

The Centennial

VOLUME I EDITION 5

MAY 2021



AMERICAN LEGION NEAL THOMAS JR. CENTENNIAL POST 209

3613 JEANNINE DR. COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80917
719-599-8624 WWW.LEGION209.ORG

MEET YOUR 2020 - 2021 OFFICERS!! 2020-2021 American Legion Post 209 Officers

Commander: Joseph Schmidt 651.328.9029	Finance Officer: Joel Haas 719.482.4496	Executive Committeeman: Art Kimbrel 719.339.4610
Sr. Vice Commander: Marvin Weaver Jr. 719.244.3535	Chaplain: Glen Thompson 334.717.3746	Judge Advocate: Marvin Weaver Sr. 719.638.4763
Jr. Vice Commander: Sarah Tobin 719.439.7724	Historian: Stewart Anderson	Honor Guard Captain: Michael Wescott 719.306.9170
Adjutant: Jerry Hopper 918.953.9980	Service Officer: Art Carter 603.913.3261	Club Manager: Art Kimbrel 719.339.4610

2020-2021 American Legion Auxiliary Unit 209 Officers

President: Cathy Barger 719.290.3163	Secretary: Pat Weaver 719.638.4763	Chaplain: Donna Rae Smith 815.973.0073	VP: Donna Testorff
Treasurer: Kellie Hayes 719.494.7167	Historian: Royce Hopper 918.953.9993	Sgt At Arms: Annette Coakley	

2020-2021 Sons of The American Legion Squadron 209 Officers

Commander: Michael Wescott 719.306.9170	Adjutant: Rick Kettering 813.967.6680	Sgt At Arms: Bob Ingram 480.353.8234	Chaplain: Steve Cox 970.580.8191
Sr. Vice Commander: Brian Wess 719.528.6672	Jr. Vice Commander:	Finance Officer: Ken Taylor 719.461.4047	

2021-2022 American Legion Riders Post 209 Officers

President: Stewart Anderson	Treasurer: Kellie Hayes 719.494.7167	VP: Ed Santos 719.329.4357	Road Captain: Tom Foster	Historian: Scott Laudan
Secretary: Mike Sylvester	Sgt At Arms: Drew Pearson	Communications: Monk Baylis	Logistics: Caty Daly	

2020-2021 Amateur Radio Club Officers

President: Jon Davis K0YOV	Vice President: George Johnson KE0ALQ	Director: Jim Harris W0EM
Secretary: Harvey LeCato W1JU	Treasurer: Henry Russell KC0NAJ	

2021 DINNERS AND EVENTS RE-OPENED!

Due to the reduction in COVID-19 cases and a relaxation on social gatherings, the Post leadership decided to re-open events and Dinners this month. We will observe the mandates handed down by our Governor and allow up to 50% capacity for all events.

If restrictions are further reduced or changed in any way, we will adjust as appropriate. We recommend you continue to monitor our website and Facebook page for updates.

Thank you in advance for your understanding and continued support.

Post 209 Family Leadership





FROM THE DESK & MIND OF THE COMMANDER

I recently had the honor to present an award at Doherty High School during their U.S. Navy Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) award ceremony. This was something new for me, the two high schools I attended did not have a JROTC program. Although I knew about the program, I really did not have a full understanding or appreciation, until that night.

These kids or I should say young adults are dedicated to Classroom instruction that is augmented throughout the year by community service activities, drill competition, field meets, flights, visits to naval activities, marksmanship training, and other military training. Their dedication to service is truly amazing.

I looked around the room at the future of our country, dedicated young men and women, who one day will be the leaders of our free world. Not all of these kids will go on to join the military, some may be a doctor, or a senator, or a non-profit executive; in their own way they will be leading this country to greatness. It is my intent to continue work with the Doherty High School JROTC Program and create an invaluable partnership between the Post and the School.

The programs we work on day in and day out need support from the members like you who have passions to teach, coach, and mentor our youth. If you are interested in any of our children and youth programs please reach out to me and I would be happy to tell you all about them.

