

The Centennial



VOLUME VIII EDITION 10

October 2018

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From the Desk and Mind of the Commander

Lino Calica

Congratulations, Legionnaires for your dedication and hard work in recruiting new members and renewing your own membership for fiscal year 2019. I received an email from District 7 Commander Mike Barger congratulating our Post for reaching the 2019 Membership Target goal of 50% September 12th. Without your support and dedication, we would have not reached that goal. New members and existing members from Post 209, AUX 209, SAL 209 and ALR 209 that signs up or renew their membership before October 15th will receive a **Free EARLY BIRD** dinner that will be held on October 19th. Continue recruiting new members and share your story about the American Legion. Next membership target date will be October 10th.

The All Patients' Day Activity in Pueblo was an awesome event. I believe there were approximately 20 or more vendors participating, also a military jazz band was playing music. It was amazing to see Veterans moving about the event visiting booths participating in games and overall enjoying themselves. It was breathtaking to watch the level of respect among the generations as young Marine cadets participated in games for Veterans physically unable to participate, and running vendor booths for our bedridden Veterans. If you have never been to the annual All Patients' Day, you will have an opportunity to volunteer next year. You will be amazed with all the volunteers and community support in this event.

October will be another busy month for the legion. We need many volunteers to assist Jeraud Stuart at the American Legion 209 event table located at Colorado Springs Event Center. We will be having an American Legion information table for the following events, The Colorado Fall Home show, The Colorado Springs Sugar Plum Food and Gift Mart, and Colorado Springs Gun and Knife show.

The Annual Homeless Veteran Stand down will be held at the city auditorium on October 16th. We will need volunteers to help assist in the booths. The Halloween party will be at the Post on October 27th at 4pm. There will be a costume contest in the adult and children categories, fun games to play, so bring your children, grandchildren and have some fun.

If there are any suggestions to improve our Post please feel free to contact me by phone or email, Lionaire.calica@yahoo.com or 719 963-0956. It will be appreciated.



Early Bird Dinner!



Are you an Early Bird? Why is that important? Every year, we like to say thanks to all Legion family members (Legion, Auxiliary, Sons, and Riders) who join or renew early. We do this by buying your dinner on 19 October. To qualify for the free meal, you must have joined or renewed between 1 July and 15 October and RSVP no later than 18 October. That's all there is to it. The dinner is free for the Early Bird only. Guests, kids over 12, etc. will have to pay for their meal at \$10.50 per person. Here's an idea. Sign up your guest(s) and kids as a member of the Legion family before 15 October and they too will get a free meal!

If you're not already an Early Bird, let's "git 'er done!" Renew or sign up before the deadline!



From the Unit 209 President

Cathy Barger

Wow, I can't believe that it's October already. It seems like 2018 is flying by. With the cool mornings, the leaves are changing colors and soon the snow will be here.

All Activities Day was a huge success, such a great day for the Legion Family can get together to support this activity.

Join us for our monthly membership meeting on October 13th. Come down for breakfast at 9:00 am, and our meeting at 10:00 am. Flu shots will be available, most insurance is accepted.

It's that time again, the Early bird dinner for all Legion family members that renew their membership by October 15th. New members that sign up by then will also get a free dinner. The dinner will be offered on October 19th at 6:00 p.m., please RSVP to jackiebowen2005@yahoo.com. Every member is important, and we need your participation in our many worthwhile programs. The 2019 Membership cards are here so be an "early bird" and renew now for the upcoming year. Dues are \$35 for Senior members and \$10 for Juniors.

The Homeless Veterans Stand Down will be October 17th at the City Auditorium. We will be providing four meals to the Veterans that will be housed at the hotel for 45 days. The dates are Oct. 21st, Oct. 28th, Nov. 4th and Nov. 18th.

It's hard to believe that it's almost time for Halloween. The annual Post 209 Halloween Party will be on Saturday October 27th. It will be from 4:00 p.m. to 6 p.m. There will be a costume contest for adult and children's categories, fun games to play, and plenty of treats, can't wait to see everyone's costumes.

Don't forget we have several parties coming up in November. And we will participate in the Veteran's Day Parade on 3 November. Finally, in December we will have the annual Christmas Party.

