



The Centennial

Volume XV
Edition 1

January 2024

AMERICAN LEGION NEAL THOMAS JR. CENTENNIAL POST 209



Post 209 members, with the help from one of our Scout Troops preparing bags for our First Responders.

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3613 Jeannine Dr. Colorado Springs, CO 80917
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www.legion209.org

<https://www.facebook.com/AmericanLegionCentennialPost209/>



The American Legion Post 209 Officers 2023-2024

Commander:	Marvin Weaver, Jr.	(719) 244-3535
Adjutant:	Doug Millison	(719) 599-8624
Sr. Vice Commander:	Steve Hayes	(719) 494-7166
Jr. Vice Commander:	Jerry Hopper	(918) 953-9980
Finance Officer:	Jeff Heischman	(719) 482-4357
Service Officer:	Brian Murphy	(719) 930-4147
Judge Advocate:	Marvin Weaver	(719) 638-4763
Historian:	Kurt Skinner	(719) 963-3517
Exec. Committeeman:	Art Kimbrel	(719) 339-4610
Chaplain:	Bob "Odie" O'Donnell	(719) 432-6018
Immediate Past CDR:	Lino Calica	(719) 963-0956
Sgt.-at-Arms:	Bobby Senter	(719) 660-3775



American Legion Auxiliary Unit 209 Officers 2023-2024

President:	Royce Hopper	(918) 953-9993
Vice President:	Cathy Barger	(719) 290-3163
Secretary:	Pat Weaver	(719) 638-4763
Treasurer:	Kellie Hayes	(719) 494-7167
Chaplain:	Ariel Foster	(719) 281-7965
Exec.-at-Large:	Jackie Bowen	(901) 481-0673
Historian:	Maria Alicea	(719) 900-8426
Sgt-at-Arms:	Michelle Bresee	



Sons of The American Legion Squadron 2023-2024

Commander:	Rob Barry	(719) 930-5725
Adjutant:	Bob "Odie" O'Donnell	(719) 432-6018
Sr. Vice Commander:	Chris Hollingsworth	(910) 364-1677
Jr. Vice Commander:	Mike Barger	(719) 290-3218
Finance Officer:	Ken Taylor	(719) 461-4047
Chaplain:	Jim Bird	(719) 231-4928
Sgt-at-Arms:	Tom Foster	(719) 339-2667
Executive Committeeman:	Brian Wess	(719) 528-6672 (home)



American Legion Riders Post 209 Officers 2023-2024

President:	Jerry "Rico" Shay	(719) 244-3901
Vice President:	Sean Cope	(719) 246-4820
Secretary:	Royce Hopper	(918) 953-9993
Treasurer:	Kellie Hayes	(719) 494-7167
Sgt-at-Arms:	Joe York	(682) 309-4408
Road Captain:	Scott Laudan	(719) 238-2679
Logistics:	Terry Buxton	(419) 989-9669
Communications:	Chris Cicchi	(719) 493-5897
Chaplain:	Jim Bird	(719) 231-4928



From the desk of the Commander

Wow; 2024 already. I have started to believe what my Grandmother always told me when I was a kid. Enjoy being a kid because you are going to be an adult for a LONG time. It seems like every year just goes by quicker and quicker. I still remember when everyone was worried about the complete meltdown of the world when we got closer to 2000. Remember how they were telling us that with the reliance we had on computers they were going to shut down completely at the strike of the new year. Well, that obviously didn't happen. They say it was because of all preventive work that was done prior; but to me I think it was just a way for companies to get us to buy updates and patches to get them more money. But what do I know?

While writing this article I keep thinking back to all the great things we accomplished last year. We brought back the Initiation ceremony in March, We have done this in the past; it has just been a few years since we had held the ceremony. We also continued our support of the Oratorical contest, which was held differently in January with and all recorded contest. We sponsored another 2 students for this year's contest, which was held on the new date in December. The post continued its sponsorship with Boy's State sending over 20 boys this year and we also had numerous Legionnaires along with Auxiliary members helping out during the week.

