

The Centennial



VOLUME 26 EDITION 10 OCTOBER 2012
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From the Desk and Mind of the Commander

Jay Bowen

My father (may God rest his soul) was one of the smartest men I've ever had the privilege of knowing. He went all the way through the 6th grade before he had to quit and help work the family farm. That was a relatively common story in the rural South. But his formal education aside, he had more "street smarts" than most people I've met with a PhD.

He was well known around our neighborhood as a person always ready with not just a witty retort, but also words of country wisdom. I remember vividly a stranger occasionally stopping by to ask directions because they saw Dad outside piddling (now for you Yankees and city-folk, I'm not talking about what a puppy does on the kitchen floor because he's not house broken; I'm talking about someone just hanging around doing busy work and little odds and ends). Almost without exception, Dad's response would be, "well, you can't get there from here!" He'd give it about 30 seconds and watch their reaction, then grin and tell them how to get where they needed to go. Or one of us kids (2 boys and 2 girls) or kids-in-law (to him they were all his kids and he treated us all the same) would complain about someone we felt had done us wrong and he would just say, "you need to learn to pass and re-pass." That one took me a while to finally grasp that he was merely saying to let "bygones be bygones."

Probably the one that stuck with me most was something he said soon after I retired from the Army (and often since then). I remember I had gotten my first check as a civilian working for a manufacturing company. I had just spent the last 20 years where things like housing and rations were paid non-taxed. When I saw my first pay stub as a civilian and the amount of taxes my dear old Uncle Sam kept for himself, I went crazy! I went to see Dad and was screaming stuff like



"highway robbery" and "how can the Government justify stealing from me?" He let me rant for about a minute then he looked at me and very calmly said, "boy, do you know how many people would love to have your problem? You have a great job and are making good money, and you are complaining because you have to pay taxes?" I wanted to slink away in shame after that. I tried to do the "yeah, but..." response but just couldn't come up with a justifiable finish.

Many times after that he would catch me unloading about something and I would hear the same question asked; and my response was always the same as the first time. "Yeah, but..." and then I'd stop because I really didn't have a valid argument to make. He would also put a little spin on it if he heard me wailing about some ailment like a sore rotator cuff or sprained ankle that would have me hobbling around screwing up my golf swing. He would let me go on for about a minute, then calmly state, "boy (it always started this way), do you know how many people would love to trade places with you right now?" My thoughts would immediately jump to someone I knew who had just been told about their cancer, and again I'd try to slink away.

I lost my dear Father in 2011. But still today, Jackie, my three siblings, my in-laws, kids, and even my grandkids will occasionally quote a "Dad-ism." That my friends, is one of the best legacies you can leave behind. And about the time I start feeling sorry for myself about not having my Dad around I can hear him say, "boy, do you know how many people would love to trade places with you? I've known many people who never met their father!" And I just grin.

How about you? Do you know how many people in this community and even on this distribution that would love to have your problems?

For God and Country,
Jay



Auxiliary President Jackie Bowen

Onward and upward we go! Welcome to our two newest members; Carolyn Kautz and Mary Goldsmith. Carolyn and Mary joined our Legion family after their husbands transferred to our Post.

Thank you, thank you, thank you! Our Butter Braids sale has come to an end and we had our best sale EVER. Mimi Weeks alone sold 48 of these delicious pastries. This is strictly greed talking, but hopefully our next sale will be even better.

I know it's hard to believe but it's time to start thinking of Christmas and remembering our Heroes with wreaths for their graves. Our Gold Star Mothers are selling wreaths through "Wreaths Across America." If you would like to purchase one, go to www.wreathesacrossamerica.org and where it says Sponsor Id group enter COGSM001, Location, enter Fort Logan, and Location ID is COFLND. By entering this information it benefits our Gold Star Mothers. You can send a wreath to any National Cemetery but Ft. Logan is the only Cemetery on which I have information.

