

The Centennial



VOLUME 27 EDITION 8

August 2013

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From the Desk and Mind of the Commander

Jay Bowen

23 July, 2013. It started out as just another day at work. There was absolutely nothing to give me warning how the day would end. Somewhere around noon, I got a very frantic call from Jackie saying she was called by a very dear friend, close neighbor, and member of our Centennial 209 family asking her to hurry down. Two members of our Nation's finest rang the doorbell asking for Donna. Her husband, Bob told them she was at an appointment but would return in about 15 minutes. He then noticed the Chaplain's cross on the uniform of one of the two Soldiers. That's when he called Jackie and she called me.

I got to the house about 15 minutes before they returned bringing the news that all with loved ones serving our great Nation fear; their son, 24-year old US Army Specialist Robbie Nichols had succumbed to injuries received as a result of an Improvised Explosive Device. Because Donna was listed as Robbie's "next of kin," she was the only person they could officially notify. What began as a very normal day tragically changed.

It is not uncommon for me to read about our brave men and women dying in battle. Often when I see those articles I say a short silent prayer that God will wrap His comforting arms around the family and help them through the pain. It really is very different when it happens to someone you know and love. It is not some abstract article or news report. These untimely deaths forever changes the lives of many people; family, neighbors, friends, and teammates.

But rather than dwelling on how Robbie died, I would much prefer to think about how he lived.



He was free-spirited, greeted everyone he met whether it was the first time or 100th time with a big smile. It is almost cliché for people to make these claims when remembering loved ones. I was hesitant to make the statement, but I would have been sadly remiss to not say it. Robbie was the type of person we all wish we could be. I am confident many of his friends lived vicariously through him because he was so full of life, everyone wanted to share in his vitality.

Robbie loved his parents, brother Chad, grandparents and friends deeply. He was generous to a fault and was always ready to lend a hand. He loved to pull pranks on everyone, and did so often. And he loved his Country and the US Army. He re-enlisted while in Afghanistan. He was a gung-ho Soldier, which he proved by declining other job opportunities upon enlistment because he wanted to be an Infantry man.

I don't think Robbie wanted to go when he did, but I firmly believe that if he had to leave this earth early in life, this is how he would have scripted it. This true American Hero would want to go while defending his Country and his teammates. He truly epitomizes the Gospel of John, 15:13; *"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."*

I thank God that He put this wonderful family in my life. I am richer for having the privilege of knowing Robbie and will always remember him. I am honored to count Bob, Donna, and Chad among my closest friends. Please join me in saying a silent prayer for the family and friends of Robbie Nichols.

For God and Country,
Jay



Auxiliary President Jackie Bowen

Welcome to our newest member Kourtney Kimbrel. If that name sounds familiar it's because she is the youngest daughter of our club manager, Art Kimbrel. This is a great way to kick off the membership drive for 2014. On that note, you will probably receive your renewal notices in the mail soon. You don't have to wait for them to renew but please let me know if you don't receive one. The two main reasons you would NOT receive a renewal notice are 1) You renewed before the first round was sent out and I believe this is sometime in August or 2) National doesn't have you on the roster. The second is the one needing immediate attention. You can renew anytime with cash, check, money order, or via PayPal on our Post web site. It's still not too late to renew for 2013 as the membership year goes from January 1st thru Dec 31st. With your membership you should be receiving an Auxiliary magazine. They are sent out quarterly, if you don't receive your magazine please let me know. On another note still dealing with membership, please let me know if you don't receive emails from me. I have tried to make sure everyone's email is on my Auxiliary contact list that listed one on their application. You should receive at least one email a month and that is the meeting minutes. If you have email and are not receiving anything from me, please let me know by sending an email to make sure I have your correct email address.

WOW! What a turnout for the picnic. I must state again, we have a great American Legion FAMILY at our Post. I didn't get to speak to everyone there but that was because I was too busy feeding my face with all the delicious dishes you all brought. Please send me the recipe for your dish so we can publish it in our cookbook. I only received two recipes out of all those tasty dishes. UMM, UMM GOOD!

We will have two special guest at our August meeting, Deb McBride, our new Department President and Janna Schaefer, Blue Star Mom from Durango. Please join us in August for the meeting and then if at all possible for the Ice Cream Social at McCandless Nursing home in Florence. That starts at 2:00.

There will be NO September meeting for the Auxiliary as we will be in Pueblo setting up for All Activities Day. Again, the actual festivities begin at 1:00, please join us if you can.