Happy Birthday to Pamela Barger, Shavon Barringer, Karen Beard, Kendra Bock, Jackie Burd, Susan Calica, Kaitlyn Cancellieri, Jean Chladek, Joan Ciani, Elinor Eastman, Anessa Espinola, Mary Grier, Margaret Harris, Joyce Horne, Kourtney Kimbrel, Dixie Kliewer, Patty Lollar, Sandra Luhnnow, Jennifer Manriquez, Savannah Mussmann, Brandilyn Orcutt, Annie Peterson, Kaitlyn Rose, Margie Roth, Kari Ann Smith, Mavis Spath, Katrina Stone, Susan Thompson, Beatrice Trujillo, Theresa Wiederspahn, Lelia Vasquez. Make sure to wish these ladies Happy Birthday when you see them.

Serving Our Veterans Proudly!

ALR will host the October dinner, they will be celebrating Oktoberfest. Please come down and support the Riders, and make sure to RSVP.



From the Adjutant

Marvin Weaver, Jr.

We have a busy next couple months. The Veterans Stand Down will be October 16th at the city auditorium and our Post Halloween party will be October 27th (the Auxiliary does a great job for this party). We will host the District 7 Fall Conference on November 3rd, starting at 1:00pm. Officers from Department will be down to fill us in on what is happening in the Department of Colorado. The reason for the late start is the Colorado Springs Veterans Day parade is that morning starting at 10am. The Post is registered for the Veterans' Day parade and we will have the semi-truck back this year, so come down for the parade and then come to the Post for the Fall Conference. Saluting America events start the following week with School District 11.

Membership renewals are going good so far this year. The Post is already at 55%. We are having an "Early Bird" dinner on October 19th. What does that mean? If you renewed or joined as a new member for 2019 prior to October 15th, you get a free dinner. Just pay your 2019 dues before this date and RSVP.

Department is having its Recruiting Drive again this year. For every new American Legion member you recruit, your name and the member you recruit are entered into a drawing. Department will have the drawing on each of the national target dates; giving away \$100 each time. If you recruit 5 new members you will also be entered into a drawing for a PUFL membership to be drawn at the Department Convention in June. The more new members you recruit the more chances you have to win. We had two winners last year from the Post.



**From the Sr. Vice Commander
Eric Testorff**



The Corn Palace is the claim to fame of Mitchell, South Dakota. We stayed in Mitchell, and just had to check out this one-of-a-kind place. This year's themes are very pro-Veteran and feature the different military services in a prominent way.

For over 120 years, local high school students have decorated the Corn Palace with corn, hay, and other products of the land. Inside, high school and college teams play basketball, among other events held there.

Folks, this is one of the few really interesting things today that is FREE to see and experience, and they're dog friendly, too! They encouraged us to take Stan and Ollie right on inside the Palace. The people of this town

are absolutely wonderful, kind and helpful. The Palace is open year-round, so check out cornpalace.com, plan a visit and go!



Looking for Legionnaires' Owned Businesses and/or Services to Offer!

Do you own or work for a business providing services and/or products? Would you like to register your business with us?

I can't tell you how many times I've needed or been asked if I knew a Veteran owned business offering services or products. I know that with a Post as large as ours, we have several who could fit into one or several of those categories. We want to know who you are.

Let us know what products or services you offer and whether you can extend a discount to a fellow Legionnaire. We are creating a database so we can help you grow your business while also helping our members find good Veteran owned businesses or Veterans who work for a business that may have something we need. We're not saying we will necessarily recommend your business, but we will let them know about you.

Do you need a fireplace or work on your existing fireplace? We know someone who can help.

Do you need to replenish your bar at home? A member of our Post owns a Liquor Store and they offer discounts to Legionnaires every day.

Do you need some plumbing help? A member of our Post works for a well-known and respected plumbing company.

We know there are MANY others out there and in our Post. Let us know. Contact Marvin Weaver Jr. to get your name and your company's name on the list!



From the Jr. Vice Commander

Stan "Sgt. Ski" Krasinski

Good day all my American Legion family and future volunteers.

