



The Centennial

Volume XV
Edition 2

February 2024

AMERICAN LEGION NEAL THOMAS JR. CENTENNIAL POST 209



Art Kimbrel (right) being recognized for more than 14 years of service as our Club Manager. Plaque awarded to him by Commander Weaver, Jr (left).

INSIDE:

From the Desk of... (Pages 3-18)

- Hear from your Post officers on the latest news and information

Special Features (Pages 18-21)

- Continuous Years Anniversary
- Salty Dog
- Bringing a Little South to the West

Events; Fundraiser Information (Pages 22-28)

- Blood Drive
- Smoke Alarm Battery Replacement
- Boys/Girls State
- First Flag Program
- Walk of Honor
- Room rental

Programs (Pages 29)

- Programs for Our Kids

Calendar (Page 30-31)

- Calendar of Events

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<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

With the recent frigid cold I've been thinking about times I spent while in Antarctica and of winter ski trips taken with my family. Looking back, I think most of the times that I went skiing was in the month of February, which is probably why my mind is on those memories now.

Two trips that come to mind were in Colorado. My parents owned a time share in Avon and would take their trips in February. Mom and Dad had gone up to the time share for the week. My brother, Sean and I had to work so we came up toward the end of the week and spent a couple days with them. Mom did not ski so Sean and his wife, Dad and I went skiing one day. The nice thing with the small resort towns in Colorado is that they have shuttle buses that take you everywhere including up to the lodge. We went to Beaver Creek that year and spent the day skiing. What is nice about going to Beaver Creek is that it is connected to two other nice ski resorts. We skied over to Arrowhead, then skied over to Bachelor Gulch, and back over to Beaver Creek. That took most of the morning. When we got back it was time to meet mom at the lodge for lunch she brought. After lunch we headed to the Birds of Prey (this is the run the world cup uses when it has the competition at Beaver Creek). By the end of the day we were worn out. It was nice to head back to the room for dinner and hot chocolate along with a few adult beverages.

The other trip I remember was when mom and dad traded the time share at Avon for one in Vail. Sean was not able to go this time but I got the whole week off from work so I spent the week with them. It was a nice place, not in the middle of town but that is probably what made it so nice. Dad and I went skiing a couple times during the week while mom stayed behind. The first day Dad and I went up we decided to try one of the back bowls. We only made one run down the for two reasons. The first is that only one run had no moguls and the other was that it was very crowded so we decided to try out some different runs. The main mountain was not nearly as crowded and we had more fun so that is where we stayed both days. One day we took the shuttle from the condo over to the lodge and just walked around. We came across a ski museum while walking so we decided to go in and look around. It was a nice museum with old skis on display and lots of pictures from world cup events that had been held in Vail. We found this nice German restaurant where you could watch people skiing down the mountain while eating. It was a nice time with mom and dad that week.

Another February memory is the time I spent volunteering with Special Olympics. The Air Academy Chapter of the Non-Commissioned Officers Association maintained the Cauldron for Special Olympics and we would take it up to the events they had. February was always the Southeast Regional Winter games held at Ski Cooper just outside Leadville. We would set up the cauldron for the opening ceremonies and hand out awards following the competition. A few times we would go up a day early or stay a day late and go skiing, which is always a good day.

I definitely like February but do look forward to when it starts to warm up and stop snowing.

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

Marvin Weaver, Jr.
Post 209 Commander





From our Post Adjutant

The American Legion's federal charter requires the submission of an annual report to Congress on activities for the year.

The Consolidated Post Report (CPR) was established for Posts to document external activities, such as volunteer and fundraising efforts, funeral honors, and youth programs. This data is collected by National Headquarters to help quantify – for Congress, American Legion media, national leadership and more – the good that American Legion Posts do in their communities every year.

It is a team effort to complete the report with committee leaders, officers reporting in their fields, and you informing us about the services you provide your community. Below are areas that are on the CPR we need your help to complete. Not everything you do for a Veteran is VA&R (Veteran Affairs & Rehabilitation), unless it is to or through the VA. Here are a few examples:

Veteran Affairs and Rehabilitation (i.e. Volunteer Hours at a VA facility, Money donated through the VA Voluntary Services Office)

National Security (i.e. Pints of Blood donated)

Americanism (i.e. Community Service Hours)

Community Service Hours can be for Legion programs like donating blood, Boys State, Legion baseball, Honor Guard, etc. but they can also be Toy Runs, volunteering at church, Veterans Stand Down, roadside cleanup, Vets4Vets runs, museum docent, etc.

To assist with this, in the past I sent out a tracking sheet and example and I will again in the next 411. It is an easy way for you to track and report your activities, and for me to consolidate all the activities. Please watch for it and use it. Of course, I have also gotten a report that consisted of “I donated 6 pints in the last year” and I accepted that as well and added an hour of community service per pint as well. If you do not know which block to check, I can do that for you if you give the activity a good description. (Don’t ask me to do that for a whole sheet, just what you really don’t know.) The key is to just report it, no matter how small. For large groups like the Riders, I need individual reports that specify what each run or activity was for submitted by members, not just the annual total of all.

The reporting period is 1 June 2022 through 31 May, but I must submit it in the first week of June, so please get it to me as soon as you have completed your activities for the year so that I have time to compile all the data. You can even estimate a known activity ahead of time. For example, you can estimate time spent supporting a Memorial Day event.

Believe it or not, The American Legion as a whole is really bad about reporting all of the good we do. Some Posts don’t even report, and last year I know we were very light. The more we report, the more influence and “Cred” we have with law makers. The more we can “walk the walk” as Veterans Strengthening America. Please help us all by filing a report of some sort.