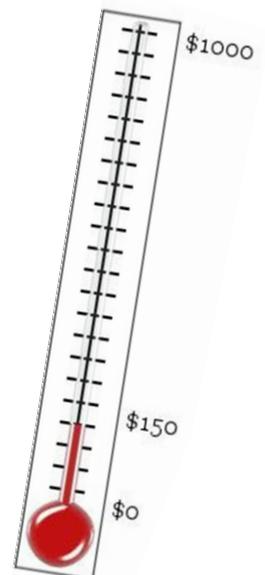
Serving Our Veterans Proudly,
Jackie Bowen



Sons of The American Legion Squadron 209

The **Child Welfare Foundation** has once again set a goal of \$1 per member for the Post, Unit and Squadron. Since our Legion Family continues to grow, we have a new giving target of \$1000 for the 2013-2014 donation year. Please continue to fill those Piggy Banks on our dining room tables. Every penny, nickel, dime and quarter counts (DOLLARS FIT TOO)! Thanks again to everyone who has contributed. The money in those piggy banks really adds up.

The 2014 Membership cards are available. Please renew now and be an "EARLY BIRD"! You will get a free dinner on October 18th at 6:30 PM. Dues are just \$20 and you can renew online or mail a check or money order made out to SAL Squadron 209 at PO Box 25334 Colorado Springs, CO 80936-5334. Thank you for your continuing support of Squadron 209.





Chaplain's Corner

Volume V



The Sabbath:

**By the seventh day God had finished the work He had been doing; so on the seventh day He rested from all His work.
Genesis 2:2**

In this fast pace, multitasking world, taking a day off seems almost impossible.

Real rest demands that we stop completely. We stop the frantic pace. We stop checking things off our to-do list.

We need to stop measuring our worth by our productivity.

During Creation, God demonstrated this kind of rest. After six days He rested! God did not need to rest because He was not physically tired. God rested to demonstrate to all of creation of the need for rest. In fact in the Ten Commandments, one whole commandment is dedicated toward keeping the Sabbath---- a weekly reminder that we all need physical rest.

Our culture often tells us that time is money. The Sabbath reminds us that time is Holy. A day off reminds us that we belong to God---our Creator, our Provider, and the source of our strength. As you embrace the Sabbath in your life, remember to be kind and grace-giving to yourself. Expect things to not go according to plan. Always look for the joy.

The Sabbath is a gift. Are you ready to receive it?

Please remember those who have suffered a loss in their family!

Also keep those who have had surgery recently, and for those who will be having surgery in your prayers.

May God Still Bless America!

Chet Dean
Chaplain

Remember, the Chaplain is available 24-7 for emergencies, for any member, or family member.



HELP NEEDED!!!

Paul Brown, our one-man grounds support staff has decided to trade us in for a new wife and new life. He is moving to the East Coast. God Bless him and we owe him many thanks for his years of loyal support.



His departure puts us in a hurt for someone to periodically mow the lawn at the Post. This is not a major undertaking, but an important one. If you have the time and willingness (we will provide the equipment), please let us know. I don't want to pay for this support; I'd rather use the money to help Veterans and their family. Contact us at the Post if you are willing to volunteer.



From the Adjutant Larry Johnson

It's coming up on August and we have started the membership year 2014. I would like to begin by saying thank-you to those who took advantage of renewing your membership before National sent out the cards. It sure did help the Post. Now comes the hard part.

There are some questions out there that I am going to try to clear up. The Post does NOT send renewal notices like the ones you just received. All renewal notices are sent out by National and they are sent out five times a year. When the Post sends out a renewal notice it will always be on the Post letterhead.

What is an Early Bird? An Early Bird is a member of The American Legion family who renews their 2014 membership by the 15th of October. For Legionnaires; all cards received and processed by 15 October will have an Early Bird stamp on your card. What good is it to be an Early Bird? Being an Early Bird entitles you to a free dinner on Friday, the 18th of October. The two things required are that you have to renew for 2014 by 15 October and you must make a reservation for the Early Bird Dinner. The person(s) to call for reservations are located at the bottom of each page of the newsletter. If you are bringing a guest or family member who is not a member of the American Legion family, there will a charge for them. The price for nonmembers and the menu have not been determined, but we still have time.

2 years ago, we reached 100% goal by Halloween and last year the Post made 100% by the 2nd week of November. We have a goal of 788 members for 2014. With your help I know we will not only meet that goal but will surpass that goal just as we have done for the past three years. We just need to work together and we can accomplish this once again. It is time that we begin to ask our family, neighbors, co-workers, church members, etc. to become a member of The American Legion and Post 209.