To continue on with my article from September, let's discuss Benefit #2 of consider this: Volunteering and its Surprising Benefits...How Giving to Others Makes You Healthier and Happier

Benefits of volunteering: 4 ways to feel healthier and happier

1. Volunteering connects you to others (September's article)
2. Volunteering is good for your mind and body (October's article)
3. Volunteering can advance your career
4. Volunteering brings fun and fulfillment to your life

Benefit 2: Volunteering is good for your mind and body. Volunteering provides many benefits to both mental and physical health. Volunteering helps counteract the effects of stress, anger, and anxiety. The social contact aspect of helping and working with others can have a profound effect on your overall psychological well being. Nothing relieves stress better than a meaningful connection to another person. Working with pets and other animals has also been shown to improve mood and reduce stress and anxiety.

Volunteering combats depression. Volunteering keeps you in regular contact with others and helps you develop a solid support system, which in turn protects you against depression.

Volunteering makes you happy. By measuring hormones and brain activity, researchers have discovered that being helpful to others delivers immense pleasure. Human beings are hard-wired to give to others. The more we give, the happier we feel.

Volunteering increases self-confidence. Doing good for others in the community provides a natural sense of accomplishment. Your role as a volunteer can also give you a sense of pride and identity. And the better you feel about yourself, the more likely you are to have a positive outlook on life and future goals.

Volunteering provides a sense of purpose. Older adults, especially those who have retired or lost a spouse, can find new meaning and direction in their lives by helping others. Whatever your age or life situation, volunteering can help take your mind off your own worries, keep you mentally stimulated, and add more zest to your life.

Volunteering helps you stay physically healthy. Studies have found that those who volunteer have a lower mortality rate than those who do not. Older volunteers tend to walk more, find it easier to cope with everyday tasks, are less likely to develop high blood pressure, and have better thinking skills. Volunteering can also lessen symptoms of chronic pain and reduce the risk of heart disease.

I have limited mobility-can I still volunteer? People with disabilities or chronic health conditions can still benefit greatly from volunteering. In fact, research has shown that adults with disabilities or health conditions ranging from hearing and vision loss to heart disease, diabetes or digestive disorders all show improvement after volunteering.

Whether due to a disability, a lack of transportation, or time constraints, many people choose to volunteer their time via phone or computer. In today's digital age, many organizations need help with writing, graphic design, email, and other web-based tasks. Some organizations may require you to attend an initial training session or periodical meetings while others can be done completely remotely. In any volunteer situation, make sure that you are getting enough social contact, and that the organization is available to support you should you have questions.

The above is taken from and please visit www.helpguide.org.

The American Legion was chartered and incorporated by Congress in 1919 as a patriotic veterans organization devoted to mutual helpfulness.

'We can only make a difference if we are involved...participants not spectators.'

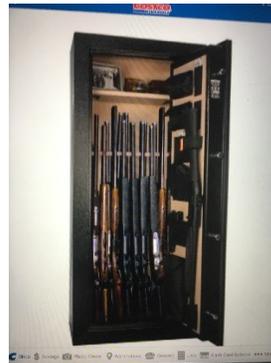
*** Raffle ***

1st Prize Cannon 24 Gun Safe With One Bonus Gun Inside

2nd Prize \$100 Visa Gift Card

3rd Prize \$50 Visa Gift Card

\$10 Per Ticket or 3 for \$25



All Proceeds Support Programs of The American Legion
Drawing will be held November 16, 2018
At Post 209, 3613 Jeannine Dr., Colorado Springs,
Colorado 80917

Only 300 Tickets will be sold

Do Not Have to be present to win



Halloween Party!

Let's Have a Halloween Party! Costumes are encouraged but not required. We will give prizes for the best costume in the adult and kids categories.

When: 27 October, 4:00pm to 6:00pm

Where: Post 209; 3613 Jeannine Drive

Why: Because it's fun!

Cost: A Ghoulish Good Time!

Reservations and RSVP go to Jackie Bowen (574-1223) jackiebowen2005@yahoo.com



From The Post Historian - October
Marvin Weaver, Sr.

American Legion Post 1980 in Woodland Park held a memorial ceremony/monument dedication for Eric V. Dickson on 25 September 2018 at the Woodland Park Memorial Park. Eric Testorff, Michael Wescott and Chris Kinnard represented Post 209. Denise Cook, Pat Bedford and Marvin Weaver, Jr. represented District 7. There were hundreds in attendance.

Lance Corporal Dickson was the only Woodland Park resident to be killed in action in the Viet Nam war. His bronze statue was unveiled during the ceremony.



