

The Centennial



VOLUME VIII EDITION 6

June 2018

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From the Desk and Mind of the Commander

Mike Barger

I'd like to thank all those that have volunteered their time doing what they do. Without our volunteers, we would not be a successful Post. We can always use more volunteers, so please don't hesitate to come down and help. Even if it's just an hour a month.

I'd like to acknowledge a few folks that were instrumental in helping me take over this venture of being your Post Commander for the last 2 years, and doing the best that I could. First off, Jay Bowen. He is the driving force that convinced me to take on this task, even though I told him that I didn't feel I had it in me to do this, but he assured me that all the members would do what they needed to ensure that I would not fail at this. If it wasn't for him, I wouldn't have even considered doing it. Second, I'd like to thank Chuck Zietvogel. He was instrumental in his talks to me that we needed to ensure we had the younger generation step and lead this Post. Third, I'd like to thank my wife and the current President of the Auxiliary, Cathy Barger. She agreed with me, that if I'd take on this challenge, she would do the same for the Auxiliary. Although I'm stepping down as Commander, she'll be doing a third year as the Auxiliary President. Fourth, I'd like to thank all those that I've met on a personal basis and who stuck with me throughout this adventure. I may not be the go to person with all the answers to questions about the Legion, but I've sure learned a lot from all of you. I really didn't realize how passionate most of you are about helping Veterans, and that's our key objective, along with supporting the Pillars the American Legion is built on. For those that can come to the Post for the monthly membership meeting, I can see the passion in your eyes, and that's what keeps me going. I'll be moving on to be the Commander of District 7, which I feel optimizes what the Legion is all about. We have some great Posts in this District, and I assure you I'll do everything in my power to continue to make District 7 the best it can be.

One last item I'd like to touch on, and that is still the need for our members to help this Post when it comes to keeping us solvent. I know I've asked every single month while I've been Post Commander, and I'm asking one more time. I don't like having to ask, for I know everyone has things to spend money on, and the Post is not one of those things. We're spending \$4 for every \$1 we take in, and at that rate we could see the doors on this Post closing sooner than I was originally preaching; and that could be 2 to 3 years tops. We only get \$9 for every membership signup or renewal, the other \$36 goes to Department and National. Other than that, we live off the funds we make off the raffle tickets we sell, the dinners we host and Post rentals, and with all that added together, we still need approximately \$20,000 to keep this Post running a year. Now you know why I keep asking for your assistance in donations. We have a small number of members, less than 15, that make monthly donations, and it's greatly appreciated. I'd really like to see that bump up to a larger number of members. We take donations by PayPal online, and by check/cash here at the Post. We're a Post of 1052 members and counting, and if we could get every member to donate \$5 a month, we would keep this Post in the black, with a nice little overhead to continue to help those Veterans in our community in a time of need. Remember, we're here to support those in need, and we do a great job of it. But there are times when we must turn those away because we don't have the funds to assist. There's a Legion Post in a small-town of 1000 plus people in Pennsylvania, whose projected income to the Post this year will be over \$300,000, and there's other Legion Posts in the surrounding communities. Let that sink in for a little while. Ask yourself, what are they doing we aren't?

It's been a great run for me, and I'd like to thank you all for your support during my time as Commander.

Reservations and RSVP go to Jackie Bowen (574-1223) jackiebowen2005@yahoo.com



From the Unit 209 President

Cathy Barger

Ladies, again thank you all for the support you have given me this year. This last year has been a busy one and I look forward to working alongside you all this coming year. Thank you to all of the ladies the have stepped up and served in a position. It was a great turnout for the Dinner and Installation of the Post/Unit 209 Officers and District 7 Legion/Auxiliary Officers on May 12, 2018.

Our next meeting, is June 9th at 10am. Plan on coming down and enjoy a warm breakfast before the meeting starts. Breakfast begins at 9am. Remember to look at the calendar for the various dinners that the Post hosts. It is a great time with great food and great friends!

Don't forget the Healing Warriors are at the Post every fourth Saturday of each month, from 9 am to 1 pm; last client is seen at 12:30 pm. They treat Veterans, their spouses and children at no cost, donations are welcome.

Annually, we go to McCandless VA Nursing Home (August) in Florence for an Ice Cream Social and to Pueblo VA Nursing Home (Sept) for All Activities Day. More information in up coming newsletters.

