

The Centennial



VOLUME 27 EDITION 1 JANUARY 2013
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From the Desk and Mind of the Commander

Jay Bowen

Wow, can you believe we are already into a new year? It seems the days are flying by faster than we sometimes realize. My fear is that before I finish this article, it will already be May.

With every New Year comes new challenges and change. Rarely do any of us plan for change, and it seems even when we do it doesn't work as we planned (if you want to hear God laugh, just tell him your plans). I often think it is best to just get up every morning knowing something is going to happen; don't try to stop it or plan it, just deal with it when it happens.

Change is a fascinating thing. We normally go about our lives, days at a time, weeks, months and years pass and rarely do we even realize how much is changing around us and within our world. Oh sure, we remember the date and time a major event occurs, but the other thousands of things that are constantly changing seems to often go unnoticed. Never has this been more apparent than when visiting a "seasoned citizen." I love to sit and listen to stories about life in the "good ole days" before computers, cell phones, and television. Most of the time it is easy to visualize being there. My mind is following the timeline being relived. I feel the fear when Roosevelt delivered the now infamous news on the "date that will live in infamy." I can see the streets lined with flag-waving citizens cheering when the boys came marching home; the birth of television; the first space launch and subsequent landing on the moon; cordless phones and private lines that became not just a luxury reserved only for the wealthy, but for everyone as we moved away from "party lines;" the Personal Computer with an amazing 16kb RAM; dial-up Internet that connected us to



the world in a matter of minutes; and on and on.

Occasionally, I think back to my own childhood and can hardly believe the thousands of changes I have witnessed in my lifetime. Some very significant at the time, but most were a paragraph in a newspaper article only later to be realized as important. I think because many changes are gradual we lose sight of how important and life-altering they are. I also believe we are too often so short-sighted that we are incapable of grasping the impact of many of the changes. We either forget or fail to make the connection of how one change builds upon another and the evolution eventually becomes a major improvement in our life. We go from propeller-driven airplane engines, to jets, to rockets (and missiles), to landing on the moon. Or we go from party lines, to private lines, to dial up Internet, to wide-band. It took the predecessor to get us where we are now. And many times we looked at these as personal challenges and anguished over how we were going to deal with it.

Every day we wake up on this side of the ground we encounter change, often in conjunction with challenges. Instead of fighting the change, we should learn to embrace it. Actually, we could take a page from our kids and grandkids. The reason they pick up on technology and change much more quickly is because they don't fight it first. They welcome it and see the challenge in mastering the new technology as something fun to do. At one time we were the same way and our parents and grandparents would struggle with the same challenges we embraced growing up. Change is inevitable; neither you nor I can stop it. And I for one am glad. Now if I could just figure out how to make a call on this new iPhone...

For God and Country



Auxiliary President Jackie Bowen

We are starting out the new year right and welcoming our new junior member, Darrian McKiernan. Darrian has a few interests and among those are Girls State and volunteering in the community. I haven't had the privilege of meeting Darrian but am looking forward to doing that in the near future. I hope we have the chance to meet and greet a lot of new members this year. Wouldn't it be super to have all the wives of our Post Legionnaires to join us?

I hope everyone had fun at the Christmas party. I always enjoy spending time with our Legion family.

If any of you Ladies have a special interest or something special you would like to write about, please submit an article for the newsletter. Articles are due no later than the 15th of every month for the following month's edition. This year the newsletter will be published by our very own Renee Johnson. No, she isn't related to Larry, but did volunteer to take the task of Publisher off Larry's shoulders. She is the wife of Rob, a relatively new member of the Post.

Don't forget we are hoping to get our cookbook published before Department's Mid-Year Conference Jan 25th thru Jan 27th. We need your recipes.

Serving Our Veterans Proudly,
Jackie Bowen



While celebrating this holiday season with your family and friends, please keep the men and women who are away from their families in your hearts and prayers.

