

# The Centennial



VOLUME 54 EDITION 4

April 2017

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.legion209.org](http://www.legion209.org)



## From the Desk and Mind of the Commander

Mike Barger

As always, I'd like to start off by acknowledging all those who stepped up this last month and volunteered their time to the Post. That includes people from the Legion, Auxiliary, Sons and Riders. A big thank you from myself and the executive board goes out to you all.

Here are just a few dates in history that I found interesting to have fallen back on.

Following a vote by Congress approving a declaration of war, the US entered into World War I in Europe on April 6th, 1917. The American Legion became what it is today after World War I. On April 12, 1945, President Franklin D. Roosevelt died suddenly at Warm Springs, Georgia after suffering a cerebral hemorrhage. He had been President since March 4, 1933, the only President elected to four consecutive terms, and had guided America out of the Great Depression and through World War II. On April 14, 1986, US warplanes, on order from President Ronald Reagan, bombed the Libyan cities of Tripoli and Benghazi in retaliation for the April 5th terrorist bombing of a discotheque in West Berlin in which 2 American soldiers were killed. On April 19, 1995 at 9:02 am, a massive car bomb explosion destroyed the entire side of a nine story federal building in Oklahoma City, killing 168 persons, including 19 children inside a day care center. A decorated Gulf War veteran was later convicted of the attack.

April is elections month, so it's that time of year again to pick your leadership for this Post. All positions are up for grabs, so please feel free to put your name in for a position you desire to fulfill. Please send an email with your intentions to Bill Byrd at ([advisor1colo@yahoo.com](mailto:advisor1colo@yahoo.com)). You can apply for multiple positions, that way if you don't get elected for one, you may be elected for another. We can always use new blood to lead this Post into the future. It is my intentions to run for Commander again this year.

Folks, the light at the end of the tunnel is getting brighter, but we need to keep this train moving to break out into daylight. Please continue to work the membership drive as hard as you can. We only have 2 months left to reach our goal. It's that time of year, where getting those last few new members and members that are delinquent to renew, and we need all hands on deck, so we can reach magic number of 1026. Remember the story book *The Little Engine That Could?* If you keep saying "I think I can, I think I can" before you know it, you'll be saying "I thought I could, I thought I could," and we'll hit our numbers with plenty to spare.

On April 15th, our Post will be hosting the Department Commander Jay Bowen Homecoming. Social hour is at 5 pm, dinner at 6 pm, and festivities begin at 7 pm. Dinner will be Chicken Fried Steak and the cost will be \$10. All money raised will go to support the Commander's project, which is Crawford House. Please RSVP for this no later than April 13th. Easter this year is on April 16th, so make sure to hide them Easter eggs really good for your kids and grandkids, but make sure you remember where you hide them, so you don't find something months later, you don't want to see. On April 29th, our Post will be hosting the Department President Evelyn Espinosa Homecoming. This evening will be Casino Night and dinner will be Chicken Fettuccini and the cost is \$10. All money goes to support her project, which is also the Crawford House. Times are identical to the Department Commander's event.

With healthcare possibly changing this year, if you know someone (Veteran or non-Veteran) that doesn't have dental coverage, Post 209 has partnered with Pikes Peak Strategic Group, to offer discount dental plan. For only \$24.95 a month, they can get the basic plan that includes not only dental, but pharmaceuticals, chiropractic and vision. The Post gets \$9.98 for every one we get signed up. The Deluxe Plan for \$39.95, and the Post receives \$15.98 for everyone that signs up for it. More information can be found on our website [legion209.org/ameriplan](http://legion209.org/ameriplan).

*Reservations and RSVP go to Jackie Bowen (574-1223) [jackiebowen2005@yahoo.com](mailto:jackiebowen2005@yahoo.com)*



## From the Unit 209 President

Cathy Barger

HAPPY EASTER! Spring has arrived and April is going to be a busy month.

Don't forget elections will be held on April 8<sup>th</sup> during our monthly meeting.

