

CENTENNIAL POST 209

THE AMERICAN LEGION

MAY 1999



I cannot believe that the year has gone so fast. It seems like last week that I was taking the oath of office as the Commander.

I had plans and ideas that were aimed at improving things and trying to lay groundwork for the upcoming years and get information about The American Legion, the Post and its programs.

I did accomplish getting some information about the programs of The American Legion into the newsletters and did get information as to what it takes to make this Post work and about some of the duties of the officers and committees. I was hoping that we would have been able to put up a building on the property the Post owns, but I didn't get that accomplished.

I had a goal to improve the communications of the Post; to get the officers and committees to put out information which was timely

and would depict what The American Legion's programs were and the activities which were conducted for the benefit of the members. I met that goal a couple of times but we still have a long way to go.

I was reminded several times throughout the year that I was doing something wrong, as I couldn't get the members and their families to participate in the activities and programs. I guess I didn't hit the right spot in order to arouse your interest. The Post didn't make its goal membership but we didn't fall all the way down either. We still need 50 members to make that goal and could make it if everyone would pitch in and help. If you know of someone who is a member of the Post and has not renewed, you could talk to him or her and get them to renew. It would not only help The American Legion and the Post but it would also help those veterans who desperately need us. The other winners would be the children and youth in our community.

By the time you get this letter, we will have elected those officers to lead us into the future. The officers who are elected, especially the Commander, are going to need the help of each

OFFICERS

COMMANDER	LARRY JOHNSON
SR VICE COMMANDER	FRANCIS REDINGTON
JR VICE COMMANDER	HARRY JOHNSON
ADJUTANT	ANN FOSTER
FINANCE OFFICER	AL CYRIQUE
HISTORIAN	NORM MOYER
SGT-AT-ARMS	NORM HARPOLE
CHAPLAIN	HOWARD HORNIK
JUDGE ADVOCATE	WALLY LONSINGER
SERVICE OFFICER	TOM MORANT

DUES \$25.00

AUXILIARY OFFICERS

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

DUES \$15.00

MEETINGS

3RD THURSDAY - 7:00 P.M.
DAY POST #26 PALMER PARK & PETERSON RD.

EDITOR

DOROTHY DASSERO, NALPA

OFFICE

4291 AUSTIN BLUFFS PKY STE 104
COLORADO SP6S CO 80918-2944

719-599-8624

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

and every member who can find the time to get involved with the programs. As I have said in previous letters one person cannot do everything, nor should one person have to.

At the Department mid-year conference held here in the Springs, it was a very harsh message which was conveyed to everyone present when the various committee meetings were scheduled to convene at the same time. There were numerous complaints from those participating because they could not get to other meetings when they were already in one. The message was "if you could not get to all of the meetings, you were trying to do too much and need to get others involved."

WE SURE COULD USE YOUR IDEAS AND ENERGY TO IMPROVE THE POST FOR THE UPCOMING YEAR.



get that

Pride of Belonging!



INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

The Installation of Officers is coming up and will be conducted at The VFW Post 4051, located at Wahsatch and Pikes Peak. It will be held on Saturday, 15 May, with a social hour at 6:00 P.M. with dinner at 7:00 P.M. Dinner will consist of New York strip steak, baked potatoes, salad, veggies and dessert. The cost of the dinner is \$10.00 per person. Come on out and enjoy an evening of tradition. Meet new people who have something in common from the minute you walk through the door.

For further information, please give Larry Johnson a call at 590-1369 after 4:00 P.M. or Harry Johnson at 596-9261 and let us know how many will be in your party.

50TH ANNUAL BOYS STATE FRANCIS M. REDINGTON SR VICE COMMANDER

The search for qualified junior class boys to attend Boys State is up and running. Having visited with the nine high schools in our District. We should have a solid list of junior boys from which to choose our final delegates. All school counselors and vice principals have been very helpful in implementing our search for candidates. This program is an Americanism goal that receives the

highest praise from everyone involved in it. The many boys who attend this program basically conclude it is a very demanding course, causing one to push all the harder to achieve perfection. It is the most demanding program of the Americanism programs sponsored by The American Legion. Many of the boys realize the importance of this program toward future endeavors. It is the most important item they list on their resumes.

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT HOWARD HORNIK

To Post Everlasting, Avery C. Bruce, Jr. Our sympathy to his family.

Happy to report Harry McFadden's cyst was benign.

To Ernest and Arlene Kelly, we hope you both are making a fast recovery.

Hope your Easter was fine, in spite of the weather.



AUXILIARY NEWS DOT DASSERO PRESIDENT

A special meeting will be held this week to work on reports which are due at Department, and also to complete our election proceedings. See you at the Installation.

ELECTION RESULTS FOR THE POST: At the general meeting on 15 April 1999 the following members were elected to be our officers for the coming Legion year. Commander Francis Redington, Sr Vice Comdr - vacant, Jr Vice Comdr Harry Johnson, Adjutant Ann Foster, Finance Officer Al Cyriaque, Sgt-At-Arms Norm Harpole, Chaplain Howard Hornik, Historian Norm Moyer, and Post Executive Committeeman Neal Thomas. Reappointed positions of Judge Advocate and Service Officer are Neal Thomas and Tom Morant respectively. The Board of Trustees has a rotating schedule to assure continuity. Larry Johnson and Neal Thomas were elected to serve for three years.

VA SATELLITE CLINIC COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT:

This meeting was held last Tuesday night, 20 April 1999, at the Clinic. There were a variety of items discussed. Some of those that you may be interested in are as follows. The Mental Health portion of the Clinic is now located on the second floor. This move is designed to give more room to both Mental Health and Physical Medicine, as the latter is now able to occupy the rest of the first floor that had been previously allocated to Mental Health.

The number of patients seen in all categories continues to rise. Even though, you may not

believe VA will ever see you, please consider registering at the Clinic. The more people that are registered, the better chance of an increased budget for VA.

Some of you have heard that the facility at Fort Lyon is now a long-term nursing home. That is correct. The number of patients is about 220. This means a number of the buildings are no longer in use. A meeting was held at Fort Lyon about the middle of December 1998 to determine if these buildings could be used by other entities. Approximately 91 groups were in attendance at the meeting. The group that expressed interest was the Department of Corrections. Some of us had already heard this, but not any particulars of their interest. We learned at the meeting what they would like to do. There is a need to care for incarcerated veterans who are classified as mentally, criminally insane or as geriatrics. Due to the expertise of VA in these areas it seems like it might be a good match and still allow the mission of VA to care for veterans to be accomplished. Corrections would be responsible for security and VA would be responsible for care. Please note this is not something that has been entered into as yet! However, it does have promise and the income received could really benefit the whole Southern Colorado Healthcare system that includes the outpatient clinics.