Lastly, don't forget the meeting on May 8th is the installation of officers at 5 PM, with a dinner following at 6. We will not have our normal breakfast or monthly meeting following the breakfast that morning. Thank you again for electing me to be your commander. I will try my hardest to ensure this Post continues to be the best in the state!

I would like to take a moment to ask that you pray for the family of SGM Peter Isackson. SGM Isackson lost the battle to his demons this last month and will be greatly missed by all of us. May your legacy live on forever. Til Valhalla Brother.

Joseph Schmidt
Post Commander



Celebrate

At
American Legion
Neal Thomas Jr. Centennial Post 209

Host your next event with us! With over 2,500 SQFT of venue space this is the perfect location for your next social event!



Rental Features:

- 6 Hour Rental
- In House Catering Available*
- Fully Stocked Bar*
- Muti-Room Sound System
- Dance Floor with Lighting

If you and your family are looking for an affordable option for a wedding, corporate event, retirement party, or any other event, we here at The American Legion Post 209 are ready to assist you in all your event planning needs.



For More Information

www.legion209.org/contact_us

(719) 599-8624

3613 Jeannine Drive Colorado Springs, CO 80917

*Additional cost may apply



FROM THE DESK OF THE POST ADJUTANT

2021 elections for AL Post 209 Executive Committee and Board of Trustees, held during the April General Membership Meeting, are over. With only a couple of changes, the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors remain the same.

FYI: Congress passed the American Rescue Plan in March. What does this mean to you? If you are enrolled in the VA and you accrued any co-payments for medical care or pharmacy services after April 6, 2021, you will receive a refund. All co-payments for medical care or pharmacy services between April 6 and September 30 are cancelled. No one seems to know when the refunds will be paid.

I strongly recommend if you are proud of being a member of The American Legion, you make an attempt to come to the General Membership Meetings and help run your Post. We cannot represent you in our decisions if we do not know what you want.

Jerry Hopper
Post Adjutant



FROM THE DESK OF THE SR. VICE COMMANDER

The 2021 membership year is coming to a close and we as a Post are still about 100 members short of our quota from Department. If your membership card does not have the year 2021 on it; your membership expired on Dec 31, 2020. If your card says 2020, please send in your renewal or contact Adjutant Jerry to catch up on your membership today.

The Post is starting to open back up to normal operations and we would really like to see you. Come out to the Post for one of our Friday night dinners. If you have not been in a while or if you have never been to the Post, we would love to see you. Plan on coming out on May 8th for the installation of the new officers for next year and stick around for the dinner afterwards. Next year should be exciting since we should be able to get back to normal.

We will also be having our District Convention on May 2nd at Post 13 in Canon City starting at 11am. Come and meet other Legionnaires in our District and learn what they are doing. The drive to Canon City is nice and you could even take the long way back and go up thru Cripple Creek for another great drive. Department will be holding its annual Training session this year May 14 – 16 at Hotel Elegante here in Colorado Springs. This session is geared toward the new Legionnaire and we will go over topics to learn our history and where we plan to go into our next 100 years.

Thanks for everything you do to help out veterans and our community.

Marvin Weaver, Jr.
Sr. Vice Commander



FROM THE DESK OF THE JR. VICE COMMANDER

I recently received the following email from the President of Veterans and Athletes United and thought it would be worth sharing with you this month.

From: Howard James <veteransau@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 12, 2021 9:00 AM
To: howard82nd@yahoo.com <howard82nd@yahoo.com>
Subject: Support for traveling War on Terror Memorial

I hope this email finds you doing well! We have an all volunteer non-profit, VAU Veterans and Athletes United, and we are looking for veterans interested in helping to travel our War on Terror Memorial dog tag flag.

We completed a fallen heroes memorial in 2018 which is a large 28' wide by 6' tall American Flag designed out of all the dog tags of those who have fallen in the war on terror. More details on the memorial can be found at www.vetsau.com/memorial <<http://www.vetsau.com/memorial>> . It travels to many locations nationwide.

We are based out of Richmond Virginia and right now we are only capable of travelling to host locations East of the Mississippi. We receive numerous applications for the memorial flag west of the Mississippi to include San Diego, New Mexico and many other locations. We are currently looking into building a second rendition of this memorial flag to keep out West and travel to the many Locations where we receive requests. We think that once we designate a couple travel coordinators out West that we could potentially have the memorial flag built within the next 8 months to possibly travel by 2022.

