remodel Expenses

Row Labels	Amount
Feb	924
+ American Leak Dete	275
+ Franklin Building Supply	649
Mar	17332
+ Eric Donovan	1103
+ The Home Depot	1440
+ Veterans Plumbing	14789
Apr	889
+ Gem State Paper and Supply	29
+ Meridian Transfer Stat	32
+ Tatesrents	304
+ The Home Depot	523
Dec	31
+ Main Auction	31
Grand Total	19176

American Legion
Lloyd E Hutcheson
Post 113 Bugle Gazette

For God and Country, We Associate Ourselves

Page 25

5:20 PM

04/15/24

Accrual Basis

AMERICAN LEGION POST 113
Organization position
As of March 31, 2024

	Mar 31, 24	Mar 31, 23	\$ Change	% Change
ASSETS				
Current Assets				
Checking/Savings				
BLDG ACCT at ICCU	27,975.09	19,361.83	8,613.26	44.5%
Ham Radio	2,057.51	1,515.51	542.00	35.8%
POST ACCT at ICCU	29,206.01	21,048.91	8,157.10	38.8%
SAL	570.73	679.68	-108.95	-16.0%
SAVINGS at ICCU	1,924.03	1,922.82	1.21	0.1%
Total Checking/Savings	61,733.37	44,528.75	17,204.62	38.6%
Total Current Assets	61,733.37	44,528.75	17,204.62	38.6%
Fixed Assets				
Furniture and Equipment	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
Land	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	0.0%
Total Fixed Assets	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	0.0%
TOTAL ASSETS	62,733.37	45,528.75	17,204.62	37.8%
LIABILITIES & EQUITY				
Liabilities				
Current Liabilities				
Accounts Payable				
Accounts Payable	14,789.00	0.00	14,789.00	100.0%
Total Accounts Payable	14,789.00	0.00	14,789.00	100.0%
Credit Cards				
Divvy	455.07	-20.00	475.07	2,375.4%
Total Credit Cards	455.07	-20.00	475.07	2,375.4%
Total Current Liabilities	15,244.07	-20.00	15,264.07	76,320.4%
Total Liabilities	15,244.07	-20.00	15,264.07	76,320.4%
Equity				
Designated Assets	10,000.00	6,000.00	4,000.00	66.7%
Unrestricted Net Assets	31,528.84	35,471.17	-3,942.33	-11.1%
Net Income	5,960.46	4,077.58	1,882.88	46.2%
Total Equity	47,489.30	45,548.75	1,940.55	4.3%
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	62,733.37	45,528.75	17,204.62	37.8%

American Legion
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Post 113 Bugle Gazette

For God and Country, We Associate Ourselves

Page 26

Finance Report (Continued)

5:17 PM

04/15/24

Accrual Basis

AMERICAN LEGION POST 113

Budget vs Actual

July 2023 through March 2024

	Jul '23 - Mar 24	Budget	\$ Over Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
Dues Income	5,053	1,800	3,253
Honor Guard	3,340	2,250	1,090
Ada County Contribution	20,000	20,000	
Rental - building useage	9,250	5,250	4,000
Other Types of Income	1,737		1,737
Total Income	39,379	29,300	10,079
Expense			
Facilities			
Building Cleaning Services	500	4,500	(4,000)
Building Insurance	2,460	1,400	1,060
Building MGR	1,200	1,350	(150)
Lawn	896	750	146
Operations and Maintenance	2,936	2,250	686
Remodel and Repairs			
2024 Kitchen Upgrades	18,287	20,000	(1,713)
Exterior sign	420		420
Total Remodel and Repairs	18,707	20,000	(1,293)
Utilities			
Electricity	1,597	1,499	98
Gas	533	790	(257)
Internet * Phone	751	675	76
Trash / Sewer and Water	1,363	1,050	313
Total Utilities	4,245	4,014	231
Total Facilities	30,943	34,264	(3,321)
Post Operations	2,237	805	1,432
Program Expenses			
Post gatherings, net	(90)	563	(653)
Commanders Discretionary fund		375	(375)
Badges, awards, patches, etc	121	375	(254)
Donations			
Idaho Veterans Home		500	(500)
Wreaths Across America	98	200	(102)
Total Donations	98	700	(602)
Honor Guard	99	600	(501)
Membership fees	25	25	
Raffles			
Awards	132		132
Total Raffles	132		132
Youth Programs			
Boy Scout Projects		200	(200)
Halloween Event	100		100
Shoot Team	(100)		(100)
Youth Christmas Party	318	300	18
Oratory Contest	327	600	(273)
Total Youth Programs	644	1,100	(456)
Total Program Expenses	1,029	3,738	(2,708)