We were well represented at the Department training session in Ignacio in place of the Convention. We had members fly out to Charlotte for the National Convention bringing back good information to the Post. SAL Squadron Commander Rob Barry and some of the Auxiliary also made it out to National despite the Department charter being temporarily suspended.

We started a new program that we hope to get going around the country with the "First Flag Program". We handed out American flags and "Be Right on Flag Etiquette" books to all new citizens at the naturalization ceremony in November. We were able to do this with donations made by you, the members of the post donating the needed funds. No Post money was used to make the purchases. We have decided we want to continue this going forward.

We combined efforts with Flagship Health for their new clinic that opened in December here in Colorado Springs. They are here to help out senior veterans with healthcare services. We held their open house at the Post and it was well attended by other like businesses in the community and also members from around the Legion in El Paso County.

These are just a few of the things we accomplished last year. I am proud to call myself a Legionnaire and a member of Post 209 but most importantly I am proud to call myself the Commander of this Post. Without your support we could not do what we do that makes our Post so great. I know we have many great things planned for this coming year and look forward to what we can do together.

Thank you for all you do to help veterans and our Post.

Marvin Weaver, Jr.
Post 209 Commander





From our Post Adjutant

Let me step off the renewal bandwagon for a moment and talk about another important topic. Recruitment.

American Legion National Commander Daniel J. Seehafer will award his national commander “Be the One” dog tag coin to any Legionnaire who obtains two new members into The American Legion.

In the past the requirement was four new members, a rather arbitrary number designed for growth. If you have done any recruiting, getting one or two felt pretty good, you were doing your part. But that might not have been recognized for what it was. The aim of recruiting two members allows for many more enthusiastic and hard-working members to be recognized and to see what the goal is. One to replace a lost member, and one for growth. Looking ahead to the future of The American Legion.

We have four members who qualify for the award so far. The following ten Legionnaires have recruited one member and just need one more to achieve the growth we need:

J. Heischman, T. Bock, B. McGlone, L. Calica, D. Seefeldt, J. York, C. Roebuck, G. Johnson, P. Burcham, and S. Spence.

Y’all have been doing great work talking to your friends, co-workers, etc. Go bring it home. Everyone else, do that as well.

There are applications available just inside the front door of the Post. The tri-folds on top of the book case are for people to take who might need the information inside, not just to tear an application from. We now have clipboards next to the book case with applications for TAL, ALA, and SAL. Please use those as much as possible.

One last important word on renewals. This is the January Newsletter. If your membership card does not say 2024 you are delinquent. Please correct that situation.

On a totally separate subject **-IMPORTANT ADJUTANT NOTICE-**

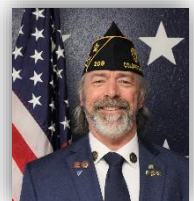
I am developing a survey along with District leadership to better understand what our membership is thinking, how they got here and why they left. It will be short and targeted to three sets of members. Those that have joined the Post in the last 2 years, the members who keep coming back, and those that have let their membership expire in 2020 thru 2022.

The target release of the survey will be in January. We need everyone who receives this email to respond. Out of 1,176 email addresses only 400 to 430 of you actually open the 411 and/or Newsletter. In order to get a really good sampling and idea, we need as much feedback as possible and YOU are it. I promise to keep it short and it will not lead off to a google review or anything you might see others do.

If you see the survey, please please, please take a couple minutes to respond.

“Always Forward”

Doug Millison
Adjutant





From our Senior Vice Commander

Happy New Year! I hope you had an awesome Holiday with friends and family throughout the season. Our post family had several fun events in December, including a great Christmas party on December 9th. The post Honor Guard provided rifle honors, and several post members helped lay wreaths for Wreaths Across America on 16 Dec. The family came together and presented 500 "goodie bags" to several CSPD substations and snack bowls to 20 CSFD fire stations.

