The Centennial







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From the Desk and Mind of the Commander Jay Bowen

There's an old English proverb that declares, "All Good Things Must Come To An End!" Songs have been written and literally hundreds of movies made on this theme. I have been witness to this during most of my life and believe it to be very true. For anyone who spent time in the military (oh yeah, that would be just about everyone reading *The Centennial*) we have periodically been witness to the end to a great work dynamic and leader only to be replaced by someone or something else. I offer a corollary to the adage; "All Things Are Temporary!"

I believe this is true in work and our personal lives. When I was in the Army, no matter how bad things were with the current Commander, I always knew that he/she would only be in that position for a year to 18 months, two years max. I can pretty much put up with anything knowing there is an end to the cycle. Conversely, when I served with great Commanders (and I did have 2 or 3 over my 20 year career), I lived for the moment and didn't dwell on the eventual departure. It would come soon enough.

But I have also come to realize there has to be bad leaders and Commanders in order for us to really appreciate the good ones and enjoy the benefit of their mentoring and camaraderie. Without a bad leader, we would not truly appreciate what we have. This isn't relegated strictly to the boss; it is also true with the entire work or group dynamic. I have been in organizations, both military and civilian where it was fun coming to work each day and I have been in others where I didn't even want to get out of bed. The difference was that in the military you pretty much knew how long it would last because either you would rotate or they would. Either



work environment and in the volunteer organizations in which we serve, you are not as assured about the "when." Regardless, it will change because "All Things Are Temporary!"

The American Legion is a great example. I have been a member of Post 209 for about 8 years and have served with 3 Commanders (before me) and multiple changes in the Post Leadership positions. In April, we'll see changes yet again in our Post leadership. The current dynamic of our Executive Committee will change, and with that the dynamic of the Post will change. Why? Haven't you been listening? Because "All Things Are Temporary!" This is not necessarily a bad thing. Change is not only inevitable, in most cases it is good. But good or bad, it's gonna happen. We can either chose to adapt and wait for another change (if bad), or we can love new dynamic.

We are masters of our own destiny. We have a great deal of influence in shaping our environment. If we are in a cycle of associating ourselves in a great social or work dynamic, we should enjoy and be thankful for it. If, on the other hand we dread getting out of bed in the morning, often we have the power to also change that. We can either wait it out knowing "All Things Are Temporary" or we can initiate a change in our personal world to make things better.

Even though All Good Things Must Come To An End, All Things Are also Temporary. Each one of us is part of the good, and in many instances we are a factor in the not so good. As we make changes, it impacts everything in our circle of influence and world, which creates other changes. Hunker down folks, 2014 is a year of change for all of us. I pray all of yours are good!

For God and Country, Jay Bowen



Auxiliary President

What a great way to start off the New Year. We have two new members; Charlotte Means transferred from Wyoming, and Susan Thompson was recruited to our Unit by Art. I have to say again what a great Legion family we have because we all work together.

Karen Hughes and Jim Campbell from CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) for Children joined us during our meeting in January. They explained the need for these Special Advocates to help protect children from all types of abuse and neglect. If you would like more information about this organization please visit their web site at www.casappr.org.

Election of new officers will be here before you know it. If you would like to run for a position please let us know. The offices and a short explanation of the positions are: **President** - to conduct meetings of the Unit and Unit Executive committee; **Vice-President** - assist the President and in the absence of the President perform her duties; **Secretary** - record all proceedings and maintain those recordings; **Treasurer** - receive and disperse all money belonging to the Unit and account for them; **Chaplain** - offer opening and closing prayers at the meetings; **Historian** - compile historical records of the Unit and send reports to Department; and **Sergeant-at-Arms** - preserve order at the meetings.

Lynn is working on getting our Unit cookbook published. We are looking at a March/April time frame. It's not too late to submit recipes for the cookbook. More is better.

Not only are we sending the helmet liners to our deployed troops but we have also sent caps to Marion House and Crawford House and other charities around town. Keep up the good work ladies.



American Legion "YOUNG GUNS" of Centennial Post 209, will be sponsoring a Basic Rifle Safety and Marksmanship course starting on Thursday, March 13th, 2014. This is an American Legion sponsored program open to boys and girls ages 10 through 18. All participants and a parent, guardian or other responsible adult will be required to attend all sessions.

