



The Centennial

Volume XIV
Edition 8

August 2023

AMERICAN LEGION NEAL THOMAS JR. CENTENNIAL
POST 209



Our ALR Pony Express Riders, July 2023

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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
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Judge Advocate:	Marvin Weaver	(719) 638-4763
Historian:	Kurt Skinner	(719) 963-3517
Exec. Cmtman/Club Mgr:	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
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Secretary:	Royce Hopper	(918) 953-9993
Treasurer:	Kellie Hayes	(719) 494-7167
Sgt-at-Arms:	Joe York	(682) 309-4408
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Logistics:	Terry Buxton	(419) 989-9669
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Chaplain:	Jim Bird	(719) 231-4928



From the desk of the Commander

August has always kind of felt like the beginning of the New Year to me in some ways. Growing up while dad was stationed at Holloman AFB in Alamogordo, NM we would normally take our family vacation around the end of July or first part of August. We would take two weeks and visit grandparents. One week was in Cheyenne, WY normally during the week of Frontier Days. We would stay with mom's parents and most of her brothers and sisters still lived there so we spent a lot of time with cousins. We would go downtown for the parades and pancake breakfast. Grandpa was in the Kiwanis and they would do the cooking. Then, if we were lucky, we would go to the rodeo one day. The Air Force Thunderbirds were there most of the time, making the event even more memorable.

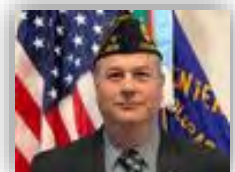
The other week was normally spent in Canon City with dad's parents. His two sisters lived there so we got to spend time with our Colorado cousins. We would normally take one day and visit the big city of Colorado Springs, which normally meant a visit to the Garden of the Gods. Sometimes we would go down to the river and play as long as we stayed close to the side (we weren't allowed to go too far out. One night while in Canon City, Grandpa decided to make ice cream. The kids had to take turns sitting on the newspaper on top of the ice cream maker (we took turns because if not your bottom would get frozen also). Some of the best ice cream I have ever had and it's probably why I am like my dad and love ice cream so much.

It always felt like a new beginning returning home to start getting ready for the new school year and meeting back up with my friends I hadn't seen over the summer.

This is kind of like what is going on in The American Legion now. By now you should have gotten your renewal notice for the 2024 membership year and hopefully have already sent in your renewal. It's also a new beginning because at the end of August, Legionnaires from around the country will be meeting for our National Convention.

What happens there? Commission and Committee meetings are held to discuss important items to The American Legion. All Four Pillars; 1) Americanism, 2) Children & Youth, 3) Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, and 4) National Security are discussed at these meetings. Reports are given and Resolutions are voted on by the convention body. This is where the Legislative agenda is formed we will be taking to Congress to gain support to help veterans. We recognize award winners from the Oratorical Contest, Boy's State, and Baseball. We recognize the Law Enforcement Officer and Firefighter of the Year. We also elect a new National Commander at the conclusion of the convention on Thursday. A lot of great information is given out during the convention. If you ever get the chance you need to go and see it all for yourself.

Marvin Weaver, Jr.
Post 209 Commander





From our Post Adjutant

The first round of renewal notices is out and I want to make a correction from something I put out last month. A Legionnaire came into the office in July and I helped him process his renewal online using a credit card. It did not give an option for a multi-year renewal except for the Paid Up For Life (PUFL) option. I had heard someone mention at convention that the system may not be ready to do that right away but I did not receive any notice of this. I will update you on changes.

The first thing the system did ask though is if we wanted to set up an automatic payment. We highly encourage everyone to take this option if they can. What happens is that every July the card you used to set it up will be charged the amount that the Post reports as its dues for the coming year. A renewal notice is never printed or mailed. You will receive your card after I download the first “paid online” report. It is basically the same as a PUFL option except that you do not need to come up with all the payments at once (upside) and as dues go up you will be charged the increase (downside). With PUFL, once you are paid up it will never change and you do not have to pony up the increase. And let’s face it, with the increase in costs of goods and services over the last 10 years dues will be increased at some point; sooner rather than later.