Our umbrellas are selling like hot cakes. If you want to purchase one, you should buy it soon. Six have already been sold and we have only had them a week. It is doubtful we'll get any more after this batch is gone. The vendor we have now cannot get any more and we haven't been able to find another one.

Marilyn Kanitz's group "Quilts From the Heart" now has a Facebook page. If you go to Facebook, 'Open' and 'Like' "Quilts From the Heart," it is suppose to help them get more public access. I'm not very Facebook savvy but I will give it a try. I usually have to call my son or neighbor for directions on maneuvering around the site.

I would like to thank everyone for their help at "All Activities Day" in Pueblo. It was a very uplifting day.

Serving Our Veterans Proudly,
Jackie Bowen



Sons of The American Legion Squadron 209

SAL general membership meetings are the 2nd Saturday of each month at 11:30am, or immediately following the Legion meeting. Breakfast at 9:00am and everyone is invited and encouraged to attend.

We are heavily involved with the Child Welfare Foundation. We are raising money by having little colored piggy banks on tables of the dining area. We ask for your support on this project.

You don't have to wait until you receive the renewal notice to renew. The only thing required is to get a check or money order for \$20.00 made out to Squadron 209 and mail it to American Legion Post 209, P.O. 25334, Colorado Springs or go to the Post website at www.americanlegioncoloradosprings.org and renew using PayPal.

We look forward to meeting or seeing you in October. If you have questions or would like more information please email us at the Post website.

Thanks!



District 7 Fall Conference



The Fall Conference will be held on Saturday, 20 October 2012, at American Legion Post 38, located at 6685 Southmoor Drive in Security.

The Post is located on the road in back of the Wal-Mart on highway 85/87.

There will be a combined opening session Legion/Auxiliary beginning at 11:00am. We will break for a \$1.00 lunch at 12:00pm, and at 1:00pm we will go into separate sessions.

This conference is mainly conducted by the Department and serves as an opportunity for the Department Commander and Department President to outline their goals and objectives for the year.

This is a great opportunity to meet Legionnaires and Auxiliary members from other Posts and Units as well as the newly elected officers. SEE YOU THERE!



Post Officers 2012-2013

| | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Commander | Jay Bowen | 719-574-1223 |
| Sr. Vice Cdr | Mark Krzczowski | 719-282-1380 |
| Jr. Vice Cdr | Lyle Hagelberg | 719-594-4039 |
| Adjutant | Larry Johnson | 719-622-0344 |
| Finance Officer | Rusty Bower | 682-478-9122 |
| Chaplain | Chet Dean | 719-244-2442 |
| Sergeant-at-Arms | Don Shuck | 719-575-0539 |
| Historian | VACANT | |
| Post Executive Com- mitteeman | Neal Thomas | 719-392-1510 |
| Service Officer | C. "Gunny" Raines | 719-597-4766 |
| Judge Advocate | Chuck Zeitvogel | 719-531-0546 |
| Past Commander | Bill Marshall | 719-495-0088 |
| Club Manager | Art Kimbrel | 719-339-4610 |

Post Email: centennialtwozeronine@yahoo.com
Web Site: www.americanlegioncoloradosprings.org



Auxiliary Officers 2012-2013

| | | |
|------------------|------------------|--------------|
| 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 |
| Historian | Joan Ciani | 719-579-9194 |



Board of Trustees 2012-2013

| | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| President (3 yr) | Neal Thomas | 719-392-1510 |
| Commander (1 yr) | Jay Bowen | 719-574-1223 |
| Finance Officer (1 yr) | Rusty Bower | 682-478-9122 |
| Member 3 Yr | Norman Moyer | 719-392-3725 |
| Member 3 Yr | Alton Cyriaque | 719-495-4732 |
| Member 1 yr | Chuck Zeitvogel | 719-531-0546 |
| Member 1 yr | Bill Marshall | 719-495-0088 |



