

# The Centennial



VOLUME 26 EDITION 8

AUGUST 2012

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## From the Desk and Mind of the Commander

Jay Bowen

When my boss learned that Woodland Park was under a mandatory evacuation, he sent a simple note to a buddy, "Tex, Keep the faith." The reply was just as simple and yet profound, "Bill, Faith is the only thing I have worth keeping!"

Like most of you, I watched the Waldo Canyon Fire wreak its havoc in horror and amazement. I saw a community come together as a family the likes of which I haven't seen since 9/11. There are no words to describe the acts of the brave men and women who risked their own lives to save the property and life of people they've never met and probably never will meet. They came from all across the Western states to help. Wow! What an effort. As I write this, we are at 98% contained. By the time you read it, we will be at 100% and this will be but a page in the history of Colorado, and merely a footnote in the history of our country. But to many of us, it will be one of those events we will remember for the rest of our lives. We were fortunate we only lost 346 homes and two lives. While I don't want to make light of those who are a part of the 346, the toll could have been much higher. Also, like many of you I had a multitude of family and friends call, text and send messages of hope and prayers for our safety. In particular, I had many friends post messages on my Facebook wall. You should know I don't do Facebook. If you were to visit my profile, you would laugh. It is pretty bare compared to many. After the fourth message asking for an update, I decided to brave the site and try to figure out how to reply. Apparently, all you have to do is post a message to your wall and all those with access will see it.



What I found interesting was how many of my friends were writing about how devastated they would be if they were one of the 346 and lost all their memories.

While I cannot imagine how the 346 feel, like many of you I too have suffered losses. I would like to think I gained some very valuable perspective as a result. This really revisited me when Jackie and I prepared to leave for Grand Junction and I did a walk-through with a friend who planned to watch the house and help evacuate if necessary. As we evaluated the things I just HAD to have if we were told to leave, I set aside a 16 gauge shotgun (handed down from my grandfather), a small box of photos and my CPU (I also have a box with my Marriage License and Insurance Policies, which we took with us). But that was it. I realized the rest is just stuff! I was taking with me the one thing in my life I didn't want to lose; Jackie. Everything else could be replaced or not. Some people say their heirlooms remind them of loved ones. For me, there is nothing in my house that enhances the memories of those who have touched my life. I still remember my parents and in-laws so vividly that I don't need a photo to remind me who they were. Grandparents, friends who have moved or died still live in my mind as sharp as ever. I don't need a "Made in Mexico" knick-knack handed down or a faded photograph to remind me who they were. Don't get me wrong, I'm not a minimalist. I firmly believe he who has the most stuff when they die, WINS! But it is not so important that I'll forever feel a void if it is gone tomorrow. I had my irreplaceable jewel sitting next to me when I pulled out of the driveway. And with us both was our faith in God to see us through the fire. Everything else is just stuff.

For all of you affected by this fire and the fires in your life that will come, "Keep the Faith!"



## Auxiliary President Jackie Bowen

Wishes do come true. During our June meeting, we had Nancy Sloffer visit with us. She joined us again in July and turned in her membership application. Beverly Ford also joined our Unit and has a son deployed. Please keep him and all our troops in your prayers. Welcome Nancy and Beverly to our Unit and Legion family. Linda Gardner & Maryellen McKinley visited with us this month and hopefully will be joining us permanently as members.

Luwanda Ford visited with us from Arvada. She is the lady that supplies the pocket flags for the troops. Linda O'Riley and I met LuWanda at Department Convention.

Also visiting with us was Hannah Wardell and her Mom, Tracy. Hannah was one of the girls we sponsored for Girls State and was elected Governor. She is a ball of fire and a wonderful example of the fine young ladies that attend Girls State. If you did not attend our July meeting, you missed a great tribute.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Lynn Thomas for winning "Unit Member" of the year from Department. For the Ladies attending our monthly meetings, you know personally how valuable and knowledgeable a member Lynn is to us.

Listed elsewhere in the newsletter are articles concerning fundraisers. If you have any other ideas please let us know.

Serving Our Veterans Proudly,  
Jackie Bowen



## Sons of The American Legion Squadron 209

The SAL General Membership Meetings are on the 2nd Saturday of each month at 11:30am.

There is a breakfast at 9:00am that everyone is invited and encouraged to attend.

We are heavily involved with one program right now. That is the Child Welfare Foundation. We are

raising money by having little colored pigs on the tables of the dining area at the Post. We ask for your support on this project and others as we grow our Squadron. Our goal is \$1 for every member of our Post, Squadron and Auxiliary member; about \$800.

