



The Centennial

Volume XV
Edition 9

September 2024

AMERICAN LEGION NEAL THOMAS JR. CENTENNIAL POST 209



Post 209 and District 7 attendees at the July Naturalization Ceremony.

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From the Desk of Our Commander

It is September already! It is the perfect time to enjoy the outdoors and cooler days/nights before we transition into fall. This is usually a great month to head into the mountains as the high-country trees usually begin to turn color. September is also the anniversary of passenger vehicle access to Pikes Peak. On September 23, 1913, the last spike was driven in the Pikes Peak Highway to the summit of Pikes Peak. The highway is one of the most scenic drives in the state, with stunning mountain views and hairpin turns. Check it out!

Within the Post, the audio-visual upgrade continues to progress. The Post now has an upgraded mesh WIFI. There are laminated cards with the access information distributed around the Post. The new access allows you to move anywhere on the Post property with the same connection, making it much more user friendly. Thanks to the generous donation of equipment from Past Commander Lino Calica, we now have a professional quality sound system installed in the Post that provides for much better microphone quality and DJ quality music entertainment. We also now have three rooms with independent web conferencing capability (meeting, dining and Auxiliary/SAL rooms). Our Membership meeting will have a Zoom conference component going forward, so if you are ill, on travel or otherwise can't attend in person, you can still participate in monthly meetings. Finally, George Sedlack was able to obtain a network switch for our new cabinet, which will help us implement the next stage of the upgrade, that includes adding a network hub and service to the rooms enabling hardline internet access and video push from a central location throughout the Post.

We have updated our committees for the year, to include finance, program planning, welcoming, membership, Americanism and youth, veterans' affairs & rehabilitation, public relations, gaming, club, house, oratorical, children and youth, and boys state committees as well as a couple new committees to improve veteran service and post maintenance/upkeep planning. If you are interested in serving on a committee, please reach out and we will help get you connected!

See you at the Post!

Steve Hayes

Post 209 Commander



We're Zooming Right Along!

Reminder that the Post is now able to offer remote audio-video meeting capability in the main meeting room via Zoom using your computer, tablet or phone. Obviously, we'd MUCH prefer your attendance in person, but we know there are times when that's not possible due to conflicts, illness or travel. This way, you can still stay connected to what is happening at our Post and in our community. Just keep in mind you won't get to eat our delicious breakfast through Zoom!

To virtually access a monthly meeting conducted in the main meeting room, go to:

-Web Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88157713484?pwd=SpUNbbjHxzruvaCfqrnoS4BG0QVJ2L1>

- Dial In: 719-359-4580; Phone or Zoom App Meeting ID: 881 5771 3484, Passcode: 834801



From Our Adjutant

Thank you to those who have already renewed for 2025. If you have not renewed yet, please send in your renewal. The best way to stop receiving the notices is for you to send in your renewal as soon as you receive the notice. I will get them processed as quickly as possible. If you have a friend that is a Veteran and is not a member, talk to them about joining. We already know the benefits of being a member, but your friend may not so let them know what we do. Most people when asked say the only reason they are not a member is because they have never been asked; so, ask.

Another reason to renew now is the Early Bird Dinner. What is Early Bird you ask. Well, Early Bird is those legionnaires that renew for the coming year early. As an incentive to renew early we will be having our annual Early Bird Dinner. The dinner will be on October 18th which is our Chicken Fried Chicken Dinner night. Every Legionnaire, Auxiliary, or SAL member that has renewed or joined by October 15th and sends in their RSVP will receive that dinner for free that night. I can tell you the chicken fried chicken is one of my favorite meals that we offer at the post so don't miss out renew early and I hope to see you there.

As I stated earlier, I am getting membership processed as quickly as I can. I am in the office on most Mondays from 9:30 – 3:00. If you want to bring your renewal to the Post you can do so at that time. I just ask that you call when you get to the Post to make sure I am there but to also unlock the door to let you in. When I am at the Post by myself, I lock the front door so I know who is in the building. I am not just processing membership so you don't have to be turning in your renewal to come see me. I am always available if you just want to talk or have Legion questions.

Thanks for all you do to help Veterans and the Post.