Sons of The American Legion 2012-2013

| | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| Commander | Chet Dean | 719-244-2442 |
| 1st Vice Commander | Rick Kettering | 813-967-6680 |
| Adjutant | Ken Taylor | 719-595-8190 |
| Finance Officer | Rusty Bower | 682-478-9122 |
| Sgt-At-Arms | Don Shuck | 719-575-0539 |
| Chaplain | John-Paul "JP" Hersberg | |
| Squadron Advisor | Neal Thomas | 719-392-1510 |



Centennial 209 Family Calendar of Events

| | |
|-----------|--|
| 1 Nov | Post Executive Committee Mtg 6:30PM |
| 2 Nov | Hamdogger Dinner 6:30PM |
| 10 Nov | NO BREAKFAST NO MEETINGS Veterans Day Parade 9:00AM MARINE BIRTHDAY 6:00PM RSVP REQUIRED |
| 16 Nov | Steak Night 6:30PM RSVP Required |
| 22 Nov | Thanksgiving |
| 23 Nov | Fish Fry CANCELLED this Month! |
| 6 Dec | Post Executive Committee Mtg 6:30PM |
| 7 Dec | Hamdogger Dinner 6:30PM Pearl Harbor Day! |
| 15 Dec | Post Christmas Party 6:00PM |
| 3 Jan 13 | Post Exec Mtg 6:30PM |
| 4 Jan | Hamdogger Dinner 6:30PM |
| 12 Jan | Breakfast 9:00AM Meeting(s) 10:00AM SAL Mtg 11:30PM |
| 18 Jan | Steak Night 6:30PM |
| 25 Jan | Fish Fry 6:30PM |
| 25-27 Jan | Department Mid-Year Conference Many activities at the Post. |
| 3 Feb | Super Bowl! Activities begin at 4:00PM More details TBA |
| 7 Feb | Post Exec Mtg 6:30PM |
| 8 Feb | Hamdogger 6:30PM |

Do You Want to be Published?



Anyone who would like to submit an article for *The Centennial* is encouraged to do so. However, the articles **MUST** be received by the **15th of EACH MONTH**. All articles are to be sent to the following email: centennialtwozeronine@yahoo.com If you have questions please free to call the Post and leave a message.

Reservations and RSVP go to Jackie Bowen (574-1223) jackiebowen2005@yahoo.com, or Lynn Thomas at 439-6268



Have You Moved? Are You Planning on Moving? Have You Changed Your Email Address?

These questions may seem a little strange, but let me assure you there is a reason why we are asking them.

When we send out your new membership card and it is returned because you moved, it costs your Post additional money. When we send *The Centennial* and it comes back, it costs additional money. When we get a return on your email, it doesn't cost extra per se, but you miss out of the latest edition of *The Centennial* and news of possible interest.

Please, if you are moving and you are filling out the notifications provided by the Post Office, send us a card or an email. We don't want you to miss out on



Guest Speaker For October 2012 General Membership Meeting

50TH Anniversary of the Cuban Missile Crisis

Join us at the Oct 13, Post breakfast/meeting for a presentation on the Cuban Missile Crisis by Post members who were assigned to NAS GTMO, deployed to GTMO with a Marine Air Defense Missile Battery, deployed to Florida with an AF B-52 Squadron, and deployed aboard one of the Navy's newest big deck carriers as part of the blockade/quarantine Task Force. Hear the actual stories of men who were on the front lines of one of the most intense times of the 20th century.

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, 20 October for the Early Bird Dinner.

The meal begins at 6:00PM and is FREE to you if you have your 2013 membership card from the American Legion, The American Legion Auxiliary or The EARLY BIRD SAL and you have made a reservation for the evening.

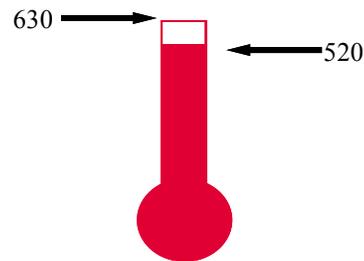


The meal will be a choice between Turkey or Roast Beef and the fixings. Non-members and guests will pay \$15.00 per person for the meal.



