

# The Centennial



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Mail: P.O. Box 25334, Colorado Springs, Co 80936-5334  
Post: 3613 Jeannine Dr., Colorado Springs, Co 80917-8002  
Telephone 719-599-8624  
Email: [centennialtwozeronine@yahoo.com](mailto:centennialtwozeronine@yahoo.com)  
Website: [www.americanlegioncoloradosprings.org](http://www.americanlegioncoloradosprings.org)



## From the Desk and Mind of the Commander

Jay Bowen

I'm convinced more and more that we are forgetting how to talk and write. We are replacing real words with acronyms in both speech and the written communication. While some may think it is a time saver, my fear is that it is also making us dumber. The younger generation may think they invented the use of acronyms in communication, but for all of us that spent time serving our country in the US Military, we know better. Wow, what a learning process it was for me to try and understand 2, 3, and 4 letter abbreviations that replaced real words.

Having spent 20 years in Air Defense Artillery (or ADA), I am convinced we had more acronyms than actual words or phrases. I worked on a HIPIR (pronounced High Power) for almost three years before I discovered it was an acronym for High-Powered Illuminator Radar. And while I thought the HAWK missile was really cool, it was several years before I learned it too was an acronym for Homing All the Way Killer. We went TDY; we would PCS, DEROS or ETS. Every month we received our LES and checked to ensure our BAQ allowance was the correct amount. And if that wasn't bad enough, different branches of the Service used the same acronym that meant something totally different. I vividly remember on one occasion while stationed in Germany, I was preparing to DEROS and met with our local JAG. He asked if I wanted a PAR. Being in ADA, I immediately wondered how in the world could I ever ship a Pulse Acquisition Radar home in my HHGs. He saw the blank look and told me a PAR was a Power of Attorney Revocation. Oh, well that would be much easier to ship home than a radar with a 22' antenna span. Even in the same Service, we had problems communicating!



When I retired, I thought I had left that part of my world behind. Oh no! I worked for eight years in Telecommunications and they have at least as many acronyms used commonly to replace real words as we did in the Army. My favorite was the reference to the POTS line. This was a very commonly used term by telephone employees that indicated it was a telephone line to a residence. After about three months, I couldn't stand it any longer so I asked what the acronym stood for and was told with not even a smile on their face it was "Plain Old Telephone Service." Are you kidding me?

And now we are texting and Tweeting, and have lost all ability to write real words. We are OMG, and LOL, and if it's really funny, you'll more than likely see LMAO.

I've even seen this lack of effective communication on several resumes I've read lately. It's as if people are too lazy to spell. Don't misunderstand, I think acronyms definitely have a purpose and should be used in a resume, but not until they've been spelled out first. Otherwise, if I see MDA, I won't know if they are referring to the Missile Defense Agency, or the Maritime Domain Awareness, or one of other 120 common definitions.

While I have accepted my fate to forever live in the world of abbreviations, I'm sorry to report that even Jackie has now adopted some of the same habits. When we are in Memphis visiting family who have never been associated with the Army, she'll find herself talking about my latest TDY, only to see the "deer in the headlights" look from her sister. And now she even has a cute little term she uses as a pet name for me. I'm her **S**uper **H**ighly **I**ntelligent and **T**alented-HEAD of our house, although she will often just use the acronym! Until next month; CUL8R!

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



## Auxiliary President Jackie Bowen

I would like to apologize for omitting a new member's name last month. We want to extend a special welcome to Patricia Sanchez. We have reached 80.25% in membership renewal. We should reach 100% by the end of this month. Keep up the good work ladies!

For those of you that could not attend our meeting in January, we had two visitors from our newest Unit in Calhan. Their President, Karen Gallagher and their Chaplain, Marguerite White. It was nice having them visit and meet some of our members.

Marilyn Stites, also a member of GI Grannies (GIGGS), informed us of a new project GIGGS is sponsoring. They call it "Darn It Dolls". If anyone has extra material, batting, or crochet thread please contact Marilyn. Her information is on our Auxiliary Roster. Posted with this article are pictures of the doll and the card they attach to each one. These dolls are meant to help relieve stress and are shipped to our troops in Afghanistan. We are continuing to support GIGGS with cakes at the monthly birthday parties for our Warriors. If you would like to bake cakes or attend one of these parties please contact Marilyn or me. GIGGS has decided to hold the parties the last Wednesday of each month. The only time this might change is during the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.

Serving Our Veterans Proudly,  
Jackie Bowen

### For Sale!

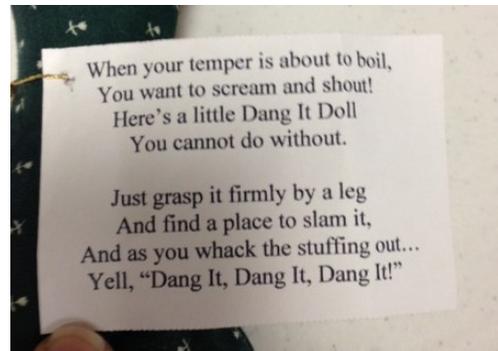
#### 225sf Portable Dance Floor - \$2500

Folks, we have a 225sf Portable Hardwood Dance Floor for Sale. This is the removal floor we have used for the past 3+ years when the Post was rented and the party wanted to include dancing for their event. Is it comprised of 25, Light Oak 3ft interlocking sections. The floor is in good condition and includes edge molding, a storage cart, and a tool to make installation and removal easier. It is perfect for a Post needing a temporary dance floor for parties/events. Now that we have the permanent hardwood floor in place, this is no longer needed. Please advertise this for us.

