

The Centennial



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Mail: P.O. Box 25334, Colorado Springs, Co 80936-5334

Post: 3613 Jeannine Dr., Colorado Springs, Co 80917-8002

Telephone 719-599-8624

Email: centennialtwozeronine@yahoo.com

Website: www.legion209.org



From the Desk and Mind of the Commander

Gregory Smith



The end of the year is coming and I feel we as a Post have made great strides in the community and helping Veterans. Our officer have highlighted some of the great things that happened over this past month. The Legion family supported the All Activities Day in Pueblo by serving Veterans and residents in the Nursing home; the ALR participated in the Vet4Vet event, which supports the upcoming Veterans Stand Down, and the SAL recognized members for Continuous Service. I continue to enjoy and get excited with all this Post does each and every month. What a great team and family.

With the busy schedules of each program, the Legion family needed to not have a general membership meeting in September. I hope we got the word out to all and you became aware of the change for September. We are going to have the meeting in October. This meeting is going to have a lot of information. We have Representative Lamborn's staff, Dale Anderson, who will be present to help answer our questions about the VA Cemetery and "Deerslayer", from the Veterans Stand Down Coalition, who will be speaking about the upcoming event and talk about the event needs. Last year we were able to help some, but had many more that needed assistance. **Let us help our Homeless Veterans in the Colorado Springs community.** Many just need hope, compassion, and support to get things back on track.

The holiday season is coming quick so please make sure you attend our events so as to learn what is on the schedule, support our events with contributions, volunteerism, and time, and get involved so that you can see what we do as a Legion Family. This "Legion Family" has become such a great model and structure for us to show others how to grow a Post and how to get the most out of a team. It is a force to be reckoned with in the Colorado Springs community. Please continue to tell others in the community how they can help and get involved.

In review of the schedule so far, we have the Toys for Tots ride, Toy run, Veteran's Day parade, McCandless Veteran's Home Santa support run, District 7 Conference (Oktoberfest), SAL Chili Cook off, Early Bird dinner, ALR Oktoberfest dinner, Halloween party, ALR end of season party, Thanksgiving family boxes, and Service birthdays. WOW!!! What a great schedule. We are planning more. Let us know what else we can do in the community to help other Veterans.

The upcoming District 7 Fall Conference has a new twist. It is being redesigned to meet the needs of those in attendance. The Conference, as described by the Commander, is going to address the meeting agenda items (less than 90 minutes) and then transition into an Oktoberfest event. It will be October 18th, from 11-3 at Post 5 in Colorado Springs downtown. Please attend and you will experience the new design. A Post that attends with an officer and a member will be entered into a drawing for a McCarthy print to display in your Post. All attendees will be given a ticket for a door prize drawing. Please come and learn, but also experience the comradeship within the District 7 American Legion.

The Auxiliary is looking for your support today. Please talk to all spouses, partners, and daughters today and discuss how they can become members of the American Legion Auxiliary. They are an entity that helps support Veterans. The Department President has developed a campaign event to enroll all new members and their recruiters into a drawing for \$500. Talk to those that are eligible today. Tell them of your experiences in the American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary. I know each of us or your Post can use this \$500 to help Veterans and their families. Do it today.

The American Legion Riders are partially through the riding season and it has been a great success. There have been many miles and hours posted to let the Department know what we are supporting. We are over 50,000 miles since July 1st. If you see a rider, ask them if they are an American Legion Rider, if not, let them know where we are. We always have room for more great riders, so take time to help them see the passion of what we do for Veterans. Put that logo on your cage (Car) today so others know you support a "Rider."

Reservations and RSVP go to Jackie Bowen (574-1223) jackiebowen2005@yahoo.com or Kariann Smith (520)-784-3193 kariannsmith@me.com



From the Unit 209 President

Jackie Bowen

I would like to recognize and thank all the 209 volunteers at "All Activities Day." Pat and Marvin Weaver, Marvin Weaver Jr., Stan Hamamoto, Eric and Donna Testorff (Stan & Ollie too), Joyce and Ken Taylor, Jackie and Bill Burd, Mavis and Nick Spath, Cathy Barger, and Kellie Hayes. It's because of people like these that make our Post Family so great! We had a great time visiting with the patients. We met a WWII POW. Thank God he made it back home. For the first time that I can remember we had a lot of cadets assisting with the patients. We spoke with one cadet pretty intensively and when I told her she was a Veteran, her comment was "but I haven't done anything yet." Thankfully Eric was there to help explain that yes she is a Veteran.

