



Centennial Post 209

P.O. Box 15461

Colorado Springs, CO 80935

NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 1986

Legionnaires,

I realize that it's not Thanksgiving yet, but let's talk turkey!! We are all proud members of a great volunteer organization whereby we qualified for membership by virtue of dedicated and loyal service to our beloved nation during times of war. At the time we united with this noble organization we accepted and vowed to be guided by the Preamble to the Constitution of The American Legion. I would like to, at this time, refresh your memory.

For God and Country we associate ourselves together for the following purpose. To uphold and defend the constitution of the United States of America; To maintain law and order; To foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism; To preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in the great wars; To inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; To combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; To make right the master of might; To promote peace and good will on earth; To safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy, to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

This is indeed a masterful literary work of art that is full of meaning for those who choose to be guided by its wisdom.

Apparently, the zeal and fevor that wells up within me each time I carefully recite this preamble has not permeated the majority of this post's member's conscience; because, at our last regularly scheduled post meeting, on thursday July 17, 1986, we failed to have a quorum show up to conduct a business meeting. In view of this pathetic display of associating ourselves together; How can we possibly perform the remaining edicts of this preamble. I earnestly believe that if you were to carefully re-read the preamble, then read the newspaper or listen to the newscast; you would realize the necessity for unity of purpose. Nuff said -- see you at the August 21, 1986 meeting.

It was announced in our last newsletter that the first annual Centennial Post 209 American Legion Picnic would be held Saturday August 9, 1986 at Iron Horse Park #2 on Fort Carson. All Post members, families and guest are cordially invited to attend. This is a wonderful opportunity to get to know your fellow Legionnaires and their families. Why not invite that prospective Legionnaire you have been trying to recruit to join you at the Picnic. The Legion Family welcomes newcomers with open arms. See Ya at the PICNIC!!!

The next major event that we can make our presence felt is at the polls on August 12th. Get out and exercise your American right and VOTE!!

Make a note on your calendar on Sept 6, 1986 as this is Veterans Appreciation Day, Ft Lyons VA Medical Center. This is a gala, all day, carnival affair. If you possibly can, please plan to attend. More information will be forthcoming concerning car pooling down there. Let's work together, for success.

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

NEAL L. THOMAS, JR
Commander

SBA SOURCE OF VALUABLE HELP FOR VETERAN OWNED BUSINESSES:

Washington (ALNS) -- The Small Business Administration (SBA) should be retained as a Federal agency with its loan authority and veterans affairs office left intact, the American Legion has told congress.

In testimony before the House Committee on Small Business, Emil Naschinski, the Legion assistant director of economics, attacked the Reagan administration's recent efforts to dismantle SBA and transfer many of its programs to the Department of Commerce. The Legion's opposition to such a move comes from the absence of any provision for the continuation of the veterans affairs office of SBA.

"Where are veterans to turn for technical assistance?" Naschinski asked.

The road to a veteran assistance program at the SBA has been a long and difficult one. The veterans small business loan program which was administered by the veteran's administration after World War II, was transferred to the SBA when the agency was created in 1953. Despite the passage of a 1974 law mandating the SBA to provide "special consideration to veterans," little was done until 1980 to promote the agency's veterans programs.

Naschinski reminded the committee that since 1981 the SBA has shown a continued commitment to veterans and its responsibilities under the law. In 1980 veterans received 12 percent of all SBA loan dollars. By 1985 the figure was up to 27 percent.

The administration plans to scrap the agency, the resignation of its chief, and the appointment of Charles Heatherly, who seems intent on dismantling SBA even without congressional authorization, have all worked to imperil the progress in small business technical assistance for veterans.

The Legion's testimony urged the committee's members to continue to look out for the special consideration veterans have received in the past, and to provide for continued assistance for veterans who seek to start a business.