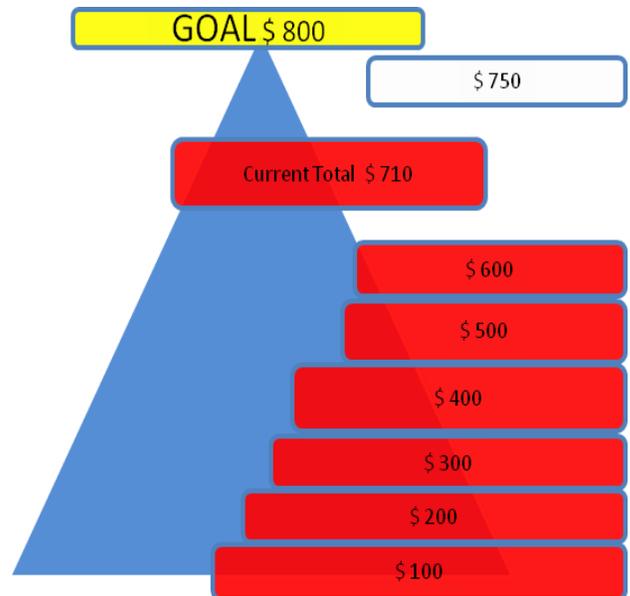
Remember the sacrifices that they are going through, just as we remember the sacrifices that we went through while serving our nation.



Sons of The American Legion Squadron 209

The annual Detachment Awards Banquet and Ceremony was held on November 17th at Robert Downing Post 17 in Edgewater. Those in attendance from Squadron 209 were Squadron Advisor Neal Thomas and his wife Lynn, and Squadron Adjutant Ken Taylor. Several Squadrons were recognized for their achievements during the year and Squadron 209 was among them. The Squadron received awards for Americanism, Children & Youth and VA&R. There were also three Awards and a Banner given to us for Membership. The first Award and a Banner was for 100% Membership in 2012. The second Award was for surpassing our Membership goal before the American Legion Birthday. The final Membership Award was for a significant increase over 100% to a whopping 135.29%. A big THANK YOU to all our members who made this possible!

The Child Welfare Fund has our \$800 goal in sight! THANKS to everyone who has contributed! Let's not stop now, we can meet and even beat this goal by April 2013. You will notice some new Piggy Banks on the tables at the Post. They were given to us by The Detachment of Colorado at no cost. Let's continue to contribute and fill them up!



REMINDER..... **2012 SAL Memberships expire on December 31st**.....Please make out a check or money order to SAL Squadron 209 and mail it to the Post or you can pay through PayPal at

www.americanlegioncoloradosprings.org



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	Gary Baumann	
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	Chet Dean	719-244-2442
1st Vice Commander	Rick Kettering	813-967-6680
Adjutant/Finance Officer	Ken Taylor	719-595-8190
Sgt-At-Arms	Don Shuck	719-575-0539
Chaplain	Chet Dean	719-244-2442



Centennial 209 Family Calendar of Events

1 Feb	Hamdogger 6:30 pm
7 Feb	Post Exec Mtg 6:30 pm
9 Feb	Breakfast 9:00 am Meetings 10:00 am SAL Mtg 11:30 am
14 Feb	Valentines Day
15 Feb	VALENTINES DINNER 6:30 pm RSVP REQUIRED
22 Feb	FISH FRY 6:30 pm RSVP REQUIRED
1 Mar	Hamdogger 6:30 pm
7 Mar	Post Exec 6:30 pm
9 Mar	Breakfast 9:00 am Meetings 10:00 am SAL Mtg 11:30 am
15 Mar	Steak Night 6:30 pm RSVP REQUIRED
22 Mar	Fish Fry 6:30 pm RSVP REQUIRED
29 Mar	Good Friday
31 Mar	EASTER
4 Apr	Post Exec Mtg 6:30 pm
5 Apr	Hamdogger 6:30 pm
13 Apr	Breakfast 9:00 am Meetings 10:00 am SAL Mtg 11:30 am
19 Apr	Steak Night 6:30 pm RSVP REQUIRED
26 Apr	Fish Fry 6:30 pm RSVP REQUIRED



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



**From the Scout Coordinator
John Brown**

Scouts: Both of our packs are planning for two big events in scouting. First is the Blue and Gold dinner to celebrate the birthday of scouting in America. Both packs are planning dinners and entertainment during the month of February.

