

FROM THE COMMANDER

10 APRIL 1987

LEGIONNAIRES,

Once again its' time to select leaders for the upcoming year. This meeting will be dedicated to the election of officers. If you have a desire to serve please be present at the upcoming meeting to make your wishes known.

We have had a very fruitful year overall and we can be justifiably proud of our accomplishments.

We were finally able to have a Thursday Night Executive Committee Meeting without a blizzard, it was a very productive meeting. We are on our way toward a future home and will be reporting our program at the upcoming meeting. We still need input from the membership at-large as to what our desires are relative to future endeavors. There is still a suit outstanding that hasn't been resolved, Therefore, we can't move too quickly until such time as its' over.

Bingo is going along real well and we can still use help if you can find time to do so. If there are those of you who feel you are being left out because we don't give an account of our Bingo earnings in general membership meetings; feel free to contact David Thomas - Bingo Chairman and he will gladly inform you of how we stand. We need unity most of all so please don't leave a meeting with unresolved questions.

Some of you may know and others may not know, I am running for Senior Vice Commander for the Department of Colorado at the upcoming Department Convention in Cortez, Colorado June 25-28 1987. I would greatly appreciate the support of any of you who can be in attendance at this function. I will elaborate further at the meeting on 16 April 1987. In the meantime we will be hosting the 4-Corners Beauty Pageant and Membership Drive here at the Clarion Hotel April 24-26 1987 and I would greatly appreciate all the help you can provide. We will have Legionnaires from New Mexico, Utah, Arizona, and throughout Colorado in attendance. We will need bartenders for the Hospitality Room, Drivers to take people around town and in general to welcome our guests. If you can help in any fashion please let me know at the meeting on April 16th.

Thank all of you for your support over the past year and the preceeding two years of my tenure as your Commander. I have tried to do things in a way to provide progress in our every

endeavor. It was only possible though the support you provided. I sincerely trust that you will provide the same support to your newly elected Commander.

I hope to see a full house at the meeting 16 April 1987 in the Rustic Hill Mall next door to the True Value Hardware Store at 7:00 P.M. sharp. Come out and support the Best Little Post in Colorado.

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

NEAL L. THOMAS, JR
COMMANDER

NATIONAL NEWS

PROPOSED LAW TO SCUTTLE VETERANS JOB ASSISTANCE

WASHINGTON (ALNS) - The American Legion is mustering legislative forces to counterattack legislative proposal which would end job assistance and training for veterans.

The Reagan administration has submitted legislative proposal to Congress to eliminate the federal requirement for a state Employment Service system, and would abolish the United States Employment Service at the national level.

The American Legion has been aware of such a proposal, even though the Department of labor denies such action. Last October, the Legion participated in a series of Labor Department hearing on the future of the ES, the results to be published in the Federal Register. Despite the Labor Department representation to the contrary, the report of the independent contractor hired to formulate the results of those hearings states clearly that "most respondents felt that the current ES system need finetuning, rather than an complete overhaul.

The administration proposal is part of the Trade, Employment, and Productivity Act of 1987. Under one section of this legislation-- the Employment Services act of 1987 - states would no longer be required to operate an ES, but merely to provide public employment services through whatever mechanism the governor designates. Moreover, Private industry Councils, which now oversee the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) program, would be granted monitoring and evaluating powers over such a program.

Federal financing would cease as of July 1, 1990.

HOUSE PANEL PROPOSES MORE VA FUNDS IN '88

WASHINGTON (ALNS) - The American Legion has praised action by the House Committee on Veterans Affairs to correct several inadequacies in the proposed Veterans Administration budget for Fiscal Year 1988.

In February the Congressional Committee recommended a budget with a \$716 million increase over that proposed by Office of Management and Budget. This increase includes \$246 million for VA health care, and a rejection of the increase for VA home loan users fee.

The Proposal also asked for \$50 million to continue the Veterans Job Training Act. Also within the plan is an increase to the State Veterans home per diem rates paid by VA to reimburse State Nursing Home Care.

Education secretary outlines two challenges facing nation

Washington (ALNS) - Secretary of Education, William J. Bennett said that there were two major challenges facing this nation. Number one is the Defense of Western Civilization and the second was to "Nurture and Protection of our children, and all else is small compared to those two". Mr Bennett said " I know of no other organization in this country whose aims are clearer, more significant, more important and with which I identify more".

"I am confident if we teach history to our students, they will come to the same conclusion that I know members of The American Legion have come to: that we are the last best hope on earth." he concluded.

