

American Legion

Lloyd E Hutcheson

Post 113 Bugle Gazette

For God and Country, We Associate Ourselves



Volume 5, Issue 6, June 2024



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AND MORE

Since 1916, when President Woodrow Wilson issued a presidential proclamation establishing a national Flag Day on June 14, Americans have commemorated the adoption of the Stars and Stripes in many ways—displaying the flag in the front of their homes, parades, and other patriotic observances. Prior to 1916, many localities and a few states had been celebrating the day for years. Congressional legislation designating that date as the national Flag Day was signed into law by President Harry Truman in 1949; the legislation also called upon the president to issue a flag day proclamation every year.

This Month's Events

June 5 – Post Potluck Dinner @ 1730

June 11 – SAL Squadron Meeting @ 1800

June 14 – Flag Day 

June 15 – HAM Radio Testing @ 0900

June 16 – HAM Radio Club Elmer in the House @ 1430

June 18 – Post Dinner (1800) and Meeting @ 1700

June 22 – HAM Radio Club Field Day & Fox Hunt @ 1200

June 22 – Lloyd's Koffee Klatch @ 0900 – downstairs

June 22 – American Legion Auxiliary @ 1900 – upstairs

June 26 – HAM Radio Club Meeting @ 1900

June 27 – American Legion Riders Meeting @ 1730

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Commander's Corner - Ralph Cavalieri

Flag Day and D-Day: Honoring Our Flag and Our Heroes

June is a special month for our nation and our post. On June 14, we celebrate Flag Day, the anniversary of the adoption of the Stars and Stripes as our national emblem. The American flag represents the ideals and values of our country and the sacrifices of those who fought and died to defend it. Let us display our flag proudly and respectfully and remember the oath we took to uphold and protect the Constitution of the United States.

June 6 also marks a historic date: the D-Day invasion of Normandy in 1944. On that day, more than 160,000 Allied troops landed on the beaches of France to begin the liberation of Europe from Nazi tyranny. More than 9,000 of them gave their lives in the operation, which was the largest amphibious assault in history. We honor their courage and legacy and thank them for their service and sacrifice.

Budget Review and Approval: Planning for the Future

As we approach the end of the fiscal year, we have an important task ahead of us: reviewing and approving the budget for the next year. The budget reflects our priorities and goals as a post, and how we allocate our resources to achieve them. The executive committee has worked hard to prepare a draft budget that is realistic, responsible, and responsive to the needs and interests of our members and our community. Please attend the monthly meeting on June 18, where we will discuss and vote on the budget. Your input and feedback are essential for the success of our post.

Additional Activities: Supporting the Four Pillars

The budget for the next year also includes some additional activities that will help us more fully support the four pillars of the American Legion's mission: Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children and Youth. These activities will not only benefit our members and our community, but also enhance our visibility and reputation as a post. Please join me in participating and volunteering for these activities, and spreading the word about the good work we do as the American Legion. And, if you have ideas of projects or programs we should undertake, please let me or any executive committee member know.

Very Respectfully,

Ralph Cavalieri, Commander, Post 113

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Chaplains Corner - Dan Pruett



June 2024

"Flag Day June 14, 2024"



On June 14th, American Legion posts across the country commemorate Flag Day by holding flag retirement ceremonies and participating in community celebrations. This day marks the adoption of the first national flag in 1777. Many posts, including ours at Post 113, conduct dignified and solemn ceremonies to dispose of unserviceable flags. I personally collect the flags needing proper retirement and take them to Post 201, where they have two official burners. Since January 1st, we have retired over 10,000 flags in the proper manner.



U.S. Army's Birthday June 14, 1775

June 14 is also the birthday of the United States Army, established in 1775. The American Legion, which includes many veterans from all branches of the military, recognizes and celebrates the contributions of the Army to national security and freedom.

Both observances reflect the American Legion's commitment to patriotism, respect for the flag, and honoring the service of military personnel.

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Chaplains Corner (Continued)

A Message from The Chaplain:

Dear Legionnaires,

As we gather in fellowship and camaraderie, let us take a moment to reflect on the principles and values that bind us together as members of the American Legion. Our organization stands as a beacon of service, honor, and patriotism, dedicated to upholding the legacy of those who have served and sacrificed for our nation.

In our daily lives, we often find ourselves faced with challenges and uncertainties. Yet, it is in these moments that we must remember the strength and resilience of our comrades who have come before us. Their courage and dedication inspire us to persevere and to continue our mission of service to our communities, our veterans, and our country.

