

The Centennial



VOLUME 24 EDITION 9 SEPT 2010
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From the Desk and Mind of the Commander

Jay Bowen

Are you mentor-worthy? Do you know what that means? I hate how the term “mentor” gets thrown around. It has become very popular in business for the leadership to issue a mandate to first line supervisors to mentor all new employees. Webster’s defines mentor as a “wise and trusted counselor or teacher.” There are a lot of people at every level of leadership that could never fit into that definition. So if we accept this as the meaning, we probably would have to agree it is a flagrant misuse of the word.

Have you ever been a mentor? Many people would say “I don’t know,” or “No, I have never mentored anyone.” Since this is not necessarily (or even normally) a formal relationship or acknowledgement, you can’t be certain. I did a little experiment one time with my church’s brotherhood. We were discussing mentoring and I asked everyone to tell me who had been a mentor in their life. I didn’t want names, just the relationship. The responses included, boss, business associate, friend, neighbor, brother, sister, aunt, uncle, father (this is one of mine), pastor, and mother. My next question to the brotherhood is the same one I’ll ask you; how many of these categories do you fit into? My point is that everyone one of us are either currently mentoring someone, have mentored someone in the past, and/or we are being looked upon as potential mentors. Someone is watching everything we say and do. They watch how we react to decisions, what decisions we make, and how we respond in a crisis situation. We are being judged on integrity, ethics, and morality. Pretty scary, huh?



President’s Column

Jackie Bowen

Let’s welcome our new members Debbie Carmichael, Elaine Saunders, Caroline Irwin. It is so nice to be able to welcome new members each month. Department has increased our membership goal to 80. Let’s keep up the good work Ladies. Of course we have Legionnaires that have recruited members for our Auxiliary and we appreciate their efforts also. We would also like to welcome our guest from last month, Joan Ciani and Cheryl Clement. Guests are always welcome and encouraged to visit.

Don’t forget to order your Butter Braids. The flavors again are Dutch Almond Crème (New), Cherry, Apple, Blueberry Cream Cheese, Cinnamon, and Cream Cheese.



I have recently learned that there is an American Legion Children’s Home in Ponca City, Oklahoma. This is a place that welcomes deployed soldiers’ children as well as those left orphaned by the loss of their parent/parents. We will be doing a fundraiser to collect money to help support this wonderful place, but until a specific fundraiser is decided upon, we will be collecting donations of any monetary value in support of the American Legion Children’s Home. Checks and/or money orders may be payable to the Legion or Auxiliary and in the **memo** area please put for **American Legion Children’s Home**.

We will be decorating our Post home for Christmas sometime in November. All help is welcome and I will send out an exact date via email. If you would like to help just let me know. I can be reached at 719-574-1223 or jackiebowen2005@yahoo.com.

Serving Our Veterans Proudly

**From the Desk and
Mind of the Commander
Jay Bowen**

So, I'll ask again; are you mentor-worthy? No one can answer that for you. When you look in the mirror, what is the face you see? Are you someone that leads by example? Do you practice what you preach? Are you reluctant (or just refuse) to take an unpopular stand on an issue even when you feel it should be done? Are you someone you want for a mentor? If not, why? You are what you want to be. If you don't like who you are, change! Your attitudes, beliefs and values should be living examples of who you are. You should not have to define them to anyone. They should be pretty evident. And I assure you they are evident. Those attributes may not be what you think they are, but they are out there and they define you everywhere you go and every time you walk and talk with others. We are all looking for support. We are all looking for mentors. We may not know it, but when we observe others and take on some of their actions and mannerisms and quote their mantra as our own, we are becoming something of a protégé to a mentor. I can tell you from experience that most of the time a mentor/protégé relationship is rarely formally acknowledged. It is a relationship that develops over time and through mutual respect.

I know I have been a mentor to at least two or three people in my lifetime. I know this because years after we parted company, I had the pleasure of seeing them again and they told me. At the time we were together, I never thought about it (and that's probably a good thing). I don't know what I did or said that created the relationship. I didn't choose them to mentor. And I'm certain they didn't choose me initially. But there must have been something I did right that made these people want to learn more. I pray that whatever it may have been, I never lose sight of those things. Now I try to stay aware that anything I say and do in both my professional and personal life is being watched by someone and that person may be looking at me in need of mentoring.

We should all strive to be mentors, whether we are chosen or not. We can only do what we feel is the right thing to do, always. We cannot compromise our integrity or ethics, ever! Remember, someone is always watching, waiting, hoping to find a mentor.