Another reminder is that based on when you renew and when I get that renewal processed, and when National gets that information to the printer, and what the cutoff is at the printer to make changes to what is already scheduled, it is possible you may get a renewal notice from National after you have made your payment. This happens. You do not need to mail me the notice. However, if you have not received your membership card and a thank you letter from me within 3 weeks, please contact me! Maybe I did not get it, maybe we do not have a current address for you, or any number of things. Whatever it is, we will get it fixed.

If you want to pay in person or with cash, I am at most Friday dinners. Please feel free to bring it in and I can take care of it then. You can also give it to one of our officers if I am not there and they will get it to me. And of course, I am in the office on most Tuesdays from 0900 to 1400.

Interested in getting more involved with the Post? Come on in and talk to the Commander or me. We will try to fit your interest and skills with our programs and/or needs (which are many).

Finally, Thank You for your service, your membership, your belief in us and our mission. **Thank you!**

“Always Forward”

Doug Millison
Adjutant





From our Senior Vice Commander

The 2024 membership year has begun!!! You should have received your renewal notice by now. If not, you will be receiving one soon. The easiest way to stop receiving the notices is to send in your renewal now. There are several ways that you can send in your renewal. You can send it by mail to 3613 Jeannine Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80917; bring it into the post in person and give it to our Adjutant Doug Millison (He is processing memberships on Tuesdays); or renew through the national website. If you register through the national website, you can check auto renew and all renewal notices will cease as long as you keep your method of payment current. We have a link on the post website for all options and a form to submit if you have questions: <https://legion209.org/renewlegion/>. The best time to renew is right now as you are reading this!!!

Steve Hayes

Senior Vice Commander



Letters to the Editor...from the Editor pro tem

Do you have a recommendation for *The Centennial*? Or maybe you want to comment on a recent article, or you have something you want to share as a guest contributor to our monthly newsletter. If so, just go to award winning website at <https://legion209.org/newsletters/> and click on the first bullet. That will take you to our letters page. Or you can send an email to letters@legion209.org and send your thoughts. If you don't have access to email, or if you don't feel comfortable sending a message via email, no problem. Send your thoughts to:

Letters to the Editor, C/O American Legion Post 209
3613 Jeannine Dr.
Colorado Springs, CO 80917

We reserve the right to edit for size and content. Also, we will not publish any letter without your name.



From our Chaplain

Excerpts from Ecclesiastes chapter 3 (vs 1) *There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens...*

(vs 9-13) *What do workers gain from their toil? I have seen the burden God has laid on the human race. He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end. I know that there is nothing better for people than to be happy and to do good while they live. That each of them may eat and drink and find satisfaction in all their toil—this is the gift of God.*

Here we are already in the month of August – the border month between summer and autumn. Summer vacations are nearing their end. Children are starting a new year in school. Those of us who have planted gardens are reaping the benefits of our labor. It is a month of transition.

A bit of trivia: August is the 8th month of the year. In numerology the number 8 is special because when you turn on its side, it becomes **infinity**. The number 8 represents peace and symmetry. Because of this, the month of August is thought to bring us improved decision-making abilities. If we are honest, we could all desire and benefit from that.

So, during this month of August, this time of transition, start each day considering the **infinite** possibilities of a new day. You cannot change yesterday, nor can you control tomorrow. BUT each day, and each moment, you can make choices that lead to remarkable outcomes.

Think about these gems from the Bible:

Matthew 6: 25-34 (Jesus speaking) *Therefore, I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life? And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore, do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.*

Hebrews 10:24-25a *And let us consider how we may spur one another on towards love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another...*

May you be blessed beyond measure today and always.

Bob "Odie" O'Donnell
Chaplain Odie





From our Post Historian

“For God and Country, we associate ourselves together...to preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in all wars....” This is the historian’s particular pledge cited in The American Legion Preamble. In my previous monthly *Centennial* newsletter columns (August 2022-July 2023), I sought to preserve some of the incidents of those wars by completing a one-year review of the major events that shaped American military history. I will now endeavor to preserve some of the memories of individual service in those wars. Each month for the next year, I will feature a Colorado native son veteran who remains Missing in Action. Additionally, I will share the story of a Medal of Honor recipient with a Colorado association. Lest we forget them and may you continue to be inspired by their stories of sacrifice and courage.