From the Historian - October
Art “AJ” Carter

Recent Events:

Aug 25: We hosted our 3rd year “The Poker Run,” chaired by Grady Mitchell-President of the Post AL Riders. The proceeds for this event go to support Veteran programs such as; The Homeless Veteran Stand-Down and Temporary Housing Initiatives, Bruce McCandless Veterans Community Living Center at Florence, and other charitable programs for the year. Breakfast was prepared and served by the Post 209 Auxiliary and Art Kimbrel. The Riders rode from Post 209 to Whistling Pines, West – Kiowa Marina – Rocky Mtn. Brewery, and back to Post 209. There they participated in a merchandise auction and a silent auction.

Sep 08: At our General membership meeting, we honored Cub Scout Pack 24. Scouts were escorted by Jeff Kunkle, Jackie Johnson, and Vicky Carson. We also had 3 speakers; Mike Barger, District 7 Commander, gave a talk about the National Convention and presented a 15 minute film of the Convention opening ceremony, which was very moving. Bernard Harris briefed on VETVIP insurance, an alternative to the TRICARE change. Jim Griffin briefed on the upcoming “Stand-Down” Oct 16, a combined program of the El Paso County and Local Veteran organizations to provide a helping hand to Homeless Veterans and their families.

Pictures of the events can be found on <https://Legion209.org>

If you have any pictures you would like to share for our 2018-19 yearbook, please send them to me:

EMAIL: ajcarter209@comcast.net

TEXT: (603)913-3261

Please indicate what the event or occasion is, when, and who is in the picture(s).

From the Finance Officer - October
Rusty L. Bower, Senior Chief, U.S. NAVY (ret.)

Edward Anthony Davis, Captain, USN (Vietnam POW August 26, 1965 – February 12, 1973)

Ed Davis was born in Norristown, Pennsylvania on August 16, 1939. He attended St. Joseph's Preparatory School, Villanova University and the US Naval Academy at Annapolis, where he graduated in 1962 with a Bachelors Degree in Naval Science. He underwent Naval flight training and was assigned to VA-152, an attack squadron based at Alameda, California. His squadron deployed aboard the USS ORISKANY CV-34. On August 26th 1965, during his 57th combat mission over North Vietnam he was shot down while flying his A-1H Skyraider. He was just 25 years old and the 19th POW captured in Vietnam. He spent a rainy night in a ditch with a huge snake until his discovery and endured a 19 day march to Hanoi, where he spent the next 7 ½ (2,727 days) years of his life. Upon arrival, he was beaten, tortured and nearly starved to death, going from 185 to 95 pounds upon release. To avoid being repulsed by what he was being fed, he never watched what he put in his mouth. Upon release, on February 12th, 1973, he gained media attention for a puppy he smuggled given to him by a guard in Vietnam and named her MaCo. He said, "I'm an ex-POW and she is a Luck Dog."

Capt. Davis served the remainder of his 20 years in the NAVY with his last tour of duty as the Commanding Officer of Naval Recruiting District, where I had the honor of serving with him in 1984. He was a very kind man and never expressed any bitterness toward his captors, even though they robbed him of 7 ½ years of his life. It was not only an honor knowing this man, he was larger than life itself and an honor just to walk in his shadow. He was honored with 3 Silver Stars, the Legion of Merit (V), 4 Bronze Stars, 2 Purple Hearts, 3 Navy Commendations (V), Combat Action Ribbon and other numerous awards.

His 3rd Silver Star Citation reads:

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity while interned as a Prisoner of War in North Vietnam. In August 1967, his captors, completely ignoring international agreements, subjected him to extreme mental and physical cruelties in an attempt to obtain military information and false confessions for propaganda purposes. Through his resistance to those brutalities, he contributed significantly toward the eventual abandonment of harsh treatment by the North Vietnamese, which was attracting international attention. By his determination, courage, resourcefulness, and devotion to duty, he reflected great credit upon himself and upheld the highest traditions of the Naval Service and the United States Armed Forces.

Captain Davis retired March 29, 1987 at the Navy Recruiting District, Harrisburg, PA and settled down with his wife in Lancaster, PA. He went on to be a motivational speaker. He also served as a consultant for the POW National Vietnam War Museum. Among other things, he was a Life Member of The American Legion, VFW, Disabled American Veterans and the Fourth Allied POW Wing.