Are you mentor-worthy?

For God and Country,
Jay

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Are you mentor-worthy?

For God and Country,
Jay

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 need to be turned in to the Adjutant by sending them to the Post at Am-Legion209@base.comcastbiz.net and to john8936@msn.com by the 15th of every month. We reserved the right to edit articles as needed.



Hamdogger Wingding Nights

On the 1st Friday of each month we do the Hamdogger Wingding Night and every month we get a couple more members and guests coming down to enjoy an evening with friends and comradeship.

There have been some changes in the pricing of the Hamdogger Wingding evening.

Children (under the age of ten) can get a free hotdog when a parent purchases a regular meal.

Hope to see you soon.





Post Officers
HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Office	Name	Telephone
Commander	Jay Bowen	719-574-1223
Sr. Vice Cdr		719
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
2009-2010**

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
2009-2010**

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



30 Oct	Post Halloween Party 6:30 P.M.
	Food Drive — Please bring non-perishable food to the Post.
2 Nov	Election Day — Get out and VOTE
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.
14 Nov	SCRAP BOOKING CLASSES 1:00 P.M.
25 Nov	Thanksgiving Day
2 Dec	Post Executive Meeting — 6:30 P.M.
3 Dec	Ham Dogger Wingding Night — 6:30 P.M.
7 Dec	Pearl Harbor Day — Ceremonies at Memorial Park
11 Dec	Breakfast 9:00 A.M. Post and Auxiliary Meeting 10:00 A.M.
16 Dec	Food Drive is over
19 Dec	Christmas Party begins at 4:00 P.M. Santa will be in the house
25 Dec	Christmas Day
31 Dec	New Years Party (Still looking for participants)
1 Jan	New Year's Day
6 Jan	Post Executive Meeting 6:30 P.M.
7 Jan	Hamdogger Wingding night — 6:30 P.M.
8 Jan	Breakfast 9:00 A.M. Post and Auxiliary Meeting 10:00 A.M.
28 –30 Jan	Department Mid-Year Conference Double Tree Hotel (Circle and I-25)



From The Historian Crystal Weller

Hello Fellow Members!.

Here we are again. Another month has gone by! Soon, it will be Thanksgiving and then Christmas.

Yes, Christmas. Well, let's go back to October. I am talking about the HamDog Wing Ding Night, the Navy Birthday Dinner, the Early Bird Dinner, and the Halloween Party! Yummy and Fun says it all. To those who attended. Thank you. (I am speaking for all of us.).

Personally, I want to meet more of YOU - the members; and since the Holiday season is a special time for FAMILY and FRIENDS, let's all try to attend some of the Post's upcoming events. These are a time for sharing, remembering, and making new memories. Come and have some fun.

With holidays coming up, have you been thinking about what to give to others. I have an idea that might help with that certain someone's gift. What I'm talking about is to do some along the line of a scrapbook picture, and other things that someone may find to really being a wonderful gift.

If anyone is interested in doing a scrap book or a Christmas Card, kids may like to do this, On Saturday, 14 November at 1:00 P.M. I am going to do a small class of how to do. If there is a lot of interest, I may be able to do some classes during a weekday or maybe an evening. So, for anyone that has photos, newspaper articles, or special items that need to be preserved, It is time to preserve some of YOUR memories or shall we say YOUR history. For those interested, please email me at swishergym@msn.com. I have some supplies and equipment such as pairs of scissors, paper punches (various shapes and sizes), various stamps, some patterned paper and glue will be available. If you have the supplies that are listed above, please bring them. Don't forget to bring your photos!.

Crystal Weller — Post Historian



From The Finance Officer Norman Moyer

While looking over the figure on how much it takes to run the Post, maintain and do repairs to our building to it has become very evident that we need to raise money in order to operate. While we do rent the facilities out for private parties and activities there is no enough money generated to operate the Post, and support the programs of the American Legion and the Post.

In order to off set the cost for the operation of the Post, repair and upkeep of the building, we host such activities as Hamdogger Wingding Evenings, various dinners honoring the Branches of the Military, Halloween parties, Christmas Parties and any other activities that are sponsored by Post in the hope we can your support to help raise money.

One of the newest things we are going to undertake is the sale of Pull-Tabs to raise money for the Post.

For those that do not know what Pull-Tabs are, they are a game of chance that is played by buying some pull-tabs and opening them so we if you have won a prize. If the ticket is a winner it may be exchanged for more tickets or you can cash them out for money.