“Always Forward”

Doug Millison
Adjutant





From our Senior Vice Commander

Looks like we hit the deck running for 2024 and all our activities are back in swing!! I look forward to seeing everyone at our upcoming dinners, meetings and other engagements.

We are doing well on our membership and we have already blown through the February goal of 85%. That puts us within 150 of reaching our 1033-member goal for 2024. That said, we have over 200 members that have not yet renewed. If you have not renewed and do not have a 2024 card as of February 1, you are classified as delinquent and suspended in the system – you need to get renewed ASAP! All you need is to pay your dues to become current. Please, if you have not renewed yet, contact Doug (adjutant@legion209.org) to set up a meeting time so you can give him your dues. He is usually in the office on Tuesdays until about 2pm. You can also send a check for \$45 through the Post Office to Post 209, 3613 Jeannine Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80917, or you can renew online through our website at www.legion209.org. Just click on the “Join-Renew-Transfer” button.

Finally - 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. Invite them to a dinner and help us get to know each other better!

See you at the Post!

Steve Hayes
Senior Vice Commander



From our Junior Vice Commander

Happy New Year to each and every one of you and your families. 2024 is beginning with a roar and at my age and health, I don't like it. Unfortunately, I cannot afford to spend our winter in Australia so I will bundle up and stay inside as much as possible. Other news; in case you are not aware of it, The American Legion Neal Thomas Jr Centennial Post 209 Executive Officers election will be held on April 13, 2024. All positions are open. If you wish to run for any of the officer positions or just wish to vote for someone else running for a position you must be a current member of Post 209. That means your membership card must have "2024" at the top of it. Current membership will be verified to attend the membership meeting April 13, 2024. If you are not familiar with the Officer positions, we have listed each position duty description in this edition.

Jerry Hopper
Jr Vice Commander





From Our Auxiliary President

Happy February. This is the time of year when we start thinking about what you can do to help your Unit continue with our vision statement:

"Vision Statement

The vision of the American Legion Auxiliary is to support The American Legion while becoming the premier service organization and foundation of every community providing support for our veterans, our military, and their families by shaping a positive future in an atmosphere of fellowship, patriotism, peace and security."

There are so many ways you can help!

- Is there a project you would like to have our unit support? Maybe you want to help our Veterans who are in hospice care by buying and giving puzzle books, balloons/flowers to show we care, or something similar.
- Are you interested in helping with the ALA CO Girls State? Our unit is a huge supporter of this program! We always need help with so many projects we do for the young ladies our unit sponsors. Reach out to Jackie Bowen or myself! We would love to have you help us!
- Would you like to help out in the kitchen with dinners or the membership breakfast? Let Jackie Bowen or Kellie Hayes know. They can put you on the list to help! We always like having volunteers in the kitchen!
- Are you interested in running for an office? Great! We will be holding our election in April. The nomination committee chairperson is Jackie Bowen. Send her an email stating the position you would like to run for, add a line that you will accept the position if elected.

I did not have a newsletter article last month. I would like to wish all of our members who had birthdays in January & those with birthdays in February a very happy birthday!

Once again, as I always say, if you need anything please reach out to me. If I can help, I will help or hopefully point you in the right direction.

Royce Hopper
Unit President
American Legion Auxiliary



**Check out our Boys/Girls State
Flyers on pages 23-24**



Chaplain's Corner

How do you prepare for something that hasn't happened, but you have been told that it will happen eventually? Your military training prepares you for those moments in whatever position of leadership you find yourself. In the same way, the Lord prepares us for the most significant event in life by telling us exactly what will happen and how He plans to get us through it.

As it states in Romans 8:25-27

²⁵ But if we must keep trusting God for something that hasn't happened yet, it teaches us to wait patiently and confidently.

²⁶ And in the same way -by our faith - the Holy Spirit helps us with our daily problems and in our praying. For we don't even know what we should pray for nor how to pray as we should, but the Holy Spirit prays for us with such feeling that it cannot be expressed in words.

²⁷ And the Father who knows all hearts knows, of course, what the Spirit is saying as he pleads for us in harmony with God's own will.

Take one moment at a time and trust that our Heavenly Father desires to equip us and walk with us no matter what we face. He also has given us a community of friends - brothers and sisters - to walk with us as well. Remember, **be the one** in the community.

If you have any spiritual needs (prayer, praises, blessings, death in family, etc.) I am here for you. If you just need someone to talk with for any reason, I am here for you. I don't have to know you or your family.

Reach out to me at bob.odonnell@comcast.net or 719-432-6018.

Bob "Odie" O'Donnell
Chaplain Odie



Post 209 Nominations for Officer positions

I have been appointed again this year as chairman of our nomination committee. We need to fill a few vacancies, although all positions are open to any member of Post 209 in good standing. Let me know if you want to participate in the Post-leadership and serve our members. Attached is a short description of each officer position. We will also ask for nominations from the floor in April when we have elections.

Commander: You are entrusted with supervising the duties of all other officers of the Post. You are the presiding officer at all meetings, and you must familiarize yourself with the policies and traditions of your Post and The American Legion.

Adjutant: Also known as the "First Sergeant." You are the Secretary of the Post. Post activities will revolve around you. The Adjutant is the Post personnel officer; maintains membership records, and

minutes of meetings, checks up, and assists with the work of the other officers and Committees. In addition, you publish official orders, announcements, and instructions.