Marvin Weaver, Jr.
Post 209 Adjutant



From our Sons of The American Legion Commander

August was a memorable month for our squadron, featuring two key events that underscored our commitment to service and camaraderie. Our Friday Night Dinner was a tremendous success, bringing together our members and the post for an evening of delicious food and even better company; strengthening the bonds that unite us. We also held our inaugural 5 Star and 10 Ideals Program Meeting, which, while needing greater attendance, provided valuable insights to those who participated. Attendees gained a deeper understanding of the opportunities for personal growth, leadership development, and community service these programs offer. Your ongoing enthusiasm and involvement continue to exemplify the spirit of our organization.

As we enter September, we have several significant occasions to commemorate. Each of these dates holds a special place in our hearts as we honor the brave men and women who have served our great

nation. Here are the important events for this month:

Victory Over Japan Day - September 2, 1945

September 2nd marks Victory over Japan Day, a pivotal moment in history when World War II officially ended with Japan's surrender. This day symbolizes the triumph of freedom and the immense sacrifices made by our Allied forces. Let us take a moment to remember those who served and gave their all during this defining period in our history.

Patriot Day - September 11, 2001

On September 11th, we observe Patriot Day, a day of reflection and remembrance for the lives lost during the tragic events of 9/11. This day is also a tribute to the bravery of first responders and the enduring spirit of unity and resilience that emerged from such a dark moment. As we honor those who perished, let us renew our commitment to the values of freedom and solidarity that define our nation.

Air Force Birthday - September 18, 1947

September 18th marks the birthday of the United States Air Force, established in 1947 as a separate branch of the military. For 77 years, the Air Force has defended our skies and projected American strength across the globe. We celebrate the courage, innovation, and dedication of all who have served in the Air Force, ensuring our nation's security and freedom.

POW/MIA Recognition Day - Third Friday in September

On the third Friday of September, we observe POW/MIA Recognition Day, a day dedicated to honoring the service members who were prisoners of war or remain missing in action. This solemn day reminds us of the enduring pain and uncertainty faced by the families of these brave individuals. We pledge to never forget their sacrifices and continue to advocate for the fullest possible accounting of those still unaccounted for.

As we reflect on these important dates, let us also acknowledge the continuous efforts of all our members in supporting our veterans and active-duty service members. Your dedication to our cause is what makes our organization strong.

Upcoming Events and Announcements:

5-Star and 10-Ideals Program Meeting - We will meet on 12 September at 1730. Please attend.

Monthly Meeting - Our next squadron meeting will be held on 24 September at 1730. Please make sure to attend as we will be discussing upcoming activities and events.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to the Sons of the American Legion. Together, we can make a difference in the lives of those who have served our country.

Chris Hollingsworth
SAL Commander





A Post Can Also Be The One!

“Be The One” has become a program of The American Legion. It is a mantra repeated by many at all levels. We are told that we too, can Be The One! This is also true not just as individuals, it also can and should be the call for all Posts and Legion families.

I want to share an example how an American Legion Post family can Be The One. As some of you know, our Post has been supporting a Homeless Veteran Standdown for several years. About 10 years ago, we were there and helped provide much needed toiletries and other items to the approximately 200 homeless Veterans who came through the Standdown. And as has been the tradition, there were 30-40 selected to participate in our Transitional Housing Initiative (THI), a program to temporarily house these Veterans. Our Post, led by our Auxiliary and Riders, would join with other local Posts and take turns to provide food while attempting to help them find jobs and get off the streets. One of those selected that year was John.

There was something about John that caught our eye. He demonstrated he was really sincere about wanting to get off the streets and get help for his substance abuse problem. One of our members owns several houses and is always looking for maintenance help. He offered John a job as a maintenance man and John jumped on the opportunity.

That was a little over 10 years ago. Today, John is a member of our Post and is our outdoor facility manager. He is also enrolled in a college program working on a degree. He has permanent housing and recently bought a car. He works tirelessly around the Post and refuses to accept a penny for the hard work he provides. John does everything from general repairs and maintenance around the grounds, to mowing the lawn, snow removal from our parking lot and walkway, and taking care of the trees and shrubbery around the Post.

Even though John will not allow us to pay him for these services, we did surprise him recently with a Paid Up For Life membership. He was very appreciative and has stated he will work even harder to earn the PUFL gift. I just don't know how he can work harder.

