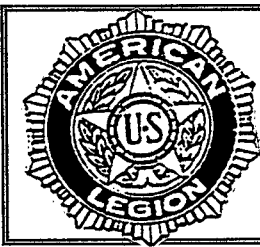


CENTENNIAL POST 209

THE AMERICAN LEGION

FEBRUARY 2001



LEGION NEWS
FRANCIS REDINGTON
COMMANDER

WE are entering the second month of the New Year and many items are on the table for US to act upon.

Most importantly is OUR Bingo status with the Secretary of State office. WE need Bingo to financially survive. The Executive Board hopes that YOU will give OUR plea for assistance with Bingo a lot of thought and support US in OUR effort to keep this Post active in the Americanism programs, Boys State, Oratorical, Junior Shooting sports, Veterans Stand Downs and Christmas baskets for needy Veterans over the Holidays.

WE, of course, hope that everyone had a thankful and joyous Holiday season and made the transition into 2001 with a happy healthy outlook for the New Year.

With the excellent support of the membership, Adjutant Ann Foster and Judge Advocate Larry Johnson, WE are over 95% and driving hard towards 100%. That is a GOAL that

hasn't been achieved in quite a few years. When that GOAL is reached, WE will strive for more members. WE would like to see more of OUR members at the General Membership meeting on the third Thursday of each month at VFW #4051, at 430 Pikes Peak Avenue. Please come out and participate in OUR programs. There are always new areas to be explored and expanded on as projects for the Post and OUR membership. For any project WE might wish to have, WE will need the participation of more members.

This last month, WE have had a member's wife in the hospital for tests and surgery. Gil Elias' wife, Minnie, has been in the hospital all month long. Get well soon, Minnie, WE all wish you well. OUR prayers and best wishes are with you for a speedy recovery. Also to Harry (Mac) on his upcoming surgery. Hope it's not too serious and you have a speedy recovery.



OFFICERS

COMMANDER	FRANCIS REDINGTON
SR VICE COMMANDER	CHUCK ZEITVOGEL
JR VICE COMMANDER	NORM MOYER
ADJUTANT	ANN FOSTER
FINANCE OFFICER	AL CYRIAQUE
HISTORIAN	GREG ANDRIES
SGT-AT-ARMS	ROBERT RYDELL
CHAPLAIN	HOWARD HORNIK
JUDGE ADVOCATE	LARRY JOHNSON
SERVICE OFFICER	TOM MORANT

DUES \$25.00

MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY

WORLD WAR I
APR 6, 1917 - NOV 11, 1918
WORLD WAR II
DEC 7, 1941 - DEC 31, 1946
KOREAN WAR
JUNE 25, 1950 - JAN 31, 1956
VIETNAM WAR
DEC 22, 1961 - MAY 7, 1975
GRENADA & LEBANON
AUG 24 1982 - JUL 31, 1990
PERSIAN GULF
AUG 2, 1990 - UNTIL THE
END OF HOSTILITIES

AUXILIARY OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	DOROTHY DASSERO
SECRETARY	PAT ANDRIES
TREASURER	BARBARA JOHNSON
CHAPLAIN	MARCIA SHELLHAMMER
SGT-AT-ARMS	RUTH HORNIK

DUES \$15.00

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER
CHUCK ZEITVOGEL

AUXILIARY MEETING THE THIRD THURSDAY EACH MONTH
AT THE POST'S OFFICE ON AUSTIN BLUFFS PKWY
1:30 P.M.

MEETINGS
3RD THURSDAY - 7:00 P.M.
VFW PST #4051, 430 E PIKES PEAK AVE
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO

EDITOR
DOROTHY DASSERO, NALPA

OFFICE
4291 AUSTIN BLUFFS PKWY STE 104
COLORADO SPGS CO 80918-2944
719-599-8624

NEW PRESIDENT. George W. Bush, was elected and is inaugurated. We wish him, Vice President Dick Cheney, the cabinet, members of Congress and families good health and success over the next four years. May what they do be of honor and for the betterment of the United States of America. They will need our support and to hear our opinions regarding national and world issues which affect us. Let us be proactive in writing to, and if possible, meeting with our Senators and Representatives about issues that concern us.