The Auxiliary will be doing a **BAKE SALE** along with the SAL's chili cook-off Sunday October the 11th. If you have a special dessert bring it on down. Proceeds from the sale will be used to help our Veterans and their families.

We will have District officers visiting us at our October meeting. Please join us so you can meet your District leaders.

Can you believe it's almost time for Halloween? I can't. We will have our annual Halloween party so look at the calendar for the date and time.

Serving Our Veterans Proudly!



District 7 Fall Conference!

The District 7 Fall Conference will be at American Legion Post 5 in Colorado Springs on October 4, 2015 starting at 11:00am. There will be an Oktoberfest theme to the Conference. Wear your Lederhosen!



From The Commander Squadron 209

Rick Kettering

Squadron 209 is will hold a Chili Cook-off at Post 209 on 11 October 2015 starting at 12 noon. This is a fundraiser for the Squadron. Anyone wanting to participate is asked to prepare it at home and then bring it in. There is an \$10.00 entry fee for all who bring in a pot to compete. All who attend will get to try all entries and then vote on their favorite. The winner will be announced at 1400 hours and will receive a \$25.00 gift card to Sportsman Warehouse. There will be veggie trays provided by the Squadron.

Members of Squadron 209 present at our last meeting that were awarded certificates and pins for hitting the 5 year anniversary, those in attendance were Evan Swarzbart, Bob Ribisi, and Ken Taylor. There are more to be presented as soon as possible.

Our members are working hard on the Five Star Program, and there are quite a few pins and certificates to be presented. We are also working on getting our younger members started on the Ten Ideals program.

For God and Country,

Rick Kettering



DO YOU NEED ASSISTANCE FROM THE VA? Help has Arrived

What? Our American Legion Department Service Office will be in Colorado Springs the 4th Saturday of Every Month (except November/December) for the Next Year.

Where? Centennial Post 209 at 3613 Jeannine Drive.

Time? 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Why? To assist our local Veterans with Claims and to Provide Information Related to Their Medical Benefits.

FAQ:

Do I have to be a member of The American Legion?

No. We Will Offer Assistance to Any Qualified Veteran.

Do I need an Appointment?

No, but it is Recommended. Call 303-914-5585 to Make an Appointment, but Walk-ins are Welcome.

What Do I Bring?

DD214, as well as the following that pertains to your situation: Marriage Certificate; Divorce Decree; Death Certificate; and any Civilian Medical Records.



Tell your Veteran Friends and Neighbors!





POST 209 YOUNG GUNS

Sons of the American Legion (SAL) Adjutant Ken Taylor



The Young Guns Junior Shooting class started its nine week fall session on September 9th 2015 with twelve new shooters. All students received their packets which included a course outline, 15 point safety pledge, student book, safety glasses, writing pad, and pencil. Introductions of Instructors and Students were completed along with some housekeeping items.

The class then began with instruction on clothing and equipment needed for competitive shooting with .177 caliber air rifles. This was followed with a range safety briefing. It was stressed that we have never had an accident in Junior Shooting and that is because we always must be conscious of SAFETY, SAFETY, and MORE SAFETY. Parts of the rifle were covered as was mental training. No shooting was done on this first night, but next week will begin with more instruction and students will then begin shooting from the bench rest position.

The Young Guns will once again be sponsoring a Turkey Shoot on Steak night November 20th, 2015. The entry fee will be \$5 for all contestants and the prize will be a frozen turkey in each of three age categories: 12 and under, 13 thru 18, and over 18. You will shoot 5 shots from 25 feet at the standing position and the highest score wins. Any tie will result in a shoot-off as determined by our Junior Shooting Instructors. Come on out and WIN that bird for your Thanksgiving table!

Please RSVP to Ken Taylor at the telephone number or email address below to sign up for the Turkey Shoot. You can also sign up the night of the Shoot.

The next Junior Shooting class will begin on February 10th, 2016. This class still has openings but will fill up fast. If you would like information about classes please contact Ken Taylor at 719-761-4047 or email at adjutantsal209@gmail.com.