John has repeatedly told us the Post 209 family literally saved his life. There were times when he first left the streets that he considered ending his life. But the Post 209 family would call to check on him and that call gave him reassurance his life meant something.

John has graciously given me permission to tell his story. He's doing so with the hope other Posts and individuals will read this and take the blessings given to them by God to give a homeless Veteran a “hand up,” not a “hand out” with an opportunity similar to the one offered to him.

We need to continue working individually to Be The One, but we should also work together as a Post family to Be Part Of The Solution and Be The One! Together, we can change lives, and save lives.

Jay Bowen
Past Commander





From our Post Historian



While 9/11 remembrances will predominate this month, September is filled with innumerable dates of significance for American veterans. The coordinated Islamic terrorist attacks on 11 Sep 2001 prompted the still unresolved Global War on Terrorism; as President George W. Bush declared in September 2001, “Our war on terror...will not end until every terrorist group of global reach has been found, stopped and defeated.”

Americanism abounds in September. Our nation’s founding document, the U.S. Constitution, which every veteran has sworn to “support and defend” against all foreign and domestic enemies, was signed on 17 Sep 1787. Our National Anthem (officially adopted in 1931) was penned this month in 1814, as Francis Scott Key was inspired by the American defense of Fort McHenry under British bombardment. The Pledge of Allegiance in its original form, first appeared in print this month in 1892. And finally, Congress chartered The American Legion on 16 Sep 1919.

Some notable firsts in military technology include the first use of submarine warfare, when the American submersible, *Turtle*, attempted (unsuccessfully) to sink a British warship in the New York Harbor on 7 Sep 1776. The first nuclear submarine, *USS Nautilus*, was commissioned by the U.S. Navy on 30 Sep 1954. 1LT Thomas Selfridge, USA, became the first active-duty member killed in an aircraft, when his Wright Military Flyer (piloted by Orville Wright), crashed on a 17 Sep 1908 training mission. The B-29 Superfortress, the American strategic bomber used in the bombing raids that broke the will of the Japanese empire during the Second World War, made its debut flight on 21 Sep 1942.

A number of “turning point” battles occurred during the month of September. On 11 Sep 1814, the American fleet defeated the British squadron at the Battle of Plattsburg on Lake Champlain, forcing the British retreat to Canada and the negotiated conclusion of the War of 1812. In 1847, General Winfield Scott won the last major battle of the Mexican-American War, as the Marines stormed Chapultepec Castle (near Mexico City), raising the Stars and Stripes over “The Halls of Montezuma.” American victory led to the formal U.S. possession of California, Nevada, Utah, Colorado, and portions of New Mexico and Arizona. 17 Sep 1862 marks the deadliest one-day battle in American history, with over 23,000 total casualties. The costly Union victory at the Battle of Antietam provided President Lincoln the opportunity to issue the Emancipation Proclamation. The Saint-Mihiel offensive was initiated on 12 Sep 1918, the first major operation during the First World War by an independent American Army, led by General John Pershing. Saint-Mihiel also marked the largest Allied air operation of the war, led by Army BG Billy Mitchell, regarded as the “father of the U.S. Air Force.”

Two major American wars ended in the month of September. On 3 Sep 1783, Britain formally recognized the



independence of the United States of America, as the Treaty of Paris ended the American Revolutionary War.

Second World War hostilities were concluded with the formal surrender of Japan aboard the *USS Missouri* in Tokyo Bay on 2 Sep 1945.

The 15-month Berlin Airlift, which demonstrated America's resolve to support Western Europe in the face of Soviet aggression, concluded on 30 Sep 1949, marking an early "victory" in the Cold War.

The third Friday in September (20 Sep 2024) is designated as POW/MIA Recognition Day.