This Basic Rifle Safety Course will be taught by NRA Trained and Certified Instructors. All books, supplies and equipment will be covered by a registration fee of \$10. The course will last for 9 evening sessions held on Thursdays from

6:30 to 8:30 PM. Classes will be held at the Post and Air Rifles, safety glasses and all needed equipment will be provided.

The Junior Shooting Committee will be accepting registrations for up to 12 students for our March 13th class. For more information, please contact any member of the Junior Shooting Committee. To register, please contact committee Chairman, Ken Taylor. This class is filling up fast so don't delay. Register now!

The Young Guns of Centennial Post 209 would like to thank Sportsman's Warehouse for being a sponsor of our Junior Shooting program!

Junior Shooting Committee:

Ken Taylor 719-495-8190 <u>adjutantsal209@gmail.com</u> (Chairman)

Rick Kettering 813-967-6680 commandersal209@gmail.com

Rusty Bower 682-478-9122 <u>financesal209@yahoo.com</u>

Gunny Raines 719-597-4766 gunnyr1@yahoo.com

Bill Weeks 719-597-4670 (No Email)

Chuck Sorrels 724-249-4849 (No Email)



A Note from the Historian

I am putting together an album of the rich history of our Post 209 members and am interested in your stories, memories, pictures, artifacts...whatever you would like to share. I personally (my opinion) find the individual's perspective of historic events to be just as important, if not more interesting than the way events are portrayed through different forms of the media. I believe nothing to be trivial. This is your personal history as you served this great country. Many of us have ancestors who served in conflicts way before we entered this life and have stories and pictures of this, as well. I would like to be able to add anything that is significant to you. It gives us more to talk about as we meet each other to dine or during meetings.

I am also working with several members of our Post to develop a tribute board to commemorate those members who have passed. Jackie Bowen has shown me a space to hang this board in the dining hall area and I'm working on a design with Don Shuck. This board will be of limited space, but I welcome you to forward me pictures, obituaries, items of memory, etc...that you might like posted on this board for a period of time.

I do require your approval before I post any received correspondence to the tribute board, historical album, newsletter, or Facebook page. If you email me the correspondence, please include a short blurb stating the medium on which you approve for posting. I have an authorization form that I will be emailing later that is a little more formal.

It matters to me what you think, but we do have hundreds of members. I need to move fast if I am going to get these projects started. So I will work with the elected officers to ensure the entries and tributes will be made in such a way that is tasteful and courteous to both the deceased, and the members of Centennial Post 209.

I look forward to your correspondence. Please feel free to ask me any questions about these projects.

Robert Johnson Historian al209historian@yahoo.com

THANK YOU TO THE POST MEMBERSHIP

As I was driving home from the Post 209 general membership meeting today I thought that it would be a nice gesture to thank you all again for contributing to the Post raffle account. Most of you see that account as only pull-tabs and 50/50 drawings run by Norm, Robert and myself, otherwise known as the 'games managers'. Well, it is much more than that. If you were at the January meeting you were a part of the passed motion to donate \$2,000 from the raffle fund to the 2014 Boys State. This is an example of what that account does for the Post. Most of the money taken in goes right back out for the benefit of Post activities and the American Legion. The only money retained in the account is to pay for recertification of managers, renewal of our state license and to pay off winners. That in a nutshell is what we do, but we could not do it without your help. We need additional volunteers to be certified as games managers. Training is easily completed by going to www. COLORADO SECRETARY OF STATE/RAFFLE TRAINING. Certification fees are reimbursable by the Post 209 Games Manager. Thank you all for your participation in the 'Post games.'

Junior Vice Commander Lyle Hagelberg



Grandma Nell's



This is a new column written by our very own Luella. We welcome her wisdom.

Calendars

These are the days the Lord hath made! Let us rejoice in them allowing us a fresh start of enthusiasm and sincere effort to live each day with gratitude for the time allotted to us. We must replace last year's calendar with a new 2014, full of new months and days of the week the New Year offers unlimited opportunity to reboot our efforts to fulfill our purpose in life.

