



Centennial 209 Newsletter

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

March 2002



From the Commander Charles Zeitvogel

Attendance at General Membership Meetings:

Attendance at General Membership meetings by members is of the utmost importance. Our By-laws indicate that at least 10% of the membership must be present to conduct an official business meeting.

The Post is offering a door prize cash/check drawing for members that are present. The base amount of this drawing was \$25.00 with \$5.00 added to the drawing each month if the member who's name is drawn is not present. Don't let that be you. Be present for this easy cash drawing. James A. Jones is the name that was drawn at the February 21, 2002 General Membership Meeting, he was not present so the amount will rise to \$ 35.00 for the March membership drawing.

Sgt. Stephen Cornish, USMC, from the Marine Corps Recruiting Service, was a guest speaker at the January 17th General Membership meeting. CPO Keith Horst, from the US Navy Recruiting Service, was the guest speaker at the February 21st General Membership meeting. Their presence and talks concerning their respective services and what a new recruit might expect was greatly appreciated by the members present.



Post Elections:

Election of officers for this Post will be held April 18, 2002 in compliance with Post 209's Constitution and By-Laws. Members may make nominations from the floor at the meeting prior to the election. Nominations presented at the February 21st General Membership meeting by the Nomination Committee, chaired by Past Commander Francis Redington, are:

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Commander | Charles Zeitvogel |
| Senior Vice Commander | Norman Moyer |
| Junior Vice Commander | Greg Andries |
| Adjutant | Anna Foster |
| Finance Officer | Gideon Diamon |
| Post Chaplain | Howard Hornik |
| Post Historian | |
| Post Service Officer | Thomas Morant |
| Sergeant at Arms | Robert Rydell |
| Post Executive Committeeman | Neal Thomas |

The Post Commander, with Executive Committee agreement, appoints the Judge Advocate and Service Officer.

Post 209 Officers

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| Commander | Chuck Zeitvogel |
| Senior Vice Commander | Larry Johnson |
| Junior Vice Commander | Norm Moyer |
| Adjutant | Ann Foster |
| Finance Officer | Greg Andries |
| Historian | Harry Mc Fadden |
| Sgt-at-Arms | Robert Rydell |
| Chaplain | Howard Hornik |
| Judge Advocate | Alton Cyriaque |
| Service Officer | Thomas Morant |
| Post Exec Committeeman | Neal Thomas |

Dues \$ 30.00

Auxiliary Officers

| | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| President | Dorothy Dassero |
| Secretary/Treasurer | Barbara Johnson |
| Chaplain | Marcia Shellhammer |
| Sgt-at-Arms | Ruth Hornik |

Dues \$ 15.00

Meetings

Post Executive Meeting – 1st Thursday –
6:30 P.M. at 4291 Austin Bluffs Pkwy, Ste 104.

Post General Meeting – 3rd Thursday
7:00 P.M. at VFW Post 4051,
430 East Pikes Peak Avenue.

Auxiliary General Membership Meeting
1:30 P.M. at 4291 Austin Bluffs Pkwy, Ste 104.

Board of Trustees

| | |
|-----------|-------------------|
| Chairman | Neal Thomas |
| Secretary | Alton Cyriaque |
| Member | Greg Andries |
| Member | Chuck Zeitvogel |
| Member | Francis Redington |
| Member | Harry Mc Fadden |
| Member | Alton Cyriaque |
| Member | Larry Johnson |

Meets on the 1st Thursday after Executive
Committee Meeting

Membership Eligibility

World War I
April 6, 1917 – 11 November 1918

World War II
December 7, 1941 – December 31, 1946

Korean War
June 25, 1960 – January 31, 1956

Vietnam War
December 22, 1961 – May 7, 1975

Grenada & Lebanon
August 24, 1982 – July 31, 1990

Persian Gulf
August 2, 1990 – Until the end of Hostilities as
set by Congress



Sick Call

Dot Dassero – The last report is that she slowly getting better. Keep up the work DOT, we need you back.

Alice Hart– She isn't feeling all that spry these days but is doing pretty good. All who know Alice, send her a card. Please, keep on sending those cards, they lift the spirit!

Charles Planty is recovering from a heart attack.

If you are sick or if you know of someone who is under the weather or in the hospital, please give a call to Howard Hornik at 719-596-6345. Information needs to be in the editor's hands by the 2nd Friday of every month for inclusion in the newsletter.



**From the Commander
Charles Zeitvogel
(continued)**

Note: A cash door prize drawing of \$50.00 is being offered by Commander Zeitvogel at the March meeting in addition to the door prize mentioned previously. The member whose name is drawn must be present to win.