September "birthdays":

1 Sep (1982) – Air Force Space Command activated at Peterson AFB (Colorado Springs)

12 Sep (1957) – NORAD established at Ent AFB (Colorado Springs)

18 Sep (1947) – U.S. Air Force established - The National Security Act also created the position of Secretary of Defense, the National Security Council, and the Central Intelligence Agency

Kurt Skinner
Post Historian



From our Color/Honor Guard Captain

The Honor Guard continues to work very hard support our veterans and our community...but, as always, we **NEED YOUR HELP!** The Post 209 Honor Guard is a highly visible team supporting Final Honors in Colorado Springs and representing Post 209 in the Community. We are the largest Post in the State of Colorado, yet we have less than 1% of the Post Family membership making up the Honor Guard. There are 14 "active" members of the Honor Guard consisting of: 11 Legion, 1 SAL, and 2 ALA. A large portion of the team have full time jobs, or are otherwise not available, so a small handful of team members support the majority of all events. Unfortunately, this has led to the team denying requests to support Final Honors at veterans' services due to not having the minimum three members available. This means some veterans do not receive the Final Honors they both earned and deserve; which is something each of us have earned and should expect when it is our turn. Please, read the next paragraph and ask yourself – "Do I have a few hours each month to support even just one event?"

And now for the standard ending of my newsletter article–Want to be part of a great team? The Honor Guard needs to gain more new team members in order to ensure we are able to continue supporting our veterans and our community. Understandably, not everyone has much time to participate in the Honor Guard. In reality, all someone needs are a few available hours: about an hour to participate a night for a training meeting (check the newsletter calendar or the calendar

on the Honor Guard website - <https://legion209.org/honorguard209/>) and up to a couple of hours for an event. So around three hours a month for a meeting and just **ONE** event is all you need to make a difference in helping support our veterans and our community. Members of The American Legion, the Sons of The American Legion, and The American Legion Auxiliary are all eligible to be members of the Honor Guard with all uniform items provided except Legion family-specific cap and shoes. If you or someone you know might be interested in supporting the Honor Guard, please reach out to me at: (719) 482-4496 or honor.guard@legion209.org.

Like and Follow Post 209 Honor Guard” Facebook page. The link is at the top of the Honor Guard website: <https://legion209.org/honorguard209/>

Joel W. Haas
Honor Guard Captain



From our Junior Shooting Sports Program

The Young Guns Basic Course provides youth ages 10-18 years old (boys and girls) the opportunity to learn about firearms safety and basic shooting skills. During Young Guns, credentialed National Rifle Association (NRA) Basic Rifle Instructors teach the safe handling of firearms, shooting positions (prone, kneeling, and standing), how to zero a rifle, and how to score targets. At the end of the course, the youth have a competition shoot against the others in the course in order to show off the skills they have learned. The Marksmanship Course provides graduates of Young Guns the opportunity to further develop their shooting skills. Both courses have a credentialed NRA Range Safety Officer (RSO) overseeing the range and ensuring all activities are conducted safely and in accordance with the JSSP Range Standard Operating Procedures (SOP). If you have a child, grandchild, niece, nephew, neighbor kid, etc. interesting in learning about firearm safety, contact the Post 209 JSSP at: jssp209@gmail.com.

The Fall 2024 Junior Shooting Class flyer has been posted on the Young Guns website. The Young Guns brochure, Basic Course Application (new shooters), and Marksmanship Course Application are also available on the website. The cost for students is \$30. It is never too early to sign up, so send in your youth’s application today! The Fall 2024 classes start with Marksmanship on Wednesday September 11 (4:45pm, 5:45pm, and 6:45pm) and Young Guns on Thursday September 12 (6:15pm), both held at Post 209. If an adult (sibling, parent, grandparent, etc.) would like to take part in the courses, any open slots are offered on a first-come basis to allow for adults to take part in the courses.

The JSSP needs Instructors, RSOs, and Volunteers to support the program to ensure the continuation of quality instruction and a safe range for the students taking part in the program(s). In the past, NRA Basic courses have been scheduled that did not receive enough student signups (minimum of four) to allow for the class to be held. If you or someone you know are interested in taking one or more of the courses being offered, please contact me at the email below. Once there are enough potential students interested, a course will be scheduled based on the available date that best meets the overall schedule of those on the list(s). The courses being taught are the: NRA Basic Range Safety Officer Course, NRA Basic Rifle Course, and NRA Basic Pistol

Course. These are one day courses held at Post 209 and, as required, a local range. The costs of the courses are kept to just the cost needed to run the course (materials, lunch, range fees, etc.).

The JSSP Instructors are going to be working on a plan to help facilitate the attendance to the NRA Basic Instructor Training Course (as needed), NRA Basic Pistol Instructor Course, and NRA Basic Rifle Instructor Course (as applicable). Volunteers demonstrating the commitment to providing long-term support the program may be able to get the costs of the NRA Instructor Courses reduced/partially refunded by the JSSP. More details will be coming out in the next couple of months.

