

The Centennial



VOLUME 26 EDITION 11 NOVEMBER 2012
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From the Desk and Mind of the Commander

Jay Bowen

Remember the old adage we used to scream as kids, “Liar, liar, pants on fire!” That old saying comes back to me every election season. Why is it that seemingly good people who have spent years in public service many times resort to that tactic just to get a job that most of the time doesn’t pay well and you wind up living in a fishbowl for the world to watch and criticize? Why can’t they just talk about what they have done and plan to do rather than disparage their opponent? Oh wait, maybe it’s because often they don’t really have a good past performance from which to tout so they offset that by “dissing” the other person.

I don’t care if you’re a Democrat, Republican, Tea Party, Independent, Libertarian, or an Aggie. You can’t turn on the TV or listen to a radio broadcast without hearing the candidate du jour spewing venom about his/her adversary. If I had to decide on a candidate for any office today just based off what I see/hear on TV and the radio, I wouldn’t know who to believe or how to vote. One candidate will declare that if I vote for his opponent, seniors will lose their house. And the other guy states it’s not true, but it will be if I vote for the other guy and oh by the way, the other guy also mistreated the next door neighbor’s pet gerbil when he was 3 (the candidate, not the gerbil). The only thing I can conclude is either they’re both lying or neither know what they are talking about (I tend to believe it’s the latter rather than the former). Regardless which is correct, why should I vote for either one? They are either dishonest or too stupid to know their enemy. Or maybe they just think we are too stupid to find out the truth. Basically, I wouldn’t vote for anyone that mistreats gerbils.



And I love it when they start quoting statistics that nobody can verify until exhaustive research is done. Did you know that 63% of the people who quote statistics make them up? That’s the honest truth. Just check with www.snoopyredbaron.com.

Only once in my adult life did I vote for an independent candidate over a major party guy. I did it knowing full well my “no party” guy couldn’t win, but I was so frustrated by the major party candidates that I voted with my emotions rather than my brain. And I had to vote in order to reserve my right to complain (I am convinced if you don’t vote you forfeit your right to pass judgment on the winner). I messed up by doing so because the lesser of the two evils (and I mean evils) was not elected because I and many others like me wasted our vote and every vote for the independent in that election took away a vote from the major party fellow. Had I not had a third choice from which to choose, I definitely would not have voted for the guy that won. But I was mad and disgusted by how both were running their campaign. Boy, I showed them! It took us several years to recover from my madness. The jury is still out on whether I’ve recovered from it (the madness, not the mess he made of things while serving).

Folks, get out and vote! Exercise your God given right as citizens of the greatest Country in the world. But please, please do some checking to ensure your candidate is willing, planning, wanting, hoping, capable of doing what you expect him/her to do. If the only information you get about your guy/gal is from TV or the radio, then don’t vote for the guy who drives the DeLorean and beats up on gerbils. He must be crazy! And he’ll cause our seniors to lose their house. Seriously, read the voter’s guide that’s delivered at your door, or get the guide online at <http://c3.thevoterguide.org/v/csprings12/index.do>. Know, before you go!



Auxiliary President Jackie Bowen

We have two new members to welcome, Barbara Fisher and Storme Helton. Barbara has visited our Post home with her husband John, for a while and decided to join this month. Storme is the daughter of Kevin Helton. If you have attended any of our dinners lately you have met Storme because she has been helping with kitchen/serving duties. Storme is a junior member of our Auxiliary.

Ladies there will be no meetings until January 12, 2013. The reason for this is because in November the Veterans Day parade will be held on our regular meeting day. In December we will be having a Christmas party instead of the meeting. Look at the calendar for the events we will be having.