Senior Vice Commander: Your primary role is membership. No Post can survive without a strong membership. You should be familiar with ceremonial protocols for regular meetings. A Vice Commander must be ready to fill in for the Commander upon a moment's notice.

Junior Vice Commander: You must be ready to promote your Post. The Commander will depend on you to provide programs that spice up the meetings and attract attendance. You should contact other veteran and civic organizations so that each patriotic holiday and observance receives the attention it deserves. You are concerned with the pageantry of The American Legion. You should also be concerned with the welfare of all fellow veterans and Veteran Affairs and Rehabilitation Committees.

Finance Officer: You will serve as chair of the Finance Committee and will be responsible for receiving and disbursing Post funds. You will work closely with the Post Adjutant in all matters related to the finances of your Post.

Service Officer: You should be a dedicated person with a deep interest in fellow veterans, the Post, and the community. You are responsible for bringing to the attention of all veterans and their dependents the rights and benefits granted by law. You must know how to utilize the expert services available through Legion channels and local agencies. You should be ready to visit dependents upon a service member's death. You may be called upon to serve as chair of the Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Committee, working with children and youth committees, or making hospital visitations and appointed by the Commander-elect.

Chaplain: You must be a person capable of moral and intellectual leadership. You work closely with all other Officers of the Post. You should attend all meetings of the Post and Executive Committee. When requested, you should be ready to officiate at the funerals of members. The Chaplain must also be prepared to serve the bereaved families of Post members.

Sergeant-at-Arms: You should know how to arrange the meeting hall and assist the Post Commander and Adjutant. You are the custodian of the Colors and in charge of Colors details during presentation and retirement ceremonies. You should know how to display flags and their proper presentation. You are also responsible for maintaining order at all meetings.

Historian: You are responsible for preserving and compiling our Post's records/photos (specifically through our Scrapbook and website). It would help if you tried to attend Department Conventions and keep in touch with other Post Historians. [You are only encouraged to attend, not required.]

Post Executive Committeeman: You are a voting member of the Post Executive Committee and are entrusted with the government and management of the Post. You shall be responsible for representing the interests of the general membership to the Executive Committee.

Judge Advocate: You provide professional advice in conducting Post business or assist in procuring proper counsel. You are the interpreter of the Constitution and By-Laws of our Post. You may be asked to assist in auditing Post financial accounts, appointed by the Commander-elect.

For more information, see the 2024 Officers Guide, beginning on page 7. A free copy can be downloaded from the Legion.org website. Just search for Publications and select the 2024 Officer's Guide. Go to: <https://www.legion.org/publications/259071/officers-guide>

Marvin Weaver

Nomination Committee Chairman



From our Sons of The American Legion Commander

It was a great holiday season. I hope you are rested and ready for a busy year! January took off slowly and we are now full speed ahead. We are kicking off the season with the start of Young Guns and Junior shooting. This could not be possible without all of the amazing SAL members that give their time and experience. February 23, we will be hosting another Post dinner. The menu is still up in the air, but I can guarantee a great time and good food. Plan on attending! Membership is meeting all monthly goals, but we can only be successful with everyone renewing.

This month has a few important dates to observe. February 8th is Boy Scouts Day. If you have spent any time at the Post, you will have run into these amazing young adults. Take a minute and thank them for contributing to the community. Of course, don't forget.... The 14th is Valentines' Day. With all of the time most volunteers spend away from home, be sure to take the time to thank your loved one on this day and every day. Another day is the 19th, Presidents' Day. This is a time to reflect on Americanism. What you have done, and what your goals for the year are.

We are still looking for adoptive parents. There are lonely pigs wandering aimlessly at the Post. They would thrive at your home being fed every night with your spare change. Every penny helps our donation to the Child Welfare Foundation. Get in touch with any SAL officer and we will draw up the adoption papers!

Rob Barry

SAL Commander



Post 209 Americanism

The American Legion Department of Colorado Oratorical Contest was held December 2, 2023, at Golden View Classical Academy. Ten members of the Post 209 family volunteered as judges, moderators, timers, and coordinators to make the contest a tremendous success. Post 209-sponsored Amari Luu, a senior at

Pine Creek High School, received a \$1000 scholarship for placing 3rd in the contest. Amari, who was also a 2023 Colorado Boys State delegate sponsored by Post 209, will be attending Stanford University in August 2024. Congratulations Amari!



Pictured left to right: Jay Bowen, Amari Luu, Mrs. Luu, and Kurt Skinner



From our American Legion Riders

February will mark the changeover and start of the new 2024 American Legion Riders at Post 209 Executive Board. I will not run for ALR President again this year as my work schedule is very full. Sean “Wizard” Cope will be your new ALR 209 President and lead the Riders into the 2024 season. We have a busy year lined up and hope to see many of you supporting the ALR as we did last year. Your support makes this entire organization a success, and we thank you ALL for that!

As the outgoing ALR 209 President, I would like to thank the entire American Legion family at Post 209 for your support over this past year. Every one of our rides/events was a tremendous success because of the effort of our riders and supporters. ALR dinners, Poker Runs, Pony Express, Memorial Rides, all raised lots of money that goes back to support the veteran community. Additionally, we have grown the Riders’ program with 21 members in just one year. We have new members signing up almost every month, which also means we are growing the American Legion, Auxiliary, and Sons of American Legion at the same time. Let’s continue this effort by getting the word out and bringing new riders in to ALR 209!

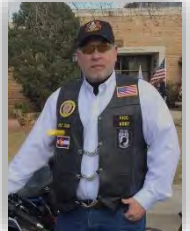
Don’t forget about our important rides/events for the 2024 ALR 209 riding season listed below.