FROM THE ADJUTANT

Marvin Weaver, Jr.

October and November are two of our busiest months with activities. Dale Anderson from Congressman Doug Lamborn's office will be at the October meeting to discuss Veteran issues that are before Congress and give an update on the El Paso County Veterans' Cemetery at the October General Membership Meeting. If you want to be informed on what is going on in Washington make plans to attend. We will also be having our Annual Halloween Party on October 31 from 2 – 4pm. Get dressed up and come out to the Post before you head out for the night.

In November we will be participating in the Veterans Day Parade on November 7th in downtown Colorado Springs. Additionally, we will be participating in the Saluting America program once again this year. Our Honor Guard is normally in big demand with the schools during this time and we will also have requests from the local schools for speakers on Americanism, their time in Service, and Patriotism. The speech does not have to be long but the schools would just like to have a Veteran there to say thanks. Even if you are not giving a speech or a part of the Honor Guard you are still encouraged and welcome by the schools to attend. If you have not been to one of these events you should make plans to attend one.

Thanks to all who have renewed their membership. Please get them in as soon as possible. Remember, your membership is not based on when you joined, it is based on the calendar year. Contact me with questions.



From the Jr. Vice Commander Mike Barger

Last 2 months I elaborated on the first 6 clauses of the American Legion Preamble.

For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes:

To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America

To maintain law and order

To foster and perpetuate a 100-percent Americanism

To preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in the great wars

To inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation

This month I will elaborate on the next 3.

To combat the autocracy of both the classes and masses

To make right the master of might

To promote peace and good will on earth

TO COMBAT THE AUTOCRACY OF BOTH THE CLASSES AND MASSES... This clause places the Legionnaire on the side of right in opposing autocracy by either class or mass when this threatens. In a democracy such as ours, composed as it is of all nationalities, races, creeds and economic groups, there are bound to be both classes and masses. Indeed, the masses are composed of classes-but all groups within the mass must feel assured that in this nation, reason and fairness will prevail in all human activities and relations. There must be no hyphenated Americans-just Americans all.

TO MAKE RIGHT THE MASTER OF MIGHT... All wars from the Veterans of which The American Legion draws its membership were started by dictators who wanted their might to be the right. If human freedom is not to perish from the earth, right must always be master of might. The rights of small nations must be protected against the tyranny that powerful neighbors may seek to impose on them-just as the rights of minorities in our society must be protected and respected. Our belief in enthroning right over might is the main essence of our ideological conflict with Communism today. Legionnaires are pledged by this clause always to stand with the right, protect the weak and preserve the liberties of the individual. This concept is the basis of The American Legion's continued advocacy of a strong national preparedness so as to achieve the ideal situation that right will be backed by adequate might.

TO PROMOTE PEACE AND GOOD WILL ON EARTH... Until all the world becomes a good neighborhood, Legionnaires must continue the effort to promote peace and good will on earth. It is in pursuance of this founding ideal that The American Legion has supported from the beginning and seeks to strengthen the United Nations organization. Obliquely, The American Legion also contributes to this ideal by firmly supporting a strong national defense to discourage breaking of the peace by aggressor.

Again, I leave you with this:

Remember, we serve God, Family and The Legion, always keeping in mind our fellow Legionaries who are in need of some help along the way...



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

Origin of NAVY Terminology Rusty Bower



Snipe

The term used to describe sailors that work below decks, usually those that are assigned to engineering rates, such as Machinists Mates, Boiler Tech, Enginemen, Hull Technicians, and more.



FROM THE CHAPLAIN'S DESK
Pastor Stan

As the month of October comes, it is time to witness God's wonders. Just look around and you will see HIS work. Only God can make the trees change with wonderful colors. There are many things that God gives to us and we don't even notice it. We just assume that it always been like that so that is how is should always be. We never take time to notice that it is HIS work. God's love for us is nothing to take for granted. HIS love for us is something that we all should take notice of. Just think, HE gave us HIS own Son, Jesus Christ and HE died on the cross for the forgiveness of all of our sins. ALL of our sins, no matter how big it may be, he does not look and say that it was too large of a sin so I won't do anything about it. NO! HE forgives us all no matter how large or small the sin may be. God's love for us is unconditional, there are no strings attached to it, it is given to all of us freely. Here is what Max Lucado says about God's Love: "My child's feelings are hurt. I tell her she's special. My child is injured. I do whatever it takes to make her feel better. My child is afraid. I won't go to sleep until she is secure. I'm not a hero-I'm a parent. When a child hurts, a parent does whatever comes naturally. He or she helps. Why don't I let my Father do for me what I am more than willing to do for my own children? I'm learning-being a father is teaching me that when I am criticized, injured or afraid, there is a Father who is ready to comfort me. There is a Father who will hold me until I'm better, help me until I can live with the hurt, and who won't go to sleep when I'm afraid of waking up and seeing the dark. EVER!!!!!" Prayer: "Father, we look at your plan and see a plan on love, not on our performance. Help us all, to be captivated by your love."

