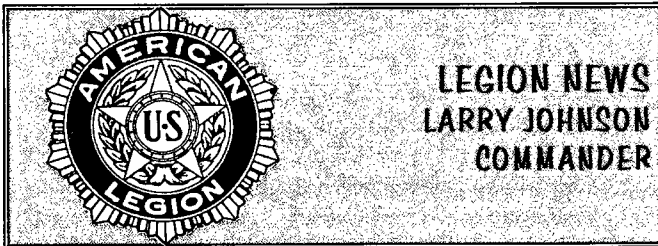


CENTENNIAL POST 209

THE AMERICAN LEGION

OCTOBER 1998



We had a good time at the Ft Lyon VA Medical Center during All Patients Day Activities Day on 12 Sept.

I would like to thank Norm Harpole for the work he did in securing the prizes for our booth. In addition, I would like to thank Norm Moyer, Millie Young, Howard and Ruth Hornik, Neal Thomas, and several others for their help in the booth. Harry McFadden and his wife Judy and their granddaughter were busy pushing patients to the various booths, passing out canteen books and bringing some cheer to the patients.

The next goal for which the Post needs your help is in the area of membership. We have 174 Legionnaires renewed for 1999. As indicated before, the goal for 1998 is to have all of membership turned in by December 31. We are 175 away from reaching that goal. I know that with your help that we can not only achieve this goal but can surpass it.

I know that the past few years that numerous letters, surveys, etc. have been sent to you requesting your opinions, ideas and help in the various activities, the American Legion programs, and other issues. I also know that by the replies which we receive back that there seems to be a lack of concern. Now it has been suggested that another survey and questionnaire be prepared and sent to you in order to see what your feelings are and you are interested in and what you expect from the Post and the American Legion. I am going to try to save money and time; I am going to ask you to send me a letter. I DON'T CARE WHAT YOU SAY AND FEEL ABOUT THE POST, OR ME, JUST SEND IT SO WE CAN FIGURE OUT HOW TO BEST SERVE YOU, THE COMMUNITY AND THE AMERICAN LEGION PROGRAMS.

If you have questions, I will do my utmost to respond to you, but before I can I need your input. Please mail your concerns, ideas, complaints, feelings or whatever to Larry Johnson 3225 Galena Court, Colorado Springs, CO 80918.

OFFICERS

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

DUES \$25.00

MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY

World War I
Apr 6, 1917 - Nov 11, 1918
World War II
Dec 7, 1941 - Dec 31, 1946
Korean War
Jan 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

AUXILIARY OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	DOROTHY DASSERO
1ST VICE PRESIDENT	
SECRETARY	ANITA MCFADDEN
TREASURER	BARBARA JOHNSON
HISTORIAN	
CHAPLAIN	JUDITH MCFADDEN
SGT-AT-ARMS	RUTH HORNIK

DUES \$15.00

EARLY BIRD DINNER

The Early Bird Dinner and Initiation will be held on 7 November. The evening will start at 6:00 P.M. with a social activity, with dinner at 6:30 P.M.

Initiation will follow dinner. This ceremony is designed to give you information on The American Legion and its programs. We also explain the Emblem and what it stands for.

If you carry a 1999 membership card to Post 209, make plans to attend. Call the Sr Vice Commander, Harry Johnson 596-9261 or myself at 590-1369, or the Post at 599-8624 and tell us that you will be attending.

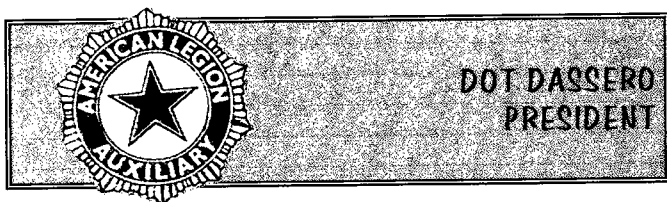
If you have not renewed, why not take a minute and mail your dues to the Post. The meal is **FREE** if you have a 1999 membership card. If you have not renewed, the cost of the meal will be \$7.00 per person.

MEETINGS

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

EDITOR
DOROTHY DASSERO, NALPA

OFFICE
4291 AUSTIN BLUES PKWY STE 104
COLORADO SPGS CO 80918-2944
719-599-8624



The Commander has just announced the Early Bird Dinner for November 7. I would hope that our Auxiliary members would respond, send your dues in and join us for dinner. Remember it's a FREE dinner for all who have paid their dues. I am guessing as I type this that the location of the party has not been decided on but will be included in the November newsletter.