- 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

Rest in Peace - Hugh "Smitty" Smith, ALR 38 President 2024, You will be missed!

Jerry "RACO" Shay
President, American Legion Riders



From our Post Historian



In honor of Presidents' Day during the month of February, I thought I'd take the opportunity to recognize our 10 Legionnaire U.S. Presidents. I hope you enjoy this look at our Commanders-in-Chief who in the last century, honorably answered the nation's call to service and earned the title of American military veteran.

Harry S. Truman, U.S. Army

Home Post: American Legion Post 21 Independence, MO.

At the age of 33, Harry Truman, as a member of the Missouri National Guard, volunteered for service with the American Expeditionary Force in the First World War, and served in France as a field artillery battery commander with the 35th Division. Upon returning to the States, he was a founding member of one of the first American Legion Posts in Missouri. He remained active in the Army reserve and was eventually promoted to Colonel. Upon the untimely death of President F.D. Roosevelt in April 1945, Truman became our first Legionnaire U.S. President; company grade officer in one war, commander-in-chief in the next! The aircraft carrier USS *Harry S. Truman* (CVN-75) is named in his honor.



*Captain Truman, AEF
Artillery Officer*

Dwight D. Eisenhower, U.S. Army

Home Post: American Legion Post 39 Abeline, KS.

A 1915 West Point graduate, Dwight Eisenhower's First World War duties were limited to stateside training posts. During the next two decades of his army career, he served in a variety of staff positions. Despite his lack of direct combat experience, Eisenhower rose rapidly in the Second World War to Supreme Allied Commander in Europe and five-star General of the Army. He served finally as Supreme Commander of NATO forces until his retirement from the U.S. Army in 1952 and election to the presidency, making him the only career military officer to become president in the modern era. The aircraft carrier USS *Dwight D. Eisenhower* (CVN-69) is named in his honor.



*Captain Eisenhower as a WWI tank
instructor*

John F. Kennedy, U.S. Navy

Home Post: American Legion Post 281 Boston, MA.

Commissioned as an Ensign on the eve of America's entry into WWII, John Kennedy, despite medical disqualification for sea duty, was able to use family influence to gain assignment to PT (patrol torpedo) boat command in the South Pacific. LT Kennedy's PT-109 was destroyed during a 1943 engagement with a Japanese destroyer in the Solomons. His command and rescue of surviving crewmembers, despite severe wounds, received widespread recognition in popular culture, and paved the way for his political career following the war. As America's youngest elected president, John F. Kennedy challenged citizens to national service, to "...ask what you can do for your country." The aircraft carrier USS *John F. Kennedy* (CV-67) is named in his honor.



LT Kennedy and the crew of PT-109

Lyndon B. Johnson, U.S. Naval Reserve

Home Post: American Legion Post 352 Blanco, TX.

As a U.S. House Representative from rural Texas, Lyndon Johnson was appointed as an officer in the U.S. Naval Reserve in 1940. Following the attack on Pearl Harbor, LCDR Johnson served briefly on active duty, performing naval inspection duties in the Pacific theater. When all members of Congress serving in the armed forces were ordered to resume their legislative responsibilities in 1942, Johnson was returned to the Naval Reserve, where he was eventually promoted to commander. He remained in the Naval Reserve until he became President of the United States upon the death of John F. Kennedy. The *Zumwalt*-class destroyer USS *Lyndon B. Johnson* (DDG-1002) is named in his honor.



LCDR Johnson, USN

Richard M. Nixon, U.S. Navy

Home Post: American Legion Post 51 Whittier, CA.

As a government attorney, Richard Nixon was appointed as lieutenant junior grade in the U.S. Naval Reserve in early 1942. Nixon volunteered for active sea duty and was assigned in early 1943 to the South Pacific Combat Air Transport Command at Guadalcanal. As Officer in Charge, he supervised naval air logistics throughout the Allied campaign to consolidate the Solomon Islands. He finished his wartime duties as a government contract officer; after the end of WWII, he was transferred to the Naval Reserve, and eventually promoted to commander.



LT Nixon in the South

Gerald R. Ford, U.S. Navy

Home Post: American Legion Post 258 Grand Rapids, MI.

Gerald Ford was commissioned into the Navy following Pearl Harbor and performed stateside instructor duties before being assigned to the new light aircraft carrier USS *Monterey* in 1943. He served aboard *Monterey* as navigation officer and anti-aircraft battery officer through December 1944, participating in dozens of carrier strike actions in the Pacific Theater. Ford finished his wartime service in the Naval Reserve Training Command with the rank of Lieutenant Commander. The aircraft carrier USS *Gerald R. Ford* (CVN 78) is named in his honor.



Navigation officer LT Ford aboard the USS

James E. Carter, U.S. Navy

Home Post: American Legion Post 2 Americus, GA.

James “Jimmy” Carter graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1946 and completed two years surface ship duty aboard USS *Wyoming*, before requesting assignment to submarine duty. LT Carter then served as executive officer, electronics repair officer, and engineering officer aboard USS *Pomfret* (SS-391) and USS *Barracuda* (SSK-1). In 1952, he was hand-picked by Admiral Rickover to help implement the nuclear-powered submarine program. Carter was preparing to become engineering officer for one of the first atomic powered submarines, USS *Seawolf* (SSN-575), when notified of his father’s death in July 1953. Carter made the difficult choice to resign his Naval commission and return to Plains, Georgia to manage the family peanut farming business. The *Seawolf*-class attack submarine *Jimmy Carter* (SSN-23) is named in his honor.