As your Chaplain, I encourage you to find strength in our shared purpose and to draw upon the support of your fellow Legionnaires. Together, we are stronger. Together, we can overcome any obstacle and achieve great things in the name of the American Legion.

Let us also remember the importance of compassion and understanding in our interactions with one another. Each of us brings unique experiences and perspectives to our organization, and it is through mutual respect and kindness that we can truly honor the spirit of unity and brotherhood that defines the American Legion.

In closing, let us bow our heads in prayer:

Heavenly Father,

We thank You for the gift of fellowship and the opportunity to serve our communities and our nation. Grant us the wisdom to lead with integrity, the courage to face challenges with steadfast hearts, and the compassion to support our fellow Legionnaires. May we always honor the memory of those who have sacrificed for our freedom and strive to live lives worthy of their legacy.

Bless our efforts as we work together to promote the values of the American Legion and to make a positive impact on the world around us. Guide us in our mission, and may Your grace and peace be with us always.

Amen.

Thank you, and may God bless each one of you.

In Service and Faith,

Dan Pruett, Chaplain Post 113

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Chaplains Corner (Continued)



Are You Curious About Church?



Churches offer a variety of programs that might pique your interest, from Bible study groups and volunteer opportunities to family-oriented events and support groups for veterans. These activities provide meaningful ways to get involved, give back to the community, and find solace and strength.

If you're curious about what church can offer you, why not take the first step and visit a local service? You might discover a welcoming community and a new sense of purpose. Reach out to nearby churches to learn more about their programs and how they support veterans and their families.

Remember, exploring your faith is a personal journey, and there's no right or wrong way to start. I encourage you to follow your curiosity and see where it leads.

This Days Thought

As we navigate through the days ahead, let's take a moment to embrace the power of positivity. Each day brings new opportunities to share kindness, lend a helping hand, and find joy in the simple things. Remember, a positive attitude can light up even the darkest of times.

In our community, we are surrounded by individuals who exemplify strength, resilience, and compassion. Let's take inspiration from one another and continue to support each other through life's challenges and triumphs. Whether it's a friendly smile, a word of encouragement, or a helping hand, small acts of kindness can make a big difference.

Take time to appreciate the beauty around you – a sunrise, a child's laughter, a heartfelt conversation with a friend. These moments of joy and connection are the threads that weave together a life well-lived.

As we move forward, let's make a conscious effort to spread positivity. Share your stories of hope, your moments of happiness, and your acts of kindness. Together, we can create a ripple effect that brightens our community and beyond.

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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 :

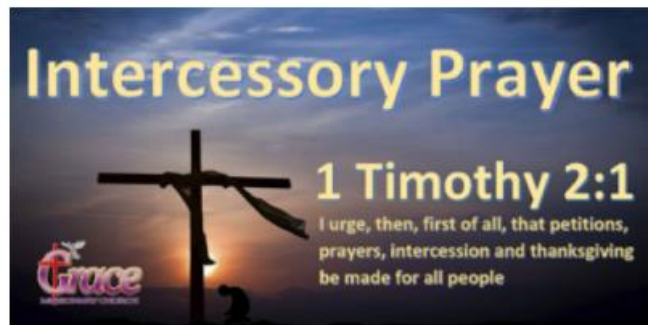
208-890-3384 Cell

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

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Membership - Dan Pruett



June 2024
Membership
Report



Membership Status as of 06/01/2024

<u>Legion</u>	<u>(As of This Date)</u>	<u>SAL</u>
Dept = 100.35%		Dept = 103.49%
Area B = 105.00%		Area B = 92.78%
Post 113 = 119.25%		Sqdn 113 = 63.89%
Goal 374 Actual 446		Goal 36 Actual 23
IDAHO IS 5 TH IN THE WORLD SAL IS 13 TH IN THE WORLD		

We are continuing to beat our 2023-2024 membership goal. We have 72 new members and I want to thank everyone for their hard work in making this come true.

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 hours 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 hours -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.

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Membership – (Continued)

- 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.