Happy Birthday to the following: Dominique Attarian, Katherine Barger, Becky Hall, Carol Jean, Jaye Larsen, Reylicia Martinez, Evelyn Muckelrath, Janice Marie Sanders, Sue Shuck, June Swearingen, Donna Testorff, Cheryle Wash, and Sydney Weaver.

Still Serving Our Veterans Proudly!

Note: Auxiliary will be hosting the dinner for June, the cost is \$9 dinner. Please come down and support the Auxiliary, and make sure to RSVP to Jackie Bowen (574-1223) jackiebowen2005@yahoo.com.



From the Adjutant

Marvin Weaver, Jr.

The Consolidated Post Report (Annual Report) has been submitted and I can tell you that we continue to do a lot to help out our fellow Vets, our community and our children. Keep up the good work!! We still have more to do before the year is over and Department Convention is coming up.

Department Convention will be June 21 – 24 at the Hotel Elegante here in Colorado Springs. We have quite a few topics to discuss at Convention; it will definitely be a busy and informative time. If you want to see what has been going on within the state this year, make plans to attend.

July 1st starts the new membership year and National will be mailing out renewal notices the last week of June. We do not send out the notices, they are all generated from National. Once we receive your payment we process your renewal to Department. Department processes the renewal and sends it to National. You can see this takes some time and sometimes does not make it to National before the next round of mailings. One way to keep from getting multiple renewal notices is to send in your payment once you receive the notice.

Thanks for everything you have done to help our Post!



Rusty Bower's column to bring a little "salt" to the Post.

Origin of NAVY Terminology

Rusty Bower



Boat:

Boats list (lean to the inside of a turn), Ships heel (lean to the outside of a turn). "Turn to Port, heel to Starboard" Word passed from the bridge to Primary Flight Control, indicating a turn and to warn the flight deck crew of deck angle changes.

It is also a water craft small enough to be carried on a ship (ships themselves may only be called boats by members of the crew who have completed a deployment).

Lastly, it can be a submarine (submarines are called boats, with only limited exceptions).



From the Sr. Vice Commander
Eric Testorff

I have a couple of items to offer our Neal Thomas Jr.-Centennial newsletter readers for June:

One is an opportunity for our members to model patriotism, love of country and love for our Flag. As Senior Vice Commander, one of my duties is to promote the honoring of the Flag of our country. What better way than to help provide Flags to some of our area schoolchildren. I have it on good authority, (our Post Adjutant,) that James Irwin Charter School is completing construction of some new classrooms; classrooms that will each need a US Flag up front at the chalkboard. If you would like to donate to our Flag fund for James Irwin, please see me, Rusty Bower or Marvin Weaver, Jr.

The second item is also in the category of Honoring the Flag. As you probably know, Post 209 has an Honor Guard made up of some great Veterans who donate their time and efforts towards not only providing Final Military Honors to our departed brothers and sisters, but also honoring our Flag at conventions, parades, ceremonies and in our schools. These Veterans and members of Post 209 are currently hard at work, practicing a routine to represent Post 209 later in June: The Department of Colorado State Convention will hold its inaugural Color Guard contest at 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 21, 2018 at the Elegante Hotel, Colorado Springs, in Salon A of the Convention Center. Why not come out and cheer on your Post 209 team, as they compete with other Colorado Color Guards and post the Colors of our nation. We welcome your support!



Change to the Newsletter Calendar

We listen to our readers (well, we try). Recently, we have been asked to consider listing our Post-related events in bullet form instead of in a calendar that is difficult for some to read because the font is so small.

Beginning with this issue, we have replaced the calendars at the end of the Centennial Newsletter with a list of events in bullet format.

Take a look at the new way we are announcing what we are doing and let us know your thoughts. Is this better? Is it easier to read?

Do you have any other thoughts on what we could do to make this newsletter a better periodical?

We want to hear from you. Send us a Letter to the Editor.



Motorcycle Minute
Grady "K-Bar" Mitchell; President

I want to start by thanking the Post 209 family for their support at last month's ALR Dinner. The proceeds of the dinner were donated to John Sanders, one of our Riders, to help in his recovery after his accident. Thanks to your generosity we were able to present them \$1000. Well done 209!

