



American Legion Steven H Nipp Post 143 Newsletter

March 2026

For all things Post-related, visit us at www.pfp143.org

General Membership
(6:30pm) & Auxiliary
(5:30pm) Meeting
dates:

March 16

April 20

SAL (6:30pm):

March 23

April 27

Women Veterans Group
(9:30am & 6:00pm)

March 18

April 15

Office Hours:

Mon-Fri 10:00 am-3:00 pm

Phone:(208) 773-9054

Commander's Corner

As we move into March, I want to take a moment to thank our members, volunteers, and community partners who continue to make **American Legion Post 143** a strong and active presence in our community. The support we receive from local businesses and neighbors allows us to carry out our mission to serve veterans, their families, and our community with pride.



This month, we are especially grateful to recognize several new Major Sponsors whose generosity helps sustain our programs, events, and outreach. Please join me in welcoming and thanking:

- **FMI/EPS** of Post Falls
- **Cornerstone Dental Center** of Hayden
- **Tactical Electric** of Post Falls

Their commitment to supporting local veterans and community organizations makes a meaningful difference. Sponsorships like these help fund youth programs, veteran assistant efforts, community events, and improvements to our Post home. We encourage our members to support the businesses that support us whenever possible.

March will be a busy and exciting month for our Post...**March 5th** we are hosting the **Prairie Cardinals Spaghetti Fundraiser** –This is always a great evening of food, fellowship, and support for our local youth. Be sure to come out, bring your family, and enjoy a great meal while supporting a worthy cause. In addition, read on for details regarding our **March 28th Community Awards Banquet**. Buy tickets for both at www.pfp143.org . We encourage everyone to attend, invite friends, and help us make these gatherings a success.

Current Activities:

Lounge News:

Enjoy live music by Ward on Friday, March 13th. Get your seats by 6:30 and rock the night away. Post members and guests only 21+.

GUN RAFFLE TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

Pickup a brochure at the Post for more information.

Weatherby Rifle w Leupold Scope, Mossberg shotgun with bayonet, Colt Handgun plus a fun Red Ryder BB Gun.

Free Coffee/Donuts

Join the group of veterans who gather each Wednesday morning from 8:00-10:00 am at the Post for free coffee, donuts, and camaraderie.

Thank you again to our new Major Sponsors and to all who contribute their time, talent, and resources to Post 143. Your continued support keeps our mission strong and our Post moving forward. I look forward to seeing many of you at our March events.

For God and Country,

Tim Shaw
Commander, American Legion Post 143

Upcoming Events

Post 143 Annual Community Awards Banquet- March 28th

This year marks the **117th birthday of the American Legion**, and Post 143 will celebrate with our Annual Community Awards Banquet on **Saturday, March 28th from 5:00-9:00 pm**. We are honored to welcome Randy Westlund, the new Mayor of Post Falls, as our keynote speaker. This event is a wonderful opportunity to recognize, thank, and celebrate this year's award recipients from Kootenai County Fire & Rescue, Kootenai County Sheriff's Office, Post Falls Police Department, and the Post Falls School District. It's also an opportunity to reflect on the Legion's long-standing legacy of service including the crowning of our Post Legionnaire of the Year, Volunteers of the Year (SAL, Auxiliary, Lounge, Kitchen), and Business Partner of the Year. The cost is \$30 per person; dinner entrée choices are Herb Crusted Baked Salmon or Chicken Divan. **NOW** is the time to buy your tickets! Space is limited so either sign up through the website at www.pfp143.org, stop by (Mon-Fri 10:00 am-3:00 pm) or call the office at (208) 773-9054.

Post 143 5th Annual Golf Tournament – May 30th

Join us for a great day on the course at the **American Legion Classic on Saturday, May 30, 2026 at Links Golf Club** in Post Falls.

8:00 AM Shotgun Start • 7:00 AM Registration Four-Person Scramble • \$125 per player • Lunch included. Build your team and **sign up online** to secure your spot. All proceeds support local veterans through Post 143.