Our Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held this year on SUNDAY, April 9<sup>th</sup> from 3 to 5pm. This is open to Post members and their families only. If you're able to help or have questions, please contact Cathy Barger or Kellie Hayes @ 719-494-7167 or [hayeskelliej@yahoo.com](mailto:hayeskelliej@yahoo.com).

Also in April we have 2 homecoming events happening at the Post. April 15<sup>th</sup> will be Department Commander Jay Bowen's Homecoming, with social hour beginning at 5pm, dinner at 6pm and entertainment at 7pm. April 29<sup>th</sup> will be Department Auxiliary President Evelyn Espinola's Homecoming, with social hour at 5 pm, dinner at 6 pm and entertainment at 7pm. Volunteers will be needed to help setup, cleanup and cook for both events. We need your help, so please contact Kellie Hayes or myself so that we can get you signed up!

I want to thank everyone for making our Butter Braid fundraiser a GREAT success. This is a steady fundraiser for us and helps make it possible for us to continue helping our Veterans.

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 \$200 for one girl. If you can't do a full sponsorship any amount will help. Girls State will be held on June 11-17, 2017 at UNC Greeley.

Our cookbook is coming along. Kellie Hayes and her helpers are steadily retyping all she has received to get them ready for publication. Thank you Kellie and helpers.

I would like to wish the following ladies a HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Rita Bivens, Marilyn Brinkley Cotter, Kristina Floyd, Celia Hamm, Renee Hedrick, Gloria Hill, Ilse Hoggemiller, Shirley Martin, Stephanie Moyer, Nikki Noonan, Linda Price, and Lois Wooton. Wish these ladies Happy Birthday when you see them.

Serving Our Veterans Proudly!

**Reminder there is no Hamdogger Dinner (4/7), no Auxiliary Dinner (4/14) and no Chef's Surprise dinner on (4/28) this month.**



## From the Adjutant

Marvin Weaver, Jr.

April is a busy month for the Post. We will be having a Homecoming for Department Commander Jay Bowen on April 15<sup>th</sup> starting with a social hour at 5pm, dinner at 6pm, and the program will start at 7pm. We also will be having a Homecoming for Department President Evelyn Espinola on April 29<sup>th</sup> with a social hour at 5pm, dinner at 6pm, and the program will start at 7pm. The Friday dinners on April 7<sup>th</sup> and April 14<sup>th</sup> have been canceled. We will be having our Post Elections at the General membership Meeting on April 8<sup>th</sup> and all positions will be up for election/appointment. If you want to run for a position and will not be at the meeting I need to have an email from you stating that you would like to serve and in which position.

We are doing well with membership this year but we still need about 80 more members (renewals and new) to reach our goal set by District. If you have a friend that is not a member yet talk with them and see about getting them signed up. Department still has the recruiting drive going that for every new member you recruit you and the new member are entered into a drawing for \$100 to be drawn on the membership target dates.

District 7 Convention will be on May 7<sup>th</sup> at Post 38 starting at 11am. We will have officers from Department to give updates on what is going on within the Department. We will also be having election of District Officers. Lunch will be provided for donation. Department Convention will be June 22 – 25 at Hotel Elegante here in Colorado Springs.

The Annual Report is submitted each year in May to tell our story and let Department and National know what we have done for the past year. This report is important because National uses the information to compile from all the Posts within the American legion to report to Congress what we have done to help Veterans and Children. What I need is for you to please list all the hours, mileage and money you have volunteered for the past year. If you are not sure where it may fall still let me know and I will report your hours in the proper area.



**Motorcycle Minute**  
Bob Caddell; President

Hello and good day from your Riders. I want to begin with acknowledgement of our former leaders, President Mr. Grand pa Andy Gilbert, Mike Barger, Vice President, Sergeant-at-Arms, Lino Calica, Communications Larry Johnson and Historian Dan Jean. Thank you gentlemen. Welcome to Steve Hayes, new VP, Tim McDowell Sergeant-at-Arms, Bob Manore, Historian and Chris Early, Communications. Welcome back Cathy Barger, Secretary, Grady Mitchel, Road Captain, and Rusty Bower, Finance.