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 post113.2ndvice@gmail.com
Training will be provided for 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.*

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Membership – (Continued)

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

- **05/09/24**
 - Francis Bishop
- **05/17/24**
 - Gale L Robinson
- **05/29/24**
 - Walt Gammill
 - Charles J Sobolewski

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Membership – (Continued)

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

***Heavenly Father hold them in your hands and give them peace for
entirtnity!***

- **Hardman, Kester Bernard** – SGT – N. Korea – US Army Unit M 3rd Bat
38th Infantry Materiel – HOME Rec WV – 05/2/24
- **Colby, Willian** – CPL – N. Korea – US Army – Unit D – CO 1/32 Regt
71D – Home Rec MN – 5/2/24
- **Ramos, Israel** – SFC – S. Korea – US Army – Unit D – 1st Bat – 9th Reg
– 2nd Infantry – Home Rec NY – 5/2/24
- **Mahoney, Jeremiah P** – Pvt – France – US Army – Unit 157 – Infantry
45 – Home Rec – IL
- **Bagley, Luther E** – Pfc – Burma – US Army – Unit 5307 Composite –
Home Rec GA – 5/7/24
- **Baskin, Nathan B** – 1st Lt – France – US Army – Unit 899 Tank Bat –
Home Rec PA – 5/8/24
- **Tarbert, John A** – S Sgt – US Army Air Force – 703 Bomb Sqdn 445-
Bombardment Group (Heavy) – Germany – Home Rec (Unkn) – 5/10/24
- **Cocco, Joseph M** – Pvt – WW2 – US Army – 83 Chemical Bat – Italy –
5/15/24
- **Smith, Edward Joseph** – Cpl – S. Korea – US Army – Unit B, 1st Bat,
23rd Infantry Reg, 2nd Infantry Div – Home Rec PA – 5/15/24.
- **Edwards, Randolph Ray** – Pvt – Solomon Islands - Guadalcanal– US
Marine Corps - Comp D, 1st Bat -7th Marine Reg, 1st Marine Div– Home
Rec MS – 5/17/24

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

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Mission Briefing from the 2nd Vice – Ernest Cook

I am writing today to say farewell as your finance officer as well as re-introduce myself as the newly appointed officer in charge of events and operations. I am excited to bring a fresh perspective to our post. My journey with the American Legion began over a decade ago, and it has been a remarkable path of growth and learning. From my initial steps as a service officer to my time serving as finance officer for two different posts, each experience has been rewarding.

Some of you may know that I served both in the US Army and the National Guard. All told, I spent almost 16 years in uniform after I enlisted in 1982 at the age of 21. After a short tour in the commo section of the 1/36th FA (a howitzer battalion) in Germany, the majority of my service was spent as a part-time infantryman in the 40th infantry division. Serving as a citizen soldier was a great honor and is probably why I am comfortable still working and devoting hundreds of hours each year to the American Legion now that I am out of uniform.

Because many people think of Legionnaires as retirees, I also want to talk about what I do outside of the Legion and break the myth that you can't be active until you are retired. About 25 years ago I started a small company out of a desire to leverage my technology skills to create efficient business systems. I am still actively involved in that now and believe that endeavor has not only honed my expertise in finance and operations, but has also instilled in me the importance of forward-thinking and strategic planning. These are the very principles I have been using in my Legion activities.

In the last few years since the beginning of Covid, our post has been investing in our community and building in historic ways! We've installed a chairlift to facilitate better access to the top floor. We have moved into the digital age by installing a camera to allow remote meetings and purchased a sign to let our community know what goes on in our building. We won grants to obtain significant tools in our flag disposal operation. Finally and perhaps most significant, we transformed our 80 year old kitchen into a modern facility for preparing meals. For sure we can easily say that our post has had a period of historic investment in our operations but I would be remiss to not also point out that at the same time, we ADDED \$16K to our bank account balances. **Never in Post 113's history have we been this well positioned to execute our mission !**

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Mission Briefing from the 2nd Vice (Continued)

What good would a mission briefing be without a clear understanding of the mission? I often tell people we are not a veterans organization but an organization of Veterans whose aim is to improve our communities. Here, is my slightly edited version of the American Legion mission*:

The American Legion is a patriotic veterans organization devoted to mutual helpfulness. It is committed to mentoring youth and sponsorship of wholesome programs in our communities, advocating patriotism and honor, promoting strong national security, and continued devotion to our fellow servicemembers and veterans.

The full mission statement is on the national website at <https://www.legion.org/idaho/mission> but I think my version captures the essence.

When it comes to veteran service organizations, membership and engagement are like the dynamic duo of the community world, where one is the silent brooding type (membership) and the other is the life of the party (engagement). Imagine membership as owning a gym membership; you have the access card, but that doesn't mean you're in their bench pressing your way to glory. Engagement, on the other hand, is like being that person who's at the gym so often they practically have a designated parking spot and know every member's name, including the goldfish in the lobby. It's about being involved, shaking hands, and devoting time to the mission. It's the difference between just wearing the team jersey and actually playing the game. And let's be honest, who doesn't want to be in the game? So, while membership gets you in the door, engagement is what makes you part of the family, the community, and the mission. It's the secret sauce that turns a group of individuals into a force of change and camaraderie. Now, who's up to find fulfillment in active participation?

