



Centennial 209 Newsletter

P.O. Box 25334, Colorado Springs, Co 80936-5334
719-599-8624

JULY 2003



From the Commander
Charles Zeitvogel

We proudly salute the men and women that were in Korea and who fought in that war. The 50th anniversary of this war and armistice is July 27th. It was called a "Police Action," but for those that were there it was WAR!

We remember in prayer those who were killed in action, (KIA) those who were/are prisoners of war (POW), those missing in action (MIA), and others still suffering from injuries inflicted in the Korean War. It is not a forgotten war. The American Legion remembers & honors all Korean War veterans

Paid-Up-For-Life.

There are advantages to being a "paid up for life" American Legion member. See the Paid-Up-For-Life Member information page later in this newsletter. For additional details and cost, contact our Post Adjutant or Commander.

Free. - No Cost - Accidental Death Insurance.

It's true! Legionnaires are entitled to this benefit of \$1,000.00 Accidental Death Insurance at no cost until it expires on August 31, 2006. To get this insurance you must apply for it. Call toll free 1-800-235-6943 and speak to a representative of the Legionnaire Insurance Trust Program. Or, contact the Post 209 office for application forms.

General Membership Meeting.

Enough members to constitute a quorum were not present at the General Membership meeting June 19, 2003.

Members are urged to attend the General Membership meeting - Thursday, July 17, 2003, at 7 P.M. Location for this meeting is the VFW Pikes Peak Post 4051 located at 430 East Pikes Avenue, Colorado Springs. Please contact your American Legion Centennial Post 209 office, phone # 599-8624, if you have questions. Your call will be returned.

Auxiliary Unit Membership.

The American Legion Family includes Auxiliary Units. Eligible spouses (ages 18 and above) other qualified persons may join these units. For those who are 17 and younger, the Juniors Auxiliary is available.

Auxiliary units have enhanced accomplishments made by The American Legion in the past and they have a rich history.

Spouses and others eligible for membership in The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 209 are invited to contact Dot Dassero, Unit President at 578-9566, or Barbara Johnson, Vice President, at 596-9261, for details relative to this Auxiliary Unit's activities.

We live in complicated times now. Fly the flag in recognition of the fact that we live in a place that preserves the right to show our true colors. Celebrate the Fourth proudly and safely.



Post 209
2003-2004 OFFICERS

Commander	Chuck Zeitvogel
Sr. Vice Cdr.	Greg Andries
Jr. Vice Cdr.	Bill Marshall
Adjutant	Ann Foster
Finance Officer	
Historian	W. W. Bandler
Sergeant at Arms	Robert Rydell
Chaplain	Howard Hornik
Judge Advocate	Larry Johnson
Service Officer	Tom Morant
Post Exec Committeeman	Neal Thomas
DUES	\$ 30.00

Auxiliary Unit 209 Officers
2002-2003

President	Dot Dassero
Secretary/Treasurer	Barbara Johnson
Chaplain	Marcia Shellhammer
Sergeant at Arms	Ruth Hornik
DUES	\$ 15.00

MEETINGS

Board of Trustees – 1st Thursday 6:30 P.M. at 4291 Austin Bluffs Pkwy Ste1104
Executive Committee Meeting to follow
Post Membership Meeting – 3rd Thursday @ 7:00 P.M. VFW Post 4051, 430 E. Pikes Peak Ave

Board of Trustees

Chairman (3 yr)	Neal Thomas
Secretary (2 yr)	Alton Cyriaque
Finance Officer (1 yr)	
Commander (1 yr)	Charles Zeitvogel
Member (3 yr)	Larry Johnson
Member (2 yr)	Francis Redington
Member (1 yr)	Ann Foster
Meets on the 1 st Thursday before the Post Executive Committee Meeting at 4291 Austin Bluffs Pkwy Ste 104.	