Membership to Date

Let's break the thermometer!



NAVY BIRTHDAY DINNER Moved from 13 October.

Because of scheduling conflicts (too many activities in one day) the Navy Birthday dinner is being moved to the 16th of October which is a Tuesday beginning at 6:30 PM. Please make your reservations as soon as possible. If you have already made reservations for 13 October, we will include them for 16 October.



Halloween Party

The Halloween Party for the post will be held on Saturday 20 October, beginning at 6:00pm.

This is a Potluck event. Please bring your favorite dish to share with at least ten people. Also bring the recipe for the dish so the Auxiliary can begin to put together their Auxiliary 209 cookbook as a fundraiser for the Unit.

We will have a golf game, tic-tac-toe bean bag toss and other games for kids of all ages.

This is a family affair, so please bring your kids, grandkids, etc.

Prizes will be awarded for the best Male and Female Costume and best Male and Female child costumes and the best couple.

Steak Night
3rd Friday of Each Month
6:30pm



**STEAK NIGHT
COUPON**

BUT ONE STEAK AT REGULAR PRICE OF \$12.00
AND GET THE SECOND ONE FOR \$ 10.00

GOOD ONLY THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2012 **AND**
WITH A RESERVATION MADE 1 DAY IN ADVANCE



Fundraising Ideas

We are looking for ideas to raise money for the Post. Ideas that have been presented recently to the Executive Committee include:

A Halloween Haunted House, Craft Fair, Raffles, Car Shows, and Motorcycle Shows. The Auxiliary is selling umbrellas, Butter Braids, shopping coupons, and putting together a cookbook (by the way, they are looking for everyone's favorite recipes).

For Post activities, the ideas presented are Pool tournament, and a Shuffleboard tournament.

Do you have any ideas? Please call 719-599-8624 or send an email to centennialtwozeronine@yahoo.com. We are looking forward to hearing from you.

We Are Looking For a Publisher!

Are you creative, familiar with MS Publisher and interested in putting together *The Centennial* each month?

Do you have ideas that would improve our Newsletter and provide more information to members of the Legion family? Are you tired of seeing my mistakes every month and the same old way of doing things? It does not need to be a Legionnaire to take over the Newsletter; it can be any member.

If interested, we need you to step forward. You can take *The Centennial* to the next level. Call us!

A Real Love Story

Folks, Jean Chladek recently shared an article with me about her aunt and uncle who just celebrated an anniversary. I thought it was a GREAT success story and asked for permission to publish it in *The Centennial*, which she readily agreed.

This is an extract from an anniversary announcement about her aunt and uncle.

Thanks for sharing this with us Jean!



Congratulations to Helen & Ellwood F. Schell who celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on March 16th! They met while working at Hess' department store in 1939 and were married in 1942 at St. Catherine

of Sienna Catholic Church in Allentown, PA. Later that year, Ellwood sailed to North Africa at the start of WWII and went on to serve with the 5th Army in Italy. He was promoted to Warrant Officer and joined the 553rd AAA Searchlight Battalion in defense of Corsica and Southern France. Helen was busy working at Vultee Aircraft & also Dun & Bradstreet as a stenographer. After the war ended, they eventually settled in Whitehall, PA for 62 years where they raised 4 children (Susan, Dennis, Thomas & Theresa) and were devoted members of St. Elizabeth's parish. While raising his family, "Woody" worked as a draftsman at Yundt architectural firm, was an on-site inspector with Weisenberger Assoc. and ran his own construction company, Pagano & Schell. His wife spent her time enjoying her home and children while working at Hess' and later the Whitehall-Coplay School District cafeteria. Helen and Ellwood are both 91 years old and now reside together in Grace Mansion at Holy Family Manor in Bethlehem, PA. They enjoy visiting with their family and 10 grandchildren as well as playing piano, scrabble, and chess. We wish them both many more happy & blessed years together!

