

CENTENNIAL POST 209

THE AMERICAN LEGION

AUGUST 1996



Fort Lyon trip this year will be on September 7. We will leave the Post Home (4291 Austin Bluffs Parkway) at 7:00 A.M., and will stop at Rocky Ford to refresh and purchase fruit and vegetables. We will arrive about 11:00, have lunch at 11:45 and after lunch we set up the booth for patients' visits. They start coming by about 1:00 P.M. There are about 125 patients at Fort Lyon. We will take down the flags and dismantle booths about 3:30 and go up the road for a picnic before starting back.

Now is the time to clean out your closets as we need all usable clothing, shoes (men and ladies) and books, video movies to take with us for patient use.

For many of our comrades, this is the end of the line. They have no place to take care of them and no money. They are dependent on your help. Don't let them down.



Post 209 sponsors two baseball teams, Mitchell and Doherty High School "B" teams. Both won their respective

league championship. Mitchell played in the Jim Layton tournament in Garden City, Kansas. They have a beautiful trophy to show for their effort. Doherty played in the tournament in Denver this week.



The primary elections will be August 13, so one more time I encourage each member to get out and vote.

This is very important because you determine who will be running for office later this fall. We simply must get people into office who will not vote against Veterans Benefits as many of the presently elected politicians have done.

The picnic will be August 31st on our property. We will start about 11:00 A.M. and serve around noon. This is your chance to come and see where our new Post Home will be built. Come out and enjoy the good food and fellowship with your fellow comrades. Bring your own plates, silverware and your favorite dish (enough to serve six) to go with the meat, bread, drinks and condiments furnished by the Post.

Plan now to attend the annual Christmas The Christmas Party will be on Sunday, December 15 at 430 E. Pikes Peak Avenue (VFW Post 4051). Party.

Membership renewals have been coming in very well in the last few weeks...keep up the good work. We need everyone to renew this year and about 150 new

OFFICERS

COMMANDER	HARRY JOHNSON
SR VICE COMMANDER	HARRY McFADDEN
JR VICE COMMANDER	JEFF NEW
ADJUTANT	ANN FOSTER
FINANCE OFFICER	LARRY JOHNSON
HISTORIAN	
SGT AT ARMS	ROBERT MYNATT
CHAPLAIN	HOWARD HORNIK
JUDGE ADVOCATE	WALLY LONSINGER
SERVICE OFFICER	
EXEC COMMITTEEMAN	NEAL THOMAS

DUES \$25.00

AUXILIARY OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	BARBARA JOHNSON
1ST VICE PRESIDENT	
2ND VICE PRESIDENT	
SECRETARY/TREASURER	DOT DASSERO
HISTORIAN	
CHAPLAIN	MARCIA SHELLHAMMER
SGT AT ARMS	RUTH HORNIK

DUES \$12.00

MEETINGS

3RD THURSDAY 7:00 P.M.
DAV POST #26 PALMER PARK & PETERSON RD.

EDITOR

DOROTHY DASSERO, NALPA

OFFICE

4291 AUSTIN BLUFFS PKY STE 104
COLORADO SPCS CO 80918-2944
MAILING ADDRESS
P. O. BOX 28974 - 80986-3974

MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY

WORLD WAR I
APR 6, 1917 - NOV 11, 1918
WORLD WAR II
DEC 7, 1941 - DEC 31, 1946
KOREAN WAR
JUN 25, 1950 - JAN 31, 1948
VIETNAM WAR
DEC 22, 1961 - MAY 7, 1975
GRENADA & LEBANON
AUG 24, 1982 - JUL 31 1984
PANAMA
DEC 20, 1989 - JAN 31, 1990
PERSIAN GULF
AUG 2, 1990 UNTIL THE
END OF HOSTILITIES

members. We expect a lot of new members when we start construction on the new Post Home, especially in the area around the site. We are looking forward to having our own Post Home so we can have even more social events than we are able to now.

The membership meeting in August will be on the 15th, at the DAV building, corner of Peterson Road and Palmer Park. The meeting will start at 7:00 P.M. We will not have a potluck this month.

Our new Sgt-at-Arms is Robert Mynatt. Robert is an active duty soldier and agreed to take the job when asked to do so. We need more members like Robert to be not just card carrying members but who will step forward and help the Post prosper.

The Executive meeting will be on August 7 at the Post Home. All members are invited to attend all meetings of Post 209

Remember If you don't do it,
it won't get done.

ADJUTANT ANNOTATIONS - ANN FOSTER



Congratulations to the 132 members who have already renewed for 1997! You qualify for the Early Bird Dinner which will be held at a date, time and place to be announced later this fall. Maybe the rest of you would

like to earn your spot for this event by sending in your dues now.