We are currently looking for veterans with a flexible schedule that live out West that may be interested in honoring our fallen service members from GWOT. Responsibilities include travel to great locations and events to set up and break down the VAU dog tag memorial flag (possibly twice a month). And coordinating future events to display the flag. All travel, lodging and meals are covered. We may be able to include a possible stipend for each trip based on donations we receive.

I ask that you please pass along this information to any of your American Legion members. If interested in the position and supporting our mission please email veteransau@gmail.com <<mailto:veteransau@gmail.com>> with your current home of record, your background and any questions you may have.

We appreciate any support and look forward to hopefully expanding our awareness of these fallen heroes and their families.

Respectfully,

James Howard
President, VAU Veterans and Athletes United
C-540-597-3186
www.VetsAU.com <<http://www.VetsAU.com>>

Sarah Tobin
Jr. Vice Commander



FROM OUR POST SERVICE OFFICER

Our Post has reached out with assistance to 68 Veterans for the calendar year 2020 and 23 for 2021. You may not be aware, but we have a Post Veterans' Assistance Fund that was first established by our Post's namesake, Neal Thomas, Jr. As of 31 January, we have just over \$5,712 in emergency funds. That may sound like a lot of money, but it goes very quickly when used to assist Veterans for emergency support.

If you would like to donate to keep this fund going, you can mail us a check or go to our Post website at legion209.org and click on the "Donate" button. You can enter the term PVAF to ensure the donation is earmarked for this special account. Remember, we are a non-profit charity so your donation may be tax deductible. Check with your tax advisor to find out!

AJ Carter
Post Service Officer/VA&R Committee Chairman





Trivia Night!



Do you want a chance for a free dinner? Or maybe a free beverage?

Do you know what is the longest river in the world?

Do you know what is the largest river in North America?

How about Roy Rogers real name?

What is the President of the United States' address?

If you know the answers to the above and other questions similar to these, or if you fancy yourself a trivia wizard, join us on Friday, 21 May for our inaugural Trivia Night event.

The fun will start following dinner that night. You must be at the Post for the beginning of the contest; late arrivals will not be allowed to play.

Jay Bowen will serve as Emcee for the event; he claims it would not be fair for him to play because he is the self-proclaimed **Trivia Champion of the World!**

This will be a team event; teams can be as small as one person or up to four (4) can play on a team.

Cost to compete is \$5.00 per person.

Even if you don't want to play, come on out and watch the fun! But you should consider competing in the contest. You never know, your dinner that night might be free!

FROM THE DESK OF OUR FINANCE OFFICER

After an amazing effort by Kellie Hayes, who cannot be thanked enough for her hard work, the audit was completed for the period of 7/1/2020 – 2/28/2021. While there were some discrepancies and anomalies to work through, all funds are accounted for and I picked up responsibility for the accounts starting 3/1/2021. There were 16 recommendations made at the end of the audit, of which 13 have already been implemented with the other 3 being considered and/or are in progress.

I am currently learning how the Post's budget has generally been worked in the past, plus all the little things that I never knew that I needed to know – and what a learning experience it has been so far. In the coming weeks I will look at what additions to, or changes in, processes can be implemented to improve efficiencies. One of my goals is to provide a simple way that makes it so everyone can easily understand the overall status of the Post finances. Additionally, I am always willing to provide further explanation or go into more depth should someone need clarification or want to know more. I can always be reached at: finance@legion209.org

While we had quite an impact to the Post income thanks to COVID-19, things are starting to look up a little as the Post is seeing an increase or participation in Friday night dinners and other activities. As I stated in last month's newsletter, the Post definitely needs some fundraisers to help get things back to "normal." Any fundraising idea, big or small, is worth considering so that we can do everything possible to help the Post get back to pre-COVID and continue to grow.

Joel Haas
Finance Officer



FROM THE DESK OF THE UNIT PRESIDENT



As always, I'd like to start by acknowledging all those that have stepped up this last month and volunteered their time to the Post.