American Legion
Lloyd E Hutcheson
Post 113 Bugle Gazette

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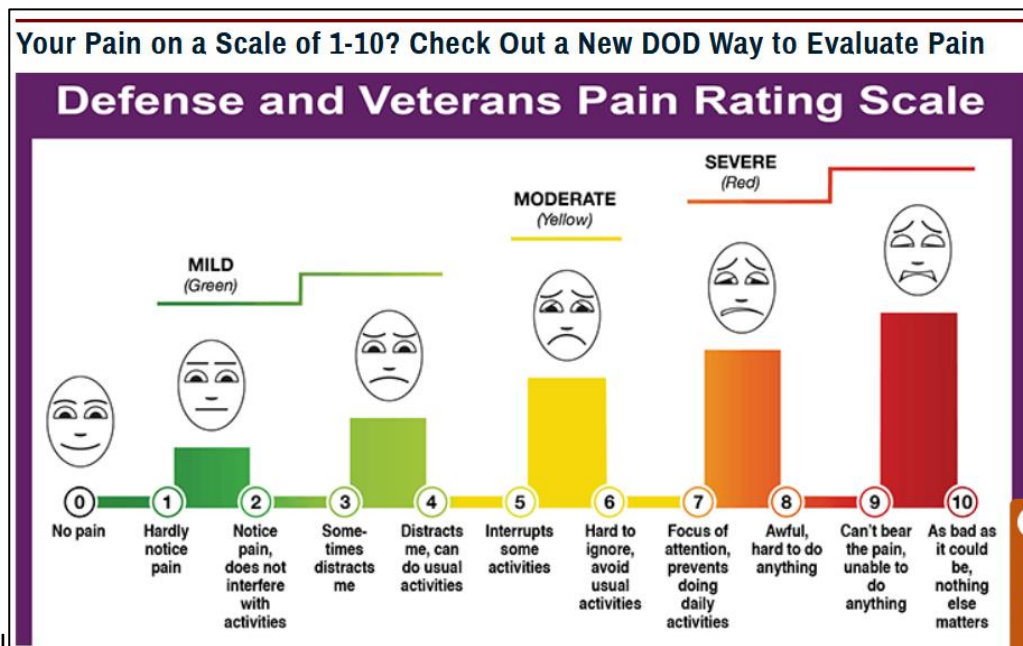
Page 27

Service Officer's Report – John Brekke

The Veterans Administration (VA) is now requiring that GI Bill benefits and Veteran Compensation Benefits for each veteran to be consolidated into one bank account. Deadline to make the change is April 20, 2024, or the VA will automatically choose the account for you.

- The easiest way to update direct deposit information is through the veteran's <https://www.va.gov/> account
 - Sign into VA.gov using your Login.gov or ID.me account.
 - Go to the Direct Deposit information section of your VA.gov profile.
 - Check their direct deposit information for all benefit payments to make sure the same account is listed for all.
 - There will be a box with direct deposit information for education benefits and a box for the benefits you receive.
 - If the accounts in both boxes don't match, they must update the information to be the same bank account for both VA benefits.
 - If they currently receive G.I. Bill payments by check, they must add their direct deposit information in the education benefits section of the VA.gov profile.

<https://news.va.gov/128952/g-i-bill-students-receiving-more-than-one-monetary-benefit-check-your-direct-deposit-on-va-gov/>



New Pain Awareness Chart

If you are receiving care in a military hospital or clinic, you might notice your health care team is using a new method for assessing your pain known as the Defense and Veterans Pain Rating Scale (DVPRS). Most people know the traditional way pain has been assessed during a medical appointment. Patients were usually asked to **"rate your pain on a scale of 0-10."** While this was common practice for years, growing evidence shows neither patients nor providers were satisfied with this approach. The 0-10 reporting of a person's pain often contributed to a goal of getting the pain to zero. Military pain management leaders have shared this often leads to an overreliance on prescription pain medications, which has side effects that negatively impact on patients' quality

American Legion
Lloyd E Hutcheson
Post 113 Bugle Gazette

For God and Country, We Associate Ourselves

Page 28

Service Officer's Report (Continued)

of life. DVPRS incorporates functional descriptions for each of the 0-10 levels of pain so that successful pain management is also tied to improved function rather than simply getting pain to zero. The DVPRS also includes an assessment of the patient-reported impact of pain on four specific quality-of-life indicators: activity, sleep, mood, and stress. This provides clinicians with a deeper understanding of the patient's pain condition and a better way to measure the progress and effectiveness of pain management treatments.

<https://www.health.mil/News/Articles/2022/10/13/DVPRS-pain-scale>

Veterans Win Landmark Class Action Settlement from the U.S. Navy

On March 23 of this year the United States District Court for the District of Columbia entered a landmark order requiring the Navy to provide new disability ratings to thousands of Navy and Marine Corp veterans. The ruling stems from the class action lawsuit, Springs v. Del Toro, which challenged the Navy's unlawful practice that denied military medical retirement benefits to more than 3,300 Navy and Marine Corps veterans for more than 15 years. The lawsuit alleged that the Navy's failure to provide disability ratings for conditions that contributed to unfitness unjustly deprived class members of critical military medical retirement benefits, including access to healthcare, essential for veterans injured during their service and their families' well-being.

