



# THE POST 57 GAZETTE

## FRED E. HAYES POST 57 THE AMERICAN LEGION

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Summer 2019 Edition



**Commander: Robert Gates • Adjutant / Service Officer: James Davidson • Chaplain: John Myers**

### From the Desk of the Commander

As you know, we try to communicate chiefly by email. However, a number of our members do not have email, or have not advised us of an email address, so once or twice a year we try to communicate through the Post Office.

This last year has been an incredibly busy one for our small Post. I am proud to say we are perhaps one of the most active Posts in the Department, striving to deliver the four pillars of our organization to our members and communities. In this Newsletter, you will see what we have been up to and you can be very proud of your membership with us.

As I write this, several of us have just returned from the Department Convention in Spokane representing your Post. This has been a volatile year in the Department, but our Post has remained focused on doing what a Post is supposed to do and we are doing a very good job. Our communities have come to see us as a vital part of the community and have asked us to partner with them on a number of projects (more elsewhere in this newsletter). As a result, we are not only visible, but we are respected.

All of this is being accomplished by a very small core of members. I ask that you help in our effort in some small manner, even if you are hundreds or thousands of miles away from your "home" Post. Every little bit helps.

Remember, we are "For God and Country."

### Our Namesake: Fred E. Hayes

Our Post Namesake, Fred E. Hayes, was a Grandview man who was killed in France in World War I on July 13, 1918. Sadly, his brother Harry died of pneumonia / flu four months later while serving in Virginia. That was a heavy burden for that family.

Fred's body was eventually returned home and he is buried in the old cemetery in Sunnyside. We located his grave last year and have begun the process of cleaning the headstone of decades of mold and grime. We are also doing his brother's headstone next to his. It is important we honor their service and sacrifice in this small tangible way.

We would like to get a photo of Fred E. Hayes. If you can help with that effort, please let us know.

***Our next blood drive is in honor of Fred E. Hayes and will be held Wednesday, August 14<sup>th</sup>, 1 – 6 PM at The Grandview Community Center.***

### Prosser Post 20 Closes, Joins Post 57

The legendary Capt. Green Post 20 of Prosser has ceased operation and will be turning in their Charter after 100 years of service to the Prosser community.

At a special meeting this spring, members decided to cease Post operations and transfer membership to our Post. Seven members have transferred their memberships to Post 57. There are two or three that still need to be contacted to transfer.

The Post had long been a fixture in the community and their Legion District and providing leadership to their District and the Department. They were famous years ago for their President's Day Dinner, attracting guests from Posts near and far.

Over the last number of years, their members have been dying off and the Post has not been active. Their Auxiliary Unit still meets and continues on as an "orphaned" Unit.

Several years ago, our Post used proceeds from our first Crab Feed to purchase their dishes and table ware, which we now use for special occasions. We also bought and repaired an antique Legion lamp that we display on occasion.

Post 57's membership is now looking at ways to extend Post programs to the Prosser community. We will be seeking public safety award nominations and American Legion School Award nominations from Prosser High School. We hope to extend the Penny-a-Day Campaign to Prosser in order to raise funds to pay for those programs.

Welcome to former Post 20 members! We are here to take care of you!

### 2019 – 2020 Post Officers

Commander: Robert Gates  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander: Dudley Brown  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander: Vicky Gates  
Adjutant / Finance Officer: James Davidson  
Chaplain: John Myers  
Sgt-at-Arms: John Travis  
Executive Committeeman: Richard Zook (2020)  
Executive Committeeman: Leonard McGrath (2021)  
Service Officer: James Davidson  
Judge Advocate: vacant  
Historian: vacant  
Wreaths Across America: Sally and Gary Van Horn  
Auxiliary President: Betty George  
Auxiliary Secretary: Nancy Davidson

## Scheduled Events / Activities

(Subject to Change)

### Regular Meetings:

All meetings are held at 7:00 PM at the Grandview Community Center Conference Room, 812 Wallace Way, Grandview. Enter through the Senior Center entrance. No meetings in July & August.

Thursday, September 19<sup>th</sup>

Thursday, October 17<sup>th</sup>

Thursday, November 21<sup>st</sup>

Thursday, December 19<sup>th</sup>

Thursday, January 16<sup>th</sup>

Thursday, February 20<sup>th</sup>

Thursday, March 19<sup>th</sup>

Thursday, April 16<sup>th</sup>

Thursday, May 21<sup>st</sup> (Annual Meeting / Elections)

Thursday, June 11<sup>th</sup>

### Red Cross Community Blood Drives:

All Blood Drives are from 1:00 to 6:00 PM in the Dining Room of the Community Center.