As we embark on the new riding year I hope to see as many of the due's paying Riders attend what I think is a great schedule that Road Captain Grady Mitchel has assembled. Looks like a blast.

Speaking of paying dues, PLEASE renew your membership or make arrangements to turn in your back patch. I say turn in because when you submitted to being a Rider you accepted the By-Laws of the Riders and understood that you were RENTING the back patch. We should not have to have confrontations when it comes to standing up and honoring your word. Adults we are and adults we will be. Thank you.

The Bikers ball was held on the 4th of March and we had a good time. Thank you to all you volunteered to help out to get our yearly funds for McCandless Veterans home in Florence.

Grady has posted the ride schedule on the web page. We also have hard copies at each Riders meeting and Chris has sent it out in the weekly blast.

Speaking of meetings, I asked at our February meeting for input on possibly moving our meeting to a Saturday. I know people have many commitments that happen on the weekend so that is why I want feed back from the Riders, even maybe a Friday night? Please give input so we can get more involvement. I would like to see as many people there as possible.

I'm looking forward to taking the helm of Post 209 Riders and making it an adventure that you will be telling sea stories about.

First ride is scheduled for a fun run to Bents Old Fort down in Otero County on the 15 of April. Hoping to see a great turn out.



**From the Desk of**  
Bob Caddell; Jr. Vice Commander

April is upon us and that means we will be voting for new Leaders to plot the direction of Post 209. I will not be running for Jr. Vice this year as I have taken over the Presidency of the Post Riders.

I have been honored to work at bringing in speakers to the General Membership meetings. From Councilman Don Knight to a small Veteran owned business owner Rebecca Milner who supports the Riders with sun glasses for our functions, to donations to the general Post fund. My last speaker is involved with horses at the Pikes Peak Therapeutic Riding Center in Elbert CO. Thank you David Hall for the recommendation of Shannon Mitchel.

A year passes so quickly now that you don't realize that it has passed. Only time will tell if I have met the standard for which we set for our leadership. But I hope I have. Thank you; the membership of American Legion Post 209, for my time as JR. Vice. As this is my farewell it will be June before our new JV is at the helm. Please support whomever takes the position of JR. Vice. I know I will.

## Elections Are Coming!

The election of Post Officers is coming soon and all members are encouraged to participate. Please contact the nominating chairman, Bill Burd, if you are interested in running for any position. He can be reached at 719-330-1279 or email [advisor1colo@yahoo.com](mailto:advisor1colo@yahoo.com). IAW with Article III of our Post By-Laws, elections will be held during our April membership meeting. All Post positions are open for nomination, with the exception of the Service Officer and Judge Advocate, which are appointed by the Commander-elect and approved by the Post Executive Committee. We will also vote on a Board of Trustees position during the April meeting.

### Roles and Responsibilities of Officers Quick Overview

**Commander:** You are entrusted with the supervision of 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, minutes of meetings, checks up and assists with the work of the other Officers and Committees. You publish official orders; announcements and instructions.

**Senior Vice Commander:** Your primary concern is membership. No Post can survive with out good membership. You should also 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 our Post. The Commander will depend on you to provide programs that spice up the meetings and attract attendance. You should contact other Veteran and organizations so that each patriotic holiday and observance receives the deserved attention. You are concerned with the pageantry of the Legion. You must also be concerned with the welfare of Veterans and with Veteran's affairs and rehabilitation committees.

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

**Service Officer:** You should be a dedicated person and should have 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 to them by law. You must know how to utilize the expert services available through Legion channels as well as through local agencies. You should be ready to visit dependents upon a death of a service member. You may be called upon to serve as chair of Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Committee as well as working with children and youth committees or making hospital visits. 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. You should be ready to officiate when requested, at funerals of members. The Chaplain must also be ready to provide service to bereaved families of Post members.