TAXES. "It's That Time of Year," an old cliché but when we hear it, we best be thinking about filing our federal and state income tax returns. Persons needing help with their tax returns might seek free assistance through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program of Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) program. Various organizations within our

community sponsor these programs. Persons with complex and business returns should seek assistance from a paid professional tax preparer of their choice. A word of caution - regardless of who prepares your tax return, when you sign it you are responsible for its accuracy. Good Luck!

FUNDRAISING. This should come as no surprise to anyone but fundraising is necessary for the financial health of your Post. Certainly for the Post to financially support the programs as it has in the past, and for what you want it to do in the future, fundraising is a necessity. I expect you have heard this scenario, or one pretty close to it, from other organizations. The question is what should we do for fundraising activities?

Bingo was the main fundraiser for Post 209 in the past. Recent Post newsletters addressed this fact. The articles stated that a committee was/is working to determine the feasibility of continuing bingo. We now need to hear from members. If you did not receive a letter, please call the office and leave a message to that effect and someone will call you back. Remember to leave your name and phone number.

MEMBERSHIP. Membership is open to active duty and retired personnel who served during specific dates. This is indicated on The American Legion membership application form. Invite someone you know to join Post 209, New members bring enthusiasm and ideas. We need them. Please contact me with ideas on how Post 209 might better serve you.

SERVICE OFFICER'S CORNER
TOM MORANT

I went back over some of my notes for the last three years and reread the duties of the Service Officer. I am waiting for your phone call to assist any veteran or his/her family. My number is 719-570-1716. Last year we gave out seven Christmas baskets, and received one nice letter from one recipient. If I am service officer again, I would hope to receive more requests for help. I need the cooperation of members to let me know where I am needed.

ADJUTANT ANNOTATIONS
ANN FOSTER

I am very happy to report that we have made significant progress in our membership drive for the year 2001. We are now at 95% and need only 11 more to reach 100%. It would be so nice to have that by the time Commander Redington, his wife, Esther, and I arrive at the Department Mid-Year Conference on 26 January, at the Raintree Plaza Conference Center in Longmont, CO.

Please remember that this will be the last month for your newsletter if you have not renewed. Of course, we put you back on the list once we receive your dues.

The American Legion Birthday Party will be the 10th of March rather than the 20th that was in this column last month. I am not quite sure how that happened, but the important thing is to mark your calendars for the 10th! This will

be our 25th anniversary and we hope to celebrate it in a good way.

The Bingo work Committee has been very busy working on all the details necessary to try gaining approval to have Bingo again as our primary fundraiser. There will be a letter coming to all local members soon asking for your support. A variety of ways to render that support will be listed, and we ask you to carefully consider what you might be able to do. Even if you are not able to work at a specific position, we need to hear from you to learn if you think this is a good idea. If you have any other fundraising ideas that you think might work for us, please share them with us. We cannot do Bingo again unless we get strong commitments from approximately 30 members. Even if we do manage to start Bingo again, we should still be doing any other fundraisers we can so that we can continue our Legion programs and start a Post Home sometime in the near future. Please communicate with us after you get your letter so that we can know how you feel about what we should be trying to do for you and our fellow veterans.

A note from Arlene Kelly, Chaplain for the Military Order of the Purple Heart, Chapter 423. She is reporting to us on the BIAC-COS, the Brain Injury Association of Colorado Springs, a support group for people who have had brain/head injuries. Meetings are at Penrose Main Hospital on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 6:15-6:30. You may contact Jerry Riley for more information at 597-9650. The guest speakers are knowledgeable and beneficial.

AUXILIARY NEWS
DOT DASSERO
PRESIDENT

I am sitting in this freezing room working on the February newsletter and the few members of the Auxiliary who attend meetings will be here shortly. Alas and alack, I never learned to type with gloves on.

I hope your dues are paid because, as the Adjutant reported, this will be your last Newsletter if they aren't. You can send them to the Post address or to Barbara...just get them in.

We are looking forward to the Post's birthday party in March. Expect you all will be there.

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT
HOWARD HORNICK

Here's hoping our Post 209 Commander is feeling better and on the road to recovery. Our concerns and prayers for Tom Morant's son who has cancer, also Brentley Hart and his illness.

If a member of Post 209 is deceased, sick or in the hospital, please let your Chaplain know, or leave word on the answering machine.

We all have started the new year. Let us pray that it will be a healthy year with strength to overcome our illnesses and problems.