A JSSP Instructor/RSO and Volunteer Meeting will be held 5:00pm - 8:00pm Wednesday September 4. Topics to cover: Range setup/teardown, Range procedures, Instructor/RSO and Volunteer responsibilities, and more. Please plan to attend to learn more about JSSP, how the program works, and how you can help make a difference to the promotion of firearms safety and marksmanship for our community's youth.

If you are interested in one or more courses, volunteering, or just learning more about the Post 209 JSSP, please email: jwhaas.jssp209@gmail.com.

Like and Follow "Centennial Post 209 Young Guns Shooting Sports" Facebook page. The link is at the top of the Young Guns website: <https://legion209.org/young-guns/>

Joel W. Haas
JSSP Instructor



Department Reorganization Update

11 August, 2024 Message from Past National Commander and Reorganization Committee Chairman Dave Rehbein:

Colorado Legionnaires,

As we begin the process to return the charter of the Department of Colorado, I want to share that process with you. Before that though, I want to emphasize up front that this process has several steps and unless the membership of The American Legion in Colorado works together, that process can be easily delayed or destroyed.

You should also know that the process I will describe has been used in Washington as they work to regain their charter. They have successfully approved a new Constitution and Bylaws and elected acting Department officers. That gives us confidence that this process will also work in Colorado.

The work will begin with the selection of a small (5-6 member) working group to create a first draft of a new Constitution and Bylaws for Colorado. The members of this working group will be chosen by National Judge Advocate Seavey and myself. We anticipate that the group will meet to create that first draft during the month of September. The draft will remain confidential and be submitted to a constitutional convention.

The members of that constitutional convention will be chosen by the districts in Colorado. The choices your district makes are extremely important. We want the voices of the Colorado Legionnaires to be heard in writing those new documents. This process creates the possibility of a new beginning for Colorado and the choice of the Legionnaires representing your district is critical, critical in that they have the future of Colorado in mind but also very importantly, that they be trusted by the members of your district to speak for them.

Some of the districts, yours may be among them, made those choices during spring conference. The coming fall conference is the chance for your membership to ratify those choices or to change them. These choices are similar to the choices made when the US Constitutional Convention met in Philadelphia or the choices made by the states in their representatives to the St Louis Caucus. Those decisions are in the hands of your membership.

This constitutional convention will receive the first draft from the working group and create a final draft to be presented to a special convention of The American Legion. It is anticipated that the constitutional convention will convene sometime in November for their work. We will plan that meeting for a date following the last district conference. We will talk more about that conference later in this message.

The constitutional convention will operate under a few restrictions. First, we want their work to remain confidential to the group until they have a finished draft and we can coordinate release to the posts and membership. Second, as was done in Philadelphia, the group must be unanimous in their deliberations before their work becomes final. We will share best practices and not-so-best practices from other Departments with them as they deliberate and will ensure that their work does not violate the National Constitution or Bylaws.

If all continues to go well, their final draft from the Constitutional Convention will be submitted to a special convention of The American Legion of Colorado. That special convention will be held on January 24-26 in Fort Collins. More information will be available on the convention later.

At that convention, the drafted Constitution and Bylaws will be considered and if passed, elections for the officers specified in those documents will be held. Once that is accomplished, we will begin working with those newly elected acting officers to have the charter reinstated. Those officers will not be official until the charter is restored but they will be part of the work to make that recommendation to the national Executive Committee.

For now, we encourage you to consider who you would like to represent your district at the Constitutional Convention. Please also consider who from your district they believe would serve them well as acting and then official Department officers. If you would like to be one of those delegates to the constitutional convention or if you want to be a candidate for Department office, that process should start with an endorsement from your Post.

We have a place on the Colorado American Legion website to post endorsements and resumes for candidates that have been endorsed for one of those future offices. Contact Headquarters for information on how to submit that information.

One final note, we plan to have a member of the reorganization committee address your fall conference and answer any questions you may have. Please watch for the date and place for your district's conference and bring any questions you have.



Our Scouts Continue to Excel!