**Sergeant-at-Arms:** You should know how to arrange the meeting hall, assist the Post Commander and Adjutant. You are the custodian of the Colors and in charge of Colors details during the 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 have the responsibility of preserving and compiling the records/photos (specifically through our Scrapbook and website) of our Post. You should try 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, which is entrusted with the government and management of the Post. You shall be responsible to represent the interests of the general membership to the Executive Committee.

**Judge Advocate:** You will supply professional advice in the conducting of the Post business or to procure 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.



# **DO YOU NEED ASSISTANCE FROM THE VA?**



**Help has Arrived**

**What?** Our American Legion Department Service Office will be in Colorado Springs the 4th Saturday of Every Month during most of 2017.

**Where?** Centennial Post 209 at 3613 Jeannine Drive.

**Time?** 9:00 am to 2:00 pm.

**Why?** To assist our local Veterans with Claims and to Provide Information Related to Their Medical Benefits.

## **FAQ:**

**Do I have to be a member of The American Legion?**

No. We Will Offer Assistance to Any Qualified Veteran.

**Do I need an Appointment?**

No, but it is Recommended. Call 303-914-5585 to Make an Appointment, but Walk-ins are Welcome.

**What Do I Bring?**

DD214, as well as the following that pertains to your situation: Marriage Certificate; Divorce Decree; Death Certificate; and any Civilian Medical Records.



**Tell your Veteran Friends and Neighbors!**





# The “REAL” Jay Bowen is Coming Home “Finally”



## Join Us for His Homecoming

**Why:** American Legion Department of Colorado Commander Jay has done a fantastic job this year and it is time to Celebrate!!

**When:** Saturday, April 15, 2017

**5:00 pm: Social Gathering**

**6:00 pm: Dinner**

***Chicken Fried Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Veggies and Dessert***

**7:00 pm: Program**

***MC's Tom Bock and Kristi Hensley***

**Where:** Neal Thomas Jr Centennial Post 209  
3613 Jeannine Dr., Colorado Springs, CO 80917

**Cost:** \$10.00/dinner

**RSVP:** To [jackiebowen2005@yahoo.com](mailto:jackiebowen2005@yahoo.com) by April 10, 2017

**Questions:** Contact Kellie Hayes, [hayeskelliej@yahoo.com](mailto:hayeskelliej@yahoo.com) 719-494-7167

***Donations go to support Jay's project, The Crawford House***

*Reservations and RSVP go to Jackie Bowen (574-1223) [jackiebowen2005@yahoo.com](mailto:jackiebowen2005@yahoo.com)*



## Junior Shooting Sports Update Ken Taylor, Chairman



The NRA Foundation has awarded another very generous grant to the Post 209 Young Guns program! We will receive 5 new Champions Choice compressed air rifles, a compressed air tank, three dozen pairs of shooting safety glasses, 5,000 pellets, and a .177 scoring gauge. The total dollar amount of this award is **\$3,669.14!**

This new equipment will be used by our participants in the NRA Marksmanship Program as well as the new shooters class. We would like to thank the **Colorado Springs Friends of NRA** and the **NRA Foundation** for their continued support of our program. **You're the best!!!**

The current Young Guns class has learned the three positions necessary for competitive shooting, standing, kneeling, and prone. The use of the rifle sling was introduced in week 5 to give more stability in the kneeling and prone positions. They will continue to hone their skills and compete in the class championship in week 8. All students are doing great and Graduation and Awards will be on April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017.



### From Squadron 209 Commander Ken Taylor

On Monday March 4, SAL Squadron 209 paid a visit to Laurel Manor Care Center. We visited the Veterans residing there and gave them thank you cards for their service to our country. Those present, were Commander Ken Taylor, Sr Vice Commander Marvin Weaver Jr, Adjutant Steve Wolford, and Chaplain Christopher Keith. We first paid a visit to former Post 209 Commander John Kovar.



John Kovar (3rd from Left) with SAL members Marvin Weaver, Jr. Ken Taylor, Steve Wolford.