Do you save your calendars from previous years? I save mine and find they are a certain kind of record of times and activities spent in honest effort to make good use of the day. The past record of my calendars reveal many phases of life rendered that year. I do find joy in the majority of those past days. Of course, past calendars show some periods of disappointment. There are memories of readjustments... new acquaintances... surprise! All the ordinary scenes of life. Have you glanced back over your 2013 calendar? What do you find?

My 2013 calendar records a memorable period early last summer of raging fires here in Black Forest!!! Thousands of acres of land consumed in flames! Many homes were lost. Yet, life goes on here in this treasured Forest!! Resolved residents fought back, moving on! We have new 2014 calendars on our walls.

I have several new 2014 calendars; a special one from far off Solomon Islands. This calendar brings to memory the fighting struggles of our precious US military of WWII. Another calendar of 2014 comes from Tri-Lakes Historical Society including vintage pictures of that area. I received a new calendar from the American Legion Auxiliary, it is my sincere desire to record on these calendars, days of promise for the future.

I saved a meaningful linen calendar from our bi-centennial year 1976. It is a very patriotic flag bringing back treasured memories of that year in America. Among my souvenir calendars, I treasure a special one that features twelve different portraits of an American icon! Who else but "The Duke" oh! It still hangs on my hall wall. Never mind that it is several years old. There hangs pictures of John Wayne... long live his memory!!

We are moving forward into a promising new year of our high calling in life. May we all full fill our purpose with gratitude for new calendar days ahead!

Grandma Nell wishes you all a wonderful February!!



The IRS and the American Legion

Adjutant Larry Johnson

For the past couple of months you have read of the problems of the IRS versus The American Legion and the different requirements to prove eligibility. I am an advocate of having a copy of the DD Form 214 on file at the Post. By having the DD Form 214 on file we can provide a copy to the family if needed. However, I know there is a lot of opposition to having the DD Form 214 on file at the Post. I believe I have found a way to satisfy the IRS and your needs as well as the responsibility of the Post. However, I need your help to achieve this balance. I will be printing a member form from the National website and will send that form out with a request for you to provide updated data to develop the database as required by the IRS. As I stated, I will need your help in order to satisfy all of the requirements.



From the Scout Coordinator

Scouts: Blue and Gold dinners and Pine Wood Derby's are on the young scouters mind. Both packs have Blue and Gold dinners planned. You ask, what is a Blue and Gold dinner? Well, it is a celebration of the founding of Scouting in America. Every February, the Scouts have a dinner to celebrate this event. We always have cake and fun, lots of fun. Pack 386 is having a circus theme this year and the highlight will be a silent auction of boy and father baked cakes. The event will be 8 February at the LDS Church around Circle and Union junction. Pack 24 is in the middle of planning their event but I know it will include "fun."

Thanks to both Packs for supporting our breakfasts as cute waiters. Hope you enjoy them.

I met with the Troop 321 last week; they are a new troop so things are going slow. Let's give them time and then I will invite them to a meeting so you can see full sized scouts.

Pack 386 is turning 35 this year and Pack 24 is turning 67. Almost as old as some of us, right?

If you are interested in knowing more about scouts or want to help, give me a call at 331-8160 or drop me an email at jbiii@aol.com.

John Brown

Meal Increase! Due to the rising cost of food, effective February we will raise the prices of our 1st, 3rd, and 4th Friday dinner menus by \$.50. We are trying to keep our Breakfast prices at their current level.

WW II P-38 Meets the Current Day

Thanksgiving dinner preparations were in full swing and Nana was getting the green bean Casserole ready. Two cans of green beans and a can of mushroom soup on the counter and ready to be opened. Nana asked for a can opener and Emilie (granddaughter) says that they had thrown their can opener away. I, Papa, did not have my pocket knife with opener in my pocket so there was some scrambling to figure out what tool we had to open the cans.

Young grandson Owen, and new Boy Scout, disappears and returns with his P-38 that his Uncle Russ had given him last year for Christmas. Owen's Dad had missed the previous Christmas conversation and asked "What's that?" He could not understand how this little tool his son had would open a can. Owen had to demonstrate.

As the demonstration was beginning Owen says, "we don't need a can opener, these cans all have pull tab lids!!