The Run for the Wall came through Colorado Springs last month and we were privileged to be able to assist Post 38 with their Luncheon for the Riders. Having been on the Run in the past, I can report that Riders appreciate all the efforts of those who support them at their breaks.

We've got a good month coming up, starting with Post 2008's Falcon Freedom Ride, then the ALR Legacy Pony Express. We'll hold our own High Country Run on the 9th, and end the month with the Tejon Street Bike Fest. Plus, there will be plenty of chances to get out and get the wind in our faces.

Until next time, keep the rubber side down, and be safe out there.



From SAL Squadron Commander Ken Taylor

SAL Detachment of Colorado Senior Vice Commander Ron Noakes was on hand to swear in the newly-elected officers of Neal Thomas Jr.-Centennial Squadron 209. The installation was on the night of May 12th, 2018 at Post 209.

Those pictured are:

Outgoing Commander, Ken Taylor
Installation Officer, Ron Noakes
Commander, Stan Krasinski
Vice Commander, Eric Testorff
Finance Officer, Rusty Bower
Chaplain, Shelten Krasinski
Sgt-At-Arms, Stanten Krasinski
Historian, Trystan Cline



Not pictured: Adjutant, Steve Cox

Rick Kettering also presented Ken Taylor with a beautiful Commander's plaque and gavel.

Congratulations to all the newly installed officers of Squadron 209!



Letters to the Editor

To the Editor (edited with permission for content):

I have placed a cigarette butt tower in front of the Post so that people who smoke can put out their cigarettes before entering the Legion Hall. For those smokers who are not aware, our smoking area is out back on the west side of the Legion Hall. Twice now this past month some individual has moved that butt tower from the parking lot area up to the very front of the Post next to the wall and then proceeded to remove the inside of the tower and dump the cigarette butts on the ground leaving them for someone else to clean up. Hey genius, those butt towers were designed to smother out the cigarette butts for lack of oxygen. Apparently you thought because there was smoke coming out the top that there was a fire inside and you dumped it out on the ground and left it for someone else to clean up. Please don't dump your mess at our home. I spoke to the Commander about this and he said that the butt tower was moved because of the severe rain. I understand you people want to smoke and kill yourselves as long as you can be comfortable doing it. But that doesn't mean you have the right to infringe on safety and comfort of other members of The American Legion or to leave your mess for someone else to clean up. You know who you are and if you have a problem with this come and see me I'll be in the kitchen and happy to discuss it with you.

Art Kimbrel, Club Manager

Do you have an issue or recommendation? Something you want to get off your chest? Is there someone or something you want to highlight? Maybe you have a comment about an article in the newsletter. If so, we invite you to send a "Letter To The Editor." The ground rules:

- Send it via email to letters@legion209.org, or;
- Send it via "snail mail to: Letters to the Editor, C/O American Legion Post 209 at our P.O. Box address
- It must have your name. No letters will be published without that information
- It cannot be about a political party or candidate (this is an American Legion publication)
- If the letter exceeds 250 words, we may condense or not publish the letter
- The Editor (Commander) and Publisher (Jay Bowen) reserves the right to edit and/or not publish the letter



AMERICAN LEGION POST 209

THE PREEMINENT VOICE FOR VETERANS • COLORADO SPRINGS, CO



WALK OF HONOR

Buy A Brick Fundraiser!

If you've attended our meetings over the past year, you may have heard us discuss plans for a new fundraising effort. We are partnering with Polar Engraving to offer our members, family, friends, and our corporate Veteran-friendly supporters an opportunity to purchase an engraved brick to adorn our landscaping project we are working. The bricks are engraved using a hybrid method that combines both laser engraving and sandblasting. The engraving is then painted using the same paint used on tombstones so it's extremely durable. Here are the details/answers to questions we anticipate:

- **What Are We Having?** A Brick Fundraising Event
- **Why?** To Further Funding of our American Legion Programs and Offset Increasing Costs
- **What Size Are the Bricks?** We are offering 4"x 8" or 8"x 8" bricks for individuals, and 8"x 8" or 12"x 12" bricks for our corporate supporters.
- **What are the Costs for the Individual Bricks?** Prices range from \$90 to \$200, depending on size, style and lettering desired. For the 8x8 or 12x12 bricks, you can add a second emblem. Contact the Adjutant for ordering details. There is **NO** additional cost for the second emblem on the larger bricks.
- **What are the Costs for the Corporate/Veteran Supporter Bricks?** Prices range from \$250 to \$500, again depending on size, style and lettering.
- **What is the Difference between Individual and Corporate Bricks?** Individual bricks are identified for Veterans, and family members of Veterans wishing to purchase a brick to honor their Veteran. The corporate bricks are for our Veteran-friendly supporters and businesses who wish to show their continued support to our Nation's heroes by purchasing a brick.
- **Is the Brick Purchase Restricted to Members of the Post 209 Family?** No. We encourage members to buy a brick for themselves as a lasting memory of their association with Post 209. We also welcome anyone to purchase a brick for their Veteran loved one, or to show their support to our Veterans.
- **Can I Buy a 12"x 12" Brick for Myself/Loved One?** Absolutely!
- **Where Do I Go to Buy a Brick?** Visit <http://polarengraving.com/ALPost209> to buy your brick. The site is very user-friendly and will walk you through the design and purchase. You will be able to see a preview of your brick before finalizing the purchase.
- **How Do I Pay For the Brick?** We have the site setup to accept payment via PayPal or by 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 shipped 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 and will be part of the landscaping design we are working. If you are a landscaper or know a good one (preferably a Veteran), have them contact our Adjutant.
- **How Long Will this Fundraiser Effort Last?** We plan to only sell as many bricks as needed for the first phase of the landscaping project. Currently, that is anticipated to be 600 bricks, but that number may change depending on brick sizes purchased and the final design approved by the Post.
- **Will I Have an Opportunity to Buy a Brick Later?** Quite possibly. It depends 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 project. If you buy multiple bricks, let our Adjutant know and we will make certain they are all placed together.



Boys/Girls State Silent Auction!



Calling all Neal Thomas Jr.-Centennial Post 209
Family Members!

We will be conducting a Silent Auction at our
American Legion, Department of Colorado Convention
21-24 June. We are in need of items to sell.

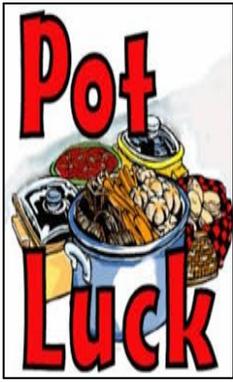
We are asking for your support to donate and/or make a
purchase at our Silent Auction room at the Convention
to be held at the Elegante Hotel.

If you have something to donate, contact Jay Bowen or
Kellie Hayes.

All proceeds from the Silent Auction will go to support
Boys/Girls State!

**Come on out and support these VERY worthy
American Legion/American Legion Auxiliary
programs!**

Boys State is a 501 (c) (3) program. Donations may be tax deductible. Please consult with your tax advisor.



**Happy Independence Day!
Let's Have a Picnic!**



**Join us for a Picnic on the
4th of July!**

**We will provide the Burgers and
Dogs**

**You bring a side dish for you and
your family/guests plus 3-4 more**

**The Fun starts at 11:00am
with a Flag disposal Ceremony
and Food starts at 12:00 noon**



From the Sergeant-at-Arms
Stan "Sgt. Ski" Kransinski

Good day all Legion Post 209 family members,

Due to additional technical difficulties and the visit from our National Commander, the most recent MVP selectee will not be celebrated this month and the name was not disclosed at our last General Membership meeting because it was replaced with our Installation of Officers ceremony.

There will be a TRIPLE event next month!

PLEASE NOTE, there is now a "MVP Collection" nomination box available at the front counter for nominations. You can use the index cards located on the box, type it out at home and then slip it into the box or send an email to the Post email address at centennialtwozeronine@yahoo.com.

PLEASE NOMINATE A DESERVING MEMBER!!

The Post Executive Committee will review all the nominations and select the recipient during their meeting on the first Thursday of each month. The recipient will be recognized during the next General Membership Meeting that following Saturday. The Sergeant-at-Arms will then arrange to interview the recipient for another offering under their title in the next monthly Newsletter. This will repeat monthly ongoing!

Please become an American Legion Post 209 "MVP Collection" member...step up and help and/or nominate someone who has. Assistance is needed THROUGHOUT our efforts!

'We can only make a difference if we are involved...participants not spectators.'

Thank you and please have a great month!