Veteran Roosevelt & his dog, Lucky with Marvin Weaver Jr, Steve Wolford, and Ken Taylor.

John is always happy to see us and gave us a very warm greeting. The rest of the Veterans hallway was next where we visited each resident and talked about their experiences in the military. Another stop was the Memory Care Unit with several more Veteran residents. We had a great visit that was thoroughly enjoyed by both residents and SAL Members alike. The smiles say it all!



**From the Service Officer– April  
Lyle Hagelberg**

As I was thumbing through my most recent VFW magazine I came across the following article by Ray Kelley, Director, VFW Legislative Service. It gives some thoughtful ideas about why the Veterans Administration should not be privatized. It is believed President Trump likes the idea of privatization, but if you get a chance, read Kelley's article and keep an open mind. Here are the high points from his article.

**WHY ARE SOME ENTITIES PUSHING FOR VA PRIVATIZATION?**

It should come as no secret that the VA is in need of reform to address the ongoing access crisis within the VA health care system. These reforms must be based on the preferences and health care needs of the Veterans. Unfortunately, some politicians and politically motivated organizations are taking advantage of the crisis to recommend privatizing the VA health care system. If we are not careful, this could be used as an opportunity to make money by providing lower quality care for a higher cost to Veterans.

**WHAT IS THE VFW'S POSITION ON PRIVATIZATION?**

The VFW strongly opposes the notion of privatization because of the very likely disastrous and far-reaching effects it would have on the care Veterans receive (The American Legion shares this position and has led the effort to prevent privatization). Feedback highlights the positives and negatives of the current system, but one thing is very clear: Veterans want to improve the system, not eliminate it.

**PRIVATIZATION COULD NEGATIVELY AFFECT VETERANS' HEALTH CARE?**

Privatization would significantly reduce the overall quality of Veterans' health care. While the VA health care system has issues, independent studies have continuously found that the VA is equal to or better than private health care systems. Privatization would almost certainly result in more and more of the cost being passed on to Veterans. Nationally, Veterans are sicker, higher users of health care, and have less resources to pay for such care. The private sector is in the business of making a profit. In order to do so, private health care systems would be required to charge Veterans more than for the care they receive from the VA at a minimum or no cost. The private sector also lacks the expertise to care for Veterans' unique and specific health care needs, especially complex service-connected conditions.

**WHEN WILL THIS ISSUE BE RESOLVED?**

Several bills to improve VA health care without privatization have been introduced in Congress, but have failed to pass due to budget restrictions. Veteran groups are working closely with members of Congress to advocate for the improvement of the VA health care system, and we, like these other groups, are committed to ensuring that reforms are based on what Veterans have rightly earned.



**Yum, Yum, Eat'em up!!  
Butter Braid Sale**



Auxiliary fundraiser time again! Butter Braids are on sale. Tell your friends, neighbors, and your neighbors' friends about the sale. Orders must be made no later than April 8<sup>th</sup>. Delivery date is April 12<sup>th</sup>. Make checks payable to ALA Unit 209. The price is \$13.00 per Butter Braid and payment must be made before the delivery date. Call Jackie Bowen, (719) 574-1223, to place an order over the phone and then mail a check to her or discuss receipt of payment when you call. Thanks for supporting your Auxiliary.

**FLAVORS:**

Caramel Rolls (9 rolls), Cherry, Apple, Blueberry, Cinnamon, and Strawberry and Cream Cheese.



## From the Historian

Eric Testorff

How is it that an orthodontist would be found testifying at the Nuremburg trials, credited with becoming, in all probability, the first Navy SEAL - 20 years before the first SEAL team would be assembled?

At the start of World War II, Jack Taylor, DDS, swapped his dental scrubs for a Navy uniform. The new Lieutenant J.G. planned to teach boat-handling skills to American and Allied servicemen - a relatively safe occupation. Fate had other plans for Taylor, and they were way more exciting than pulling teeth or rigging sails.

