

CENTENNIAL POST 209

THE AMERICAN LEGION

NOVEMBER 1996



LEGION NEWS
HARRY JOHNSON
COMMANDER

The Early Bird Dinner will be November 16 at 430 East Pikes Peak Avenue (VFW Post #4051. Social hour 6:00 P.M., dinner at 7:00. Members who have renewed their membership will be treated to a free dinner. Guests will be charged \$5.50 per person.



HEY!

**ARE YOUR
DUES PAID?**

The Department Commander Jack Tarpey's Homecoming will be November 9 at Post 38 in Security. If you plan to attend, you must RSVP by November 5 at 392-9901.

Leadership Workshop will be held at the Red Lion Inn in Colorado Springs November 22 and November 23rd. Since it is in Colorado Springs we would like many members of Post 209 to attend.

Commander Tarpey has promised to make this an exciting event.

The election is upon us and I would like to encourage each and every one of you to become knowledgeable on the issues and candidates and VOTE - VOTE - VOTE for those candidates and issues which will protect veterans' rights such as retirement, COLAs, health care benefits and the flag of our great country. We should be especially aware of Amendment 11 which, if passed, would put a tax on our property amounting to about \$8000.00. This would cut into our ability to provide money for all of our programs.

Referendum A: This measure would require a 60% favorable vote to pass or defeat issues. In a democracy, we have always only required a 51% vote to pass or defeat issues.

The Senate race between Senator Allard and Tom Strickland: Senator Allard is in favor of the Flag Amendment; Tom Strickland is opposed to protecting the flag.

Give thanks on this
Thanksgiving
Holiday.



The
American
Legion

OFFICERS

COMMANDER	HARRY JOHNSON
SR VICE COMMANDER	HARRY McEADDEN
JR VICE COMMANDER	JEFF NEW
ADJUTANT	ANN FOSTER
FINANCE OFFICER	LARRY JOHNSON
HISTORIAN	
SCT. AT ARMS	ROBERT MYNATT
CHAPLAIN	HOWARD HORNIK
JUDGE ADVOCATE	WALLY LONSINGER
SERVICE OFFICER	
EXEC COMMITTEEMAN	NEAL THOMAS

DUES \$25.00

MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY

WORLD WAR I

APR 6, 1917 - NOV 11, 1918

WORLD WAR II

DEC 7, 1941 - DEC 31, 1946

KOREAN WAR

JUN 25, 1950 - JAN 31, 1956

VIETNAM WAR

DEC 22, 1961 - MAY 7, 1975

GRENADA & LEBANON

AUG 24, 1982 - JUL 31 1984

PANAMA

DEC 20, 1989 - JAN 31, 1990

PERSIAN GULF

AUG 2, 1990 UNTIL THE

END OF HOSTILITIES

AUXILIARY OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	BARBARA JOHNSON
1ST VICE PRESIDENT	
2ND VICE PRESIDENT	
SECRETARY/TREASURER	DOT DASSERO
HISTORIAN	
CHAPLAIN	MARCIA SHELLHAMMER
SCT. AT ARMS	RUTH HORNIK

DUES \$15.00



AUXILIARY NEWS
BARBARA JOHNSON, PRESIDENT

I am sorry I missed the District Officers visit to our meeting in October.

I hope you have made your reservations for the Department Commanders Homecoming on November 9 at Post 38.

There will not be a parade on Veterans Day but the ceremony will be at the Rock in Memorial Park at 11:00 A.M.

Our regular meeting will be November 21. Potluck at 6:00, meeting at 7:00 P.M.

Hope to see all of you who have paid your '97 dues at the Early Bird dinner which will be at the VFW Post #4051, 430 E. Pikes Peak, 6:00 P.M. on November 16. You and your guest will be welcome even if your dues are not paid. Cost \$5.50. Reservations please.

Best wishes for a Happy Thanksgiving.

MEETINGS

3RD THURSDAY 7:00 P.M.
DAY POST #26 PALMER PARK & PETERSON RD.

EDITOR

DOROTHY DASSERO, NALPA

OFFICE

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COLORADO SPOS CO 80918-2944

ADJUTANT'S ANNOTATIONS - ANN FOSTER

We have 231 members for 1997. With just 20 more we can be at 50% of our goal. We should have been at that percentage earlier this month but if we can make it by the end of the month, it would be nice.

Our Department Commander Jack Tarpey is from Post 38 right here in Colorado Springs. He has an overall goal of 27,500 members in Department by the end of the Legion year, 30 June. I think it would be very nice if we could do our part, as a Post in his District, to help him reach that goal by doing our best to reach our own goal of 501 as soon as we possibly can.

While out on a Department visitation to another District recently, I listened to our Department Service Officer, John McCartney, read a very recent change to a Public Law which affects the operation of the Veterans Administration, our eligibility for benefits, etc. This change is further reducing our ability to receive care in a VA facility. If you would like more information about this, please call Department Headquarters at 1-800-477-1655 and ask to be connected to the Service Office. That is the thing to do if you need information now.

However, if you want to help yourself, help VA and help your fellow veterans, you will make a pledge to yourself and to your fellow Legionnaires that you will make membership a priority from this point on. Your American Legion has a GI Bill of Health which will enable VA to become financially solvent, put back benefits which have already been taken away, keep benefits still available and care for all veterans and their families. This GI Bill of Health is going to be a major push by The America Legion when the

105th Congress goes into session in 1997. We need a large membership to help convince the new Congress that veterans are tired of being set aside and that the sacrifices they have made for this country deserve better treatment than what they are receiving today. We also need the help of every veteran to contact their representatives when they hear this Bill has been presented to make those representatives aware of how important this issue is to veterans. How can we possibly let ourselves down by not taking on this important issue of our health care? How can we let down our veteran brothers and sisters in need? Surely you can find it somewhere in your heart to ask at least one person to belong to The American Legion. Just think if we all would do that, what a difference it would make. **THE BOTTOM LINE IS WE NEED TO STAND UP FOR OURSELVES AND FOR EACH OTHER NOW.**

ACTIVITIES AND OTHER SIMILAR STUFF

November 6 - Executive Meeting at the Post's office on Austin Bluffs Pkwy.

November 9 - Department Commander Jack Tarpey's Homecoming. Make your RSVP to 392-9901.

November 16 - EARLY BIRD Dinner - Free to all Legion and Auxiliary members with 1997 dues paid - \$5.50 to guests. Call the Post 599-8624 with your reservations.

November 21- Regular Meeting 7:00 P.M.
- Potluck 6:00 P.M.

November 22 - 23 - Leadership Workshop
- Red Lion Inn in Colorado Springs