Next is the Pinewood Derby in late March or early April. Blocks of wood will be given out to all the scouts in February and they will reappear in March as race cars. Pack 24 will have their race at West Middle School and Pack 386 will be using the Post.

I do have one correction on popcorn sales. Pack 386 sold \$12,000 in popcorn not the \$7,000 I reported last newsletter. If you saw a young scout out ringing red kettle bells or singing to older people they could have been scouts from our pack. Regardless, make sure to say hi and thanks.

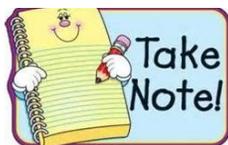
If you are interested in knowing more about scouts or want to help, give me a call at 331-8160.

John Brown
Scout Coordinator



**From the Public Relations Committee
Mike Stebick**

The Public Relations Committee would like to thank everyone that brought a toy for our 2012 Toy Drive. The toys were taken to Ft. Carson for the families of deployed troops and families in need. We thank you for helping to put smiles on the children's faces on Christmas morning!



Any Legion member can have an article published in the "THE CENTENNIAL" newsletter. The only stipulations is that the article has to be timely, interesting, written in Times New Roman "12" and should be 1 column long and must be into the editor by the 15th of each month. Articles may be sent to the Post email of centennialtwozeronine@yahoo.com.



**Department of Colorado
Mid-Year Conference
25 through 27 January 2013**

Colorado Springs has once again been chosen as the sight of the Department Mid-Year conference, which will be held at the Crowne Plaza at the Intersection of I-25 and Circle Dr.

There will be a troop induction on Friday at 5:30 pm. Children and Youth Breakfast with the kickoff The Americanism Programs such as Boys State, The American Legion High School Oratorical and Baseball kickoff will start at 9:00 am on Saturday.

There will be a Jeff Luginbuel Media Awards Banquet and Membership Awards presentations.

The American Legion Auxiliary for the State of Colorado will be hosting a fun night and fundraising activities on Friday evening after the Induction Ceremony.

If you have never attended a Mid-Year Conference, I would encourage you to make time and attend.



**Address Problems
Membership Cards Problems
Larry Johnson**

In the past few months, we have transferred about 150 members into our Post from the Denver Holding Post.

Thank you for becoming a member of the one of fastest growing Posts in the State of Colorado.

When I mailed out the new members cards, I have had four that have been returned indicating that you don't live there anymore and I am experiencing the same of the newsletters that go out. When the newsletters are returned it costs the Post \$1.11.

If you have not received your membership card or the newsletter please let me know by sending an email to centennialtwozeronine@yahoo.com. This email is the official Post email and all correspondence should be sent to this account. If you know of a member of the Post 209 family not receiving the newsletter, have them contact me.



Fund Raising Post 209 Style

There is a style to doing fundraising and that style includes help from you.

We are trying to raise \$7500 to defray the cost of sending boys and girls to Boys State and Girls State, and to purchase two new computer systems for the Post 209 Office.

The fundraiser is called BOGO Blue. This card is packed with 75 valuable money-saving discounts that in many cases, can be used more than once.

We chose BOGO Blue because it is a local company and the discounts are exclusive to Colorado Springs and the discounts are good until December 2013. There are no up front costs for the Post. You can have a card for a donation of \$10.00 per card and the Post gets to keep \$5.00.

We are asking each member to help us. All that is required is for you to talk with your neighbors and friends and ask them to make a donation of \$10.00 (which represents one card). Send a check or money order (marked Fundraiser) made out to American Legion Post 209 for the number of cards you want, the names of who donated, and send it to American Legion Post 209, PO box 25334, Colorado Springs, Co 80936. We will send the cards to you along with a letter for tax deduction purposes.

We invite all members to go to www.bogoblue.com and see some of the places you can visit and the discounts that they offer.

The Legion family member who sells the most cards will receive a \$50.00 gift card.



Club Manager Art Kimbrel

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Happy New Year and to remind everyone that meal prices have changed as reported last month. We had to make these changes because we are losing money. The only way that we can keep prices from raising more quickly is to ensure everyone makes an RSVP for the meals and we have more attendance. Hope to see all you next year.