Here is a Scripture that goes with the lesson: Romans 5: 6 – 8: "When we are unable to help ourselves, at the moment of our need, Jesus Christ died for us, although we were living against God-God shows his great love for us in this way: Jesus Christ died for us while we were still sinners."

My last three words to all of you are: **GO TO CHURCH!!!!!!**

Shalom



Yum, Yum, Eat'em up!!
Butter Braid Sale

Starting Oct 10, we will be doing another Butter Braids sale. Please turn in orders by Oct 23, 2015. Delivery date is October 28th at 1:00pm. Make checks payable to ALA Unit 209. Ask your neighbors, friends, and relatives to place an order. We need the payment before the delivery date. You can call Jackie Bowen, (719) 574-1223, with an order and then mail a check to her or discuss receipt of payment when you call. Thanks in advance for helping us make this a success.

FLAVORS:

- Caramel Rolls (9 rolls)
- Cherry
- Apple
- Blueberry
- Cinnamon
- Strawberry with Cream Cheese



From the Post Service Officer
Lyle Hagelberg

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION ID CARDS

A Congressional law was passed that allows all Veterans to get a VA identification card even if they are not using the VA system for medical care. The good thing about the cards is they can be used for Veteran discounts at various stores and restaurants. You can contact the VA clinic at 719-327-5660 for additional information. If you just walk in don't forget your DD Form 214.

“Trick or Treat, For Halloween!”

That’s a line from an old song some of you may remember. Hard to believe, but it’s time for our annual Post 209 Halloween party. All are encouraged to come in your favorite costume, but it is not a requirement.

This year we will have the Halloween party from 2:00pm to 4:00pm on 31 October (yes, I know last month I said the party was 24 October; that was a misprint). This gives the kiddies of all ages an opportunity to get dressed up a little early, come to the Post and have some fun and still get home to go door to door or hand out candy, whichever is your plan.

We will have candy for the kids, and snacks for “kids at heart.” We will also have prizes for “Best Costume.”

Come on out and join us for some frightfully good fun!



2016 Membership Drive

Lino Calica - Senior Vice Commander

As you all know we have started our 2016 membership drive for Post 209. The District set our Post membership goal at 1000 members for 2016. We all did an outstanding job making our 2015 membership drive successful, by meeting and beating the goals set by the District. I would like to continue to make this another successful year, with your assistance and support we can make the 2016 membership drive exceed the goals of 2015.

As of Sept 11, 2015, we have approximately 607 members, which includes those who have renewed their membership or signed up as a new member of this Post. The first goal set by National was for 50% by September, we met our 50% goal in August, and currently we are at 61%. I would like to take this time to ask if you have not renewed your membership to please do so, and continue to ask your friends and neighbors to join the American Legion. If we all participate in this membership drive, we will be able to meet and beat the 2016 goal, and be the "NUMBER ONE" American Legion Post in Colorado. Let us also assist and support our other programs (Auxiliary, SAL, ALR) with their memberships.

Any questions or suggestions that can help make this membership drive or Post better please let me know. I would like to leave you with the three (R's):

RECRUIT *New members* **RETAIN** *Existing Members* **REBUILD** *For the Future*



The Early Bird Gets...A Free Dinner!

A new twist on an old adage. We will be offering a free, yes a free dinner to all members of The American Legion, Centennial Post 209 family who join or renew their Post 209 family 2016 membership on or before 15 October 2015. The dinner will be offered on 23 October, and will be Chicken Fried Steak. It will consist of a Chicken Fried Steak Dinner, which includes the main course and fixins’ (read that as the side dishes) for that meal, dessert and water, coffee, iced tea, or lemonade. Soft drinks and/or something from our Lounge would be additional. The free dinner is for the Legion family member who joins Centennial Post 209 or renews their Post 209 membership on or prior to the 15 October deadline. Guests and/or spouses would be required to pay the normal dinner cost.

Here’s what you do:

- Join Centennial Post 209 family (Legion/SAL/Auxiliary) between 1 July 2015 and 15 October 2015, or
- Renew your membership to the Post 209 family between 1 July 2015 and 15 October 2015, and
- RSVP (see footer on this and every other page) prior to noon, 22 October 2015 and include any guest(s) you are bringing, and
- Visit Post 209 on/about 1800 hours on Friday, 23 October to enjoy your meal and the camaraderie of fellow Legion family members.

This dinner is NOT just for the Early Birds. All are welcome to join us for a Chicken Fried Steak dinner at a cost of \$10.50. So even if you are not an Early Bird, come on out and spend the evening with us.



From the Historian Eric Testorff

Bryce Bachman, from Discovery Canyon High School was one of about 45 boys our Post sponsored to Boys State this year. He attended the August, 2015 monthly meeting of Centennial Post 209 and thanked the membership for their support in sponsoring him for Boys State. Here is Bryce's thought paper about his experience:

Colorado Boys State Post-experience reflection paper:

A "Something Else" Experience

In the first week of June 2015, I was privileged to receive a sponsorship to the American Legion Boys State program. The weeklong program was held at Colorado State University, in Pueblo, Colorado. The following is a reflection of all I learned, experienced and how I grew personally.



My Boys State Experience: Educational, Leadership and Personal Growth

Colorado American Legion Boys State was an experience I will never forget! The program is a tremendous **educational, leadership, and personal growth** opportunity of which I definitely recommend other high school juniors take advantage.

Education of our political system

To me, the best aspect of Boys' State was the hands-on experience that taught us about our country's political system. All 200 or so participants were divided into separate fictitious political parties, counties, and cities to learn about the functions and process of the local and state government. We dove into the levels of government from local all the way to the state level. Each city held elections and we gained a full understanding of American governmental tradition and how special it is to be an American citizen because we truly have one of the best political systems in the world. The big irony is that I never dreamed of or desired to participate in politics or governmental life other than to vote once I turn 18. After my positive experiences at Boys State, I know now I will eventually seek out opportunities to serve my country and community by participating in some form of government service.

Becoming a proud leader

Throughout the week I spent a lot of time with my fellow Boys State delegates, participating in a number of activities that built close relationships. Each city held elections for various positions within the newly established government. Within my city I was elected city council president, and the chairman for a county meeting. Through the various program activities and events, we developed strong, and often very entertaining, rivalries within our "county" and event "state." I acted as the party chairman for that specific meeting in which our nationalist party elected to discharge a city from our county (just a joke to add additional fun to the experience.) The leadership positions I held at Colorado Boys State will help me to prepare for my years ahead, including college, job careers and my family. It was at Boys State I was able to take charge and to show who I am which is why I am looking forward to continuing my involvement with this program in the future. I feel very honored and privileged that I have been invited, and will proudly take this opportunity, to return as a teen counselor.

Lasting impacts of personal growth

Looking back the experience, I know it will have lasting impacts on me as I prepare for college and my future career. The program prepared me for not only understanding government but also for eventually leaving home to attend college. Up until this point in my life I had never been away from home on my own for any length of time. Boys State was one week long and was held on a college campus with the participants housed in dorm rooms. Each city had an American Legion sponsor assigned to make sure we followed procedure and to give us any guidance we might have needed. I loved this aspect of living in a residence hall on a floor with other young men I had never met, which, in a sense "forced" me and my fellow delegates to unite which helped us to be awarded the title of "Best City." Fortunately, my city, Hansen City, was able to do just that. We were selected as "City of the Day" three times. Unfortunately, we were only actually awarded the honor once due to a prank (innocent but fun, none-the-less) that we pulled on our counselor. At Boys State I was able to grow extremely close to the other boys, not only with those in my City but with those participating in the entire program as well. We got to know each other very well, but we also got to know the councilors and the American Legion sponsor assigned to each City. It was a great honor to be able to meet these American Legion members. My City of Hansen was lucky enough to have an American Legion sponsor who is a retired career Navy officer. The stories he shared with us over the week were truly inspiring and eye opening.

See "Bryce" on page 10



From the Judge Advocate
Chuck Zeitvogel

The following two writings for this month of October are for your consideration. It is nice to be original but then again repeating what others have said has merit too. The first is about **Attitude** and the second is a **Statesman's Warning**.

ATTITUDE – by Charles Swindoll as it appeared in the Pikes Peak Summit newsletter July/August 1997.

The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on my life.

It is more important than the past, than education, than money, than circumstances, than failures, than successes, than what other people think or say or do.

It is more important than appearance, giftedness, or skill.

The remarkable thing is – we have a choice every day of our lives regarding the attitudes we embrace for that day.

We cannot change our past. We cannot change the fact that people will act a certain way. We cannot change the inevitable.

The only thing we can do is play the one string we have, and that is our attitude...

I'm convinced that life is 10 percent what happens to me, and 90 percent how I react to it. And so it is with you.

We are in charge of our attitudes.

A Statesman's Warning – Daniel Webster 1782-1852.

If religious books are not widely circulated among the masses in this country, and the people do not become religious, I do not know what is to become of us as a nation. And the thought is one to cause solemn reflection on the part of every patriot and Christian. If truth be not known and received, error will be; if God and His Word are not known and received, the devil and his works will gain the ascendancy; if the evangelical volume (scripture) does not reach every hamlet, the pages of a corrupt and licentious literature will; if the power of the Gospel is not felt through the length and breadth of the land, anarchy and misrule, degradation and misery, corruption and darkness, will reign without mitigation or end.

Consider Daniel Webster's life time (1782-1852) and his commentary/writings one might almost think he was writing for our times. Amazing.

“Bryce” continued from page 9

Reflection

I worked extremely hard during my week at Boys State, but I did not do so alone. I worked alongside my other delegates as a team. The greatest lesson I learned from Boys State was that if people come together toward a common goal, their efforts will be rewarded and the goal will be achieved.

Conclusion

Boys State helped me to reach my full potential. Being around the best representatives of Colorado's teen male population helped me to improve myself personally, enhanced my leadership capabilities and expanded my understanding and knowledge of our American political system. The entire program was a huge success for me overall. The American Legion could not have thought of a better way to help young minds stretch and grow in the way they did during this one week program. The camaraderie and excitement at the closing ceremony was amazing. I felt such pride when our City was announced as the best! My City came together and became a family! Colorado Boys State was definitely that “something else” experience that so many people dream to be a part of, but few get the chance. Thank you American Legion!

BRINGING A LITTLE SOUTH TO THE WEST

Immediate Past Post Commander Jay Bowen

Growing up as a kid in the '50s and '60s was interesting. The world as we knew it was changing daily although we were oblivious to most of the changes. Many of our adventures and outings resulted from stories told to us by our parents of their childhood. And others were from watching movies and programs on TV like *The Little Rascals* and *Leave it To Beaver*. I believe it was from one or several of those sources that influenced and fueled our Halloween episodes. Like all other kids in our neighborhood, we dressed up and painted up to disguise ourselves. Often, we didn't have masks because they were too expensive, so we just borrowed some of Mom's make-up and painted our faces to look scary. We'd grab a paper bag Mom always kept folded and put away to put her freshly picked peas or tomatoes in and we'd head out the door with the "almost" empty bag to visit the houses in our subdivision in search of candy and other goodies. Back then you didn't have to worry about some jerk putting razor blades in a candy bar. Our parents didn't have to go through our bag when we got home to make certain everything we got was safe. It just was, and we knew it. Many times we were treated to goodies that wasn't wrapped and hermetically sealed. Some of my favorites were caramel apples, or a popcorn ball. If you don't know what a popcorn ball is you are missing out. Ask me the next time we see each other at a dinner or meeting.

The reason I said almost empty bag was occasionally we would walk out the door with a bar of soap or a roll of Toilet Paper. Where I came from, getting your yard "TP'ed" was a sign that you were popular. The rule was you could not TP your own house, although it was more of a guideline than a rule. For those houses that didn't give us a "treat" or if they gave us something healthy like an apple that wasn't coated with something sweet, we would use the soap on the windows of their home or car. Some of the kids took it to another level and had eggs in their bag to throw at cars in the driveway or houses that didn't play the "Trick or Treat" game right. Most of the time they weren't rotten eggs because that would have meant there was some advanced planning into getting ready for 31 October. Most of the time we didn't think that far in advance. But sometimes one of our "gang" would surprise us with about a dozen rotten eggs, which always added a little more fun for us and a challenge for the person who woke up on 1 November to find his car or house had developed an odor that required a thorough and immediate wash.

We didn't beat up kids and steal their candy, but we knew some other kids that did. Everyone knew who they were, you could find them on the playground on any other day being bullies and trying to terrorize smaller kids. In every instance while growing up, the bullies were always pretty normal when they were alone. The only time they morphed into a Mr. Hyde was when they had their buddies with them.

Nowadays, parents have to walk with their kids while "Trick or Treating" and when they get home in the evening the first thing they do is pour the candy out onto the floor to inspect the contents of the bag or plastic pumpkin. If something is not completely wrapped, it gets tossed. If a treat is made from scratch like a candied apple it also gets thrown in the trash can unless the donor puts a piece of paper with their name and address on it in the plastic sealed bag with the treat. What a shame that with all the great advancements we've made to improve our lives, we take something as simple and sweet and turn it into a possible nightmarish evening. That's even scarier than the movies we always watched during the Halloween season.



**From the Sergeant-at-Arms
Don Shuck**

Thank you for your support with BOGO Blue this past year. We had a good year thanks to you our membership. BOGO started again in September, so once again we are asking for your support. Speaking of support, there many things the executive committee would like to do for you, but there is only so much 20 or so people can do. We need your help for events, meals, honor guard, the lounge, outdoor cleaning and upkeep. All of you have different abilities that your Post can use such as planning events, or help on committees. We need your ideas. So we are asking you to get involved, be active. It is your Post.

Reservations and RSVP go to Jackie Bowen (574-1223) jackiebowen2005@yahoo.com or Kariann Smith (520)-784-3193 kariannsmith@me.com



Post Officers

| Office | Name | Telephone |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Commander | Gregory Smith | 520-784-3555 |
| Sr. Vice Cdr | Lino Calica | 719-963-0956 |
| Jr. Vice Cdr | Mike Barger | 719-290-3218 |
| Adjutant | Marvin Weaver, Jr. | 719-244-3535 |
| Finance Officer | Rusty Bower | 719-649-0654 |
| Chaplain | Stan Hamamoto | 719-322-6959 |
| Sergeant-at-Arms | Don Shuck | 719-575-0539 |
| Historian | Eric Testorff | 719-510-4177 |
| Post Executive Committeeman | Jay Bowen | 901-484-7193 |
| Service Officer | Lyle Hagelberg | 719-231-2364 |
| Judge Advocate | Chuck Zeitvogel | 719-531-0546 |
| Club Manager | Art Kimbrel | 719-339-4610 |



Auxiliary Officers 2014-2015

| Office | Name | Telephone |
|------------------|----------------|--------------|
| President | Jackie Bowen | 719-574-1223 |
| Vice President | Cathy Barger | 719-290-3163 |
| Secretary | Lynn Thomas | 719-392-1510 |
| Treasurer | Kellie Hayes | 719-494-7167 |
| Chaplain | Joan Ciani | 719-579-9194 |
| Sergeant-At-Arms | Donna Testorff | 719-510-4567 |
| Historian | Kari Ann Smith | 520-784-3193 |



Sons of The American Legion

| Office | Name | Telephone |
|--------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Commander | Rick Kettering | 813-967-6680 |
| Sr. Vice Commander | Marv Weaver | 719-244-3535 |
| Jr. Vice Commander | Ronny Ross | 719-493-2583 |
| Adjutant | Ken Taylor | 719-495-8190 |
| Finance Officer | Rusty Bower | 719-649-0654 |
| Sgt-At-Arms | Don Shuck | 719-575-0539 |
| Chaplain | Christopher Keith | 719-382-7845 |
| Historian | Eric Testorff | 719-510-4177 |



ALR Officers 2014-2015

| Office | Name | Telephone |
|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| President | Andy Gilbert | 719-231-6696 |
| Vice President | Gregory Smith | 520-784-3555 |
| Secretary | Cecelia Hamm | 720-474-9332 |
| Treasurer | Rusty Bower | 719-649-0654 |
| Sgt-At-Arms | Lino Calica | 719-963-0956 |
| Road Captain | Mike Barger | 719-290-3218 |