The P38 was developed in 1942 for K- rations at the time and later C-rations used through WWII, Korea, and Viet Nam. They are still available today from various websites and made by the Shelby Company. Many of us old timers still carry them on our key chains. There is a larger version the P-51 as well. Handy little tools for many small uses.

William Burd Post 209 America Legion

Child Welfare Foundation Goal \$1000

The SAL Detachment of Colorado has once again set a goal of \$1 per member for the Post, Unit, and Squadron. Since our Legion Family continues to grow, we have a new giving target of \$1000 for the 2013-2014 donation year. Contributions already total 1000 \$582.50 so we are off to a great start! Please continue to fill those Piggy Banks on our dining room tables. Piggy Banks are available at the Post if you want to take one home to save your change. Every penny, nickel, dime and quarter counts (DOLLARS FIT TOO)! Thanks again to everyone who has contributed.

SAL Squadron 209 Membership Update

The 2013 Membership cards expired on December 31st. Dues are just \$20 and you can renew online or mail a check or money order made out to SAL Squadron 209 at PO Box 25334 Colorado Springs, CO 80936-5334. Our 2014 membership goal is 53 and we have a good start on that. Renewals so far have reached just over 70%.



Adjutant Update

Larry Johnson

Some of us just returned from the Department Mid-Year held in Longmont this year.

The Department Executive Committee passed a \$1.2 million budget for the upcoming year. The major emphasis this weekend was on reports from the various committees and the separate training sessions that were conducted.

Membership is always a big topic of discussion during the Department Mid-year. It was reported that the Department was 1,000 members ahead of last year at this time, that National has Colorado in 7th place overall, and we are number 1 in the western Division. There are 59 Posts within the Department who attained 100 percent membership before 31 December. You should be proud as we are the only Post with a membership of over 750 that attained 100 percent of goal by 31 December. The success of Post 209 in membership is a result of your dedication for renewing your membership and the recruitment of new members. I would like to thank all of you for all you have given to Post 209 and I hope that you will continue to do so in the future.

I would like to ask those of you who have not renewed your membership for 2014 to do so before 1 February as that is the date that you will become delinquent. While we have made our goal, there are still nearly 250 Legionnaires who have not renewed their memberships. While you may not have the time to be fully involved with the activities of the Post, your membership is valued and very important. When your membership combines with that of the other members, it provides the National Commander with a voice that more strongly represents Veterans when talking with our national leaders on the need for the continued support of Veterans.



Elections Are Coming!

Jay Bowen

Okay, so I'm not Paul Revere, but I'm shouting to the hills that we will be holding annual Post election of Officers at our meeting in April. All positions except Service Officer and Judge Advocate (both are appointed by the Commander-elect) are currently open. Bill Marshall has graciously accepted my request to serve as the chairman of our Nominating Committee. We believe and encourage self-nominations for any/all positions.

I have had the privilege of serving you as Post Commander for more than 4 years and will be stepping aside this year (I was afraid they were going to make me stay until I got it done right; thank God that didn't happen). I do have a volunteer to accept the role of Commander if elected, so I know the position will be filled. But that's not to say someone cannot challenge this and any other position.

If you think you may be interested in stepping up, let Bill know. Please don't feel you may not be ready or experienced enough to do the job; no one will be left without plenty of help to ensure success at all positions. Come on, give it a shot. It's only a year and you may like it. I can tell you in all sincerity, serving as the Commander for Post 209 is one of the highlights of my life.

To help you decide, I've compiled a very short explanation of each position below. Take a look and if you see something that piques your interest, raise your hand. It's an amazing way to serve our community and learn more about The American Legion.

Roles and Responsibilities of Officers

Commander: Entrusted with the supervision of the duties of all other Officers of the Post. Presiding Officer at all meetings and must be familiar with the policies and traditions of your Post and The American Legion.

Adjutant: Also known as "First Sergeant." Secretary of the Post. Post activities revolve around you. Personnel officer; maintains membership records, minutes, assists the work of the other Officers and Committees.

Senior Vice Commander: Primary concern is membership. Familiar with ceremonial protocols for regular meetings. A Vice Commander must be ready to fill in for the Commander upon a moment's notice.