We have started the 2013 membership year. You do not have to wait until you receive the dues renewal notice from National to renew your dues. The only thing required is for you to take a moment and get a check or money order for \$20.00 made out to Squadron 209 and mail it to American Legion Post 209, P.O. 25334, Colorado Springs or go to the Post website at [www.americanlegioncoloradosprings.org](http://www.americanlegioncoloradosprings.org) and renew using PayPal.

We look forward to meeting or seeing you at our next meeting in August at 11:30am.

If you have questions or would like more information please email us at the Post website.

Thanks

### **"Hey Brother, Can You Spare Me A Dime?"**

During the Great Depression the above was a common phrase the unemployed used.

The action now days reminds me of that phrase, give to some organization to help the disabled Veterans. Anything, even a dime will do. Well brother, hold tight to your dimes until you are positive that the 501c organization is on the up and up. Recently, I watched Anderson Cooper, on CNN, do an exposé on charities that collected millions of dollars for disabled Veterans yet none of the money got to Veterans. In fact, what this charity did donate to disabled Veterans organizations were M&Ms and chief's aprons (not any of the \$56 million that was collected).

The charities used a collection agency to solicit money through mailing lists of millions of names. The main focus of this exposé was a charity, Disabled Veterans National Foundation, a name and emblem that was so similar to the DAV that if you didn't look closely you would think it was the real thing. Let me warn you comrades, if you get solicitations from anyone stating that they are affiliated with a 501c Veterans organization, please check them out on the web, [www.CharityNavigator.org](http://www.CharityNavigator.org), to confirm their legality.

If you do not have a computer, give us a call at the Post and we will check for you. After that you can send in your dimes that can really help one of our disabled Veterans.



## Post Officers 2012-2013

Office	Name	Telephone
Commander	Jay Bowen	719-574-1223
Sr. Vice Cdr	Mark Krzeczowski	719-282-1380
Jr. Vice Cdr	Lyle Hagelberg	719-594-4039
Adjutant	Larry Johnson	719-622-0344
Finance Officer	Rusty Bower	682-478-9122
Chaplain	Chet Dean	719-244-2442
Sergeant-at-Arms	Don Shuck	719-575-0539
Historian	Vacant	
Post Executive Com- mitteeman	Neal Thomas	719-392-1510
Service Officer	C. "Gunny" Raines	719-597-4766
Judge Advocate	Chuck Zeitvogel	719-531-0546
Past Commander	Bill Marshall	719-495-0088
Club Manager	Art Kimbrel	719-339-4610

Post Email: centennialtwozeronine@yahoo.com  
Web Site: www.americanlegioncoloradosprings.org



## Auxiliary Officers 2012-2013

Office	Name	Telephone
President	Jackie Bowen	719-574-1223
Vice President	Linda O'Riley	719-597-5673
Secretary	Lynn Thomas	719-392-1510
Treasurer	Mary Grier	719-536-0438
Chaplain	Marion Daugherty	719-637-9555
Sergeant-At-Arms	Lois Wooton	719-599-8683
Historian	Joan Ciani	719-579-9194



## Board of Trustees 2012-2013

Term (Years)	Name	Telephone
President (3 yr)	Neal Thomas	719-392-1510
Commander (1 yr)	Jay Bowen	719-574-1223
Finance Officer (1 yr)	Rusty Bower	682-478-9122
Member 3 Yr	Norman Moyer	719-392-3725
Member 3 Yr	Alton Cyriaque	719-495-4732
Member 1 yr	Chuck Zeitvogel	719-531-0546
Member 1 yr	Bill Marshall	719-495-0088



## Sons of The American Legion 2012-2013

Commander	Vacant	
1st Vice Commander	Vacant	
Adjutant	Don Shuck	719-575-0539
Finance Officer	Ken Taylor	719-495-8190
Chaplain	Chet Dean	719-244-2442



## Centennial 209 Family Calendar of Events

6 Sep	Post Executive Committee Mtg 6:30pm
7 Sep	Hamdogger Dinner 6:30pm
8 Sep	Breakfast 9:00am Legion/Auxiliary Meetings 10:00am SAL Meeting 11:30am Prospector Sertoma Gun Show and Booth 9:00am
9 Sep	9/11 Remembrance/Observation Prospector Sertoma Gun Show and Booth 9:00am
11 Sep	9-11 Patriots Day/Recognition Day
15 Sep	All Patients Day—Pueblo VA Nursing Home
17 Sep	<b>Air Force Birthday Dinner 6:30pm RSVP Required</b>
21 Sep	National POW/MIA Recognition Day <b>Steak Night 6:30pm RSVP Required</b>
28 Sep	<b>Fish Fry 6:30pm RSVP Required</b>
4 Oct	Post Executive Committee Mtg 6:30pm
5 Oct	Hamdogger Dinner 6:30pm
13 Oct	Breakfast 9:00am Meeting 10:00am SAL Mtg 11:30am
19 Oct	<b>Steak Night 6:30pm RSVP Required</b>
20 Oct	<b>Early Bird Dinner 6:00pm RSVP Re- quired</b>
26 Oct	<b>Fish Fry 6:30pm RSVP Required</b>
27 Oct	Halloween Party 6:00pm

