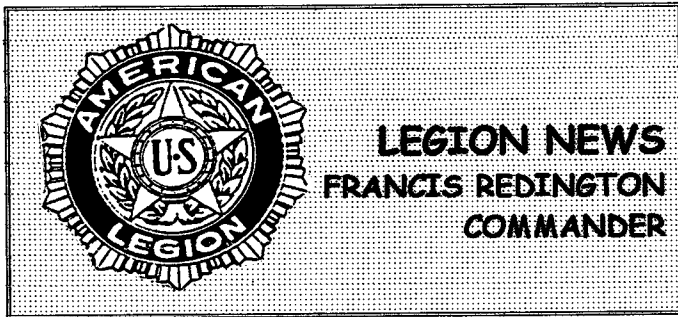


# CENTENNIAL POST 209

## THE AMERICAN LEGION

NOVEMBER 1999



We have a couple of items needing to be addressed. Our Early Bird dinner is set for November 13<sup>th</sup>. Another is the Christmas Party set for December 18<sup>th</sup>. Menus for both are in the flyer in this newsletter. They will be at the VFW Post 4051. Please plan to attend. Entertainment will be scheduled for your listening and dancing pleasure.

Another item of interest, we may have information about a new Post Home. As it becomes available, it will be published. We should have more news about our quest ready for the December newsletter.

By the time you read this letter, our Post will have better than 50% of our goal for the year 2000. As a reminder, if you haven't renewed yet, why not do it now. Help us have a 100% Post for the new millenium.

As the Holiday season draws nearer, nearer, we have many

veterans who are in need of assistance. Our Post is set up to help veterans, whether they belong to our Post or not. So please notify US as WE NEED to help OUR OWN.

Watch for the December Newsletter!

### ADJUTANT ANNOTAIONS

Ann Foster

Membership is now about 185, 60% of our goal for the year 2000, excellent for us compared to recent years, but still behind the goal dates for percentages set by Department and National. So, send in your renewals if you have not already done so.

Larry Johnson mentions our community service project at Turman Elementary school. We helped build their new Playground 2000 by donating \$200.00 for a low ladder, Neal Thomas worked in the tool crib for three days, Norm Moyer took pictures for our Post history, and I worked on the building Saturday afternoon. Our Commander Francis Redington was present at various points throughout the project. Our Post 209 banner waved during that time.

### OFFICERS

COMMANDER	FRANCIS REDINGTON
SR VICE COMMANDER	
JR VICE COMMANDER	HARRY JOHNSON
ADJUTANT	ANN FOSTER
FINANCE OFFICER	AL CYRIAQUE
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.  
VFW POST #4051, 430 E PIKES PEAK AVE.  
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO

### EDITOR

DOROTHY DASSERO, NALPA

### OFFICE

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

719-599-8624

### 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

The principal came by and expressed her appreciation. This is an awesome playground and the children will enjoy it for many years to come. Since they are the future of our country, it gave us all a good feeling to have helped with this project.

The Stand-Down for homeless veterans is now over and I am happy to report it was a success. We had 76 veterans come for assistance and 65 volunteers throughout the day. The weather cooperated and the veterans were most appreciative of what we were able to do for them. We are looking forward to doing a better job for the next one, tentatively planned for sometime next summer.

You have heard of the National Emergency Fund (NEF) of The American Legion because there have been articles about it in the National magazine. What you may not know is that our Department Commander B. J. Runchel would like to give a check for \$25,000 to the NEF when he attends National Convention next year. If every member gave \$1.00, this could be done. Give some thought to this

very worthwhile cause that not only help your fellow veteran, but also posts damaged by natural disasters. If you want to make a donation, make out your check to NEF and send it to The American Legion, Department of Colorado, 3003 Tejon St, Denver, CO 80211-3976. That way they can keep a record of how we are doing in Colorado and they will put it with other checks received to forward on to National.

Some still have not sent in their DD Form 214 or whatever proves their period of service. Please do this, so we will not have any problems with proof of membership should the IRS ask us about this.

**DUES RENEWAL NOTICES**  
**LARRY JOHNSON**

By now everyone who has not (and some who have) renewed their membership for the year 2000 should have received the second dues renewal notice. And about now there are some who are a little bit sore about receiving a second notice when they have already renewed. I am going to try to let you know the reason.

The American Legion National Headquarters has a schedule for doing things to meet the various goals of The American Legion. As a result, after the first dues renewal notice was mailed on July 1, we (the Post) have until about the second or third week of August to get memberships processed and sent through Department to National Headquarters.

About the last week of August, National pulls from membership

nationwide the names not processed at NATIONAL and sends the list to the printers. October 1 is the date the second dues notice goes out.