Membership Eligibility Dates

World War I April 6, 1917 – 11 November 1918
World War II December 7, 1941 – December 31, 1946
Korean War June 25, 1950 – January 31, 1955
Vietnam War February 28, 1961 – May 7 1975
Grenada & Lebanon August 24, 1982 – July 31, 1984
Panama December 20, 1989 - January 31, 1990
Persian Gulf August 2, 1990 – Until the end of hostilities as set by Congress

Committees

Planning/Budget and Public Relations	Chuck Zeitvogel 719-531-0546
Membership	Greg Andries 719-636-3346
Program and Social Activities	Bill Marshall 719-495-0088
Americanism/Youth/Scouting/Jr. ROTC & Marksmanship	Francis Redington 719-471-3925
Boys State & Oratorical Contest	Bill Marshall 719-495-0088
Legislative & National Security	Neal Thomas 719-392-1510
Veterans Affairs	Tom Morant 719-570-0843
Rehabilitation	Howard Hornik 719-596-6345
(Club) Land Use, Care & Development	Greg Andries 719-636-3346
ADHOC	COMMITTEES
Constitution and By- Laws	Neal Thomas 719-392-1510
Property Inventory Office Storage	Ann Foster 719-599-8624 Larry Johnson 719-622-0344
Auxiliary Liaison	
Sons of The American Legion	Larry Johnson 719-622-0344

Boys State -- Big Success -- Bill Marshall

Post 209 sponsored nine young men for this years Boys State: Riley Hestermann, Colorado Springs Christian HS; Travis Sando, Rampart HS; William Malona and Jordan Holcombe, Sand Creek HS; John McClelland and Andrew Abdella, Falcon HS; Mark Burris and Bryon Stark, Lewis-Palmer HS; and Peter Morgan, Doherty HS. I am sure they all had a great week and will have much to pass on to their classmates this coming fall. I hope they will be our voice for next year's class of outstanding candidates for Boys State.

Centennial 209 Annual Picnic

The Post picnic will be held on Sunday, August 17th at the post property at the corner of Austin Bluffs and Old Farm Road starting at 9 a.m. Lunch will be around noon. Please bring a favorite covered dish to serve at least ten and non-alcoholic drinks. Larry Johnson will have the grill available to anyone who wants to cook hot dogs, hamburgers, chicken or whatever.

We ask that you bring folding tables and chairs for everyone in your party. There will be a port-o-let at the site.

If you wish to bring horseshoes, badminton, volleyball, baseball or softball equipment, Frisbees, or other outdoor games, please feel free to do so.

If weather does not permit, we will reschedule.

"Where the spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty." St. Paul

Why is this? Because the spirit of the Lord makes of man a great soul; the spirit of the Lord teaches personal responsibility. It teaches that our liberties are not safeguarded by our officials, by our politicians, but by us. That is something we need to realize. What can we do about freedom? We can do everything.

Now the individual has great power to voice his opinion. But it's not unusual for someone to shrug and say, "What can one person do? I can't reach those who are in charge of making decisions." Can't you indeed?

One thing you can do is to tell the people you meet about the beauty, greatness, and the glory of the United States of America.

We know that much is wrong with us, that we are not perfect as a nation. But with all its faults has there ever been in all history a country equal to ours? Why do we continue to stay, ourselves? Let us tell others about our advantages as well as our faults. Talk the United States up, not down. (Taken from Positive Thinking)

Show your pride and safely celebrate the Fourth of July in a great country.



Benefit for "Operation Back to School"

Operation Back to School, Holiday Toy distribution, Prescription Plush and Earn-A-Bike is a part of Christmas Unlimited.

Operation Back to School raises money for student's who can't afford school supplies and live within District 11 and a couple of other districts. Earn-a-Bike is for at risk kids. Some of these kids are not allowed to drive a vehicle. They get the opportunity to refurbish two bikes and they will get to keep one of them.

Prescription Plush is a program for the mature adult in Nursing Homes who have no one visiting them. Plush toys are collected and the residents are given an opportunity to choose one.

As stated above they will be doing a Bar-B-Q Festival on Friday 8 August through Sunday, 10 Aug 2003.