We are doing well with membership for 2023 but still need about 300 more members to meet our quota for the year. If you do not have a 2024 card, you are now classified as delinquent and need to get renewed ASAP. On February 1st, all non-renewed accounts are suspended. Please don't lapse! All you need is to pay your dues to become current. Please, if you have not renewed yet, contact Doug to set up a meeting time so you can give him your dues. He is usually in the office on Tuesdays. You can also send a check through the Post Office if you would like. If you know of a veteran (family, friend, neighbor) who is not a member, invite them to join. It is easier than you might think to recruit a new member. Just let them know why you joined and are a member; for many people, the reasons are the same.

Best of luck in the new year!

Steve Hayes
Senior Vice Commander



From our Sons of The American Legion Commander

The new year is here! I hope everyone had a great holiday season and got some rest. Now it is back to the mission! This month, there will be an important mid-year conference in Longmont at post 32. This will take place on January 26 and 27. The SAL will be having its own training session with valuable information. Most importantly, there will be National representatives here to help with the Legion rebuild. Come and learn about the future of your Department.

Also, in the month of January, I want to challenge every member to take on training of their own. On our post website, we have training available for our Five Star and 10 Ideals programs. This will help you have a foundation of what the SAL represents. Fill out the answer sheet and bring it to our next meeting for credit.

In February, we will be having a SAL dinner on the 23rd. We had a fantastic showing at our last dinner. If there is another chef out there, let us know! Let's make our dinners something everyone looks forward to attending.

Thanks again for a great year. I see nothing but a great future for our Squadron.

Rob Barry
SAL Commander



Adopt a Pig!

Come on folks! It's time for you to open up your heart and adopt one of our beautiful Post 209 Child Welfare Foundation pigs. We have several in our Post Pig Sty (a.k.a. a plastic tub).

These cute little red (or pink) plastic pigs don't eat much and are very low maintenance. Unlike their Pot-Bellied" cousins, they don't ever need to go outside. They don't require much attention, just the occasional plink of a few coins in the top of their back that you take out of your pocket at the end of the day. They look great sitting on your bedroom dresser, on a kitchen cabinet, or anywhere in your house because they are very quiet and cute.

And the best part is when they are filled, just bring them into the Post and trade them in for one of their brothers or sisters who are hungry and need a home.

Step Up! It feels great knowing you are giving an orphaned pig a home, and the money fed to these pigs goes to support some GREAT children charities. Open your heart (and your change purse) and pick up one of our pigs the next time you are at the Post.

Just see any of our Sons of the American Legion member and tell them you are ready to be a pig farmer...or parent...or you just like pork!



From our American Legion Riders

January starts the New Year and a new 2024 riding season for your American Legion Riders at Post 209. We start the year off with an ALR dinner on Friday, 12 January at 6:00 PM. This is our annual Chili Cook Off. We will have several categories such as Best Green and Best Red Chili. Also, a category for the Hottest Chili. There will be other options such as Vegan and Healthy entrees. If you want to enter a Chili in the Cook Off, Contact RICO at Jerome.shay1@gmail.com or Text to 719-244-3901. And don't forget to RSVP to Jackie NLT Thursday, 11 January by 12:00 (Noon).

The American Legion Riders will hold our annual elections for the 2024 ALR 209 Executive Board. All six elected positions (President, Vice President, Sergeant-at-Arms, Road Captain, Secretary, Treasurer) will be open for nomination up to the day of elections on Tuesday, 23 January 2024. The 2024 E-Board will officially be installed at the end of the February meeting on Tuesday, 27 February. The new ALR 209 President will then appoint members to the five appointed positions (Comms, Historian, Logistics, Color Guard Captain, Chaplain). Good luck to all the nominees, we look forward to the new year and the new E-Board!!