<https://www.nvlsp.org/news-and-events/press-releases/veterans-win-landmark-class-action-settlement-from-u.s.-navy-for-new-disabi>

VA's Million Veteran Program (MVP)

MVP is a national research program looking at how genes, lifestyle, military experiences and exposures affect veteran health and wellness. Medical research works best when researchers study large amounts of information from diverse groups of participants. For example MVP researchers have found that post-9/11 and Gulf War veterans have a higher risk of exposure to burn pits, which may indicate a higher risk for certain cancers. Vietnam veterans may have been exposed to Agent Orange, which has been linked to illnesses like Parkinson's and cancer. All veterans regardless of whether they are receiving care from the VA should join the Million Veteran Program. To join call 866-441-6075 to make an appointment at a participating VA facility.

<https://news.va.gov/122857/million-veteran-program-veterans-service-era/>

American Legion
Lloyd E Hutcheson
Post 113 Bugle Gazette

For God and Country, We Associate Ourselves

Page 29

Service Officer's Report (Continued)

Difficulty Sleeping

Falling asleep is a complicated process that takes time. In fact, falling asleep right away may actually be a sign that you aren't well rested. After the lights go off, experts say, it's normal to take anywhere from 10 to about 30 minutes to fall asleep. Having occasional difficulty sleeping is to be expected. If you're napping during the daytime, you're borrowing from your nighttime sleep. Some people are unfortunately predisposed to developing insomnia. Other sleep woes may be the result of underlying health conditions, an undiagnosed sleep disorder or certain medications. A common recommendation for those having difficulty in getting to sleep involves make a change to their behavior. Assess what is your routine is for going to sleep. For example are you engaging in stimulating or exciting activities rather than focus on relaxation? Experts generally recommend behavioral approaches rather than relying on prescription medications or over-the-counter sleep aids.

<https://www.stripes.com/living/2021-12-23/Why-its-hard-to-fall-asleep-and-tips-to-make-it-easier-3994844.html>

Vet Centers

Vet Centers are community-based counseling centers that provide a wide range of no-cost social and psychological services, including professional counseling to eligible veterans, service members (including National Guard and Reserve components) and their families. Many veterans and service members that engage with Vet Center teams often state they were previously unaware of their services. Vet Centers are currently conducting surveys to assess awareness of their services and barriers to care. By completing this [online survey](https://survey.voice.va.gov/?acDk8c-RCS-Awareness), you will help Vet Centers understand how to increase their reach to eligible individuals.

<https://survey.voice.va.gov/?acDk8c-RCS-Awareness>

Veterans Affairs Servicing Purchase

On May 31, 2024, the Department of Veterans Affairs will launch a new program — the Veterans Affairs Servicing Purchase (VASP) program — to help veterans experiencing severe financial hardship to avoid foreclosure and stay in their homes. VASP is for veterans, active-duty service members, and surviving spouses with VA-guaranteed home loans who are experiencing severe financial hardship. Through VASP, the VA will purchase defaulted VA loans from mortgage servicers, modify the loans, and then place them in the VA-owned portfolio as direct loans. With VASP, these borrowers will have a fixed 2.5% interest rate, which will provide a consistent, affordable payment for the remainder of their loan. Veterans do not apply directly for VASP. Instead, mortgage servicers will identify qualified borrowers and submit requests on behalf of veterans based on a review of all home retention options available and qualifying criteria. However, veterans facing financial hardship should work with their mortgage servicers to explore available options.

<https://news.va.gov/press-room/va-servicing-purchase-program-avoid-foreclosure/>

American Legion
Lloyd E Hutcheson
Post 113 Bugle Gazette

For God and Country, We Associate Ourselves

Page 30

American Legion Auxiliary – No update this month

American Legion
Lloyd E Hutcheson
Post 113 Bugle Gazette

For God and Country, We Associate Ourselves

Page 31

Misc #1 – Mark Grothe

The Emma Edwards Green Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) will be preparing our monthly meal prior to the Post 113 meeting @ 1800 hours on May 21st.

Misc #2 – John Brekke



American Legion
Lloyd E Hutcheson
Post 113 Bugle Gazette

For God and Country, We Associate Ourselves

Page 32

Post 113 Officers for 2024 – 2025

Commander	Ralph Cavalieri	208/336-0012	rpcavalieri@gmail.com
Adjutant	Richard Dees	208/888-1343	rjdee@aol.com
1 st Vice Commander	Dan Pruett	208/890-3384	dan@anywhereusa.org
2 nd Vice Commander	Ernest Cook	408/858-1995	
Finance Officer	Ernest Cook	408/858-1995	post113.finance@gmail.com
Service Officer	John Brekke	801/989-6764	John.Brekke25@gmail.com
Chaplain	Dan Pruett	208/890-3384	dan@anywhereusa.org
Past Commander	Richard Dees	208/888-1343	rjdee@aol.com
Sgt-At-Arms	Al Carlson	208/320-7264	alcarlson72@gmail.com
Historian	Doug Foote	208-890-2907	douq.foote@eagleid.com