The American Legion Family :

The American Legion Family consists of American Legion members and their immediate family, members of the American Legion Auxiliary and the Sons of the American Legion (SAL). Auxiliary and SAL members are generally invited to social events, conventions and other activities of The American Legion. Like many families, members of the American Legion Family may have different interests and approaches to problems and opportunities; each organization is therefore independent of the other, but normally supportive of each other's goals.

American Legion Centennial Post 209 is supportive of our Auxiliary and SAL members. Should they need our support, it is available within resources available to the Post. Auxiliary and SAL members are, as they have been in the past, welcome to participate in this Post's fund raising and social events. We encourage their news articles, subject to editing, for publication in the Post's newsletter. Assistance by Auxiliary and SAL members at Bingo games sponsored by this Post is as always appreciated.



Letters to the Editor:

Members were encouraged in past newsletters to submit comments and concerns for publication in the Post's newsletter. As of this date, no Letters to the Commander or Editor have been received for publication. Regardless, the offer to publish your comments and articles regarding this Post or other items of common concern remains open. Submit articles or comments for publication to the Editor or me at the address in the mast letterhead of this newsletter. Looking forward to hearing from you.



**From Post Exec Committeeman
Neal Thomas**

The president's budget was released on February 4th and I must say it was rather surprising and disappointing. It's the same old story all over again, "The Story of the Forgotten Warrior". As you look at the proposed budget and how it relates to the active duty force, it looks pretty good. The proposed pay increases for active duty military are noteworthy and long overdue. But what happens when the hostile actions around the world are over and all of those stalwart warriors return home?

In the recently completed 106th Congress our legislators passed a bill authorizing concurrent pay for retired military personnel. This measure was designed to correct an inequity that occurs whenever a military person retires for tenure (20 or more years of service) with a VA RATED DISABILITY.



From Post Exec Committeeman

Neal Thomas

(continued)

This unfortunate circumstance occurs because the military retiree must relinquish the offset amount of his disability compensation from his retired pay. In essence he is paying for his disability compensation from his retired pay. Ironically, the military is the only branch of the federal government that has such an offset, once they retire. One would think that the recently passed bill by congress would alleviate this situation - - but no it doesn't. This bill will only go in to effect if the proposed budget includes funding and appropriations to pay for it. So far there is no such proposed budget for this.

It would seem logical that the nation would look favorably at correcting this sad state of affairs; especially since it is now an all-volunteer force. Many of the veterans who will be returning following their tours in Afghanistan, Bosnia, Saudi Arabia and throughout the Persian Gulf will be retiring. Many of them will be suffering from the ravages of war and will be disabled veterans. Under the current situation, they too will endure this same inequity! !

To further exacerbate this situation, the proposed budget also takes away the Job Assistance Program for Veterans. The proposal is to transfer the current job placement service (LVER/DVOP Program), Transition Assistance Program (TAP), and the Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program (HVRP) from the Department of Labor to the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). This is the kiss of Death for all of these programs! ! !

Currently the VA is unable to accommodate the needy disabled veterans around the country without attempting to manage an Employment Program. This move, if approved, will leave approximately 3,000 additional disabled veterans unemployed; the entire LVER/DVOP staff who are currently state employees with the Department of Labor.

- This move is tantamount to pandemonium within the veteran's population. It literally takes away all semblances of preference or priority in the hiring of veterans. If you find this situation unacceptable, contact your Senators, Representatives, and yes, the President. Let them know that you served honorably and deserve the same rights and privileges as all other citizens. Let them know that we will not be relegated to the realm of "The Forgotten Warrior", no longer needed by our country.



From The Historian

Harry Mc Fadden

First, let me thank Junior Vice Commander Norm Moyer and Finance Officer Greg Andries who are not only dedicated to Post 209, but supported me when I couldn't be there to take pictures at functions.

Next month your Post will hold election of officers for the year 2002-2003. With over 200 members, there should be some new individuals hopefully getting involved in the Post's offices and activities.

Finally, all good things must end. My wife and I must change our environment for personal reasons. I will be transferring to The Edward D. Ballard Legion Post 38 (Security Post 38) within the next few months. Later I will be joining American Legion Post 13 in Canon City. but American Legion Post 209 will never be forgotten. I will have one more entry as Post 209 Historian in the April edition of the newsletter.



**From The Senior Vice Commander
Larry Johnson**



YOU DID ONCE AGAIN: Our membership is over the top again and the ones to thank are the Legionnaires who not only renewed your membership for year 2002 but in many cases, brought new members into the Post.