Private First Class Benjamin David De Herrera, born 19 April 1943 in Colorado Springs, was an infantryman of 3rd Platoon, C Company, 503rd Infantry Regiment, 173rd Airborne Brigade. On 19 November 1967, PFC DeHerrera was part of a Search and Destroy mission at Hill 875 in Dak To, South Vietnam. At 1435 hours, Companies A, C, and D of the 503rd Infantry, were in heavy contact with an unknown sized North Vietnamese force and were surrounded. Many of the wounded men, to include DeHerrera, were taken to the command post set up by Company C of the 503rd Infantry. As the fighting continued, a close air support Marine pilot inadvertently dropped a 500-pound bomb on the command post, resulting

in additional casualties. A search of the command post’s rubble the following day was unable to recover their remains. They were presumed to have died in the command post, either from their wounds or in the explosion when it was hit.

He was last seen wounded in the Company C command post area before the explosion and went missing following the blast. Search efforts never recovered his remains. Today, PFC De Herrera is memorialized on the Courts of the Missing at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, at Ft Logan National Cemetery, and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C.



Thank you for your service, Benjamin.

“I did what any man would do who had the chance, I was lucky to get the chance.”

--Medal of Honor recipient Jesse N. Funk

Jesse Nathaniel Funk’s family moved to a ranch near Calhan, CO when he was a boy.

In 1918, he enlisted in the U.S. Army and joined Company L, 354th Infantry, 89th Division, American Expeditionary Force in Europe during the First World War. He was serving as a Private



First Class stretcher bearer during the Meuse-Argonne Offensive near Bois-de-Bantheville, France on 31 October 1918 when he and his partner learned of two severely wounded American officers stranded over a quarter mile into “No Man’s Land” between Allied and enemy trenches. Without waiting for orders, the pair grabbed a stretcher and headed into harm’s way. “Those darned machine-gun bullets were just singing songs around us and I figured every minute they were going to get us,” Funk later said. They



finally crossed the 500 yards to reach the two lieutenants. The pair made it back to American lines with bullet holes in their clothes, but uninjured. They then returned for the other officer, loaded him on the stretcher and hustled back toward Allied lines. The stretcher was hit multiple times and bullets slashed through Funk’s uniform and helmet, but he suffered only minor injuries. On their return trip, they spotted another wounded soldier in No Man’s Land and daringly ventured a third time into danger to rescue the injured comrade.



None other than AEF Commander, General John Pershing awarded Corporal Funk the Medal of Honor in February 1919 (*see accompanying photo*). Although Jesse Funk went to war “virtually an unknown youth of the plains,” the *Denver Post* observed in June 1919, he “so conducted himself on European soil that he became the greatest war hero of all time to residents of Colorado Springs, El Paso County, and the state of Colorado.”

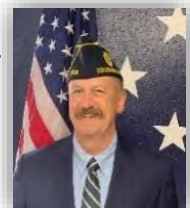
Funk returned to his modest life as a rancher in Calhan and was

selected to represent Colorado at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier dedication ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery on 11 November 1921.

He died of complications following appendicitis surgery in Colorado Springs in 1933; he is buried at Calhan Memorial Cemetery.



Kurt Skinner
Historian





From our American Legion Riders

August is Sturgis month. The Sturgis motorcycle rally is the oldest and most popular rally in the world. Clarence Hoel or "Pappy" is credited for founding the event when he bought a franchise of the Indian Motorcycle Company in Sturgis during 1936. After that, he organized the Jackpine Gypsies motorcycle club. The very first Sturgis motorcycle rally was held on August 14, 1938. The event was organized by the town's Jackpine Gypsies motorcycle club who bought and developed large motorcycle racetracks, hill climbs and field areas where the rally would be held. The only time the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally was not held was in 1942, at the height of World War II. This is the 83rd anniversary of the Sturgis rally that now draws about 700,000 motorcycle enthusiasts annually. ALR 209 has approximately 10 riders that will attend the event this year between 5-13 August.

