



**AMERICAN LEGION
CENTENNIAL POST 209**

INVITES YOU TO ATTEND

WHAT: REGULAR MEETING

WHEN: 20 OCTOBER 1988

TIME: 7:00 pm

WHERE: POST HOME

**LOCATED AT 1337 NORTH ACADEMY BLVD
ACADEMY BLVD AND PALMER PARK**

POINT OF CONTACT:

LARRY L JOHNSON 574-0646

SEE YOU THERE



Centennial Post 209

P. O. Box 15461
Colorado Springs, CO 80935

NEWSLETTER

Volume 14 edition 4 88/89

October 1988

COMMANDER	MAX HOYER 597-3498
SENIOR VICE COMMANDER	LARRY L. JOHNSON 574-0646
JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER	DAVE THOMAS 392-1036
ADJUTANT	TOM BENDER 574-4322
FINANCE OFFICER	BILL HENSON 574-7314
CHAPLAIN	BOB MORRIS 574-1566
SERVICE OFFICER	HOWARD HORNIK 596-6345
SERGEANT AT ARMS	HARPER MURRAY

Commanders Comments:

ITEM 1: We had a most fruitful meeting on 15 Sept. . . It was well attended by our standards. Thanks for coming out and let's have more participation in the future. Believe me when I say that your "two-cents" are worth a pound of gold when it comes to you becoming an active Legionnaire.

ITEM 2: I would like to ask that any Legionnaire that has not renewed their 1989 membership to do so now. You will be receiving a second Notice some time after the First of October.

ITEM 3: On 20 Sept. I attended the district Seven Fall Conference at Post 5. Again the attendance was above average. Several Department Officers including Neal Thomas, the Department Commander, were there to brief us on the National Convention results recently completed in Louisville, Ky. The Department Commander made awards to the District and District Posts for their outstanding Performance in various activities. Our Past District Commander, Larry Johnson earned a jacket for his membership activities, Our Post Commander, John Kovar, also won a membership jacket, in addition pins and medallions were awarded to Bob Morris and Tom Bender. These will be presented to the recipients at our 20 October meeting.

ITEM 4: At the recent Veteran Recognition Day at Fort Lyon VA Hospital we presented a check for \$500.00 to the Administration in the name of John Gaillard our deceased comrade, to be used on projects the hospital administration deemed most worthy of support. While there, the administration presented a "WISH LIST" of patients needs. Their list included many things from a special van to note paper. One area that caught my fancy was the request for coats, toiletries, clothing (mens) socks (without the elastic tops) pants, shirts, underwear and luggage type bags or suitcases that the patients can use to carry their meager belongings when they are discharged. Many of the patients arrive for treatment or admittance with only the clothes on their backs and a brown paper bag with a few personal items. I would like to suggest to the Post and Auxiliary that we collect on a continuing basis, items such as these from our own households and that when we collect enough we pack and ship these items to the Hospital. I'll have a suitable container available whenever the Post Home is open. Let's do it for the good of those veterans who are down on their luck and in poor health.

ITEM 5: It was resolved at the last meeting that 25 per cent of our Bingo Profits be designated in a distinct Building Fund Account devoted to acquiring land and/or building for our permanent home.

ITEM 6: Our lease agreement is in the hands of the owners and Bob Morris says that our going for a straight five (5) year lease at the "agreed-to" price should present no problems since it meets his management's request of not including a three (3) year option.

ITEM 7: ACTIVITIES REQUIRING MEMBER PARTICIPATION:

A. Post Home work parties are required on 8 October, 15 October, and 29 October. These will start at 10:30 AM each Saturday and last until about 2:30 PM. All kinds of household clean-up/fix-up tasks need to be accomplished.

B. On 15 October there are two events in addition to the work party. One is the Department Commander's "Homecoming" dinner at Security Post 38. Its a free dinner and gala evening Honoring our own Neal Thomas. Please see the Vice Commanders attachment to this newsletter and notify Larry Johnson or myself by 7 October 88 whether you plan to attend or not. My number is 597-3498 and Larry's (Big John) is 574-0646.

C. The second event that evening will be an open door at the Post Home for the raffle prize drawing at 10:00 PM. Again, see the Vice Commanders comments (attached).

D. Plans are incomplete but the Post Home will be open 4,5,6 November in Honor of the Department Fall Conference to be held at the Clarion Hotel on those days.