As the weather warms up and we kick off the 2024 ALR 209 riding season, some important rides/events of interest are listed below:

- Saturday, 6 April is the ALR 209 Fun Run, Start/Stop at Post 209 @ 9:00 AM
- Saturday, 15 June, ALR 209 High Country Memorial Run, Start at Post 209 @ 9:00
- Saturday, 6 July, Colorado ALR Pony Express Run (End Location TBD)
- Saturday, 20 July, ALR 209 Annual Centennial Poker Run at Post 209 @ 0900
- Fri-Sun, 6-8 Sept, ALR Colorado ROMP (in Bueno Vista, CO)
- Sunday, 22 Sept, ALR 209 Neal Thomas Jr Memorial Ride, Start at Post 209 @ 0900

Jerry "RACO" Shay
President, American Legion Riders



From our Post Historian

Bruce Charles Walker from Pueblo, Colorado, was commissioned as an Air Force officer in 1969. After completion of flight training, 1st Lt Walker was assigned to the 20th Tactical Air Support Squadron, Da Nang, South Vietnam, as an OV-10A Bronco forward air control pilot.

On 7 April 1972, Lt Walker and forward air observer, Marine Corps Lt Larry Potts, were flying their OV-10A, call-sign "Covey 282," in support of a massive search-and-rescue mission to recover Air Force Lt Col Gene Hambleton, call-sign "Bat-21 Bravo." Hambleton was the only surviving crewmember of an Air Force EB-66 Destroyer flying escort for B-52 bombers, shot down just south of the DMZ. Hambleton eluded capture from thousands of enemy forces for nearly 12 days while the United States conducted



one of the costliest search-and-rescue missions in American history trying to rescue him. Although Hambleton was ultimately rescued, 11 servicemen were killed and two were captured during the nearly two-week effort. The two captured were Lieutenants Walker and Potts.

Another Forward Air Control pilot in the area observed the launch of a North Vietnamese surface-to-air missile (SAM), which struck Walker's aircraft. Both crewmen ejected, and search and rescue forces sighted two parachutes. Both made radio contact relaying their positions. It is believed that Potts was likely captured shortly after reaching the ground; later intelligence investigations indicated that he was taken into North Vietnamese custody, and that he was shot and killed during a subsequent escape attempt.



Lieutenant Walker evaded capture for 11 days, and remained in consistent contact with search and rescue personnel who managed to drop him extra survival gear while attempting to guide him toward a safe extraction location. On April 18, Walker's last radio transmission was to call off the rescue aircraft overhead, saying "they've got me and are shooting at me." Walker too, was captured alive, according to intelligence sources, and the North Vietnamese took him north across the DMZ to a prison facility in North Vietnam.

But when North Vietnam released American POWs one year later, none of the former prisoners knew anything about Walker's fate.

Both Walker and Potts were promoted to Captain while listed as "missing in action." In 1980, the Department of Defense transitioned their status to "killed in action, body not recovered." Potts and Walker became the 12th and 13th men who sacrificed their lives to save Hambleton. They are memorialized on the Courts of the Missing at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific. Bruce C. Walker's name is inscribed along with all his fallen comrades on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in Washington, DC.



Thank you for your service, Bruce – You are not forgotten.



"I'm very proud to wear this medal for this country...It gives me a mouthpiece to talk about honor, integrity and patriotism." - **Drew Dix**, Medal of Honor recipient

After graduating from Pueblo Centennial High School, Drew Dix enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1962 at the age of 17. He eventually earned entry into the Green Berets, and by 1968, Staff Sergeant Dix was deployed to Vietnam as a Special Forces adviser working on a CIA project in the provincial capital of Chau Phu near the Cambodian border. His mission was to coordinate intelligence-gathering with a company sized unit composed mainly of indigenous Vietnamese and Cambodians. Their task was to capture Viet Cong soldiers for interrogation.