NO MAY MEETING. We will hold a joint Installation May 8 at 5:00 PM and a banquet dinner immediately following.

The Unit 209 Officers for 2021-2022 will be:

President	Royce Hopper
Vice President	Cathy Barger
Secretary	Pat Weaver
Treasurer	Kellie Hayes
Chaplain	Kay Stephens
Historian	Valerie Stephens
Sgt-at-Arms	Caty Daley
Member-at-Large	Jackie Bowen

They will take over in June after the Department Convention. Thank you, ladies for stepping up and continuing to serve our Veterans.

Thanks to all that helped make the Butter Braid fundraiser a success. We made \$660.19 on the last butter braid sales.

The Easter Egg Hunt was a huge success. We had 18 children in attendance that loved the egg dyeing station. A big thank you to Caty Daly for organizing the event and Howard for donning the Easter Bunny costume.

District 7 convention will be held on May 2nd in Canon City starting at 11 am. Post 13 will host. We will be hosting a painting party on May 12th, starting at 6:30 PM if approved by the House Committee. The cost is \$10.00; RSVP is required to ensure enough supplies are available.

Colorado American Legion/American Legion Auxiliary Training and Education Conference will be held on May 14th and May 15th. The registration fee is \$35 and includes lunch and dinner on Saturday (15th) and all-conference materials. Dinner on Friday (14th) will be at Post 209 for \$10. The ALR will be serving dinner and RSVPs are required. The Saturday meetings will be held at the Elegante Hotel starting at 7:30 AM.

Rooms will be available at the hotel for \$89 plus taxes.

A Trillion Trees event will be held on May 17th, at the Post. More information to follow.

Our Unit is sponsoring 5 girls to the 2021 Colorado Girls State virtual session on June 7-10.

Happy Birthday to Catherine Barger, Micah Bowen, Erika Burd-Cunnington, Lisa Ciuffetti, Annette Coakley, Cecilia Gray, Laurel Harman, Royce Hopper, Sharon Hughes, Kris Mueller, Shelly Smith, Sarah Tobin, and Tiffany Weaver. Make sure to wish these ladies Happy Birthday when you see them.

Serving Our Veterans Proudly!

Cathy Barger
Unit President



FROM THE DESK OF OUR SAL COMMANDER-MAY

SAL Squadron 209 will hold Squadron Elections on April 27th for new Officer's. Also, the SAL Detachment Commander, Nick Arceo will be coming to Post 209 to do the Installation of Officers at this year's Installation Ceremony. The Squadron thanks him for doing this. More to come with the names of the new Squadron Officer's.

Michael Wescott
SAL Commander



FROM OUR POST HONOR GUARD

Well folks the Post Honor Guard performed several Final Honors in March and April. We also did the Vietnam Commemoration Ceremony at PPNC, and the Opening Ceremony for the Colorado Springs Little League. We already have a lot of Final Honors scheduled for May and June. The Post Honor Guard Members are doing a Great Job!! Post 209 is still looking for NEW HONOR GUARD MEMBERS so if you are able and want to give back to all the Veterans and Families, please come and see what the Post Honor Guard does. We have meetings and training every Monday Night at Post 209. The meeting time is at 6pm. Post 209 Honor Guard really needs the help. My contact info is on the Post website Legion209.org.

Michael Wescott
Honor Guard Captain



FROM OUR POST HISTORIAN

Golf

Everything is in place for the August 22nd event. It is \$100 a player and we are playing at Kings deer golf club in Monument CO. We are looking for players, raffle items, and sponsors. We are standing at about 4 teams. Still need to get more. We are working on getting the flyers out. If you would like to help get the word out, please let Stewart Anderson know. 719-505-2347 or stew.cate@gmail.com