ADMINISTRATION ABANDONS PLANS TO SCUTTLE SBA

Washington (ALNS) -- The Reagan administration has announced that it will no longer seek the dismantling of the Small Business Administration (SBA) as a separate federal agency. The American Legion along with other groups had opposed the effort to fold many SBA programs into the Department of Commerce.

As recent as the May meeting of the National Executive Committee, the Legion had called for continuation of SBA and its office of veterans affairs.

However, the administration is still seeking to sell the SBA's loan portfolio to the private sector, a move which meets with Legion opposition.

"Selling the loans is not a good idea," said Dennis K. Rhoades, the Legion's director of Economics. "We are skeptical about any effort to sell government loan portfolios after the chaos brought about by selling the VAs hom loans. The VA Home Loan program nearly collapsed after the government dumped its loan portfolio. We cannot sit back and watch the same thing happen to the SBA program."

The SBA administers many loan program, including those which target veterans specifically as a special category for assistance.

POST PICNIC

The American Legion, Centennial Post #209 picnic scheduled for 9 August 1986 is in the final stages. All arrangements are about to be finalized. We still need to know about how many will be attending. Give George Wood, 574-0339 a call and let him know if you will be attending and how many will be in your group. Remember the picnic is for all members and guests. As things stand now we plan to start at about 10 A.M. and go to about 7 P.M. The attached map will show you how to get to the Iron Horse picnic ground on Fort Carson. There will be lots of food and games for all ages. An outing well worth your time, and a break before you start that Back to School shopping. If you have any questions on how to get to the picnic grounds feel free to contact Larry Johnson (Big John) for directions. His number is 574-0646.

FILES UPDATE

We are currently trying to update our Personnel Files, but we can't do it without your help. We are asking all members to furnish the following information to the Post Adjutant, George Wood, 6490 Palmer Park Blvd, Colorado Springs, Co, 80915.

NAME: (Include all Nicknames)
SPOUCE: (First and all Nicknames)
BIRTHDATE:
BRANCH OF SERVICE: (Would like a copy of DD 214)
CHILDREN: (Name and age)
TELEPHONE:
OCCUPATION:

This information falls under the Privacy Act of 1974 and will be kept confidential.

NEWSLETTER

As most of you know, we try to publish a post newsletter each month. The materials published are received from the American Legion News Service, The Veterans Administration, Disabled American Veterans, plus local veteran organizations.

It is quite a job to sort thru the material and come up with those items that would be of interest to our post members. The best way I know is to ask you, our members what do you want in our newsletter. Please send any suggestions and topics you want to know about. It has been suggested that we start a classified add section. What do you think. Please send any suggestions or articles to George Wood, 6490 Palmer Park Blvd, Colorado Springs, Co 80915, or give me a call at 574-0339.

Along the same lines, there are a lot of members who own there own business. In an effort to make the newsletter self supporting we would like to advertise your business in our newsletter. This will help post members to help there own and to help defray the cost of publishing the newsletter. At present it cost approximately \$125.00 to print and mail our newsletter. If you would like to have your business card published and help both of us, mail your cards to George at the above address. The cost would only be \$2.50 per month.

MEMBERSHIP

Commander Thomas has expressed the desire for a permanent post home. To do this we need everyone's help. New members can provide additional funds to meet this goal. We are including applications for the American Legion and our formed Auxillary in this newsletter. We are very hopeful that each member will recruit a new member whether it be for Post 209 or the auxillary. Lets help Commander Thomas accomplish his goal for a post home. Remember Dues for Post 209 are \$20 per year and \$10 for the auxillary.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

Tuesday nite is our only source of income at the present time. However we need help. If you can spare a couple of hours of your

AUXILIARY CORNER

Ladies:

The American Legion picnic is August 9th, Saturday, please RSVP to Margery Johnson at 574-0646 so that we will have some idea of the amount of food needed. There will be lots of good food and drinks, we are asking that each family bring your favorite dessert to share.