HAMDOGGER WINGDING NIGHT:

Combo (includes fries and soft drink):

Hamburger Combo	\$6.00
Hotdog Combo	\$4.00
Buffalo wings Combo (8 ea)	\$9.00
Pork Tenderloin Combo	\$10.00

Ala Carte Items:

Hamburgers	\$4.00
Hotdogs	\$2.00
Buffalo Wings (each)	\$1.00
Pork Tenderloin Sandwiches	\$9.00

Cost for Side Dishes have not changed.

Steak Night All Steak Night Dinners are \$14.00. Dinners include sides and a soft drink. We discontinued coupons for the Steak Night beginning this month.

Fish Fry Dinners All Fish Fry Dinners are \$11.00. Dinners include sides and a soft drink.

Breakfast There are no changes to the Breakfast.

Special Events Dinners (Service Birthday's, Valentines Day, etc) are priced according to the menu and we will publish the prices when the announcement of the dinners are made.



**American Legion Junior
Auxiliary Department of CO.
Avanna Espinola**

Hello Ladies,

My name is Ayanna, I am the Jr. Auxiliary Dept. President. I have been involved with a new project called Operation Sweet Dream Soldiers.

Operation Sweet Dream Soldiers was started by a mother whose son called her and asked her ship him a pillow. Our soldiers do not have pillows to sleep on. The soldier's mother has been shipping pillows to her son and several other soldiers who have been passing them out. To this date 300 soldiers are resting good.

All I'm asking is that each lady bring a pillow to Mid-Year in January decorated or not and with my grandma's help, we will mail them to Afghanistan. My grandma, Evelyn Espinola has the address of the soldier we have adopted.

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

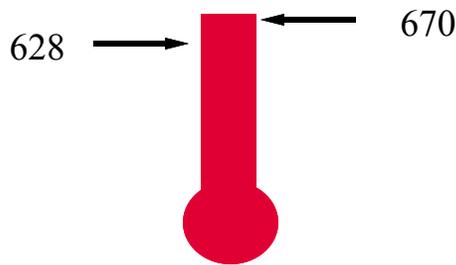


From the Membership Team

We have broken the thermometer!

The goal we were assigned for 2013 was 628 members. We blew past that goal and started working on the Commander's goal of 650 members. We blew past that goal and we are currently sitting at 670 members for 2013.

We have you, the members of Post 209 to thank for the membership that we currently have. We showed our determination and our drive to achieve our membership early.



As a Post we need to concentrate our efforts to getting those Legionnaires who have not renewed for 2013 to do so.

We, the membership team, often wonder if you are aware of how important your continued membership in the American Legion is. Do you realize how many Veterans and children benefit from your membership? Are you aware how your membership impacts the community that we all share?

Every time a Veteran goes to a VA Clinic and receives help it is attributed in some part to your membership. Every time a child receives help through the Temporary Financial Assistance program or one of the other Children and Youth program, it is directly related of your membership.

We are asking you if you haven't already done so, to make out a check or money order to American Legion Post 209 for \$35 and mail it to American Legion, PO Box 25334, Colorado Springs, Co 80917 or go to www.americanlegioncoloradosprings.org and renew by utilizing PayPal. We hope you will renew for 2013 very soon.



Meet *The Centennial's* NEW Publisher, Renee Johnson

Hello everyone.

My name is Renee Johnson and I'm originally from upstate New York. I met my husband, Rob in California in 1996 and spent the next 16 years setting up homes at four different locations as a Navy wife and mother to two young daughters. We fell in love with this area while visiting family and moved from Oklahoma City about six months ago. We have enjoyed some of the local attractions (the zoo is a huge hit) and the sporadic snow storms, which have dumped more snow than we've seen in the last five years. We are excited about seeing more of this great state and becoming more involved in the strong military family known as American Legion Post 209.

One of the great things about the American Legion is that it embodies several generations of military personnel covering the entire spectrum of our services. We have the ability to teach and inform from first hand perspectives and I look forward to integrating some newer media sources to make information more readily available for you.

We'll be revamping the Facebook page (did you even know we had a Facebook page?) to include more events and pictures from our many events.