Captain Davis passed away November 7th, 2006 in Lancaster, PA. He loved America and was a Hero in many peoples eye and a consummate patriot.



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

Origin of NAVY Terminology - October
Rusty Bower



Larboard Side

The left hand side of a vessel. This old-time name for the modern "port" means literally the "loading" side. Ancient ships were steered by a huge oar secured near the stern, on the starboard or right-hand side. In order to keep the steering oar from being crushed against the side of the dock, ships were always tied up with their left-hand side fast to the wharf. Therefore, as it was thus they were loaded, the left-hand side was called the "lar-" or "load-"board side. Later the name was changed to "port" side, because larboard was too similar to starboard, and created confusion when giving orders.



AMERICAN LEGION POST 209

THE PREEMINENT VOICE FOR VETERANS • COLORADO SPRINGS, CO



WALK OF HONOR

Buy A Brick Fundraiser!

If you've attended our meetings over the past year, you may have heard us discuss plans for a new fundraising effort. We are partnering with Polar Engraving to offer our members, family, friends, and our corporate Veteran-friendly supporters an opportunity to purchase an engraved brick to adorn our landscaping project we are working. The bricks are engraved using a hybrid method that combines both laser engraving and sandblasting. The engraving is then painted using the same paint used on tombstones so it's extremely durable. Here are the details/answers to questions we anticipate:

- **What Are We Having?** A Brick Fundraising Event
- **Why?** To Further Funding of our American Legion Programs and Offset Increasing Costs
- **What Size Are the Bricks?** We are offering 4"x 8" or 8"x 8" bricks for individuals, and 8"x 8" or 12"x 12" bricks for our corporate supporters.
- **What are the Costs for the Individual Bricks?** Prices range from \$90 to \$200, depending on size, style and lettering desired. For the 8x8 or 12x12 bricks, you can add a second emblem. Contact the Adjutant for ordering details. There is **NO** additional cost for the second emblem on the larger bricks.
- **What are the Costs for the Corporate/Veteran Supporter Bricks?** Prices range from \$250 to \$500, again depending on size, style and lettering.
- **What is the Difference between Individual and Corporate Bricks?** Individual bricks are identified for Veterans, and family members of Veterans wishing to purchase a brick to honor their Veteran. The corporate bricks are for our Veteran-friendly supporters and businesses who wish to show their continued support to our Nation's heroes by purchasing a brick.
- **Is the Brick Purchase Restricted to Members of the Post 209 Family?** No. We encourage members to buy a brick for themselves as a lasting memory of their association with Post 209. We also welcome anyone to purchase a brick for their Veteran loved one, or to show their support to our Veterans.
- **Can I Buy a 12"x 12" Brick for Myself/Loved One?** Absolutely!
- **Where Do I Go to Buy a Brick?** Visit <http://polarengraving.com/ALPost209> to buy your brick. The site is very user-friendly and will walk you through the design and purchase. You will be able to see a preview of your brick before finalizing the purchase.
- **How Do I Pay For the Brick?** We have the site setup to accept payment via PayPal or by check. PayPal is an extremely safe way to purchase a brick and you don't need a PayPal account to use it.
- **Where Will the Brick Be Shipped?** All bricks will be shipped to the Post. We will notify you when it arrives and you are welcome to stop by and see the brick you have purchased.
- **What Will Become of My Brick?** It will be placed near the Flagpole at the Post and will be part of the landscaping design we are working. If you are a landscaper or know a good one (preferably a Veteran), have them contact our Adjutant.
- **How Long Will this Fundraiser Effort Last?** We plan to only sell as many bricks as needed for the first phase of the landscaping project. Currently, that is anticipated to be 600 bricks, but that number may change depending on brick sizes purchased and the final design approved by the Post.
- **Will I Have an Opportunity to Buy a Brick Later?** Quite possibly. It depends on what is decided/ approved for the next phase of our project.

Order your brick(s) now to ensure you get one in Phase One of our project. If you buy multiple bricks, let our Adjutant know and we will make certain they are all placed together.



Air Force Falcon Football!



Summer has gone very quickly!