From the Department of Colorado Chaplain
Stan Hammamoto

To all members of American Legion Post 209, I did not have the opportunity to thank all of you for being my family during my time of loss. I guess now would be a good time to do it: thank you to all for helping me during my time when I really needed it, the loss of my wife of 32 years. It has been a very difficult time for me and many of you helped me when I needed it most, and I thank you for that.

Because of my loss, I had to sell my home and move to someplace where I can afford to live. God does things in his own way. I wanted to move to Canon City, Pueblo, Pueblo West, Ordway, Rockyford or even La Junta. But no, HE wanted me to go to Sugar City, don't ask me why, I just go where HE leads me. I found a place and will be looking for a place in Ordway next year.

Post 209, you have built me up to what I am today. With all of your help and counseling I have learned a lot about the Legion and this has made me a better man, I hope! To Jay Bowen, I really appreciate all of your help but most importantly, the guidance that you gave me when I was the Post Chaplain. Then when I became the District 7 Chaplain, you again guided me. Most of all when I became the Department Chaplain, you really helped me a lot so that I could better understand the workings of the American Legion on the Department level. With your help, Tom Bock and Marvin Weaver, I was submitted to be considered for National Chaplain. No one from the State of Colorado has been a National Chaplain for the past 98 Years, and I think it's time!!!

I have heard from some of you that Jay Bowen is trying to run the Post? **NO!!** That is not true. He is helping the Post so that we will not make mistakes. His loyalty is truly with The American Legion and Post 209. He cares a lot about Post 209 and wants to make sure it is around for many years to come, and then some. **PLEASE** don't think he is doing this for himself; is not his goal. His goal is to make sure Post 209 will be here for many years to come and that it will be an example to other Posts. You all should be very glad to have someone with his knowledge of The American Legion and he also is still learning, like all of us are.

In closing, again I would like to thank all of you for helping me what I am today. I will always be a member of Post 209 even if I transfer to another Post; my heart will always be with all of you. God Bless you all and I leave you all with my last three words: **GO TO CHURCH!!!!**



From the Incoming Sergeant-at-Arms
Joseph Schmidt

The Blue Hat

When I was growing up in Minnesota I would walk past a hat every day. This hat was different than most, it was a diamond-like shape, blue with the word Minnesota embroidered in goldish yellow on one side. There was a patch that said, "For God and Country." Pins; there were three pins on this hat. One, a star, but not like normal stars. This one said something in the middle of it but time washed the letters away. The second pin was of a pheasant flying, and the last pin read 451. And above the goldish yellow embroidered Minnesota was the logo of the American Legion.

After being medically separated from the Army in 2016 I wasn't sure what I was going to do. There was one thing I was sure of though, I needed to join The American Legion. Not because I knew what it stood for, or because I knew they base their values off the four pillars. I joined because I walked past a hat every day. I joined online, got a card and that was it, I was a member of the American Legion. As a year went by I started to think maybe being a part of the Legion is more than just having a card. So I began looking at what my Post does. I learned that they are more than a bar or a place to tell war stories. It was a place for family, not just blood, but a family of Veterans who after getting out are left to face a world were most people will never understand what it means to serve.

Post 209 has become a home, a home where like most families we laugh, we argue, we seek advice from those wiser than us. My first general membership meeting I heard our Commander Mike B. say that if we do not start making some changes the Post would run out of money in four to five years. Although it may sound discouraging to most new members, I viewed it as an opportunity. This is an opportunity to make a difference in the community of Colorado Springs. An opportunity to help others if even for four to five years. I have quickly come to realize that I don't want this opportunity to last four or five years but, a lifetime. A lifetime of laughter and arguing, a lifetime of good times and bad. I fear though others are just ready to hang it up and move on.

If it is the case that it is time to begin the process of closing as a Post, we must embrace that future. This future will be filled with grief, pain and a celebration of the life of Post 209. It is a hard realization to come to but a choice must be made. It isn't all doom and gloom though, we have an opportunity to reimagine who we are here. We have an opportunity unlike other Posts to not lay down and let our home be closed but rise up. Rise up against the odds, rise up to show our community that we are here and we are not going anywhere. We can rise up to not parish into the history books but live.

By the way, that "Hat" belonged to my Grandfather, Albert Schmidt who served in the Army during the Korean War. He was a man I never met but his uniform cap would create a bond between us and pave the way for my place in the family of the American Legion. So, my question is this, will your Post 209 cap be something that is walked past everyday as your grandchildren look and wonder what it is? Or will it be proudly placed atop your head with your grandchildren seeing what it truly means to be a Legionnaire?