I know some of our membership are headed in that direction and I look forward to the opportunity to share your story with our members. Let me know!

Are You an Emergency Contact?

I was recently honored (and very surprised) to learn I was listed as the Emergency Contact for someone in our Post. I found this out when I received a call from a hospital in the city needing information and permission to run tests on the person for whom I was listed as the Emergency Contact. I was embarrassed because I couldn't answer any questions about the patient. Folks, if you are an Emergency Contact, or if you have designated someone outside your immediate family as an Emergency Contact, please ensure you have done the following:

- Let the person know (and get their consent) they are the Emergency Contact
- Draw up a Medical Power of Attorney and give the Emergency Contact a copy
- If you have a Living Will, etc. make certain the Emergency Contact knows and has a copy
- If you have any allergies, let the Emergency Contact know
- Give the Emergency Contact your next of kin name and contact information (phone, email, etc)
- Provide any medical history you feel is pertinent
- The name and contact information of your primary care physician

Not having this information could result in a delay (or rejection) of emergency care. Do yourself, your physician and your Emergency Contact a favor.



Homeless Veterans Stand-down

The Homeless Veterans Stand Down will be held at the Colorado springs, Civic Auditorium on 18 Oct beginning at 9:00 am and last until about 3:00 PM.

If you would like to help escort Veterans as they go through the stations please be at the Civic Auditorium at 9:00 ready to help.

They need our help, and we should be giving them all the help that we can.



HAVE A SAFE HALLOWEEN ON 31 OCTOBER

A Message from Jay

It was recently brought to my attention that we continue to run many of the same articles in *The Centennial* month after month.

I review and edit *The Centennial* every month prior to final distribution. It's funny how easily we (and when I say we, it really means I) can get caught up in the technical pieces of something and overlook the obvious. Even though I read *The Centennial* every month, I don't read it for the pleasure of reading. I'm editing for grammatical and other errors. It took someone that reads for pleasure (thanks Jackie) to call my attention that articles are getting redundant.

I will make you a promise to not allow the same old stuff get copied and pasted month after month into this periodical (with obvious exceptions) if you will promise to send us anything you believe to be newsworthy. Please understand if you send us something and it doesn't get published that same month doesn't mean it won't find it's way into the newsletter. It is probably because we just don't have the room, but we will save it for a future edition.

AARP Safe Driving Classes

In November, AARP is once again going to offer free driving classes to those who are 55 and older.

These classes are aimed at providing information on accident avoidance and other information to keep you safe. By successfully taking these classes, you can take your certificate to most Insurance companies and receive a discount on your insurance.

Romeo Biscaro, a member of our Post is a certified instructor and will be hosting the classes.

If you are a Veteran, even if you are not a member of the Post and want to participate, all you need to bring is your DD Form 214 or your American Legion membership card. These classes are also open to your spouse.

If interested, please call Romeo at 719-574-2179. He will provide you more information and the date and time for the classes.

We hope everyone qualified will take advantage of this great opportunity.



From the Adjutant Larry Johnson

The *Colorado Springs Gazette* published an article taken from Denver (AP) on the 15th of September. I sent this article to everyone on the email list that I have for members of The Legion Family.

The article concerned the modern day Veterans. It spotlighted those who use the Internet to get their information. The article was also discussing how the Veterans of Foreign Wars and especially Post 1 in Denver were changing to meet the needs of Veterans and converting their full-time bar into office space.

Some of the older members of Post, will remember that we had the opportunity to rent a space for a Post Home in Rustic Hills South. We allowed ourselves to believe "If You Build It They Will Come." This of course was in reference to the canteen, bar, lounge or whatever you wanted to call it. As time went on, we came to learn that the phrase we were led to believe was true, was in fact proven to be false. As a result, in 1991 we closed that Post Home. It was during this time that Post members and the leadership decided that when we got a permanent Post Home we would not have a liquor license.

