



Auxiliary President Jackie Bowen

We would like to welcome our newest member, Chris Bower. Chris is the wife of Rusty Bower, the new Post Finance Officer. She also joined us at our last Hamdogger, WingDing night and honored most of us with a free massage. See what you miss when you don't join us at our monthly events.

Our Officers for 2012/2013 are; President - Jackie Bowen, Vice President- Linda O'Riley, Secretary - Lynn Thomas, Treasurer - Mary Grier, Sgt-at-Arms - Lois Wooton, and Historian - Joan Ciani. Thank you ladies, for accepting these positions.

I would like to revisit a couple of issues that were mentioned in previous articles. The first one is sending your unused coupons to our troops overseas. Our troops and families can use even the recently expired coupons. Visit www.CouponsToTroops.com to get more details. The second is concerning our Unit doing a cookbook as a fundraiser. I know many of you are wonderful cooks because I have personally had the opportunity to try some of your delicious dishes. We will discuss this in more detail at our next meeting. Our Legionnaires and SAL members are also encouraged to submit recipes.

Our Unit will be helping G.I.G.S.S. (G.I. Grannies for Soldier Support) with cakes and other baked goods for our men, women, and their families of our Armed Forces of the Warrior Transition Battalion at Fort Carson. One of the members, Nancy Pfander, said "all you need is a heart" to belong to this wonderful organization. If you would like to help in any way you may contact Marilyn Stites at 719-598-6576 or mamstites@comcast.net. Marilyn is a member of our Unit, a Gold Star Mother, and a member of G.I.G.S.S.

Have you ever heard of Kids Wish Network? We are helping a young girl in Colorado Springs get her wish of going on a cruise. Hope (the young lady's name) has spina bifida and if you would like to personally donate go to www.kidswishnetwork.org and click on Waiting for Wishes, then look for Hope. It gives her name, age, where she is originally from, and her wish.

Serving Our Veterans Proudly,
Jackie Bowen



From the Historian Mario Taracena

MEMORIAL DAY

Once again here we are in the most beautiful month of the year with its blossoming peach and apple trees, tulips, crocuses, daffodils and green grass. It is also a time to observe Memorial Day, a holiday which honors all who died in military service to our nation.

What started originally as a memorial to fallen soldiers during the Civil War, has become a day to honor all servicemen and women who died and sacrificed so much for our homeland. Memorial Day is so unique because it touches in many ways the lives of so many people. Over the years more than 35 million Americans have responded to the call to arms in defense of this country. More than half a million of those never returned home. On Monday, the 28th take the time to visit a grave site, attend a memorial event, reverently fly the flag at half-mast until noon and be grateful.

ARMED FORCES DAY

Saturday, May 19th is your day!!! Whether you served in the Army, Marines, Navy, Air Force, or Coast Guard, have a great day.

May God Bless America





Post Officers 2011-2012

| 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 | Norman Moyer | 719-392-3725 |
| Chaplain | Chet Dean | 719-244-2442 |
| Sergeant-at-Arms | Don Shuck | 719-575-0539 |
| Historian | Mario Taracena | 719-638-1258 |
| Post Executive Committeeman | Neal Thomas | 719-392-1510 |
| Service Officer | John Brown | 719-331-8160 |
| 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 2010-2011

| 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 |



Board of Trustees 2011-2012

| Term (Years) | Name | Telephone |
|------------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| President (1 yr) | Neal Thomas | 719-392-1510 |
| Commander (1 yr) | Jay Bowen | 719-574-1223 |
| Finance Officer (1 yr) | Norman Moyer | 719-392-3725 |
| Member 1 Yr | Larry Johnson | 719-322-0644 |
| Member 1 Yr | Alton Cyriaque | 719-495-4732 |
| Member 3 yr | Chuck Zeitvogel | 719-531-0546 |
| Member 3 yr | Bill Marshall | 719-495-0088 |



