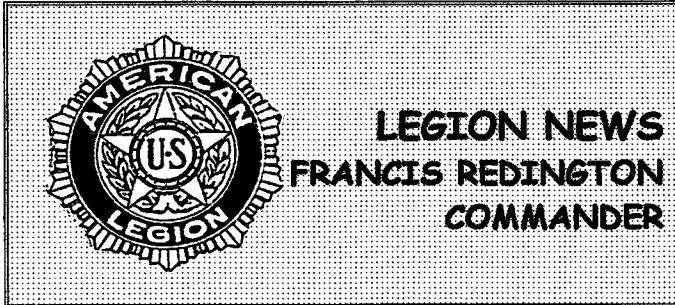


CENTENNIAL POST 209

THE AMERICAN LEGION

JUNR 2000



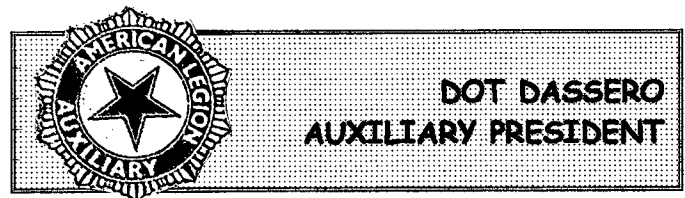
By the time this letter is in your hands, the installation of Post Officers will have been completed and they are working toward the new year of challenges. WE are in the unique situation of not having a fundraising activity in place to keep US fairly solvent for the next seven to eight months. WE are going to have to be very creative in every facet of our operations. This is the Post members chance to come forward with suggestions and ideas to aid the Executive Board with the operations critical to OUR survival.

Next is Memorial Day activities. Everyone who can should participate. Also in the immediate future is Boys State. The number of young men we will be sending is improving daily at this time. Time for getting these young men set up to go to Boys State. They will be at USC from 11 to 16 June for the experience of a lifetime.

Flag Day is June 14; be sure to show your colors.



Coming up soon will be grass/weed cutting on our property for the next couple months. If you would like to help with this project, let the Post officers know when you would be available to help. Your Assistance will be greatly appreciated.



Auxiliary officers were installed and a fine dinner was enjoyed by all. The Auxiliary has voted on two things. First that we shall go dark during the summer months. Second, that when meetings resume in September, we will meet here at the Post's office at 1:30 on the third Thursday of each month. Will you participate?

OFFICERS

COMMANDER	FRANCIS REDINGTON
SR VICE COMMANDER	
JR VICE COMMANDER	HARRY JOHNSON
ADJUTANT	ANN FOSTER
FINANCE OFFICER	AL CYRIAQUE
HISTORIAN	NORM MOYER
SGT-AT-ARMS	NORM HARPOLE
CHAPLAIN	HOWARD HORNIK
JUDGE ADVOCATE	WALLY LONSINGER
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
JUN 25, 1950 - JAN 31, 1956
VIETNAM WAR
DEC 22, 1961 - MAY 7, 1975
GRENADA & LEBANON
AUG 24, 1982 - JUL 31, 1984
PANAMA
DEC 20, 1989 - JAN 31, 1990
PERSIAN GULF
AUG 2, 1990 UNTIL THE
END OF HOSTILITIES

AUXILIARY OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	DOROTHY DASSERO
SECRETARY	ANITA MCFADDEN
TREASURER	BARBARA JOHNSON
CHAPLAIN	JUDITH MCFADDEN
SGT-AT-ARM	RUTH HORNIK

DUES \$15.00

NORM MOYER

Jr Vice Commander-Elect

MEETINGS

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

EDITOR

DOROTHY DASSERO, NALPA

OFFICE

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

Summer is upon us. There is a correction to the April newsletter picnic information. Centennial Post 209 picnic and Sky Sox outing is SUNDAY, JULY 30, 2000, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Palmer Park Meadowlands facility (one block west of Academy Boulevard on Maizeland). The Pavilion facilities include tables, barbeque pits with play areas. Menu will include burgers, hot dogs, ribs and bratwurst.

After the picnic is our baseball game outing at Sky Sox Stadium - east on Barnes from Powers Boulevard. Game time is 4:05 p.m. Sky Sox versus Omaha Golden Spikes. Post 209 has 25 reserved tickets available.

Any questions, contact Norm Moyer, Picnic Chairman at 392-3725 or 332-3701 (cell).

LARRY JOHNSON FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

As you know, for the past 10 years plus, we have had the game of bingo and pull tabs as our main source of income which has supported the various programs of the post, as well as its activities.

In March, we were inspected by the Secretary of State and the following findings were noted:

1. We did not have the bingo records available at the bingo hall for inspection.
2. The records were not being maintained correctly or accurately.
3. And after further review by the Inspector, it was determined that there is a large sum of money we cannot account for.

As a result of these finding the Secretary of State has requested that we turn in our license effective 26 May 2000.

We will be able to re-apply for our license in October, with an effective date of 1 January 2001, if approved.

Some of the conditions that have already been imposed by the Secretary of State's representative are:

1. That all bingo chairman will have to attend classes and be re-certified as games managers

2. We will have to have an almost complete set of new workers/volunteers.

As a side to this, we need to have in place a set of checks and balances that are designed to prevent the same things from happening in the future.

What it boils down too, is that we are going to have to have more support from you, the members of Centennial Post 209, in order to succeed in our endeavors.

We will continue to strive to support the programs of The American Legion and this post.

FLAG DAY

14 June is the day that we pay homage to that flag that lead us for over two hundred years.

We know that for years we have fought and lost the battle to have this symbol of freedom protected from desecration.

However, just because we have lost the battle, we still should honor this symbol that so many of us have fought for and under.

Please honor this symbol of freedom by flying the flag on the 14th of June.

The Millennium Dream

From The American Legion, District 7, Newsletter, by District Commander Herb Davis

As we enter the new millennium, I wonder just how much dedication it will take to keep this great organization of ours alive and growing. As I look back on my years as a member (just a fraction of time compared to most), the one thing that I cherish most is the patriotic commitment that a lot of the Past Officers and members have made to just doing that. Men and women who have served their country proudly for many years, and continue serving as Legion members, giving their time and experience to make a difference in the lives of veterans, their families and the children of our various communities that are now trying to lead this great country.

Let's suppose for a moment that these fine leaders had not taken the time to do this, what might have happened? This organization would not be what it is today. But more importantly, the thousands of kids who got their start playing American Legion Baseball wouldn't have been. What about the thousands of kids that we helped through the Boy Scout program, the High School Oratorical Contest, and the millions of dollars that we, the members of The American Legion have given to improve their education? What would have become of them and this nation? The G.I. Bill wouldn't have been and, as a result, the number of veterans and their families would

not have been helped and would have become a drag in their communities but, because of this, went on to become productive members, as well as leaders in their communities. What of the veterans who needed medical care and attention? What would become of them?

There's no argument to the fact that there is strength in numbers. Oh, what a dream it would be to see every Legion member actively participating in Post meetings and activities. After all this is 'OUR' organization, 'WE' make it great. Just imagine if we were so involved in the community activities that ALL our veterans wanted to be Legion members. What a concept - no, what a challenge. I submit to you that there is a great deal of speculation and curiosity within our communities concerning what it is that we do. It's time to take a stand and show our communities what we are all about. The greatest collection of veterans still "Serving God and Country."

The future of The American Legion depends on each and everyone of us doing our part. If nothing more, spending a few minutes a day telling someone how proud you are of being a member of The American Legion, to still be serving.

God bless all of us in our endeavors to keep our organization, The American Legion, healthy and strong.