One of our Troop 79 Scouts just completed his Eagle Scout project at the Post. Andrew Greb and his team of volunteers arrived at the Post before 7am Saturday 10 August, put down weed fabric and covered our enclosed trailer storage area on the South end of the building with fine ground asphalt. This project will help reduce weed control, mushy ground and erosion issues on that end of the building. The trailer equipment now has a much more stable surface for parking. Andrew's team was able to finish the project in time to join us for the opening of the membership meeting that morning. Awesome job!



Salty Dog

Ever wonder what all those letters after a ships name means? Here is a short list:

- CV – Carrier of Fixed Wing Aircraft
- CVN – Carrier of Fixed Wing Aircraft – Nuclear Powered
- BB – Battleship
- CGN – Guided Missile Cruiser – Nuclear Powered
- DDG – Guided Missile Destroyer
- FFG – Guided Missile Frigate
- SSBN – Ballistic Missile Submarine – Nuclear Powered
- LHD – Amphibious Assault Ship – Multi Purpose
- LPH – Amphibious Assault Ship – Helicopter
- LST – Landing Ship Tank



USS John F Kennedy CV-67



USS Inchon LPH-12

Marvin Weaver, Jr.
Post 209 Adjutant





Bringing A Little South to the West

Growing up in suburbia and spending countless days and weeks on my grandparents' and Great Aunt's and Uncles' farms, I've had the privilege to ride in/on and drive many conveyances. They included cars, trucks, tractors, trailers filled with picked cotton as we headed to the gin, and the three horses we kept on my Mom's parents farm. But the strangest thing I ever rode was a Pig.

Well, technically it was a huge hog, the 4-legged version not the motorized two-wheeler. It belonged to my Great Aunt and Uncle who lived on a southwest Missouri farm. The pig was entered into many FFA competitions and apparently scored well most of the time. For a pig, he was pretty tame and very docile.

I was probably 6 or 7 years old at the time. Bubba and I liked hanging with our cousins who lived on the farm. They were 5-7 years older than us. One day we were in their huge barn playing around. They had a pump action Daisy BB gun. They took turns shooting at sparrows in the barn. Well, everyone took turns except for me. They told me I was too young to shoot the BB gun.

After much begging they offered me a deal, ride the pig and they would let me have 5 shots. I hesitated for only a few seconds before agreeing to the terms. So, we went over to the large pen where the pig was kept and I walked up, grabbed him by his ears and climbed on his back. My feet didn't even touch the ground. He was either that large or I was that small...or both.

I held on pretty good while he squealed and ran around the pen. Finally, the pig ran up close to the barn wall and I got my leg caught between the wall and the pig and was pulled off. The pig kept running and got as far away from me as possible so I wouldn't try it again. He didn't know I had no intention of riding him again, I had fulfilled my end of the bargain. And so did my cousins.

They handed me the BB gun and told me I could shoot it 5 times as agreed. What they didn't tell me was there was only 2 BB's left in the gun. This was something I finally discovered after the 5th shot and realized nothing had been coming out of the barrel during the last 3 firings. Not only was I missing the sparrows, there was no sound of the BB's hitting anything.

While at the time I was really upset, but nowadays I understand this was a great life lesson. When you strike a deal make certain you detail exactly what you want on your end. And as an aside, it is a pretty good resume builder showing the various modes of transportation I am experienced driving and riding. 😊

Jay Bowen
Past Commander





Don't Wait! Renewal Now!!

As you know, we've begun our 2025 Membership push. Please don't wait until you get 3 or 4 notices before you renew. Help us save money that can be used to support a veteran in need or further our great youth programs.

Contact our Post Adjutant for assistance getting renewed. He can and wants to help!

Be an Early Bird, and get a free dinner in October!

Now, let's "git 'er done!"

UPCOMING EVENTS



JOIN US IN A 9-11 REMEMBRANCE WALK

Post 209 will be conducting our 3rd Annual 9-11 Remembrance Walk in Memorial Park on September 11th, 2024 at 1700 Hrs. (5PM) and all Legion Family Members, friends, and family are invited to join us. It is a paved 2.5-mile route encompassing the GWOT, Fallen Firefighter, and Peace Officers memorials. What a fitting way to honor those involved in our safety at home and abroad.

Please meet us at the Veterans Memorial in Memorial Park off S. Union Blvd., ready to kick off at 1700. This is not a supported competitive event so bring your own water and whatever else you may need for the weather.

