



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF
CENTENNIAL POST 209

1337 N. ACADEMY BLVD
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80909
719-591-2272



"A LITTLE POST GOING PLACES AND DOING BIG THINGS"

DECEMBER 1992

COMMANDER FLOYD BUFKIN

In last month's newsletter, I wrote about the recent developments in resolving the POW/MIA issue. Some of you may wonder why this is such an important issue. Please read this letter from the son of an MIA and you will understand why this issue raises such deep feelings in so many people.

I Miss You, Dad

I find each day that I go on that I miss you, Dad, more than I could ever have imagined. I still laugh and am busied by life's demands but the emptiness I feel is always there when I am alone or when I see another father with his child at play.

I miss your taking me to the ballgames on Saturdays and your wiping the mustard from my face after the many hot dogs I got you to buy for me. I missed the look of approval on your face after I hit the homerun two years ago in my Babe Ruth playoff game. You would have enjoyed it, Dad.

I miss you at night when I notice that Mom is again crying herself to sleep even after all the years.

Her tears stain the pillow case where you should be resting, but to her, as with me, the tears only dampen the case and not the memories. She still loves you very much, Dad, I know.

I missed you trying to care for me when the bully down the street gave me a bloody nose four years ago because I caught him out playing kickball. The pep talk I needed and your encouragement to defend myself, they too were missed.

You know, Dad, I would have listened to you when you told me about girls and then grounded me because I didn't pay attention and was late coming home from the movies. I missed not having a good excuse for Brenda's Dad too. You could have told me to have a flat!

POST OFFICERS

COMMANDER	FLOYD BUFKIN
SR VICE COMMANDER	AL CYRIAQUE
JR VICE COMMANDER	GEORGE CARNES
ADJUTANT	ANN FOSTER
FINANCE OFFICER	HARRY JOHNSON
HISTORIAN	
SGT-AT-ARMS	AL LENDER
CHAPLAIN	TOM HABAN
JUDGE ADVOCATE	LARRY JOHNSON
SERVICE OFFICER	TED RIDDLE
EXEC COMMITTEEMAN	NEAL THOMAS

DUES \$20.00

MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY

World War I
Apr 6, 1917 - Nov 11, 1918
World War II
Dec 7, 1941 - Dec 31, 1946
Korean War
June 25, 1950 - Jan 31, 1955
Vietnam War
Dec 22, 1961 - May 7, 1975
Granada & Lebanon
Aug 24, 1982 - July 31, 1984
Panama
Dec 20, 1989 - Jan 31, 1990
Persian Gulf
Aug 2, 1990 till end of hostilities

AUXILIARY OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	BARBARA JOHNSON
1ST VICE PRESIDENT	DOROTHY DASSERO
2ND VICE PRESIDENT	LOIS EGNOR
SECRETARY	NANCY HART
CORR SECRETARY	ALICE HART
TREASURER	IREANA CAMPBELL
HISTORIAN	NEDRA MARKETTO
CHAPLAIN	MARCIA SHELLHAMMER
SGT-AT-ARMS	COLLETTE PRICE

DUES \$12.00

MEETINGS

3RD THURSDAY - 7:00 p.m.

POTLUCK DINNER - 6:00 p.m.

EDITORS

DOROTHY DASSERO
LARRY JOHNSON

I missed your help on my Algebra homework and Biology tests. The way you would have let me fend for myself until I became red and then talk me through the problems. You wanted me to be self-dependent and strong. I am, Dad, but still lonely without you. I know I am not the only child that still looks to an empty driveway when it is time for a father to come home but I still do. I miss the hug and "Hi, Tiger" when you walk through the door. I haven't stopped watching for you, Dad.

Your picture over the mantel is in a worn frame now because of Mom's tender embrace over the years and her not being willing or able to let you go. Her pain is much greater than any of ours and I miss your comforting her when she cries alone.

I miss all of this, Dad, and more, your entire life and yet I have been able to feel and somewhat describe what I've missed because of just me. You see, Dad, you don't know me because I was born six months after you were reported missing over Hanoi, December 13, 1969.

I miss you, Dad.

Originally written by:
Edward D. Allen
July 31, 1984

With the Holiday Season upon us, let's all take a moment to remember all our "lost" comrades; let's be happy with our lives and remember the good we have. Giving and sharing from the heart are always repaid two-fold.

