



CENTENNIAL 209 NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 25334, Colorado Springs, Co 80936-5334
719-599-8624

JUNE 2003



From the Commander
Charles Zeitvogel

Membership. Renew your membership today if you have not already done so for this year. Active membership is key to The American Legion success as it is in any organization. At the local level you are a most important member. Are you aware of the many accomplishments of The American Legion since its inception? There are far too many to go over here, but to name a few, think of the Veterans Administration, GI Bill for Home Loans and Education as well as the many youth and community programs sponsored. Call our Adjutant Ann Foster (599-8624) or the Commander (531-0546) if you have questions. Thanks!

This is Important: An important article concerning the 7.4 - acre lot Post 209 owns appears later in this newsletter. Give it your careful attention. Your comments on issues discussed are needed. Contact Bill Marshall or Neal Thomas by phone or letter concerning these issues. Their phone numbers are in the article.

Officers Installation. Installation of officers for the 2003 - 2004 service year was conducted May 17th. We congratulate these officers and wish them well in their service to Post 209 this coming year. Also, many thanks to the officers who served so well this past year. We owe them our gratitude!

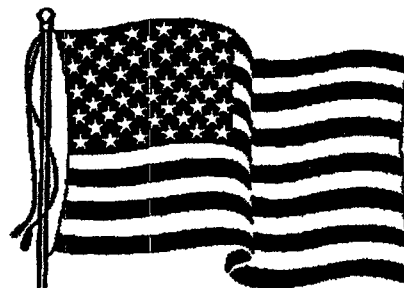
Members' Skills Bank. The collection of professional & skills information from members was started two months ago. This is an on going project. We need to hear from all our members to

make this a successful project. The idea is to list by subject the different professions and skills that members have and are willing to share for our common good. It is something for our internal use so that if a member or the Post needs to get something done we can turn to one another for assistance. It is a win - win situation for members as the more members willing to share their talents, the better the use of the Skills Bank. Call the office (599-8624) or my home phone (531-0546) with your information.

Department Convention. The American Legion Department of Colorado convention will be held at the Sheraton Hotel on South Circle Drive June 26 -30. Members and guests are welcomed and urged to attend as many sessions as their schedules allow. This is a great time to take part in the direction that you would like to see The American Legion go. Detailed information is available by calling Post 209. Leave a message with questions and one of your officers will call you back.

Blue Star / Gold Star Banner Program. Families that have members serving in the military may display the Blue Star Banner. Families that have lost a member in the military may display the Gold Star Banner. Call the Post if you would like to obtain one of these banners.

It's not how many good ideas one has that counts - it's how many that one puts into practice that counts. Unknown



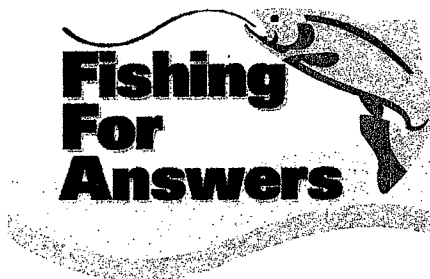
Some Dates of Interest

1 Jun	American Legion Post 1980 Woodland Park – PIG ROAST – Thunderhead Inn – 2:00 P.M. \$7.00 per person
5 Jun	Board of Trustees Mtg – 4291 Austin Bluffs Pkwy Ste 104 – 6:30 P.M. Executive Committee Meeting Follows
14 Jun	Flag Day – Flag Retirement Services – More information to follow
19 Jun	Membership Meeting – VFW Post 4051 – 430 E. Pikes Peak Ave – 7:00 P.M.
26-29 Jun	Department Convention – Sheraton Hotel, South Circle Dr. and I-25
4 Jul	Independence Day – Have Fun and Be Safe
3 Jul	Board of Trustees Mtg – 4291 Austin Bluffs Pkwy Ste 104 – 6:30 P.M. Executive Committee Meeting Follows
17 Jul	Membership Meeting – VFW Post 4051 – 430 E. Pikes Peak Ave – 7:00 P.M.
7 Aug	Board of Trustees Mtg – 4291 Austin Bluffs Pkwy Ste 104 – 6:30 P.M. Executive Committee Meeting Follows
8-10 Aug	BAR-B-Q Festival in support of Christmas Unlimited
17 Aug	Post and Unit 209 Picnic
21 Aug	Membership Meeting – VFW Post 4051 – 430 E. Pikes Peak Ave – 7:00 P.M.