Below you will find the second installment of the Rider of the Month. This month the spotlight is on Tom "Dundee" Foster. If there is a final-honors to be rendered, or a veteran event to be attended, Dundee will be there to represent Post 209 American Legion Riders. He always has time to help a veteran in need and is one of our most active members.

The August 2023 American Legion Rider of the Month

NAME: Tom Foster

ROAD NAME: Dundee (The Signature Buffalo Dundee Hat and Vest)

RIDES: 2009 Harley Davidson, Electric Glide, CVO

YEARS IN ALR: 4 Total, 2019-Present ALR 209, 38 (Short time), ALR 209

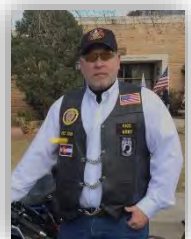
PART OF: American Legion and Sons of American Legion

OFFICER: Color Guard Captain (Former – Road Capt, Senior Road LT)

DETAILS: Dundee has been riding motorcycles since he was 6 years old. He is the oldest of 16 brothers and sisters and grew up in Mayetta, New Jersey (The Garden State). Tom is a Veteran of the U.S. Army and is a former heavy equipment operator. He retired in Colorado and while most of his family still lives in New Jersey, he has a brother that lives in Canyon City. Dundee met the love of his life while in the American Legion. He met Ariel during a Post 38 Steak night, he bought her dinner and she gave him COVID-19, and the rest is history. They were married a year later on 8 July, 2023 right before the Colorado ALR Pony Express Run.



Jerry "RICO" Shay
President, American Legion Riders





From our Sons of The American Legion Commander

As all of you are aware by now, things will be different for the state of Colorado this year in the Legion. The state charter has been suspended and department is going to be managed and rebuilt by a National-level committee.

The good news is that the Detachment has not been affected like Department. Two differences for the year are all officers will remain in their previous positions as elections are prohibited and there will also be no “official” meetings. All financial responsibilities remain at Detachment and Post visits all year to the squadrons will proceed as normal. Detachment will be available to address the Squadron’s needs.

Your Detachment will also be working towards its third National Triple Nickel award! This is an award given by National which consists of an 85% renewal, 105% membership, and 5 new Squadrons. This will be the goal of the Detachment this year. It will be possible with everyone doing their part. Make sure to renew!

Nothing will change for you at the Squadron level. Business as usual. We will continue every activity, meeting and fundraisers. 100 members is possible and not far away. It will happen!

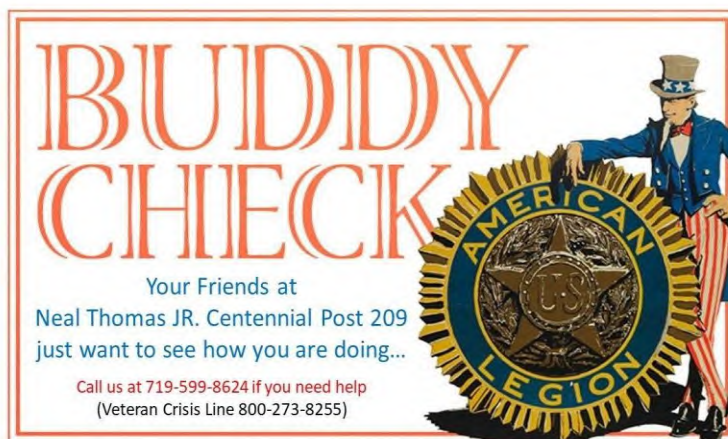
The one thing to take away from this is that change can be good. I have been guilty of resisting change in the past, but it remains one of life’s constants. The number one thing that will make all of this possible is attitude. Have a positive attitude throughout this transition. That energy will ensure success for both the Legion and the Squadron. Something very simple, but powerful.

Through the year we will see change from above. It is only going to make us better and stronger. I am looking forward to being a part of this great year with each and every one of you.

Rob Barry

Commander

Sons of The American Legion 209



UPCOMING EVENTS



The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 209 & Friends Active-Duty Military Baby Shower.