Son's of The American Legion 2011-2012

| | |
|-----------------|------------|
| Commander | |
| Adjutant | |
| Finance Officer | Ken Taylor |
| Chaplain | Chet Dean |



Centennial 209 Family Calendar of Events

| | |
|-----------|--|
| 3 May | Post Executive Committee Mtg 6:30pm |
| 4 May | Hamdogger Wingding Dinner 6:30pm |
| 6-7 May | Membership Booth– Rustic Hills North 9:00am |
| 12 May | NO BREAKFAST or MEETING THAT MORNING INSTALLATION of OFFICERS 4:30pm BANQUET and ANNUAL STATE of the POST REPORT at 6:00pm RSVP! |
| 13 May | Mother's Day |
| 18 May | Steak Night 6:30pm RSVP! |
| 18-19 May | American Legion College, Post 38 6685 Southmoor Dr, Security |
| 20 May | District 7 Convention, — Palmer Lake Post 9-11 "THE DEPOT" 12:00pm |
| 25 May | Fish Fry 6:30pm RSVP! |
| 28 May | Memorial Day Service at TREA |
| 1 Jun | Hamdogger Wingding Dinner 6:30pm |
| 7 Jun | Post Executive Committee Mtg 6:30pm |
| 9 Jun | Breakfast 9:00am General Meeting(s) 10:00am |
| 10 Jun | PROPOSED FLAG RETIREMENT CEREMONY 2:00pm (Updates coming) |
| 14 Jun | Army Birthday Celebration 6:30pm RSVP! |
| 15 Jun | Steak Night 6:30pm RSVP! |
| 19 Jun | Fathers Day |
| 22 Jun | Fish Fry 6:30pm RSVP! |
| 28-31 Jun | Department Convention — Grand Junction |
| 5 Jul | Post Executive Committee Mtg 6:30pm |
| 6 Jul | Hamdogger Wingding Dinner 6:30pm |
| 8-9 Jul | Membership Booth—Rustic Hills North |
| 14 Jul | Breakfast 9:00am General Meeting(s) 10:00am |
| 20 Jul | Steak Night 6:30pm RSVP! |
| 27 Jul | Fish Fry 6:30pm RSVP! |

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



Installation of Officers' Banquet



You are invited to the Installation of Officers' Banquet for the American Legion Post and American Legion Auxiliary Unit 209.

The Installation will start at 4:30pm with the installation of Unit Auxiliary Officers followed by the Installation of Post Legion Officers.

There will be a social period between the end of the Installation ceremonies and the dinner, which will be served at approximately 6:00pm.

Please make your reservations in advance of the dinner. No reservations are necessary for the Installation. The Commander will give his Annual "State of the Post Report" at the Banquet.

Come out and show your support for the new Officers you selected for 2012-2013.



Sons of The American Legion Squadron 209

If your membership with the Sons of The American Legion has expired, you can still pay 2012 dues by writing out a check or money order to Squadron 209 for \$20.00 and mail it to American Legion Post 209, P.O. 25334, Colorado Springs or go to the Post website at www.americanlegioncoloradosprings.com and renew using PayPal.

We look forward to meeting or seeing you at our next meeting.

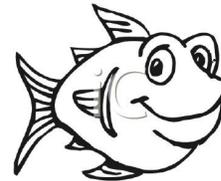
If you have questions or would like more information please email us at the Post website.

Thank you, SAL

Fish Fry Friday

The 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.

So far this year, we have been charged over \$300.00 for Legionnaires, Auxiliary and SAL members who have moved and didn't think to add us to the list when changing address. 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 newsletter 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*.

Please let us know when you move.

MEMORIAL DAY



The fallen will be remembered. All of us, whether we knew any of the fallen or not, are bereaved. We remember them and miss them not just because they died in service to their nation and the principles it is founded upon, but because they lived with their own joy in service to humanity. It is said that the more special someone was the longer they will be missed and remembered, They were, and are, all very special and we will remember them always.