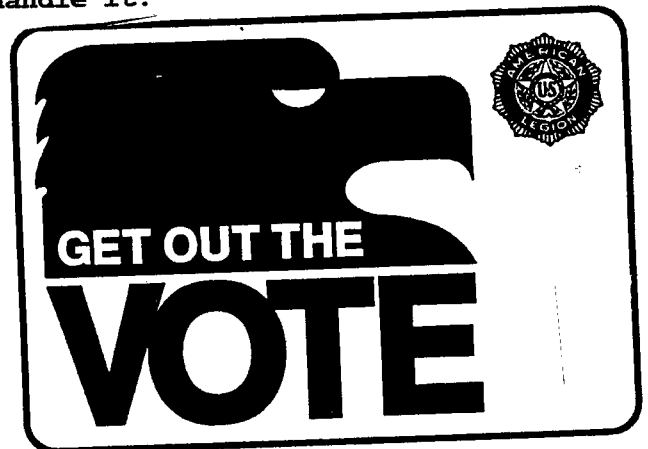
If you are not reading the commentary called "Military Update" in Section B of the Gazette Telegraph on Saturdays, I encourage you to do so. It is written by Tom Philpott and almost always has information of value to the military community.

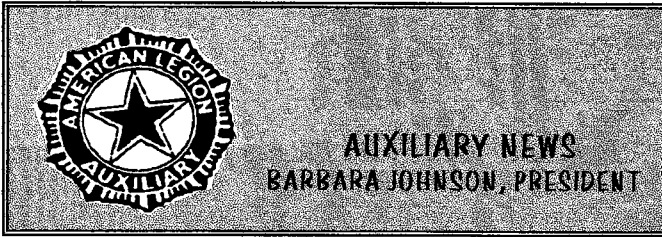
On July 13, the topic was military subvention, a plan to provide Medicare reimbursement to military hospitals for care provided to service beneficiaries 65 and older, who otherwise might be forced to turn to civilian physicians and Medicare at a higher cost. There is a possibility of a test of this concept, if our congressional representatives and the President can be encouraged to see the wisdom of such a plan. Senator Gramm had proposed an amendment to the 1997 defense authorization bill to allow a test starting in January. The following sentences are excerpts from Mr. Philpott's article: "However, Senators defeated the amendment out of fear it would raise the federal deficit! The Congressional budget office estimates that even a test could add \$200 million or more to government red ink next year!" Proponents of subvention, including top defense officials, say it actually will save Medicare dollars because the military system can deliver care more efficiently than civilian providers.

They can't prove that argument, however, without a test.

To keep the issue alive, Gramm proposed a second amendment to have the Pentagon and Health Care Financing Administration, keeper of the Medicare trust fund, explain in detail by September 6 how they would test subvention without cost to taxpayers. The Senate approved this one. Gramm said, "Once he has the plan, he will meet with military retiree groups to get their assessment and then they'll decide whether to move ahead with that."

Congress adjourns in early October so now is the time to press for support for a test before they leave. This is what The American Legion is all about as far as trying to help us maintain some kind of benefits as promised to us. This is why membership, communicating with our representatives and voting this fall are so very important! A representative democracy means we elect people to represent us and vote people out of office who do not represent us. In other words, we do not have to sit around doing nothing because we don't like what they are doing. We can take action to do something about what we don't like. If we do nothing, then we forfeit any chance to make viable changes in the future. We simply cannot afford that so please, plan to let your representatives know what we need, why, and that we will vote for others if they cannot handle it.





AUXILIARY NEWS
 BARBARA JOHNSON, PRESIDENT

On Saturday, July 27, I attended a flag disposal ceremony put on by American Legion Post 38. Our Post had several flags which needed to be disposed of properly. This is always an impressive ceremony and our flags are properly disposed of.

I also attended the Birthday Party for our Veterans who have birthdays in July at the Florence Nursing Home. We always refer to it as the Florence Nursing Home but it really is Colorado State Veterans Nursing Home. Our Auxiliary provides the money and our Chairman, Florence Spiewak buys the gifts and cakes, plus bowls, spoons and napkins. Florence always does a good job and we appreciate it as it takes a lot of time and effort on her part.

I do hope you will try and make our August 15th meeting. We will not have a potluck this month as the Post is asking us to bring a dish to the picnic on August 31.

Come and join in the fun and good food. Each family is asked to bring a dish of their choice, enough to feed six. The Post will furnish meat, bread, beer and soda, etc. Bring your own chairs, plates and silver and come to the Post Home property (Austin Bluffs at Old Farm Road) for a fun time.



ACTIVITIES AND OTHER SIMILAR STUFF

Executive Meeting - August 7, 6:30 P.M.

Regular Meeting - August 15 - 7:00 P.M.
 - no potluck.

Annual Picnic - August 31 - 11:00 A.M.
 - Eat 12:00 P.M.

Ft Lyon All Patients Day - September 7
 - Leave the Post's office 7:00 A.M.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Visiting Nurse Association is asking for volunteers to assist with the Flu Clinics held around the city in various grocery stores, drug stores, places of business, etc. The Clinics run from October 1 through December 2, hours 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. (1 hour to 4 hours).

If you can volunteer some time, call Kim at 577-4448. (If you do volunteer, please let us know as this falls under our Community Service Program and is included in our reports at the end of our Auxiliary year.)

Volunteers are needed at the Friday night Bingo sessions held at the TREA Building. If you can give a few hours of your time, call Larry Johnson. He'll be glad to have your help. The building of our new Post Home depends on Bingo profits. You will enjoy having the Post Home, can't you help make it possible?