On 31 January 1968, in the midst of the Tet Offensive, two heavily armed Viet Cong battalions attacked the Province capital city of Chau Phu resulting in the complete breakdown and fragmentation of the defenses of the city. Though outnumbered at least thirty to one, Dix led a small contingent of troops in a harrowing fifty-six hour

battle against two Viet Cong battalions. Determined to rescue the civilians and restore Chau Doc Province, Dix took matters into his own hands.

He saved an American nurse, eight USAID volunteers, two Filipino workers, a young Vietnamese girl and the wife and children of the Province Chief. The following day, Staff Sergeant Dix, still on his own volition, assembled a 20-man force and though under intense enemy fire, the team assaulted enemy strongholds, secured key buildings and captured over twenty prisoners including a Viet Cong General officer who turned out to be one of the highest-ranking officials ever seized during the Vietnam War.

For his gallantry, Staff Sergeant Dix was awarded the Medal of Honor by President Lyndon B. Johnson during a ceremony at the White House on 19 January, 1969. He was the first Special Forces enlisted man to receive the Medal of Honor. He received a direct commission to First Lieutenant and retired as a major after twenty years in the Army. Following his Army career, Dix operated an air service in Alaska, and after 9/11 served as Alaska's deputy commissioner for Homeland Security.



In 2010, he founded the Center for American Values in Pueblo, Colorado, to provide character and leadership development and promote the core values of honor, integrity, and patriotism. Drew Dix has served as president of the Congressional Medal of Honor Society and continues to speak on behalf of America's "warrior class" and advocate for veterans.

Kurt Skinner
Historian



From our Color/Honor Guard Captain

The Honor Guard's last big event of the year was supporting Wreaths Across America again this year at Pikes Peak National Cemetery on December 16th. The team fired rifle volleys followed by the Colorado Military History Group firing cannon volleys. It is always an honor for us to provide support for such an important event.

I, and the rest of the Honor Guard team, want to wish everyone a safe and enjoyable holiday season. We look forward to supporting the Veterans, the Post, and the Community in 2024.

Like and Follow "The American Legion Neal Thomas, Jr. Centennial Post 209 Honor Guard" Facebook page. The link is: <https://legion209.org/honorguard209/>

Joel W. Haas
Honor Guard Captain





From our Junior Shooting Sports Program

The JSSP season has wound down for the year, so that the instructors can have a break before we pick up again early in 2024. There is an NRA Basic Rifle Course on January 6th for students interested in becoming instructors. Next, a Young Guns Basic Course – Air Pistol is being looked at before the Spring 2024 Marksmanship Course kicks off February 7th. The Young Guns Basic Course – Air Rifle begins February 8th and is taking applications.

I, and the team of JSSP instructors, want to wish everyone a happy and joyful holiday season. We look forward to seeing everyone return safe after the beginning of the year, ready to move into another busy year.

Like and Follow “Centennial Post 209 Young Guns Shooting Sports” Facebook page. The link is at the top of the Young Guns website: <https://legion209.org/young-guns/>

Joel W. Haas
JSSP Instructor



Salty Dog

Jack of the Dust:

Jack of the Dust is an obsolete enlisted rating of the United States Navy and was used in the Navy Supply Corps. The term has its origin in the Royal Navy of the early 1800s when ship's stewards were known as "Jack-in-the-dust," referring to the dusty atmosphere created by issuing quantities of flour and dried biscuits. The US Naval rating was discontinued in the late 19th century, but the term survived as a formal title until World War II. "Jack of the Dust" is still used today on some ships as an



informal title for a culinary specialist (cook) in charge of the canned goods storeroom. Every enlisted sailor is sent TAD to the mess decks after they report to help the cooks out; this is also referred to as “Mess Cranking”. Most only do 90 days but some ships do more time. My Mess Cranking time was spent with the Jack of the Dust and probably the easiest job to have while mess cranking.

Marvin Weaver, Jr.
Post 209 Commander





Bringing A Little South to the West

My mother and grandmothers had several things in common with Jackie's mother and grandmothers. One that comes to mind is recipes. I guess back in their day, nobody wrote down a recipe. And their means of measuring took some time to understand. Today, thanks in large part to PC's and the Internet, along with the Food Network, we have written recipes for many, many things and a standard way to measure.