Here are the ways we participate in our four pillars of service

Veterans

- Open Daily for Veteran access and support of "Be the One" program
- Honor Guard - 105 graveside services in FY2024
- Support for Wreaths Across America
- Support for Boise Veterans Home

Defense

- Post 113 Amateur Radio Club - disaster preparation

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Mission Briefing from the 2nd Vice (Continued)

Children & Youth

- Charter and support Scout Troop 1
- Boys State and Boys Nation
- Annual Oratorical contest and scholarship
- Annual Children's Christmas party for post 201
- Annual Halloween Event in Downtown Meridian

Americanism

- Flag disposal program - Collect and destroy flags
- Honor Guard - Participation in local flag events
- Annual selection of Law Enforcement officer of the year award
- Annual selection of Educator of the year

How will you get involved?

Ernest Cook

2nd Vice Commander, events and operations

208-202-5737 ext. 109

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HONOR GUARD – Doug Hanks



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



**Honors May 2024 “9”
Total for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 “83”
Hours May 2024 “123” Fiscal Year Total “1084”
Donations May 2024 “\$400.00” Total Year “\$4310.00 “**

13 FOLDS OF FLAG CEREMONY

If you’ve ever attended a military funeral, perhaps you noticed that the honor guards pay meticulous attention to folding the U.S. flag that once draped the casket. Guards make crisp, precise folds a total of 13 times to complete the ceremony. Much like every other aspect of our nation’s greatest symbol, each of the 13 folds holds a special significance.

Flag etiquette dictates that every time an American flag is to be stored or presented during a ceremony, its handlers should fold it in half twice lengthwise; then starting with the end opposite the blue field, make a taut triangular fold. Handlers continue to fold the flag in triangles until the flag has formed a triangular “pillow” with the blue field showing on the outside. It’s a dignified way to treat the flag, and it gives a powerful touch to patriotic ceremonies.

This 13-fold procedure was common long before the more modern assigned meanings. The source and date of origin of the meanings is unknown, but for those who participate or witness a formal flag folding ceremony, whether it be on Flag Day, Memorial Day, July 4th, Veterans Day, or at a military funeral, the 13 meanings can create an uplifting experience.

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HONOR GUARD (Continued)

This is what the 13 folds mean:

1. The first fold of our flag is a symbol of life.
2. The second fold signifies our belief in eternal life.
3. The third fold is made in honor and tribute of the veteran departing our ranks, and who gave a portion of his or her life for the defense of our country to attain peace.
4. The fourth fold exemplifies our weaker nature as citizens trusting in God; it is to Him we turn for His divine guidance.
5. The fifth fold is an acknowledgement to our country, for in the words of Stephen Decatur, "Our country, in dealing with other countries, may she always be right, but it is still our country, right or wrong."
6. The sixth fold is for where our hearts lie. It is with our heart that we pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.
7. The seventh fold is a tribute to our armed forces, for it is through the armed forces that we protect our country and our flag against all enemies.
8. The eighth fold is a tribute to the one who entered into the valley of the shadow of death, that we might see the light of day, and to honor our mother, for whom it flies on Mother's Day.
9. The ninth fold is an honor to womanhood, for it has been through their faith, love, loyalty, and devotion that the character of men and women who have made this country great have been molded.
10. The 10th fold is a tribute to father, for he, too, has given his sons and daughters for the defense of our country since he or she was first-born.
11. The 11th fold, in the eyes of Hebrew citizens, represents the lower portion of the seal of King David and King Solomon and glorifies, in their eyes, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.
12. The 12th fold, in the eyes of a Christian citizen, represents an emblem of eternity and glorifies, in their eyes, God the Father, the Son, and Holy Ghost.
13. The last fold, when the flag is completely folded, the stars are uppermost, reminding us of our national motto, "In God We Trust."