Cash Only! Seen by Appointment.



### Darn It Doll Example



### Card Attached



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



**From the Scout Coordinator  
John Brown**

Welcome to the New Year in scouting. Two of the adult leaders have been awarded the District Award of Merit for their work with the scouts last year. Chris Burns, Cub master for Pack 386 and Paul Fench, Den Leader for Pack 24 will be presented with the award at the District Appreciation Dinner 25 Feb 13. Several other leaders within the packs have been nominated for awards and we will have to wait till the night of the dinner to see if they won.

Both packs are well on their way in executing the scouting program for over 100 boys. Both have strong adult leadership and the funds to execute the programs.

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



**Address Problems  
Membership Cards Problems  
Larry Johnson**

In the past few months, we have transferred about 150 members into the Post from the Denver Holding Post. Thank you for becoming a member of the one of fastest growing Posts within the State of Colorado.

When I mailed out the new members cards, I had four that were returned as undeliverable and I am experiencing the same with 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 emailing [centennialtwozeronine@yahoo.com](mailto:centennialtwozeronine@yahoo.com). This is the official Post email and all correspondence should be sent to this email.



**Sons of The American Legion  
Squadron 209**

**THE EMBLEM**

The design of our emblem was taken from the emblem of our parent organization, but is oval in shape so as to be easily distinguished.

The star in the center represents our country, and the five points of the star represent the five point program of the Sons of The American legion.

The sun in the background represents the Sons of The American Legion and the rays represent the loyalty of its membership.

The blue of the emblem, like the blue of our flag, stands for justice.

The two stars in the blue border stand for freedom and democracy.

The wreath below the star is in memory of our comrades, and those of our fathers who willingly gave their lives for our country.

The ten points of the emblem represent the ten ideals of every Legion son.

The **Child Welfare Fund** is VERY close to our \$800 goal! A big THANK YOU to everyone who has contributed! Please continue to fill those Piggy Banks on our Dining Room tables. The Child Welfare Foundation Dinner will be held April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at Post 161 in Arvada. We will present our Legion Family donation to the Detachment at that time.



**\*REMINDER\***

**2012 SAL Memberships expired on Dec.31<sup>st</sup>**

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](http://www.americanlegioncoloradosprings.org).

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



### 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 Committeeman	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	Ken Taylor	719-595-8190
Sgt-At-Arms	Don Shuck	719-575-0539
Chaplain	Chet Dean	719-244-2442



### Centennial Post 209 Family Calendar of Events

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 <b>RSVP REQUIRED</b>
22 Mar	Fish Fry 6:30 pm <b>RSVP REQUIRED</b>
29 Mar	<b>Good Friday</b>
31 Mar	<b>EASTER</b>
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 <b>RSVP REQUIRED</b>
26 Apr	Fish Fry 6:30 pm <b>RSVP REQUIRED</b>

### A DREAM VALENTINE

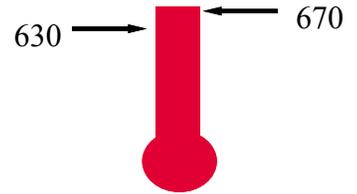


You are invited to a Valentine's Dinner at 6:30 pm. RSVP's are required. Please call Jackie at 574-1223 or Lynn at 439-6260 as soon as possible. Accompanied Centennial Post family members will receive \$2.00 off for the second meal.

**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 that 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 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 because of your membership. Every time a child received help through the Temporary Financial Assistance program or one of the other Children and Youth programs, it is because 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 \$35.00 and mail it to American Legion, PO Box 25334, Colorado Spgs, Co 80917 or you can go to [www.americanlegioncoloradosprings.org](http://www.americanlegioncoloradosprings.org) and renew by utilizing PayPal. We hope you will renew for 2013.



## From the Adjutant Larry Johnson

We have just completed the Department Mid-Year Conference and it was a success. Many awards were given out and the Post received one for our Membership efforts for 2013. I ask everyone who has not renewed for 2013 to please renew now. By being a member of the Legion Family you are helping the Veterans, the children, the community that we live in.

From now through June will be the busiest part of the year for the American Legion.

The Commander will be appointing a Nominating Committee. The duties of the Nominating Committee are to talk with and recommend Legionnaires to be officers for the upcoming year. The American Legion as well as the Post are always looking for Legionnaires that have new ideas, experience and knowledge that will lead the Post for the upcoming year, or years into the future.

We need to infuse our Post committees with new members and ideas so that we can continue to grow and expand our capabilities. The Nomination Committee will be reporting in March on the slate of officers for the upcoming year.

In April we will be electing officers. Although the nomination committee has a slate of officers that they are recommending, nominations will be accepted from the floor for all positions.

In May will be the District 7 Convention and again we will be electing officers to lead the District for the upcoming year.

June 27-30, The Department will be hosting the Department Convention which will be held in Fort Collins. If you have never been to one, I strongly urge you to attend.

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

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

~ February 2013 ~						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b> HAMDOGGER 6:30 PM 	<b>2</b> Groundhog Day
<b>3</b> Super Bowl	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> BREAKFAST 9:00 AM MEETING 10:00 AM SAL MTG 11:30 AM 
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Valentine's Day	<b>15</b> STEAK NIGHT 6:30 PM VALENTINES' DINNER RSVP REQUIRED 	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Presidents' Day	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> FISH FRY 6:30 PM RSVP REQUIRED 	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	Notes:	

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