## Do You Want to be Published?



Anyone who would like to submit an article for *The Centennial* is encouraged to do so. However, the articles MUST be received by the **15th of EACH MONTH**. All articles are to be sent to the following email: centennialtwozeronine@yahoo.com If you have questions please free to call the Post and leave a message.

**Reservations and RSVP go to Jackie Bowen (574-1223) jackiebowen2005@yahoo.com, or Lynn Thomas at 439-6268**



## Fish Fry Friday

Our Fish Fry is the 4th Friday of every month at 6:30pm.

We would like everyone to please make a reservation in advance of the dinner and let us know how many will be accompanying you for this night of food and fun. Reservations help keep our costs low so we can offer these great deals.

### Have You Moved? Are You Planning on Moving? Have You Changed Your Email Address?

These questions may seem a little strange, but let me assure you there is a reason why we are asking them.

When we send out your new membership card and it is returned because you moved, it costs your Post additional money. When we send *The Centennial* and it comes back, it costs additional money. When we get a return on your email, it doesn't cost extra per se, but you miss out of the latest edition of *The Centennial* and news of possible interest.

Please, if you are moving and you are filling out the notifications provided by the Post Office, send us a card or an email. We don't want you to miss out on any information.



### Guest Speaker For 11 August General Membership Meeting

Major Kevin Toner from the 2nd Bde 4th ID will speaking to us.

The topic will be their activities in Kandahar, Afghanistan. This should be an interesting discussion. Please make plans to attend.

Don't forget there is a breakfast prior to the meeting at 9:00am. I hope to see you there.



## From The Service Officer Gunny Raines

I have assumed the mantle as the Service Officer for the Post and available to help you or someone you know who could use help. I can be reached by calling 719-597-4766. Please help me in getting this information to Veterans who may be in need of assistance.

It looks like the Tri-Care carrier will be changing beginning April 2013. The carrier will be "United Health Military and Veterans Service."



### Attention All Women Veterans

The Colorado Women Veterans Resource is holding their 2nd annual conference/fair devoted to **Women Veteran Issues**.

The resource fair will held on Saturday, 25 August 2012 at the Double Tree Hilton Inn, 7801 East Orchard Road, Greenwood Village, CO 80111.

Check in is at 8:00am and the events begin promptly at 8:30am.

They have added something new this year; Friday evening there will be a reception and cash bar from 6:00pm to 8:00pm in the atrium of the hotel.

There will be special entertainment and time to visit and network with other women Veterans.

Please go to [www.cowomenveteransconference.org](http://www.cowomenveteransconference.org) to register from this event. If you are going to the reception, there is a button to press.

This event is co-hosted by Women Veterans of Colorado, in conjunction with the US Department of Veterans Affairs.





**From the Chaplain  
Chet Dean**

If you have an emergency, or are admitted to the hospital, admitted to a care facility, or need a Chaplain for any reason, you can call us directly.

**Do not call the Post except as a last result, as it may take longer to get to me or to Mike**

Please feel free to call the following numbers 24 hours a day, seven days a week if it is an emergency. If it is not an emergency you can call during normal hours.

Chaplain Chet Dean 719-244-2442  
Assistant Chaplain Mike Stebick 719-351-2574



# SAVE THE DATE

**Saturday, 20 October Beginning at  
6:00pm**

### Early Bird

Are you a member of The American Legion, Auxiliary or the SAL? If you have renewed your membership, transferred with 2013 dues paid or are a new member with a 2013 membership card, this ticket is good for one meal. The only things you need to do is (1) **watch this Newsletter** and (2) **make a reservation.**

### Umbrella Sales

The word has gotten out about our latest fund raiser, which is the UMBRELLA pictured to the right. We are selling the umbrellas for \$15 each. Features include:



Drip Free system to prevent water from getting on the floors and carpets.

Clear panel for easy visibility.

The money we make will assist local area Veterans and Auxiliary programs.



**Club Manager  
Art Kimbrel**

There are times when I am shopping for the food, that I run across some really good deals and I like to take advantage of them.

