

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

January 2005 – NEWSLETTER

Happy New Year

Meeting

Saturday, January 8, 2005

TREA, Breakfast 9:00 AM, Meeting 10:00 AM

Guest Speaker: Rear Admiral Jamie Fraser, Canadian Navy

Officers' Comments

COMMANDER-Bill Marshall

January Breakfast/General Membership Meeting

Rear Admiral Jamie Fraser, Canadian Navy, will be our guest speaker January 8, 2005. RADM Fraser is the Canadian Government Liaison Officer to Northern Command and will bring us up to date on how the Canadian Navy is assisting the U.S. in the war on terrorism, as well as his position at NORTHCOM. **Rear Admiral Fraser is an enlightening and entertaining speaker, so plan on attending.**

Mid-Year Conference

I will be attending the conference the end of this month and will report the results to the General Membership at the February meeting.

ADJUTANT - Ann Foster

Membership

Thanks to some help with transfers from Department and from some recent renewals we are approximately 261 strong for 2005. We are a little over 90% of our goal. We only need ten more for 95% and 24 more for 100%. My hope is that after the beginning of the year we will make our goal. Thank you to those who have renewed and to everyone who signed up a new member.

Cub Pack 24

On 15 December, the Pack meeting had a very interesting program. It was all about collections that people have. A Scout couple presented the collections they have had over the years, which

included everything from Scouting awards and patches, to postcards, stamps, badges from the space program, etc. Each of the boys was asked about his collections, also. The Pack also presented each boy with a three-ring binder and the containers needed to hold their scouting awards. Everyone really seemed to enjoy this event.

February Meeting

The Commander has said that our speaker for the meeting on February 8, could be the Scout Unit Commissioner for our Pack 24, Mr. Nels Hendrickson. He will be able to bring us up to date on scouting today and also how our Council works. Many of you know that Boy Scouts, USA, has been under attack by various elements that do not agree with the scouting program ideals. The American Legion has supported Scouting as an Americanism and Children and Youth program from many years, and it would be good for us to have this update, so we may continue to be a part of this important community program.

Post Records

Please continue to send in your DD Form 214 or the document you received that shows your actual periods of service, if you have not already done so. Thank you for your kind attention to this matter that will allow us to bring our records up to date.

CHAPLAIN – Mario Taracena

HAPPY HANUKKAH

Hanukkah, or Festival of Lights, is a Jewish Holiday. It means “dedication” and starts this year on December 7. It is a time for family and friends to gather around the table to commemorate the rededication of God’s Temple in Jerusalem, which was desecrated by Syrian armies around 260 B.C. The ceremony is done by lighting one of the eight candles of the Menorah or candelabra. Then, one more is lit each night where a blessing is given. The feasting begins with music and foods such as Potato Latke, gingerbread, cakes, cheese and tangerines. Children receive gifts and play games. According to tradition Judah and his followers, the Macabees, went into battle and reclaimed the Temple from the Syrian king. After the Temple was repaired and cleansed, it was rededicated. When the Menorah’s wick was lit there was barely enough sacred oil to last for one day. Yet, miraculously, the oil stayed burning for eight days. This celebration signifies the challenge to live God’s commandments.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Once again, the most beautiful and wonderful time of the year is here. We celebrate Christmas and Hanukkah. This is the time for love, joy, laughter, and reuniting with family and friends. It is the time for giving sharing and being thankful for our many blessings.

Christmas celebrates the birth of Jesus, the Son of God, which was foretold by ancient prophets “for unto us a child is born unto us a Son is given and the government shall be upon His shoulder

and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.”

May we all pause during this busy time of the year to remember the events that occurred about 2,000 years ago. Around the town of Bethlehem: “And she (Mary) brought forth her first born son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger.” This baby was God’s Son. “For unto you is born this day in the City of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord” (Luke 2: 6-11). The scriptures tell us that shepherds on the hills, outside of town were awakened suddenly by a light all around. In the middle of the light was an angel. He told them, “Fear not, for behold I bring you tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.” Far in the east some very wise men had been studying the stars to see how they moved. One night they saw a star much brighter than all the rest and knew this star meant a king had been born. When these wise men followed the star and came to Bethlehem, they found Mary, Joseph and the Child Jesus.

Now we, like shepherds and wise men of old, have an excellent opportunity to evaluate our lives and determine where we are in our relationships with God.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

IN MEMORY OF WALTER MCDONALD

Legionnaire Walter McDonald passed away on Nov. 18, 2004. He was born in Bishopville, South Carolina. He enlisted in the US Army in 1949 and served in Korea, Vietnam and Europe. He was married to Shirley McDonald. She and two of their four sons preceded him in his final journey. Brother Walter was a faithful servant of Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church. He was buried with full military honors from the Ft. Carson Honor Guard.

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

- 6 January---Ex. Comm.& Brd. of Trustees mtg.. 6:30 PM
- 8 January---Breakfast/General membership meeting
- 26 January---Certification deadline for Oratorical contest
- 27-30 January---Mid-Year Conference, Estes Park

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 6:30 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

Calendar

January 2005						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 New Years Day
2	3	4	5	6 EC & Brd. of Trustees 6:30 PM	7	8 Breakfast 9 AM Meeting 10 AM Guest Speaker
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 Oratorical certification due	28 Mid-Year Conf. Estes Park	29 Mid-Year Conf.