We have a very generous Legionnaire that donated tickets to five (5) Air Force Falcons home games (all home games for the 2018 season except Navy). For each game, we have four tickets.

We are raffling off the tickets for each game. **This will be four separate raffles; one for each game.** The cost for a ticket is \$1 each or 6 raffle tickets for \$5. The first two games were already raffled.

You don't need to be present to win, but you have to hurry if you want a chance to attend one of these games.

For each game, you will get four tickets in M-7 Row-B, seats 24-27, along with Chair backs for all four seats, and parking passes.

Donated are:

Boise St: Game is 27 October (4 tickets each); Time 5:00pm MST; Valued at \$140

New Mexico: 10 Nov. (4 tickets each); Time 1:30pm MST; Valued at \$140

Colorado St: 22 November (4 tickets each); Time 1:30pm MST; Valued at \$140

More information to follow on the games very soon, but if you are interested, you need to let Marvin Weaver Jr. know **NOW!!!!**



From SAL Squadron Commander - October
Stanley "Sgt. Ski" Krasinski

Good day all my American Legion family and SAL Brethren.

The Sons of The American Legion - Founded in 1932, Sons of The American Legion exists to honor the service and sacrifice of Legionnaires.

If I may, I would like to add a book to everyone's reading list and share a short insight to the book. *Raising Men: From Fathers to Sons: Life Lessons from Navy SEAL Training.* Hardcover - May 2, 2017

After Eric Davis spent over 16 years in the military, including a decade in the SEAL Teams, his family was more than used to his absence on deployments and secret missions that could obscure his whereabouts for months at a time. Without a father figure in his own life since the age of fifteen, Eric was desperate to maintain the bonds he'd fought so hard to forge when his children were young—particularly with his son, Jason, because he knew how difficult it was to face the challenge of becoming a man on one's own. Unfortunately, Eric learned the hard way that Quality Time doesn't always show up in Quantity Time.

Facebook, television, phones, video games, school, jobs, friends—they all got in the way of a real, meaningful father-son relationship. It was time to take action.

As a SEAL, Eric learned to innovate and push boundaries, allowing him to function at levels beyond what was expected, comfortable, ordinary, and even imaginable, and he knew that as a father he needed to do the same with his son. Meeting extreme with extreme was the only answer.

In *Raising Men*, Eric and his SEAL brothers will use a unique blend of discipline, leadership, adventure, and grace to teach you how to connect, and reconnect, with your sons and learn how to raise real men—the Navy SEAL way.

Shared with you from Amazon @ <https://www.amazon.com/Raising-Men-Fathers-Lessons-Training/dp/1250129907> and available for Amazon Kindle. (I knew Rusty would appreciate this reading suggestion.)

Please visit the Sons of The American Legion web-site and view all the current stories at <https://www.legion.org/sons> .

'We can only make a difference if we are involved...participants not spectators.'

Reservations and RSVP go to Jackie Bowen (574-1223) jackiebowen2005@yahoo.com

Bringing a Little South to the West

Past Post Commander Jay Bowen

I grew up in the 50's and 60's in a suburb of Memphis called Oakhaven. I attended Oakhaven Elementary, Junior High (now Middle School), and High School. And if you've read my articles, you know I tell people I went to the same school 12, almost 13 years (10th grade was TOUGH).

While I was a "city boy," I spent most weekends and summer vacations (except for the 10th grade) on my Grandparents farms in Arkansas. So I can also claim to be a part-time good ole country boy as well. But I think this month, I want to share with you what my Oakhaven neighborhood was like "back in the day."

We lived in a very modest 3-bedroom ranch-style home with one bath. There were 4 kids plus Mom and Dad. That made getting ready for school a logistics nightmare. But we managed. You do that when it's all you have. Like most houses in the Memphis area, there was no basement. The water table from the Mississippi River was so high you couldn't hardly dig more than 6 inches to find water. And for those very few houses around town with a basement, most were constantly having to deal with seepage into the basement.

Also like many houses during that time, we didn't have air conditioning. On the rare occasion I would ask Dad about it, he would give his standard response, "Boy, I'd rather live next door to someone with an air conditioner than to own one." That was the same response I'd get when I asked why we didn't have a car with an automatic transmission. Not certain I really understood what he was trying to say until years later.