The Department of Colorado sends their congratulations for a job well done. In the next breath, they ask that we put our backs to the wall and bring in an additional 20 members to Post 209. What this will do is help the Department as a whole to reach the membership goals as set by the National organization. In addition, Commander Zeitvogel, if he gets 110% of membership, will receive a Blue Jacket signifying his receipt of 110% in membership.

I know that we can do this, as we still have until 1 May 2002 to reach this additional membership goal. All we need to do is talk with our neighbors, our co-workers, and yes, even our family members who are now on active duty answering our Nation's call to duty.



**The American Legion
Birthday Party**

Don't forget The American Legion Birthday Party. It will be held at American Legion Post 5, 15 E. Platte Ave. on Saturday, 16 March. Hospitality Hour will start at 6:00 P.M. and dinner will be served at 7:00 P.M. Following dinner we will have Initiation of New Members and Legionnaires with their years in The American Legion.

Make plans to attend this special function. Reserve space for you and your guests by calling Larry Johnson at 719-622-0344 by 14 March 2002. Let him know how many will be in your party. The cost of this evening is \$ 7.00 per person.

The menu will consist of Roast Beef, Ham, baked potato, veggies, salad and a dessert.



- 7 Mar Post Executive Committee Meeting 6:30 P.M. Board of Trustees Meeting Follows
- 16 Mar American Legion Birthday Party American Legion Post 5, 15 E Platte Ave, SEE FLYER
- 21 Mar General Membership Meeting 7:00 P.M. at VFW Post 4051, 430 E. Pikes Peak Ave
District 7 Visitation
- 4 Apr Post Executive Committee Meeting 6:30 P.M. Board of Trustees Meeting Follows
- 18 Apr General Membership Meeting 7:00 P.M. at VFW Post 4051, 430 E. Pikes Peak Ave
- 20 Apr Election of New Officers District 7 Ball, American Legion Post 38, Security
- 3 May Post Executive Committee Meeting 6:30 P.m. Board of Trustees Follows
Installation of Officers Dinner and Installation of Officers. Dinner served at 7:00 P.M. Installation to follow.
- 17 May General Membership Meeting 7:00 P.M. at VFW Post 4051, 430 E. Pikes Peak Ave





From The Service Officer Thomas Morant

Now we have Legion a new year. Myself and the Chaplain Howard Hornik will need all of your help. We want to do more than we did before and the only way we can do it by the members let us know what they want. We need more members to come to the General Membership and see what we are doing and talk about. I want to leave you with this when some go to the hospital or come home please call myself or the Chaplain and let us know were you are and how you are doing if any one thing they ben in the area were they use agent orange. Please call me I have books out it I want to leave you with these words: Prayer of Love, God is Love. May the love of the universe shine and find a resting place within me. Let the seed of Love be planted I am filled with joy and happiness I give thank for all the love that come to me.



From the Adjutant Ann Foster

Adjutant Annotations

Congratulations are in order! We have exceeded our 100% goal of 271 for 2002. In fact, we are now at 275. However, we should not rest as just 23 more would give us 110%. With that amount we could earn some extra awards as well as be in a better position for next year. So, lets see what we can do as we have the time to do it!

The Department Mid-Year Conference was very successful. Attendance and enthusiasm levels were up. Saturday morning saw inspirational speeches by Paul Murphy, a U.S.S. Indianapolis survivor, and Kris Lazzaretti, a Boy's State scholarship winner.

The newest Post to be chartered in Colorado, The Thomas C. Acklam Post 2002 of Brighton, had their charter presented by Commander Danny DuMiller, new Post Development Chairman Del Lennie and District 5 Commander, J. R. Kent.

The DEC approved appointing a committee to look at redistricting the entire state after a

resolution by District 5 to split that District into two districts. The Department Constitution and By-Laws Committee will review the District 5 resolution. That committee will review also review procedures for verifying the eligibility of members prior to them running for Department Office.

The DEC approved hiring the following two new Services Officers: Morton Anderson and Belton Smith. They will work with John McCartney at the Federal Center Office.

The DEC approved appointed the following members to serve on a committee to set up a Youth Foundation: Jim McCracken, Paul Erickson, Larry Carroll, Pat Smith, Tom Bock, and Danny DuMiller.

The Media Awards went to Mike Rosen of KOA Radio, The *Montrose Daily Press*, The *Fort Morgan Times* and feature writer R. J. Kaderlik, KUSA weatherman Nick Carter, the *Denver Post*, Gary Massero of the *Rocky Mountain News*, and Rick Crandall of KEZW radio.

Our National representatives attending were "Tiny" Salmen, National Junior Vice Commander and Lyla Semenko. Northwest Division Vice President and both spoke to the issues of concern to the Legion family.