We're also looking for **sponsors and raffle prize donations** — a great way to support the event even if you're not golfing. For more information email us at golf@pfp143.org.

New Feature this Month



Food for Thought

The Bible says in Proverbs 3:5-6 – Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.

Did You Know...*you could win the cash drawing if you attend the General Membership Meeting and your member number is drawn? The pot is up to over \$2,000. Don't be a "Loser of the Month" ...must be present to win! Not only have a chance to cash in but also learn about what your Post is doing.*

Leaders and members of Post 143 value and appreciate ALL our donors who provide financial and in-kind support for our veterans...no one above the others. To show appreciation, we intend to highlight one of our donors in each upcoming edition of this Newsletter.

Business Partner of the Month: Cornerstone Dental Center

Dr. Don Tatalovich of Cornerstone Dental Center is a Navy Veteran and, along with his business partner Dr. Hann, is passionate about supporting veterans. The company slogan is "Compassionate. Comprehensive. Community-Centered." To learn more about them, visit www.cornerstonedentalcenter.com

Meet 2nd Vice Commander – Stephen Godfrey

Our 2nd Vice is a guy like no other. He just couldn't get enough of the military...first joining the Army in 1981. He served as an OH58 Helicopter Mechanic/Crew Chief and was deployed to Desert Storm. He got out in 1997 and spent 5 years working as a carpenter in CA. After 9/11, his heart called him back into service where he enlisted in the Navy Reserves and served as a BU2 with the Sea Bees. After 5 months he knew that was not for him so he transferred to the Army Reserves as a UH60 Blackhawk Helicopter mechanic/crew chief. With them he was deployed to Iraq. He was on active duty for 2 years; 1 of those years he served on POTUS Mission for President G. W. Bush. His service didn't end there, after 16 years in the military he went back to the regular Army where he served as an NCO Technical Inspector/Sr Instructor for Blackhawk helicopters. Toward the end of his career, he was diagnosed with diabetes and sleep apnea and not allowed to deploy. He served time in Germany before returning to Fort Eustis in Virginia where he retired in August 2016. (Don't even try to add up his service years in which branch...it's complicated.)



Now, you can credit the wonderful care and maintenance of this beautiful building and grounds to Stephen...Our "handyman/carpenter extraordinaire." Thank you, Stephen!! You are very much appreciated for all your hard work and dedication to this Post and our local veterans!!



Genesis Arms



Covenant Arms

SAL News:

SAL Commander, Davy Crockett and 1st Vice Commander Mike Halligan recently presented plaques of appreciation to staff of Genesis Arms and Covenant Arms for their support of the SAL's recent gun raffle. Genesis Arms gave the SAL a deep discount on the 12-gauge semi-automatic G100-19 Shotgun. Covenant Arms donated the American Flag Cerakote finish on the stock of the shotgun. Pictured is the drawing of the winning ticket held on February 16th at the General Meeting...to her dismay, Maurica did not pull her own ticket. (It is against policy to list the name(s) of winners of any Post 143 gun raffle ...for safety reasons...we trust ya'll but who else might be reading this?? One can't be too careful these days!)

Auxiliary News:

We Need YOU!!! Looking to get more involved in the Auxiliary? The annual elections to the Auxiliary Board will be held on April 21st. Contact Marilyn Shay, Auxiliary President, at (208) 773-9054 if interested in exploring how you could lend your talents to this group of wonderful veteran supporters.

Auxiliary Member Spotlight

We have an Artist in our Midst.....Auxiliary Member **Priscilla Patterson's** artwork is being shown at the Jacklin Arts and Cultural Center in Post Falls during the "Member's Exhibit" that opened February 8th. Her works have also been accepted into the Cheyenne Days Western Spirit Art Exhibition which runs from March 7-April 19th. Congratulations, Priscilla!!



And the winner is!

SHARING IS CARING



Davy Crockett and Mike Halligan share a portion of the proceeds from the Gun Raffle (\$2,000) with Newby-Ginnings.