ALR

Completed events

- Honors Flag Escort April 8th for Leonard L. Cooper; Tom Foster, Ed Santos, Steve Hayes, Pat Fahey
- Honors Flag Escort April 9th for Tim Cravens; Tom Foster, Ed Santos, Scott Laudan, Steve Hayes, Pat Fahey
- March 28th Fun run CVMA, Post 2008; Tom Foster, Adam Kelly, Ed Santos,
- April 2nd fun run; Tom Foster, Ed Santos, Scott Laudan, Alex Cirasunda
- April 3th ALR Post 209 Fun Run; Stewart Anderson, Tom Foster, Monk Bayliss, Mike Sylvester, Lenzie Jeter, Sean Cope, Tina Cope, Pat Fahey, Ed Santos, Steve Hayes, Dr. Drew, Alex Cirasunda, Jack Amber, Janet Lennox, Leroy Quehel, Scott Laudan
- April 10th SFMC Blue balls Poker Run; Stewart Anderson, Tom Foster, Steve Hays, Alex Cirasunda, Michelle Wissler, Sean Cope, Tina Cope, Pat Fahey, Caty Daly, Monk Bayliss, Ed Santos, Lenzie Jeter, Scott Laudan, Mike Sylvester
- Carol Jean move April 11th; Tom Foster, Scott Laudan, Monk Bayliss, Steve Hayes, Kelly Hayes, Alex Cirasunda,
April 18th birthday honors for little boy; Stewart Anderson, Tom foster, Monk Bayliss, Steve Hayes, Sean Cope, Tina cope, Gary Asp, Michelle Wissler.

Upcoming events

- May 1st V4V Start of summer party
- May 1st Fun run to Calhan breakfast.
- May 8th VMC run for the Pig
- May 15 12th Annual National Armed forces freedom ride
- May 16 Defenders of freedom ride
- May 22 CVMA Bike show
- May 29-31 Territory Days

Stewart Anderson
Historian



FROM OUR LOUNGE MANAGER

Happy Spring!

Come and visit the Memorial Wall located in the museum next to the lounge! Visit a passed loved one or just come and say hello to the members upstairs. Please submit all memorial wall submissions by email to cnbe89@gmail.com. The submission just needs to be your favorite digital picture, the loved one's name, and the dates you would like printed on it. This is completely

free to all members! If you have any questions do not hesitate to reach out by email or come see me up in the lounge on Friday nights.

Look for the new and improved museum as it will be getting cleaned and organized in early May. Friday night dinners the lounge will be open from 5:30pm to 9:30pm with last call being 30 minutes prior to closing.

Charyse Schmidt
Lounge Manager



THE AMERICAN LEGION AMATEUR RADIO CLUB (TALARC)

Devoted to the Hobby and Art of Amateur Radio and Promoting the Legion

Upcoming Events

Field Day - Every June, more than 40,000 hams throughout North America set up temporary transmitting stations operating on emergency power to demonstrate ham radio's science, skill and service to our communities. It combines public service, emergency preparedness, community outreach, and technical skills, all in a single event. We will operate on June 26th - potentially at John Venezia Park (Union and Briargate Pkwy). Come on out and see us.

Fox Hunt – July 17th – Come out and find the fox. Details forthcoming.

Progressive Radio Rally – August 28th Details forthcoming.

Questions / comments ? 73 (Best regards) – Harvey W 1 J U 331-1212

mbca@comcast.net



**HAPPY
MOTHERS'
DAY!**



**WITH LOVE, FROM KIDS OF ALL AGES TO
OUR MOM AND THOSE WHO MOTHER US!**

NEAL THOMAS, JR.-CENTENNIAL POST 209 GOLF TOURNAMENT



Where? King's Deer Golf Club, Monument, CO

When? Sunday, 22 August, 2021

Time? Player Check-in 7:00 am
Shotgun Start 8:00 am

Scramble Tournament (Rules Announced Prior to Start
of Play)

Cost? \$100/Person

Entry Fee includes: Green Fees, Range Balls, Golf Cart,
and Awards' Luncheon.

Donations and Sponsorships Appreciated and
Encouraged.

Event Coordinator, Stewart Anderson – 719 505-2347
Email: Stew.Cate@gmail.com



GAME NIGHT

START AT

♠ 6 PM ♠

★ EVERY SECOND WEDNESDAY ★

AMERICAN LEGION POST 209

GAME NIGHT IS A MONTHLY FUNDRAISER FOR AMERICAN LEGION NEAL THOMAS JR. CENTENNIAL POST 209. POST MEMBERS AND THEIR GUESTS ONLY. GAME(S) TO BE PLAYED TBD.