Junior Vice Commander: Promotes our Post. Provides programs that spice up meetings and attracts attendance. Contacts other organizations so that each patriotic holiday and observance receives the attention it deserves. Concerned with the pageantry of the Legion, and the welfare of all fellow Veterans.

Finance Officer: Serves as chair of the Finance Committee; responsible for all receiving and disbursing of Post funds. You will work closely with the Post Adjutant in all matters relating to the finances of your Post.

Service Officer: A dedicated person with a deep interest in fellow Veterans, the Post and the community. Responsible for bringing to the attention of all Veterans and their dependents the rights and benefits granted to them by law. Must know how to utilize the expert services available through Legion channels as well as through local agencies. Visits dependents upon a death of a service member. May be called upon to serve as chair of Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Committee as well as working with children and youth committees or making hospital visitations. Appointed by the Commander-elect.

Chaplain: A person capable of moral and intellectual leadership; works closely with all other Officers of the Post. You should be ready to officiate when requested, at funerals of members. The Chaplain must also be ready to provide service to be eaved families of Post members.

Sergeant–at–Arms: Arranges the meeting hall, assists the Post Commander and Adjutant. Custodian of the Colors and in charge of Colors details during the presentation and retirement ceremonies. Knows how to display flags and their proper presentation. You are also responsible for maintaining order at all meetings.

Historian: Preserves and compiles the records/photos (specifically through our Scrapbook and website) of our Post. Should <u>try</u> to attend Department Conventions and keep in touch with other Post Historians. [Encouraged to attend, not required.]

Post Executive Committeeman: Entrusted with the government and management of the Post. Responsible to represent the interests of the general membership to the Executive Committee.



Win a Can-Am Spyder RS Motorcyle!

For the price of a \$20 Raffle Ticket, you have a chance to win a \$23,000 motorcycle. The Department of Colorado will be giving away this beautiful 3-



wheel machine on the anniversary of the Legion Birthday (15 March). According to the website, the description for this fundraiser states: "Embrace the open road with this Can-Am Spyder RS motorcycle. The American Legion is the world's largest Veterans service organization. Our primary function is to see that veterans and their families receive all of the benefits they deserve because of their honorable service to their country. We believe in America. We love our freedoms, thanks to our Veterans. Many of our Veterans coming back from the latest wars are in desperate need of assistance. Proceeds from this raffle will be used to continue the programs of the Legion for all of our Veterans, their families and our communities. Drawing will be March 15, 2014 at American Legion Post 32 in Longmont. Good luck to all."

The raffle is not restricted to the Legion family. Matter of fact, it is not restricted to Colorado. Anyone, anywhere in the US with an Internet browser can purchase a raffle ticket. But they will only sell 10,000. You can only buy the ticket online. Access to the raffle page can be found on the homepage of our Department website at www.coloradolegion.org

While the grand prize is obviously the motorcycle, if you buy a raffle ticket prior to 7 December, you also become eligible for two "Early Bird" drawings of \$100 (20 winners on 7 December) and \$50 (25 winners on 3 January 2014) respectively. And did you know your ticket will get discounts/deals at some of our supporting retailers? See the site for a list that is constantly growing.

Speaking of supporters, we need your help to get more retail support for this fundraiser. If you know of a Restaurant, store, or any other business who may be willing to help, let us

Legion Riders

On January 16th, the final general information meeting for the American Legion Riders Chapter 209 was held. There were 12 Riders in attendance. From the two meetings, we have 21 Riders interested in the American Legion Riders (ALR) Chapter 209 program. Now that we have had the two general information meetings and discussed the Constitution and By-Laws, we are moving forward to submit them to the Centennial Post Executive committee for review in February.

During the information meeting, we formalized some ideas and suggestions of the Riders. In addition, we discussed some of the upcoming events and rides. There was excitement in knowing the American Legion Riders Biker Ball is coming on March 1st, 2014. We are coordinating a General Membership meeting for the second or third week of February so the Riders can put together their American Legion Riders Chapter 209 attire. The plan is to have the Biker Ball as an announcement of the ALR Chapter 209.

This is an exciting time and more exciting to see another Post program develop within the American Legion Centennial Post 209. There will be more information coming. If you have any questions, please contact the Senior Vice Commander, Gregory Smith at gregoryvedd@me.com or 520-784-3555.





