

# The Centennial



VOLUME 29 EDITION 4

April 2014

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

Lately, for some reason I've received several emails about growing old. I'm not quite certain why they are now coming to me at what seems to be the speed of light when just a few years ago (so it seems anyway) I was never on any distribution list even remotely related to this subject. Now acquaintances, friends, and family are sending jokes, horror stories, and advice on aging gracefully and taking better care of myself. It's probably because a few years ago the Internet was not as prolific with aging information and jokes as it is today. Anyway, that's my story and I'm sticking with it.

Seriously though, the common theme in the messages I receive that are mostly funny is that as we age things begin to sag, wrinkle, hurt, and I forget what the other thing is. There are two truths to growing old; if you live long enough you will experience it, and growing old sure beats the alternative. Another interesting thing I've noticed also is that "old" is relative. I have two sons and two grandsons. When my boys were pre-adolescent and I was early 30 something, they thought I was ancient. Now they are in their late 30's and have realized I'm still a young man. By the way, my oldest has teenage sons who think their dad is ancient. Jackie and I both think that is hilarious...to a degree.

It's all about perspective. To my young grandsons, I'm probably ready to be put out to pasture. But at the same time, I am often referred to as a young'un to some of my brothers and sisters in the Legion. In my mind, I'm still the same person that played football, basketball, and Golf (none by the way was ever played very well). I still enjoy Golf every chance I get and I still don't play well, about aging; you change your perspective and priorities about what is important. The things I used



but now I don't care. That's another great thing about aging; you change your perspective and priorities about what is important. The things I used to hold as critical to success and my manhood have greatly altered. I know longer have to prove my virility by hitting 300 yard drives off the tee box. I don't have to throw 70 yard passes to an open receiver or run from goal to goal for a touchdown. I now find much more pleasure in just getting out and playing Golf for fun or tossing the football around with kids and grandkids. I have realized that at the end of the day nobody but me really cared about that stuff anyway. We are not measured by those silly metrics.

One of the cool things about aging is I'm now beginning to think about my legacy and it has helped shape my attitudes, beliefs, and values. When I stand before God and He's tallying my book of life, I seriously doubt He will judge me on the three times I broke 80 on the Golf course. That won't even be listed. There's probably not a single entry in the number of times I "lettered" in school playing football or running Track. What will probably be there is who I helped, and who I ignored that needed my help. I feel confident there will be entries in the final book of life on the hours I spent volunteering my time, as well as the times I was asked to assist and lied my way out of doing it just because I had better things to do (like doing nothing).

What will be your legacy? I don't care if you are 21 or 100. None of us know when the time will come that we be held accountable for how we lived our life. I've finally learned what I have heard for many years; it's not how LONG you lived, it's HOW you lived while here.

There was something else I intended to say in this month's article, but I forgot what that was.

For God and Country,  
Jay Bowen



## Auxiliary President Jackie Bowen

Rollin', Rollin', Rollin', keep them members Rollin' in! Welcome to our newest members; Cathy Barger, Carmen Duenas, Desiree Hicks, Viki Robinson and Katherine Chapot. We are so blessed to have such a great Unit. I would like to invite the wives of our Legionnaires that aren't already members of our Auxiliary to visit with us and see what we're all about. We would love to have all the wives as members of our Auxiliary. We understand that you might not be able to make the meetings or help with our events, we still need you as a member to strengthen our voice for our Veterans at the State and National level.

We gave 200+ folded pocket flags to the Blue Star Mothers to pass out to our deploying heroes. With a generous donation from one of our members (Thank You!), we were able to order 300 more for distribution. Keep looking for another request to help fold the flags once they arrive. Also with this last distribution of flags, I gave the Blue Star Mothers over 200 "Saluting America Cards" to give our heroes. Not to worry, we have a lot more "Thank You Saluting America Cards" if you know of a Veteran you would like to give one to.