Holiday Toy Distribution allows kids who are cash challenged to pick out a toy for the sisters and brothers and maybe something for Mom and Dad.

They are having a BBQ Festival from the 8th to the 10th of Aug at the Chapel Hills Mall to raise money. Some of the officials from Kansas City BBQ Society will be there to conduct the contest.

Anyone can compete. All it takes is a \$ 150.00 for a participation sight.

Their website is www.pikespeakbbqfestival.org. You can also go to www.christmasunlimited.org for further information.

Some Dates of Interest	
4 Jul	Independence Day – Have Fun and Be Safe
10 Jul	Board of Trustees Mtg – 4291 Austin Bluffs Pkwy Ste 104 – 6:30 P.M. Executive Committee Meeting Follows
17 Jul	Membership Meeting – VFW Post 4051 – 430 E. Pikes Peak Ave – 7:00 P.M.
7 Aug	Board of Trustees Mtg – 4291 Austin Bluffs Pkwy Ste 104 – 6:30 P.M. Executive Committee Meeting Follows
8-10 Aug	BAR-B-Q Festival in support of Christmas Unlimited
17 Aug	Post and Unit 209 Picnic
21 Aug	Membership Meeting – VFW Post 4051 – 430 E. Pikes Peak Ave – 7:00 P.M.
4 Sep	Board of Trustees Mtg – 4291 Austin Bluffs Pkwy Ste 104 – 6:30 P.M. Executive Committee Meeting Follows
18 Sep	Membership Meeting – VFW Post 4051 – 430 E. Pikes Peak Ave – 7:00 P.M.
2 Oct	Board of Trustees Mtg – 4291 Austin Bluffs Pkwy Ste 104 – 6:30 P.M. Executive Committee Meeting Follows
16 Oct	Membership Meeting – VFW Post 4051 – 430 E. Pikes Peak Ave – 7:00 P.M.
NOV	Early Bird Dinner – Place and time to be announced
6 Nov	Board of Trustees Mtg – 4291 Austin Bluffs Pkwy Ste 104 – 6:30 P.M. Executive Committee Meeting Follows
8 Nov	Veterans Day Parade
20 Nov	Membership Meeting – VFW Post 4051 – 430 E. Pikes Peak Ave – 7:00 P.M.
27 Nov	Thanksgiving Day –
DEC	Christmas Party – Place and time to b announced
4 Dec	Board of Trustees Mtg – 4291 Austin Bluffs Pkwy Ste 104 – 6:30 P.M. Executive Committee Meeting Follows
18 Dec	Membership Meeting – VFW Post 4051 – 430 E. Pikes Peak Ave – 7:00 P.M.
25 Dec	Christmas Day
1 Jan 2004	New Year's Day

The Final Inspection

The Soldier stood and faced God,
Which must always come to pass,
He hoped his shoes were shining,
Just as brightly as his brass.

"Step forward now, you soldier,
How shall I deal with you?
Have you always turned the other cheek?
To My Church have you been true?"

The soldier squared his shoulders and
said, "No, Lord, I guess I ain't,
Because those of us who carry guns,
Can't always be a saint.

I've had to work most Sundays,
And at times my talk was tough,
And sometimes I've been violent,
Because the world is awfully rough.

But, I never took a penny
That wasn't mine to keep...
Though I worked a lot of overtime
When the bills got just too steep,
And I never passed a cry for help,
Though at times I shook with fear,
And sometimes, God forgive me,
I've wept unmanly tears.

I know I don't deserve a place
Among the people here,
They never wanted me around,
Except to calm their fears.

If you've a place for me here, Lord,
It needn't be so grand,
I never expected or had too much,
But if you don't, I'll understand."

There was a silence all around the throne,
Where the saints had often trod,
As the soldier waited quietly,
For the judgment of his God.

"Step forward now, you soldier,
You've borne your burdens well,
Walk peacefully on Heaven's streets,
You've done your time in Hell."

