



**Membership Meeting Minutes  
Manuel Schneidmiller Post 154 Inc.  
American Legion Department of Idaho  
Commander Deanna Sasse**

**April 26, 2017**

**Call to order:** Membership meeting was called to order by Commander Deanna Sasse and convened at 6:00 pm.

**Quorum:** Sergeant at Arms certified that there were 16 members in attendance. A quorum was present

**Roll Call of Officers:**

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
Commander	Dee Sasse	Present
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Commander	John Fevold	Present
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander	Len Crosby	Excused
Adjutant	Bryan Bledsoe	Present
Service Officer	Ruth Aresvik	Present
Finance Officer	Len Crosby	Excused
Historian	Lonnie Morse	Absent
Chaplain	Paula Atwood	Present
Sergeant-at-Arms	Bill Kinder	Present
Judge Advocate	Jeff Broadhead	Present
3 Year Committeeperson	Todd Halvorson	Present
2 Year Committeeperson	Resigned	
1 Year Committeeperson	Helen Kinder	Present

**Guests:** Sue Fevold and Harold Markiewicz Post 143

**New Member:** Bob Flowers was introduced and Bill Herbert transferred into the Post.

**Minutes: Motion:** by Jean Bledsoe that the minutes from then General Membership meeting on March 22, 2017 be approved as posted on the website – Second by Helen Kinder - **Motion Carried**

**Finance Report: Motion:** by Jean Bledsoe that that the Finance Report be approved as provided by Len Crosby – Second by Jeff Broadhead - **Motion Carried**

**Motion** by Jean Bledsoe to accept the Executive Committee recommendation that Helen Kinder be appointed to serve the remaining term of the two-year Committeeperson position held by Lew Allert – second by John Fevold **Motion Carried**

**Annual Election**

The Commander turned the gavel over to the Election Committee Chair, Jean Bledsoe, who presented the slate of officers and asked if there were any other nominations from the floor three times.

Commander	Dee Sasse
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Commander	John Fevold
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander	Larry Carstensen
Service Officer	Ruth Aresvik
Finance Officer	Len Crosby
Historian	Lonnie Morris
Chaplain	Paula Atwood
Judge Advocate	Jeff Broadhead
Sergeant-At-Arms	Bill Kinder
3 Year Committee Person	Craig King
Not elected but serving out remaining terms	
2 Year Committee Person	Todd Halvorson
1 Year Committee Person	Helen Kinder

**Motion** by Lew Allert to suspend the by-laws requiring a secret ballot and elect this slate of officers by acclamation – second by Mike Warren **Motion Carried**

Jean Bledsoe asked “All in favor of electing this slate of officers say aye. (unanimous)” I declare this slate of officers duly elected.”

#### **Committee Reports:**

1. Membership & Americanism – Helen Kinder reported that sending out letters had resulted in five new transfers to Post 154. She also read a letter from a 92-year-old veteran that had responded and declined our invitation to join as he had been a member at large for many years. It was a very nice handwritten letter.
2. Kootenai County Veterans Council – Charlie Till reported that there will be fund raisers at Applebee's on June 10<sup>th</sup> for DAR and then on August 11<sup>th</sup> for the Kootenai Veterans Council. \$30 gas coupons have been provided to Newby-ginnings for veterans that meet the criteria set by Kootenai Veterans Council. The next Honor Flight will be on October 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>. Honor flight is looking for major items to auction off. Contact Charlie if you have something.
3. Graves and Registration, VAVS - Chaplain, Paula Atwood went to NIC & listened to a presentation by Rudy Lopez from the Washington State Veterans Cemetery at Medical Lake. Everyone is encouraged to pre-qualify as there is about a seven-day vetting process.
4. Children & Youth - Judge Advocate, Jeff Broadhead reported that Post 154 is sending a girl to Girls State
5. Honor Guard – Todd Halvorson reported that ceremonies were done at Washington State Veterans Cemetery for two veterans and another at Evergreen Cemetery. Jeff Broadhead joined the Honor Guard and there was a practice to get him integrated into the group.
6. Technology & PR - Jean Bledsoe asked that articles for the upcoming newsletter be sent to her by Friday the 28<sup>th</sup>.
7. Fund Raising Committees
  - a. Trivia Night – Jean Bledsoe & Ruth Aresvik will follow up to try to find a place in Rathdrum to hold the event.

