

# The Centennial



VOLUME 24 Edition 10 October 2010  
Mail: P.O. Box 25334, Colorado Springs, Co 80936-5334  
Home: 3613 Jeannine Dr., Colorado Springs, Co 80917-8002,  
Telephone 719-599-8624  
Email: [AmLegion209@base.comcastbiz.net](mailto:AmLegion209@base.comcastbiz.net)  
Web site [www.americanlegioncoloradosprings.org](http://www.americanlegioncoloradosprings.org)



## From the Desk and Mind of the Commander

Jay Bowen

It's that time of the year. Yes, I mean Fall, and yes I also mean the election season. Fall is my absolute favorite season. The leaves turn, the weather becomes cooler in the early morning and evening, and I can stop watering my lawn.

As far as the election season, unlike the weather it is heating up. There are rallies, conventions, town hall meetings, and other political events geared toward wooing you to support their platform. I want to share with you three thoughts.

First, I would encourage you to take an active role in learning what the issues on the ballot are this year. You can easily get carried away with some slickster pontificating about his or her particular belief and to what benefit you will derive from supporting their cause. Please do some due diligence and research all sides before going into the voting booth.

Second, if you plan to attend any political function (which I hope you do), keep in mind **YOU CAN NOT WEAR OR REPRESENT THE AMERICAN LEGION** in any way at a political event. That means you cannot wear your American Legion cap, hat, shirt, or any other garment that would associate your presence with The American Legion. This is not an opinion, nor is it something that would just be in bad taste (which it would be). It is **ILLEGAL!** Our National charter restricts our organization from being aligned with any political party. If it is perceived we are doing that, we can lose our charter, which means we lose our ability to present ourselves as a non-profit. That means we lose our ability to continue helping Veterans. You're probably thinking, "Hey wait a minute. I've seen political figures at Legion



## President's Column

Jackie Bowen

Please welcome our newest members Burdine Haas, Ilse Hoggenmiller, Karin Conradson, Lori Hardy, Caroline Plante, and Sue Shuck. Annie Peterson called a group of people from a list Department had sent with names of Legion members in our area with no Post home. She invited them to the picnic and the Auxiliary & Legionnaires both benefited from her endeavor. Thank you, Annie.

We will be doing another Butter Braid sale in October. The dates are 18 October thru 29 October with a delivery date of 3 November. They have a new flavor of Dutch Almond Crème. The other flavors are Cherry, Apple, Blueberry Cream Cheese, Cinnamon, and Cream Cheese. If we sell 100 Butter Braids then we will be eligible for free delivery.

The National Auxiliary is having problems with the new computer software for membership. You do not need to wait for the renewal to be sent. You can send in your membership at any time to Mary Grier, 3257 Squaw Valley Dr. Colorado Springs, CO 80918. During this period of flux, you may receive a renewal notice even though you have already renewed. If you do, please don't immediately send another check. Just let me know and I'll confirm your renewal has been processed.

We will have our District officers visiting at our December meeting. If you haven't had a chance to meet the District officers this would be a good time to do so.

Please check the calendar in the newsletter to get dates and times for all our upcoming events.



**From the Desk and  
Mind of the Commander (cont.)**  
Jay Bowen

functions and they've been given the floor to speak." That is true. We can invite any political candidate to address our assembly as long as we invite ALL running for that office to attend. They don't have to be there, but we must give them the opportunity. That is something we monitor very carefully. We can also invite a politico to speak on subjects of direct interest to Veterans, such as VA benefits and legislation being considered that impacts Veterans. But they cannot use our podium as a pulpit to try and garner your vote. So please, be aware of what you are wearing and how you present yourself at a political function.

The third thing I want to say about the election season is, "Get out and Vote!" Your service to this great Country earned you the right to do that. Please read the issues, research the candidates and vote. Don't fall prey to anyone running just because they happen to be a member of a particular political party. Vote for the person who you truly feel will best represent your interests. And on issues and Referendums, read about them before voting. Don't depend on political advertisements. They are not designed to give you the facts. They are only going to give you're their side.

Okay, I've rambled on enough this month. Thanks again for your devotion to our Post and the cause of helping Veterans and their family. We are indeed "Veterans Helping Veterans!"

**Centennial News Articles**

For all officers of the Post, Committee Chair's and anyone who wants to submit newsletter articles, they are to be done in font of Times New Roman with a size of 12. All articles are to be turned in to the Adjutant by sending them to the Post at [AMLegion209@base.comcastbiz.net](mailto:AMLegion209@base.comcastbiz.net) and to [john8936@msn.com](mailto:john8936@msn.com) by the 15th of every month. The Adjutant and Commander reserves the right to edit articles as needed.



**President's Column  
Jackie Bowen (cont.)**

We are still discussing doing a Unit cookbook so get your recipes ready.

Serving Our Veterans Proudly,

Jackie



Early Bird  
Dinner  
23 October 2010

The rules of engagement are very simple for this dinner. Any member of The American Legion, the American Legion Junior or Senior Auxiliary and The sons of The American Legion who have joined, renewed, or transferred with dues paid by 15 October are invited to participate in the FREE EARLY BIRD DINNER.

The menu will be roast beef, potatoes, salad, veggies and a dessert. Again this is free for paid up members.

If you would like to attend or bring a friend, the cost for the meal that evening will be \$10.00 per person. Accommodations can be made for the younger generation.

If you are planning to attend the dinner (and I truly hope you do) please RSVP with how many will be in your party. We are limited to 200 people for this event. You may make your reservations by calling 719-599-8624 and leaving a message, or by emailing us at [AMLegion209@Base.comcastbiz.net](mailto:AMLegion209@Base.comcastbiz.net) or by stopping by the Post and leaving a message in our mailbox out front. All I ask is that you make a reservation.

You never know, you just might have some fun and enjoy the evening.



### Post Officers 2010-2011

Office	Name	Telephone
Commander	Jay Bowen	719-574-1223
Sr. Vice Cdr	Vacant	
Jr. Vice Cdr	Chet Dean	719-638-8805
Adjutant	Larry Johnson	719-622-0344
Finance Officer	Norman Moyer	719-392-3725
Chaplain	Mario Taracena	719-495-0363
Sergeant-at-Arms	Robert Rydell	719-634-4203
Historian	Crystal Weller	719-481-8100
Post Executive Committeeman	Neal Thomas	719-392-1510
Service Officer	John Brown	719-331-8160
Judge Advocate	Charles Zeitvogel	719-531-0546
Past Commander	Bill Marshall	719-495-0088

Post Email: AmLegion209@base.comcastbiz.net  
 Web Site: www.americanlegioncoloradosprings.org



### Auxiliary Officers 2010-2011

Office	Name	Telephone
President	Jackie Bowen	719-574-1223
Vice President	Annie Peterson	719-599-3818
Secretary	Lynn Thomas	719-392-1510
Treasurer	Mary Grier	719-536-0438
Chaplain	Marion Daugherty	719-637-9555
Sergeant-at-Arms	Kim Brietske	719-266-8790



### Board of Trustees 2010-2011

Term (Years)	Name	Telephone
President	Neal Thomas	719-392-1510
Commander	Jay Bowen	719-574-1223
Finance Officer	Norman Moyer	719-392-3725
Member 2 Yr	Larry Johnson	719-322-0644
Member 2 Yr	Alton Cyriaque	719-495-4732
Member 1 yr	Chuck Zeitvogel	719-531-0546
Member 1 yr	Bill Marshall	719-495-0088



### Centennial 209 Calendar of Events



1 Oct	Hamdogger Wingding Night 6:30 P.M.
7 Oct	Executive Committee Meeting 6:30 P.M.
9 Oct	Breakfast 9:00 A.M. Legion & Auxiliary Meeting 10:00 A.M.
11 Oct	Columbus Day
13 Oct	Navy Birthday — Spaghetti Dinner 6:30 P.M.
15 Oct	Cutoff for Early Bird Dinner
23 Oct	Early Bird Dinner 6:00P.M. Begin Annual Food Drive — Please bring a non-perishable goods to the Post.
30 Oct	Post Halloween Party 6:30 P.M.
2 Nov	<b>Election Day — Get out and VOTE</b>
4 Nov	Executive Committee Meeting 6:30 P.M.
5 Nov	Hamdogger Wingding Night 6:30 P.M.
6 Nov	Veterans Day Parade— Assembly 8:00 A.M.
10 Nov	Marine Birthday—Spaghetti Dinner 6:30 P.M.
11 Nov	Veterans Day
13 Nov	Breakfast 9:00 A.M. Post & Auxiliary Meeting 10:00 A.M.
3 Dec	Executive Committee Meeting 6:30 P.M.
4 Dec	Hamdogger Wingding Night 6:30 P.M.
11 Dec	No Breakfast No Meetings
15 Dec	End of Food Drive for the Year
19 Dec	Annual Christmas Party 4:00 P.M.
31 Dec	New Years Eve Party Scheduled
1 Jan	New Year's Day
6 Jan	Executive Committee Meeting 6:30 P.M.
7 Jan	Hamdogger Wingding Night 6:30 P.M.
8 Jan	Breakfast 9:00 A.M. Post & Auxiliary Meeting 10:00 a.m.





**From the Cub Scouts**  
John Brown

Pack 24 has increased their size through recruitment by 7 new cub scouts. This brings their total to over 30 scouts and they all are selling popcorn this month.

Pack 386, who meets in our home, has increased their size by 26 new scout for a total of 86 boys in the Pack. At the last Pack meeting, the parking lot was full of cars and they were parking in the overflow parking area.

Both Packs are executing their planned programs and meeting regularly. Pack 386 has asked for American Legion volunteers to assist in teaching flag protocol to some dens. If you are interested let me know.



**2nd Annual Halloween Party**  
**Saturday, 30 October 2010**  
**6:00 P.M.**

We will having a Halloween party for those who would like to have some fun.

There will a costume judging contest for Men, Women, Couples and children.

We will be playing indoor Frisbee Golf and will be looking to see who is the best golfer.

There will treats available during the evening.

We would like to have reservations so we can make sure we have enough food for everyone.

Come on down and have some fun.



**From the Service Officer**  
John Brown

In March 2010, VA announced a new initiative to “fast track” the claims process for presumptive service-connected illnesses due to Agent Orange Exposure during the Vietnam War.

With this new approach, VA expects to shorten the time it takes to gather evidence, which now takes on average over 90 days. Once the claim is fully developed and all pertinent information is gathered, VA will be able to more quickly decide the claim and process the award, if granted.

For more information about disability compensation, go to [www.vba.va.gov/bln/21/compensation/index.htm](http://www.vba.va.gov/bln/21/compensation/index.htm) (information taken from Agent Orange Review, July 2010).

VA is reaching out to Veterans to help keep people in their homes. VA has a solid record of success in helping Veterans and active-duty personnel deal with financial crises. VA financial counselors can be reached at 1-877-827-3702. Information about VA’s home loan guaranty program is available on the internet at [www.homeloans.va.gov](http://www.homeloans.va.gov). (information taken from Agent Orange Review, July 2010).



**New Year’s Eve Party**  
**31 December 2010**  
**Advance Planning**

Before you know it, the end of the year will be here and you don’t have any plans or any place to go. We can help you.

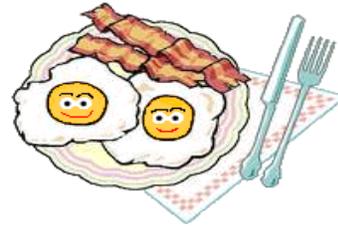
One idea that has been brewing is that the Post could have a New Year’s Eve Party on 31 Dec 2010. I would like everyone to keep in mind that a majority of the membership are within 6 miles of the Post.

In order to proceed with planning, we need to know how many would be interested in coming down to the Post and what type of music you would like to hear. Reservations would be nice as it would help in the planning. I would like to have music, a DJ, whatever and a breakfast in the morning.





**From The Finance Officer  
Norman Moyer**



**Monthly Breakfast**

I was a delegate to the National Convention and was appointed to the foreign Relations Committee.

There were several important resolution discussed and were adopted during the convention.

One of the resolution adopted was to support DOD funding the joint POW/MIA accounting command (PAC). As a former member of the original unit February 1973 this was a vary important subject to me.

While at the convention, I was able to attend a POW/MIA update briefing presented by Major General Stephen Tom, Commander JPAC, located Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii and Mr. Johnnie Webb, Deputy for Public Affairs and Legislative Affairs.

This briefing was extensive and covered the recovery of remains for those still listed as Missing in Actions (MIAs) from WWII, Korea, Vietnam and all other conflicts.

One VERY IMPORTANT part of the briefing and website discusses the collection of maternal DNA from any female relative of missing member--does not matter how many generations have past. JPAC has DNA doctors specializing in DNA Identification

I personally have visited the laboratory at Hickam Air Force Base and have witnessed first hand the wonderful miracle workers performing these jobs.

I invite you to visit the web site JPAC@PACOM.MIL. I must warn you that this website is very extensive.

**Ideas and Suggestions**

As some of you know, the Post has many capabilities and resources that we haven't touched.

We have had some ideas and suggestions presented to us. We need your opinion of possibly having a fish fry, chili night, gumbo, potluck for College and real football games during the season. Let us know your thoughts and ideas. We are open to all that is good.

Our General Membership Meetings are on the 2nd Saturday of every month unless posted in the monthly newsletter.

Our breakfast, which starts at 9:00 A.M. prior to the General Membership meeting at 10:00 A.M. has proven to be a great success as those who have attended will certainly attest. For \$8.00 you can get eggs to order, pancakes, waffles, SOS, muffins, bacon, breakfast links and breakfast potatoes and for a \$1.00 more you can get made to order omelets.

This is a great way to start the weekend and best of all, Mom doesn't have to cook. No reservations are required.

Come on down and see what we have.



**Hamdogger and Wingding Nights**

The Hamdogger Wingding night, with a pork sandwich is getting more popular each month.

We hold these meals on the 1st Friday of every month beginning at 6:30 pm.

If you haven't been here, you are missing out.

We still have the capability of turning the evening into a family movie night complete with popcorn.

I urge everyone who has been thinking about coming out to make the decision and come on down and join us and don't forget to bring the kids, grand kids and your friends. Come down and enjoy the evening.



## AMERICAN LEGION FOOD DRIVE

Starting Saturday, 23 October, The Legion Family is once again going to conduct a food drive to help Soldiers and their families who are less fortunate than ourselves.

We need your HELP to again make this a successful year of giving.

We are looking for non-perishable items that we can put together to provide a holiday meal for those we can help.

The food drive will continue until 15 December after which we will put together the baskets and deliver them.

If you know of someone who could use some help this holiday season, please let us know.

### **Francis McCandless Veterans Nursing Home Florence, Colorado.**

The District Commander, Mike Christensen, is asking our help to help the Veterans at the Florence Nursing Home.

He is looking for clothing that can be gathered up and taken down to the Nursing Home.

The Nursing Home has to wash clothing at extremely high heat in order to ensure diseases do not have a place to breed. As a result, the clothes tend to get shrunk and wear out faster than normal.

We are looking for shirts, pants, sweat pants, coats, hats, mittens and any article of clothing for both men and women. The sizes needed are 1X, 2X, and 3X, and there are also a few ladies there at the home too.

If you have clothes and can't bring them to the Post, please give us a call and we will make arrangements to pick them up.

Let's all band together and make the holiday special for everyone.



## From The Finance Officer Norman Moyer

I was a delegate to the National Convention and was appointed to the Foreign Relations Committee.

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### **Veteran's Day 11 November**

Is coming up very quickly. Make plans now to attend the Veterans Day Parade and services at the Retired Enlisted Association





**PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE  
AMERICAN LEGION CENTENNIAL  
POST 209 CONSTITUTION AND BY-  
LAWS**

**By Jay Bowen, Commander**

The following is proposed changes to Centennial Post 209's Constitution and By-Laws. There are other, mostly grammatical changes but those listed below are the only changes of existing rules to both documents. There are complete copies of both documents available for your review at the Post, as well on our web site in the "Local News" section. We will vote to accept/reject these proposed changes at our monthly membership meeting on 13 November. In accordance with Article IX, Section 2 of our Post Constitution, a 2/3<sup>rd</sup> majority vote is needed to approve these revisions. I will read all recommended changes to the Constitution and By-Laws during the October membership meeting on 9 October.

**CONSTITUTION  
ARTICLE IV  
Government**

Section 1 - The officers of this Post shall be a commander, a senior vice-commander, a junior vice-commander, an adjutant, a finance officer, a chaplain, an historian, a service officer, a sergeant-at-arms, a judge advocate, the immediate past Post commander, and a Post Executive Committeeman.

**BY-LAWS  
ARTICLE II  
The Executive Committee**

Section 6 - Seven members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum for the conduct of business.

**ARTICLE IV  
Duties of Officers**

Section 4 - ...Any disbursement in excess of \$500 shall be approved by signature of the Post Commander or other member of the Executive Committee. ...

**ARTICLE V  
The Board of Trustees**

Section 7 - ... The Board will meet at a frequency determined necessary by the President, to consider such business as may come before it. ...

**ARTICLE VI  
Appointments**

Section 1 - The Post Commander, immediately upon taking office each year, shall appoint the following standing committees and shall designate a chairman for each committee: Program Planning and Social Committee, and Welcoming Committee

**ARTICLE VII  
Duties of Standing Committees**

Section 1 - The Program and Planning Committee shall be responsible for planning programs for the Legion year, preparing and submitting to the Executive Committee both short and long range plans for the conduct of post activities. This includes, but is not limited to, financial planning and fund raising, securing speakers for post meetings, and for planning post observances of national holidays and other significant community events.

Section 2 - The Welcoming Committee consists of two or three members who are asked to take on the job of welcoming new members, guests, or even older members who are not well acquainted, making them feel at home, and introducing them.

Section 8 - The Club Committee will assist the Club Manager on organizing events at the Post home and ensuring schedules are posted for all events supported by the Post. They will assist create and maintain the Post Home Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) and ensure the SOP is followed by all Post members.

**ARTICLE XI  
Rules of Order**

All proceedings of this Post shall be conducted under and pursuant to Roberts' Rules of Order, except as may be provided by action of the Post Commander.

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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



This is what makes up the American Legion and what the American Legion lives for.