It was interesting and fun to watch Jackie get with her and my family members to learn how they worked their magic in the kitchen. All the "old folks" had dishes that would rival any restaurant or noted chef, and the meals always came out delicious EVERY time. But teaching someone else how to replicate that dish was a challenge.

I found it amusing when Jackie would ask one of them for their recipe on any dish. In the beginning, she would ask if the recipe was written down. The typical response was a smile and something like, "Why honey, it's really easy to do. You don't need a recipe." I guess if Jackie made the dish for 60 years every week or every day, yeah it would be pretty easy. But the first time, and second, and third didn't always work out as easily.

And it didn't help when the ingredients called for a "tad" of this, or a "pinch" of that. After all, what is a tad? And when they would tell her to just take a small handful...okay, have you seen how small Jackie's hands are?

For those who have sampled Jackie's dishes, you know she is an AMAZING cook! But almost all her dishes are written down. Now, I'm not going to tell you she always follows the instructions every time, but she pretty well sticks closely to them. Some may be a tad off (look, I found a way to use that word!). I guess it's a southern thing to not write a recipe down. Maybe it's because many of the southern ladies are very particular about their "special dishes" and they don't want just anybody having access to the secret.

But in the south, it's not only the kitchen terms that are different. When I first retired from the US Army, Jackie and I moved to Blytheville, Arkansas, a predominantly farming town of about 20,000 on the northeast corner of the state. One fall afternoon, I commented to an older buddy who had lived in that county his entire life that I was hoping to find someone to buy some firewood. He asked, "How much do you need? A rank?" I said, "A what?" And he repeated himself. I told him I was at a loss for the amount of wood in a "Rank." He said, "Well, it's half a cord." I responded, "Oh, you mean a Rick." He looked at me like I had two heads. He said, "No, I mean a Rank. What's a Rick?" After that, we decided in the future to just refer to it as half a cord.

Oh well, I guess it's time to grab a handful of cereal, add a tad of milk, and maybe even a pinch of sugar for breakfast. Follow me for more recipes.

Jay Bowen
Past Commander



UPCOMING EVENTS



SAL



SAFETY INITIATIVE

Sons of the American Legion
Squadron 209 will replace and install
smoke detector batteries at no cost for
veterans in financial need or with
physical limitations

Contact SQ 209:
Rob Barry
719-930-5725
colo.rsb@yahoo.com



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LOOKING FOR A WAY TO “FOSTER AND PERPETUATE A 100% AMERICANISM”?



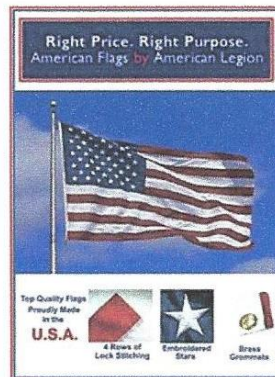
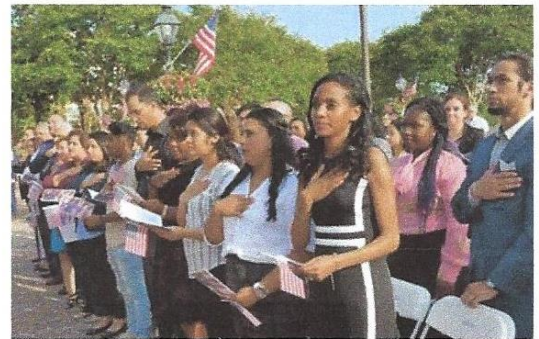
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for presentation at the next
Citizenship Naturalization
ceremony in Colorado Springs



YOUR \$25 GIFT WILL PROVIDE:

- Made in USA All-weather U.S. Flag
- U.S. Flag Etiquette booklet
- Your sponsor gift note to the new citizen



Contact Kurt Skinner
Post 209 Americanism Chair
To Sponsor Your U.S. Flag
TODAY!