We missed those who did not make the last meeting; however, we had a very good turn-out. It was decided to have a raffle the first Tuesday in each month during the Post 209 Bingo games, at the Retired Enlisted Association Club at Emory Circle. Bingo begins at 7:00 p.m. and tickets will be sold until the raffle begins. A beautiful and colorful afghan has been donated for the month of August. We encourage everyone to participate in this endeavor. Please contact our Secretary, Virginia Bradford @ 596-9056; Treasurer, Margery Johnson @ 574-0646; or Vice-President, Ruth Hornik @ 596-6345, Chairman of Projects, who will return your call and schedule a time to pick-up your project. Plan to work on Christmas items to raffle off and to donate to Department for Mid-Winter Conference, which will be at the Clarion Hotel, October 31 - November 2nd.

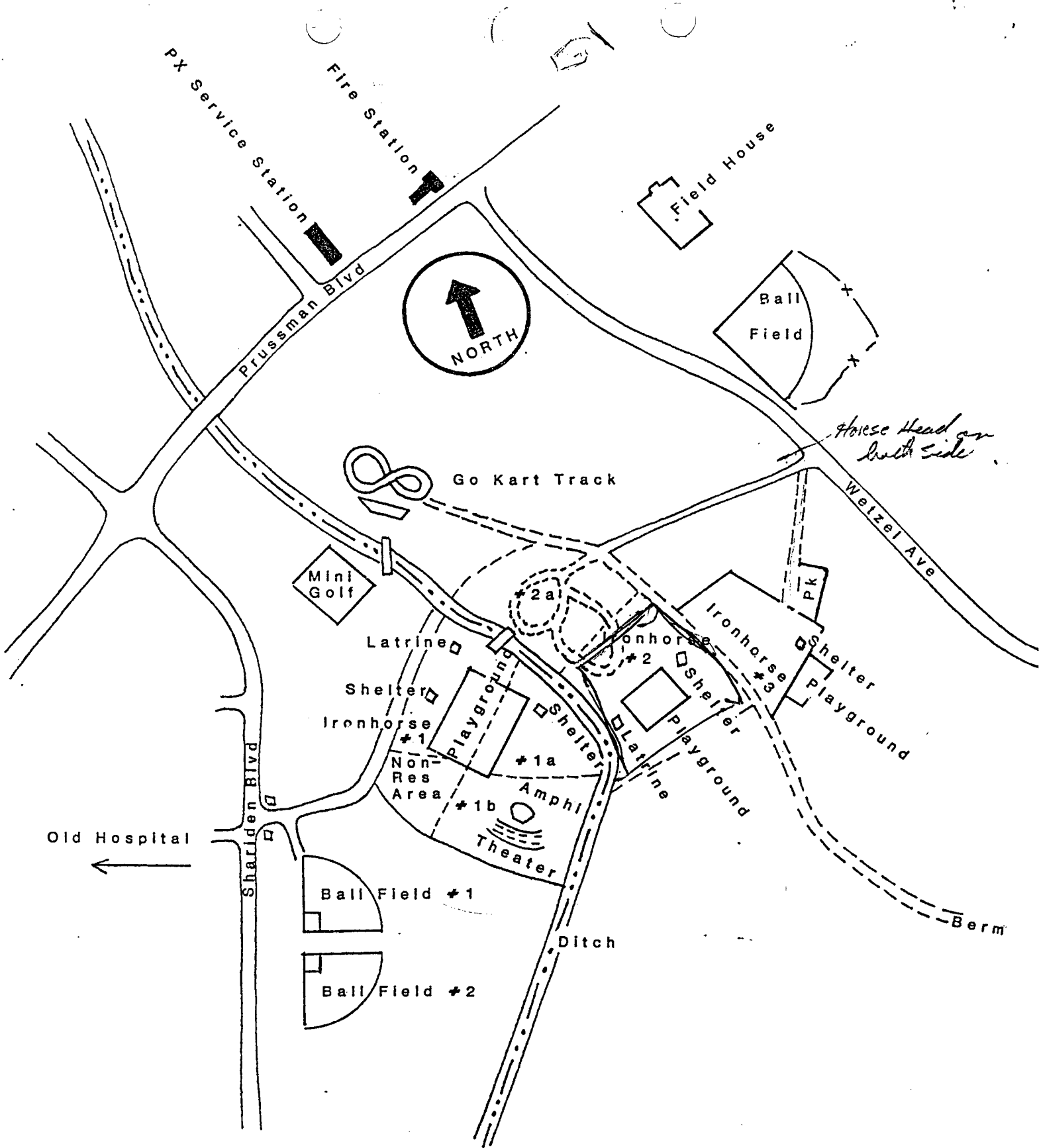
These raffles are conducted as a means to build our treasury so that we may be able to fulfill our commitments to District and Department Auxiliary. Those commitments are to aid veterans and their families and support children and youth programs. Won't you help us?