Our cookbook is coming along. Lynn Thomas is steadily retyping all she has received to get them ready for publication. Thank you Lynn.

We are looking for sponsors for our Girls State program. If you know of anyone that would like to sponsor a girl for Girls State or if you would like to be a sponsor, the full sponsorship is \$150 for one girl. If you can't do a full sponsorship any amount will help. Thank you in advance for your help. Girls State is June 8<sup>th</sup> thru 13<sup>th</sup> in Gunnison.

### HAPPY EASTER!

Serving Our Veterans Proudly!  
Jackie Bowen

## Young Guns

### Raffle Update



Hello Everybody, just an update on the Young Guns 2nd Annual Rifle Raffle. We went to the Sportsman's Warehouse and had great success on ticket sales. I made a \$495 deposit bringing us to a grand total of \$1115.00 in ticket sales. This takes us over the **"break even"** point! **WOOHOO!** Everything we make from here on out is money in the bank. I would like to thank Ken Taylor, Chaplain Dean, Larry Johnson, Marv Weaver, Jr., Dave & Becky Hall for all their help at these events. Let's keep up the GREAT work and if you need tickets, just give me a call at 682-478-9122. We have reservations again to sell raffle tickets on April 6th and 27th at Sportsman's Warehouse, and the Sertoma Gun Show at Rustic Hill Event Center May 3rd & 4th. We also presented the store manager, Lori, with a Certificate of Appreciation for their support in our efforts. Great job everybody! Look for the Flyer later in this edition of *The Centennial*. We still have members holding ticket/money to turn in, so let's keep up the GREAT work!

Rusty Bower  
Finance Officer





## From the Scout Coordinator John Brown

The Frontier District Volunteer Appreciation Dinner occurred and the results of the voting are in. Out of the over 35 awards handed out, our packs and troop won over half of them. Way to go team.

Rose Lowe, Troop 321 – Key Person Award  
Chris Burns, Pack 386 – Cubmaster Award  
Nancy Stepp, Pack 24 – Tiger Den Leader Award  
Rebecca Johnson, Pack 24 – Wolf Den Leader Award  
Steve Burton, Pack 24 – Bear Den Leader Award  
Jon Thompson, Pack 386 – Webelo Den Leader Award  
Judy Johnson, Pack 24 – Committee Chairman Award  
Joanna Snyder, Pack 24 – Committee Member Award  
Kim Newland, Pack 24 – Committee Member Award  
Jennifer Croak, Pack 386 – Key Person Award  
Noel Goggans, Pack 386 – Spirit of Scouting Award  
Skip Jenkins, Troop 321 – District Award of Merit

We have a great bunch of leaders leading a great bunch of scouts. If you know any of these people please congratulate them. They make Scouting go! If you are interested in knowing more about scouts or want to help, give me a call at 331-8160 or drop me an email at [jbiii@aol.com](mailto:jbiii@aol.com).

John Brown  
Scout Coordinator

**P.S. from the Post Commander:** John forgot to mention one other MAJOR award given out. John was recognized as a **recipient of the Silver Beaver Award!** It is the highest award a council can present. **Way to go John!** Thanks for all you do to mentor our young men. You make us look good!



## 759<sup>th</sup> Military Police and Centennial Post 209 *Sharing with those that are serving...*



We are continuing to work our special program. The 759<sup>th</sup> Military Police Battalion, Fort Carson, Colorado and the American Legion Centennial Post 209 have scheduled an event to help partnership in the community. It is a joint organizational day in observance of Loyalty Day (May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014).

The event is able to handle up to 50 attendees. We have about 10 members on the RSVP list, so please RSVP. We need to help our young soldiers understand our service to country.

The event is scheduled for May 21<sup>st</sup> from 11:30 to 3:30 at the Special Events Center at Fort Carson. The Family Readiness Group will provide food for a donation. There will be assistance provided to those members as needed.