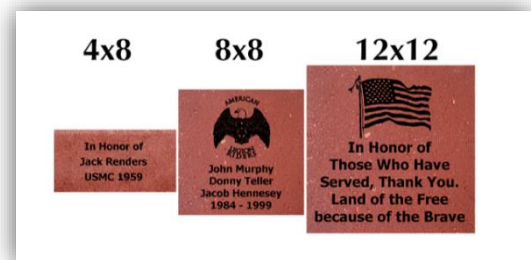
719-963-3517

RoughRiderTR@gmail.com

Walk of Honor



- **What are the costs for the individual bricks?** Prices vary depending on size, style, and lettering desired but typically range from \$90 to \$200, depending on size.
- **What are the costs for the corporate/veteran supporter bricks?** Again, prices vary depending on size, style, and lettering but typically range from \$250 to \$500.
- **What is the difference between individual and corporate bricks?** Individual bricks are for veterans and family members wishing to purchase a brick to honor their veterans. The corporate bricks are for our veteran-friendly supporters and businesses who want to show their continued support for our nation's heroes by purchasing a brick.
- **Is the brick purchase restricted to members of the Post 209 families?** No. We encourage members to buy a brick for themselves for their veteran loved ones or to show their support for our veterans.
- **Where do I go to buy a brick?** We have a link on our website. Just visit legion209.org and click on "Walk of Honor." Or, you can visit <http://polarengraving.com/ALPost209> to buy your brick. The site is user-friendly and will walk you through the design and purchase. In addition, you will see a preview of your brick before finalizing the purchase.
- **How do I pay for the brick?** We have the site set up to accept payment via PayPal or check. PayPal is an extremely safe way to purchase a brick, and you don't need a PayPal account to use it.
- **Where will the brick be shipped?** All bricks will be sent to the post. We will notify you when it arrives, and you are welcome to stop by and see the brick you have purchased.
- **What will become of my brick?** It will be placed near the flagpole at the post. If you are a landscaper or know a good one (preferably a veteran), have them contact our Adjutant.
- **How long will this fundraiser effort last?** We plan only to sell as many bricks as needed for the first phase of the landscaping project.
- **Will I have an opportunity to buy a brick later?** Quite possibly, depending on what is decided/approved for the next phase of our project.



Order your brick(s) now to ensure you get one in Phase One of our projects. If you buy multiple bricks, let our Adjutant know, and we will ensure they are all placed together.

Celebrate

At
American Legion
Neal Thomas Jr. Centennial Post 209

Host your next event with us! With over 2,500 SQFT of venue space this is the perfect location for your next social event!



Rental Features:

- 6 Hour Rental
- In House Catering Available*
- Fully Stocked Bar*
- Muti-Room Sound System
- Dance Floor with Lighting

If you and your family are looking for an affordable option for a wedding, corporate event, retirement party, or any other event, we here at The American Legion Post 209 are ready to assist you in all your event planning needs.

Starting at
\$350!



For More Information

www.legion209.org/contact_us

(719) 599-8624

3613 Jeannine Drive Colorado Springs, CO 80917

*Additional cost may apply

PROGRAMS FOR KIDS

Young Guns



NRA-Accredited members of Sons of The American Legion are sponsors and instructors for the Young Guns program. This basic rifle safety and marksmanship course are offered to boys and girls ages 10-18. Shooting is indoors, using air rifles.

<https://www.facebook.com/AmericanLegionCentennialPost209/>

Scouting Programs

The Post 209 family is the charter partner with the following Boy Scouts of America (BSA) units:



- Cub Scout Pack 24 (Boys and Girls): p24@legion209.org
- Scouts BSA Troop 77 (Girls): t77@legion209.org
- Scouts BSA Troop 79 (Boys): t79@legion209.org
- Scouts BSA Troop 187 (Boys): t187@legion209.org
- Venture Crew 762 (Young men and women ages 14-20): c762@legion209.org

Boys and Girls State



Boys State and Girls State are for high school juniors going into their senior year with at least one semester left.