Have a wonderful holiday!

P.S. Don't forget the Christmas Party at the Club, AND MAKE PLANS NOW TO COME TO THE NEW YEAR'S EVE BASH!

ADJUTANT ANNOTATIONS
Ann Foster

We are definitely moving along toward our 100% goal for membership with an 80% rating at this time. However, we must really dig in now to show our support for Department Commander Ross and his 15 December 1992 desired date for 100%. We only need 80 more members and there are 168 who have not renewed.

I know you have received at least one notice from National so how about renewing now before your active status terminates at the end of the year. Surely we can meet this challenge and even go beyond it to insure that our benefits will be maintained, that The American Legion is able to continue providing its excellent programs for veterans and their families and that we have the opportunity to continue to provide a Post Home and benefits to those in need in our local community.

There are several upcoming events in December. All should be in the calendar and are mentioned elsewhere in the Newsletter with the following exceptions:

The Department Commander's Homecoming will be 5 December 1992, at Post 111 in Louisville, Colo. The address is 1100 Pine Street Plaza. The activities will start at 4:30 with Hors d'Oeuvres, followed by

dinner at 6:00 and a dance at 9:00.

Post meetings will be 4 December and 6 January for the Executive Committee. There will be no general membership meeting in December due to the Christmas Party. The next general meeting will be 21 January.

There is a large gray can in the bar area to receive donations of non-perishable items for our Christmas basket program for needy families. Also, donations of winter clothing will be accepted for veterans at the VA Medical Center at Fort Lyon. Please remember these worthy programs as you prepare for the holidays.

The Bingo Committee appreciates the support it received after its need for assistance was mentioned in the last Newsletter. However, they need help on a regular basis so please call Bill Pifer at 391-9807 or Floyd Bufkin at 591-5331 evenings if you can be available. Bill is working on a schedule right now which will be equitable for all concerned, including those who can only work occasionally. Commander Bufkin has advised that the turnout for Bingo lately has been much better than previous months. Thus more workers mean more money for the new Post Home and our other obligations. Please help if at all possible!

There will be no Bingo on Christmas Day but it is planned for New Year's Day.

TO POST EVERLASTING

David H. Zimmerman, Paul W. Perkins, Clare A. Packard and Larry Nelson.

CHRISTMAS PARTY, HARRY JOHNSON

The annual Christmas Party will be held on December 12, 1992. The Post will provide turkey and dressing, ham, scalloped potatoes, mixed vegetables, bread and punch for children. We ask that each family who attends bring salad or dessert. Happy Hour will be from 6:00 to 6:30 P.M., with dinner served at 6:30. Santa will have gifts for each child. Each adult attending may bring a gift for a gift exchange. The gift should cost from \$3.00 to \$5.00 and be marked as for male or female.

We hope you can attend this annual event and celebrate this most festive occasion of the year.

Please complete the registration form you will find at the end of this page and return to the Post on or before noon December 7, 1992 or register at the Post when you are in. We realize this is short notice but the time between the mailing of the Newsletter and the party is short and we need to have time to plan the food and gifts. Thanks for your cooperation in returning the form promptly.

Late News: The winner of the latest raffle, the Bahamas trip, was our own Ann Foster, Post Adjutant. Congratulations, Ann.

CLUB CALENDAR - BOB MORRIS

Due to numerous parties booked into the club during December, we will not have Sunday breakfast on December 13th or 27th (breakfast as usual on December 6th and 20th).

We hope this will not be too inconvenient for our faithful Sunday clientele, and rest assured, we will continue to have regular breakfasts after the Holiday Season.

Dates to remember during December include our Christmas Decorating Party on Saturday, December 5th, starting at 1:00; the Post Christmas Party on the 12th with Happy Hour from 6:00 to 6:30 and dinner (compliments of the Post) at 6:30; an Eggnog Party on the 24th from 4:00 - 6:30 P.M. (Happy Hour prices prevail during that time and the Club will close at 6:30); and the New Year's Eve Party on the 31st, 8:00 - 1:00 - Champagne provided by the Post, and breakfast at 12:30 A.M. Emceed by Lois Egnor, dancing will be to our own records. Cost is \$5.00 per person. Get your reservations in early.

