

THE AMERICAN LEGION – CENTENNIAL POST 209
P.O.Box 25334, Colorado Springs, CO 80936-5334
719-599-8624

AUGUST 2004 – NEWSLETTER

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AUGUST 15, 2004 12:00 PM-UNTIL

Officers Comments

COMMANDER-Bill Marshall

Consumer Alert

I just received my credit card bill and noticed a charge that I could not possibly have made. It was to a car dealer in Ohio and I have not been through there in over a year. When I called the card company, its records showed the card was presented and swiped. This was impossible, because I have not lost a card and had mine in my hand. I pointed out to the representative that the transaction just above it was for the same date in Colorado Springs, so how could I be 1000 miles away on that date also? It was very interesting. I did not receive a statement last month and assumed it was lost in the mail. WRONG. For you my fellow Legionnaires, check your bills, and if for some reason you do not receive a statement, don't assume it was lost in the mail. Call and ask for a new statement and check it closely. If there is a dispute, CANCEL the card immediately, and you can have a new one in 5-8 working days. Yes, it does happen and not always to the other person, I know. Lastly, if you have not thought about it, get a shredder. They do not cost an arm and a leg, and just might save you headaches. I just purchased one.

Congratulations

SSgt. Catherin Lammon, USAF, 50th Operations Group, Schriever AFB, has been selected as the recipient of The American Legion National Headquarters, 2004 Spirit of Service Award. The award annually recognizes an outstanding performer from each branch of the Armed Forces for his or her volunteer off-duty service to the local community. SSgt. Lammon and her husband Robert will attend The National Convention in Nashville in August as guests of The American Legion. Centennial-Post 209 was very honored to have them as our guests at the July general membership meeting, where each was presented with a membership in The American Legion. In addition, I will meet with them at the convention as a familiar face from home.

Membership

WOW. "Great Balls of Fire." We are rockin' and rollin'. As of this newsletter, membership is already at 48% with renewals, transfers and new members, and we are just getting started for 2005. However, do not let this give you a false feeling that we are way ahead of the

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game. As in the past, there is always an early rush to get memberships in, and then it slows to a snail's pace until the last minute next spring. I would encourage you not to put it on the back burner, but rather to get your renewal in as soon as possible. Our Post membership for 2004 was 287, up just two from 2003. There were a few, who I am sure for any number of reasons, did not renew this past year. If you did not renew last year, I would strongly urge you to do so this year, and if possible, for 2004 also, and not lose your consecutive years. Not only does your membership help make the Legion strong, it helps the Post continue with our programs -- Boys State, Oratorical, Jr. Shooting, baseball and Scouts, to name a few. However, there is one thing I want you to always REMEMBER, you are a veteran and not just a number, and Legion member or not, Post 209 will always be here to help you in any way we can. "VETERANS HELPING VETERANS."

Clean-up

We will have to do another cleanup before the PICNIC. The Saturday before would be a great day to get out and exercise, 8:00am, August 7. The more hands we have the faster it will go and I will have drinks and maybe a Krispy Kreme or 2, so please come and help.

Thank You and Well Done

Jimmy Pohlod is a senior at Lewis-Palmer High School and working on his Eagle Scout Rank. On July 24, 2004, he and 20 other scouts and adults worked on an 1895 home purchased by the Colorado Veterans Resource Coalition. They were patching walls, painting, rebuilding closets, putting in new light fixtures and completely furnishing the two bedrooms. When the project is completed, two veterans can move in and be off the streets. His mother is a Vietnam era veteran and a member of Post 209. Fortunately we had a generous donor from the Post and were able to help financially with the project. Jimmy expects to receive his Eagle Rank by late October and Post 209 will be represented at the ceremony.

U.S. Submariners

The Submariners Memorial Dedication is August 14, 2004, 10:30 AM, Ring of Valor, Memorial Park. I am unable to attend because of the National Jr. Shooting Championship at The Olympic Training Center. However, I would appreciate having any members who could please attend this ceremony in honor of "The Silent Service."

JR. VICE COMMANDER – W. W. Bandler

Post 209 will hold its annual picnic on August 15th starting at 12:00 pm and continuing until we all decide to go home, weather permitting. It will be held on Post 209's property at Austin Bluffs Parkway and Old Farm Drive. Larry Johnson will bring his grill, so bring your hot dogs or hamburgers. Also bring a lawn chair and a covered dish or two to share, plus cold drinks. We hope to have something for shade.

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A reminder and update on our Christmas luncheon--it will be at the Country Buffet, 7665 N. Academy, next to Best Buy, on December 18th, from 11:30 am until 2:30 pm. It will cost \$6.37 per person, all-inclusive. Tell the cashier that you are with the American Legion. We have a room reserved. Our Chaplain will have the tables decorated with door prizes.