*Engineering Officer LT Carter
aboard SSK-1 submarine*

Ronald W. Reagan, U.S. Army Air Forces

Home Post: American Legion Post 283 Palisades, CA.

Ronald Reagan first enlisted in the U.S. Army Reserve in 1937 as he was pursuing a Hollywood acting career before WWII. He was commissioned and transferred to the Army Air Forces as a public relations officer with the Los Angeles film production unit of the U.S. Army Air Forces during WWII. Throughout his wartime military service, he acted in and produced over 400 training films. He separated from active duty in December 1945 with the rank of Captain. The aircraft carrier USS *Ronald Reagan* (CVN-76) is named in his honor.



*Public relations officer
Captain Reagan*

George H.W. Bush, U.S. Navy

Home Post: American Legion Post 77 Houston, TX.

George H.W. Bush enlisted in the Navy on his 18th birthday and after completing flight training, was commissioned as an ensign, making him one of the youngest American naval aviators of WWII. LT Bush served aboard the aircraft carrier USS *San Jacinto* in the Pacific Theater as a Grumman Avenger torpedo bomber pilot. He flew 58 combat missions and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for a bombing mission in which his plane was heavily damaged by Japanese antiaircraft fire, forcing Bush and his crew to bail out in the open sea before crashing and eventual rescue. The aircraft carrier USS *George H.W. Bush* (CVN-77) is named in his honor.



*USN Avenger pilot LT
Bush, South Pacific*

George W. Bush, Texas Air National Guard

Home Post: American Legion Post 77 Houston, TX.

George W. Bush was commissioned in the Texas Air National Guard in 1968 and after two years of flight training, was assigned as a Convair F-102 fighter-interceptor pilot. Bush performed part-time ANG duties for the next three years and was honorably discharged in 1973 as a captain.



1st Lt Bush, Texas ANG

Happy Presidents' Day and thank you for your service, Legionnaires!

Kurt Skinner
Historian



From our Color/Honor Guard Captain

First off, I want to recognize a member of the team who exemplified the qualities needed for members of the Honor Guard team. Here is the article submitted to The American Legion National website:

“Post 209 Honor Guard Captain Joel Haas (left) presenting a Certificate of Appreciation to Post 209 Honor Guard Member Bill Thomas (right), January 9, 2024.

(Photograph by Honor Guard Member Joe LaChat).

The primary mission of The American Legion Neal Thomas Jr. Centennial Post 209 Honor Guard is to support Final Honors for Our Veterans, which is then followed by supporting Our Post and Our Community. The members of the Honor Guard showed very strong support in all mission areas by supporting 69 events during the 2023 calendar year. Of the 69 events supported, 55 of those events were Final Honors for Our Veterans, five (9) Presentation of Colors events for Our Post and Our Community, two (2)



ceremonies at Pikes Peak National Cemetery supporting Memorial Day and Wreaths Across America, one (1) Celebration of Life Ceremony, and two (2) Parades (4th of July and Veterans Day).

One member of the Honor Guard stands out in providing support to Our Veterans, Our Post, and Our Community – Bill Thomas. Bill joined the Honor Guard in August 2021 when answering a call for anyone willing to support even just one event a month, because that one event might be the one that the Honor Guard cannot support without another available member. This year Bill has become much more than a “one event a month” Honor Guard member. Out of the 69 events the Honor Guard supported in 2023, Bill supported 48 of those events. Final Honors for Our Veterans accounted for 44 of the events, 80% of the total Final Honors performed by the Honor Guard. Bill was that one “available member” for 24 of those Final Honors, ensuring those Veterans received the Honors they earned and deserved. Our Veterans, Our Post, and Our Community are very lucky to have Bill as a member of The American Legion Neal Thomas Jr. Centennial Post 209 Honor Guard.”

The Honor Guard is starting 2024 just as busy as any other year. In this month’s article, I wanted to share some numbers that I shared during the January General Membership Meeting. Here are the CY2023 numbers compared to CY2022. As you can see, we were unable to meet the needs of 21 veterans who earned the right to Final Honors at their funeral service.

- Membership
 - 2023
 - Start = 20, End = 16
 - Active = 14
 - Legion = 12
 - SAL = 1
 - Auxiliary = 1
 - In-Active = 2
- 2023 Events
 - Supported = 69 (2022 = 83)
 - Final Honors = 55 (2022 = 74)
 - Color Guard Related = 14 (2022 = 9)
 - Request Denied = 24 (2022 = 11)
 - Final Honors = 18 (2022 = 5)
 - Color Guard Related = 6 (2022 = 6)
 - Cancelled = 3 (2022 = 3)
 - Final Honors = 3 (2022 = 2)

- Color Guard Related = 0 (2022 = 1)

Want to be part of a great team? The Honor Guard needs to gain more new team members in order to ensure we are able to continue supporting our veterans and our community. Understandably, not everyone has much time to participate in the Honor Guard. In reality, all someone needs are a few available hours: about an hour to participate a night for a training meeting (check the newsletter calendar or the calendar on the Honor Guard website - <https://legion209.org/honorguard209/>) and up to a couple of hours for an event. So around three hours a month for a meeting and just **ONE** event is all you need to make a difference in helping support our veterans and our community. Members of The American Legion, the Sons of The American Legion, and The American Legion Auxiliary are all eligible to be members of the Honor Guard with all uniform items provided except Legion family-specific cap and shoes. If you or someone you know might be interested in supporting the Honor Guard, please reach out to me at: (719) 482-4496 or honor.guard@legion209.org.