**Happy Father's Day to all our
Dads!**

Bringing a Little South to the West

By Past Post Commander Jay Bowen

Graduation! This is the season where everyone is graduating from something. I've gotten invitations to attend Pre-School, Kindergarten, Elementary, Middle School, High School, College, and Military Academy graduations. Really? I guess someone forgot to send me an invitation to attend their graduation from learning how to work their TV remote or after they attended a dinner conference on retirement services that can save me hundreds of thousands of dollars when I retire.

What happened to graduating once before college and a military academy; like after successfully completing high school? Noticed I said "successfully completing..." It seems nowadays you can walk and get a diploma just by showing up; you don't necessarily have to pass anything. Many schools will give out either a diploma or a "Certificate of Completion," depending on how well you did. When I went to school, you either got a diploma, or you got nothing.

When people ask me about my high school days, I tell them quite proudly that I went to the same School 12, almost 13 years. Most of the time I get a chuckle and sometimes a strange look as they process the comment, but it's true. I flunked the 10th grade. Yep, flunked it; held back, not promoted to the 11th grade. So I spent that summer going to Summer School so I could advance to the 11th grade along with my buds. Boy, my parents were not very happy about that summer. That meant I didn't get to spend most of that time with my grandparents in Arkansas working the cotton and bean fields.

But even though that would have been reason enough to purposely flunk out, that's not what happened. I didn't purposely do it, I just got stupid and it lasted too long. I was 16, got my driver's license, a part-time job, and started dating almost every weekend. There simply wasn't enough time to study and worry about school. I was also a real smart-aleck (noticed how clean I kept that). When my Spanish teacher would ask me to stand up and say, "I went to the store" in Spanish, I would stand up and say, "I went to the store in Spanish." Boy, was I clever? So by the time I realized I was failing, it was too late to change my habits. I failed Geometry, English, and believe it or not, Spanish. I couldn't conjugate in Spanish any better than in English. Funny, I can speak better Spanish today having served several years in El Paso, TX than what I learned in high school. Although I do still remember some of the rules about the language from the class. Anyone who knows me today would probably be surprised that I flunked English because I talk so good and purty now. Anyway, I spent my summer between the 10th and 11th grade sitting in a classroom re-taking Geometry and English. That's why I tell people I spent 12, almost 13 years going to the same school.

But I digress. I used to wonder why we have so many graduations but I finally figured it out. It is so we can recognize people for no or minimal achievement. But it makes us feel good to be recognized. After all, we don't want to take a chance of stepping on the poor darlings' self-esteem. Today, everyone gets rewarded and very few have to earn it. We give Certificates of Completion and Participation. We give Participation trophies to kids who play T-Ball. We don't keep score because we don't want the kids to go into a funk because they lost a ballgame.

I can still vividly recall my high school days and the fear I felt as it got down to the last two semesters (of 6) before the end of the year. There were those of us who legitimately wondered if we would advance to the next grade and whether we would walk across the stage at the end of our 12 years of learning to be handed a diploma. In those days, if you didn't graduate, you didn't walk. And I don't think the teachers had to worry about their pass/fail stats. They did their job and it was up to us to learn it and graduate, or take it again, and sometimes again until we finally learned it. You didn't have to pass every subject, but you had to earn 16 credits between the 10th and 12th grade to graduate. Along with those credits, there were certain "required" subjects you had to pass, not the least of which was English.

I remember one of my high school buddies in particular. I won't divulge his name, so let's just call him Arthur. Arthur was no dummy, but it took him several attempts as a senior to finally muster 16 credits and pass all the required subjects. The common belief was he didn't want to get drafted, and he knew as long as he attended high school he was exempt. He finally graduated with Jackie at the young age of 22 (most everyone else was 17 or 18). And sure enough, everyone's favorite uncle was close by to welcome him into the largest family in the US; the United States Army. Thankfully, Arthur came home from the Vietnam war. I pray he is doing okay these days.

Oh well, I gotta stop now and get ready to attend my neighbor's dog graduation from obedience school. Rumor has it he would be graduating at the top of his class...if they kept score.