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

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#	Date	For	Location	Req. by	people	Hours	Miles	Donations
1	2-May-2024	NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER	MERIDIAN CITY HALL	TOM RESSLER	8	16	198	
1	6-May-2024	FRANKYN TAYLOR III, USNAVY	ISVC	ARLETTA TAYLOR, WIF	8	16	164	
1	10-May-2024	HARRY ROBERT MARTZ, USNA	ISVC	ACCENT FUNERAL	4	8	86	
1	10-May-2024	STEPHEN WIGHT, USARMY	ISVC	LOIS LOIS, DAUGHTER	4	8	60	
1	22-May-2024	TRUWOOD BY MERRILL, FLAG	2600 N MILWAUKIE	MARIA RODRIGUES	6	12	102	
1	23-May-2024	JACK RING, USARMY	ISVC	WIFE, DANIEL RING	5	10	80	\$150.00
1	27-May-2024	ROCK OF HONOR	KLIENER PARK MERIDIAN		11	23	251	
1	28-May-2024	GARRY NELSON, USNAVY	ISVC	ALSIP FUNERAL	7	14	149	\$200.00
1	28-Jul-2024	JAMES JORDAN, USARMY, CW	ISVC	IANG HG	8	16	165	\$50.00
				Month total				
				accumulated totals to date				
				from last month >>>>	74	961	10966	\$3,910.00
					Honors	Hours	Miles	Donations
				Honors this month	9	123	1255	\$400.00
				Total Honors-fisc year	83	1084	12221	\$4,310.00

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Boys State – Doug Hanks



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.

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

Doug Hanks

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Scouts – Mark Grothe

Please see the May 21, 2024 Post 113 Meeting Minutes

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Post Meeting Minutes – Rich Dees



AMERICAN LEGION POST 113

MEETING MINUTES

May 21, 2024

PRE-MEETING PRESENTATION: None

The meeting was called to order by Commander Cavalieri at 1900 hours.

OPENING CEREMONIES:

Invocation, Pow/Mia, Pledge of Allegiance, and preamble. Before opening prayer, Chaplin Pruett remarked about Memorial Day and its meaning.

GUESTS:

The company president of Voodoo Brewing presented us with a check representing 10% of their business during an event held on our behalf which was \$181.74.

Potential member: Danny Lowbrow was introduced.

The Daughters of the American Revolution represented by Helen Ditto described their organization after preparing and serving a meal to members. They also presented us with a \$200.00 donation. They will again serve dinner in March next year.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS:

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

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Post Meeting Minutes (Continued)

CHAPLAIN - Sick Call –Dan Pruett:

Herb Killiam is still in rehab
Iver Smith getting out of rehab this week with knee issues
Richard Johnson has leukemia
Brice Keck's daughter – cancer
Tom Ressler – Kidney stones

ADJUTANT –Rich Dees

Minutes of our last meeting and the Newsletter were provided at the door.
Doug Hanks moved to accept minutes as distributed and Dan Pruett provided a second.
There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS:

1st Vice Commander – Dan Pruett:

Membership Reports written and published. Dan noted that we were at 118% of our goal. District Three is 104 % of the goal. Department-wise, we are 100% of our goal and are number 4 nationally. SAL is at 63% and in need of officers.

Repatriation of Veterans: None

Buddy Check: On hold because of kitchen remodel

2nd Vice Commander – Ernest Cook

Rock of Honor Memorial Day event: As reported last month, Dan is giving prayer, the honor guard is doing a rifle salute and there will be echo taps by our buglers. There will also be a fly-over during the event. The Mayor of Meridian will be a guest speaker. Saturday, May 25, 2024, is our community meal. Ernest Cook's wife will be cooking breakfast.

D Day celebration on 8-9 June.

Monthly potluck on June 5, 2024.

Finance Officer – Ernest Cook:

A report is printed and provided at the entrance. The report has separated the management of the building from the rest of the Post activity. That enabled us to understand that we are only spending 3% of our budget on veteran affairs. Some 50% of our efforts are devoted to Americanism. We have \$46, 281.00 in the bank.

We are in the middle of a complete audit of the books. Rich Johnson is heading the committee to perform the audit.

Mark Grothe moved that we accept the report, and Doug Hanks provided a second. It passed unanimously.

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Post Meeting Minutes (Continued)

Service Officer – John Brekke:

The Veterans Home was once again requiring masks for visitors as there has again been an outbreak of COVID-19.

The Navy is involved with the “Red Hill Lawsuit”. That law suit has to do with water contamination at Pearl Harbor.

Radio Club - Richard Dees: Report in the Newsletter.

Honor Guard – Doug Hanks:

Report in the Newsletter. Memorial Day activities as reported earlier by Ernest Cook.