Like and Follow “The American Legion Neal Thomas, Jr. Centennial Post 209 Honor Guard” Facebook page. The link is at the top of the Honor Guard website: <https://legion209.org/honorguard209/>

Joel W. Haas
Honor Guard Captain



From our Junior Shooting Sports Program

The Spring 2024 JSSP program is taking applications for the Marksmanship Course starting Wednesday February 7th (4:45pm – 6:00pm, 5:45pm – 7:00pm, or 6:56pm – 8:00pm) and Young Guns Basic Course starting Thursday February 8th (6:15pm – 8:00pm), with a cost of \$30 per youth shooter for either course. If there is a youth interested in learning how to safely handle a firearm and basic shooting skills, they are invited to sign up for the Young Guns Basic Course. If there is a youth that has already completed Young Guns, they are invited to sign up for the Marksmanship Course. Go to <https://legion209.org/young-guns/> to download an application, complete the application, and send it to Jesse Wade (jssp209@gmail.com) to sign up for either class. Please feel free to reach out to Jesse or myself (jwhaas.al209@gmail.com) with any questions you may have regarding the Junior Shooting Sports Program.

The Young Guns Basic Course provides youth ages 10-18 years old (boys and girls) the opportunity to learn about firearms safety and basic shooting skills. During Young Guns, NRA Basic Rifle Instructors teach the safe handling of firearms, shooting positions (prone, kneeling, and standing), how to zero a rifle, and how to score targets. At the end of the course, the youth

have a competition shoot against the others in the course in order to show off the skills they have learned. The Marksmanship Course provides graduates of Young Guns the opportunity to further develop their shooting skills.

An NRA Basic Rifle Course was held Saturday January 6th at the Post, followed by the live-fire portion at DCF Guns – East. There were 11 students, including three (3) youth, who successfully completed the course. This is the first of three courses required to be an NRA Basic Rifle Instructor. The NRA Basic Instructor Training Course and NRA Basic Rifle Instructor Course are also required, which are still in the process of being arranged through other instructors.

In the next few months, an NRA Range Safety Officer Course will be scheduled for those interested in becoming an NRA Certified Range Safety Officer (RSO). RSOs are important part of the JSSP at the Post, ensuring a safe range for the students. NRA RSO Course students have to be 21 years of age or older in order to become certified as an NRA Certified RSO. Students also need to know the basics of firearm safety and have a measure of knowledge and proficiency in operating different kinds of firearm actions (from revolvers to semi-automatic rifles). There are some firearms handling exercises during the course to ensure you have a suitable background in firearms. The cost is still TBD, though will be significantly lower than the NRA online cost of \$125 and up to \$200 for area instructors. If you are interested in attending, or just learning more about the course and/or RSO responsibilities, please email: jwhaas.al209@gmail.com.

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



Continuous Years Anniversary

As we have reached the 2024 membership year, I want to take a moment to recognize those who have reached a membership milestone and renewed on time. While we appreciate ALL our members the following have arrived at a continuous membership anniversary as identified below. Congratulations to you all, and we hope to see you here again for your next one!

Marvin Weaver JR.
Commander

5 YEAR - G. Abeyta, D. Addis, A. Babarinsa, T. Camasta, R. Carter, A. Cirasunda, J. Craven, D. Custer, T. Foster, R. Gray, J. Grueter, B. Henderson, R. Johnsen, R. Kettering, W. Laudan, P. Massey, R. Mirabal, J. Mix, D. Moon, T. Moore, R. Moose, R. Odonnell, J. Renahan, N. Roulier, W. Schuman, C. Silvers, C. Stubbs, Q. Trumble, D. Tuttle, F. Uhlik, J. Valdez, G. Veder, H. Weingaertner, C. Weller, B. Wess, C. Wisniewski

10 YEAR – D. Beacham, F. Bell, J. Chapman, E. Congdon, D. Cook, J. Cosma, S. Cox, J. Cruz, R. Donnelly, R. Eastin, D. Eastman, R. Ehrke, J. Fischer, D. Hollingshead, R. Horne, D. Johnson,

D. Kees, K. Komnik, S. Krasinski, G. Langston, R. Lee, G. Reefer, T. Ross, J. Sather, J. Summitt, G. Sundstrom, W. Taylor, J. Thelen, C. Vitatoe

15 YEAR – R. Atkinson, D. Dempsey, V. Dinapoli, K. Ellerd, E. Feliciano, R. Fields, A. Gibbens, R. Gibbs, M. Gielen, E. Granger, L. Haas, M. Hansen, G. Harmon, S. Hayes, R. Jackson, J. Jaworski, P. Kirby, H. Knight, H. Kortmeyer, G. Lambert, W. Luden, J. Miles, T. Moreno, R. Morris, G. Muckelrath, F. Ozant, A. Sherbo, J. Shute, E. Siergiej, A. Spalding, G. Sparks, C. Stearns, R. Stites, G. Stoneburner, R. Thies, R. Wagner

20 YEAR – W. Adams, G. Breig, R. Dockham, C. Dubose, D. Hall, T. Hawkins, F. Lebron, B. McCardle, M. Salopek, S. Tindell, C. Wendland

25 YEAR – D. Anderson, A. Clement, S. Gabele, M. Morey, W. Thomas, L. Truenow, W. Valentine, L. Weems

30 YEAR – G. Boldt, G. Dowd, M. Graham, S. Hamamoto, W. Hathaway, A. Kimbrel, C. Seiler

35 YEARS – A. Gruenewald, E. Harsh

40 YEARS – J. Freeman, G. Fry, M. Narragon

45 YEARS – L. Johnson

50 YEARS – L. Hagelberg, L. Schumm, B. Welton

65 YEARS – C. Sorrels

P.S. – If you believe you were left out or added by mistake, please contact me to get it sorted. All members who have reached their Continuous Membership 5-year anniversary and paid their dues for 2024 prior to 1 January are entitled to receive the sew-on star for their cap and a certificate. Please arrange with me to have these presented to you at a meeting. We will no longer print certificates that no-one wants to pick up. Adjutant Doug.