Finally, the management and staff of the Club would like to take this opportunity to wish all members and their families a most glorious and festive holiday season

MAIL TO "CHRISTMAS PARTY, American Legion Post 209, 1337 N. Academy Blvd., Colorado Springs, 80909

NAME: _____ NUMBER: ADULTS _____ CHILDREN _____

NAME, AGE & SEX OF CHILD: _____

AUXILIARY NEWS

BARBARA JOHNSON - PRESIDENT

Merry Christmas! May the New Year be filled with good things for you.

The Gong Show/Costume Party was fun - if you had been there you could have enjoyed good food and good music for listening or dancing.

We have a full schedule of events coming up in the future. I would like to invite all of you to join us in our endeavor to carry out the programs of the American Legion Auxiliary. Our next meeting will be December 17 at 7:00 P.M. There will not be a meal before this meeting.

The Post Christmas Party is December 12 - dinner at 6:30. Main course will be provided by the Post and we are asked to bring salad or dessert. Santa will be there.

Executive Committee meeting will be at the Post on December 2, 7:00 P.M. Any member is welcome to attend.

Many thanks to Howard Hornik for making the beautiful lectern for the Auxiliary. It is truly the nicest thing he could have done for us.

MEMBERSHIP - DOT DASSERO

Renewals are beginning to come in but are still extremely slow. We need and want to meet the goals set by the Department of Colorado and the National Organization and would like to see forty renewals come in next week.

Please, ladies, mail them in. You don't want to lose benefits and we don't want to lose you. It's getting close to the holiday season and you are going to be very busy so send yours in today. In fact, we hope you will contribute to the Legion Christmas basket program so bring your renewals in when you bring your contribution.

We want to wish a very happy holiday season to all members of The American Legion and The American Legion Auxiliary. We will see many of you at the Post Decorating and Christmas Parties and the New Year's Eve Party and in the Club during the holidays but for now MERRY CHRISTMAS, HAPPY HANUKKAH AND A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.






8 & 40 meets December 21, 7:00 P.M. at Centennial Post 209. Mae Dillon will be hostess.





CENTENNIAL 209 EVENTS

November 29, 1992 - January 9, 1993

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Nov 29 334/32	Nov 30 335/31	Dec 1 336/30	Dec 2 337/29  7:00pm EXEC MTG	Dec 3 338/28	Dec 4 339/27 7:00pm BINGO 834 EMORY CIRCLE	Dec 5 340/26 DEPT CDR HOMECOM- ING 1:00pm X-MAS DECORATI- NG PARTY
Dec 6 341/25 BREAKFAST	Dec 7 342/24	Dec 8 343/23	Dec 9 344/22 7:00pm GUN CLUB MTG	Dec 10 345/21	Dec 11 346/20 7:00pm BINGO 834 EMORY CIRCLE	Dec 12 347/19 6:30pm X-MAS PARTY
Dec 13 348/18	Dec 14 349/17 8:00pm 40/8 MTG	Dec 15 350/16	Dec 16 351/15	Dec 17 352/14 6:00pm NO MEETING TONIGHT	Dec 18 353/13 7:00pm BINGO 834 EMORY CIRCLE	Dec 19 354/12 9:00am WAC MTG AT THE COLO SPGS MTR INN
Dec 20 355/11 BREAKFAST Hanukkah 	Dec 21 356/10 Winter begins 6:00pm 8 & 40 MTG	Dec 22 357/9 7:00pm GUN CLUB MTG 7:30pm AMVETS MTG	Dec 23 358/8	Dec 24 359/7 4:30pm EGGNOG PARTY	Dec*25 360/6 Christmas 	Dec 26 361/5
Dec 27 362/4	Dec 28 363/3	Dec 29 364/2	Dec 30 365/1	Dec 31 366/0 PARTY \$5.00 PER PERSON  New Year's Eve	Jan 1 1/364 New Year's Day 7:00pm BINGO 834 EMORY CIRCLE	Jan 2 2/363
Jan 3 3/362	Jan 4 4/361	Jan 5 5/360	Jan 6 6/359  7:00pm EXEC MTG	Jan 7 7/358	Jan 8 8/357 7:00pm BINGO 834 EMORY CIRCLE	Jan 9 9/356