Wednesday, August 14<sup>th</sup>

Wednesday, October 16<sup>th</sup>

Wednesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>

Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>

Wednesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>

Wednesday, August 12<sup>th</sup>

Wednesday, October 14<sup>th</sup>

Wednesday, December 9<sup>th</sup>

### Ceremonies:

#### **Wreaths Across America**

Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 AM  
Grandview Cemetery

#### **Memorial Day Activities / Ceremonies**

(All events at Grandview Cemetery)

##### ***"Flags-in"***

Saturday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 8:00 AM

##### **Memorial Day Ceremony**

Monday, May 25<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 AM

##### ***"Flags-out"***

Monday, May 25<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 PM

### Meals:

All events are at the Grandview Community Center.

#### **Veterans Day "SOS" Brunch and Public Safety Awards**

Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 AM

**Reservations Preferred**

#### **Annual Community Crab Feed**

Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 PM

**Reservations Required**

#### **"Bunny Breakfast"**

Associated with Grandview's Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 AM

### Fundraisers:

#### **Wreaths Across America**

Raises funds to place wreaths on Veteran graves and pay for Post programs. Runs July to December (includes direct purchases, donations and wrist band sales).

#### **Community Penny-a-Day Campaign**

This activity raises funds to pay for Post programs, including many youth programs and runs during the month of February.

#### **Wreaths Across America**

Our Post sponsors Wreaths Across America (WAA) for the Grandview Cemetery. As noted above, the ceremony will be December 14<sup>th</sup>.

Donors are asked to donate \$15 to buy a wreath to decorate the grave of a veteran buried in Grandview. Over 500 wreaths are needed. For the last several years, we have been able to cover every grave in Grandview and have supplied wreaths for graves in Sunnyside, Prosser, Patterson and Mabton.

WAA Chairman Sally Van Horn will be seeking donations beginning in September. Wreaths may be purchased for other cemeteries (Prosser, Sunnyside, etc.) but arrangements must be made to pick them up at the Grandview ceremony on December 14<sup>th</sup>.

If you would like to purchase a wreath, contact Sally at 509-882-0416.



## Grandview Humanitarian Award Recipients Receive Department Award

The five members of Tidewater Barge Lines tug *Ryan Point* crew were recipients of the Post's Humanitarian of the Year Award last Veterans Day for their actions on the Columbia River in September 2018 that resulted in saving the lives of two capsized boaters. The boaters would have died if not for the actions of the crew.

Our Post nominated the crew for the Department Award. They were selected and named the Department's Humanitarians of the Year, receiving their award at the Department Convention on July 19<sup>th</sup>. The recipients were Captain Josh Burrows, Pilot Riley Wyatt and Deck Mechanics Ken Marvel, Billy Pike and Harry Pike.

This makes the second year in a row that Post 57's Humanitarian of the Year was also named as the Department recipient.

### Programs Supported by Post 57

What do we do? This year, as we tallied up what we had done in the communities, along with our Auxiliary Unit, we found we far exceed what most Posts do in donations, time and talent. Looking just at our financial contributions we were able to make due to the support of you and our Post friends, this is what you can say we do:

#### National Programs

- The American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation
- American Legion Charities
- National Emergency Fund
- Operation Comfort Warriors
- Child Welfare Fund
- Legacy Scholarship Fund
- Citizen's Flag Alliance
- USO Northwest
- American Gold Star Mothers of Washington
- American Red Cross – Blood Services
- Wreaths Across America
- Operation Homefront

#### Local Programs

- Yakima Valley Veterans Coalition
- Yakima County Veterans Program Food Pantry
- Graves Registration, Grandview Cemetery
- Flag Maintenance at Legion Park
- American Legion School Awards in Grandview Schools
- Grandview High School Vocational & Athlete Scholars Program
- Extra Mile Student Center
- Life Options – Aware Program
- Grandview Community Center
- Scouts BSA Troop 643 & Cub Scout Pack 643
- Public Safety Awards
- Flag Education, Etiquette & Flag Lowering Notifications
- Boys State and Girls State
- "Little Free Library" at Grandview Community Center

**Please Pick a Program Where You Can Help!**

## Speaking of "Little Free Library"

On July 2<sup>nd</sup>, after gaining the approval of the Grandview City Council, the Post installed a "Little Free Library" at the Grandview Community Center. As part of the process, and at the suggestion of the Post, an ordinance was developed requiring existing and future little libraries to be registered at [www.LittleFreeLibrary.org](http://www.LittleFreeLibrary.org). Two others had previously been constructed on public property without city permission. Those have since been registered.

The Little Free Library offers a place where people can pick up a book or leave a book to share with others. There is no fee. It is free to users. We have no shortage of books to provide.

### And, While We Are At It....

During the Crab Feed and during the Community Day of Service, we discovered the electric range in the Community Center kitchen was a fire hazard and had inoperable burners. The City did not have the budgeted funds to replace it and we suggested we could help find a deal on a new stove.

In cooperation with the Grandview Senior Club, we purchased a new glass top stove with convection oven that should provide years of service and not be a fire hazard.

The stove was installed on July 2<sup>nd</sup>. Be sure to stop by and see it.