Salty Dog

Sea & Anchor Detail:

What is the Sea & Anchor Detail? When a ship pulls in and out of port the sea and anchor detail has to be set. Part of the sea and anchor detail is the line (rope) handlers. The line handlers work the line by feeding it out to tie up to the pier or pull it in from the pier. The sea

and anchor detail stays set minus the line handlers until the ship has made it out to open seas or is released by the officer of the deck when pulling in.

I spent my time on line three as part of the line handlers. The main objective is to make sure the line does not get wet. One reason is the salt water eventually breaks down the line but for me the main reason is that it gets VERY heavy once it is wet.



Marvin Weaver, Jr.
Post 209 Commander



Bringing A Little South to the West

For those who are frequent readers, you may recall I've mentioned attending the same school in Memphis, Oakhaven HS, 12, almost 13 years (I had a lot of trouble in the 10th grade and went to Summer School so I could advance to the 11th grade). It was a big school by some standards, going from 1st through 12th grade. I don't think we had a Kindergarten at the school when I attended. I know I've mentioned my school in the past, but I believe it is time to dedicate an article to some of my memories of my 12 years.

The elementary school was in a separate building on the grounds of the school. That was grades 1-6. Mrs. Steele was the principal. I'm convinced they used her as the model in the movie *Grease*. Eve Arden's character, Principal McGee looked and acted exactly like Mrs. Steele. Pretty spooky. I had a couple of run-ins with Mrs. Steele that was reminiscent of the scene where John Travolta and his buddies were caught loitering in the hall after the bell.

While I still remember most of my teachers in Elementary, the one that really sticks out for many reasons was my 5th grade teacher, Mrs. Margaret Sims. Her teaching style was pretty unique. We learned the box waltz and how to square dance. And we practiced both several times over the year. She also set up a Wall Street and taught us about buying and selling shares. I remember the company I bought shares in was Kodak Camera. We had to check the stocks every day and update our gains/losses. But the thing I remember most about her was when the announcement came over the school intercom; "President John F. Kennedy has been shot while visiting Dallas, TX." I think this was the first time I saw an adult cry, and she cried for the remainder of the day. She shared with us that not only was President Kennedy her favorite President, the thought that he was shot in her home state of Texas made the pain even worse. I don't know which scared me more, watching her cry or the thought of a Presidential assassination.

Moving on, when I entered Jr. High (7th and 8th grades), I physically moved across the campus to the High School building. This was my first experience changing rooms for each class. Of those two years, I guess my fondest memories were of Coach Patrick and Jr. High Football. Coach Patrick not only coached football, he also taught History, and did both extremely well. He was likely the person who first awakened the history lover that I am today. I played Defensive End for the football team. I really enjoyed it and lettered, but was probably just an average player. I really doubt I missed an opportunity to play for the Tennessee Volunteers.

Then I moved on to High School (9th – 12th grades), same building, just a different wing in the school. The memories I have of those years, both good and bad, are enough to fill a separate article, and I may do that at a later time. But I guess one I will share in this article is the time I “got licks” from the Assistant Principal.

I don’t even remember why I was sent to his office, but back then until my senior year, I wasn’t really what you’d call an honor student or even a nice guy (hard to believe I know). When I was in High School, teachers had the option of giving a spanking (licks) to a bad boy or girl (seldom to the girls), or sending them to see the Assistant Principal. If the teacher opted to do it, they had to get another teacher to witness. Not so with the AP. So, here I go to see him along with the teacher who will dime me out, and I’m extremely worried. His reputation with a paddle was legendary. But here I go and after the teacher explained the charge, I was asked if I had anything to say. Fortunately, I said, “no sir.” Because I was not disrespectful, I was only to get three licks. I bent over, grabbed my ankles with my hands and waited for the world to end. I remember when it was over, I had to bite my tongue to keep from laughing. I don’t know if I expected more, or if the reputation was just over-exaggerated.

More to come in future articles about Oakhaven School. By the way, I’m still in contact with a few of my school buddies. As with the military, when we get together, we enjoy reliving the days of our youth. Some good, some bad, some truthful, mostly not.

Jay Bowen
Past Commander



 Happy 
Valentines' Day!

UPCOMING EVENTS

American Legion Post 209

DATE: Monday, February 26, 2024

TIME: 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Location: 3613 Jeannine Dr
Colorado Springs, CO 80917



BLOOD DRIVE



vitalant[®]

Details for the drive:

- Date: Monday, Feb. 26
- Draw time: 2pm – 6pm
- Setup/ Breakdown time: 1:00pm – 7:00pm
- Address: 3613 Jeannine Dr. Colorado Springs CO 80917
- Open to the public
- 0 of 36 appointments filled

Donor Scheduling Options:

Direct Link: [Here](#)

Donor Notes:

1. **Fast Track Notes:** Fast tract: <https://vitalant.org/health-questionnaire>
2. **Day of overview:** <https://vitalant.org/blood-donation-process>
3. **Eligibility:** <https://vitalant.org/blood-donation-requirements>



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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The American Legion

Rocky Mountain Boys State

A Week that will shape a Lifetime



"Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction... it must be fought for and defended constantly by each generation."