ADJUTANT - Ann Foster

To supplement the Commander's paragraph on Membership we are moving right along towards our goal of 285 for 2005. We have 137 and need only six more for 50%. While the processing of memberships is not difficult, it is detail-oriented and time consuming. Since we have much work ahead of us this year, getting your renewals in sooner rather than later would be very helpful. Many, many thanks to those who have already taken care of this as it does indeed help all levels of The American Legion.

There is a Legion group in Arvada CO that started the Pocket Flag Project to help support our troops overseas. Scout groups make little folded pocket flags that a military member can carry in his/her pocket to remind them of their country and the support from back home. To help raise money for this project a Pocket Flag Pin has been made to sell at \$5.00 a piece. I have taken 25 of them on consignment and I will have them available at the picnic and future meetings. So, bring your \$5.00 with you and let's see how quickly we can raise the money to buy me off. If you are interested in more information about this project, they have a web site at:
<http://www.pocketflagproject.com/>.

Cub Pack 24: Popcorn sales will be starting in September. The particulars are not available just yet, but be ready to help out our Pack as this money goes a long way towards the needs of the boys for the coming year. We hope to have much more information at the September meeting.

Programs Supported by Post 209

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| -Service to Veterans | -Pikes Peak Veterans Council |
| -Veterans Day Parade | -Scouting |
| -Boy's State | -Jr. ROTC |
| -Crawford House for Homeless Veterans | -Jr. Shooting Program |
| - Stand-Down for Homeless Veterans | -Oratorical Contest |

Coming Events

- 7 August-Property clean-up
- 12 August-JR. Shooting Championship starts at Olympic Training Center
- 13 August-National Commander Comes to town, reception Post 5, 5:30 pm
- 15 August-PICNIC at the property, 12:00 pm
- 21 August-POW/MIA Rally Cripple Creek
- 27 August-National Convention convenes in Nashville

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2004-2005 Ad Hoc Committees

Constitution and Bylaws – Neal Thomas, 719-392-1510

Property Inventory

-Office – Ann Foster, 719-599-8624

-Storage Unit – Larry Johnson, 719-622-0344

Auxiliary Liaison – Bill Marshall, 719-495-0088

Sons of the American Legion – Larry Johnson, 719-622-0344

2004-2005 Board of Trustees

Chairman – Neal Thomas

Secretary – Alton Cyriaque

Finance Officer – Norm Moyer

Commander – Bill Marshall

Member (3yr) – Alton Cyriaque

Member (3yr) – Chuck Zeitvogel

Member (2yr) – Ann Foster

Member (1yr) – Neal Thomas

Member (1yr) – Larry Johnson

2004-2005 Meetings

Post Executive Committee meets 1st

Thursday of the month at 4291 Austin Bluffs Pkwy., Ste. 104, at 6:00 p.m.

Board of Trustees meets 1st Thursday of the month at 4291 Austin Bluffs Pkwy., Ste. 104 immediately following Post Executive Committee Meeting.

2004-2005 Post 209 Officers/Executive Committee	
Commander	Bill Marshall
Sr. Vice Commander	Greg Andries
Jr. Vice Commander	W.W. Bandler
Adjutant	Ann Foster
Finance Officer	Norm Moyer
Historian	Penny Marshall
Sergeant-at-Arms	Robert Rydell
Chaplain	Mario Taracena
Judge Advocate	Larry Johnson
Service Officer	Tom Morant
Post Ex. Committeeman	Neal Thomas
Past Commander	Chuck Zeitvogel
2004-2005 Auxiliary Unit	
President	Dot Dassero
Secretary/Treasurer	Barbara Johnson
Chaplain	Open
Sergeant-at-Arms	Open

Calendars

August 2004						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5 Exec. Com/Board Trustees mtg.	6	7
8	9	10	11	12 Legion Baseball Tournament, Greeley, Jr. Shooting Championships, Colo. Spgs.	13 National Commander visit. Reception Post 5, 5:30- 7:00 pm	14
15 Picnic at the Property. 12:00PM	16	17	18	19	20 Newsletter Items Due	21 POW/MIA Rally, Cripple Creek
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

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September 2004						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7 Reservations for Breakfast Due. \$6	8	9 Executive Committee/Board of Trustees Meeting	10	11 Post 209 Gen. Membership Mtng, TREA, 10 a.m., Breakfast, 9 a.m. Special guest speaker.
12	13	14	15	16	17 Newsletter Items Due	18 Pueblo VA Nursing Home, All patients' activity day
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 Post 5 meet the candidates 4:00pm
26	27	28	29	30		