



# CENTENNIAL POST 209

# THE AMERICAN LEGION



THE LITTLE POST GOING PLACES AND DOING BIG THINGS

JULY 1998



FROM  
LARRY JOHNSON  
COMMANDER



AUXILIARY NEWS  
DOT DASSERO, PRESIDENT

We are getting into the time of the year that the kids are out of school. There are also a lot of families who will be hitting the road for the summer on vacations and even moving. I would like to ask everyone to please, when you are out driving and vacation to take it careful and arrive at your destination safe and sound. Let's everyone return to Colorado Springs safe and sound. I would like to see everyone come out to a meeting of the Post. Now I know that is impossible but there is nothing wrong with hoping and dreaming.

I am putting the final touches to the Committees of Centennial Post 209. I hope to get letters out to you soon, and I ask you to please don't turn me down. I have been talking with some of the Legionnaires of the Post and while they listen to me and what I say, there seems to be one thing that I cannot convince anyone of, and that is THIS IS YOUR POST, WITHOUT YOU, WE HAVE NOTHING. All

First of all, let me thank all of the Legionnaires and Auxiliary members who sent a donation for our Poppy Fund. These moneys will enable us to meet the commitments which we have toward our Children and Youth and VA&R programs.

Renewal notices will be reaching your mailbox very soon and again we ask that you send your membership renewals in as quickly as possible. It makes it easier on Treasurer Barbara to get them taken care of sooner rather than later.

Since summer has arrived and it gets dark later, we are hoping more of you will be attending meetings.

This newsletter will not reach you by the 4th of July but we hope you celebrated our nation's birthday safely and happily. See you at the picnic in August. Come out and bring your favorite covered dish. One nice way to become acquainted with other members of the Legion and Auxiliary.

### POST OFFICERS

COMMANDER	LARRY JOHNSON
SR VICE COMMANDER	FRANCIS REDINGTON
JR VICE COMMANDER	HARRY JOHNSON
ADJUTANT	ANN FOSTER
FINANCE OFFICER	AL CYRIAQUE
HISTORIAN	NORMAN MOYER
SGT AT ARMS	NORMAN HARPOLE
CHAPLAIN	HOWARD HORNIK
JUDGE ADVOCATE	WALLY LONSINGER
SERVICE OFFICER	TOM MORANT
EXEC COMMITTEEMAN	NEAL THOMAS

DUES \$25.00

### MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY

WORLD WAR I  
APR 6, 1917 - NOV 11, 1918  
WORLD WAR II  
DEC 7, 1941 - DEC 31, 1946  
KOREAN WAR  
JUN 25, 1950 - JAN 31, 1955  
VIETNAM WAR  
FEB. 28, 1961 - MAY 7, 1975  
GRENADA & LEBANON  
AUG 24, 1982 - JUL 31 1984  
PANAMA  
DEC 20, 1989 - JAN 31, 1990  
PERSIAN GULF  
AUG 2, 1990 UNTIL THE  
END OF HOSTILITIES

### AUXILIARY OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	DOROTHY DASSERO
1ST VICE PRESIDENT	
2ND VICE PRESIDENT	
SECRETARY	ANITA MCFADDEN
TREASURER	BARBARA JOHNSON
HISTORIAN	
CHAPLAIN	JUDITH MCFADDEN
SGT AT ARMS	RUTH HORNIK

DUES \$15.00

### MEETINGS

3RD THURSDAY - 7:00 P.M.  
DAY POST #26 PALMER PARK & PETERSON RD.

### EDITOR

DOROTHY DASSERO, NALPA

### OFFICE

4291 AUSTIN BLUFFS PKWY STE 104  
COLORADO SPRGS CO 80918-2944  
719-599-8624

### Commander's Message con't

I can try to do is keep the Post together until YOU decide you want to become involved. I can plan activities but without YOU, all there is me and the officers who were elected to lead US in the upcoming year.

When you stop and think about the force of WE versus the force of I, WE will always be able to accomplish more things such as the Baseball program, the Cub Scout program, the Oratorical Program, as well as support to Veterans, Children and Youth, as well as the community which we live in. But, without YOU, WE can't do anything. PLEASE COME AND GET INVOLVED.

