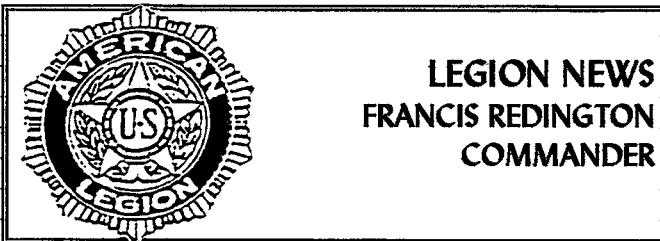


CENTENNIAL POST 209

THE AMERICAN LEGION

MARCH 2001



OUR Bingo survey is in full swing. When you are called, WE will appreciate participation in this project. It is important to get feedback. No matter how insignificant it may seem. Communication between people and organizations is getting to the point that the right hand doesn't know what the left hand is doing. With that in mind, PLEASE assist US in our search for answers to OUR questions, suggestions for the improvement of the Post and let US know if you need assistance.

One point of concern for the Executive Board and Board of Trustees is the drain on OUR resources from dues. It has been almost ten years since WE had an increase in dues. By election time of the 2001-2002 slate of officers, the Executive Board will be asking for an increase from \$25.00 to \$30.00 per year to assist in maintaining OUR General Account. The purpose is to create a buffer against a possible increase of Department and

National dues. Please consider this proposal.

In January, OUR Cub Scout Pack 24 held its Pinewood Derby. Historian Greg and Pat Andries attended and assisted in judging cars in three categories. They had a good time with the Scouts and their families. Greg has more details in his article.

Remember the American Legion birthday party on March 10. OUR candidate for the Oratorical contest is ready. WE had some practice speaking engagements in preparation for the contest set for March 3 at UC Boulder. GOOD LUCK!!!

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT
HOWARD HORNIK

No members were reported this month with serious problems. Here's hoping our Commander is feeling better. Our prayers go to Tom Morant's son who has cancer and Brentley Hart for his illness. Harry McFadden is in the VA Hospital in Denver. We wish him a speedy recovery. Please notify the Chaplain if a member of our Post is deceased, sick or in hospital.

OFFICERS

COMMANDER	FRANCIS REDINGTON
SR VICE COMMANDE	CHUCK ZEITVOGEL
JR VICE COMMANDER	NORM MOYER
ADJUTANT	ANN FOSTER
FINANCE OFFICER	AL CYRIAQUE
HISTORIAN	GREG ANDRIES
SGT-AT-ARMS	ROBERT RYDELL
CHAPLAIN	HOWARD HORNIK
JUDGE ADVOCATE	LARRY JOHNSON
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
JUNE 25, 1950 - JAN 31, 1956
VIETNAM WAR
DEC 22, 1961 - MAY 7, 1975
GRENADA & LEBANON
AUG 24 1982 - JUL 31, 1990
PERSIAN GULF
AUG 2, 1990 - UNTIL THE
END OF HOSTILITIES

AUXILIARY OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	DOROTHY DASSERO
SECRETARY	PAT ANDRIES
TREASURER	BARBARA JOHNSON
CHAPLAIN	MARCIA SHELLHAMMER
SGT-AT-ARMS	RUTH HORNIK

DUES \$15.00

*GREG ANDRIES
HISTORIAN*

AUXILIARY MEETING THE THIRD THURSDAY EACH MONTH
AT THE POST'S OFFICE ON AUSTIN BLUFFS PKWY
1:30 P.M.

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

EDITOR
DOROTHY DASSERO, NALPA

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

Cub Scout Pack 24, sponsored by American Legion Post 209, held its 2001 Pinewood Derby at Washington Elementary School on January 27th. There were 14 entries in this annual event. Pat Andries, Auxiliary secretary, Airmen Weir and Stutz from Norad and I were privileged to be judges for this fun event. Co-Chairmen of the Pinewood Derby were Staff Sgt Christopher Campbell and Richard Mount. Each scout used a kit consisting of a block of wood, four wheels and four nails to design their entries. The cars were weighed and measured in pre-qualification. Cars are judged in three categories, "Most Colorful," "Most Original." All winners of design and racing were awarded trophies. There was good attendance by families and we all had a lot of fun. This Cub Scout Pack has a great group of boys and I am glad our Post supports this worthwhile group.