Boys State – Doug Hanks:

Boys State begins June 2, 2024, at Gowen Field. There are 65 boys, five sponsored by Post 113. To visit Boys State, go to building 301 on Gowen Field.

Legion Riders – Max Badesheim:

Riders participated in the Parade America. Riders will be doing several ceremonies on Memorial Day including Koler Lawn in Nampa.

Boy Scouts - Mark Grothe:

The scouts placed flags on all veteran's graves in Meridian Cemetery.

BSA has changed its name to Scouting America.

Groups are going out on camp-outs almost every weekend.

Two scouts, one boy, and one girl, will be receiving their Eagle Award Monday evening at the Meridian Senior Center. Commander Cavalieri will be presenting an award.

Department of Idaho, District 3 - Doug Foote:

On June 28, 2024, at the VA Hospital, there will be a Veterans Appreciation Day. If you would like to help, contact Doug Foote. The event begins at 10:30 and ends at 1:00 PM.

Post 113 American Legion Auxiliary:

No report

Post 113 Sons of the American Legion - Brandon Owens. Needs help.

Ada County Veterans' Council- John Brekke:

The letter discussed last month was sent last month. Don't expect an answer for several months.

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Post Meeting Minutes (Continued)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Commander noted that the Audit Committee was formed and is completing its tasks. The commander gave them until June 1, 2024, to complete their activity.

Commander announced that the creation of an audit committee, finance committee, and building committee will be integrated into the bylaws rewrite effort. The bylaws update effort will begin in June. Doug Foote, John Brekke, and Dan Pruett volunteered to be on the committee.

Milt Smith asked about the Oratorical contest. The contest for this year is over, and there is an opportunity for people to get involved next year. Milt Smith volunteered to help.

NEW BUSINESS and CORRESPONDENCE:

An additional election of a Finance officer and a Service officer. Richard Johnson, the elected Finance Officer, had to decline. John Brekke has agreed to take on the job of Finance Officer. The service office volunteer is Doug Hanks. Ernest nominated the slate. Doug Hanks provided a second. Milt Smith moved the nominations to be closed. The motion was seconded by Max Badesheim. There was no discussion. The vote was unanimous.

Department meeting to be held in Mountain Home on July 14, 2024. We need delegates. During the meeting, we received the appropriate number of delegates.

Ernest Cook asked the Post to spend \$500.00 for cabinets in the Canteen. The cabinets will be made by Dan Pruett and the money is for the wood and supplies. Ernest Cook made the motion to spend \$500 on cabinets in the Canteen and Doug Foote seconded the motion. The discussion noted that the cabinets would be painted. The motion passed unanimously.

The commander authorized the expenditure of \$500.00 to the veterans' home which was previously budgeted. John Brekke moved that the money be designated to the Veterans Home Canteen. The motion was seconded by Ernest Cook. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

DRAWING: David Breithaupt won the \$100.00 raffle.

The meeting was adjourned at 2038 hrs.

Respectfully submitted by: Richard Dees, Post 113 Adjutant.

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Amateur Radio Club - Rich Dees

N7LGN—Post 113 Amateur Radio Club

By Yers Trooly



A Fox Hunt was conducted on May 25, 2024. We met at the Post and had breakfast, then two groups went out looking for the elusive fox. Andy Cohen's (KK7IED) team won after finding the fox in about one hour. The fox was hidden in a Conestoga wagon located in a subdivision. Annett made some great prizes (custom bags with the N7LGN logo). The discussion after the hunt revealed we need to spend some time as a group learning about attenuators and squelch control. The next fox hunt will be at our Field Day event on June 22, 2024.

For Field Day, we will gather at David's (N7MKY) and Annett Hunter's (KK7AYJ) home around 10:00 and start with a fox hunt. After the hunt, they will host a barbecue and we play radio for a couple of hours. It will be a family affair! Alicia (W7YUT) will send out info on the potluck part of the barbecue. Details will be at the next meeting.

We had a discussion last meeting about the greatest threat to ham radio. As it turns out it is the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). The ARRL is the only thing between us and the ITU when it comes to frequency allocations. This means we need to be vigilant and active so we don't lose spectrum.

Testing continues each month, however this last month the ARRL was hacked. The disruption continues as the phones are still not working. Testing was affected as we could not process candidates. The damage may take a while to fix. Hopefully, it will be resolved before our next session.

Pictures are said to be worth 1,000 words. Please consider taking pictures of your shack and sending them to the newsletter editor, Jonathan Hoffmeier, KE0JRH.