ITEM 8: The Post decided that we will do the newsletter "in-house" and save all added expenses except for printing and postage. Volunteers are donating their time to accomplish the tasks outlined in my last newsletter.

That's enough for now. I hope to see all of you at the meeting on 20 October and as many of you as possible at the work parties and other functions.

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

MAX HOYER
COMMANDER

THE CARD
YOU HOLD

The card which you hold in The American Legion is a sacred heritage; your inherent right to its possession was achieved when you offered your life in the service of your country.

The American Legion is unique in that you cannot be born into it; neither a king by an edict, a dictator by a command, nor a president by proclamation can demand admission. A man with millions cannot purchase a right to membership.

The right to membership is a sacred privilege which belongs to you alone --- rich or poor, regardless of race, color or creed. Cherish at all times that bit of pasteboard which you so proudly carry; let no influence or circumstances interrupt your continuity of service in the Legion, whose doors swing open to you because of your faithful service to your country.

The Legion knows no predecessor -- it can have no successor, and when the last comrade entitled to wear its insignia shall have been called to his eternal rest by the Great Commander, The American Legion will pass out forever, but its traditions, its achievements and the spirit of service to which it was dedicated will live on through the ages as a lasting tribute and memorial to you, who belong to an organization which has fought to preserve the principles of justice, freedom and democracy.

October 88

As of 19 September 1988, we have 67 members for the 1988-1989 membership year. If everyone would send in their dues and sign up a new member, we could attain our goals and insure that we remain winners as we have been in the past.

Our next goal for membership is the 20 October 1988, which is called the Oktoberfest goal. At this time we should have 60 per cent of our goal attained. I know we can do this and we can do it with ease. Please everyone take a moment and mail in your 1989 dues membership and lets make our Post a winner again.

During the upcoming months I will be providing information of some of the programs of the American Legion such as the Oratorical Contest, Boys State, Americanism etc. If there is a specific program you would like to get information published about, please contact me either through the post or simply give me a call at 574-0646.

On 15 October 1988, the Post members as well as the members of the Department of Colorado will be gathering at American Legion Post 38, located at 6685 Southmoor Drive, Security, Colorado to honor a member of our Post NEAL THOMAS, who has achieved the highest honor that can be afforded to an Legionnaire within the Department of Colorado, that being the position of the Department Commander for American Legion year 1988-1989. It is at this Homecoming Dinner that Legionnaires and their wives show their appreciation for the time and efforts that the Commander has expended during the past year in support of the American Legion and its programs. I hope that everyone will join me in attending Neal's Homecoming that night and show our appreciation. The Dinner is free, but more importantly it is a evening of fun and a gathering of friends. SEE YOU THERE.

Also on 15 October 1988, at the Post home we will have a Raffles Drawing to see who won the Raffle to Las Vegas, for the American Legion National Leadership Workshop that will be conducted during the dates of 21-23 October 1988. The drawing will be done about 10:00 that evening. Come down see the Post home and meet the members of the Post and our friends.

Please don't forget our regularly scheduled meeting on the evening of 20 October 1988, at the Post home located at 1337 North Academy Blvd in the Rustic Hills South Mall. During this meeting, the Post will be hosting the District Commander Gene Bowman and the Officers of the District. The District Commander will be outlining his programs for the upcoming year as well as imparting information that might be interesting to you. Come out and meet the Officers of the District as well as members of the Post. I am sure that a good time will be had by all.

Please mark the following date on your Calendars and make plans to attend the Department Mid Winter Conference on November 4-5-6 1988. This year it will be held at the Clarion Hotel, located at I-25 and Circle Drive. The Department Commander as well as the Department Committee Chairman of the different committees will be presenting information on their programs as well as providing specific dates for you to know. Come out and meet the Friends you made during the past months and meet some new ones.

On the reverse side of this page you will find a little bit about the history and purpose of the Oratorical Contest.

THE AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL ORATORICAL CONTEST: HISTORY AND PURPOSE

William A Kitchen, a Past Department Commander of Missouri, is credited with originating The American Legion's National High School Oratorical Contest. He experimented with the contest in a few high schools in and around Kansas City, Missouri, during the school year 1934-1935. He became the first Department of Missouri Oratorical Contest Chairman and conducted a state-wide program during the 1935-1936 school year.