We feel blessed to have found this Post so quickly after moving and thank you for the warm reception.

Renee





**From the Adjutant
Larry Johnson**

Lately, there have been a lot of questions in regards to the cost of a Paid Up For Life (PUFL) membership. Below is a table that shows what the end cost of a life membership would be.

AGE	MONTHLY PAYMENT	MONTHS	TOTAL
24 & UNDER	\$ 40.69	36	\$ 1464.84
25 TO 29	\$ 39.06	36	\$ 1406.16
30 TO 34	\$ 37.31	36	\$ 1343.16
35 TO 39	\$ 35.42	36	\$ 1275.12
40 TO 44	\$ 33.36	36	\$ 1200.96
45 TO 49	\$ 31.34	36	\$ 1121.04
50 TO 54	\$ 28.69	36	\$ 1032.84
55 TO 59	\$ 26.03	36	\$ 937.08
60 TO 64	\$ 23.31	36	\$ 839.16
65 TO 69	\$ 20.56	36	\$ 740.16
70 TO 74	\$ 17.89	36	\$ 644.04
75 TO 79	\$ 15.28	36	\$ 550.08
80 TO 84	\$ 12.92	36	\$ 465.12
85 & OVER	\$ 11.28	36	\$ 406.08

If you are thinking about a PUFL membership you must have the current membership year paid, a readable copy of DD 214 must be included with the application.

If you would like, you can pay the full amount with a credit card or you can have monthly payments paid by your credit card for 36 months.

If you want more information you can call the Post at 719-599-8624 and leave a message or visit the Post at one of the functions and talk with me, or you can go to www.legion.org Once there, search for "Paid Up For Life" or "PUFL." It will take you to an information page that will give you more details.

Looking at these price may give some of you 2nd thoughts about going with a PUFL membership.

Before you throw everything out the window, I would like to provide you with some information on

a program being offered by the Department of Colorado.

Last year the Department instituted a program called "The Colorado Advanced Membership Payment Plan" (C.A.M.P.P).

This program allows you to pay for 3, 5, or 10 years of membership at \$35 per year (this is the Post's dues). For example, if you took 10 years times \$35 it would be \$350.00, paid up front.

I have to be honest, when the C.A.M.P.P program was announced I did not believe that there was any benefit to our members. But as I was going through and updating the membership cards and looking at the maturity of our members, I got to thinking about the benefits. When I am asked about the PUFL program and I provide the cost data, most people said it was too expensive, or I might not be alive in five years.

The C.A.M.P.P program has no differential in regards to age. You will receive your membership card each year in July and a letter indicating how many years you have left. If National, Department or the Post is forced to raise dues, you will not have to make up the difference until you renew again. You will not receive a dues renewal notice for the time that you are in in C.A.M.P.P. If you signed up for the free Life Insurance program, it will continue and you will not have to worry each year about where your coverage continues or not.

For those of you who are more mature (older), this could be a way of paying for say 10 years at \$350.00 versus \$839.16, \$740.16, \$644.04, \$550.08 etc. depending on your age when you consider a PUFL membership.

YEARS	DUES	TOTAL
3	\$35.00	\$105.00
5	\$35.00	\$175.00
10	\$35.00	\$350.00

For more information, give the Post a call or come to a meeting or event and talk with me and I will give you further information.

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

~ January 2013 ~						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 New Year's Day	2	3 POST EXEC MTG 6:30 pm 	4 HAMDOGGER 6:30 pm 	5
6	7	8	9	10	11 SERTOMA GUN SHOW SETUP 	12 BREAKFAST 9:00 AM MEETINGS 10:00 AM SAL MTG 11:30 AM SERTOMA GUN SHOW 
13 SERTOMA GUN SHOW	14	15	16	17	18 STEAKNIGHT 6:30 PM RSVP REQUIRED 	19
20 Inauguration Day	21 Martin Luther King	22	23	24	25 HAMDOGGER 6:30pm No Fish Fry this Mo.  DEPARTMENT MID-YEAR CONFERENCE	26 DEPARTMENT MID-YEAR CONFERENCE
27 DEPARTMENT MID-YEAR CONFERENCE	28	29	30	31	Notes:	

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