Want more info about the group...contact me at rjdees@aol.com

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Post Adjutant – Rich Dees

From the Adjutant's Messy Desk

By: Yers trooly



Greetings All,

We are rapidly approaching the end of the American Legion fiscal year. For reasons known only to the Legion founding fathers, our fiscal year ends on June 30. This is important to us because our membership renewal dates are based on the fiscal year AND the calendar year. Confused? You are not alone. Our membership year runs from January 1 through December 31. However, our dues collection period changes with the fiscal year. Here is how Legion Nation explains it:

"Membership in The American Legion is based on a calendar year from January 1st to December 31st. When a member pays their dues, they are paid up for that membership year. They will also receive twelve monthly subscriptions to The American Legion Magazine.

The renewal process begins in July for the upcoming membership year. Renewal notices are sent out in July, October,"

Here is the strange part: If you pay dues from January 1 to June 30, you pay for your membership for the current calendar year which expires December 31. But, if you pay dues after July 1, your membership extends for the balance of the current year and all of the following year. However, you will not receive credit for the current calendar year because you are renewing for the next calendar year. The downside is that if you have not renewed for the current calendar year, that is before July 1, your continuous membership count resets on July 1 because other things being equal, you will not have paid for the current calendar year. If you want to preserve your continuous membership count, you must renew before July 1 of each year. Confusing? Yup!

You should also note that because the American Legion National dues are increasing, we voted last year to increase our dues to compensate for the increase. Thus, on July 1, 2024, our dues amount increases to \$55.00.

Hope to see you at the next meeting!

YOS

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Finance Report – Ernest Cook / John Brekke

This month I am providing a different view of finances. I am separating the building from our core operations and realigned the expenses under the American Legion's Four Pillars. As a Non-profit, we spent approximately 25% of our income on operations (typical maximum is 35%)

What we see in the report is more troubling, we have only spent 36% of our income on program expenses?! We budgeted \$6,775 and so far have spent about \$4.6K. We are OVER budget for the year on post operations having spent \$2,640 this FY vs the \$1,585 budgeted for the fiscal year.

We are under budget by \$400 on Awards and supplies for the Honor Guard.

On the building, the results look favorable as we had planned to spend \$12k over the amount we collected for the year because of the Kitchen remodel. So far this YTD, we have spent about \$3K more than collected from Ada County and contributions designated to the building. Ending the cleaning service has made a \$5.5K difference in the building budget.

As far as our cash position, we have \$46,281.42 at the end of April, \$10,000 of that is designated for long term maintenance needs.

Ernest Cook

Finance Officer, Post 113

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Finance Report (Continued)

05/17/24
Accrual Basis

Ada County Veterans Hall
Statement of Operations
July 2023 through April 2024

	Building	TOTAL
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
Ada County Contribution	20,000.00	20,000.00
Rental - building useage	9,750.00	9,750.00
Total Income	29,750.00	29,750.00
Expense		
Facilities		
Building Cleaning Services	500.00	500.00
Building Insurance	2,460.00	2,460.00
Building MGR	1,350.00	1,350.00
Lawn	895.53	895.53
Operations and Maintenance	3,040.64	3,040.64
Remodel and Repairs	19,595.95	19,595.95
Utilities	4,966.00	4,966.00
Total Facilities	32,808.12	32,808.12
Total Expense	32,808.12	32,808.12
Net Ordinary Income	-3,058.12	-3,058.12
Other Income/Expense		
Other Expense		
Accounting suspense account	-15.89	-15.89
Total Other Expense	-15.89	-15.89
Net Other Income	15.89	15.89
Net Income	-3,042.23	-3,042.23

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Finance Report (Continued)

10:33 PM

05/17/24

Accrual Basis

AMERICAN LEGION POST 113

Statement of Operations

July 2023 through April 2024

	Jul '23 - Apr 24	% of Income
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
Unknown Deposit slips	683.00	6.5%
Dues Income	4,702.50	44.5%
Honor Guard	3,340.00	31.6%
Other Types of Income	1,838.03	17.4%
Total Income	10,563.53	100.0%
Expense		
Post Operations	2,640.24	25.0%
Program Expenses		
Veteran Affairs		
ADA County United Membership	25.00	0.2%
Honor Guard	166.14	1.6%
Post gatherings, net	-90.41	-0.9%
Wreaths Across America	98.00	0.9%
Total Veteran Affairs	198.73	1.9%
Americanism Programs		
Oratory Contest	326.51	3.1%
Boys State	2,900.00	27.5%
Total Americanism Programs	3,226.51	30.5%
Youth Programs	417.82	4.0%
Total Program Expenses	3,843.06	36.4%
Total Expense	6,483.30	61.4%
Net Ordinary Income	4,080.23	38.6%
Other Income/Expense	925.00	8.8%
Net Income	5,005.23	47.4%