Some times it becomes hard to find fillers for newsletters. This happens whenever we don't have enough articles the newsletter. A fair number of us have access to the Internet and email. Articles fly around the net concerning veterans and benefits. If you run across one that might be of interest to all veterans or a special segment of the veteran's community, please send it Larry Johnson at john8934@earthlink.net. Thanks



PAID UP FOR LIFE

The answers to why nearly 250,000 Paid-Up Members have already said, **"It's a good deal!"**

What is a Paid-Up-For-Life Membership?

It's a membership you purchase with a lump sum that makes you a Paid-Up-For-Life Member of The American Legion. Joining the thousands who've already become Paid-Up-For-Life Members assures you of all the benefits of American Legion membership for life, **with no additional future payment — no matter how much the cost of your benefits may go up.**

What if my Post's dues increase?

You're already covered. One of the best parts of a Paid-Up-For-Life Membership is that it automatically includes any dues increases. So, no matter what inflation does, you never have to pay another penny in dues.

Does Paid-Up-For-Life mean my insurance is paid up too?

NO. However, if you have American Legion Life Insurance, you won't ever have to be concerned about your insurance being cancelled because you forget to pay your dues one year. You're paid up for life. You still must pay your insurance premium when it is due.

What about my subscription to The American Legion Magazine?

It's paid-up, too, and you'll continue to receive monthly issues for life.

How do people know I'm paid up for life?

Once the cost of your membership has been paid in full, you will receive a permanent plastic card identifying you as a Paid-Up-For-Life Member. You will also receive an annual membership card each year, at no additional cost.

Who is eligible?

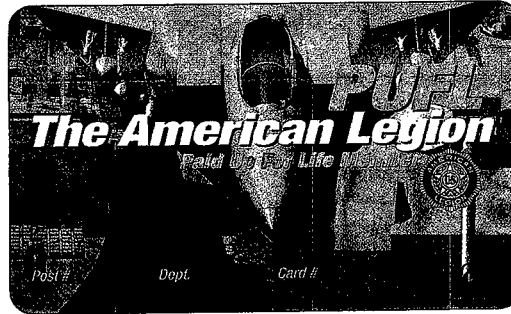
Any member in good standing (with dues paid for the current calendar year).

How do I join the program?

You can purchase the program only through your Post. Just contact your Post Adjutant or Finance Officer for an application.

How much will it cost me?

Your cost is based on two factors — your age and the amount of your Post's dues, at the time you purchase your Paid-Up-For-Life Membership. (You can use the rate schedule on the back of this brochure to determine your exact cost.)



Do I have to pay the full amount all at once?

No. You may take up to 12 months to pay. At least 10% of your total cost must accompany your application.

What kind of payment is accepted?

You may pay by check, Master Card, VISA, Discover, or American Express.

Where does my money go?

National Headquarters maintains a special Paid-Up-For-Life Membership trust. Money from this trust can be used only to pay annual dues each year to your Post, Department, and National Headquarters. The trust automatically covers any dues increases.

What if I want to transfer to another Post?

Usually, there's no problem. Paid-Up-For-Life Members may transfer from a Post in one participating Department to a participating Post in another Department. (Only two Departments [Kansas and Nebraska] do not have this plan available, and only some Posts in those Departments accept transfers.)

Are there ever any refunds?

Refunds will be made ONLY if the member's Post Charter is cancelled and/or the member cannot complete a Paid-Up-For-Life transfer.

Is a Paid-Up-For-Life Member the same as a Life Member?

No. A Paid-Up-For-Life Membership is *purchased*, while a Life Membership is *honorary* and provided by the member's Post. A Post may, however, find purchasing Paid-Up-For-Life Memberships, on behalf of honorees, the most economical way to provide Life Memberships. This in no way affects the member's Honorary Life Membership status.

**Show your commitment.
Become a Paid-Up-For-Life Member now!**

Visit The American Legion
on the World Wide Web at
<http://www.legion.org>