Post Officers 2017-2018

Office	Name	Telephone
Commander	Mike Barger	719-290-3218
Sr. Vice Cdr	Eric Testorff	719-510-4177
Jr. Vice Cdr	Jerry Lollar	719-641-2778
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	719-359-6356
Historian	Chris Earley	719-338-1398
Post Exec. Cmtee	Bill Burd	719-330-1279
Service Officer	Lyle Hagelberg	719-231-2364
Judge Advocate	Marvin Weaver, Sr.	719-638-4763
Club Manager	Art Kimbrel	719-339-4610
Honor Guard Capt.	Eric Testorff	719-510-4177



ALR Officers 2018-2019

Office	Name	Telephone
President	Grady Mitchell	719-201-3353
Vice President	Marvin Palmer	719-287-7047
Secretary	Amy Mitchell	719-321-8291
Treasurer	Rusty Bower	719-649-0654
Sgt-At-Arms	Tim McDowell	719-510-9907
Road Captain	John Hanchek	719-648-5415

Calendar of Events

June

- 1st; Hamdogger, Wingding Nite (no RSVP Required), 6:00pm (Price varies with menu selection)
- 7th; Post Executive Committee Meeting, 6:30pm
- 8th; Auxiliary Lasagna Dinner Hosting Boys State Counselors/Advisors, (RSVP Required!) 6:00pm (\$9.00)
- 9th; General Membership Meeting (Legion/Auxiliary), 9:00am Breakfast, 10:00am Meeting
- 15th; Steak Night (RSVP Required!), 6:00pm (\$14.50)
- 17th; **Happy Fathers Day!**
- 18th; ALR Executive Board Meeting, 6:00pm
- 21st; Fundraising Committee Meeting, 7:00pm
- 21st-24th; American Legion Department of Colorado Annual Convention, Elegante Hotel, Colorado Springs
- 22nd; Chef's Choice CXL'd! This is due to support conflict with support members attending Convention.
- 23rd; Healing Warriors, 9:00am
- 26th; ALR Monthly Meeting, 6:30pm, Social Hour, 5:30pm
- 29th; 5th Friday Night Dinner, Meal and Cost To Be Determined

July

- 4th; Happy Independence Day! Post Picnic, 12:00pm
- 5th; Post Executive Committee Meeting, 6:30pm
- 6th; Hamdogger, Wingding Nite (no RSVP Required), 6:00pm (Price varies with menu selection)
- 13th; ALR Dinner, (RSVP Required!) 6:00pm (\$9.00)
- 14th; General Membership Meeting (Legion/Auxiliary), 9:00am Breakfast, 10:00am Meeting
- 16th; ALR Executive Board Meeting, 6:00pm
- 18th; Fundraising Committee Meeting, 7:00pm
- 20th; Ribs Night (RSVP Required!), 6:00pm (\$14.50)
- 24th; ALR Monthly Meeting, 6:30pm, Social Hour, 5:30pm
- 27th; Chef's Choice (RSVP Required), 6:00pm
- 28th; Healing Warriors, 9:00am

Reservations and RSVP go to Jackie Bowen (574-1223) jackiebowen2005@yahoo.com



Auxiliary Officers 2017-2018

Office	Name	Telephone
President	Cathy Barger	719-290-3163
Vice President	Donna Rae Smith	815-973-0073
Secretary	Pat Weaver	719-638-4763
Treasurer	Kellie Hayes	719-494-7167
Chaplain	Jackie Burd	719-590-6615
Sergeant-At-Arms	Donna Testorff	719-510-4567
Historian	Nancy LaFayette	719-594-6806



Sons of The American Legion 2017-2018

Office	Name	Telephone
Commander	Ken Taylor	719-761-4047
Sr. Vice Com-mander	Marv Weaver Jr.	719-244-3535
Jr. Vice Com-mander	Stan "Sgt. Ski" Krasinski	719-373-7814
Adjutant	Rick Kettering	813-967-6680
Finance Officer	Rusty Bower	719-649-0654
Sgt-At-Arms	Steve P. Cox	970-580-8191
Assistant S-a-Arms	Stanten Krasinski	719-359-6356
Chaplain	Shelten Krasinski	719-359-6356
Historian	Eric Testorff	719-510-4177
Squadron Advisor	Don Shuck	



Happy Flag Day!

**Proudly Fly your Flag on
14 June!**

**Also, Happy 243rd Birth-
day US Army!**