I had the honor of attending the Honor Flight luncheon Oct 12th for the WWII Veterans going to D.C. to see the WWII memorial. As many of you know we handed out pocket flags to the 14 Veterans leaving on this flight. After the luncheon, a very nice Air Force Pilot, Greg "Billy Bob" Thornton came up to me and asked if he show and tell me something. I said yes of course. He took out his very worn pocket flag and said "I have carried this on all my missions, it has wiped a few tears, been through the wash, but I wouldn't part with it for anything." I grabbed him, hugged him, and said God Bless You! I didn't want to cry alone so I called Linda O'Riley over, had Greg repeat his story and then she cried right along with me. It means so much to know that our small contribution means so much.

Serving Our Veterans Proudly,
Jackie Bowen
Happy Thanksgiving!

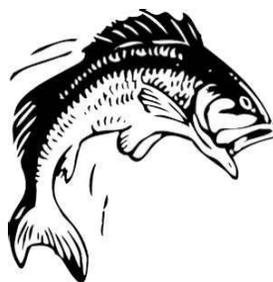
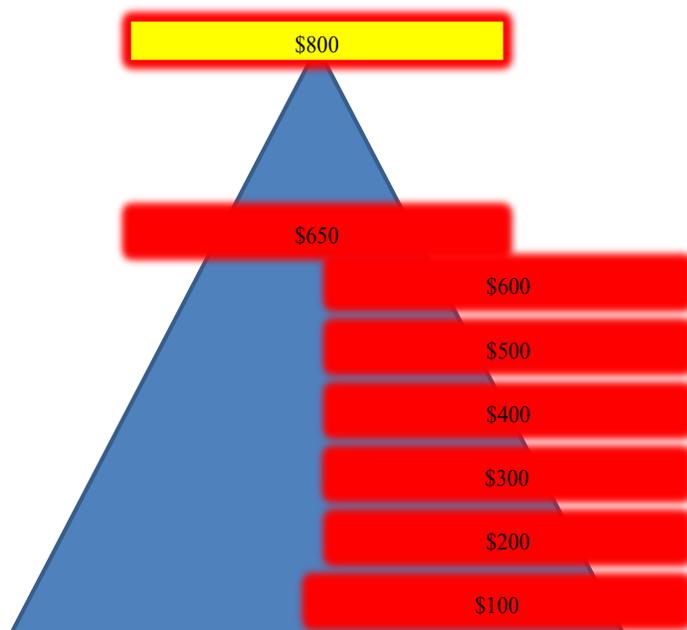


Sons of The American Legion Squadron 209

Are you a **SON**? Did your **father, grandfather or great-grandfather** serve? If so, you may be eligible for the Sons of The American Legion. Dues are just \$20 a year and can be mailed to the Post or paid through PayPal on our website. Our Squadron has 32 paid up members for 2013, and we continue to grow. We meet immediately following the Legion meeting, which is typically the second Saturday of each

which is typically the second Saturday of each month. The time is approximately 11:30am each month.

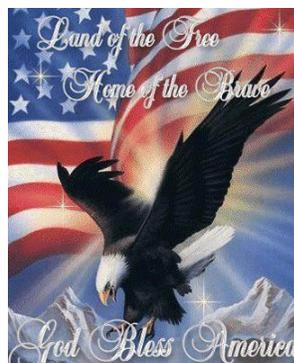
While we support all Legion activities and programs, the **Child Welfare Foundation** is our main project. We are on track for a very successful year. Our goal is \$800 by April of 2013. So far we have collected \$491.33, which already exceeds our total for all of last year. You can help with this worthy project by saving your change and putting it in the piggy banks on our dining room tables. Every coin and every dollar helps!



Fish Fry **Cancelled** Friday, 23 November

The Fish Fry for the month of November has been cancelled due to the Thanksgiving weekend.

We hope everyone will make a date for December.



NOVEMBER BREAKFAST AND GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

DUE TO THE VETERANS DAY PARADE THERE WILL BE NO BREAKFAST OR GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING THIS MONTH.



