



CENTENNIAL POST 209



THE AMERICAN LEGION

DECEMBER 2000



LEGION NEWS
FRANCIS REDINGTON
COMMANDER

November 7, 2000 will be known to future VOTERS as the day many unknown factors were brought to focus on OUR National Elections. It will be a constant reminder that no matter how good one system seems to be that there will be a small to enormous percentage of error. Of course OUR system of government is not perfect, but it overshadows any other system in the world. Let US hope that by the time you get this newsletter WE will know who the new President is.

OUR property cleanup day turned into another workday. People believed the dumpster was placed there for their trash, so WE had another dumpster brought out to allow US to lighten up the first one. Greg Andries worked with the Bobcat digging out limbs, cement chunks and long sections of chain link fencing. Charles Zeitvogel was throwing out trash bags and various other pieces of trash. Through their efforts, WE saw the trash company

pick up the container and haul it off, finishing OUR cleanup detail.

The Veterans Day Parade was the best ever. It was extremely cold but many brave souls stood along the route to watch it and HONOR VETERANS of all WARS. Our Cub Scout Pack 24 carried OUR 209 banner in front of OUR marching person, Greg Andries, and the station wagon with Adjutant Ann Foster driving and Past Commander Harry McFadden and family in back seat. Thanks to Stephanie Seeley Pack 24 leader and Cub Scouts for their participation with OUR Post in the parade. Coming up is the Christmas Party on December 9th. A flyer is in this newsletter giving details. Plan to attend, the menu is good. The Early Bird dinner was excellent and pretty well attended. These events are held to give members a chance to socialize as an organization, one that is here to support its' Veterans groups.

During the month of October two members had surgery and are recovering. OUR prayers and best wishes for a speedy recovery go out to Bill Pifer and Mike Dassero. God Bless You, Bill and Mike. This is the final newsletter for the year 2000, so have a SAFE, SANE and HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON...ALSO HAVE A VERY PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

OFFICERS

COMMANDER	FRANCIS REDINGTON
SR VICE COMMANDE	CHUCK ZEITVOGEL
JR VICE COMMANDER	NORM MOYER
ADJUTANT	ANN FOSTER
FINANCE OFFICER	AL CYRAGUE
HISTORIAN	GREG ANDRIES
SGT-AT-ARMS	ROBERT RYDELL
CHAPLAIN	HOWARD HORNIK
JUDGE ADVOCATE	LARRY JOHNSON
SERVICE OFFICER	TOM MORANT

DUES \$25.00

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, 1956
VIETNAM WAR
DEC 22, 1961 - MAY 7, 1975
GRENADA & LEBANON
AUG 24 1982 - JUL 31, 1990
PERSIAN GULF
AUG 2, 1990 - UNTIL THE
END OF HOSTILITIES

AUXILIARY OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	DOROTHY DASSERO
SECRETARY	PAT ANDRIES
TREASURER	BARBARA JOHNSON
CHAPLAIN	MARCIA SHELLHAMMER
SGT-AT-ARMS	RUTH HORNIK

DUES \$15.00

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER
CHUCK ZEITVOGEL

AUXILIARY MEETING THE THIRD THURSDAY EACH MONTH
AT THE POST'S OFFICE ON AUSTIN BLUFFS PKWY
1:30 P.M.

MEETINGS
3RD THURSDAY - 7:00 P.M.
VFW PST #4051, 430 E PIKES PEAK AVE
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO

EDITOR
DOROTHY DASSERO, NALPA

OFFICE
4291 AUSTIN BLUFFS PKWY STE 104
COLORADO SPGS CO 80918-2944
719-599-8624

GIVE THANKS: Thanksgiving has come and gone for the year 2000 and we, as a nation, continue to have a lot to be thankful for. We have experienced a most challenging election for a new President of the United States of America. Other nations have had civil disturbances, riots and on occasion, civil wars to determine who their national leader will be. We, in the United States, have our Constitution, now 200 years old, and it provides the framework for determining our President. Give thanks for the wisdom of our nation's founding fathers, framers of the Constitution, who provided us with a document that is the envy of many around the world and guides us in a rule of law for determining our leaders. We may not always like our leaders personally but respect for the office they hold is one of the binding forces that allows our government to function to serve the interest of the nation's

people. We certainly need to appreciate that every vote counts and all those that want to have input into determining local, state and national leaders need to educate themselves on the issues and vote their convictions.