### DID YOU KNOW?

4 July - Declaration of Independence signed (1776)  
20 July - First Man on Moon, Neil Armstrong (1969)  
27 July - First Successful Atlantic Cable (1866)  
27 July - Korean War Ends (1953)

(Taken from Americanism Manual)

August 1998

5 August Board of Trustees Meeting  
Post and Unit Exec Committee Mtgs  
5-9 August Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo  
5-9 August Am Leg Jr. Shooting Contest  
10 August 40 & 8 Prom Am Leg Post 5  
Post and Unit Gen Meetings  
23 Aug Tailgate Party/Picnic Sky Sox  
Stadium

September 1998

2 Sept Board of Trustees Meeting  
Post and Unit Exec Committee Mtgs  
12 Sept Ft Lyon VA Hospital  
All Patient Day Activities  
24 September 40 & 8 Promenade  
17 September Post and Unit Gen Mtgs  
21 September 8 & 40 Mtg Am Leg Post 5



MITCHELL BASEBALL  
TEAM

This year, just as we have done since 1992, we again sponsored the Mitchell softball team for its summer season. This year, not only did we provide money for the team but we also bought uniforms and The American Legion patch to be worn on their jerseys. The team has requested that we come out and watch their games and how them moral support.

July games look like this:

7th of July, travel to Canon City,  
gametime 5:30 P.M.  
8 July, Lewis Palmer playing at  
Mitchell High School at 5:30 P.M.  
15 July, Mitchell playing at Lewis  
Palmer at 5:30 P.M.

Let's try to get together and show our support for the team and its efforts.

Senior Vice Commander  
Francis Redington

As we begin the new year, there is always some confusion as to how the membership program is conducted. I hope with this article that maybe some of the confusion is resolved.

The first item is that the 1998 membership card is valid until 31 December 1998. If you have not renewed by the end of January you will be considered delinquent.

Next is regarding The American Legion Magazine. When you first joined The American legion, you were hopefully informed that you would receive a monthly newspaper from the Post, a Department newspaper and twelve issues of the National Magazine. There is no problem in getting the Post newsletter but it may take up to 45 days for a new subscription and 60 days for a change of address for the Department and National Magazine mailing list. You will receive these issues for the full 12 months. If you do not renew before July of the following year, there is a good chance your subscription will end until the renewal is received at National.

I have saved the hardest for last. The question is "IF MY MEMBERSHIP IS GOOD UNTIL DECEMBER 31, WHY DO I GET A RENEWAL NOTICE IN JULY, AND WHY DO I GET MULTIPLE NOTICES?" I will try to clear this up. First, the reason that you get a renewal notice in July for the upcoming year is a purely business thing. The American

Legion business year is set on a calendar year, not a physical year. That is, it runs from 1 January until 31 December. What National attempts is to determine how much money it will have for its programs and activities, hence the membership drive beginning in July. Renewal notices are done by cutoff dates and so are the mailings. An example of this is in April, National pulls the memberships lists in order to get ready for the mailing of renewals for the next year. You mail in your dues for 1999 in September of 1998. Meanwhile National has pulled all of the membership lists in August of 1998 for mailing in October, hence you receive a 2nd notice to renew.

We have had instances in the past where members have requested that their names be taken off of the membership rolls. Although you request this action, your name remains on the rolls for a period of two years. From time to time, Department and the Post will use old records to try to bring back Legionnaires who did not renew membership in hopes that they might reconsider.

Now, there is a way to avoid confusion as to renewals, subscriptions, as well as future increases in dues, and that is purchasing a permanent membership. With a permanent membership, your National Magazine will never expire, you will never receive a dues notice again, and you will never worry about dues increases in the future. The permanent membership is transferable if you move to another state. For further information call the Post or call Commander Larry Johnson. What do I get for my dues besides

the items mentioned above? First of all, the camaraderie of people who have experienced some of the same life experiences as you, an annual picnic, American Legion Birthday celebration, a Christmas Party and the knowledge that you are helping with the programs of The American Legion.

This year we are trying something new, something that we have never done before.