Last month, I ran into a great deal on ribs and we had them on the 3rd Friday instead of steak night. It was a great success and many have asked we do it again.

The problem I have is that I was not able to get the word out to everybody because a lot of you do not have email address' and are not on our email list.

In the interest of letting everyone know what is going on and changes to the meals, I would like to request that you provide your email address to the Adjutant so when there are changes we can let you know.

### RSVP, RSVP, RSVP, RSVP, RSVP, RSVP

Folks, you may be tired of seeing this plea, but every month we have people just show up at our dinners without first calling.

The problem with just showing up is you take a chance of NOT getting the correct meal because we ran out of food. If we have extra food, we'll gladly serve, but if we don't and you didn't RSVP, you may be served something else. Our Chef will not turn anyone away who is hungry.

We are trying to save the Post's money by ordering only what is needed for the meals. Please call in advance to ensure you will be served. RSVP's will always have priority!



**STEAK NIGHT  
COUPON**

Buy 1 dinner at Regular Price of \$ 12.00, get the 2<sup>nd</sup> One at \$ 2.00 off.

**Good only during the month of August 2012 and with a reservation made in advance.**



## From the Adjutant Larry Johnson

The question that seems to come to the forefront whenever I talk with members, Legionnaires coming from out of state, or people who are looking for help and information is “WHEN ARE YOU OPEN?” “WHAT ARE YOUR HOURS”?

The officers of the Post struggle with the same question whenever I mention that we need to do something to bring you down to the Post.

No matter which way you look at the situation, it all comes down to one thing; What is it going to take to get you and/or your family to the Post and enjoy many amenities we offer? What do you want to see at the Post that isn't available now?

We do not pay anyone to do anything at the Post. We don't pay a cook, we don't pay waitresses, we don't pay the Finance Officer or the Adjutant for the time that they spend ensuring the finances of the Post are correct and that your membership is processed as quickly as possible.

In three years, we have almost doubled our membership, but we have not doubled our participation. It isn't because we haven't tried but for some reason we just haven't found the way to reach you.

We desperately need you to get involved, we need your ideas, we need your experience, we need you to volunteer some time to the Post and the programs we support.

Starting in August, we have a Legionnaire who has volunteered to open the Post on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 1:00pm to 4:00pm. I will be coming Monday through Friday from 4:00pm to 6:00pm to work on membership, answer the phones and visit with anyone who comes to the door.

Beside being the Adjutant for the Post, I am also the District Adjutant and the Department Junior Vice Commander. All that means is that there may be times that I may not be available at the Post because of other duties and programs that I support. Those should be rare, but please bare with me when that happens.

Whether you know this or not, Post 209 has been and still is the talk of the State. We are known for our great meals, our hospitality, our “can do” attitude. Every year since we have opened our doors, we have hosted National Commanders as well as candidates for National Commander and when they are elected they can't wait to come back to our Post. Unfortunately, and I am not trying to start trouble, there have been members from all over the State who have been in our Post more than some of you. Yes, I know that not everyone can come to the Post for some very valid reasons, but I also know that several of you have never visited, or seldom visit.

As I said before, you are the key to continued success of this Post. With over 600 Legionnaires, almost a hundred Auxiliary Members and almost thirty members of the SAL (and we are all growing), we need you now more than ever. We have many committees that need someone like you to spearhead and support them. We need your ideas, experience and leadership.

We need you to step forward and help the officers, the committees; we need you to participate and enjoy the amenities we have.

Our membership is on track and I am sure that we will once again surpass our goal when we get the final figure. The only remaining question is when will we hit the goal? My dream for this year is to have our 100% turned in by 25 December 2012. With your help it can be done.



### Fund Raising Ideas

Some ideas that have been presented to the Executive Committee for fund raising are:

Doing a Haunted House, Craft Fair, Raffles, car shows, motorcycle shows. The Auxiliary is selling umbrellas, they are putting together a cookbook and are looking for everyone's favorite recipes.

For Post activities the ideas presented are Pool tournament, and a Shuffleboard tournament.

If you have any ideas, please call 719-599-8624 or send an email to [centennialtwozeronine@yahoo.com](mailto:centennialtwozeronine@yahoo.com). We are looking forward to hearing from you.



## PROSPECTORS



### Free Membership Booth

In November 2011, I called a Legionnaire to ask him to transfer from Post 211 in Denver. His reply to me was "NO." I asked him why and he said there was nobody from The American Legion at the Gun Show recruiting new members. I asked him how I could get him to transfer.

It was at this point that he informed me that if I would come down and recruit members for The American Legion he would transfer. He then proceeded to tell me that the table was free.