From this beginning, he encouraged the American Legion to adopt the Missouri Oratorical Contest plan as a National Program. The first national contests were held in 1938, with 11 Departments competing and 4,000 students participating. The National finals that year were held in Norman, Oklahoma, with John Janson of Phoenix, Arizona, taking first place honors.

Since its inception, the contest has awarded well over \$ 1 million in scholarships to the participants at the National level of competition. Many thousands of dollars in scholarships have been awarded at Post, District, and State levels.

The National High School Oratorical Contest was developed primarily to install a better knowledge and appreciation of the Constitution of the United States in high school students. Other objectives include the development of leadership qualities, the ability to think and speak clearly, and the preparation for acceptance of the duties, responsibilities, rights and privileges of American citizenship.

The American Legion takes great pride in the contest and a strong interest in the contestants and their families. For this reason, participants have cited the experience of meeting people involved in this program as a special benefit of the competition. Entrants reaching advanced levels of the contest have the added chance to meet students and veterans from throughout the nation.

From the 1938 Contest the annual student participation has grown to some 30,000 students representing 53 Departments throughout the Nation.

The only National Winner for the Oratorical Contest for the Department of Colorado was Dean F. Clancy from Denver who shared this winner spot with Marlene Van Dyk from Grand Rapids Michigan in the 1981 contest. This was the only time that two winners have been declared since its origin.

The subject of course is the American Constitution and the contestants have to prepare and give two speeches a prepared oration and an extemporaneous discourse. The prepared Oration is a prepared oration on some phase of the Constitution of the United States which will give emphasis to the attendant duties and obligations of a citizen to our government. The prepared oration must be the effort of each contestant and must not take up less than eight minutes or more than ten minutes for delivery.

The extemporaneous discourse must not consume less than three minutes or more than five minutes for delivery. The purpose of this portion of the contest is to test the speaker's knowledge of the subject, the extent of the research, and the ability to discuss extemporaneously the topic related to the basic principles of government under the Constitution.

Scholarships are as follows. 1st place \$16,000, 2nd Place \$14,000, 3rd place \$10,000 and 4th place \$8,000 for the national winners.

AUXILIARY CORNER...October 1988

Hello Ladies,

Heard you had great meeting and many new members were out. First, let me welcome the new members to Unit 209 and tell you we have many wonderful programs that we need help with.

If you read the September newsletter, President Becky told of several needs at the different locations about the state. Our District Seven Conference was held on the 20th of September 1988 at 7:00 PM. It was a good conference with over 50 people attending. Department President Patsi Hart from Cortez, Colorado informed us some of the needs around the state. Ft Lyons Medical Center, had a list of needs; among them were a bus, T-Shirts, white cotton sox (without the elastic in the tops) and used suitcases. Grand Junction Medical Center requested sponsorship for Disabled Veterans Ski Clinic. She Suggested the units get together with and sponsor at District Level as the cost is \$452.00 for one sponsorship. This contest takes place between February 26 1989 and March 3 1989, at Powderhorn. As you can see we have our work cut out for us. That means Projects, projects, Projects are needed for fund raising! So far we know that some ladies are making Welcome Kits for Denver Veterans Hospital. Hilda Pipher has undertaken a project of collecting Aluminum Cans. She will have her home available on any Thursday to bring them by. Also, they may left at the Post Home and she will see that they are picked up. Her home address is 4360 London Lane. Let's pick up those cans, even the kids, and grandkids can help you. Let this be a family project !! All projects are welcome please come out to the meetings and share your ideas with us.

I would like to thank Ruth Hornik for presiding at the September 15th meeting. Working together is how the Auxiliary will grow. Let's always be there to pick up the slack for each other, as together we will make it. Our thanks to our Secretary, Margery Johnson, for her dedicated service, also, our treasurer, Flossie Reese is to be commended for getting those reports and membership out. Everyone not paid up this year please mail in those memberships. Ladies, please bring in new members, the Auxiliary is falling behind the Legion. Come out and bring a friend.

*****ATTENTION*****

THERE WILL BE A SPECIAL MEETING AT THE POST HOME, 1337 NORTH ACADEMY BLVD, 6:30 PM. TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1988. TO TAKE CARE OF THE BUSINESS OF THE UNIT. IT IS PERTINENT THAT ALL OFFICERS BE IN ATTENDANCE AND OTHER MEMBERS ARE INVITED.