The pull tabs will be available at all Post functions. A member of the Auxiliary playing the pull tabs at the Navy Birthday.



STOP LOSS DEADLINE

If you qualify for STOP LOSS and have not submitted your request for your stop loss pay you must do so by 3 Dec 2010. Below is the contact information for your branch. Fill out a DD Form 2944 and follow the instructions. GET 'ER DONE!

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY:

It is preferred that applicants submit on-line applications to the US Army Stop Loss Program Office, via the web-based, on-line system at <https://www.stoplosspay.army.mil>. Alternatively, hard copy signed and dated applications may be E-mailed to: retrostoplosspay@conus.army.mil; Mail: 5109 Leesburg Pike, Suite 302, Falls Church, VA 22041 Telephone: (877) 736-5554 toll free

U.S. MARINE CORPS:

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE:

Active, retired and former USAF members:
<http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/stoploss>
E-mail: afpc.dpsos.stoploss@randolph.af.mil
Fax: (210) 565-4599 Mail: AFPC/DPSOS (Stop Loss Section) 550 C. Street West, Suite 3 Randolph AFB, TX 78150-4713

Reserve Components Branch

E-mail: arpc.contactcenter@arpc.denver.af.mil
Fax: (478) 327-2215 or DSN 497-2215
Mail: HQ ARPC/DPS (Stop Loss Section)
6760 E. Irvington Place
Denver, CO 80280

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY:

Commander
Navy Personnel CommandPERS 832
5720 Integrity Drive
Millington, TN 38055-8320
Telephone: (901) 874-4427, DSN: 882-4427
Email: NXAG_N132C@navy.mil

It is preferred that applicants submit on-line applications to the Marine Corps Stop Loss Program Office (SLPO), via the web-based, on-line Stop Loss Case Management System (SLCMS) at the following URL: <https://www.manpower.usmc.mil/slcms>. Alternatively, hard copy signed and dated applications may be mailed to: Headquarters U.S. Marine Corps Manpower and Reserve Affairs MID/SLPO 3280 Russell Rd. Quantico VA 22134-5103 SLPO Organizational Mailbox: stoploss@usmc.mil SLPO toll free phone number: 1-877-242-2830



Monthly Breakfast/Meetings

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

Our breakfast starting at 9:00 A.M. and 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. It's the best \$8.00 deal in town.

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

We offer a great selection of food and fruits, however, the cooks and kitchen committee reserve the right to change the menu and surprise you with a selection of different dishes from time to time. Come on down and see what we have.

Marine Birthday Dinner

Are you proud of the Branch of the Military that you served in? Are you proud of our Military?

There must be reason why the support of the Birthday Parties celebrating each Service's Birthday has been a let down. Why not come out a celebrate the Marine Corps Birthday on 10 November

The dinner starts at 6:30 P.M. You don't have to be a member of the Marine's and help celebrate.. Bring the kids. They will enjoy the spaghetti and let them watch a movie afterwards.

I look forward to see all of you..



VETERANS vs POLITICANS

Veteran's Day Activities

I don't know about you, but, I'm getting tired of listening to politicians talk about what they have done or what their opponents have done. So, I was thinking, What Have Veterans Done for the Country and what have the Politicians' done for the country.

My feeling as to what Veterans have done for the country is: With the exception of the Civil War we have not had to fight a foreign enemy on American Soil, We are not speaking, in German, French, Chinese, Japanese or any other language out of necessity, we speak it voluntarily, We are free to talk about our government, We are free to elect politicians who are suppose to represent us not the Democratic or Republican Party or the Independent Party or any other party. We are free to worship in any manner we choose. We can pick and choose just about anything we want without retribution. We have the right to speak out if we do not like something or what has been accomplished. WE HAVE THE RIGHT TO VOTE THE WAY WE CHOOSE WITHOUT FEAR OF RETALITION.

What have the Politicians done for US? They don't represent us they represent their Party and the Party causes. They have passed legislation that has hurt the country. How, we have lost jobs, companies and corporations. Our money is not worth what it was. The other countries are looking down at us. Japan owns the United States when you look at the Trillion dollar we are in deb

Do you remember a song by "Tennessee Ernie Ford", called Sixteen Tons.

There's a verse in the song that goes You load sixteen tons, what do you get, Another older and deeper in Debt, Saint Peter, don't you call me 'cause I can't go, I owe my soul to the company store'. Maybe we should change the lyric from the company store to the Government Store.