AMERICAN LEGION POST 209

THE PREEMINENT VOICE FOR VETERANS • COLORADO SPRINGS, CO



WALK OF HONOR

Buy A Brick Fundraiser!

We are re-introducing an exciting fundraiser for our Post. We are partnering with Polar Engraving to offer our members, family, friends, and our corporate Veteran-friendly supporters an opportunity to purchase an engraved brick to adorn our landscaping project we are working. The engraving uses the same technology as used on tombstones so it's extremely durable. Here are some FAQs:



- **What Are We Having?** A Brick Fundraising Event
- **Why?** To Further Funding of our American Legion Programs
- **What Size Are the Bricks?** 4"x 8" or 8"x 8" bricks for individuals, and 8"x 8" or 12"x 12" bricks for our corporate supporters.
- **What are the Costs for the Individual Bricks?** Prices vary depending on size, style and lettering desired, but typically range from \$75 to \$200. For the 8x8 or 12x12 bricks, you can add a second emblem. Contact the Adjutant for ordering details. There is **NO** additional cost for the second emblem on the larger bricks.
- **What are the Costs for the Corporate/Veteran Supporter Bricks?** Again, prices vary depending on size, style, and lettering but typically range from \$125 to \$500.
- **What is the Difference between Individual and Corporate Bricks?** Individual bricks are identified for Veterans, and family members of Veterans wishing to purchase a brick to honor their Veteran. The corporate bricks are for our Veteran-friendly supporters and businesses who wish to show their continued support to our Nation's heroes by purchasing a brick.
- **Is the Brick Purchase Restricted to Members of the Post 209 Family?** No. We encourage members to buy a brick for themselves as a lasting memory of their association with Post 209. We also welcome anyone to purchase a brick for their Veteran loved one, or to show their support to our Veterans.
- **Can I Buy a 12"x 12" Brick for Myself/Loved One?** Absolutely!
- **Where Do I Go to Buy a Brick?** We have a link on our website. Just visit legion209.org and click on "Walk of Honor." Or, you can visit <http://polarengraving.com/ALPost209> to buy your brick. The site is very user-friendly and will walk you through the design and purchase. You will be able to see a preview of your brick before finalizing the purchase.
- **How Do I Pay For the Brick?** We have the site setup to accept payment via PayPal or by check. PayPal is an extremely safe way to purchase a brick and you don't need a PayPal account to use it.
- **Where Will the Brick Be Shipped?** All bricks will be shipped to the Post. We will notify you when it arrives and you are welcome to stop by and see the brick you have purchased.
- **What Will Become of My Brick?** It will be placed near the Flagpole at the Post and will be part of the landscaping design we are working. If you are a landscaper or know a good one (preferably a Veteran), have them contact our Adjutant.
- **How Long Will this Fundraiser Effort Last?** We plan to only sell as many bricks as needed for the first phase of the landscaping project. Currently, that is anticipated to be 600 bricks, but that number may change depending on brick sizes purchased and the final design approved by the Post.
- **Will I Have an Opportunity to Buy a Brick Later?** Quite possibly. It depends on what is decided/approved for the next phase of our project.

Order your brick(s) now to ensure you get one in Phase One of our project. If you buy multiple bricks, let our Adjutant know and we will make certain they are all placed together.

BRINGING A LITTLE SOUTH TO THE WEST



What is it about kids and noise? Regardless of age, there has always appeared to be a direct correlation between a kid and loud noise. The louder, the better it seems.

Babies seem to love hearing themselves scream, especially at a Department Store or Restaurant. And because many parents don't discipline kids these days, the caterwauling goes on and on.

As they get older, the noise continues, but with a different slant. I remember buying the Topps Bubble Gum and Baseball trading cards for a nickel. The gum in the packet wasn't very good, but it served a purpose. It was very thin and ran along the front of the prize; the Baseball card. No one I knew bought the gum for the bubble gum, they bought it to get the Baseball cards.

