

CENTENNIAL POST 209

THE AMERICAN LEGION

March 1998

Americans to 'Show Colors' in Support of Right to Protect Flag

A Press Release by Anthony G. Jordan, National Commander

Americans will fly the United States Flag this Memorial Day, May 25, not only in honor of those who gave their lives for our freedom but for the people's right to protect the flag from physical desecration.

Thousands of area residents and business leaders plan to fly the U.S. Flag from Memorial Day until Veterans Day in support of Show Your Colors, America!. The nationwide movement, spearheaded by the Citizens Flag Alliance, is designed to unite the American people behind this nation's core values -- freedom, justice and equality -- and the flag which symbolizes those values. Organizers are planning a statewide, open-to-the-public Show Your Colors, America! inaugural rally, which will take place before Memorial Day.

The CFA's 125 member organizations, representing 22 million citizens, are confident that a nationwide display of the Stars and Stripes will encourage the U.S. Senate to return to the American people their right to protect the U.S. Flag from physical desecration. The Supreme Court struck down the right of the American people to protect the flag in a 1989 ruling that declared flag desecration to be free speech guaranteed by the First Amendment.

The U.S. House of Representatives passed the flag-protection constitutional amendment June 12, 1997, by a vote of 310-114. Senate passage, by the required two-thirds majority, would send the amendment to the states for ratification.

"I want all Americans to do what comes natural: Show your colors! Fly the United States Flag from Memorial Day until Veterans Day," American Legion National Commander Anthony G. Jordan said. "Our Senators in Washington will heed the will of the people. When you consider that 49 state legislatures have petitioned Congress to send them a flag-protection amendment for ratification, and that numerous polls show 80 percent of the American people support it, there's no reason for the Senate to block the right of the people to protect their flag. There are many learned opinions

means. Contact one of the two following phone numbers and RSVP by March 16 if you will be present to be initiated. Call the Post 599-8624 or myself at 591-7606. Leave a message if you get an answering machine.

On February 21, the Nominating Committee met to discuss nominations for officers for the upcoming 98-99 Legion year. We need your support and for you to volunteer if you would like to become an officer.

ADJUTANTS ANNOTATIONS
- ANN FOSTER -

Our membership now is 283; we need one more to make 90% of goal. Another 32 after that would put us at 100%. This is the closest we have been in a long time. Let's make an effort to sign up these additional members; we really need them for all that we do as The American Legion at all levels, National, Department and Post.

One item we need help with is for you to contact your state of Colorado House and Senate representatives to ask them to consider voting for a delayed bill to put a State Veterans Nursing Home at the Fitzsimmons campus. Senator Ben Alexander and Representative Mary Ellen Epps are sponsoring this bill similar to H.B. 98-1051, which was postponed indefinitely by the House State Veterans & Military Affairs Committee. That really means they killed it because they were unduly influenced by the private nursing home lobby. The facts are that VA pays a major portion of the costs and those veterans needing a State Nursing Home are not those who can

afford a private nursing home. Let your representatives know that our veterans in the Denver metro area are deserving of a place to go where family members would be able to come and visit.

We also had an excellent presentation re the current IRS audit of non-profit Pull Tab operations. We have been one of the 13 Posts to be audited and will keep you advised as this situation progresses.

Tickets for the District 7 Ball are available from both the Post and the Auxiliary. We each have tickets and they are \$10.00. Date is April 4, place Post 38 and music by The Midnight Special featuring Joe Ross at the piano. Cocktails at 6:00 followed by dinner at 6:30. Dinner is your choice of Chicken Cordon Bleu or Prime Rib. A short program follows dinner with the dance after. Leave a message at the Post, 599-8624, and indicate which menu you prefer. Make your check to Post 38 and we will send your tickets to you.

AUXILIARY NEWS
DOT DASSERO, PRESIDENT

The initiation planned for Febr was postponed because of illness. We will reschedule for March.

Be sure to order your tickets for the District Ball on April 4th. Cal me at home for reservations (598-2377).

If you have not renewed your membership for this 1998 year, please do so NOW.