Even though we didn't have air conditioning, we did have Hunter fans in every room except the bathroom. This was before ceiling fans became popular. Dad worked for the Hunter Fan Company for 43 years, so we always had fans available. We had a big window fan in the kitchen window that would pull air through our open bedroom windows and open front door to keep a constant air flow throughout the house. It was actually pretty comfortable at night, even during the summer. And back then, you could leave your bedroom windows open all night and not worry about someone crawling into your bedroom (well, except when my brother Bubba would sneak back in after curfew). When we started school Dad gave each of us kids a large floor fan (that could also be modified to serve as a window fan) to take to school because, you guessed it, Oakhaven, like most public schools in Memphis didn't have air conditioning either. We were pretty popular because we provided one of the few classrooms with air. I still have my floor fan.

We lived on the corner of Swinnea (pronounced Sweenie) Road and Meadow Lane. This made our yard the neighborhood cornerstone (pun intended) for most of our sports and games. If we got enough kids from the neighborhood to play baseball or football, we'd go across the street on Swinnea. There was a several acre field that was part of the Memphis International Airport maintenance area. Even though the property was fenced, they didn't care if we used the grassy field for football and/or baseball. It was a perfect venue and literally kept us off the street.

One block to the west was Winchester Road, a major thoroughfare through our community. Along Winchester and behind the houses that lined Meadow Lane was a line of commercial businesses. There was a Pure Oil Gas Station on the corner of Swinnea and Winchester. Dad used to hang out there with his buddies who worked at the full service gas station. If you pulled up to a pump, someone would run out there with rag in hand, clean the windows, check the oil and tire pressure, and fill your tank. You didn't even have to get out of the car. And you had to pay about \$0.18 per gallon for regular gas (there was no unleaded).

Next to the Pure Oil station was a Barber Shop and next to them was the "Chat 'N Chow Diner." We could only afford to eat out about 2 times a year, and most of the time it was at the "Chat 'N Chow." They also had two drive up windows (not drive through). I remember vividly one of the windows was designated as a "Colored Only" window, which was also common back in the day. We didn't think there was anything odd about that at the time. Thinking back, I realize just how sad that was. At least in the group I hung out with we didn't think less of anyone with a different color skin, we just accepted they must be different. The only family on our street that was not Caucasian was the Ryan's. Their Mom was Hispanic. They were great friends and we didn't even think about them being different, other than they went to a Catholic school instead of Oakhaven. They were the only kids in the neighborhood that didn't attend our school. Next to the "Chat 'N Chow" was McLemore's store. It was a local chain similar to 7/11 but long before 7/11's made their way into our lives. The cool thing about McLemore's was the tube tester. When our TV acted up (mostly horizontal or vertical control issues), Dad would take the cover off the back, pull a few tubes out and send us to get them tested. If one failed the test, we'd buy the replacement tube and head back home. Nowadays, you just throw away the TV and buy another one.

Life was simple back then. There were many luxuries we have today we didn't have growing up. But you know, you can't miss what you never had. Anyway, I'd rather live next door to someone that had air conditioning and cars with automatic transmission than to have one!



Post Officers 2018-2019

Office	Name	Telephone
Commander	Lino Calica	719-963-0956
Sr. Vice Cdr	Eric Testorff	719-510-4177
Jr. Vice Cdr	Stan "Sgt. Ski" Krasin-ski	719-359-6356
Adjutant	Marvin Weaver, Jr.	719-244-3535
Finance Officer	Rusty Bower	719-649-0654
Chaplain	Paul R. Darrow	719-237-4461
Sergeant-at-Arms	Joe Schmidt	651-328-9029
Historian	Art "AJ" Carter	603-913-3261
Post Exec. Cmtee	Bill Burd	719-330-1279
Service Officer	Lyle Hagelberg	719-231-2364
Judge Advocate	Marvin Weaver, Sr.	719-638-4763
Club Manager	Art Kimbrel	719-339-4610
Honor Guard Capt.	Eric Testorff	719-510-4177



ALR Officers 2018-2019

Office	Name	Telephone
President	Grady Mitchell	719-201-3353
Vice President	Steve Hayes	719-494-7166
Secretary	Amy Mitchell	719-321-8291
Treasurer	Rusty Bower	719-649-0654
Sgt-At-Arms	Tim McDowell	719-510-9907
Road Captain	John Hanchek	719-648-5415