The event will consist of an overview of the latest equipment and provide an opportunity for soldiers of the 759<sup>th</sup> MP BN to converse as well as see memorabilia from Post 209 members. There will be five stations to observe and engage. Stations include Weapons (M4; M203; M9; M249; M240), Night Vision devices, Communication equipment (ASEP; HARRIS; and HIIDE), military vehicles (M1151; ASV; MRAP; and MATV), and personal gear (ACH; IOTV; M40; Ruck Sack; and deployed gear).

Because it is on the Fort Carson installation, we require an RSVP. When you do, please provide the Era you served and Branch. We want to have a good attendance to support the 759<sup>th</sup> MP BN efforts.

RSVP today!! We need to confirm the total attendees soon. When you attend, please bring memorabilia and dress in American Legion attire. I truly hope to see many of you there. **RSVPs by calling (520) 784-3555, Gregory Smith, Senior Vice Commander or email [gregoryvedd@me.com](mailto:gregoryvedd@me.com).**



## From The SAL Commander Centennial Squadron 209

Rick Kettering

We have had many things going on with the Sons of The American Legion. One of them is our membership drive. Our goal was 52 members and I am glad to report that at the time this is being written we are at 55 for 2014. We don't want to stop. I know that many of the members of Post 209 are dual members; I would like to encourage any Post members that are eligible through their Father or Grandfather to think about joining Squadron 209. The dues are only \$20.00 per year and you can renew online or send a check or money order to PO Box 25334 Colorado Springs CO 80936-5334. If anyone has questions, please ask me or our Squadron Adjutant and we would be happy to provide any answers to your questions.

One of the many programs we are involved with is the Child Welfare Foundation and the Sons of The American Legion is a huge supporter of this program nationwide. Our Squadron committed ourselves to raise \$1000.00 for the 2013-2014 donation year ending in June this year. I am pleased to say that we achieved that already. We will be presenting the money at the Annual CWF Banquet on the 12<sup>th</sup> of April.

Another program we are involved with is our Young Guns Junior Shooting Program. This program teaches Boys and Girls from 10 to 18 the safe and proper use of firearms. After completing the course, the top shooters can join our Post match shooting team. We conduct the classes at Post 209. At this time we are full for the Spring class, but we will continue to accept applications for the Fall class. We are holding another gun raffle to support the Young Guns; the tickets are 1 for \$10.00 or 3 for \$25.00. We will be having the drawing on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of May at our Friday Fish Fry dinner. We would like to thank Sportsman's Warehouse for being a sponsor of this program. We also applied for a grant from the NRA and have been told that it has been approved; we received \$2,750.00 for our program so we will be getting new Rifles in time for the next class.

### **HERE COMES PETER COTTONTAIL!**

Our annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm at the Post for ages 1-12. This annual event is open to all members of Centennial Post 209 family members and their kids/grandkids/great grandkids. Please let Jackie Bowen know if you plan to join us and how many kids you are bringing (include their ages). And don't forget, we do not allow "drop offs" for the hunt. Please plan to stay and participate with your young one(s). We will be giving away small prizes for the most eggs collected.

**HAPPY EASTER!**



# AMERICAN LEGION POST 209 YOUNG GUNS 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL RIFLE RAFFLE

DRAWING MAY 23<sup>RD</sup> 2014  
\$10 PER TICKET 3 FOR \$25



**NEW IN THE BOX  
BROWNING .308 BLR  
TAKE DOWN LEVER ACTION RIFLE  
WITH REDFIELD VARIABLE SCOPE AND  
LEUPOLD MOUNTS**

**\*\*\*WINNER MUST PASS A COLORADO BACKGROUND CHECK\*\***



## The Historian Corner

It has been eight months since the Post 209 Facebook page was originally introduced. Since then, our Facebook page has steadily climbed up to 63 likes. We want to invite all of our members to like the **American Legion Centennial Post 209**. This forum serves as another way of sharing information and pictures of local events. Additionally, you can reach me at [al209historian@yahoo.com](mailto:al209historian@yahoo.com) or you can message the American Legion Centennial Post 209 Facebook page if

you have pictures or information you would like posted. Keep in mind that you can only give me pictures that you can personally authorize me to post, which normally means pictures of you or your family.