The Mid-Year Conference was also a time of learning more about the American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary through reports and informational presentation from both organizations. Additionally, it was a time for comradeship. Thus, you might want to attend next year, so you, too, can enjoy the benefits.





Does Anyone Really Know What We Do ?

The American Legion Auxiliary has been around for a long time – over eighty years, in fact. If each of our one million members were asked what the Auxiliary does, what would she say.

Many would talk about the millions of hours of volunteer time we give to assist veterans at home, in hospitals, and in the field. And, they would be right.

Others would tell about the millions of dollars donated to worthy causes around the world and in our own communities. Right again!

Some would stress the community service work we do and thousands of special projects we have funded to assist families and children across the nation. And, they would be right as well!

And of course, everyone would mention our poppies – those little red crepe flowers made by and for hospitalized veterans – and the many thousands we distribute every Memorial Day.

That's just the beginning!

WE WORK to prevent substance abuse, teen suicide, child abuse, and teen pregnancy.

WE EDUCATE our children for leadership through Girls State, Girls Nation, the Spirit of Youth Foundation, and Volun Teens, and scores of local and national scholarship programs.

WE ORGANIZE community blood drives, local and national conservation efforts, emergency and disaster relief worldwide, citizenship and education programs, child safety materials, and legislative action.

WE HELP our own members through the Auxiliary Emergency and Displaced Homemakers Funds and our service people and their families through the Family Assistance fund.

The Auxiliary is all of this and much, much more!

And, we're looking for people like you
Nurturing Tradition ... Fostering Change.

AUXILIARY PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

The Auxiliary is women, of all ages, and from all walks of life, who join together in the fellowship of giving.

No matter how an Auxiliary member chooses to contribute, she can help fill a need and address one of the countless social concerns through our many programs.

Americanism -- Americanism Youth Conference, Spirit of Youth Fund, Flag Etiquette and Citizenship Programs, Girl Scout Achievement Award.

Children and Youth – Substance Abuse Prevention, Crisis Intervention and Family Support, Child Safety, Immunization.

Community Service -- Blood Drives, First Aid, CPR Training, Help for the Homeless, Elderly and Victims Abuse, Environmental Protection, Community Beautification, Crime Prevention, Neighborhood Watch Programs.

EDUCATION – Literacy Programs, Scholarships and Grants, Leadership Training and Seminars.

Girls State/Nation --- Legislative – Support for Veterans Programs, Citizens Flag Alliance.

National Security – Awareness Forums and Seminars, USO, Disaster Prevention and Relief.

The Poppy Program --- Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation – Hospital and Hospice Volunteer Program, Field and Service Programs, Volun Teens.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS TO YOU?

Auxiliary members receive special savings and benefits.

A year's subscription to National News to keep you in informed about Auxiliary activities and programs.

Free \$ 7,500 Travel Accident Insurance

The Exclusive Auxiliary Credit Card – Competitive annual percentage rate, no annual fee.

Car Rental Discounts

Auxiliary Eye Care Plan – Up to 60% savings on eyewear at 7,200 locations.

Save 40% on your Next Move with North American Van Lines

Special Auxiliary Supplemental Insurance Plans – Eligible member can't be turned down.

C. A. Affinity Long Distance Phone Service -- Save money and support the ALA Scholarship program at the same time.

Special Auxiliary Programs: Emergency Assistance Grants, Displaced Homemakers Assistance Grants, Leadership Training Programs, Seminars, Scholarships, Junior Programs, Special Auxiliary Merchandise.

WHO CAN JOIN?

You can join the Auxiliary if you are:

- ❖ The mother, wife, sister, daughter, granddaughter, great-granddaughter, or grandmother of a current member of The American Legion.
- ❖ A female veteran who served during any of the conflicts and is a female Legionnaire.
- ❖ The mother, wife, sister, daughter, granddaughter, great-granddaughter, or grandmother of a deceased veteran who served during any of the conflicts. (Eligibility also applies to step-relatives.)

Ladies – You have heard your husbands and sons who are members of The American Legion, you have the newsletters and magazines of The American Legion, and more than once you have heard them ask “when is the Post going to be built”. With your help and gentle pushing, you can become a member of Centennial Unit 209 and help push for the completion of the Post home. For more information talk to your husband or Larry Johnson at 719-622-0344. He will then provide contact information.

American Legion's



When: Saturday, 16 March 2002,
Social Time: 6:30 P.M., Dinner 7:00 P.M.
Initiation of New Members
Recognition of Legionnaires

MENU: Roast Beef and ham, potatoes, veggies, salad,
and dessert

COST: \$ 7.00 per person

Please call Larry Johnson at 719-622-0344 by 13 March
and let him know how many will be in your party

Birthday