FROM DISTRICT

During the District Seven, Executive Meeting, the following officers have be nominated:

OFFICE	OFFICER	POST
Commander	Larry Johnson	209
Sr Vice Commander	Gene Bowman	5
Jr Vice Commander	Harry Andrews	5
Department Executive Committeeman	Jim Chandler	38
Sgt-At-Arms	Thomas Bender	209
Finance Officer	Arthur Akell	13
Chaplain	Max Hoyer	209

The following office is still open:

Historian

Note: nominations will be accepted from the floor prior to elections of Officers on 17 May 1987 at Post 5.

LARRY L. JOHNSON
COMMANDER

FROM THE ADJUTANT

Centennial Post 209 continues to conduct their monthly meeting on the third Thursday of each month in the Rustic Hills South Shopping Center Community Room. The Community Room is located just down the inside hall from the True Value Hardware Store. Meetings will start at 7:00 P.M.. Everyone is invited to attend and bring a friend.

After a review of our records, the post has 25 members that need to be initiated into the American Legion. During the April 16th meeting we will conduct initiation for anyone from this group present.

Michael J. Mason
Neal Jones
C.J. Cates
Barry J. Mackin
Daniel Behr
William Littleton
Donnie Norris
Joseph Zedack Jr
William Harmuth

TioFilo Sandavol
Gary Horn
Stan Sharkey
Ellis Martin Jr
Willard Philbrick
Cecil Dixson
Fred McKedy
Howard C. Woolen

Leonard Pegues
Fred Cox
Francis Landry
Leon Anderson
Donald Caperton
Ryder Scobba
John M. Moore
Robert Brown

Post Installation Dinner - Installation of new elected post officers will be conducted at the Annual Installation Dinner. The Dinner will be held at the Air Force Academy NCO Club on 8 May 1987. Cocktails will start at 6:00. Those wishing to attend must call for reservations and placing their order for the dinner meal. The cost for Dinner will be \$15.00 for each person, the choice for dinner will be either 10 oz New York Steak or Chicken Cordon Bleu. Reservation can be made by calling either Neal Thomas at 392-1510 or 473-6220, Max Hoyer at 597-3498, Jim Reese at 591-8960, or Larry Johnson at 574-0646.

George Wood is still in the hospital at the University Medical Hospital in Denver. George, we all wish you well and hope that you have a speedy recovery.

FROM THE LADIES AUXILIARY

Ladies:

I was very pleased to hear you had a quorum at the March Auxiliary meeting and that the business of the American Legion Auxiliary was carried out as planned. We have many fine leaders in our unit. My husband gave me a trip to California to visit my grandbabies and I had a wonderful time. I will be at the April meeting with you, excited about the upcoming election.

On April 5, 1987 a beautiful Initiation Ceremony was held at the American Legion Post 5. The District 7 President Betty Andrews, presided over the ceremony and the Unit 5 members helped carry out a most stimulating ceremony. Most of the ladies from our Unit were there to receive their initiation and punch, coffee, and cake was enjoyed by everyone. We owe a great deal to the Unit 5 Auxiliary, they have been there for us from the very beginning. We missed those of you who were unable to be present.

Our Chaplain Flossie Reese turned 39 dozen cookies over to Florence Spiwak, Auxiliary Cookie Chairman for this area on March 29th. Florence sent the cookies to Ft. Lyons Veterans Hospital. A special "thanks" and a big "Welcome" to our unit goes out to Legionnaire Mabel White, a new Legionnaire in Post 209. She volunteered and presented the Unit with dozens of homemade cookies to be sent to Ft. Lyons. We appreciate you and I am proud of each of our unit members. We may be small in number but we are never "small" in giving!

It is imperative that as many members as can, come to the April 16th meeting. It is mandatory that we present a slate of new officers for the year 1987-88. These officers will be installed at our yearly Installation Banquet, which will be held on May 8th at the USAF Academy NCO Club. The installation officer for our Unit will be Past Department President Rose Skarin. Please lend your time and assistance to this Unit to keep it alive and growing, to allow it to carry out the needs and goals of the American Legion and Veterans Programs.

I can truly say I have enjoyed this year as your president and found it fulfilling as well as a challenge. I sincerely thank each of you for your efforts to me in behalf of the Unit. I will fully support the incoming President and help to make her year as productive and rewarding as my year has been. Experience as president is not required to fulfill this position. It is an ever changing situation and a learning process. Most of all don't be afraid to make mistakes, as "to err is human"! We still have openings for President, Secretary and Historian, let me encourage you to come out and fill these vacancies, the best place to start is in your own Unit. Unit 209 needs you, The American Legion needs you, most of all, THE VETERANS NEED YOU

They did not let us down during wartime, let's not let them down during peacetime.

See you at the meeting, third Thursday, April 16th at 7:00 P.M., Rustic Hills Mall Community Room.

A UNIT, UNDER GOD, FULFILLING A COMMITMENT

JUNE THOMAS
President

Legionnaires

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For God and Country

Near L. Thomas, Sr
Commander.