**Club Manager
Art Kimbrel**

Please make a note of the following:

The price for the Hamdogger Wingding dinner is varied and is listed on the menu.

The price for the breakfast is \$8.00 per person.

The price for a great cut of meat on Steak Night is \$12.00 per person and if you have a coupon from this Newsletter, **AND** have made a reservation at least two days in advance, your 2nd steak will only cost \$10.00.

The price for the Fish Fry is \$10.00 per person.

The price for the Installation of Officers' Banquet is \$10.00 per person and will consist of Chicken Fried Steak and the works.

For the Military Service Birthday dinner, the selection will be a choice of Roast Beef or Turkey and the fixings for \$10.00 per plate.

Please make your reservations for the meal at least two days in advance. This helps us plan and buy the right amount of food, which keeps our costs low so we can continue these GREAT deals.

If you have gone shopping lately you will have noticed the price of groceries have sky rocketed. You are trying to save money and so are we, that's why the reservations are so important.

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.



**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. Sometimes if you leave a message at the Post there may be a delay with the information getting to us.

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



RSVP Special

Make an advance (at least 2 days) reservation for the Steak night, which is typically held on the 3rd Friday of every month and receive a special discount. With advance reservations and the coupon on this page, you get a Steak at the regular price of \$12.00 and the second one for a price of \$10.00.

As we have stated numerous times, we are working diligently to keep costs low so we can continue to offer these great meals at great prices. The only way we can ensure we have enough food on hand to provide these deals is if you will RSVP in time for us to make the food purchases. Help us help you!



**STEAK NIGHT
COUPON**

Buy 1 dinner at Regular Price of \$12.00, get the 2nd one for \$10.00.
Good only during the month of May and with a reservation made at least 2 days in advance.

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



**From The Service Officer
John Brown**

Service: Proposed Fee-for-All

The White House released details of its personnel and health care budget proposals Feb 13 and they confirmed what we thought – it's going to cost us more.

The proposed TRICARE fee proposals envision shifting nearly \$35 billion in health care costs from the Pentagon to military retirees over the next 10 years.

The changes would phase in significant fee hikes for nearly every segment of the military population, including retirees of all ages. So get ready to pay or let our elected officials know you are against the Pentagon's knee-jerk reaction to pass the medical cost buck to beneficiaries rather than fulfill its own responsibilities for efficient management of military health care. We have a tough fight ahead and our battle now is for the hearts and minds of Congress. Let them know what you think.

John Brown
Post Service Officer



**From the Junior Vice Commander
Lyle Hagelberg**

We are getting ready to begin another American Legion year.

As you read earlier, we have elected new Officers for the upcoming year. Now we need your help in filling the various positions of various committees that help to operate and manage the Post.

Interested in being on a committee? Then go to our website at www.americanlegioncoloradosprings.org. There is a brief description of the committees and their duties.

Most of the committees only meet for about 2 hours a month. Do you have the time?

If interested, come to a meeting, call the Post at 719-599-8624 or send us an email at centennialtwozeronine@yahoo.com



**From
The Scouts
John Brown**

Venture Crew 1911 is focused on shooting sports and the outdoors. They will learn outdoor skills, shooting skills with rifles, pistols, shotguns and archery. All the while in an environment centered on Boy Scouts of America's values.

You could give those experiences to your son or grandson, or your daughter or granddaughter. If interested, bring your son, daughter, grandson, and granddaughter and come find out more at Boy Scouts of America Venture Crew 1911's next meeting Wednesday, May 9th, 7:00pm at the Post. The Venture Crew is chartered by Post 209.