My buddies and I weren't big Baseball fans, but we knew the value of the cards. It wasn't for collecting or trading, it was to put in the spokes of your bicycle to make it sound like a motorcycle. We'd take a couple of Mom's wooden spring-loaded clothes pins and pinch the pin around the front frame of the bicycle with a Baseball card so that it just slightly touched the spokes. Then as we'd ride, the spokes would cause the card to flap in a rhythm that sounded a lot like a motorcycle. The faster we went, the more it would roar. And if we really wanted to make some noise, we'd put another card on the other side of the frame or on the back wheel frame and make it sound like a large motorcycle. But you'd have to place the cards just right or the spokes would just pull them off the clothes pin.

And speaking of those spring-loaded clothes pins, they made great raw pea and/or corn shooters. We'd take the pins apart, invert one side, tape the back end of the pin, take the spring out and invert it so the coil hung down like a trigger, slightly notch the back curve in the bottom pin, and Voila! You have a pea shooter. You'd need a plunger to push the spring back into the notch, so we'd normally take apart another clothes pin and use one of the two sticks as our plunger.

But I digress. This article isn't about making weapons of mass destruction, it is about making noise.

Even as we got older, we still had to have earth-shattering noise. Our music was loud (but good) and we'd blast it on our radios at home, on our record players (not turntables), and in our cars. We'd turn it to our favorite station on the AM dial (most of us didn't have FM), and crank it up.

And speaking of cars, we had to make noise with them as well. For those who read my articles routinely (both of you), you may recall me telling you about my first car; a 1964 Buick Special convertible. It had 4 on the floor, a small V8, and it was black with a beige top. My Dad went with me to buy it and neither of us realized at the time we bought it that there were baffles, or cut-off pipes coming off the exhaust manifold. There was a cover over the end of the pipes that could be opened with a 1/2" wrench, but the pipes were closed off when we looked at it and bought the car so it sounded normal.

I'll never forget the first time Dad heard my engine with the pipes open. His face got red, veins popped out of his forehead, he glared at me and said, "I don't know what you did to that d**n thing, but you better fix it NOW!" I think I could count the times on one hand I heard my Dad use profanity, but that was one occasion. And it wasn't the last. But that's another story for another day...maybe. Anyway, I'd keep a 1/2" wrench in the glove box and wait until I was about a block away from the house before I'd open up the pipes, then I'd close them off again just before getting home. Man, I loved that noise. It sounded like a Class C stock car.

These days I don't like noise like I did when I was younger. Matter of fact, I will do almost anything to prevent being subjected to loud, screaming noises. That's why I don't ever pick fights with Jackie...well, almost never.

Jay Bowen

Past Post Commander



May 2021						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 VFW Meets at 8:00am
2	3 Post Honor Gd. Training 6:00pm 	4	5 Cinco De Mayo Marksmanship 3:00pm 	6 Executive Committee Meeting 6:30pm Young Guns 3:00pm 	7	8 Installation Ceremony Installation Banquet 5:00pm Ceremony RSVP  
9 Mother's Day	10 Post Honor Gd. Training 6:00pm 	11	12 Game Night! 6:00pm	13 Young Guns 3:00pm 	14 \$10.00 Meal ALR Dinner - 6:00pm RSVP Required! 	15 Armed Forces Day
16	17 ALR Exec. Board 6:00pm Post Honor Gd. Training 6:00pm Trillion Trees Dinner 6:00pm  	18	19 Marksmanship 3:00pm 	20 Young Guns 3:00pm 	21 \$15.00 Meal Steak Night! 6:00pm RSVP Required! Trivia Night! 	22
23	24 Post Honor Gd. Training 6:00pm 	25 ALR/SAL Monthly Mtng 6:30pm. Social 5:30pm SAL 5:45pm  	26 Marksmanship 3:00pm 	27	28 \$10.00 Meal Chef's Choice Dinner 6:00pm RSVP Required! 	29
30	31 Memorial Day	Notes:				

June Events of Note:

- Auxiliary Bunco Fundraiser – 6 June
- Flag Day/US Army Birthday – 14 June
- Trivia Night! – 18 June
- Father's Day! – 20 June
- Department Convention – 25-27 June