MEMBERSHIP: Other organizations have the Motto, "Strength in Unity," and it is a good one. With few exceptions, our common goals are reached by having an organization with an increasing membership working together. Post 209 has that increasing membership.

Holiday greetings are extended to all our continuous and new members. Your presence and participation in American Legion and Post 209 activities is appreciated. May your Holidays be safe and may you actively join in our activities in 2001.

As December 2000 comes to a close, we are nearly 250 members strong. Congratulations to all our recruiters. I heard this saying from an Army acquaintance many years ago, it has a lot of merit: "Good, Better, Best, Never Let It Rest Until Good is Better and Better is Best!"

VETERANS DAY: November 11, Saturday morning was a cold, windy winter day in downtown Colorado Springs as the Veterans Day parade marched down Tejon St from St Vrain to Vermijo. I stood at the intersection of Kiowa and Tejon to watch the parade. Small American flags were passed out to those watching. Next to me was a young veteran in a wheelchair, his wife and two small children were there too, braving the cold, snow and wind to give tribute to our veterans and active duty men and women who served, and continue to serve our country. It was a time to thrill us as American flags

were carried by and to see those who marched, rode and walked in the parade. They represented so many that served throughout our nation's history. All appeared to be proud and in good spirits. Men and women who served in the Korean War 50 years ago and those from Fort Carson returning from peace keeping missions were particularly being honored this Veterans Day.

Norman Moyer, Junior Vice Commander was near the reviewing stand videotaping the parade. A photographer took our Commander's picture and it was published in the Colorado Springs Gazette newspaper Sunday, November 12.

Overall the parade lasted a bit more than an hour, with various military units (over 3,000 Fort Carson soldiers marched) and high school bands bravely playing patriotic marching songs, Jr. ROTC units, along with Boy and Girl Scouts and leaders, made this parade worth being there. Hats off to the Pikes Peak Veterans Council, organizers of the parade this year.

Other Veterans Day events also took place November 16th. Post 209 Early Bird dinner did take place that date at the Post 5 home. Larry Johnson, Post Judge Advocate, along with the Post 5 Commander, prepared an excellent meal for the enjoyment of some 30 members and guests. All members and guests are invited to attend our Post 209 social events. Check your Post newsletter for times and dates of future socials.

**NOTICE
NO GENERAL MEETING IN
DECEMBER DUE TO CHRISTMAS
PARTY**

JR VICE COMMANDER
NORM MOYER

Despite the snowy weather, the Early Bird dinner at American Legion Post 5 on November 11 was a success. The turnout was good and the food was delicious. During the activities, videos were shown of 2000 post activities including Memorial Day, Post Picnic, Ft Lyon visitation and Veterans Day parade. Larry Johnson presented the American Legion video "America's Veterans."

American Legion Post 209 Christmas dinner is scheduled for Saturday, December 9. See the attached invitation for specific details.

American Legion Birthday Party is being scheduled for Saturday, March 20. This will be a special evening honoring the 25th anniversary for American Legion Centennial Post 209. Guest speakers are in planning. More information will be forthcoming in a 2001 newsletter.

In conjunction with the Bingo work committee, the Sr Vice Commander and I have made visitations to other nonprofit organizations' bingo operations to see comparisons in procedures and controls being utilized. An interesting side item was addressed: possible impact and/or participation by players and workers for a "SMOKE FREE BINGO" night. Many of our former players utilized the smoke free rooms. Over the years, our society has changed significantly especially in smoke free work environments. I need your input now. Would this drastically change your bingo game participation? Would you be able/available to work bingo once

we start up again? In our visitations we have had very mixed comments, such as: won't get a good regular turnout? would not last long? would need more breaks for the smokers? Several of you have indicated unwillingness to work bingo in a smokey bingo hall, but would you be willing to help out a couple times a month? Would local advertising help? WHAT ARE YOUR FEELINGS ABOUT A SMOKE FREE BINGO? WOULD IT WORK OR NOT? Call me at 332-3701 or 392-3725.

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT
HOWARD HORNIK

TAPS: Our sympathy to the family of Frank Parisi.