*Robert Johnson*



*\*\*Rusty Bower's new column to bring a little "salt" to the post.\*\**

## Origin of NAVY Terminology



### Drinking a Toast:

This term for drinking to one's health, or in one's honor was coined in early days along the water-fronts, when it was customary to place a small piece of toast in the hot toddy and the mulled wine, which was popular with Sailor's of the day.

Rusty Bower  
NAVY Senior Chief (Retired)



## From the Senior Vice Commander, Greg Smith; Membership is Our Legacy

Centennial Post 209 is excited and wants to share the news...We are at 917 members. Our goal was 789. As you can see, we are reaching out to the Veteran community to become the voice of our Veterans and their families. We are now the second largest Post in Colorado.

With this achievement, it necessary to ask that each member get involved with the Centennial Post and share with our family. Involvement can be by any method that works for you and your family; it can be a contribution, an hour or more of your time, or coming out each month and enjoy a cooked meal with others. Please get involved and continue to be part of the solution - Be the voice of our Veterans and those that have served our country. The more members that get involved, the more Veterans and their families we can help.

Our Post has now formed an American Legion Riders (ALR) Post 209 Post program. Please share the news and if you would like to "Ride for Veterans," read how to get involved with the ALR Post 209. It is a way to have comradeship and share with others the joy of riding. It is a Post program that includes the American Legion, Auxiliary, and Sons of the American Legion. If you ride, please help "Ride for Veterans" in the community and afar.

We have so many things to offer our members and their families, so please share the word of the American Legion and its Post programs. There are some 30 scheduled dinners served throughout the year to help build comradeship; there are over 35 general membership meetings held each year to discuss programs, community events, activities, and special topics; there are several family events each year to help bring smiles to the faces of our children and grandchildren. Get involved today. If you are interested and need help with membership, please call (719) 599-8624 or go to our website: [americanlegioncoloradosprings.org](http://americanlegioncoloradosprings.org).



## American Legion Riders (ALR) Post 209

ALR Post 209 is growing and looking for riders who want to "Ride for Veterans." We currently have 13 members. If you are interested, email [gregoryvedd@me.com](mailto:gregoryvedd@me.com).

Our meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month and start at 6:30 pm at the American Legion Centennial Post 209 in Colorado Springs, CO. Please come and explore what the riders want to do this year and how to get involved with the ALR Post 209.

The ALR Post 209 made its community announcement at the ALR "Biker Ball" on March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014 at Post 38 in Security, CO. Numerous riders and clubs throughout the Pikes Peak and the Front Range to include Denver and surrounding areas attended the "Ball." It was a great success for the ALR Post 38, and all monies raised were donated to the McCandless State Veterans Home in Florence.

On March 17<sup>th</sup>, the ALR Post 209 took a short ride to the Annual Show and Swap meet in Colorado Springs. After the ride, the ALR took a ride to Falcon for lunch and a time to share. The first ride was a success and demonstrated the excitement and enthusiasm amongst the riders of Post 209.

On March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2014 (General Meeting), the annual schedule was developed for the ALR Post 209. Our goal is to have a scheduled ride each month and some special rides as established by the Executive Board and general membership. Please get involved with the riders and show the community we "Ride for Veterans!"