Jack Taylor's military career began when he was ordered to serve with the OSS, or the Office of Strategic Services, in 1942. He then became the Chief of the OSS Maritime Unit, and that's where things became interesting. In the Maritime Unit, Taylor personally commanded 14 missions into the enemy-occupied Greek and Balkan coasts. He and his team delivered spies, weapons, explosives, and other supplies to friendly forces from September 1943 to March 1944. LTJG Taylor also commanded a land team in Central Albania around this time, escaping near-capture by enemy forces at least three times. For his valor, he received the Navy Cross.

After Taylor and his team were dropped into Austria during the "Dupont Mission," he and his men rallied Austrians sympathetic to the Allied cause, formed a network of cities and towns that would support them, and photographed German defense strategies and equipment. But this is where their luck ran out: Before the team could head to Italy to meet up with American troops, the group was captured on December 1, 1944, and sent to prison in Vienna before being transferred to Mauthausen, a camp that was notorious for its cruel treatment and deplorable living conditions. There, Taylor was jailed as a political prisoner, and watched as inmate after inmate was executed - a brutal reminder of what his own fate would surely be.

Taylor was nearly executed on two different occasions. In the first instance, a friend who worked in the office found his papers among a stack of to-be-executed prisoners and removed it, burning it before his superiors noticed it was gone.

Eventually, the Nazis realized Taylor had evaded his sentence, and scheduled a second execution. But just when it seemed that time had run out, the 11th Armored Division liberated the camp - only days before he would have been killed.

Later, at the famous Nuremburg trials, LTJG Taylor got the chance to tell the world what he and so many others had experienced under Nazi prison conditions. His testimony of the horrors of Mauthausen would lead to the conviction of all 61 camp personnel.



Orthodontist Jack Taylor had put on the Navy uniform, expecting to aid the war effort in some small way. In the end, he led the way for the SEALs who would come after him, and helped shape WWII history while becoming an American hero.



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

### Origin of NAVY Terminology

Rusty Bower



#### Keelhauled

To be keelhauled today is merely to be given a severe reprimand for some infraction of the rules. As late as the 19th century, however, it meant the extreme. It was a dire and often fatal torture employed to punish offenders of certain naval laws.

An offender was securely bound both hand and foot and had heavy weights attached to his body. He was then lowered over the ship's side and slowly dragged along under the ship's hull. If he didn't drown -- which was rare -- barnacles usually ripped him, causing him to bleed to death.

All navies stopped this cruel and unusual punishment many years ago and today any such punishment is forbidden.

## **Bringing a Little South to the West**

By Past Post Commander Jay Bowen

I start this article with an emphatic, "I love the Pentecostal religion and the church!" I'm not a member of the Pentecost faith, but I grew up attending a small country Assembly of God church in Arkansas. I'm Southern Baptist now.

I believe I've mentioned in previous writings that my mother's parents lived on a farm outside the little Arkansas town of Cherry Valley. MawMaw and PawPaw were devout Pentecost and attended Feltner Assembly of God Church down a gravel road a few miles outside of town. If you visited on a Wednesday or Sunday, you had to plan on attending church with them...and right up to the time I left home to join the US Army, most weekends were spent visiting with both sets of grandparents. Fortunately, they didn't live too far from each other so that made visiting much easier.

The church was a small, wooden framed structure. The Worship Hall was like most; a long room with long wooden pews in two columns and about 15 rows. That was plenty of seating for the 30 or so regular members. The seats didn't have cushioning, so many of the older members (which comprised the majority of congregation) brought a seat cushion. As a child, and even when I grew to be a teenager, sitting on a wooden bench wasn't that uncomfortable.

There was no air conditioning in the church, but they had plenty of windows on both sides of the room that created a nice air flow during the humid summer months. My grandparents, like most of the congregation also had hand-held cardboard fans with advertisements from the local Ben Franklin 5 and dime, cotton gin, a wannabe candidate running for office, or some other business establishment. During the summer you could look around the room and see arms flopping and fans waving throughout the sermon.