I couldn't turn down the idea of a free table where I would be able to provide information on The American Legion and recruit new members.

I am extending my thanks and the thanks of the Post to the Prospectors Sertoma Club for the opportunity they have given me and the Post.

This is where you can help. I need volunteers to man the booth on Saturdays and Sundays passing out information and talking to perspective new members.

When you have decided that you have some free time and would like to help please call the Post at 719-599-8624 or come to a meeting and let me know that you will help. The next Gun Show is 11 and 12 August.



### El Paso County Fair July 21– July 28

We would like to thank all the Post 209 people that manned the District 7 Legion booth at the Fair. Special thanks goes out to our Auxiliary & Post members; Linda O'Riley, Charly Stebick, Jackie Bowen, Willie Breazell, Larry Johnson, Chet Dean, Mike Stebick, Marty Robinson, Jim Griffith, Lyle Hagelberg, Don Shuck, Ken Taylor, and Gunny Raines. Giving up your time to assist is one thing, but doing it in that heat and dust to help spread the word about our wonderful organization and the programs we support makes the effort more special. THANKS!



### Post 209 Honor Guard

The Honor Guard is less than a year old, however the Honor Guard at Post 209 is fast becoming one of the best known Honor Guards in the community. They have been in high demand in the southern part of the State.

Your Honor Guard could be called "THE OLD GUARD" except that name is already taken. Our group consist of 9 members who range from 40+ to 70+. Not to mention names but our Bugler is 70 years young and blows a mean Bugle. We also have members from every branch of the military except the Coast Guard. Our members donate their time and talent for all events.

We are always interested in and looking for younger Honor Guard. This way we could have another team or substitutes in case one of the other members were to be absent. In addition, we are looking ahead a little bit and when the Veterans Cemetery opens we will probably be called on more often to assist with funerals of Veterans and their spouses.

We have done many funerals, and visitations to schools, hospitals, nursing homes, and rehab centers.

We have done numerous presentations on how to properly fold the American Flag while explaining what each of the 13 folds represent.

We love serving our community, and most of all our fellow Veterans! We especially want to thank and remember all of our troops who have taken our place on the battlefield wherever they may be. We Salute you all, and may God Bless America!



THE AMERICAN LEGION  
 CENTENNIAL POST 209  
 P.O. BOX 25334  
 COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80936-5334

NON-PROFIT  
 ORGANIZATION  
 U.S. POSTAGE  
 PAID  
 COLORADO SPGS, CO  
 PERMIT NO. 192

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

~ August 2012 ~						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> Post open 4 to 6:00 PM	<b>2</b> <u>Post Exec Mtg 6:30 PM</u> Post open 4:00 PM	<b>3</b> <u>Hamdogger 6:30 PM</u> Post Open 4:00 PM	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Post open 4 to 6:00 PM	<b>7</b> Cub Pack 386 Meeting Post open 4 to 6:00 PM	<b>8</b> Cub Pack 386 Meeting Post open 4 to 6:00 PM	<b>9</b> <u>POST RENTED</u> Post open 4 to 6:00 PM	<b>10</b> Post open 4 to 6:00 pm	<b>11</b> <u>Breakfast 9:00 AM</u> <u>Legion &amp; Aux Mtg</u> <u>SAL Meeting 12:00 PM</u> Propector Sertoma Gun Show and Booth
<b>12</b> Prospectors Sertoma Gun Show and Booth	<b>13</b> Post open 4 to 6:00 PM	<b>14</b> Cub Pack 386 Meeting Post open 4 to 6:00 PM	<b>15</b> Post open 4 to 6:00 PM	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> <u>Steak Night 6:30 PM</u> Annual POW/MIA Ride to Cripple Creek	<b>18</b> National Airborne Day Annual POW/MIA Ride to Cripple Creek
<b>19</b> Annual POW/MIA Ride to Cripple Creek	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Post open 4 to 6:00 PM	<b>23</b> <u>POST RENTED</u> Post open 4 to 6:00 PM	<b>24</b> <u>Fish Fry 6:30 PM</u> Post Open 4:00 PM	<b>25</b> <u>POST RENTED</u>
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Post open 4 to 6:00 PM	<b>28</b> Post open 4 to 6:00 PM	<b>29</b> Post open 4 to 6:00 PM	<b>30</b> Post open 4 to 6:00 PM	<b>31</b> Post open 4:00 pm	Notes:

**Reservations and RSVP go to Jackie Bowen (574-1223) jackiebowen2005@yahoo.com, or Lynn Thomas at 439-6268**