The Post, in conjunction with District 7, will be offering classes on a variety of subjects such as "Get to know your Legion," "Service Officer Training," "Adjutant Training," "Public Relations Training" and other topics that may be of interest. We will be providing the information as it becomes available. You do not have to be an officer or a member of a committee to learn something new about The American Legion and its programs.

I hope you will be able to help out on some of the activities that we will be hosting at the Post this year. We are planning a new member Orientation, Initiation of new members, some open houses and information on the programs of the American Legion that are designed to help you to understand what The American Legion does and what it stands for.

From now through December, the Post will be partnering with the Prospector's Sertoma Club at the Gun Show getting members and passing out information on becoming a Legionnaire and the programs and activities of the Post and The American Legion. Please contact me at 719-599-8624 if you could give me a hand or would like more information.

Larry Johnson
Adjutant



Sons of The American Legion Squadron 209 Young Guns

American Legion "YOUNG GUNS" of Centennial Post 209 will be sponsoring a Basic Rifle Safety and Marksmanship course starting September 12th 2013. This is an American Legion sponsored program open to boys and girls through age 18. All participants and a parent, guardian or other responsible adult will be required to attend all sessions.

The Basic Rifle Safety Course will be taught by NRA trained and Certified Instructors. All books supplies and equipment will be covered by a registration fee of \$10. The course will last for 8 to 9 evening sessions held on Thursdays from 6:30 to 8:30 PM. Classes will be held at the Post and Air Rifles, safety glasses and all needed equipment will be provided.

The Junior Shooting Committee will be accepting registrations for up to 15 students for our September 12th class. For more information, please contact any member of the Junior Shooting Committee. Plan now to attend and learn proper gun safety and handling.

Junior Shooting Committee:

Ken Taylor (Chairman)	719-495-8190	adjutantsal209@gmail.com
Rick Kettering	813-967-6680	commandersal209@gmail.com
Rusty Bower	682-478-9122	financesal209@yahoo.com
Gunny Raines	719-597-4766	gunnyr1@yahoo.com
Bill Weeks	719-597-4670	(No Email)
Chuck Sorrels	719-694-9151	(No Email)

From the Finance Officer

ALL American Legion, SAL & POW/MIA Shirts will be on sale for \$15 until they are all gone.

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

Origin of NAVY Terminology



Sickbay-

In the modern Navy, sickbay is the place a sailor can receive medical attention. In the days of sail there were few such places on shore designated specifically for ill seamen, but onboard most ships there were sick berths located in the rounded stern. The contour of the stern suggested the shape of a bay and consequently the sailors began calling the ancient dispensaries sickbays.

Rusty Bower
NAVY Senior Chief Retired

Commissary Highlights

Fort Carson Store Information

At this time, and for as long as furloughs are in effect, our store will be closed on Mondays. Please keep in mind this schedule is subject to change and new information will be posted as we receive it. Thanks for your continued patronage and support.

Peterson AFB Store Information

Effective July 1, our Early Bird Shopping Hours will change from 0700 - 0900 - 0800 to 0900, one hour later.

A Few Events happening around Colorado Springs this August:

Meet your Firefighters

Saturday, Aug 3 1:00p

[Rockrimmon Library Branch](#) Colorado Springs, CO

Come and thank the Colorado Springs Fire Department crews in person that helped so much with all our recent fires. Check out the amazing equipment and learn some safety tips.

Sat., Aug. 3 at 1 p.m. – Rockrimmon Library

26th Annual POW/MIA Remembrance Ceremony

Saturday, 17 August, 11:00am

We will be officially dedicating the newly established POW/MIA Memorial Highway American Veterans Rally and Festival, Cripple Creek

Black Rose Acoustic Society

Radio Oldies

Thursday, August 1 7:00p to 9:00p

Blue Grass Jam

Thursday, August 8 7:00p to 9:00p

Fiddle Tunes Jam

Thursday, August 15 7:00p to 9:00p

Gospel Jam

Thursday, August 22 7:00p to 9:00p

[Colorado Springs Senior Center](#) Colorado Springs, CO

FREE

Senior Center 1514 N. Hancock Ave Colorado Springs CO. Free, but donations accepted.