Speaking of sermons, they were always fascinating. They would typically last anywhere from about 45 minutes to 2 hours, depending on who, when and for how long someone would "get caught up in the spirit," stand and start speaking in tongues. You never knew when it would happen, but I don't recall a single visit to that church when it didn't happen to at least one person and at some point. When it did, the Pastor would stop his sermon, often in mid-sentence and wait until the soulful testimony ended. For someone not accustomed to this practice, it could be pretty scary. The sounds emanating from the lips of the speaker was of a language no one in the room understood, and probably not meant for their ears anyway.

The first time Jackie went with me to visit my grandparents on a Sunday we were dating and our relationship was still pretty new. I don't think this was the time I ran out of gas twice, but I can't say that for certain. She was very aware that because we visited them on Sunday, we would be attending church. I don't believe I told her much about the church prior to going, but it really would not have mattered.

I don't think I'll ever forget that day. We sat with my grandparents on the right side of the church, just a few rows from the front (unlike Baptists, the Pentecost folks seemed to start filling the pews from the front toward the back). I was on Jackie's left and my grandmother was seated to her right. Directly behind Jackie sat the Pastor's mother. She was a very dear and sweet lady, probably 5'10" and about 225 pounds. She never missed her son's Sunday service.

About mid-way through the sermon on that bright summer day, the Pastor's mother stood up and began speaking in tongues. She would raise her arms high above her head as she spoke and then she would slap the back of our pew as if to punctuate some phrase that was incoherent to the congregation.

Back in those days, Jackie had long blond hair that draped over the back of the pew. I think she did that so as not to pull her hair when she would turn or look down. This was probably a big mistake. Every time the Pastor's mother would slap the back of our pew, she would pick the very spot that Jackie's hair laid across and she would grab a handful of long blond hair. This made Jackie's head "snap" up and down sharply with every slap. In those days, I was not the refined and composed person I am today so I busted out laughing. I was trying to cover the laughter with my hands because someone speaking in tongues is definitely not a laughing matter, but watching Jackie's head jerking up and down was hilarious. My grandmother either didn't see it happening or ignored it. But after church that day, I did get chastised for laughing during the most solemn part of the service. I think Jackie had a headache for a couple of days following that event and she was very careful on all other visits to pick a seat nowhere near the Pastor's mother.

While I have many fond memories of my visit to that little country church: the inspirational sermons; the good ole gospel music always accompanied by a church member on his guitar, someone thumping on a bass, and another member playing the drums; as well as the wonderful people who attended the church on a regular basis; none of those memories compare to that Sunday morning service where Jackie was introduced to the Feltner Assembly of God Church. I wonder if whoever invented the bobble head doll was there that day. Hmm.



## Post Officers 2016-2017

Office	Name	Telephone
Commander	Mike Barger	719-290-3218
Sr. Vice Cdr	Lino Calica	719-963-0956
Jr. Vice Cdr	Bob Caddell	719-393-5180
Adjutant	Marvin Weaver, Jr.	719-244-3535
Finance Officer	Rusty Bower	719-649-0654
Chaplain	Paul R. Darrow	719-237-4461
Sergeant-at-Arms	Stan "Sgt. Ski" Krasin-ski	719-556-8326
Historian	Eric Testorff	719-510-4177
Post Exec. Cmtee	Gregory Smith	520-784-3555
Service Officer	Lyle Hagelberg	719-231-2364
Judge Advocate	Larry Johnson	719-230-0232
Club Manager	Art Kimbrel	719-339-4610
Honor Guard Capt.	Jeremy Boltjes	218-831-0475



## ALR Officers 2017-2018

Office	Name	Telephone
President	Bob Caddell	719-393-5180
Vice President	Steve Hayes	719-494-7166
Secretary	Cathy Barger	719-290-3163
Treasurer	Rusty Bower	719-649-0654
Sgt-At-Arms	Tim McDowell	719-510-9907
Road Captain	Grady Mitchell	719-201-3353



