



BASIC/Blanchard Community Center Newsletter

Website: blanchardidaho.net

Facebook: [Blanchard Community Center](#)

April 2023



“Blossom by blossom the spring begins.” ...”

SPRING: THE SEASON OF TRADITIONS

Spring became official on March 20, 2023 also known as the Vernal Equinox! We still may feel as winter’s captive but we can feel the promise of a new season with each passing day; we are becoming increasingly aware of the world waking from its winter slumber. It is time for plants to start springing from the ground.

Before the 14th century, spring was called Lent in Old English. In pre-Christian Europe, Anglo-Saxons worshipped Eostre, the moon goddess of spring and fertility. She was always portrayed as standing among spring flowers and holding an egg in her hand. Eggs have been associated with spring rituals for millennia. It’s believed that eggs represented fertility and birth in certain pagan traditions that pre-date Christianity. Ancient Egyptians, Persians, Romans, Gauls, and Chinese all embraced the egg as a symbol of the universe, and today, eggs are as much a part of Easter, and springtime, as Easter bonnets and fancy flowers. Christians appropriated and adapted many pagan traditions and symbols for their own celebration of resurrection.

In the Hebrew Bible, Passover is a festival that commemorates the liberation of the Jewish people from slavery in Egypt. It was and continues to be the most important Jewish seasonal festival, celebrated on the first full moon after the vernal equinox. Similar to Passover, Easter falls on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the equinox.

Easter foods are also steeped in symbolism. An Easter dinner of lamb also has historical roots, since a lamb was often used as a sacrificial animal in Jewish traditions, and lamb is frequently served during Passover. The phrase “lamb of God” is sometimes used to refer to Jesus and the sacrificial nature of his death. Many American Easter dinners now feature ham instead, because of the timing of the holiday. Perhaps because, years ago, hams cured over the winter months and would have been ready to serve in the early spring.

SPEAKING OF TRADITIONS

The annual Easter Egg Hunt, sponsored by the Blanchard Grange, will be held on April 8 at the Grange. Watch for Flyers announcing the time!

MOTHER'S DAY AND FATHER'S DAY

JUST FOR THE KIDDOS

The Community Center is conducting FREE gift-making crafts classes for kids to make presents for their Moms and Dads. Save the afternoon of May 6 for the Mother's Day craft and June 10 for the Father's Day craft. Flyers with more information will be coming out soon! We will even help the kids wrap the gifts for their special parents.

"GO FUND ME" UP AND RUNNING

The Sarah Jones Scholarship Fundraising Luncheon is an annual event that focuses on raising funds for local students and/or adults who are pursuing their education beyond high school. The Scholarship is named after a young woman who had just received a scholarship from the Blanchard Community Center when she was struck by a drunken hit-and-run driver as she was walking on Blanchard Cutoff Rd. Eligible recipients can use funds for trade school expenses, college courses, books, and seminars related to the course of study. Monies that are granted will be sent directly to the school or training institution. It is our hope that the Scholarship Funds will be ample for our current high school seniors to know about before graduation! Please contribute soon so we can notify by end of April those students who will be awarded! You can connect through our website, our Facebook page or find the site at: <https://gofund.me/2896d0f9>

BLANCHARDIDAHO.NET

Have you visited the Blanchard Community Center website lately? Our website is packed full of useful information for the community. Check out the Calendar, the Activities page, click on the Join Us page to find out about becoming a member and all the great work the Community Center does. You can even rent the center for special events or meetings, click on Rent the Center. Like to read about local history? Go to the History page and step back in time. Go to the Sarah Jones Scholarship link to connect to GoFundMe donations.

While you are checking out the site, click on the [Contacts](#) section and you will see the Blanchard Grange #440 listed. Due to road reconfiguration, the Grange recently got a revised address: 459 Rusho Lane, Blanchard, Idaho.