My thanks to the members of the Auxiliary who represented us at Ft Lyon. It's always a fun trip and very satisfying to aid the patients.

BINGO
Larry Johnson, Games Manager

A few months ago, someone stated that the only reason why some members stayed in office was because they wanted the power of being an officer.

Not too long after that, I read an article from an American Legion Post out of Texas alluding to same. The article basically stated that a person who remained in office after a period of time felt that it was their office, and when someone new indicated that they wanted to run, they were told John has done it for ten years. The new person probably would drop all intention of running for office and eventually drop their membership as well.

What begins then is the Post begins to stagnate. No new ideas are brought forward, new ways of accomplishing old tasks are pushed away and then the circle begins. That same person stays in office, the cliques rule and stagnation continues.

We really need to stop and think about "the circle." Are we in fact stagnating, are we afraid of bringing in new people as officers, are we afraid of new ideas?

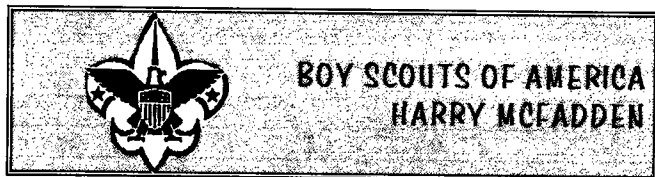
Don't get me wrong, there is room for a strong continuity in such offices as Finance Officer and Adjutant but they can start to feel that no one could do the job that they are doing nor could do it as well.

As a result of the comments and the letter I sat down and talked to myself. Is the reason why more Legionnaires and Auxiliary members are not coming to help work Bingo because of me? If so, how do I combat this? Of course, the obvious is it couldn't be me and the reason is because I'm so lovable, charming and sympathetic (everyone who knows me is saying "who is he kidding?"). But I really do care and as I told the general membership at the last meeting that effective the end of December, that I would no longer be Games Manager/Fund Raising Chairman.

We really do have a good Bingo game. We have plenty of players and a few workers.

I have run out of ideas on how to improve the games we play and how to get more workers. I have pleaded for volunteers to no avail

so the only conclusion I can come up with is that I am the cause for the lack of support. I will still be calling the game of Bingo as I enjoy that very much.



Did you know that every time you sign up a new member or renew your membership you are supporting the Boy Scouts of America? If you didn't, turn the membership slip over and read all the programs which the Legion supports and with a \$3000 insurance policy too.

The American Legion at its first National Convention in 1919, 79 years ago, voted approval and support for The Boys Scouts of American.

Did you know that The American Legion each year sponsors a national scholarship to be awarded to an Eagle Scout? The American Legion Eagle Scout of the Year is eligible to receive an \$8,000 scholarship. There are an additional three scholarships of \$2,000. The Scout's motto and that of our preamble is "Duty to God and Country."

Centennial Post 209 has for years sponsored a Cub Pack in Manitou Springs. The Cubmaster for Pack 24 is William (Bill) Woodward. Bill knows if he needs aid, he can contact us.

Our Pack has been involved with such events as the Air Force Game Scout Day, been in a St Patricks Day Parade in Old Colorado City, as well as the Veterans Day

Parade and the Protect Our Flag Amendment, handing out flags and information concerning the amendment.

Scouting is a tradition of value-driven leadership. In today's world, growing into adulthood means more than just growing up, it means learning to make decisions -- decisions about not taking drugs, getting involved in crime, peer pressure and more.

Did you know that Scouting provides strong values-driven programs which strengthen character, develop good citizenship and enhance both mental and physical fitness in youth, traits which prepare young people to make the best decisions for today and tomorrow?

EVENTS

OCTOBER

- 7 - Executive Meeting
- 8 - Oratorical Contest, Post 5
- 12 - 40 & 8 Promenade, Post 5 8:00
- 15 - General Meeting DAV Post 26
- 19 - 8 & 40 meeting Post 5, 7:00

NOVEMBER

- 4 - Executive Meeting
- 7 - Early Bird Dinner and Initiation
- 9 - 40 & 8 Promenade Post 5 8:00
- 16 - 8 & 40 Post 5 7:00
- 27 - 29 - Gunshow/Membership Booth

DECEMBER

- 2 - Executive Meeting
- 14 - 40 & 8 Post 5
- 17 - General Meeting
- 19 - Post Christmas Party
- 21 - 8 & 40