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Service Officer's Report – John Brekke

Boise Veterans Home

In late April five Boise Veteran Home residents tested positive for COVID19 along with one staff member. Because of the positive tests the Boise Veterans Home returned to its COVID19 protocols with masks and mandatory testing for staff, contractors, and volunteers (if you volunteer inside the building). If you assist at the home with outings and do not come into the building - you are not required to receive a test. But the home will request that you consider wearing a mask, which a staff member will provide. So far, the residents are handling their COVID19 conditions well, with little symptoms or they are asymptomatic.

More Cyber Attacks

According to the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Secretary, he is "*not aware of any adverse impacts*" on patients' care stemming from a February 20-24 cyberattack on Change Healthcare, which is owned by United Health. However, the VA has notified by email more than 15 million veterans about this breach. It's still unknown whether a substantial portion of the people in America could have had their personal data leaked as a result of the ransomware attack that affected hospitals and medical facilities across the U.S. Changed Health has said they see no signs that doctor charts or full medical histories were released after the attack. But they also have noted that it may take several months of analysis to identify and notify those who were affected. UnitedHealth is offering free credit monitoring and identity theft protection for two years.

<https://www.govexec.com/technology/2024/04/va-warning-veterans-about-change-healthcare-cyberattack-secretary-says/396134/>

<https://news.va.gov/130672/what-you-need-to-know-about-the-change-healthcare-cyber-breach/>

Less than Honorable

When a veteran has a less than honorable discharge, they often have no path for accessing disability assistance, health care and other VA services. However a new rule will make veterans eligible for VA benefits previously denied because of their less than honorable discharge status. This new rule will take effect on June 25. Veterans who can show that mental illness, traumatic brain injury or other extenuating circumstances led to their misconduct will be considered for VA benefits.

<https://www.stripes.com/veterans/2024-04-30/rule-bad-paper-veterans-va-13710212.html>

<https://taskandpurpose.com/military-life/va-benefits-veterans-other-than-honorable/>

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Service Officer's Report (Continued)

Navy's Red Hill Lawsuit

More than 2,200 military families and civilians have filed for a lawsuit, entitled Hughes et. al. v. the United States of America, against the federal government over water contamination at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii. This is a result of the November 2021 debacle that sent thousands of gallons of jet fuel into the tap water in their homes. The Hughes suit -- the third filed over spills at the U.S. Navy's Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility -- joins with the Patrick Feindt Jr. et. al v. the United States of America, which also seeks damages and compensation for health issues and trauma related to this spill, and Jessica Whaley et. al, v. the United States of America, a suit filed by active-duty personnel that challenges the Feres doctrine, a court precedent that largely prevents service members from suing the federal government for injuries.

<https://www.military.com/daily-news/2024/02/05/thousands-more-military-family-members-and-civilians-sue-navy-over-water-tainted-red-hill-spill.html?amp=>
<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/a-2021-red-hill-jet-fuel-leak-sickened-thousands-of-hawaiians-but-there-have-been-dozens-of-releases-in-an-issue-spanning-decades/?intcid=CNM-00-10abd1h>

Cheaper Travel

The American Legion (AL) offers some discounts for travel by selecting the URL below. Motel 6 offers a nationwide discount for American Legion and SAL members. Use the URL below to access Motel 6's reservation link. At Wyndham Hotels and Resorts you may receive up to a 20% discount. Government Vacation Rewards offers up to a 60% discount on travel. Another alternative for retired veterans travel is the Military One Source, which is operated by the DOD. The AARP URL below identified some air travel discounts for veterans. If you have trouble accessing the American Legion URL below, please call the American Legion's Customer Service (800) 433-3318) or MyLegion (833) 253-9995.

<https://www.legion.org/benefits/travel>
<https://www.militaryonesource.mil/role/retiree-veteran/>
<https://www.aarp.org/travel/travel-tips/budget/info-2017/airline-discounts-vets-fd.html>

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American Legion Auxiliary – No update this month

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	post113.2ndvice@gmail.com
Finance Officer	John Brekke	801/989-6764	post113.finance@gmail.com
Service Officer	Doug Hanks	208-809-7519	post113.vso@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	doug.foote@eaqleid.com