Over the years, and as members join the Post, we tell them that we do not have a Liquor License. And we provide them the reason why which is that we want you to feel that you can bring your wives, girlfriends, children, grandchildren, etc. to any function or activity that is held at the Post and you will not have to put up with the language and other things that happen at bars and lounges.

We want our Post to be a home away from home. We want to be able to help you if you are having problems. We want to be able to direct you to the proper places to get help and if all you want to do is talk, we are available to listen.

To take something from the letter "What we're saying is, look, we love you as a member, but we don't want you to sit on the sidelines, because if we as Vets don't step up to help our fellow Vets, no one else will."

For example, when "The Waldo Canyon Fire" started we had members of the Post manning the

"Commander Center," "The Equestrian Center," and we had people who solicited donations of food to get to those who needed it the most. We were there to help get some temporary financial support and provide information to those who had been evicted or lost their homes.

Also, some of the officers, including the Commander and myself as well as the Post have received phone calls from Legionnaires who are from other states and they are trying to find a place where they can go to meet other Legion Family Members, maybe have a dinner or something to get a drink and maybe attend a dance or to see if we can direct them to someone who can help with a claim, or provide money for gas and other financial help.

On the 18th of Sept, I received a phone call and was asked if we had a full-time bar. When I explained that we didn't have a liquor license, the reply was "Well, what do you offer your members?" My reply, was to "first to ask them if they had time to come down to the Post and that I would give a tour of our Post Home, of course they didn't have the time." I explained about the dinners that were offered on the 1st, 3rd and 4th Friday. Our general membership meeting with the breakfast, the fact that we celebrate the birthdays of the Military Service, we have parties like the Early Bird Dinner, Halloween Parties, Christmas Party, the Valentines dinner, the Legion Birthday dinner and other activities that we sponsor. I went on to explain that our upstairs are had a bumper pool table, a regular pool table, a full shuffle board, the two poker tables that we have, the large screen TV upstairs.

We recently purchased and installed a Nintendo Wii at the Post and connected it to the large Hi-Def screen with games like bowling, golf, darts etc. This gives us the capability to have tournaments and activities for kids of all ages.

Lastly, I know that we have a couple of DJ's and Karaoke specialists in the Post, and I am looking for them to offer us help organizing dances or entertainment. I would ask they consider one free evening to see what they have and then maybe we can work out some deals on a regular basis.

**WE ARE HERE FOR YOU; BUT WITHOUT YOU
OUR EFFORTS ARE FRUITLESS! Come on out!**

Reservations and RSVP go to Jackie Bowen (574-1223) jackiebowen2005@yahoo.com, or Lynn Thomas at 439-6268

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

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

| ~ October 2012 ~ | | | | | | |
|------------------|--------|--|-----------|--|--|--|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 POST EXEC 6:30PM | 5 HAMDOGGER 6:30PM | 6 |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 BREAKFAST 9:00AM MEETING 10:00AM SAL 11:30AM NAVY BIRTHDAY! |
| 14 | 15 | 16 NAVY Birthday Dinner 6:30PM RSVP REQUIRED | 17 | 18 Homeless Veterans Standown. Civic Auditorium 9:00AM to 3:00PM | 19 STEAK NIGHT 6:30PM RSVP REQUIRED | 20 DISTRICT 7 FALL CONFERENCE POST 38 11:00AM TO 3:00PM EARLY BIRD DINNER 6:00 RSVP REQUIRED |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 FISH FRY 6:30PM RVSP REQUIRED | 27 HALLOWEEN PARTY 6:00PM |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | Notes: | | |

Reservations and RSVP go to Jackie Bowen (574-1223) jackiebowen2005@yahoo.com, or Lynn Thomas at 439-6268