- b. Pumpkin Patch – John Fevold, Bill Kinder & Dee Sasse are working on having the actual planting of seeds occur on one day in early June. The Post will provide some traffic control for the landowner as a thank you for donation the use of the plot. A committee person is needed to head up the Harvest Festival Day festival.
  - c. Applebees – Bill Kinder still working on making a contact
  - d. Rathdrum Days Booth – Dee Sasse reported that the Post will have a booth and water and flags for donation.
  - e. Memorial Donations – Len Crosby put together the information for a memorial for a loved one that has passed. The sheets will be available for Memorial Day and Stand Down. Charlie Till reported that he had posted it on the [www.dav.com](http://www.dav.com) website.
8. Sign-up sheet for the Poppy Program was passed around

**Health & Welfare:** - a card was sent to Len Crosby offering condolences for the death of his mother

**Unfinished Business**

1. Rathdrum Easter Egg Hunt had about 800 kids attended this year

**Motion** by Mike Warren to purchase 4 counters up to \$100 – second by Jean Bledsoe

1. Bill Kinders daughter works at St Vincent de Paul and they are setting up a veteran’s fun run and would like American Legion involvement. Contact person is Andrea Fulks 208-416-4726.
2. The City of Rathdrum has 3 additional veteran signs that will be installed soon
3. Flag Retirement Ceremony will take place at the Lions Club on June 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Lewiston Veterans Home Food Convoy:** Suggested donation of \$1 to benefit the Lewiston Veterans Home Food Drive which takes place in October. Total collected \$23 + previous \$87.44  
**TOTAL \$110.44**

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 pm

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**Deanna Sasse, Commander**

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**Bryan Bledsoe, Adjutant**



**Membership Meeting Agenda**  
**Commander Deanna Sasse**  
**Manuel Schneidmiller Post 154, Inc.**  
**American Legion Department of Idaho**  
**April 26, 2017**

**Opening**

1. *1 rap of the gavel and the doors shall be closed by the Sergeant at Arms*
2. *3 raps of the gavel and all members present shall stand*

**Colors**

**Prayer** – Uncover through the Pledge of Allegiance

**POW/MIA Empty Chair**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Recite Preamble of the Constitution of the American Legion**

**Sergeant at Arms certifies number of members and a quorum present**

**Roll Call Officers & Executive Committee Members**

**Guests & Introductions**

**Minutes**

**Financial Report**

**Annual Election**

**Committee Reports**

9. Membership & Americanism – 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander John Fevold
10. Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation - Service Officer Ruth Aresvik
11. Kootenai Veterans Council – Charlie Till
12. Graves and Registration, VAVS - Chaplain, Paula Atwood
13. Children & Youth - Judge Advocate, Jeffrey Broadhead
14. Honor Guard – Todd Halvorson
15. Technology & PR - Jean Bledsoe
16. Fund Raising Committees
  - f. Trivia Night – Jean Bledsoe & Ruth Aresvik
  - g. Pumpkin Patch – John Fevold, Bill Kinder & Dee Sasse
  - h. Applebees – Bill Kinder
  - i. Rathdrum Days Booth – Dee Sasse
  - j. Memorial Donations – Len Crosby

**Health & Welfare Report** – Chaplain

**Unfinished Business**

2. Rathdrum Easter Egg Hunt recap
3. Stand Down – table
4. Poppy donation program
5. Memorial Day

**New Business**

4. US Forest Service Annual Pass – Annual Pass \$80 per year – Senior Pass \$10 LIFETIME – Access Pass Disabled Free – find out more at <https://store.usgs.gov/pass/index.html>
5. Sign up for FREE Accidental Death Protection – Must confirm at <https://www.thelit.com/no-cost-legioncare>
  - A. \$5,000 if travelling on official American Legion Business

B. \$1,000 Accident Protection for all other covered accidents

**Post & Legion Calendar**

May 8 VE Day (Victory in Europe 1945)

**May 10 Post 154 Executive Meeting**

**May 13 Stand Down – Kootenai County Fairgrounds 8 am – 2 pm**

May 14 Mother's Day

May 20 Armed Forces Day

**May 19 & 20 Poppy Program – Sign up to help please**

**May 24 Post 154 Membership Meeting**

**May 26 & 27 Poppy Program – Sign up to help please**

**May 29 Memorial Day**

**a. Honor Guard at Evergreen Cemetery in Post Falls @10 am**

**b. Post 154 & Honor Guard at Pinegrove Cemetery in Rathdrum @ noon**

**Lewiston Veterans Home Food Convoy** – To date \$87.44 - Suggested \$1 donation is collected from those that would like to donate at each membership meeting

**Chaplain Prayer** – Stand & Uncover

**Flag Salute**

**Adjournment**