The Auxiliary's Baby Shower mission is to reduce the stress of expectant parents, and new families of active-duty military families.

WHEN: Saturday, September 16, 2023, 10 a.m. — 2 p.m.

WHERE: The American Legion Neal Thomas Jr.
Centennial Post 209

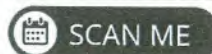
3613 Jeannine Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80917

Contact: American Legion Auxiliary Unit 209

Email: alaaux209@yahoo.com

Military Families:
Tell us about your
needs.

Scan the QR Code to
register to attend.



Donations will be distributed
to Expectant and/or families
with babies 2 months or
younger of servicemembers
and/or spouses E5 and
below.





Buddy Time

Haven't talked to another veteran in a while and are looking for like-minded conversation? Then, come on down to YOUR post and talk with your buddies.

As of January, the post is open solely for **social time**, typically on the **third Saturday of every month from 0900 to 1100 Hrs.** No meals, no fundraising, or meetings. Come to see your post or introduce family and friends to it. Grab a cup of coffee (or tea) and hang out with other members.



August's Buddy Time is **August 19th, 0900 – 1100**. We are looking forward to seeing you there.

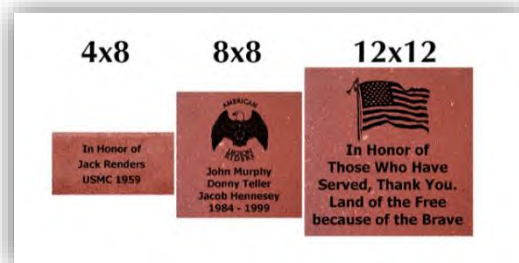


FUNDRAISER INFORMATION

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.

Announcing the return of Monday Night

BINGO

to Carefree Bingo at 3440 Carefree Circle North, CS/CO, 7 P.M.

Come on out and support
Neal Thomas JR – Centennial
American Legion Post 209 while
we raise money for our
charitable
programs in support of veterans,
our youth and the community.



"VETERANS STRENGTHENING AMERICA"

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



Bringing A Little South to the West

Food stamps have been around since long before I was born, but my family never took advantage of this program. I don't know if it was because we didn't qualify (highly unlikely), or maybe it was a pride thing, but growing up I don't recall Mom ever using food stamps to buy groceries. But she was a dedicated collector of S&H Green Stamps and Quality Stamps. Even some cigarette companies such as Old Gold and Raleigh offered Stamp coupons.

Mom was an avid S&H and Quality stamp collector. You would receive the stamps at the checkout counter from many grocery stores and some gas stations. They even had different denominations. They came in one, ten, and fifty point denominations. You would take the stamps, lick them as you would a stamp for mailing and put them into coupon books a little larger than a passport. When you filled the book, you could exchange it for items at the local S&H store or mail them in along with your selection from their S&H or Quality stamp catalog.

Most of the items in the catalog was household items, including many kitchen items. But, with enough points accumulated you could also get larger and more fun items, like camping gear or a crank handle ice cream maker. Mom was not only the collector of the stamps, she was also the decision-maker on what to buy with them.

It normally took some time to build up enough points to fill a book. Keep in mind, groceries were pretty cheap back in the day (so were salaries). I vividly recall Mom going to the local Kroger store with a coupon that allowed her to get a 5-pound bag of sugar for \$0.01 with a \$5.00 or more purchase. And a \$5.00 purchase of food normally filled three large paper bags.

Both Mom and Dad smoked when I was growing up. Dad liked to smoke Winston and would do so in the house or anywhere else the mood struck him. Mom didn't feel it was appropriate to smoke in front of the kids, so she would hide and smoke in the bathroom (one bath in a three-bedroom home) or in her bedroom, which was always off-limits to the kids. When Mom would smoke in the bathroom, she would always crank open the small window to allow the smoke to dissipate. It didn't work. If you went to the bathroom immediately after Mom, you couldn't hardly see the mirror from the smoke.