- Robert Jones, USA, Korea
- Clarence Zahn, USA, WWII
- Milton Ramsey, USAF, WWII
- Gary Maas, USN, Vietnam
- Ronald Bertram, USAF, Vietnam
- Kenneth Herber, USA, Vietnam
- Larry Kingsella, USCG, Vietnam
- Lyle Dague, USA, WWII
- Douglas Rinehart, USN, Vietnam

### Educator of the Year

Grandview's nomination for Educator of the Year for grades 6 – 8 has been selected as a Department winner. This is still secret from the nominee, so a name will not be announced until the award is presented.

Nominations for the Educator of the Year are a bit laborious and involve some antiquated terms and steps, but we prevailed!

## Post Receives Honors at Department Convention

At the Department Convention in Spokane that concluded July 20<sup>th</sup>, the Post was recognized for work in a number of areas and brought home several awards. Post Executive Committeeman and Delegate Richard Zook accepted the following awards for the Post:

- J.S. Cooper Publicity Award
- William D. Welch Americanism Award
- Stephen F. Chadwick Boy Scout Advancement Award
- Service Girls Post 204 Education Award.

## Post Presents The American Legion School Award to Ten Students

The American Legion School Award is a prestigious National Award that may be presented by local Posts to graduating students in the 5<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades. Sadly, Grandview is one of very few Posts in Eastern Washington that makes the effort to present the Awards in each of our five Grandview schools.

The schools appreciate the awards the kids get, but we are still educating them that this award is different from other presented and that the Legion makes the selection based on submitted nominations.

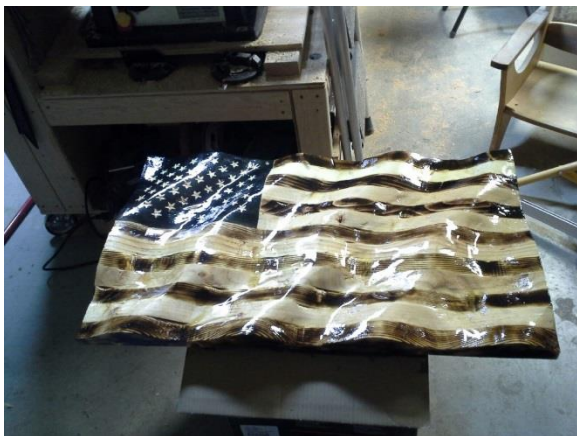
The Award seeks to identify students who exhibit the following six traits: Courage, Honor, Patriotism, Service, Scholarship and Leadership.

A Medallion and certificate was presented to a boy and girl from each graduating class. We hope to extend the program to Prosser High School next year.

## Post-Sponsored Raffle Underway

The Post is conducting a raffle for a handmade wooden US Flag. The raffle started at the Department Convention. The drawing will be held at our annual Veterans Day "SOS" Brunch on November 9<sup>th</sup>.

The flag, constructed by Commander Gates, is approximately 18 x 30"



Tickets are \$5 each. Winners may select from black & white (as shown), Black & White with blue stripe (police) or red, white and blue.

Tickets may be purchased either at one of our meetings, by mailing a check to the Post at PO Box 56, Grandview WA 98930, or calling 509-8820-1984 for a credit card order.

Only 800 tickets will be sold.

## Adult Leaders Needed for Cub Scouts

As you have read, we are now sponsoring Grandview's Cub Scout Pack. This last year has been a challenge because parents are no willing to help lead. As a result, the program is not being delivered to dozens of boys and girls who want to participate.

Being a Cub leader is not difficult at all. You can meet with your small group of youth every couple of weeks to show them a skill and enter their results on your phone or computer. You need to register, complete youth protection training (online) and get some brief training. Husband and wife teams are ideal, offering a positive adult role model for youth.

If you can help, please call Jim Davidson, Pack Committee Chairman, at 509-882-1984.

## What's an "Early Bird?"

***My membership card has an "Early Bird" on it. What does that mean?***

The Early Bird stamp on your membership card means you paid your 2020 dues BEFORE our Veterans Day Brunch on November 9<sup>th</sup> and makes you eligible for a drawing for a \$25 gift card from Walmart. You can pay the day of the Brunch before we draw the winner, but we would like to have you renew now. **Be an EARLY BIRD!**

## President Signs the LEGION ACT. Legion Membership Eligibility to Expand.

Congress has approved the LEGION Act, a bill redefining periods of war-time service. The Bill was just signed by the President. The American Legion will now amend our Constitution and Bylaws defining periods of wartime service and eligibility to join the Legion. We can now invite those veterans to join.

In simple terms, Congress has recognized the US has been at war since December 7<sup>th</sup>, 1941, so anyone who has served honorably for at least 24 hours since that date is now eligible to become a Legionnaire.

While some grumble about this action, we must recognize there has been no true period of peace since the start of WWII. Additionally, the founders of the Legion believed that it mattered not where a person served, only that they served. They need not have earned a campaign ribbon to be a member.

For more information on the history of The American Legion, we urge you to complete the online Basic Training course. It is free and takes about two hours. You may access the training at:

[www.legion.org.alei](http://www.legion.org.alei)