Remember Ladies, We need you, the Veterans need you, Children & Youth need you. America needs you !!

See you at the October 4, 1988, (6:30 PM) meeting or at the October 20th Meeting at 7:00 PM.

The Department Commanders (Neal Thomas) Homecoming is scheduled for the 15th of October 1988. It will be held at Post 38 (See Schedule of events). Free Dinner, Cash Bar, Cocktails at 6:30 PM and Dinner at 7:00 PM. If you are planning on attending please notify Larry Johnson at Telephone number 574-0646.

JUNE THOMAS
VICE PRESIDENT

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR POST 209

- 10 OCTOBER 1988 COLUMBUS DAY
- 15 OCTOBER 1988 Department Commanders Homecoming, Post 38 Security, 6685 Southmoor Drive Cocktails 6:30 PM. And dinner will commence at 7:00 PM. No charge for the meal. If you are going to attend please notify Larry Johnson, H-574-0646 W-303-361-4148 NLT than 7 October 1988.
- 15 OCTOBER 1988 POST HOME OPEN FROM 8 TILL 12 MIDNIGHT FOR DEPARTMENT COMMANDERS HOMECOMING AFTER DINNER CELEBRATION AND RAFFLE DRAWING. COME DOWN AND ENJOY THE ACTIVITES.
- 20 OCTOBER 1988 Regular Post meeting at Post Home located at 1337 North Academy Blvd Meeting time 7:00 PM. Come out and meet and visit with the District Commander and the Officers of District Seven
- 20 OCTOBER 1988 DUES PAYABLE FOR AMERICAN LEGION YEAR 1989
- 21-23 OCTOBER 1988 NATIONAL LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP. LAS VEGAS
- 4-5-6 NOVEMBER 1988 Department Mid Year Conference, Colorado Springs, WILL be held at the Clarion Hotel, CIRCLE AND I-25.
- 17 NOVEMBER 1988 Regular Post meeting at Post Home located at 1337 North Academy Blvd Meeting time 7:00 PM.
- 20 NOVEMBER 1988 District Seven Meeting, POST 13 Canon City, Colorado
- 15 DECEMBER 1988 NO REGULAR MEETING AT THE POST HOME, HOWEVER COME TO THE CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR THE POST MEMBERS AND GUESTS located at 1337 North Academy Blvd. POST WILL PROVIDE THE HORS D'OEUVRES.
- 15 JANUARY 1989 District Seven Meeting, POST 209, LOCATED IN THE RUSTIC HILLS MALL SOUTH, ACADEMY BLVD, AND PALMER PARK
- 19 JANUARY 1989 Regular Post meeting at Post Home located at 1337 North Academy Blvd Meeting time 7:00 PM.
- 5 February 1989 Oratorical Contest, Post Completion date,
12 February 1989 Oratorical Contest, District Completion date,
19 February 1989 Oratorical Contest, Area Completion date,
26 February 1988 Oratorical Contest, Department Contest,
- 15 FEBRUARY 1989 Regular Post meeting at Post Home located at 1337 North Academy Blvd Meeting time 7:00 PM.
- 16 MARCH 1989 Regular Post meeting at Post Home located at 1337 North Academy Blvd Meeting time 7:00 PM. Come out and meet and visit with the District Commander and the Officers of District Seven

19 MARCH 1989 District Seven Meeting, Post 5,
20 APRIL 1989 Regular Post meeting at Post Home located at 1337
North Academy Blvd Meeting time 7:00 PM.
14 MAY 1989 District Convention, Post 38
6685 Southmoor Drive. Security Registration 12:30,
Meeting starts 1:00 PM. Elections of District
Officers
18 MAY 1989 Regular Post meeting at Post Home located at 1337
North Academy Blvd Meeting time 7:00 PM.
22-25 JUNE 1989 Department Convention, Sterling,

**The American Legion
Centennial Post 209
1337 N. Academy Blvd,
Colo. Springs, CO 80909**

THE CARD YOU HOLD

The card which you hold in The American Legion is a sacred heritage; your inherent right to its possession was achieved when you offered your life in the service of your country.

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Lynn U. Stambaugh, National Commander, 1941-42