We are starting a Junior Auxiliary and are pleased to have some nice young ladies. We are looking forward to their help during the May Poppy Sales. If you have a granddaughter less than 18 years old, we would love to have her participate.

Remember our meetings are the 3rd Thursday of each month, seven o'clock, at the Rustic Hills Mall (far end of mall, near Cook Sporting Goods Store) Come out with your spouse and share your expertise with us. We need you!! Don't let our veteran and their families down now! They have given so much and continue to lose their hard earned benefits. Join us in the fight for survival of medical facilities, etc. We will be there all too soon!

A Unit, Under God Fulfilling a Commitment.

June Thomas
President



IRONHORSE PARKS

time Tuesday nite we would be better able to serve those who participate in our weekly activity. Please contact Dave Thomas at 392-1036 and help support your American Legion Post.

Record of
Payment of Dues
& Membership Application

The American Legion

\$ _____ Dues

Date _____, 19____

Name _____
Street Address _____ Phone _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Dues Received By _____
NEW Member () Reinstatement () Renewal ()

Section at right must be completed for NEW members.
(Date of Enlistment) (Branch of Service) (Service Serial No.)
(Date of Separation) (Character of Separation) (Date of Birth)
Social Security No. (Optional) _____

Occupation _____ Blood Type _____ Can you donate? _____
I do not subscribe to the principles of any group opposed to our form of government. I certify that I did not refuse on conscientious, political, or other grounds to subject myself to military discipline or unqualified service during the period I was in the Armed Forces of the United States.

(Signature of Applicant for Membership)
(This form together with dues should be delivered promptly to Post Adjutant or Post Finance Officer.)
Form 13-009 (1980)

RECEIPT
(Issue on receipt of dues)



Received of _____ \$ _____ in payment of dues for 19____ in Post No. _____
DATE _____, 19____

By _____
Your official American Legion Membership Card will be forwarded to you promptly by your Post Adjutant.
You are eligible for membership if you have an honorable separation showing active military service at any time during one of the following periods: Apr. 6, 1917, to Nov. 11, 1918; or Dec. 7, 1941, to Dec. 31, 1946; or June 25, 1950, to Jan. 31, 1955; or Dec. 22, 1961, to May 7, 1975. You are also eligible if you are still on active duty but had honorable service during one of the above periods.



American Legion Auxiliary
APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Department _____ (Applicant's name, Example: Mary Brown, NOT Mrs. John Brown) _____
Unit Name and Number _____ Street Address _____
Mailing Address (if not the same) _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Number _____

Please fill out ONE of the two categories below:

1. MY ELIGIBILITY is through the military service of _____
Name _____ Date of Service From _____ to _____
(Month-Day-Year)
who is my _____ (state relationship — Father, Husband, Son, Brother, Grandfather)
and is a member of _____ Post No. _____ The American Legion at _____
OR _____ City and State
If the veteran is deceased: _____ at _____
Date of death _____ City and State _____
Serial Number _____ Date of Birth _____
If Junior Member, give date of birth. _____

2. I AM ELIGIBLE FOR MEMBERSHIP THROUGH MY OWN SERVICE from _____ to _____ and my Serial Number was _____
Date _____ Date _____

"I DO PLEDGE THAT I AM NOT A MEMBER OF AND DO NOT SUBSCRIBE TO THE PRINCIPLES OF ANY GROUPS OPPOSED TO OUR FORM OF GOVERNMENT."