If you mailed your membership renewal at the end of August or beginning of September, it would have missed the cutoff date at National, and even though you have your year 2000 card, you will still get a notice.

The one thing I can tell you is that if you have your card for the year 2000, YOUR MEMBERSHIP HAS BEEN PROCESSED AND FORWARDED TO DEPARTMENT AND NATIONAL.

Of course, there is a way that you will never have to worry about that and that is by becoming a life member of The American Legion and Centennial Post 209. No more dues renewal notices will be sent as you will be a member for LIFE.

If you have any questions on renewal or Life Membership in The American Legion, please feel free to give me a call at 590-1369.

**PARTICIPATION**  
**Larry Johnson**

We are not the only Post in The American Legion which has this problem. I have been reading some of the newsletters from various Posts via the internet.

Some of the things brought to the forefront by various commanders, officers of a post and committee chairmen is that they can't do all of the work by themselves. Those doing the work are older, have health problems or injuries. One

commander out of Oregon Post 45 said; "I would hate to see the programs of The American Legion, as well as the funds to support these programs, come to an end because people are too lazy or uncaring enough to donate five hours a month to help their post survive. If everyone just gave five hours a month for some event (Boys State, Oratorical, Junior Shooting, Boy scouts, bingo, work about the Post, we would have more than enough to survive." He further offered a challenge: "I dare you to come out and help." His Post has 800 members; we have 250.

During visitations with other Posts of District Seven, I have seen the same thing happening and it is happening in our Post as well. There are just a few Legionnaires, Auxiliary and Sons of The American Legion who are involved and doing the work.

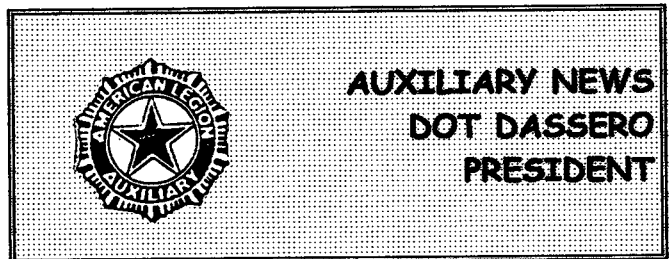
A few people are doing the work of many and are getting tired and worn out but they believe in what The American Legion is trying to do through its programs. It only takes one (1) YOU to make a difference in this Post and in the lives of others.

Although I was not there for the Turman Elementary School project, I know from talking with some of the parents from the school what our involvement meant to the children. The happiness and joy coming to children's faces when they get to play on THEIR playground, the one they helped design and build, can be the same smiles and happiness which we all can enjoy by becoming involved in designing and building something for the future as members of

Centennial Post 209 and The American Legion.

We would be more than happy to have you become involved. Please give Commander Francis Redington a call at 719-471-3925 or Larry Johnson at 590-1369. Either one of us would be more than happy to come out and talk with you about what needs to be done. Better yet, come to the Post meetings on the third Thursday of each month at 7:00 P.M. We are currently meeting at the VFW Post 4051, located at 430 East Pikes Peak Avenue.

We sure could use your help.



Okay, if you plan on attending the Early Bird Dinner, let's get those renewals mailed in. You have just over a week or you'll have to pay for your dinner, The menus planned for that and the Christmas Party sound scrumptious.

Wow, really looking forward to doing the December newsletter. Wonder what the Commander will have to tell us. I do hope it's good news about a Post Home. Imagine having a place of our own for meetings, functions, social events...what a concept!!!

See you on Nov 13<sup>th</sup> and Dec 18.

# SOCIAL EVENTS

## EARLY BIRD DINNER - NOVEMBER 13

IF YOUR DUES ARE PAID FOR THE CURRENT YEAR, THERE IS NO CHARGE, GUESTS WILL PAY \$7.00.

Menu: Thick cut slices of beef smothered in Burgundy sauce, mashed potatoes with gravy, honey buttered carrots, creamy cheese pies (you choice chocolate or cherry), iced tea, lemonade. Entertainment following Dinner.



Cocktails at 6:00 P.M. Dinner at 7:00.

RSVP BY NOVEMBER 10 to Harry Johnson at 596-9261

## CHRISTMAS PARTY - DECEMBER 18

Menu for Christmas Party is sliced smoked turkey with apple bread dressing, country sliced baked ham with cranberry fruit glaze, corn and broccoli casserole with two cheeses, whipped potatoes with gravy, fresh fruit salad, Black Forest cake, iced tea, lemonade and coffee. Cost \$9.00 per person, We will have the Gold Rush duo for your listening and dancing pleasure. Cocktails at 6:00 P.M., Dinner 7:00 P.M.

RSVP BY DECEMBER 12

HARRY JOHNSON - 596-9261  
COMMANDER REDDINGTON - 471-4925