Post Officers 2012-2013

Office	Name	Telephone
Commander	Jay Bowen	719-574-1223
Sr. Vice Cdr	Mark Krzeczowski	719-282-1380
Jr. Vice Cdr	Lyle Hagelberg	719-594-4039
Adjutant	Larry Johnson	719-622-0344
Finance Officer	Rusty Bower	682-478-9122
Chaplain	Chet Dean	719-244-2442
Sergeant-at-Arms	Don Shuck	719-575-0539
Historian	Gary Baumann	719-282-7779
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

Office	Name	Telephone
President	Jackie Bowen	719-574-1223
Vice President	Linda O'Riley	719-597-5673
Secretary	Lynn Thomas	719-392-1510
Treasurer	Mary Grier	719-536-0438
Chaplain	Marion Daugherty	719-637-9555
Sergeant-At-Arms	Lois Wooton	719-599-8683
Historian	Joan Ciani	719-579-9194



Board of Trustees 2012-2013

Term (Years)	Name	Telephone
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/Finance Officer	Ken Taylor	719-595-8190
Sgt-At-Arms	Don Shuck	719-575-0539
Chaplain	Chet Dean	719-244-2442



Centennial 209 Family Calendar of Events

- 1 Dec **Honor Flight Christmas Party for WWII Vets at Post 209 - 5:30pm (Details Next Month and on our website now)**
- 6 Dec Post Executive Committee Mtg 6:30pm
- 7 Dec **Hamdogger Dinner 6:30pm Pearl Harbor Day!**
- 9 Dec **Gold Star Mothers Meeting-Cancelled**
- 15 Dec Post Christmas Party 6:00pm
- 21 Dec **Steak Night 6:30pm RSVP Required**
- 28 Dec **Fish Fry 6:30pm RSVP Required**
- 3 Jan 13 Post Exec Mtg 6:30pm
- 4 Jan Hamdogger Dinner 6:30pm
- 8 Jan Cub Pack Mtg
- 12 Jan Breakfast 9:00am
Meeting(s) 10:00am
SAL Mtg 11:30am
- 15 Jan Cub Pack Mtg
- 18 Jan Steak Night 6:30pm RSVP Required**
- 25 Jan Fish Fry 6:30pm RSVP Required**
- 25-27 Jan Department Mid-Year Conference
Many activities at the Post.



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



How Important is E-Mail?

Whether we like or dislike computers and email, we are being quickly forced into embracing this technology.

In 2013, the US Postal Service will introduce a First Class Mail Global Forever Stamp. The new stamp will allow customers to mail letters anywhere in the world for a set price of \$1.10.

The price for First-Class Mail single-piece letters will increase just a penny when prices change in January. The \$0.46 forever stamps will allow customers to mail letters to any location in The United States.

Post cards will also increase by \$0.01 to \$0.33.

Every month, the Post mails out the newsletter to everyone who has not provided us with an email address. The cost for this monthly mailer is usually between \$45.00 to \$50.00 for between 475 to 500 to members of The American Legion, the American Legion Auxiliary and members of The Sons of The American Legion, depending on the month.

I know that there are many of you who do not use email and probably never will, but I also know that there are just as many that do have an email address and have declined to provide it to the Post. We respect your decision but we want to assure you we don't share email addresses with anyone and we don't send anything inappropriate or worthless.

Every month we have to print between 475 to 525 newsletters at a cost of between \$180.00 to \$200.00.

As our membership increases, so does the cost of printing newsletters and mailing them if there is no email address.

I would ask you "to please consider providing your email address to us." Just send an email to centennialtwozeronine@yahoo.com. I will make the adjustments and we can all help save the Post some money. Thanks



TogetherWeServed.com
By Post 209 Member, Chuck Ford

TogetherWeServed.com is more than a social networking site for active duty and retired military. Members can share memories from Boot Camp through retirement. They can create "Remembrance Profiles" for friends and family members who fell during combat in any military conflict.

"TogetherWeServed.com is a living, breathing memorial to our Nation's service members. There's absolutely nothing else like it to honor the service of our Veterans, including those who are no longer with us." – Col. Brendan Hearney, USMC (Ret.) TogetherWeServed.com Military Advisor and Gulf War veteran.

TogetherWeServed.com also acts like a traditional social media website where Veterans can re-connect and find one another through the website. Many Veterans are re-connecting with friends from forty plus years ago.

"With more than a million members from every era of service since World War II and thousands more joining each week, the chances of finding someone you served with are very high." -Brian Foster.

Current and former military members who are interested in joining or learning more about TogetherWeServed.com can get more information from me at chuckford64@gmail.com.

Boys State News!

As many of you are probably aware, our Post typically sponsors 20+ boys each year to Boy State. Just attending this great week in June at Colorado State University in Pueblo results in these boys learning, growing, and changing their lives.

Each year, Samsung awards 9 scholarships to boys across the Nation. Each of the 9 scholarships are for \$20,000.

This year, we recently learned that Sean Weller, one of the boys we sponsored was a recipient of a Samsung scholarship. Congratulations to Sean!



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

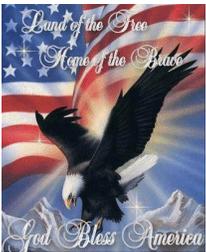
AARP Safe Driving Class

On Tuesday, 6 November from 1:00pm to 5:00pm Romeo Biscaro, a member of our Post, will be conducting the AARP Safe Driving Class at the Post and at no cost to you and your spouse.

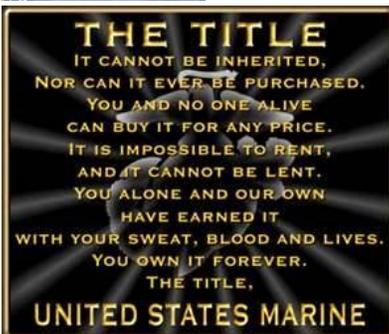
In order to qualify for the class you must provide a copy of your DD Form 214 or show your current Legion membership card.

Romeo can be reached at 574-2179. He will provide more information if needed.

A plus to this class is that you could get a discount on your vehicle insurance.



DUE TO THE VETERANS DAY PARADE THERE WILL BE NO BREAKFAST OR GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING THIS MONTH.



Marine Birthday

Who: All Marines and family members, as well as Veterans from other Services and their families

Why: To celebrate the US Marine Corps Birthday

When: Saturday, 10 November, 6:00pm

The menu is choice of Turkey or Roast Beef.

Come down and enjoy the evening!

FROM THE ADJUTANT — LARRY JOHNSON. The membership year runs from January to December of every year. Our 2013 recruiting year started in July. If you were a new member and joined in July your card would be good until December of 2013, however, your magazine subscription is good for twelve issues. After the first year it does not matter when you renew your membership. National has an award program that recognizes Post's who have achieved their 100% by 31 December of each year. I look forward to the Commander, on behalf of the Post, to accepting the achievement award for Post 209 at the Department Convention that will be held in June at Fort Collins. Please, if you haven't renewed your membership, make out a check or money order for \$35.00 and send it to American Legion Post 209, PO Box 25334, Colorado Spgs, Co 80936 or go to our webpage www.americanlegioncoloradospring.org and renew on line.



Christmas Party and Silent Auction

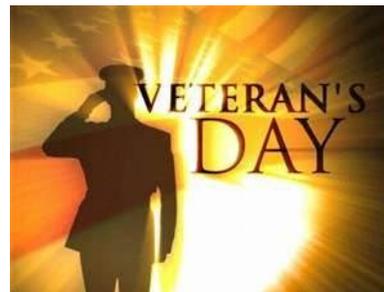
The annual Post Christmas will be held on Saturday, 15 December at 6:00pm.

Some of the activities planned include a Potluck Dinner. I for one look forward to the great food and hope you will also bring the recipe. Please call Jackie Bowen or email her with the dish you plan to bring. This will help prevent 15 bean dishes and no potatoes.

There will be a silent auction. If you would like to donate items for this fundraising event, please bring them to the Post before the 15th of December.

Santa Claus will be visiting the Christmas Party. If you are bringing a child, grandchild, etc. please bring a wrapped gift with their name on it so Santa can give them a present.

There will be other activities for kids of all ages.



Veterans Day Parade

The Veterans Day Parade will be held on Saturday, 10 November.

Richard Ausmus, has once again agreed to donate the use of his truck.

We will begin marshalling for the parade at 9:00am. The parade will start at 10:00am.

If you would like to ride on the truck (and we will have a lot of space) please call 599-8624 and let us know and then meet us at the parade. If you would like to join us but need a ride, let us know that also.



WANTED

Someone who has new ideas, is creative, has the time, has the ability to utilize MS Publisher and is interested in improving communication within the Post and "THE CENTENNIAL," our monthly newsletter.

The person does not need to be a Legionnaire, but must be a member of the American Legion Family.

Larry Johnson, who is currently publishing the newsletter will be resigning as Publisher when the January 2013 newsletter is completed.

Our Centennial Post 209 family is growing, and with growing comes the increased need for help in managing the Post; help in completing activities and programs as well as providing help in the kitchen, preparing food — cooking — cleanup — serving etc.

Our Legionnaires, SAL Squadron and Auxiliary members who are accomplishing all of these activities and tasks are getting tired and cannot sustain the growing needs and desire for more activities.

If you can help, please contact the Post.

Job Fair at Ft. Carson

There was a job fair at Ft. Carson in October for active duty members and Veterans. We set up a table with brochures and information related to assistance The American Legion offers Veterans. Supporting this event was Department Sr. Vice Commander Carol Kennedy, our own Department Jr. Vice Larry Johnson, our Department Service Officer Dean Casey, and Anna Orgeron from Post 170 in Westcliffe. They met with several Veterans and provided answers to questions such as when, how and where do I go for help with a VA claim. One active duty soldier sent a message afterward and in part stated, *"I have decided that I am going to join with the American Legion because if that is what the American Legion is about, helping soldiers, and making everyone feel at peace then that is something I want to be a part of."*

Wreaths Across America Update 06:

From 1992 to 2005 the annual tradition of placing wreaths to honor the fallen was conducted at Arlington National Cemetery, largely unknown by the general public except for visitors to those hallowed grounds who would see whole sections adorned.

That was before the non-profit organization was formed, and when it was still a company tradition — spearheaded by Morrill Worcester of Worcester Wreath Company.

This year, Wreaths Across America will conduct ceremonies at over 800+ participating locations all around the Nation. Wreaths will be placed at State and National Veterans cemeteries, community and private cemeteries, Veterans monuments, schools, at active military bases on foreign soil, and even ceremonies at sea. If interested in participating, you can check the list of locations to see if there already are volunteers in your area working on the event at <http://www.wreathscrossamerica.org/locations>.

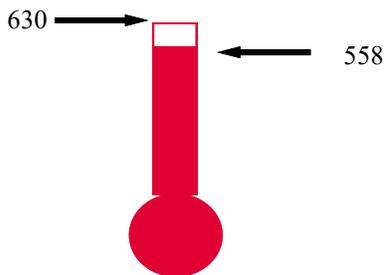
All of the participating locations are made possible by dedicated volunteers who plan the event throughout the year. Each participating location receives 7 ceremonial wreaths representing all branches of the service (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, and Merchant Marine) and perhaps most importantly a wreath bearing the POW/MIA flag.

A written ceremony is provided, as well as press releases, and other promotional tools. For locations where it is approved by the cemetery administration, wreaths may be sponsored for \$15 per wreath. Refer to <http://www.wreathscrossamerica.org/act-now/start-fundraising/> for instructions if you would like to participate.