ADJUTANT ANNOTATIONS
ANN FOSTER

As I write this I am showing we only need one more for our goal of 270. I know of two coming in, so it looks like we will finally make 100%! Yeah! Thanks to all who helped make that possible as this has really been a team effort. However, that doesn't mean we can rest on our laurels. We always have people moving or to Post Everlasting so we need to continue increasing the rolls for those who must leave.

Keep our oratorical contestant, Mark Ehlers, in your thoughts. We think he has an excellent chance to do very well, but he needs our support in all ways.

As we get close to nominating and electing officers for the coming year, I think it will be good to go over some of the positions and committees that your Post strives to fill to accomplish it's mission of veterans helping veterans and their families.

The Past Commanders are important to a Commander as they represent continuity and history. The Commander is the one charged with the responsibility of ensuring the wishes of the membership are received and acted upon. The Commander has overall responsibility for the programs the Post chooses to participate in. The Commander is arbitrator, peacemaker, tactician, and overseer as needed. The Commander must be knowledgeable for the members and the public as needed.

The Senior Vice Commander assists the Commander and usually is planning to become the next Commander. Thus, this person is in training while looking at possibilities for the coming year. The Senior Vice Commander's primary concern is membership. This person also fills in for the Commander when necessary.

One of our programs is The American Legion Oratorical contest. The chair of this committee visits high schools talking with teachers and principals about the contest and the benefits derived from participation. This position has training required to insure uniformity and fairness for the contest.

The Boys State program is another favorite. The chair of this committee insures that the schools and eligible boys have all the materials needed for those interested in learning how our government works. The Post makes the selection of applicants, and they attend the University of Southern Colorado, Sunday through Thursday in June. They are usually quite surprised at all they accomplish and learn.

The Post supports a Cub Pack. The chair of this committee meets with the Pack for liaison of activities. We sponsor the pack and maintain a scholarship fund for those boys unable to pay to belong.

We also sponsor an American Legion baseball team each year made up of boys from Mitchell High School. The liaison from the Post maintains communication with the

coach for the purposes of our sponsorship and other needs.

Our fundraising has been bingo and as you know we may be able to return to that, if we have your support.

The Junior Vice Commander is the one who plans our social events based on input from the membership and such traditional events as the Early Bird dinner, Christmas party, The American Legion birthday dinner and the Installation banquet, etc.

The Adjutant would be the secretary in other organizations. Duties are administrative and include keeping membership records, minutes of meetings, post records filed and assisting elsewhere as needed. At this time the Adjutant also does the bulk mailing of the newsletter.

The Finance Officer pays bills and sends membership fees to Department. This person insures the deposit of all monies and prepares a financial report for the general membership meetings.

The Historian has the responsibility of recording our past events in pictures and written records. We are blessed to have a videographer in our midst as well as taking pictures with a regular camera.

The Sergeant-at-Arms assists at all meetings in the arrangement of the hall, passing out minutes and the preamble, preserving order, and otherwise helping other officers as needed. This person also insures the colors of the Puuuuuuost are present at local ceremonial events.

The Chaplain opens and closes our meetings with prayer. The Chaplain visits members who are ill and attends services, where possible, of those members who have gone to the Post Everlasting. A sympathy card is sent to the family. A short memorial service is held.

The Service Officer has the job of helping veterans who may have need of aid in some way. This person and the Post maintain contact with both the local and department level of organizations and individuals that can assist, depending upon the nature of the problem.

There you have it. Look these over to see if you might come forward to help. This is your Post and can only be as good as you help to make it that way!



Ann
Landers

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2001 THE GAZETTE Life7

Dear Ann Landers: I served in Vietnam with the Marines in the late '60s. I feel richly blessed that my life has been a success, but I have unfinished business from the war, and I'm sure other veterans feel the same way.

I think it would help if you could tell your readers about a wonderful Web site that lists all the Americans who died in Vietnam, along with a place to enter your own remembrances and your e-mail address if you choose to be contacted by other friends and family. The Web site is www.thevirtualwall.org. Please, Ann, this could do wonders for those of us who are still grieving.

— B.L., Minneapolis

Hear Ye

Hear Ye

You Are Invited To Attend

The American Legion Birthday Dinner

When? March 10

*Where? OFW Post 4051
430 East Pikes Peak Avenue*

*Time? 6:30 PM Social Hour
7:10 PM Dinner Served*

Cost? \$10.00 Per Person

*RSVP? Larry Johnson
622-0344 By March 5*