Thanks for putting up with the dribble, but, maybe on 11 November, we ALL will take more than a few moments to remember what, Veterans like you and me and those you have gone before us have contributed to our country and to hope that there no more wars, conflicting or fighting for those who serve after us. See you on the 11th of November.

For all Veteran's, every day is a time to remember comrades who have shared in the same things that you have.

6 November, The Veteran's Day Parade will be conducted. Our own Legionnaire Millicent "MILLIE" Young will be the Grand Marshall for this event.

Unit 209 Auxiliary, will once again decorate the reviewing stands area. They will begin around 7:00 A.M. and as always could use the help of anyone who is willing to participate. The Auxiliary will also be decorating a trailer that will be utilized in the parade. I'm sure that more information will be provided.

Thursday, 11 November is the official observance of Veterans Day. Some organizations will be hosting services at Memorial Park. Your can check with your organization to find out the time(s).

The Retired Enlisted Association located at 834 Emory Circle (Galley and Murray Blvd) will be conducting services at 11:00 A.M. and should be done around Noon.

Our Post will be conducting a Open House for anyone who would like to come down and see what the Post has to offer our members. This will be conducted from 1:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.



"Passing of
Past Post Commander"

Wallace "WALLY" Lonsinger

It is with deep regret that I announce the passing of Past Post Commander and long-time Adjutant WALLY LONSINGER. Wally was a charter member of the Post in 1976 and served as the Post Commander and Adjutant.. Wally had a mind of s steel trap and could tell stories of the early years of the Post and things that were done.

Condolences may be offered at
www.CrownHillFuneral.com



From the Adjutant
Larry Johnson

I must talk more than a few moments and say THANK-YOU to all of the Legionnaires who have joined our Post, who renewed their dues and have transferred into our Post, we are going great guns and once again it looks like Post 209 is going to surprise the District and the Department in attaining our goal and surpassing it.

I do have to let you know that in July and August you just about ran me ragged trying to get you membership processed, getting your cards to you and to the Department and National. I did manage to get that all accomplished and I was wishing that you would try to get overwhelmed with your dues renewal for 2011. I can truthfully say that membership processing has almost but not quite come down to a trickle.

I figured that with the 2nd dues renewal notice by National would have swept me off of my feet, but it hasn't.

You recruiter's (and I mean everyone) have done a fantastic job of bringing in new members and that is great but we also must concentrate of renewing those Legionnaire on our rosters.

I ask that you if you have a friend, neighbor, co-worker, family member that is a member of our Post and they haven't renewed their dues for Legionnaire year 2011 to please urge them to get their dues in as soon as possible.

We have some activities coming up within the next couple of months or so and there are sign-up sheets available for you to make reservations for the activities. I'm trying to put together a New Year's Eve party at the Post for the 31st of December. Something to keep in mind, for a majority of you, you live within a six mile radius of the Post and many live within 1 mile of the Post. Please give it some thought and signing up for the New Year's party.

A Successful Membership Program From the Department of Colorado

You can tell if a Post has a successful American Legion Post by it's membership.

A Post that has a great membership team working membership for the Post is essential to the Post growing.

A good membership program has three parts to it. The 1st Part is the recruitment of new members. This is essential if the Post is playing on being around for years to come, and it is vital to be in the younger Veteran.

The 2nd part of a successful membership program is RETENTION. Retention involves getting those members to renew their membership year after year. This is where we get Legionnaires involved with being on committee, groups, officers etc, making them feel like they are needed and wanted. It has often been said that a Post who can retain at least 85% of their membership every year has a program that is working.

The 3rd part to this membership program is working the American Legion membership opportunities called the Direct Mail Solicitation (DMS). This is where National solicits Veterans like you and me to become members of the American Legion and our responsibility is to get them to transfer you a local Post like ours. The other activity is called the Stay Alive Program. Whether you realize it or not, today's society is a very mobile entity and we are always moving for one end of town to another or from one state to another or from a city to another city within the State. Some of these members have 20 or 30 or more years in the American Legion and sometimes for whatever reason they have more and have not rejoined another Post in the local community. Again, our responsibility is to contact them when we get the information and let them know that we have a local Post and that we would like them to become a part of the Centennial 209 family.

If you have all 3 parts of this membership program working, there is nothing that can stop a Post like ours from growing and being a successful Post with the Local community.

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

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COLORADO SPGS, CO
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Remembering what Veterans have given up and what the families have given up. That is what we are here for.