Post Officers 2013-2014

Office	Name	Telephone	
Commander	Jay Bowen	719-574-1223	
Sr. Vice Cdr	Greg Smith	520-784-3555	
Jr. Vice Cdr	Lyle Hagelberg	719-594-4039	
Adjutant	Larry Johnson	719-622-0344	
Finance Officer	Rusty Bower	682-478-9122	
Chaplain	Chet Dean	719-244-2442	
Sergeant-at-Arms	Don Shuck	719-575-0539	
Historian	Rob Johnson	719-421-9201	
Post Executive Committeeman	Neal Thomas	719-392-1510	
Service Officer	C. "Gunny" Raines	719-597-4766	
Judge Advocate	Chuck Zeitvogel	719-531-0546	
Club Manager	Art Kimbrel	719-339-4610	



Auxiliary Officers 2013-2014

Office	Name	Telephone	
President	Jackie Bowen	719-574-1223	
Vice President	Linda O'Riley	719-597-5673	
Secretary	Lynn Thomas	719-392-1510	
Treasurer	Mary Grier	719-536-0438	
Chaplain	Marion Daugherty	719-637-9555	
Sergeant-At-Arms	Lois Wooton	719-599-8683	
Historian	Kari Ann Smith	520-784-7193	



Sons of The American Legion 2013-2014

Office	Name	Telephone
Commander	Rick Kettering	813-967-6680
1st Vice Commander		
Adjutant	Ken Taylor	719-495-8190
Finance Officer	Rusty Bower	719-478-9122
Sgt-At-Arms	Don Shuck	719-575-0539
Chaplain	Chet Dean	719-244-2442
Historian	Eric Testorff	719-510-4177







Centennial 209 Family Calendar of Events

6 Mar	Post Exec Mtg 6:30 pm
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8 Mar	Breakfast 9:00 am Legion/Auxiliary Meetings 10:00 am SAL Mtg 11:30 am
9 Mar	Daylight Savings Time Begins! Spring Forward!
14 Mar	Hamdogger 6:00 pm
15 Mar	American Legion Birthday!
17 Mar	St. Patrick's Day!
21 Mar	Steak Night! 6:00 pm RSVP REQUIRED
28 Mar	Fish Fry 6:00 pm RSVP REQUIRED
3 Apr	Post Exec Mtg 6:30 pm
4 Apr	Hamdogger 6:00 pm
12 Apr	Breakfast 9:00 am Legion/Auxiliary Meetings 10:00 am SAL Mtg 11:30 am
18 Apr	Steak Night! 6:00 pm RSVP REQUIRED
20 Apr	Easter Sunday!
25 Apr	Fish Fry 6:00 pm RSVP REQUIRED
1 May	Post Exec Mtg 6:30 pm
2 May	Hamdogger 6:00 pm
10 May	Breakfast 9:00 am Legion/Auxiliary Meetings 10:00 am SAL Mtg 11:30 am
16 May	Steak Night! 6:00 pm RSVP REQUIRED
23 May	Fish Fry 6:00 pm RSVP REQUIRED
26 May	Memorial Day!
5 Jun	Post Exec Mtg 6:30 pm
6 Jun	Hamdogger 6:00 pm
14 Jun	Breakfast 9:00 am Legion/Auxiliary Meetings 10:00 am SAL Mtg 11:30 am
19-22 Jun	Department Convention - Lamar
20 Jun	Steak Night! 6:00 pm RSVP REQUIRED
27 Jun	Fish Fry 6:00 pm RSVP REQUIRED

THE AMERICAN LEGION CENTENNIAL POST 209 P.O. BOX 25334 COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80936-5334 NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION U.S. POSTAGE PAID COLORADO SPGS, CO PERMIT NO. 192

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

~ February 2014 ~						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	Executive Committee Meeting 1830 hrs.	7	Legion, SAL, Auxiliary Monthly Meetings 0900 hrs. B'fast 1000 hrs. Meetings
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21 Steak Night 1800 hrs. RSVP Req'd	22
23	24	25	26	27	28 Fish Fry 1800 hrs. RSVP Req'd	Notes: