

The Centennial



VOLUME 25 EDITION 10

OCTOBER 2011

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From the Desk and Mind of the Commander

Jay Bowen

If you died today, what would be written in your obituary? No, I'm not trying to get you to think about dying or anything morbid. Rather, I want you to think about living.

Would they say you were a good Father? Mother? Husband? Wife? Brother? Neighbor? Friend? It is rare that anyone writes something bad in an obituary, but most of the time it's not so much what is said, it's what is not said. If you could write the final chapter of your life for publication for the world to see (and with the Internet that is not just a figure of speech), what would you like for people to remember about you? I think most of us want to be remembered as a good and caring person. Many of us would probably say we would want it to say we were someone who was a devout believer in God, loyal to family and friends, fair in business dealings, and patriotic to our country. We would want to be remembered as a good and loving family man (or woman), and someone who loved life. We would want people that really knew us to remember the special moments, the adventures, the trips, and hopefully not dwell on the countless hours we spent sitting in front of a TV or computer screen when we could have been spending time with those who meant the most to us.

Hopefully, by now you have been reading this and thinking about your own mortality. For most of us, those final words will stay around for many years. Okay, so you've sat down and written your obituary.

How does it look? Is it honest?



Does it really reflect how you are living your life today, or is it a work of fiction? If it is honest and not really how you want to be remembered, don't you wish you could do something about it? What's stopping you? You can not only write the story, you can start today living and creating that memory. Pick up the phone (or take the iPhone from your pocket) and call someone you haven't spoken with in a long time. Stop hating; it shortens life and nothing good has ever come from it. Go visit your brother or sister, son or daughter, or a neighbor or friend you haven't seen in a long time. Renew friendships and make new ones. Take a trip to someplace fun and out of state (preferably with someone special). Wear that shirt, skirt or blouse you've kept tucked away for a special occasion. I've got news for you; everyday you get out of bed is a special occasion. Use the good china you only break out for company. Keep in mind that your kids (or other family members) don't put the same sentimental value to your stuff that you do. They don't have the memories. So don't save it so that one day it will wind up on Craig's List. Enjoy it! Get active in your community and church. Volunteer your time to your favorite charity (come on, you really didn't think I could write this without somehow working it back to the Legion, did you?). Write that "Bucket List" and do it! Be the person you want written about in your obituary.

Start today living the way you want to be remembered forever. It's never too late.

For God and Country,
Jay



Auxiliary President Jackie Bowen

October is the month for our first membership goal deadline. We are moving full steam ahead to reach our 55 percentage goal. Saying that, we have two new members, Brenda Cortese and Nicole Stewart. Brenda has visited with us several times and decided to come on board. Nicole's father is a Legion member in Cripple Creek but since she lives here in the Springs, she decided to join us. Isn't it great to welcome new members to our Unit family. Don't forget that if you're thinking of joining or renewing to do so by Oct 15th so you will be eligible for the free Early Bird dinner.

I believe it's time for another Butter Braid fundraiser! The best part is they have a new fall flavor, Caramel rolls with cinnamon filling. The dates are October 24th thru Nov 4th with a delivery date of Nov 10th. I will let you know if these dates change.

During our last meeting we were informed the Gold Star Mothers are doing another fundraiser with Wreaths Across America. If you would like to donate a wreath to a National cemetery let me know or go to www.wreathscrossamerica.org. If you go directly to the web site please note the group ID # of COGSM001 on the order form. This group number ensures that the money stays in Colorado for our Veterans here. Also if you would prefer that the wreaths to go to Ft. Logan Cemetery, use the Cemetery ID # COFLND. This is a non-profit organization.

I cannot believe that we are discussing Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas already. Where does the time go? Check the calendar for all the events coming our way.

Please make note of the cost change for steak night. Due to rise in cost of steaks we had to increase the price of our meal, but I guarantee you still can't beat the price, taste, and especially camaraderie.

Serving Our Veterans Proudly,
Jackie Bowen



Thoughts From Marion

Dear Members:

Our meeting for September had a good turnout. We held part of our opening with the Legionnaires. The Legionnaire Color Guard did their first posting of the colors for the meeting.

Our President passed out Certificates of Appreciation for the work our ladies did at the convention held here at our Post a couple months ago. This was from the Auxiliary. It is always nice to be remembered in this way.

The Post will take part in the Home Show on September 17th & 18th. Some of the ladies will stay in town and help with the booth and the rest will go to the All Patients Day at the Veterans Nursing Home in Pueblo. We will represent the Auxiliary and answer any questions that are asked.

It is encouraging to see more women taking interest in making the baby caps for Memorial hospital, the helmet liners for the boys overseas, and the limb covers. I will begin this month and count the items I send out so we can see how we did this year.

On October 29th there will be a Halloween party. Come in costume and join in the fun.

Don't forget the Veterans parade on the 5th of November. It will be held in downtown Colorado Springs. It will begin at 10:00 a.m. Again this year our Auxiliary is in charge of decorating the viewing stand. More about this in the November newsletter. Thanks to all of you who renewed your dues for next year. We only need a few more to make our quota for Oct goal set by Department.

Thought for the month: The fellow who worries about what people think of him wouldn't worry so much if he only knew how seldom they do.





Post Officers 2011-2012

Office	Name	Telephone
Commander	Jay Bowen	719-574-1223
Sr. Vice Cdr	Mark Krzeczowski	719-282-1380
Jr. Vice Cdr	Lyle Hagelberg	719-594-4039
Adjutant	Larry Johnson	719-622-0344
Finance Officer	Norman Moyer	719-392-3725
Chaplain	Chet Dean	719-244-2442
Sergeant-at-Arms	Don Shuck	719-575-0539
Historian	Gideon Diamon	719-638-1258
Post Executive Committee member	Neal Thomas	719-392-1510
Service Officer	John Brown	719-331-8160
Judge Advocate	Chuck Zeitvogel	719-531-0546
Past Commander	Bill Marshall	719-495-0088
Club Manager	Art Kimbrel	719-339-4610

Post Email: americanlegionpost209@yahoo.com

Web Site: www.americanlegioncoloradosprings.org



Auxiliary Officers 2010-2011

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



Board of Trustees 2011-2012

Term (Years)	Name	Telephone
President (1 yr)	Neal Thomas	719-392-1510
Commander (1 yr)	Jay Bowen	719-574-1223
Finance Officer (1 yr)	Norman Moyer	719-392-3725
Member 1 Yr	Larry Johnson	719-322-0644
Member 1 Yr	Alton Cyriaque	719-495-4732
Member 3 yr	Chuck Zeitvogel	719-531-0546
Member 3 yr	Bill Marshall	719-495-0088



Son's of The American Legion 2011-2012

Commander	Frank Maellaro Sr.
Adjutant	Frank Anderson
Finance Officer	Ken Taylor
Chaplain	Chet Dean



Centennial 209 Family Calendar of Events

6 Oct	Post Executive Committee Mtg 6:30 pm
7 Oct	Hamdogger, Wingding Dinner 6:30 pm
8 Oct	Breakfast 9:00 am Meetings 10:00 am District 7 Visitation
13 Oct	Navy Birthday 6:30 pm
15 Oct	Early Bird Dinner (Free to all renewed members) 6:00 pm
21 Oct	Steak Night 6:30 pm
29 Oct	Annual Halloween Party 6:00 pm
3 Nov	Post Executive Committee Mtg 6:30 pm
4 Nov	Hamdogger Wingding Dinner 6:30 pm
5 Nov	Veterans Day Parade 8:30 am
10 Nov	Marine Birthday Celebration 6:30 pm
11 Nov	Veterans Day
12 Nov	Breakfast 9:00 am Meeting 10:00 am
19 Nov	District 7 Fall Conference 11:00 am At Post 209
1 Dec	Post Executive Committee Mtg 6:30 pm
2 Dec	Hamdogger Wingding dinner 6:30 pm
10 Dec	Breakfast 9:00 am Meetings 10:00 am
16 Dec	Steak Night 6:30 pm
17 Dec	Post Christmas Party 6:00 pm
31 Dec	New Years Eve



NAVY BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

You are invited to the celebration of the Navy Birthday, Thursday, 13 October, beginning at 6:00pm. Dinner will be choice of Roast Beef or Turkey for \$10 per person. Please call Jackie Bowen (719-574-1223) or Lynn Thomas (719-439-6268) with your reservation.



THE EARLY BIRD
DINNER
15 OCTOBER 2011
6:00PM

Are you an EARLY BIRD? Have you renewed your 2012 membership yet? If your answer to these questions are NO, I would like to urge you to reconsider and renew your membership with the Post and The American Legion now. When you send in your 2012 renewal you automatically qualify for a free meal on 15 October beginning at 6:00 p.m.

All that is required is for you to call and make a reservation with Jackie Bowen at 719-574-1223 or Lynn Thomas at 719-439-6268. Bring your 2012 membership card with you. The reason for the reservation is so we can ensure we have plenty of food on hand to satisfy your appetite.

For those who are not Early Bird members of The American Legion, The American Legion Junior or Senior Auxiliary or The Son's of The American Legion, the meal will cost \$12.00 per person.

This ticket is good for **ONE FREE MEAL** for the Early Bird Dinner.

SAMPLE

You must make reservations by calling Jackie Bowen at 719-574-1223 or Lynn Thomas at 719-392-1510 and you have to bring your 2012 membership card.

If you have questions please call 719-599-8624 and leave a message.

Your Legion Membership (taken from American Legion Post 5 Newsletter, Nov 1949) By R. L. Sauter

What does membership in the Legion mean? It means the privilege of an association that can be purchased only by blood or sacrifice. No amount of gold can but the key that unlocks its door. That key is delivered only to him whose heart has longed for home and loved ones; whose weary feet have trod the miles of drill field and of muddy road; who in quiet of night has looked up at the stars and wondered whether the trail would led to glory or to the grave.

Given that key, one enters on a fellowship that revives the sterner memories only with a jest. Again men meet upon a common plane. Again for a brief spell they are pressing forward to a common goal. Profession[al] men and laborer, saint and sinner, meet as one, each realizing that there exists between them a bond mightier than was ever welded by any other type of human experience.



Sons of The American Legion
Squadron 209
Frank Maellaro

Saturday, 8 October is the monthly breakfast and meetings of The American Legion, The Auxiliary and it will be the 1st meeting of The Son's of The American Legion Squadron 209.

There is a breakfast that begins at 9:00 am at a cost of \$8.00 person.

For the 1st meeting of The Squadron, the Detachment officers (The State) will be visiting and will provide information on what the Son's of The American Legion do and will also provide information on the programs and aims of the SAL.

I invite all of the SAL members who have joined anytime during the past couple of years to attend this meeting to learn what we are all about.

If you have questions or would like more information please email me at maellaro@comcast.net.

Please take a moment and make a check or a money order for \$20.00 made out to Squadron 209 and mail it to the Squadron at P.O. Box 25334, Colorado Springs, Co 80936.

Thank you Frank





**Club Manager
Art Kimbrel**

I would like to take a moment and say THANKS to all who have attended the various functions, such as the breakfasts, dinners, and others. I appreciate the encouraging words that are spoken.

I would ask that you pass those comments on to your friends and encourage them to come out and try the food for themselves and see what they think.

Just as a reminder, for the Hamdogger Wingding nights, children under the age of 12 will receive a free hotdog when you order a meal. For the various dinners that we have, children under the age of 12 and who are sharing your plate are free.

Reservations are very important when planning meals for the various events. We loose a lot of money when we do not know how many will be attending. The one thing that I have found to be intolerable is when someone comes in for a meal and there is not enough food.

I would like you to make your reservations by calling either Jackie Bowen at 719-574-1223 (home) or jackiebowen2005@yahoo.com. You can also reserve with Lynn Thomas. Her contact number is (719) 439-6268.

UMBRELLA SALES

The word has gotten out about our latest fund raiser, which is the UMBRELLA pictured to the right. We are selling the umbrellas for \$15 each. Features include:



Drip Free system to prevent water from getting on the floors and carpets.

Clear panel for easy visibility.

The money we make will assist local area Veterans and Auxiliary programs.



**From Scouts and Service Officer
John Brown**

For the last 2 months the cub scouts have been busy at the Breakfast before the General Meetings. They have been busy at helping our members get coffee, juice and taking their plates, glasses, etc to the busing station. When you attend the breakfast, I would ask that you recognize the scouts and thank them for what they are doing.

The boys are busy with their fundraising project which is the selling of Popcorn. They will be at the Post on 8 October asking you to purchase the Popcorn. Please help the scouts with their fundraising

On Saturday, 5 November, Colorado Springs and our Post will be participating in the Veterans Day parade. The Auxiliary will again be decorating the reviewing stand and is looking for volunteers to help with the decorating.

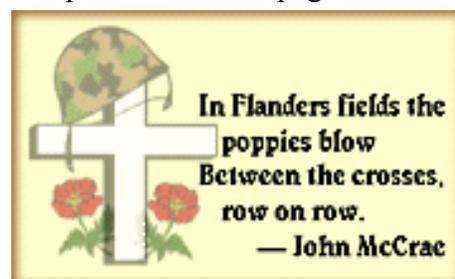
We are also large trailer decorate transport Auxiliary would like in the pa-not walk



If you have a vehicle and a trailer that we could use please call the Post at 719-599-8624 or Jackie Bowen at 719-574-1223.

Decorating of the trailer would probably be done on Friday, 4 November. If you can help it sure would be appreciated.

I hope that everyone who can will come down and be along the parade route encouraging those who are walking the parade. Hope you can take pictures and share them with the Post so we can put them in the newsletter or post on our Webpage.





**From the Adjutant
Larry Johnson**

I have been with Centennial 209 for about 30 years now and I have seen the Post go through it's ups and downs. I've been involved with both the good and the bad projects, and the one thing that I have seen is that we always seem to grow better and stronger.

I can tell you that members of the Post have always dreamed of a Post home that we could be proud of.

Three years ago we obtained a building that we call our Post home and let me tell you that we have done nothing but excel.

Our membership is strong and everyday it is getting stronger. There are more Legionnaires attending the General Membership meeting every month and I am sure that it will increase even more. Participation at the dinner and other activities are slowly increasing but the great news is that we are increasing each month.

We never seem to slow down and the improvements that we have done and are still doing make our Post seem even better than anyone could imagine.

For those who have not been to the Post, I encourage you to bring your family and friends and experience what a great Post we have and the capabilities that we have. After you've seen the Post I hope you will participate even more. Bring your ideas for activities and things that you would like to see.

Don't forget the Early Bird dinner Saturday, 15 October. It is a free dinner for a special group of members of The American Legion. It is free provided that you have renewed your 2012 membership before 15 October. I would like everyone to review your situation and renew your membership as soon as you can. Actually, I am going to have to ask your help. I know what we as a Post are capable of doing so I sort of made a bet that our membership could be 100 percent (554) by the end of December. While this is a dream (bet) we are already just shy of 400 members who have renewed. Can we count on you to reach our goal ahead of the other medium size Posts and possibly some of the larger ones?



On Saturday, 29 October the Post will be hosting a Costume Contest as part of the Halloween Party. Prizes will be awarded for the best male costume, the best female costume, the best dressed couple. We will also award for the best kid male costume and the best kid female costume.

We will be having games and activities for kids of all ages to participate. We are asking everyone to bring a favorite dish or dessert for a Potluck that evening.

We are hoping you and the kids come out for the occasion.

 **NAVY BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION**

You are invited to the celebration of the Navy Birthday, Thursday, 13 October, beginning at 6:00pm. Dinner will be choice of Roast Beef or Turkey for \$10 per person. Please call Jackie Bowen (719-574-1223) or Lynn Thomas (719-439-6268) with your reservation.

RSVP SPECIAL

Make an advance reservation for the Steak night on 21 October and receive a special discount. With advance reservations & the coupon below, you get a steak at the regular price of \$12.00 and the second for a price of \$10.00.

Please note the change for RSVPs. Lynn Thomas and Jackie Bowen have taken over to try and relieve some of the workload from the Post Adjutant. You can contact Jackie at (719) 574-1223 home, or jackiebowen2005@yahoo.com. Lynn's contact number is (719) 439-6268. Present the coupon below with your order.

 **STEAK NIGHT COUPON** 

Buy 1 dinner at Regular Price of \$12.00, get the 2nd One at \$ 2.00 off.

Good only during the month of October and with a reservation made in advance

The American Legion Cap

There have been many questions recently regarding the different Legion caps (Overseas Cap).

The Legion cap, uniform or regalia should be worn by its members only when in attendance at official Legion meetings or ceremonies or as official guests at patriotic or other civil functions or by individuals when officially representing The American Legion on public occasions.

A Legionnaire is considered to be in uniform if wearing an official American Legion cap. Therefore, it is not proper to wear an American Legion cap while eating a meal at an official American Legion or civic luncheon or dinner.

The cap should be worn in a place of worship only by the guard of honor, color guard and commander of same while in marching order or standing guard. When returned to and seated in pews, the cap should be removed.

Legion members marching in formation into a place of worship should uncover, at the door, hold the cap with the right hand over the heart until the arrival in the pews and commanded to take seats, remaining uncovered during the entire service. At the close of the service, upon command, the members shall arise, the members holding the cap with the right hand over the heart will march out of the place of worship and recover after marching through the door. Note: The hat should be held over the heart as one approaches the casket, and is not at any time worn in a place of worship except by the guard of honor, color guard or commander of same while in marching order or standing guard.

In Legion meetings the cap should be worn except during moments of the "Pledge of Allegiance," prayer, and when standing in silent reverence in memory of departed comrades. During these moments the cap should be held with the right hand over the heart

Female members of The American Legion should wear their caps in the manner prescribed for female personnel of the armed services held with the right hand over the heart.

Four Colors of the Legion Caps

The most important Legion Cap is the BLUE cap worn by all Legionnaires. It is often said that "The Blue Cap is where it is at."



The Blue and White Legion Cap signifies that the wearer is a District Officer.



The all White cap signifies that the wearer is a Department Officer.



The all Red cap signifies that the wearer is a National Officer.



The Blue and White cap, The White Cap and the Red Cap are only worn during the term of office for which a Legionnaire has been elected or appointed. When their term is ended, the Legionnaire should go back to the Blue Cap unless re-elected or re-appointed.

There is nothing on the left side of the Legion Cap except the Legion Emblem and the State designation.

Nicknames or names are not allowed to be embroidered or worn on the Legion Cap. Badges of other Fraternal or civil organizations are not to be worn on the cap.

Members of the American Legion who are seen eating with their caps on during a sit down meal are usually fined and the money usually goes to children and Youth Programs.

Centennial Post 209 Honor Guard at the Fall Home Show at the Rustic Hills North Events Center 17 September 2011.



Left to right Ken Taylor, Martin Robinson, Lyle Hagelberg, Mike Stebick and Chet Dean, Captain of the Guard.