Signature of Applicant _____ Date of Signature _____
Certification: Post Adjutant: _____ Unit Secretary: _____
(For Item 1) (For Item 2)

White copy — National Record
Yellow copy — Department Record
Pink copy — Unit record

Department or National Headquarters will not accept application written in pencil
PLEASE USE TYPEWRITER IF POSSIBLE

Commander's Oration

Legionnaires,

I REALIZE THAT IT'S NOT THANKSGIVING YET, BUT LET'S FALK TURKEY!! WE ARE ALL PROUD MEMBERS OF A GREAT VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION WHEREBY WE QUALIFIED FOR MEMBERSHIP BY VIRTUE OF DEDICATED AND LOYAL SERVICE TO OUR BELOVED NATION DURING TIMES OF WAR. AT THE TIME WE UNITED WITH THIS NOBLE ORGANIZATION WE ACCEPTED AND VOWED TO BE GUIDED BY THE PREAMBLE TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE AMERICAN LEGION. I WOULD LIKE TO, AT THIS TIME, REFRESH YOUR MEMORY.

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY WE ASSOCIATE OURSELVES TOGETHER FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES. TO UPHOLD AND DEFEND THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; TO MAINTAIN LAW AND ORDER; TO FOSTER AND PERPETUATE A ONE HUNDRED PERCENT AMERICANISM; TO PRESERVE THE MEMORIES AND INCIDENTS OF OUR ASSOCIATIONS IN THE GREAT WARS; TO INCULCATE A SENSE OF INDIVIDUAL OBLIGATION TO THE COMMUNITY, STATE AND NATION; TO COMBAT THE AUTOCRACY OF BOTH THE CLASSES AND THE MASSES; TO MAKE RIGHT THE MASTER OF MIGHT; TO PROMOTE PEACE AND GOOD WILL ON EARTH; TO SAFEGUARD AND TRANSMIT TO POSTERITY THE PRINCIPLES OF JUSTICE, FREEDOM, AND DEMOCRACY; TO CONSECRATE AND SANCTIFY OUR COMRADESHIP BY OUR DEVOTION TO MUTUAL HELPFULNESS.

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Legionnaires you have been trying to recruit
to join you at the picnic. The Legion Family
Welcomes newcomers with open arms. SEE YA
AT THE PICNIC!!!

THE NEXT MAJOR EVENT THAT WE CAN MAKE
OUR PRESENCE FELT IS AT THE POLLS ON
AUGUST 12TH. GET OUT AND EXERCISE
YOUR AMERICAN RIGHT AND VOTE!!

MAKE A NOTE ON YOUR CALENDAR ON
SEPT 6, 1986 AS THIS IS VETERAN'S APPRECIATION
DAY FT. LYONS VA MEDICAL CENTER. THIS IS
A GALA, ALL DAY, CARNIVAL AFFAIR. IF
YOU POSSIBLY CAN, PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND.
MORE INFORMATION WILL BE FORTHCOMING
CONCERNING CAR POOLING DOWN THERE.

LET'S WORK TOGETHER, FOR SUCCESS

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

NEAL L. THOMAS, JR
COMMANDER

SBA Source of Valuable help for Veteran-owned Businesses

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File Update:

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Name: (include all nicknames)

Spouse (first, and all nicknames)

Birth Date:

Branch of Service (would like a copy of DD214)

children:

Telephone:

Business:

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