-Ronald Reagan

HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS – Your Future starts here!
YOU can join the nation's premier civics program
developing future leaders in Colorado since 1949

- Build leadership skills AND lifelong friendships
- Fun Action-based learning in Self-Government
- Support and defend our Constitution
- Stand up for America's political heritage
- If selected all tuition costs are included



June 2nd - 8th, 2024 – Sterling, CO

Start your application NOW!

www.CoLegionBoysState.org



THE EXPERIENCE OF A LIFETIME

JUNE 10-15, 2024, NORTHEASTERN JR COLLEGE, STERLING

The American Legion Auxiliary Colorado Girls State program is a unique and exciting government-in-action learning program that encourages high school juniors to become empowered and knowledgeable leaders.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY



PROGRAM OBJECTIVES:

- ☆ Develops pride and understanding of American government, freedoms, and traditions.
- ☆ Inspires young women of all backgrounds and interests to engage with our system of government.
- ☆ Stimulates passion for the democratic processes within our republic and the brave individuals who fight for our freedoms.
- ☆ Fosters confidence, growth, and life-long friendships.

For information, visit us at
[www.ALAColorado.org/
Girls-State.html](http://www.ALAColorado.org/Girls-State.html) or contact
your local American Legion
Auxiliary Unit.

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



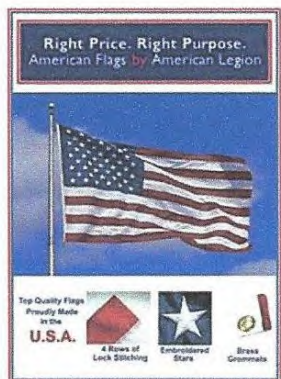
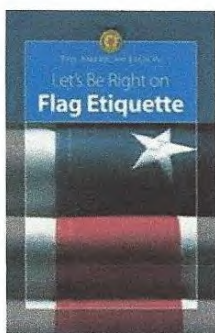
SPONSOR A U.S. FLAG TO A NEW AMERICAN CITIZEN

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!

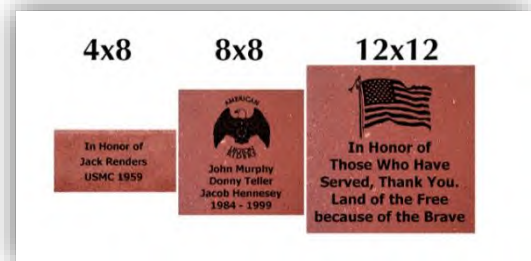
719-963-3517

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 \$75 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 \$125 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 in the area we call the Walk of Honor.
- **How long will this fundraiser effort last?** We plan to continue selling bricks until the Walk of Honor is covered with personalized bricks.
- **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/>

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 Hamdogger Night! 6:00pm RSVP Required! 	3 Go Go Girls' State 9:00am  Honor Bell Mtg  10:00am
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 SAL Dinner  6:00pm RSVP Required!	10 Membership Meeting B'fast - 9:00/Mtg - 10:00  
11	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 \$15/person Chicken Fried Chicken Legion 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 ALA Dinner  6:00pm RSVP Required!	24 Healing Warriors! 9:00am-1:00pm
25	26 Troop 77 Mtg. 6:00pm Blood Drive  2:00pm-6:00pm	27 ALR/SAL Monthly Mtng SAL 5:30pm ALR 6:45pm  	28 Marksmanship 4:45/5:45/6:56pm 	29 Young Guns 6:15pm   Venture Crew 7:00pm	Notes:	

MARCH 2024

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

March 2024						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Price Depends on Menu Hamdogger Night! 6:00pm RSVP Required! 	2  Honor Bell Meeting 10:00am
3	4 Troop 77 Mtg. 6:30pm	5	6 Marksmanship 4:45/5:45/6:56pm 	7 Exec. Cmttee Mtg 6:00pm Young Guns 6:15pm Venture Crew 7:00pm   	8 Price TBD ALR Dinner 6:00pm RSVP Required! 	9 Membership Meeting B'fast - 9:00/Mtg - 10:00  
10 Daylight Saving Begins	11 Troop 77 Mtg. 6:30pm	12 Honor Gd. Trng 6:00pm 	13 Marksmanship 4:45/5:45/6:56pm 	14 Young Guns 6:15pm Venture Crew 7:00pm  	15 \$15/person Happy B'day American Legion! Chicken Fried Chicken 6:00pm RSVP Required! 	16 Female Veterans Social 9:00am-11:00am
17 St Patrick's Day	18 Troop 77 Mtg. 6:30pm	19 Start of Spring ALR Exec. Mtng ALR 6:30pm. 	20 Marksmanship 4:45/5:45/6:56pm 	21 Young Guns 6:15pm Venture Crew 7:00pm  	22 Price TBD ALA Dinner 6:00pm RSVP Required! 	23 Healing Warriors! 9:00am-1:00pm
24	25 Troop 77 Mtg. 6:30pm	26 ALR/SAL Monthly Mtng SAL 5:30pm ALR 6:45pm  	27 Marksmanship 4:45/5:45/6:56pm 	28 Honor Gd. Trng 6:00pm Young Guns 6:15pm Venture Crew 7:00pm   	29 Good Friday! Price TBD Honor Bell Fundraiser 6:00pm RSVP Required! 	30
31 Easter Happy Easter!	Notes:					