June 19th General Membership Meeting

Sherry Brown, Vice President and West Regional Development representative of Colorado, will be the guest speaker. The purpose of National Regional Leadership is to provide support for and education about the Washington Cathedral, its goals and purpose, through the National Cathedral Association.

Time and place will be in the June newsletter.



Post and Unit 209 Picnic

The Post picnic will be held on Sunday, August 17th at the post property at the corner of Austin Bluffs and Old Farm Road starting at 9 a.m. Lunch will be around noon. Please bring a favorite covered dish to serve at least ten and non-alcoholic drinks. Larry Johnson will have the grill available to anyone who wants to cook hot dogs, hamburgers, chicken or whatever.

We ask that you bring folding tables and chairs for everyone in your party. There will be a port-o-let at the site.

If you wish to bring horseshoes, badminton, volleyball, baseball or softball equipment, Frisbees, or other outdoor games, please feel free to do so.

If weather does not permit, we will reschedule.



From Past Commander
Francis Redington

Flag Retirement Ceremony:

On June 14, 2003 "Flag Day", The American Legion Post 209 will conduct a Flag Retirement Ceremony According to the Manual of Ceremonies for The American Legion.

This ceremony will take place on the property of Post 209 located on the corner of Austin Bluffs Parkway and Old Farm Road at 4:00 P.M.

If you have any torn, tattered or otherwise unserviceable flags, please contact Past Commander Francis Redington at 719-471-3925 to arrange a time and place for turn in.

This ceremony will be open to the public.

HOW TO GET YOU INVOLVED

Post 209

2002-2003 OFFICERS

Commander	Chuck Zeitvogel
Sr. Vice Cdr.	Norman Moyer
Jr. Vice Cdr.	Greg Andries
Adjutant	Ann Foster
Finance Officer	Gideon Diamon
Historian	Bill Marshall
Sergeant at Arms	Robert Rydell
Chaplain	Howard Hornik
Judge Advocate	Larry Johnson
Service Officer	Tom Morant
Post Exec Committeeman	Neal Thomas
DUES	\$ 30.00

Auxiliary Unit 209 Officers 2002-2003

President	Dot Dassero
Secretary/Treasurer	Barbara Johnson
Chaplain	Marcia Shellhammer
Sergeant at Arms	Ruth Hornik
DUES	\$ 15.00

MEETINGS

**Board of Trustees – 1st Thursday 6:30 P.M. at
4291 Austin Bluffs Pkwy Ste. 104**

Executive Committee Meeting to follow

**Post Membership Meeting – 3rd Thursday @
7:00 P.M. VFW Post 4051, 430 E. Pikes Peak Ave**

Chairman (3 yr)	Neal Thomas
Secretary (2 yr)	Alton Cyriaque
Finance Officer (1 yr)	Gideon Diamon
Commander (1 yr)	Charles Zeitvogel
Member (3 yr)	Larry Johnson
Member (2 yr)	Francis Redington
Member (1 yr)	Ann Foster
Meets on the 1 st Thursday before the Post Executive Committee Meeting at 4291 Austin Bluffs Pkwy Ste 104.	

Membership Eligibility Dates

World War I April 6, 1917 – 11 November 1918
World War II December 7, 1941 – December 31, 1946
Korean War June 25, 1950 – January 31, 1955
Vietnam War February 28, 1961 – May 7 1975
Grenada & Lebanon August 24, 1982 – July 31, 1984
Panama December 20, 1989 – January 31, 1990
Persian Gulf August 2, 1990 – Until the end of hostilities as set by Congress

Committees

Planning/Budget and Public Relations	Chuck Zeitvogel 719-531-0546
Membership	Norman Moyer 719-392-3725
Program and Social Activities	Greg Andries 719-636-3346
Americanism/Youth/ Scouting/Jr. ROTC and Marksmanship	Francis Redington 719-471-3925
Boys State and Oratorical Contest	Bill Marshall 719-495-0088
Legislative and National Security	Neal Thomas 719-392-1510
Veterans Affairs	Tom Morant 719-570-0843
Rehabilitation	Howard Hornik 719-596-6345
(Club) Land Use, Care and Development	Greg Andries 719-636-3346
ADHOC	COMMITTEES
Constitution and By-Laws	Neal Thomas 719-392-1510
Property Inventory Office Storage	Ann Foster 719-599-8624 Larry Johnson 719-622-0344
Donation Request	Neal Thomas 719-392-1510
Auxiliary Liaison	
Sons of The American Legion	Larry Johnson 719-622-0344

State Oratorical Contest Big Success. – Bill Marshall

This year Post 209 sponsored three contestants; Kristine Burton, Home Schooled; Ryan Brown, Sand Creek H. S. and John Deniston, Colorado Springs Christian H.S. John advanced to the semifinals and received a \$500 scholarship.