Also bring a flag to fly on the way around. We want to get people's attention so that they remember it is not just another Wednesday, it's

Patriot Day!





SAL



SAFETY INITIATIVE

Sons of the American Legion
Squadron 209 will replace and install
smoke detector batteries at no cost for
veterans in financial need or with
physical limitations

Contact SQ 209:
Rob Barry
719-930-5725
colo.rsb@yahoo.com



Made with PicnicWise.com



SENIOR VETERAN APPRECIATION

9AM TO 10AM
EVERY THIRD WEDNESDAY
OF THE MONTH

Flagship Health Clinic
3210 N. Academy Blvd. Suite 3
Colorado Springs, CO 80917

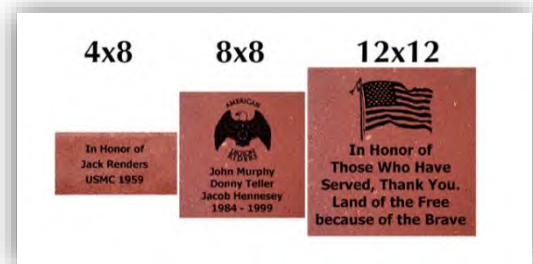


55" TV
GIVEAWAY!

*Giveaway every
quarter – attend
monthly for a chance
to win.*

Walk of Honor

- **What are the costs for the individual bricks?** Prices vary depending on size, style, and lettering desired but typically range from \$75 to \$200, depending on size.
- **What are the costs for the corporate/veteran supporter bricks?** Again, prices vary depending on size, style, and lettering but typically range from \$125 to \$500.
- **What is the difference between individual and corporate bricks?** Individual bricks are for veterans and family members wishing to purchase a brick to honor their veterans. The corporate bricks are for our veteran-friendly supporters and businesses who want to show their continued support for our nation's heroes by purchasing a brick.
- **Is the brick purchase restricted to members of the Post 209 families?** No. We encourage members to buy a brick for themselves for their veteran loved ones or to show their support for our veterans.
- **Where do I go to buy a brick?** We have a link on our website. Just visit legion209.org and click on "Walk of Honor." Or, you can visit <http://polarengraving.com/ALPost209> to buy your brick. The site is user-friendly and will walk you through the design and purchase. In addition, you will see a preview of your brick before finalizing the purchase.
- **How do I pay for the brick?** We have the site set up to accept payment via PayPal or 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 sent 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 in the area we call the Walk of Honor.
- **How long will this fundraiser effort last?** We plan to continue selling bricks until the Walk of Honor is covered with personalized bricks.
- **Will I have an opportunity to buy a brick later?** Quite possibly, depending 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 projects. If you buy multiple bricks, let our Adjutant know, and we will ensure they are all placed together.

Celebrate

At
American Legion
Neal Thomas Jr. Centennial Post 209

Host your next event with us! With over 2,500 SQFT of venue space this is the perfect location for your next social event!



Rental Features:

- 6 Hour Rental
- In House Catering Available*
- Fully Stocked Bar*
- Muti-Room Sound System
- Dance Floor with Lighting

If you and your family are looking for an affordable option for a wedding, corporate event, retirement party, or any other event, we here at The American Legion Post 209 are ready to assist you in all your event planning needs.

Starting at
\$350!



For More Information

www.legion209.org/contact_us

(719) 599-8624

3613 Jeannine Drive Colorado Springs, CO 80917

*Additional cost may apply

PROGRAMS FOR KIDS

Young Guns



NRA-Accredited members of Sons of The American Legion are sponsors and instructors for the Young Guns program. This basic rifle safety and marksmanship course are offered to boys and girls ages 10-18. Shooting is indoors, using air rifles.

<https://www.facebook.com/AmericanLegionCentennialPost209/>

Scouting Programs

The Post 209 family is the charter partner with the following Boy Scouts of America (BSA) units:



- Cub Scout Pack 24 (Boys and Girls): p24@legion209.org
- Scouts BSA Troop 77 (Girls): t77@legion209.org
- Scouts BSA Troop 79 (Boys): t79@legion209.org
- Scouts BSA Troop 187 (Boys): t187@legion209.org
- Venture Crew 762 (Young men and women ages 14-20): c762@legion209.org

Boys and Girls State



Boys State and Girls State are for high school juniors going into their senior year with at least one semester left.