Centennial 209 Family Calendar of Events



| | |
|------------|--|
| 5 Nov | Post Exec Mtg 6:30 pm |
| 6 Nov | Hamdogger Night 6:00 pm |
| 7 Nov | Veterans Day Parade |
| 13 Nov | ALR Dinner 6:00 pm |
| 14 Nov | General membership Breakfast 9:00 am Legion/Auxiliary 10:00 am |
| 20 Nov | Steak Night! 6:00 pm - RSVP REQUIRED |
| 16 Nov | ALR Board Meeting 6:00pm |
| 24 Nov | ALR General Membership Meeting 5:30 pm Social Hour 6:30 pm Meeting |
| 24 Nov | SAL Membership Meeting 6:00 pm |
| 26 Nov | Happy Thanksgiving! |
| 27 Nov | Fish Fry - CANCELLED! |
| 3 Dec | Post Exec Mtg 6:30 pm |
| 4 Dec | Hamdogger Night 6:00 pm |
| 7 Dec | Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day! |
| 11 Dec | ALR Dinner 6:00 pm |
| 12 Dec | General membership Breakfast 9:00 am Legion/Auxiliary 10:00 am CANCELLED! |
| 12 Dec | Post Christmas Party! 4:00 pm |
| 18 Dec | Steak Night! 6:00 pm - RSVP REQUIRED |
| 14 Dec | ALR Board Meeting 6:00pm |
| 22 Dec | ALR General Membership Meeting 5:30 pm Social Hour 6:30 pm Meeting |
| 22 Dec | SAL Membership Meeting 6:00 pm |
| 25 Dec | Merry Christmas! |
| 1 Jan 2016 | Hamdogger Night 6:00 pm CANCELLED! Happy New Year! |
| 7 Jan | Post Exec Mtg 6:30 pm |
| 8 Jan | ALR Dinner 6:00 pm |
| 9 Jan | General membership Breakfast 9:00 am Legion/Auxiliary 10:00 am |
| 15 Jan | Steak Night! 6:00 pm - RSVP REQUIRED |
| 18 Jan | ALR Board Meeting 6:00pm |
| 26 Jan | ALR General Membership Meeting 5:30 pm Social Hour 6:30 pm Meeting |
| 22 Jan | Chicken Fried Steak! 6:00pm - RSVP REQUIRED |
| 26 Jan | SAL Membership Meeting 6:00 pm |
| 4 Feb | Post Exec Mtg 6:30 pm |
| 12 Feb | ALR Dinner 6:00 pm |
| 13 Feb | Membership Breakfast 9:00 am Legion/Auxiliary 10:00 am |



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

| ~ October 2015 ~ | | | | | | |
|--|--|---|---|--|--|--|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| District 7 Visitation 10 October Meeting | | | | 1 Executive Committee Meeting 6:30pm  | 2 Hamdogger 6:00pm  | 3 |
| 4 Toys for Tots Delivery Pikes Peak Harley  | 5 | 6 | 7 Young Guns 1830-2030  | 8 | 9 ALR Dinner 6:00pm RSVP Required  | 10 Membership Meeting Breakfast 9:00am Meeting 10:00am   |
| 11 SAL Chili Cook-Off Auxiliary Bake Sale 1:00pm   | 12 | 13 | 14 Young Guns 1830-2030  | 15 | 16 Steak Night 6:00pm RSVP Required   | 17 ALR End of Season Party - Legion Family 12:00pm  |
| 18 District 7 Fall Conf. Post 5; 11am-3pm  | 19 ALR Executive Board 6:00pm  | 20 Homeless Veteran Stand-down | 21 Young Guns 1830-2030  | 22 | 23 Early Bird Dinner! 6pm RSVP Required   | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 ALR Monthly Meeting 6:30pm. Social 5:30pm SAL 6:00pm   | 28 Young Guns 1830-2030  | 29 | 30 | 31 Halloween Party 2-4pm  |

Reservations and RSVP go to Jackie Bowen (574-1223) jackiebowen2005@yahoo.com or Kariann Smith (520)-784-3193 kariannsmith@me.com