36 students were certified to participate (most ever).

32 students were present at the contest (most ever).

Three semifinalists advancing to the finals finished accordingly:

Third Place: \$1500, Travis Whittsit, Rocky Mt. H. S., Post 4

Second Place: \$2000, Meredith Mackenzie, Monarch H. S., Post 111

Champion: \$2500, Will represent Colorado at Nationals, Christine, Brady, Highlands Ranch H. S., Post 103

Congratulations to all of these fine young men and women. We can be proud of all the contestants and know they will make a great contribution to this country.

**We
NEED
Your
HELP**



Benefit for "Operation Back to School"

Operation Back to School, Holiday Toy distribution, Prescription Plush and Earn-A-Bike is a part of Christmas Unlimited.

Operation Back to School raises money for student's within District 11 and a couple of others who can't afford supplies for school.

Earn-a-Bike is for at risk kids. Some of these kids are not allowed to drive a vehicle. They get the opportunity to refurbish two bikes and they get to keep one of them.

Prescription Plush is a program for the mature adult in Nursing Homes who have no one visiting them. Plush toys are collected and the residents are given an opportunity to choose one.

As stated above they will be doing a Bar-B-Q Festival on Friday 8 August through Sunday, 10 Aug 2003.

Holiday Toy Distribution allows kids who are cash challenged to pick out a toy for the sisters and brothers and maybe something for Mom and Dad.

To raise money they are having a BBQ Festival 8 to 10 Aug at the Chapel Hills Mall. Some of the officials from Kansas City BBQ Society will be there to conduct the contest.

Anyone can compete all it takes is a \$ 150.00 for a participation sight.

They have a website that you can go to and see it is www.pikespeakbbqfestival.org. You can also go to www.christmasunlimited.org for further information.

Important Letter To Post 209 General Membership

The following will be discussed at the **General Membership Meeting, June 19, 2003:**

A. On April 28, 2003, Post Commander Chuck Zeitvogel and Property Committee Chairman Bill Marshall met with Colorado Springs City Planning Department and Public Works City Engineering personnel to discuss the Post property at Austin Bluffs Parkway and Old Farm Rd. Meeting results:

1. The property is **NOT PLATTED**.
2. An estimate to have the property platted to include, but not limited to; drainage fee, filing fee, planning fee, park dedication fee and school impact fee, plus cost to have the drainage study done is \$45,000-\$50,000.
3. All fees are paid upfront.
4. The cost for sewage, power, gas, drainage, and phone is estimated at \$60,000.

B. The property was appraised by Park and Associates on September 19, 1999, with an approximate value of \$2.00/SF, total estimated value, \$643,000. Today's approximate value is \$3.00/SF, total estimated value, \$1,200,000.

C. At the Post Executive Committee meeting May 1, 2003, the above items were discussed and it was concluded that it is not cost effective to have the property platted unless the membership decides to build a post home on it.

D. Based on paragraphs A-C, there are several options for the property that the membership must decide on:

1. Sell the property and use the proceeds to purchase a building for a post home.
2. Divide the property, sell part, and use the proceeds to build a post home on the remaining parcel.
3. Lease and let the lessee build to suit its needs. Use the revenue to acquire a building for a post home and have a continuing source of income.
4. Sell the property and take the note with no less than \$500,000 in cash, thereby providing income to acquire a building and revenue to continue operating.
5. Exchange the property for an already existing building for a post home with the expressed understanding that we must come out in the BLACK in order to have funds for fix-up and operating costs in the out-years.
6. Do nothing and continue to pay taxes.

E. It is imperative that all members attend the meeting on **June 19th** to discuss and vote on this vital issue. Whoever attends this meeting will be deciding the future of Post 209, which is dependent on the resolution of the property issue.

Bill Marshall
719-495-0088

Neal Thomas
719-392-1510



For God and Country

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

THE AMERICAN LEGION
CENTENNIAL POST 209
P.O. BOX 25334
COLORADO SPGS CO 80936-5334

PERMIT NO. 192

COLORADO SPGS CO

PAID

U.S. POSTAGE

ORGANIZATION

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