- BOYS STATE www.colegionboysstate.org/
- GIRLS STATE www.alacolorado.org/girls-state

Oratorical Contest



This Nationwide contest is designed to develop a more profound knowledge and appreciation of the Constitution of the United States on the part of high school students.
























www.colegionoratorical.org

























Eagle Scout of the Year



The American Legion Eagle Scout of the Year nomination window is from **1 November to 1 March**. Nomination packets must be received by each applicant's respective The American Legion department (state) headquarters no later than 1 March.

<https://legion209.org/Scouting/>

September 2024						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Labor Day Labor Day Holiday!	3	4 JSSP Instructor and Volunteer Mtg. 5:00pm-8:00pm 	5 Exec. Cmtee Mtg 6:00pm  Venture Crew 7:00pm 	6 Price Depends on Menu Hamdogger Night! 6:00pm RSVP Required! 	7  Honor Bell Meeting 10:00am
8	9 Troop 77 Mtg. 6:00pm Post 209 Golf Tournament Antler Creek GC	10 Honor Gd. Trng 6:00pm 	11 Patriot Day Loggers Guild Marksmanship 4:45pm-8:00pm 9-11 Remembrance Walk! 	12 Young Guns 6:15pm  Venture Crew 7:00pm 	13 Price TBD ALR Dinner 6:00pm RSVP Required! 	14 Membership Meeting B'fast - 9:00/Mtg - 10:00  
15	16 Troop 77 Mtg. 6:00pm	17 ALR Exec. Mtng ALR 6:30pm. 	18 Loggers Guild Marksmanship 4:45pm-8:00pm 	19 Young Guns 6:15pm  Venture Crew 7:00pm 	20 \$15/person Chicken Fried Chicken 6:00pm RSVP Required! 	21
22 Start of Fall	23 Troop 77 Mtg. 6:00pm	24 ALR/SAL Monthly Mtng SAL 5:30pm ALR 6:45pm  	25 Loggers Guild Marksmanship 4:45pm-8:00pm 	26 Honor Gd. Trng 6:00pm Young Guns 6:15pm Venture Crew 7:00pm  	27 Price TBD ALA Dinner 6:00pm RSVP Required! 	28 Healing Warriors! 9:00am-1:00pm Vets Helping Vets
29	30 Troop 77 Mtg. 6:00pm	Notes:				

October 2024						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2  Marksmanship 4:45pm-8:00pm	3  Exec. Cmtee Mtg 6:00pm  Venture Crew 7:00pm	4 Hamdogger Night! 6:00pm  RSVP Required!	5  Honor Bell Meeting 10:00am
6	7 Troop 77 Mtg. 6:00pm	8  Honor Gd. Trng 6:00pm	9  Marksmanship 4:45pm-8:00pm	10  Young Guns 6:15pm	11 SAL Dinner 6:00pm  RSVP Required!	12 Membership Meeting B'fast - 9:00/Mtg - 10:00  
13	14 <i>Columbus Day</i> Troop 77 Mtg. 6:00pm	15  ALR Exec. Mtng ALR 6:30pm.	16  Marksmanship 4:45pm-8:00pm	17  Young Guns 6:15pm	18 \$15* Early Bird Dinner! Chicken Fried Chicken 6:00pm  RSVP Required!	19
20	21 Troop 77 Mtg. 6:00pm	22   ALR/SAL Monthly Mtng SAL 5:30pm ALR 6:45pm	23  Marksmanship 4:45pm-8:00pm	24  Honor Gd. Trng 6:00pm  Young Guns 6:15pm  Venture Crew 7:00pm	25 \$15/person Victory Service Dog Fundraiser.+ Spaghetti/Fettucine 6:00pm  RSVP Required!	26 Halloween Party! 3:00pm-5:00pm Healing Warriors! 9:00am-1:00pm Vets Helping Vets
27	28 Troop 77 Mtg. 6:00pm	29	30  Marksmanship 4:45pm-8:00pm	31 Hallow een  Young Guns 6:15pm	Notes: *The Early Bird dinner is free for members of The Legion, Auxiliary, and Sons who join or renew their 2025 membership by 15 October, 2024. +We will also conduct a Silent Auction at this dinner	