



Centennial Post 209

P.O. Box 15461
Colorado Springs, CO 80935

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

FELLOW LEGIONNAIRES:

It's time again for a few witty words from your Commander. Some of them aren't so witty; however, I feel that they are appropriate. We have begun this Legion year with a resounding "Bang". We held formal initiation last month that was well attended by the membership and spouses and friends. We were able to initiate eleven (11) new Legionnaires at this function. We had a delightful menu and lot of comraderie. We were fortunate enough to get two members of the Department Auxiliary Staff to attend the function and brief the ladies present on the function and role of this organization. Following the ceremony a slide presentation of the History of the American Legion was shown. The highlight of the evening was the acceptance of a new member to our post---A World War I veteran of the youthful age of 91! We were so delighted to have him join us that we unanimously voted to not only accept him as a member, but to pay his dues for life. If you want to meet a truly delightful Legionnaire, plan to attend the up coming post meeting next week and meet John Greco--91 years young.

ITEM II

Membership - Our current role of membership indicates that we now have 101 members. Approximately 50% have paid their 1986 dues. Some of you may not be aware of it but 1986 dues are now due and payable. I would greatly appreciate all members paying their dues by the end of this month (September) and having their cards stamped as "Early Birds". This would also make our post the first post in Colorado to meet 100% of Goal in the 1986 Legion year. Let's be tops in the Department of Colorado in membership in 1986!

ITEM III

Hospital Visitations - One of the mandates of our organization is to visit VA Hospitals and Nursing Homes. I am proud to report that four (4) members of our post journeyed to Ft. Lyons last Saturday, September 7, 1985 to participate in "Activities Day". It was indeed an enjoyable event. Why not plan to attend next year--Right Now. We will be organizing a trip to Florence Nursing Home in the very near future, so why not plan to join us. It's not far to Florence and I am sure you will enjoy it as much as the patients.

ITEM IV

Fund Raisers - Enclosed with this newsletter you will find a letter stating our financial situation. We are in dire need of funds, therefore, I am seriously urging each member to seriously consider the matter. Also we are in need of Fund

raising ideas, so please come forth with your suggestions.

ITEM V

Auxiliary - We are planning to form an Auxiliary to our post in the very near future. Kindly ask your spouses if they would entertain the idea of becoming members of the Auxiliary. As you know the Legion is a family affair augmented by the Auxiliary. It's far more enjoyable if both husband and wife are involved in a joint venture and I can't think of one more worthy than the American Legion--Serving God and Country. Discuss the subject with your spouse, then contact Mrs. Marjorie Johnson at 576-3845 for particulars.

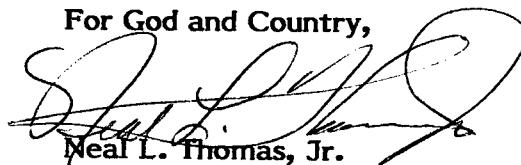
ITEM VI

Bingo - Our Bingo is doing well, however, to improve it we have decided to change locations and nights, effective 24 September 85. We will begin Tuesday night Bingo at the Retired Enlisted Association Bingo Hall, 834 Emory Circle at 7:00 P.M. This is a much larger facility and we will need more workers to man the Bingo crew. Therefore, I am asking that each post member consider participating in the endeavor in some way. All of the jobs do not require you to walk the floor - some jobs can be done sitting. I know all of the excuses --- I don't really like Bingo either, but I realize that it's our only existing source of income; therefore, I work Bingo. Won't you help your post do what it has to do to survive?

ITEM VI

Meeting - Our regularly scheduled meeting will convene at 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, 17 Sept 85 at the Retired Enlisted Association Club House. Since we will be starting a Tuesday night Bingo on 24 September 85, we will have to decide on a new meeting night for ensuing months. Come out and make your preference known. Mark it on your calendar and plan to attend this meeting and meet many new members of our post. While you are noting dates on your calendar, also note the fact that there is a District meeting taking place on Sunday, 22 September 85 at 2 p.m. at Security Post 38. Why not plan to attend it as well---Get Involved. Hoping to see all of you at the post meeting on the 17 September 85.

For God and Country,



Neal L. Thomas, Jr.
Commander

NLT:jbr

The Little Post ---Going Places and Doing Big Things



Centennial Post 209

P.O. Box 15461
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September 4, 1985

FELLOW LEGIONNAIRES:

As many of you know, we set out on a course of endeavor a few months back to secure a post home. This was an earnest endeavor to provide a place that we could call home and be justifiably proud of. However, this proved not to be a successful venture and we are now faced with a dilemma arising out of it.

By virtue of our efforts, we now find ourselves in the unenviable position of having acquired a sizeable indebtedness that we are unable to adequately meet. Therefore, it now becomes my unpleasant task to so inform you of our plight, as your Commander, and to seek your indulgence in resolving it.

The basic facts surrounding the matter is that we were ill prepared to undertake such a monumental task and by virtue of our inadequacy failed to succeed. We utilized all of the expertise available to us in this matter, but being short of funds, we were unable to continue. As a result of our discontinuance, we were left holding the proverbial bag of outstanding obligations which we cannot now meet.

In an effort to meet these outstanding obligations a few of us have seen fit to donate or loan monies to the post. At a recently held executive board meeting of the post, it was suggested that we approach the post membership concerning the possibility of securing individual loans/donations to remedy this unfortunate situation.

Therefore, if it is within your capability to either make a loan/donation to the post to establish a sound financial base, it would be greatly appreciated. Our current indebtedness is slightly more than \$3,000, therefore, substantial loans/grants are needed. As you know, if several people combine their efforts a monumental task can be accomplished, however, the efforts of a few often prove futile.

I am therefore appealing to your zeal and fervor for the ideals and principles exemplified by this organizations purpose and mandate to come to the aid and assistance of it, if it's within your power to do so.

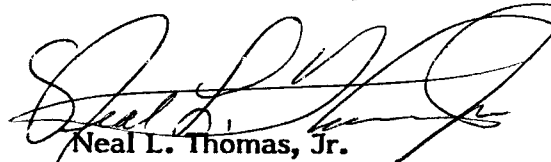
All loans made to the post will be duly recorded and repaid as soon as possible. All donations will be likewise recorded for tax purposes for those desiring to use them for taxable contributions.

In consonance with this plea for help, we are also seeking fund raising ideas from the membership-at-large. If you have a suggestion as to how we can conduct a fund raiser/membership drive, please come forth and offer it. After all, your ideas are just as valid as those of us whom you have elected to administer the affairs of this post.

If you are in a position to be of assistance or to offer an idea, please contact myself either at work at 473-6220 or home at 392-1510. You may also contact the Post Adjutant, Wally Lonsinger at 596-0194 or the Ways and Means Chairman, Dave Thomas at 392-1036.

If you feel as strongly as I do about the American Legion and our post in particular, you will do all you can to help.

For God and Country



Neal L. Thomas, Jr.
Commander

NLT:jbr