The goal is to do whole sections of the cemetery grounds. Many locations do as many sponsored wreaths as they can, and then rotate the designated sections each year so that all Veterans and all families receive a wreath. The goal is to one day honor all those who have served. The main Arlington National Cemetery wreath laying and ceremony will be on Saturday December 15. Consider joining the thousands that volunteer each year to honor our fallen military members, retirees and their families. [Source: NAUS Washington Report 5 Oct 2012 ++]



From Senior Vice Commander
Mark Krzczowski
Larry Johnson



DMS Seminar
4 - 7 November 2012

Centennial Post 209 as well as the other Posts within the District will have the opportunity to participate in a rare experience.



National will be sending out a representative from the National membership team with a list of names of Legionnaires who have joined The

American Legion through the National Direct Mail Solicitation (DMS) Program.

What we have to do is contact each of those Legionnaires and ask them to become a member of a local Post here in Colorado Springs. There are three ways that we may be able to contact these Legionnaires. (1) If they have a telephone number listed we can call them. (2) If they have an email address we can send them an email requesting that they transfer, or (3) We may have to physically go out and contact them.

The Post has two telephone lines that we can use to call those Legionnaires that have telephone numbers. Is there anyone out there who would be willing to come to the Post and call those members and ask them to become members of Post 209? We will provide a script to follow when making the call, which should make it a much easier task.

If you would be willing to call or visit these Legionnaires, please call Larry Johnson at 719-930-0232 and if I don't answer the phone please leave a message. This is a great opportunity for the Post and Colorado Springs.



Scouting Report
John Brown

Scouts: Scouting is great, hope you enjoyed your popcorn.

November is a great month for the scouts, they get to ride or march in the parade, have Thanksgiving and be a part of a great scouting team. Both of our packs continue to grow and support the scouting laws.

Pack 24 has several new members and with them the new adult leaders who are now leading the Den's in their path through the scouting program. Pack 24 sold over \$15,000 in popcorn this year. Their goal was \$11,500 and they busted through that goal and kept on going. The scouting unit will receive over 30% of the total for funding to run their program. So Pack 24 is well and healthy.

Pack 386 who meets in the Post home is also doing fine. They have new boys and new leaders for all the positions. It is always nice to come to the meetings and see the new adult leaders in their uniforms teaching the young boys the rules of the scouting road.

This weekend we are going on a camping trip to Camp Alexander for a learning experience. There are over 45 scouts going with their family members totaling over 55 parents and siblings. Guess what, I'm cooking breakfast for the whole gang--Should be a blast.

Both packs will be riding with us in the Veterans Day Parade. This should be a fun time for all, just make sure you do not get run over by a 5 year old giving you a thank you card for your service.

Steak Night!
Friday, 16 November
6:30pm



**STEAK NIGHT
COUPON**

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

GOOD ONLY THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2012
**AND WITH A RESERVATION MADE AT LEAST
TWO DAYS IN ADVANCE**

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

~ November 2012 ~						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Exec Mtg 6:30pm	2 HamDogger 6:30pm	3
4 District 7 Auxiliary Leadership Workshop 1:00pm to 4:00pm DMS SEMINAR	5 DMS SEMINAR	6 Safe Driving AARP 1:00pm to 5:00pm CUB PACK 386 DMS SEMINAR	7 DMS SEMINAR	8	9	10 NO MEETINGS VETERANS DAY PARADE 9:00am ASSEMBLY TIME MARINE BIRTHDAY 6:00pm
11 VETERANS DAY!	12 POST RENTED	13 CUB PACK 386	14 CUB PACK 386	15	16 STEAK NIGHT 6:30pm RSVP REQUIRED	17 POST RENTED
18	19	20	21	22 THANKSGIVING!	23 SERTOMA GUN SHOW FISH FRY CANCELLED	24 SERTOMA GUN SHOW POST RENTED
25 SERTOMA GUN SHOW	26	27	28	29	30	Notes:

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