Auxiliary Officers 2018-2019

Office	Name	Telephone
President	Cathy Barger	719-290-3163
Vice President	Donna Rae Smith	815-973-0073
Secretary	Pat Weaver	719-638-4763
Treasurer	Kellie Hayes	719-494-7167
Chaplain	Jackie Burd	719-590-6615
Sergeant-At-Arms	Kris Floyd	719-308-2150
Historian	Nancy LaFayette	719-594-6806



Sons of The American Legion 2018-2019

Office	Name	Telephone
Commander	Stan "Sgt. Ski" Krasinski	719-359-6356
Vice Commander	Eric Testorff	719-510-4177
Adjutant	Steve P. Cox	970-580-8191
Finance Officer	Rusty Bower	719-649-0654
Sergeant-at-Arms	Stanten Krasinski	719-359-6356
Chaplain	Shelten Krasinski	719-359-6356
Historian	Trystan Cline	
Squadron Advisor	Ken Taylor	719-761-4047

Calendar of Events (see back page for the October Calendar)

November

- 1st; Post Executive Committee Meeting, 6:30pm
- 2nd; Hamdogger Nite
- 3rd; Veterans' Day Parade (check the website for updates)
- 9th; Auxiliary Dinner, **(RSVP Required!)** 6:00pm **(\$9.00)**
- 10th; Breakfast, 9:00am
- 10th; Legion/Aux. General Membership Meeting, 10:00am
- **11th; Happy Veterans' Day!**
- 15th; Fundraising Committee Meeting, 7:00pm
- 16th; Steak Night, **(RSVP Required!)**, 6:00pm, **(\$14.50)**
- 16th; Turkey Shoot (\$5.00 donation for five shots)
- 19th; ALR Executive Board Meeting, 6:00pm
- **22nd; Happy Thanksgiving!**
- 27th; Healing Warriors, 9:00am
- 27th; ALR Monthly Meeting, 6:30pm, Social Hour, 5:30pm
- 27th; SAL Monthly Meeting, 5:45pm
- 30th; Hawaiian Dinner Fundraiser, 6:00pm
- 30th; DMS Event, 12:00pm Post 209 (check the website for updates)

December

- 1st; DMS Event, 9:00am Post 38
- 2nd; DMS Event, 12:00pm Post 209
- 6th; Post Executive Committee Meeting, 6:30pm
- 7th; Hamdogger Nite
- 14th; ALR Dinner, 6:00pm **(\$9.00)**
- 15th; Post Christmas Party, Time TBD
- 20th; Fundraising Committee meeting, 7:00pm
- 21st; Steak Night, **(RSVP Required!)**, 6:00pm, **(\$14.50)**
- **Merry Christmas!**

October 2018							
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
	1	2	3 Marksmanship 6:30pm 	4 Exec. Committee Meeting 6:30pm  Young Guns 6:30pm 	5 Hamdogger 6:00pm CANCELLED! 	6	
7	8 Columbus Day	9	10 Marksmanship 6:30pm 	11 Young Guns 6:30pm 	12 \$9.00 Meal ALR Dinner - 6:00pm RSVP Required! 	13 Membership Meeting Breakfast - 9:00am Meeting - 10:00am  	
14	15 Early Bird Cut-Off! ALR Executive Board 6:00pm 	16 Veterans' Stand Down	17 Marksmanship 6:30pm 	18 Young Guns 6:30pm  Fundraising Committee 7:00pm 	19 \$10.50 Meal* Early Bird Dinner! RSVP Required!   	20	
21	22	23 ALR Monthly Meeting 6:30pm. Social 5:30pm SAL 5:45pm  	24 Marksmanship 6:30pm 	25 Young Guns 6:30pm 	26 \$10.50 Meal Chef's Choice! - 6:00pm RSVP Required!   	27 Halloween Party! 4:00pm - 6:00pm Healing Warriors 9:00am - 12:30pm	
28	29	30	31 Halloween Marksmanship 6:30pm 	Notes: * The \$10.50 meal cost is for guests and family members of an Early Bird. There is no cost for the Early Bird (see the article).			



Happy Halloween!



Please keep our kids safe while they “Trick or Treat!”

Let their Treats not be Tricked!