- BOYS STATE www.colegionboysstate.org/
- GIRLS STATE <http://alacolorado.com/girls-state.html>

Oratorical Contest



This Nationwide contest is designed to develop a more profound knowledge and appreciation of the Constitution of the United States on the part of high school students.























www.colegionoratorical.org


























Eagle Scout of the Year



The American Legion Eagle Scout of the Year nomination window is from **1 November to 1 March**. Nomination packets must be received by each applicant's respective The American Legion department (state) headquarters no later than 1 March.

<https://legion209.org/Scouting/>

January 2024						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 New Year's Day	2	3	4  Venture Crew 7:00pm Ex. Cmte Meeting 6:00pm 	5 Price Depends on Menu Barnyard Dinner Night! 6:00pm RSVP Required! 	6
7	8 Troop 77 Mtg. 6:00pm	9 Honor Gd. Trng 6:00pm 	10	11  Venture Crew 7:00pm	12 ALR Dinner 6:00pm RSVP Required! 	13 Membership Meeting B'fast - 9:00/Mtg - 10:00  
14	15 Martin Luther King Jr. Troop 77 Mtg. 6:00pm	16 ALR Exec. Mtng ALR 6:30pm. 	17 Flagship Health Event; Post 209 3:00pm-5:00pm	18  Venture Crew 7:00pm	19 ALA Dinner 6:00pm RSVP Required! 	20 Female Veterans Social 9:00am-11:00am
21	22 Troop 77 Mtg. 6:00pm	23 ALR/SAL Monthly Mtng SAL 5:30pm ALR 6:30pm-Elections!  	24	25 Honor Gd. Trng  6:00pm  Venture Crew 7:00pm	26 Mid-Year Conference Longmont Post 32   	27 Mid-Year Conf.     Healing Warriors! 9:00am-1:00pm
28	29 Troop 77 Mtg. 6:00pm	30	31	Notes: No Dinner on 19 January. Most of the help will be at Mid-Year Conference.		

February 2024						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1  Venture Crew 7:00pm Ex. Cmte Meeting 6:00pm 	2 Groundhog Day Price Depends on Menu Barnyard Dinner Night! 6:00pm RSVP Required! 	3
4	5 Troop 77 Mtg. 6:00pm	6	7 Marksmanship 4:45/5:45/6:56pm 	8 Young Guns 6:15pm   Venture Crew 7:00pm	9 Price TBD ALR Dinner 6:00pm RSVP Required! 	10 Membership Meeting B'fast - 9:00/Mtg - 10:00  
11 Super Bowl	12 Troop 77 Mtg. 6:00pm	13 Honor Gd. Trng 6:00pm 	14 Ash Wednesday / Valentine's Day Marksmanship 4:45/5:45/6:56pm 	15 Young Guns 6:15pm   Venture Crew 7:00pm	16 Price TBD ALA Dinner 6:00pm RSVP Required! 	17 Female Veterans Social 9:00am-11:00am
18	19 Washington's Birthday / Presidents Day Troop 77 Mtg. 6:00pm	20 ALR Exec. Mtng ALR 6:30pm. 	21 Marksmanship 4:45/5:45/6:56pm 	22 Honor Gd. Trng 6:00pm  Young Guns 6:15pm   Venture Crew 7:00pm	23 Price TBD SAL Dinner 6:00pm RSVP Required! 	24 Healing Warriors! 9:00am-1:00pm
25	26 Troop 77 Mtg. 6:00pm	27 ALR/SAL Monthly Mtng SAL 5:30pm ALR 6:30pm  	28 Marksmanship 4:45/5:45/6:56pm 	29 Young Guns 6:15pm   Venture Crew 7:00pm	Notes:	