## Post Officers 2013-2014

Office	Name	Telephone
Commander	Jay Bowen	719-574-1223
Sr. Vice Cdr	Greg Smith	520-784-3555
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	Rob Johnson	719-421-9201
Post Executive Committeeman	Neal Thomas	719-392-1510
Service Officer	C. "Gunny" Raines	719-597-4766
Judge Advocate	Chuck Zeitvogel	719-531-0546
Club Manager	Art Kimbrel	719-339-4610



## Auxiliary Officers 2013-2014

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	Kari Ann Smith	520-784-7193



## Sons of The American Legion 2013-2014

Office	Name	Telephone
Commander	Rick Kettering	813-967-6680
1st Vice Commander		
Adjutant	Ken Taylor	719-495-8190
Finance Officer	Rusty Bower	719-478-9122
Sgt-At-Arms	Don Shuck	719-575-0539
Chaplain	Chet Dean	719-244-2442
Historian	Eric Testorff	719-510-4177



## ALR Officers 2013-2014

Office	Name	Telephone
President	Andy Gilbert	719-231-6696
Vice President	Greg Smith	520-784-3555
Secretary	John Duenas	719-291-9733
Treasurer	Rusty Bower	682-478-9122
Sgt-At-Arms	Lino Calica	719-963-0956
Road Captain	Mike Barger	719-290-3218



## Centennial 209 Family Calendar of Events



1 May	Post Exec Mtg 6:30 pm
2 May	Hamdogger 6:00 pm
7 May	Young Guns 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm
10 May	Breakfast 9:00 am Legion/Auxiliary Meetings 10:00 am SAL Mtg 11:30 am <i>(Watch for this to possibly change!)</i>
16 May	Steak Night! 6:00 pm RSVP REQUIRED
17 May	L.E.A.D. Workshop; Post 209 8:00 am - 6:00 pm
23 May	Fish Fry 6:00 pm RSVP REQUIRED
24 May	District 7 Convention; Post 209 11:00 am
26 May	<b>Memorial Day!</b>
27 May	ALR Monthly Meeting 6:30 pm
5 Jun	Post Exec Mtg 6:30 pm
6 Jun	Hamdogger 6:00 pm
14 Jun	Breakfast 9:00 am Legion/Auxiliary Meetings 10:00 am SAL Mtg 11:30 am
19-22 Jun	Department Convention - Lamar
20 Jun	Steak Night! 6:00 pm RSVP REQUIRED
24 Jun	ALR Monthly Meeting 6:30 pm
27 Jun	Fish Fry 6:00 pm RSVP REQUIRED
3 Jul	Post Exec Mtg 6:30 pm
4 Jul	Hamdogger <b>CANCELLED Independence Day! PICNIC 1:00 PM</b>
12 Jul	Breakfast 9:00 am Legion/Auxiliary Meetings 10:00 am SAL Mtg 11:30 am
18 Jul	Steak Night! 6:00 pm RSVP REQUIRED
22 Apr	ALR Monthly Meeting 6:30 pm
25 Jul	Fish Fry 6:00 pm RSVP REQUIRED
1 Aug	Hamdogger 6:00 pm
7 Aug	Post Exec Mtg 6:30 pm
9 Aug	Breakfast 9:00 am Legion/Auxiliary Meetings 10:00 am SAL Mtg 11:30 am
15 Aug	Steak Night! 6:00 pm RSVP REQUIRED

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

~ April 2014 ~						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Young Guns 1830-2030 	3 Executive Committee Meeting 1830 hrs. 	4 	5
6	7	8	9 Young Guns 1830-2030 	10	11	12 Legion, SAL, Auxiliary Monthly Meetings 0900 hrs. B'fast 1000 hrs. Meetings 
13	14	15	16 Young Guns 1830-2030 	17	18 Good Friday! Steak Night 1800 hrs. RSVP Req'd 	19 Post Easter Egg Hunt! Ages 1-12; 1:00pm 
20 Happy Easter! 	21	22 ALR Post 209 Meeting 1830 hrs. 	23 Young Guns 1830-2030 	24	25 Fish Fry 1800 hrs. RSVP Req'd 	26
27	28	29	30 Young Guns 1830-2030 	Notes:		

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