Bill Pifer and Mike Dassero recovering from surgery. We wish them speedy recovery.

Good to see Harold Fricke at our Early Bird dinner and that he is doing better after his health problems. Our concerns and prayers for Tom Morant's son who has cancer.

If a member of Post 209 is deceased, sick or in the hospital, please let your Chaplain know, or an officer of the Post.



AUXILIARY NEWS
DOT DASSERO
PRESIDENT

Not much space here for the Auxiliary but hoping to see you at the Christmas party. Alice Hart has been ill and we are sending cards to her. Get much better, Alice!

**ADJUTANT ANNOTATIONS
ANN FOSTER**

As we head into December, we now have 226 members towards our goal of 270 for the upcoming Legion year. That is very close to 84%. Thanks to everyone who has renewed and we look forward to getting the rest of you signed up soon. It would be such a very nice thing to have this all done by 31 December.

We have had a request to enlighten newer members about our Board of Trustees, as per our Constitution and By-Laws. The Constitution portion is short, so I will quote it.

"Article V Board of Trustees

Section 1 - The board of trustees shall be incorporated as the official body representing American Legion Centennial Post 209, Department of Colorado in all legal and binding agreements. The board is empowered to enter into contracts, mortgages, and other fiscal instruments as the official authority of the Post. The Board derives its power to act on behalf of the Post by approval of resolutions authorizing the pertinent activity. The authority may be limited only to the action to be taken, the best method of action to be determined by the board.

Section 2 - All members of the Board of Trustees shall be bonded and governed by state and federal regulations pertaining to the administration of sound business practices. It shall further be the responsibility of all members

of the Board of Trustees to act judiciously in the execution of all duties to enhance the image of the American Legion.

Section 3 - Selection for membership to the Board of Trustees and the conduct of meetings of the Board of Trustees will be governed by the by-laws of American Legion Centennial Post 209."

In the by-laws the membership of the Board of Trustees, how they are elected, how long they serve, how to fill vacancies, how to remove a member if deemed necessary, and how the meetings are to be held is covered. Since it is longer, I will try to hit the high spots. Please remember that the Constitution and By-Laws are always available to anyone desiring to study them. The board of trustees shall consist of seven members. This will include the current Post Commander and the current Post Finance officer and five elected members. No member may be elected to the Board who has not been a continuous member of the Post for five years. At least three of the five elected members, other than the current Commander and Finance Officer, must have successfully completed at least one term as Post Commander of American Legion Post 209.

Election of members for the Board of Trustees will be at the Post General Elections. At the first election the term length of offices was staggered for purposes of future continuity. Those elected in succeeding years serve for three years.

A meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held during the first week of July of each year and monthly thereafter. At this time the Board meets the same night as the Executive Committee meeting at the Post Home. Anyone may attend these meetings at any time.

Currently the following individuals are members:
Commander Francis Redington,
Finance Officer Al Cyriaque, Past
Commander Harry McFadden, Past
Commander Larry Johnson, Past
Commander Neal Thomas, Past
Commander Harry Johnson, and Norm Harpole. Please feel free to contact any of these members at any time with any questions or concerns that you may have, particularly those having to do with a future Post Home.

IF YOU PLAN ON attending the Department of Colorado Mid-Year Conference 26 - 28 January at the Raintree Inn and Conference Center in Longmont, please call the office and leave a message, we might try sharing a room if enough would be willing to go and share expenses.



Season's Greetings

AMERICAN LEGION CENTENNIAL POST 209
CHRISTMAS PARTY

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2000
LOCATION: VFW POST 4051 (Upstairs)
530 East Pikes Peak Avenue

Menu Selection:

- Sliced Smoked Turkey Breast
- Stuffing and Homemade Gravy
- Country Baked Ham w/Pineapple Juice
- Broccoli and Tomato Salad w/Dressing
- Whipped Potatoes w/Gravy
- Fresh Fruit Salad
- Rolls and Butter
- Triple Chocolate Temptation Cake
- Coffee and Lemonade

Holiday Decorations

MEMBERS: no charge
GUESTS: \$10.00 per person

COCKTAILS: (Open Bar) 6:00 p.m.
DINNER: 6:30 p.m.

PLEASE RSVP BY DECEMBER 4, 2000
to NORM MOYER, 392-3725 or 332-3701