HEARS 5K Experience

Saturday, Aug 24 7:30a

[Bear Creek Regional Park](#) Colorado Springs, CO

\$20

A 5k self-timed run and walk to raise money to buy hearing aids for those who can't afford them. Registration at 7:30 am at Bear Creek Park East - Enter from 21st St. // Colorado Springs, CO 80906 Enter by Aug. 15 and receive a t-shirt, commemorative medallion, and gift bag. 11 years and under are free, but get no premiums.

\$10 entry for active military and adult family members. All premiums.

FREE ENTRY. Collect \$100 in pledges and enter for free. Download Pledge Form at website.



Centennial 209 Family Calendar of Events



Post Officers 2012-2013

Office	Name	Telephone
Commander	Jay Bowen	719-574-1223
Sr. Vice Cdr	Greg Smith	520-784-3555
Jr. Vice Cdr	Lyle Hagelberg	719-594-4039
Adjutant	Larry Johnson	719-622-0344
Finance Officer	Rusty Bower	682-478-9122
Chaplain	Chet Dean	719-244-2442
Sergeant-at-Arms	Don Shuck	719-575-0539
Historian	Rob Johnson	719-421-9201
Post Executive Committeeman	Neal Thomas	719-392-1510
Service Officer	C. "Gunny" Raines	719-597-4766
Judge Advocate	Chuck Zeitvogel	719-531-0546
Club Manager	Art Kimbrel	719-339-4610

5 Sep	Post Exec Mtg 6:30 pm
6 Sep	Hamdogger 6:30 pm
14 Sep	Breakfast 9:00 am Legion Meeting 10:00 am SAL Mtg 11:30 am AUXILIARY MEETING CANCELLED!
14 Sep	All Activities Day (formerly All Patient's Day) VA Nursing Home, Pueblo, CO 12:00 pm
20 Sep	Steak Night 6:30 pm RSVP REQUIRED
27 Sep	Fish Fry 6:30 pm RSVP REQUIRED
3 Oct	Post Exec Mtg 6:30 pm
4 Oct	Hamdogger 6:30 pm
12 Oct	Breakfast 9:00 am Legion/Auxiliary Meetings 10:00 am SAL Mtg 11:30 am ALL 3 MEETINGS POSTPONED! NEW DATE TBA
18 Oct	Early Bird Dinner! 6:30 pm (No Steak Night this month) RSVP REQUIRED and Restrictions Apply
25 Oct	Fish Fry 6:30 pm RSVP REQUIRED
26 Oct	District 7 Fall Conference Post 38, Security 1100-1500 hours
1 Nov	Hamdogger 6:30 pm
7 Nov	Post Exec Mtg 6:30 pm
9 Nov	Veterans Day Parade - Downtown Colorado Springs
15 Nov	Steak Night! 6:30 pm RSVP REQUIRED
22 Nov	Fish Fry 6:30 pm RSVP REQUIRED
28 Nov	Happy Thanksgiving!
5 Dec	Post Exec Mtg 6:30 pm
6 Dec	Hamdogger 6:30 pm
14 Dec	Breakfast 9:00 am Legion/Auxiliary Meetings 10:00 am SAL Mtg 11:30 am NO MEETINGS THIS MONTH!
TBA	Post Christmas Party! Date/Time To Be Announced



Auxiliary Officers

Office	Name	Telephone
President	Jackie Bowen	719-574-1223
Vice President	Linda O'Riley	719-597-5673
Secretary	Lynn Thomas	719-392-1510
Treasurer	Mary Grier	719-536-0438
Chaplain	Marion Daugherty	719-637-9555
Sergeant-At-Arms	Lois Wooton	719-599-8683
Historian	Kari Ann Smith	520-784-7193



Sons of The American Legion 2012-2013

Office	Name	Telephone
Commander	Rick Kettering	813-967-6680
1st Vice Commander		
Adjutant	Ken Taylor	719-495-8190
Finance Officer	Rusty Bower	719-478-9122
Sgt-At-Arms	Don Shuck	719-575-0539
Chaplain	Chet Dean	719-244-2442
Historian	Chuck Ford	719-597-1019

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

NON-PROFIT
 ORGANIZATION
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 COLORADO SPGS, CO
 PERMIT NO. 192

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

~ August 2013 ~						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Post Exec. Cmittee Mtg 1830 	2 Hamdogger/Wingding Nite 1830 	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10 Monthly Legion, Auxiliary, and SAL Meetings 1000 Ice Cream Social - VA Nursing Home Florence - 1400 
11	12	13	14	15	16 Steak Nite-RSVP Required! 1830 	17
18	19	20	21	22	23 Fish Fry - RSVP Required! 1830 	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

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