Pack 24 and Pack 386 have completed their Pine Wood derby and winners will be going to the District run offs next week. Maybe one of the packs will win the big trophy like a couple of years ago and we can display it in our home. I will let you know the outcome at our next meeting. It sure was nice to see some old timers bring their cars to the Post home and see all the excitement 50 plus boys can generate. If we could turn that energy into electricity we could be rate free for years to come. I only had to pull kids out of the apple tree 3 or 4 times on Saturday. Thanks for all the support from our Legionnaires.

Both Packs are going into their summer pact and graduating to the next rank in May. School will be out and summer camp will be in full swing. If you are interested in helping out the Scouts at summer camp let me know, they always need guides but be ready for a full busy day.

Hope everyone enjoyed the Pack 386 scouts that helped us at our breakfast, they were so fast that if you turned your head they had picked up your plate, filled your coffee cup and were gone. Next month it will be Pack 24's turn to have boys at our breakfast.

Scout Liaison
John Brown



From the Adjutant Larry Johnson

I know some of you get upset once, maybe twice a year regarding membership because you mail in your renewal dues on time after the first notice, and then find yet another renewal notice in your mailbox. I know this because I get your letter with a copy of the check or check number and the date it was cashed.

Let me try and share with you how the National Organization works in regards to membership.

Right now, National is in the process of pulling all of the information about membership and they are in the process of printing the renewal cards for 2013.

Members typically get five (5) renewal notices a year. The 1st renewal notice comes out the 1st of July. This is the official start of our membership drive for the new year. The 2nd renewal notice is in October. The 3rd renewal notice is in January, and the 4th notice is in March. The 5th and final renewal notice is in May.

Please consider this; you send your renewal by mail to the Post. I receive it, process the renewal and mail it to Department (State HQ). Department will process your renewal and then mail it to National. With almost 3 million members, it could take National up to a week to get your information processed, even in this automated age.

National pulls renewal notices about 45 days from the scheduled mailings. So the 2nd renewal notices will be pulled sometime in August for printing. If you send me your renewal and I process it on the 13th of August, by the time it gets to National and is posted, it is normally after the date that the next renewal list is pulled for printing, therefore you will get another renewal notice.

If you don't want to receive numerous renewal notices, there are options available to you.

In order to do that, you must first change the mindset that you can only renew on the day that you joined each year. Membership runs from 1 January to 31 December for everyone. So renewing in July won't change your membership date.

Renewing in July for 2013 still means your membership is good from January to December for that year. But it will prevent multiple renewal notices.

One option other than the traditional method of sending us a check, is to renew your membership through our web site using PayPal. This convenience is for our members and won't cost you any more than if you send us a check or money order. And you don't have to be a member of PayPal to renew.

You can also consider two other options. One of those is a program the Department of Colorado began last year (called CAMPP). Under this program you can basically renew your membership for 3, 5, 7 or 10 years. The way it works is that you pay \$35.00 (which is our yearly dues) per year in advance so if you wanted to do 10 years the cost would be \$ 35.00 times 10 or \$350.00. All dues noticed would stop, and every year Department would send you a membership for the current year and provide a note showing how many years you have left in the program. The nice thing about this is if the Post had to raise the dues per year you would not have to pay the difference until your CAMPP membership expires. When you reach the end of the program, you can sign up for another round at the current Post dues rate, if Department still offers the program.

The 2nd option is to look into the Paid-Up-For-Life (PUFL). This is a program just like it says. You are a member who paid-up-for-life. The cost depends on your age and our dues at the time you sign up.

You can go www.legion.org and put in Paid-Up-For-Life to get more information or you can contact us. We can work up the cost and offer recommendations to help you decide which is the best option. One of the nice things about PUFL is you will never receive another renewal notice and if the annual dues are raised by National, Department or the Post, you do not have to pay the increase. The only requirement is that you must be a member in good standing, meaning you need to have the current year dues paid.

If you would like or need further information, please give me a call at 719-599-8624 or send an email to centennialtwozeronine@yahoo.com, or you can make arrangements to come to the Post. I will provide you more information and try to answer any questions you might have.