The problem however, was Winston didn't offer stamps. So, Mom convinced Dad to change. He was offered an opportunity to smoke Raleigh or Old Gold. Neither was

an attractive alternative. Old Gold was too weak, and Raleigh was too strong. But they both offered stamps, so Dad gave in and smoked Old Gold for the several years Old Gold was around and offered stamps. I do recall however, he would occasionally slip in a pack of Winston's when Mom wasn't paying attention.

The good ole days of collecting S&H and Quality stamps are long gone, along with stamps for smoking Old Gold, Raleigh or any other brand of cigarettes. There's actually no incentive to smoke any longer. Oh yeah, there's also that lung cancer thing.

Jay Bowen
Past Commander



Salty Dog

Coffin Locker:

Everything on a ship has a place that it is stored so as to avoid gear adrift. In berthing compartments if you are lucky or high enough rank you get a coffin locker and a stand-up locker to store your gear. All sea bag items and any civilian clothes that you have onboard have to be stored in these lockers. The coffin locker was under your rack and would lift up for access. The small stand-up locker was normally used for your dress uniforms.



Marvin Weaver, Jr.
Post 209 Commander



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 for six Boy Scouts of America (BSA) units:



- Cub Scout Pack 24 (Boys and Girls): p24@legion209.org
- Cub Scout Pack 386 (Boys and Girls): p386@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/>

August 2023						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 Executive Committee Meeting 6:00pm   Venture Crew 7:00pm	4 Price Depends on Menu Coast Guard B'day! Hamdogger Night! 6:00pm 	5
6	7 Troop 77 Mtg. 6:00pm	8	9	10  Venture Crew 7:00pm	11 Price TBD Auxiliary Dinner 6:00pm RSVP Required! 	12 Membership Meeting B'fast - 9:00/Mtg - 10:00  
13	14 Troop 77 Mtg. 6:00pm	15 Post Honor Gd. Training 6:00pm ALR Exec. Mtng ALR 6:30pm.  	16	17  Venture Crew 7:00pm	18 \$17/Person Steak Night! 6:00pm RSVP Required! 	19 Post 209 "Buddy Time" 9:00am - 11:00am 
20	21 Troop 77 Mtg. 6:00pm	22 ALR/SAL Monthly Mtng SAL 5:30pm ALR 6:30pm  	23	24 Post Honor Gd. Training 6:00pm   Venture Crew 7:00pm	25 Price TBD ALR Dinner 6:00pm RSVP Required! 	26 Healing Warriors! 9:00am - 1:00pm
27	28 Troop 77 Mtg. 6:00pm	29	30	31 Post Honor Gd. Training 6:00pm   Venture Crew 7:00pm	Notes:	

SEPTEMBER 2023

For the most current version see:
https://www.legion209.org/coming_up/

September 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Price Depends on Menu Hamdogger Night! 6:00pm 	2
3 	4 Labor Day Troop 77 Mtg. 6:00pm	5 	6 Marksmanship 4:30pm 	7 Young Guns 6:00pm Venture Crew 7:00pm Ex. Cmte Meeting 6:00pm  	8 Price TBD SAL Dinner - 6:00pm RSVP Required! 	9 Membership Meeting B'fast - 9:00/Mtg - 10:00  
10 	11 Patriot Day Troop 77 Mtg. 6:00pm	12 Post Honor Gd. Training 6:00pm 	13 Marksmanship 4:30pm 	14 Young Guns 6:00pm   Venture Crew 7:00pm	15 \$17/Person Steak Night! 6:00pm RSVP Required! 	16 Post 209 "Buddy Time" 9:00am - 11:00am 
17 	18 Air Force B'day! Troop 77 Mtg. 6:00pm	19 ALR Exec. Mtng ALR 6:30pm. 	20  Marksmanship 4:30pm	21 Young Guns 6:00pm   Venture Crew 7:00pm	22 Price TBD ALR Dinner 6:00pm RSVP Required! 	23 Start of Fall Healing Warriors! 9:00am - 1:00pm
24 	25 Troop 77 Mtg. 6:00pm	26 	27 Marksmanship 4:30pm 	28 Honor Gd. 6:00pm Young Guns 6:00pm Venture Crew 7:00pm   	29 Victory Service Dog Fundraiser Dinner 6:00pm	30