The annual picnic will be conducted on Sunday, 23 August. Now we do this every year, but what we haven't done is to hold the picnic at Sky Sox Stadium. We will have the picnic until about 2:30 P.M. when we will go to the Stadium and watch the Sky Sox play ball. As usual, the Post will provide the meal; all you have to do, providing you undertake this task of having fun, is to pay for parking, \$3.00 per car, and \$3.00 ticket fee.

What we need you to do is, if you are going to attend, send in the \$3.00 for tickets and we will purchase a block so everyone will be together.

I know this is something NEW but aren't you tired of the same old thing?

One other thing, this is a family affair, so what better way to spend a Sunday afternoon than at a picnic, enjoying a ballgame with the family. Come on out...who knows...YOU JUST MIGHT ENJOY YOURSELF. (SEE THE FLYER ATTACHED)

**ADJUTANT'S ANNOTATIONS -  
ANN FOSTER**

Our roster now shows 316 members giving us 100%.

I attended Department Convention at Estes Park at the Holiday Inn Conference Center. It was an excellent Convention and the Host, Post 119 across the street, went overboard with its outstanding support.

There was a special meeting for Adjutants, wherein we received important information about processing membership more efficiently. The membership goal for next year will have a 1% increase over last. For us that will likely mean about two more members. It was decided we need to have a shorter membership drive in Colorado and the following goal dates will give you can idea of how that works:

31 July - 25%  
31 August - 50%  
30 September - 70%  
31 October - 90%  
30 November - 100%

By striving for these dates, we can have the 1999 membership drive done before the year starts. That will give more time in the new year to work on Legion programs. This will not be an easy task but can be done with the help of the members. We can have members from within a certain zip code help with contacting their neighbors for renewal and/or possible new members. Thus, we plan to set up a Personal Sales Force (PSF) very

soon. We will be contacting some of you to become PSF members and hope you will welcome this new way to conduct our membership drive.

One membership aid for this year is having Colorado as one of five Departments testing a partnership with HIRE QUALITY, a firm which specializes in placing veterans in jobs as they come out of the service. The firm works with Department to provide us names of veterans who may need additional assistance because they are moving to Colorado for a job which HIRE QUALITY has helped to obtain. These are all potential new members of The American Legion. As we get more details from Department, we will be able to look forward to our goal of veterans helping veterans and their families and introducing them to the largest veteran service organization in the world.

Next year's convention will be in Montrose and Alamosa will host it in the year 2000.

**ACTIVITIES  
AND OTHER SIMILAR STUFF**

\*\*Bingo Every Friday Night 6:00 p.m.  
REA #1

July 1998

1 July	Board of Trustees Meeting Post and Unit Exec Committee Mtgs
4 July	Independence Day
13 July	40 & 8 Promenade Am Leg Post 5
16 July	Post and Auxiliary Gen Mtgs
18 July	Post Clean-up 9 AM - 12 PM

☺CENTENNIAL POST 209☺  
☆☆ AMERICAN LEGION ☆☆  
ANNUAL TAILGATE PICNIC

at SKY SOX STADIUM

☞[east on Barnes, from Powers Blvd.]☞  
(lower general admission parking lot)

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23, 1998

☉tailgate picnic starts 12:00 noon

☉game starts at 3:05 p.m.

Sky Sox versus Tacoma Rainiers

◆ **Special Reduced Group Rate**

■ **General Admission Tickets**

→Adult .....\$4.00

→Senior 60+ or 12 & under...\$3.00

=====

Please RSVP ☞ ☒ not later than August 15, 1998, to:

Norm Moyer, Picnic Committee

American Legion Centennial Post 209

4291 Austin Bluffs Parkway, Suite 104

Colorado Springs, CO 80918

Enclosed check for total amount of tickets payable to:

American Legion Centennial Post 209

\_\_\_\_\_ # of Adult game tickets @ \$4.00

\_\_\_\_\_ # of Senior 60+ or 12 & under tickets @ \$3.00

Parking is \$3.00 per car and you pay as you arrive. You might wish to consider meeting with others at the Post Home and car-pooling from there. Feel free to make your own arrangements accordingly.