## Auxiliary Officers 2016-2017

Office	Name	Telephone
President	Cathy Barger	719-290-3163
Vice President	Pat Weaver	719-638-4763
Secretary	Lynn Thomas	719-392-1510
Treasurer	Kellie Hayes	719-494-7167
Chaplain	Jackie Burd	719-590-6615
Sergeant-At-Arms	Donna Testorff	719-510-4567
Historian	Donna Rae Smith	815-973-0073



## Sons of The American Legion 2016-2017

Office	Name	Telephone
Commander	Ken Taylor	719-761-4047
Sr. Vice Commander	Marv Weaver	719-244-3535
Jr. Vice Commander	Rick Kettering	813-967-6680
Adjutant	Steve Wolford	920-264-4238
Finance Officer	Rusty Bower	719-649-0654
Sgt-At-Arms	Steve P. Cox	970-580-8191
Chaplain	Christopher Keith	719-382-7845
Historian	Eric Testorff	719-510-4177

April 2017						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 Honor Guard Mtg/Tng 6:00pm 	4	5	6 Executive Committee Meeting 6:30pm 	7 <b>CANCELLED!</b> Hamdogger 6:00pm 	8 \$8.50 Breakfast Membership Meeting Breakfast - 9:00am Meeting - 10:00am <b>ELECTIONS!</b>  
9 Easter Egg Hunt 3:00pm - 5:00pm Legion Family Members ONLY Please	10	11	12 Butter Braids Delivered Today!	13	14 Good Friday Dinner Event Cancelled	15 \$10.00 Dinner Department Commander's Homecoming! 5:00pm RSVP for Dinner 
16 Easter	17 Tax Day (Taxes Due) Honor Guard Mtg/Tng 6:00pm ALR Executive Board 6:00pm  	18	19	20	21 \$14.50 Meal Steak Night! - 6:00pm. RSVP Required!   	22
23 World Immunization Week	24	25 ALR Monthly Meeting 6:30pm. Social 5:30pm SAL 6:00pm  	26 Administrative Professionals	27	28 Dinner Event Cancelled	29 \$10.00 Dinner Department President's Homecoming! 5:00pm RSVP for Dinner 
30	Notes: Butter Braids Sale Ends 8 April!					

May 2017						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Honor Guard Mtg/Tng 6:00pm 	2	3	4 Executive Committee Meeting 6:30pm 	5 Price Varies with order Hamdogger 6:00pm 	6
7	8	9	10	11	12 \$9.00 Meal ALR Dinner - 6:00pm RSVP Required! 	13 \$10.50 Installation & Banquet Installation - 5:00pm Dinner - 6pm  
14 Mother's Day	15 Honor Guard Mtg/Tng 6:00pm ALR Executive Board 6:00pm  	16	17	18	19 \$14.50 Meal Steak Night! - 6:00pm RSVP Required!   	20 Armed Forces Day
21	22	23 ALR Monthly Meeting 6:30pm. Social 5:30pm SAL 6:00pm  	24	25	26 \$10.50 Meal Chef Surprise! - 6:00pm RSVP Required!   	27
28	29 Memorial Day	30	31	Notes:		

June 2017						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Executive Committee Meeting 6:30pm 	2 Price Varies with order Hamdogger 6:00pm 	3
4	5 Honor Guard Mtg/Tng 6:00pm 	6	7	8	9 \$9.00 Meal Aux. Dinner RSVP Required! 6:00pm  	10 \$8.50 Breakfast Membership Meeting Breakfast - 9:00am Meeting - 10:00am  
11	12	13	14 Flag Day  US Army Birthday! 242 Years!	15	16 \$14.50 Meal Steak Night! - 6:00pm RSVP Required!   	17
18 Father's Day	19 Honor Guard Mtg/Tng 6:00pm ALR Executive Board 6:00pm  	20	21 Summer Solstice	22	23 Chef Surprise! CANCELLED!	24
		Department Convention; Elegante Hotel, Colorado Springs				
25 Dept. Convention	26	27 ALR Monthly Meeting 6:30pm. Social 5:30pm SAL 6:00pm  	28	29	30	Notes: