

# The Centennial



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## From the Desk and Mind of the Commander

Mike Barger

The end of the year is approaching fast, and with that comes the holiday season. The next couple of months are times to share with family. If you're interested and would like to be gracious and donate to the Post, we would be thankful. The fund-raising committee has created pledge cards for those that would like to make a donation, and it's tax deductible if you decide to donate. You'll find cards on each of the dinner tables and your donation can be put in the donation box next to the coffee bar. This also marks the beginning of Salvation Army kettle campaign and you'll notice the Salvation Army kettles at many establishments. Please find it in your heart to drop a little in those if you can.

First off, the last couple of months we've seen NFL football stars do things that just makes my blood boil. I understand that we have the 1st Amendment that states we have the Freedom of Speech, but there's a time and place that this needs to be done, and I'm not in favor of it being done in a stadium full of people, during a time where we're to show support for our nation and honor our flag. The playing and singing of the National Anthem is not the time to do this. They state this has nothing to do with the flag or our Veterans, but with inequalities within our system that apparently we've become a nation of hate and violence against people of color. Makes you wonder if Martin Luther King Jr. is turning over in his grave because of what we've become; after all he did to make change for the good for all people. Veteran's Day weekend has been set aside to protest the NFL, and not watch or go to a game and I hope that many of you will honor this. In my opinion, those that want to protest the anthem and not show support for our Veterans should have to live an entire week as a disabled Veteran that can't do anything on his own and needs to be assisted so they can see how easy they have it. Maybe then, they would understand why we stand and honor our flag the way we do.

2nd, we all experienced on October 1st, that even a concert venue where a person should be able to go and enjoy an evening of entertainment, can turn into a battlefield. Ironically, a couple of us from this Post passed by this place every day on our way to the strip when we were in Vegas days before the shooting, and not once did we ever think that this would be the place of the worst mass shooting in modern American history. Our heart goes out to all those that lost loved ones, and to those that have loved ones that were injured and had to go through this. If you noticed, there were many Veterans that were in the venue that night, and when the time came, they stepped up and risked their lives to assist the ones that were injured and stayed with those that couldn't get out of harm's way. That's what makes me proud to be an American. A big thank you goes out to all the first responders, Veterans and others that stepped up that night to help those in need. If you noticed, race nor the color of a person's skin, kept the first responders from running towards the shooting and do what they did, to protect all those there.

There may be some of you that think we need more gun control in this country, but I can guarantee you this, there's not a law in the books that would have prevented this from happening. Remember, it's not the gun that kills, it's the person that pulls the trigger.

Remember, November 17th is steak night and following dinner, the SAL will be holding their annual Turkey Shoot. \$5 gets you 5 shots, and the one with the highest score wins a turkey. They will also be holding a silent auction. And the riders will be collecting turkeys the month of November, so please bring one in if you can. All the food collected will go those in our community that could use it for their Thanksgiving table. If you know someone that could use a food box, please get with the riders and let them know, so they can work on getting a box created for that family.

**FREE BREAKFAST FOR ALL LEGION MEMBERS ON NOVEMBER 11TH.**

From my family to yours, Happy Thanksgiving.

*Reservations and RSVP go to Jackie Bowen (574-1223) [jackiebowen2005@yahoo.com](mailto:jackiebowen2005@yahoo.com)*



**From the Unit 209 President**  
Cathy Barger

Thank you ladies, for sending in your membership renewals so promptly. We're almost to the halfway mark. Please remember that if you haven't renewed by Dec 31st, National will consider you delinquent.

I'd like to thank those ladies that stepped up to help at the Post last month while some of us were out of town for some much-needed vacation time in September.

Don't forget Nov 4th is the annual Veterans Day Parade. Come out and enjoy the comradeship of our Post.

We have a lot happening in the next couple of months, so be sure to read the calendars and call if you have any questions.

Christmas is just around the corner. There will be a blast sent out when it is time to decorate our Post home, so please join us. This is not just for the Auxiliary to do. We usually have Legionnaires, SAL, and ALR there to help. We typically receive many compliments from people that have rented our facilities about how nice the decorations look and that's thanks to our members that help with this project.

Don't forget you can still purchase the Neal Thomas Jr. Centennial Post 209 Cookbook for \$15.00 and Christmas Ornament for \$15.00, just in time for the holidays. Also, we are doing the Rada cutlery orders again, so if you're interested, please see Jackie Bowen, Cathy Barger or Kellie Hayes for an order form/catalog.

I want to thank everyone that supported the Butter Braid fundraiser.

Happy Birthday to Gail Binder, Ashlyn Cancellieri, Brenda Cortese, Emilie Cunnington, Riley Flewelling, Joann Howard, Helen Hunter, Jazimine Kozlowski, Hazel Kula, Rose Loewe, and Wendy Wood. Make sure to wish these ladies Happy Birthday when you see them.

Happy Thanksgiving! Serving Our Veterans Proudly



**From the Adjutant**  
Marvin Weaver, Jr.

November is a busy month for The American Legion. We have the Veterans Day Parade on November 4th, which leads up to the Saluting America program with the local schools during Veterans Day week. The Honor Guard will be presenting colors and we will have Veterans speaking at the schools. On Veterans Day, the ALR will provide the rifle squad for the Pikes Peak Veterans Council Veterans Day Service held at TREA at 11am. If you are able to help out with visiting one of the schools please contact Eric Testorff.

District 7, along with the Department will be holding a DMS event on Nov 3 - 5. DMS is the Direct Mail Solicitation that national sends out to recruit prospective members for the Legion. We will be calling the members that have joined the "holding Post" they are initially placed in, and transfer them to local Posts. What we are asking is for you to come out and help us make the phone calls; they are already members so you do not need to sell the American Legion to them. If you are able to help out please come out to Post 209 on Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> from 12 - 5pm or Post 38 in Fountain Nov 4<sup>th</sup> from 9am - 5pm and bring your cell phone and charger.

The December membership meeting will not be in the morning as normal; we will be having a Post Christmas Party instead. The Post Christmas Party will be on December 9th and rumor has it that Santa will drop by for a visit. If you are bringing a child to the party we ask that you bring a wrapped gift for Santa to give to them.

Department is running a contest to help in recruiting new members. For every new American Legion member you recruit your name is entered in a drawing. They will have a drawing on each of the national target dates; giving away \$100 each time. The more new members you recruit the more chances you have to win.



## From the Junior Vice Commander

Jerry Lollar

From <http://channel.nationalgeographic.com/are-you-tougher-than-a-boy-scout/articles/did-you-know/>

### Did You Know? Little Known Facts

- The Eagle Scout rank has been earned by more than 2 million Boy Scouts since 1911.
- 181 NASA astronauts have been involved with Scouting, including Neil Armstrong.
- According to the World Organization of the Scouting Movement, all but six countries make Scouting available to their youthful citizenry.
- During World War I, the Boy Scouts of America comprised the largest uniformed body in America. Working in partnership with the Treasury Department, Scouts secured approximately \$352,122,973 in Liberty Bond subscriptions.
- During World War II, the Boy Scouts collected 318,000 tons of paper to assist with the war effort. In addition, they gathered 10.5 million tons of scrap metal. The paper was used by the United States government to package arms and equipment traveling overseas, and metals were recycled in answer to the demand for metal-based military supplies.
- The first national jamboree of the Boy Scouts of America took place in Washington, D.C., from June 30 to July 9, 1937. It drew more than 27,000 Scouts to the National Mall in the heart of the capital city. The national jamboree has since been held throughout the United States on a regular basis, representing the largest recurrent gathering of Scouts in the country.
- The first national jamboree was supposed to be held in 1935, but an outbreak of polio prompted organizers to postpone the event to a later date.
- Prior to becoming a founder of the Boy Scouts of America, Daniel Carter Beard earned early notoriety as a professional illustrator. Beard's artwork caught the attention of Mark Twain, who commissioned him to illustrate *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court*, and other writings.
- Early in the organization's history, the Boy Scout Handbook quickly became the best-selling volume for American boys, with 100,000 copies sold per year through 1914. As the popularity of Scouting grew over the decades, the book was revised and reprinted, and by 1935, the Handbook had sold five million copies. In a ceremony conducted at the White House, the five-millionth Handbook was presented to President Franklin Delano Roosevelt.
- Each president of the United States has supported the work of the Boy Scouts of America, serving as honorary presidents of the organization since 1910.
- No troop? No problem! Lone Scouting became an official part of the Boy Scouts of America in 1924 to include children of citizens living abroad, exchange students residing away from the United States, disabled youth, and youth in rural communities.
- As a serving officer of the British Army, Robert Stephenson Smyth Baden-Powell was a national hero. In 1907, he founded the Scouting program in England, which launched into a worldwide movement.
- One of America's best-known artists, Norman Rockwell, became a regular contributor to *Boys' Life* magazine when he was just 18 years old. He credited the Boy Scouts of America with jumpstarting his career, and worked with the organization throughout his adult life.
- Navigational skills have been taught to Boy Scouts since the program's inception. The National Scouting Museum in Irving, Texas boasts a collection of historic compasses from across the globe which explores the historical tradition of way finding. The oldest of these dates to 1500 and originates from China.
- In 1911, Boy Scouts were able to earn as many as 57 merit badges. Today, that number has grown to more than 100, with new badges regularly being added in the areas of science, technology, engineering, and math.
- Arthur Eldred of Oceanside, New York, earned the first Eagle medal ever presented to a Boy Scout in the summer of 1911.
- Jimmy Stewart participated in Scouting as a youth in his home state of Indiana. He remained an active supporter of the organization throughout his life. As an actor, he became a household name for his roles in *It's a Wonderful Life*, *Vertigo*, *The Philadelphia Story*, and other classic films.



## FIFTH ANNUAL TURKEY SHOOT FUNDRAISER

### ARE YOU ABLE TO PUT THE TURKEY ON THE TABLE? COME GIVE IT A TRY AND SUPPORT OUR YOUNG GUNS JUNIOR SHOOTING PROGRAM

Win your Thanksgiving turkey! You are invited to a Turkey Shoot sponsored by the Young Guns of American Legion Post 209. This event will be held at the Post on Steak Night, November 17th starting at 1900. There will be three categories, one for youth ages 7 through 12, one for youth ages 13 through 18 and one for adults over age 18. For a \$5 donation, you will get 5 shots from the unsupported standing position from a distance of 25ft. The highest score in each category will win a turkey! Scoring will be governed by the rules spelled out in the American Legion Junior Shooting Guide and any tie will be resolved with a shoot off. You will shoot an air rifle used by the Junior Shooters and the event will be judged by our NRA Certified Instructors. Be sure to RSVP for that great steak and support our Junior Shooters by participating in our 4th annual Turkey Shoot!



**From Squadron 209**  
Commander Ken Taylor

Squadron 209 is continuing to collect "gently used" clothing for distribution to Veterans through the end of November. The second load of clothing was delivered in September and we received a very nice thank you letter from the Crawford House. Please continue to bring your donations to the Post and place them in the box in the front entrance. We need men's, women's and children's clothing. Thanks to everyone who has donated.

There will be a silent auction at the Post on Friday, November 17th. We are holding this to help fund our SAL programs such as Josh Dogs and the Child Welfare Foundation. Please help us by bringing donated items to the Post. If you no longer need it, we can use it!

The Child Welfare Foundation goal for this year is \$1,500 and we could use your help to reach that goal. Please help fill the red piggy banks in the dining room and turn in the banks you have at home. A big "THANK YOU" goes out to all who have contributed to this very worthwhile project. If anyone knows of a child who could benefit from a Josh Dog, please contact the Post at 719-599-8624 or any SAL Squadron 209 Officer. Officers phone numbers are listed in the monthly Newsletter.

\*\*\*\*NOTE\*\*\*\*

SAL MEETINGS ARE HELD ON THE 4TH TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT 5:45PM.

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



## **From the Sergeant-at-Arms**

Stan "Sgt. Ski" Kransinski

Many Americans mistakenly believe that Veterans Day is the day America sets aside to honor American military personnel who died in battle or as a result of wounds sustained from combat. That's not quite true. Memorial Day is the day set aside to honor America's war dead.

Veterans Day, on the other hand honors ALL American Veterans, both living and dead. In fact, Veterans Day is largely intended to thank LIVING Veterans for dedicated and loyal service to their country. November 11 of each year is the day that we ensure Veterans know that we deeply appreciate the sacrifices they have made in the lives to keep our country free.

### **Armistice Day:**

To commemorate the end of the "Great War" (World War I), an "unknown soldier" was buried in the highest place of honor in both England and France (in England, Westminster Abbey; in France, the Arc de Triomphe). These ceremonies celebrated the end of WWI hostilities at 11 a.m., November 11, 1918 (the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month). This day became known internationally as "Armistice Day".

In 1921, the U.S. followed France and England by laying to rest the remains of a WWI American soldier -- his name "known but to God" -- on a hillside overlooking the city of Washington DC and the Potomac River. This site became known as the "Tomb of the Unknown Soldier," and today is called the "Tomb of the Unknowns." Located in Arlington National Cemetery, the tomb symbolizes dignity and reverence for the American Veteran.

November 11th officially became known as Armistice Day through an act of Congress in 1926. It wasn't until 12 years later through a similar act that Armistice Day became a national holiday.

The entire World thought that World War I was the "War to end all wars." Had this been true, the holiday might still be called Armistice Day today. That dream was shattered in 1939 when World War II broke out in Europe. More than 400,000 American service members died during that horrific war.

### **Veterans Day Creation:**

In 1954, President Eisenhower signed a bill proclaiming November 11 as Veterans Day and called upon Americans everywhere to rededicate themselves to the cause of peace. He issued a Presidential Order directing the head of the Veterans Administration (now called the Department of Veterans Affairs) to form a Veterans Day National Committee to organize and oversee the national observance of Veterans Day.

### **Veterans Day National Ceremony:**

At exactly 11 a.m., each November 11th, a color guard, made up of members from each of the military branches, renders honors to America's war dead during a heart-moving ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknowns in Arlington National Cemetery. The President or his representative places a wreath at the Tomb and a bugler sounds Taps. The balance of the ceremony, including a "Parade of Flags" by numerous Veterans service organizations, takes place inside the Memorial Amphitheater, adjacent to the Tomb. In addition to planning and coordinating the National Veterans Day Ceremony, the Veterans Day National Committee supports a number of Veterans Day Regional Sites. These sites conduct Veterans Day celebrations that provide excellent examples for other communities to follow.

### **Veterans Day Observance:**

Veterans Day is always observed on November 11, regardless of the day of the week on which it falls. The Veterans Day National Ceremony is always held on Veterans Day itself, even if the holiday falls on a Saturday or Sunday. However, like all other federal holidays, when it falls on a non-workday -- Saturday or Sunday -- the federal government employees take the day off on Monday (if the holiday falls on Sunday) or Friday (if the holiday falls on Saturday). This federal law does not apply to state and local governments. They are free to determine local government closings (including school closings) locally. As such, there is no legal requirement that schools close on Veterans Day, and many do not. However, most schools hold Veterans Day activities on Veterans Day and throughout the week of the holiday to honor American Veterans.

Continued on the next page.



## From the Sr. Vice Commander

Eric Testorff

From the founding of our nation, when they were called "Minutemen" or "militia", all the way through our current engagements in Iraq and Afghanistan, National Guardsmen and Reservists have been ready to take the call, and to go into action for their country.

When recruiting your friends and neighbors to join The American Legion, or when considering eligibility for the other Legion Family programs, don't forget the National Guardsmen and Reservists! This is an often-overlooked pool of potential Legionnaires. I have heard it said by some, even by Reservists themselves, that they are not eligible to be members of The American Legion. This is not necessarily true!

For clarification on the issue, let me quote American Legion National Headquarters:

"The National Guard & Reserves are required to meet the same eligibility requirements as the federal active duty Veterans. To be eligible, the National Guardsman or Reservist must have served at least one day on federal active duty (to include basic training/boot camp and Advanced Training, which is with regular military personnel and can last anywhere from 3 - 6 months) during any of the eligibility periods as set forth in Article IV, Section 1 of The American Legion National Constitution."

In other words, for Guardsmen and Reservists: They must have served at least 1 day of federal active duty. This federal active duty served during any of the official eligibility periods, (also known as War Periods.)

Being "called up" by the Governor of your state for training, crowd control, disaster relief, etc. is known as "Title 32" orders. This is not federal active duty, and does not qualify the member for Legion membership.

However, if the member were called to federal active duty, (known as "Title 10" orders,) by the President of the United States during one of the War Periods, then they qualify for membership. Basic training and/or subsequent Advanced Training are also considered federal active duty, and if performed during a War Period, qualify the member for the American Legion.

It is worth noting that the current War Period began on August 2nd, 1990, and has yet to be terminated by Congress. As such, it is already over 27 years long. Therefore, when considering inviting a current Guardsman or Reservist to join the American Legion, it's a pretty safe bet that they performed basic and advanced training during this period.

Honorably discharged and Retired Guardsmen and Reservists similarly have a good likelihood of combining a War Period with some form of federal active service. Do some digging with them and find out. Then sign them up for the American Legion!



Sergeant-at-Arms article continued from the previous page:

Allied Veterans Day Around the World:

Many other countries honor their Veterans on November 11th each year. However, the name of the holiday and the types of ceremonies differ from the Veterans Day activities in the United States. Canada, Australia, and Great Britain refer to their holidays as "Remembrance Day." Canada and Australia observe the day on November 11, and Great Britain conducts their ceremonies on the Sunday nearest to November 11th.

In Canada, the observance of "Remembrance Day" is actually quite similar to the U.S. in that the day is set aside to honor all of Canada's Veterans, both living and dead. One notable difference is that many Canadians wear a red poppy flower on November 11 to honor their war dead, while the "red poppy" tradition is observed in the U.S. on Memorial Day. In Australia, "Remembrance Day" is very much like America's Memorial Day, in that it's considered a day to honor Australian Veterans who died in war.

In Great Britain, the day is commemorated by church services and parades of ex-service members in Whitehall, a wide ceremonial avenue leading from Parliament Square to Trafalgar Square. Wreaths of poppies are left at the Cenotaph, a war memorial in Whitehall, which was built after WWI. At the Cenotaph and elsewhere in the country, a two-minute silence is observed at 11 a.m., to honor those who lost their lives in wars.

This article was derived from: The Balance, Veterans Day - Honoring All Who Served / Veterans Day In The United States And Europe by Rod Powers updated 20171013



## From the Historian

Chris Earley

The date was November 11, 1921, three years to the day after the armistice ended World War I. President Warren G. Harding and other dignitaries stood alongside a gravesite just outside Washington D.C. in Arlington. As the president watched, a two inch layer of soil brought from France was placed below the coffin of this hero. He would rest forever on the ground on which he died.

Normally, this is where I would write of his valor. I would tell you about his actions in the war. I might even share tales of his childhood. Alas, today I can do none of these things. We do not know of his life, we do not know of his service. We do not even know his name. For you see, President Harding was there that day to dedicate the tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

We do know that on Memorial Day of that same year, the bodies of four unknowns were exhumed from four U.S. Army cemeteries in France. The honor of selecting the soldier to be buried in Arlington was given to U.S. Army Sgt. Edward F. Younger, himself a highly decorated World War I Veteran. He stood before four identical coffins. He made his selection solemnly by placing a spray of white roses on the third casket from the left. This coffin was transported to Washington while the three others are now interred in the Meuse Argonne Cemetery in France.

It wasn't until 1958 that two more unknown heroes were buried at the tomb, one from World War II and one from Korea. Two unknowns from World War II, one from the European theater and one from the Pacific theater were placed aboard the guided-missile cruiser U.S.S. Canbarra. Navy Hospital-man 1st Class William R. Charlotte, then the Navy's only active-duty Medal-Of-Honor recipient made the selection. The remains of the other Veteran was buried at sea.

Similarly, Army Master Sgt. Ned Lyle chose from four unmarked caskets disinterred from the National Cemetery of the Pacific in Hawaii. Both caskets were given honors in the Capitol Rotunda before being transported to their final rest in Arlington.

On Memorial Day, 1984, President Ronald Reagan presided over the funeral and internment of the Vietnam unknown. The selection had been made by Medal of Honor recipient U.S. Marine Corps Sgt. Maj. Allan Jay Kellogg Jr. at Pearl Harbor. President Reagan also served as next of kin accepting the internment flag. But then, in 1998, this fallen unknown was exhumed. DNA testing had positively identified the Vietnam remains as those of Air Force 1st Lt. Michael Joseph Blassie, who had been shot down near An Loc, Vietnam in 1972. The decision was made that the crypt of the Vietnam Crypt would remain vacant. The crypt cover now bears the inscription "Honoring and Keeping Faith with American Missing Servicemen, 1958-1975."

I could share lots of trivia about the Honor Guard Detail, how many steps they take, their code of conduct etc. But truly there is nothing trivial about this most hallowed ground. Instead, I will close with the words inscribed upon the marble monument; "Here rests in honored glory an American soldier known but to God."

And that is history.



### Auxiliary Fundraiser; Christmas Ornament Jackie Bowen, Past Unit President

You still have time to get this "One-of-a-Kind" Neal Thomas Jr.-Centennial Post 209 Christmas Ornament. As you can imagine, this will almost immediately be a collector's item as it features our Post home and name. It makes for a beautiful gift for someone special or for yourself and a lasting memory of the best American Legion family Post in Colorado.



This lacquered brass ornament is approximately 2 1/4" high by 2 3/4" wide. We are selling the ornaments for only \$15.00 each.

They will look great on any Christmas Tree or displayed prominently on a shelf in your home. Please consider supporting our Auxiliary fundraiser with a purchase. All proceeds will go to help our local area Veterans and their family. Contact me with questions and to buy one of these great ornaments.

Thanks in advance and Merry Christmas!



## **Motorcycle Minute**

Bob "Big Sexy" Caddell; President

Hello Legion family. What a month it has been. Your Riders have been super busy with all sorts of events. Unfortunately, Steamboat, our overnight ride was canceled. Mother nature had other ideas. Like most of the west this year there were fires close to Steamboat. Some Riders were able to make a jaunt to Leadville instead. Our Oktoberfest get together was very well attended and the money raised was donated to the Honor Flight of Southern Colorado to help fund the Veterans trips to Washington DC. Remember, if you have volunteer hours you can get them checked off helping out. These are Riders functions and I need Riders to set up, serve, and hang around till we finish and then cleanup.

Our Neal Thomas Jr. run at the end of September was a rain out. We weren't able to ride to Bishops Castle, but we did raise \$440 for the Veterans Assistance Fund anyway.

Boston and I made the ride down to McCandless this month for the Volunteers appreciation breakfast. McCandless always finds a way to show their gratitude for all the VSO's that support them. Just a note, they received an automobile as a gift and they were saying they may be raffling it off at a \$100.00 a ticket. It is a Mustang GT, newer model, but I'll keep you posted on this.

Crash, Trapper, Stitch, Cactus, Hands, and I attended the returning Honor Flight on the 14th. We welcomed home our WWII & Korean Veterans back from their trip to Washington DC. We stood the flag line as the police escort and then the bus pulled in to the Double Tree Hotel. It was an awe inspiring site. We went inside to greet Chaplain Stan Hamamoto, one of our own 209 members and our Department Chaplain, and we kinda crashed the function as we went in and found Stan and took pictures with him. Then shook hands with as many Veterans that we could as we exited.

This will be my last message as I am stepping down as Riders President. It's been a heck of a year. Thank you all that have stepped up to help make 209 Riders such a great group.



### **From the Junior Shooting Sports Chairman Ken Taylor**

The Fall Young Guns Class started on September 14th with a full class of 12 new students. We started with introductions, then covered safety, range commands, and familiarization with our 177 air rifles. We saw a lot of enthusiasm and we're off to a great start! The new shooters have completed 4 weeks of the 9 week class. They have received instruction in bench rest shooting, prone position, kneeling position and as always Safety, Safety! Safety! The class will continue with the standing position in week 5, then use of the sling and honing their skills in weeks 7 and 8. The class will conclude on November 9th with an awards and pizza party!

NRA Marksmanship began on Wednesday September 13th with 12 participants. All marksmen are continuing to improve their skills as they advance through the different levels of the program. The first level is Pro Marksman, then Marksman, Marksman 1<sup>st</sup> Class, and Sharpshooter. The Sharpshooter level has 9 bars to achieve before trying the Expert level. All shooters are working hard and doing very well. Marksmanship will conclude on November 8th.

The Annual Turkey Shoot will be held on Friday November 17, 2017 at 1900. Come show off your skills and win a turkey for your Thanksgiving table! We will have 3 categories, youth through age 12, youth 13 to 18, and those over 18. For a donation of \$5 you will have 5 shots from the standing position. Any ties will result in a shoot off, which will also be from the standing position. Come on out, support your Young Guns program and win that turkey!



The following Resolution was unanimously approved at the Fall National Executive Committee meeting held in October. Regardless of your feelings about what is going on across the country related to protests and violence, this Resolution asks all Legionnaires to take a different approach. Let's reaffirm our commitment to Patriotism and Americanism and leave the politics to politicians. The American Legion LOVES America, and this is what the Resolution states.

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**The American Legion  
National Executive Committee  
Held on  
October 11-12, 2017**

**Resolution No. 1**

**Title: Reaffirmation For A Strong America**

**Origin and Submitted by: Americanism Commission**

WHEREAS, There are forces at work within our country which threaten to fray the social fabric of our great nation and our American ideals; and

WHEREAS, That we of The American Legion associate ourselves together to uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to foster and perpetuate a 100 percent Americanism, and by this statement deplore any actions by groups, individuals, and organizations who oppose the American way of life; and

WHEREAS, Events have taken place in our nation aimed at destroying American lives, and which attack the very basic core values of freedom, democracy and respect for human life; and

WHEREAS, We disavow those dissenters in our society who use rioting, injury to others, destruction of property, disregard of the law, and blatant disrespect to America's revered symbols of freedom and liberty as a means for expressing their views; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion remains solid upon its foundation of the four pillars and guiding principles upon which it was founded; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion remains bonded together regardless of race or creed or gender and gives wholehearted support to patriotic endeavors that are for the good of our country; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, October 11-12, 2017, That The American Legion reaffirms its unwavering support for the American way of life under the Constitution of the United States of America; and, be it further**

**RESOLVED, That The American Legion pledges support to the leaders of our government, armed forces and law enforcement agencies who have the duty and responsibility of providing an orderly process to our way of life; and, be it further**

**RESOLVED, That The American Legion urges all Americans and freedom-loving peoples everywhere to stand united in their respect for officials at all levels of government; for military troops and law enforcement officers who place themselves in harm's way to protect our nation's citizenry, values and way of life; for those symbols and customs serving as tangible images of the freedom and liberties of these great United States of America; and for each other as fellow Americans; and, be it finally**

**RESOLVED, That The American Legion use whatever means at its disposal to engage whatever means possible to promote a united nation and a united American people.**

## Bringing a Little South to the West

By Past Post Commander Jay Bowen

One of the most interesting and technologically advanced changes I've witnessed in my lifetime is the telephone.

As a kid, a cordless communication device was something in a Sci-Fi movie. Car phones and bag phones had not yet been invented. Most households had a single line telephone, wired to a phone jack in the wall. Options for the phones included a longer cable from the wall jack to the phone so you could carry it from its home station, a longer curly cord from the handset to the phone base, a private line vice party line, and long distance calling.

All phone numbers had a word associated with the number as the prefix. For example, our number was Express 7-7646. When giving out the number, you would use the word "Express," but it would be dialed as EX7-7646. After a few years, they changed it to just reflect 397-7646. I guess some folks couldn't associate Express with EX and then with the numbers for the "E" and the "X." Funny how I still remember that number after all these years. I wonder how many of you still remember the number you had growing up. Let me know the next time you see me.

If you didn't pay the extra money for a private line, you were put on a "party line" with 4 or 5 of your closest neighbors who also opted for the cheap way out. The phone company (probably Ma Bell) gave you a special ring combination to alert you when a call was coming into your home. It would be something like 3 short rings, or 1 long and 2 short rings, or some other combination that let you and others on the party line know the call was for you. It was pretty interesting because the call came in to everyone on the party line. And you could always count on the nosy neighbor to pick up the receiver regardless of the ring and listen in on your call. Most of the time you could tell there was an eavesdropper because you could hear them breathing or making some other noise that differentiated it from your caller. If you called them out, most of the time they would hang up and you would hear the distinctive click of the handset being put back on the base. But you could always count on them picking up the receiver with the next call.

If you paid the extra monthly charge for a private line, you knew that anytime the phone would ring, it was for someone in your house. Retailers and politico's had not yet discovered the benefits of making random calls to gain your vote or business and a "robo-call" was still years away.

What you didn't get as an option was caller ID or call forwarding. Those options were still a few years away. For many people, the caller ID function was performed by a kid in the house. If Aunt Mabel called, Mom would have us tell her she was gone or in the bath. Unless you had about an hour to listen (not talk), you didn't want to take her call. Even for a kid, getting Aunt Mabel off the phone often took about 15 minutes. Bless her heart.

But you had free 411 (information) services, which came in handy for many people. And you paid dearly for long-distance call capability. You got a break if you made the long distance call in the evening and weekends. But if you made many out of town calls, your monthly bill reflected it.

Collect calls were also commonplace. This was especially popular with young folks who had just moved away from home and out of range of what was considered a local call, and for older folks who may live in the next town or state. To place a collect call, you just dialed "0," then the area code, prefix and the number you were dialing. The operator would come on the line, get your name and place the call for you. She would ask the person answering the phone on the other end if they were willing to accept a long distance call from Jay Bowen. If the person said yes, you were connected. If the person said no, the call ended. Most of the time, the operator would come back to you and let you know the party with whom you are calling was not available or they rejected the call. You could even personalize the collect call by stating you wanted to speak with Ed Bowen. This was a "person-to-person" call. This prevented a kid from accepting charges for a call to someone specific you called. You were able to monitor the conversation between the operator and the person on the other end so you knew if they answered and what they said.

I heard from several people that "codes" were established to send a particular message without incurring a charge for a long distance call. For example, if you were traveling and wanted to let a loved one know you reached your destination, you could make a collect "person to person" call to George Castanza or someone you knew didn't live at that number. This pre-arranged code let the people know you arrived and were okay. While I never did that, I have reliable sources who told me they did it with some frequency. This was a very popular method among active duty service men and women returning to their Post from leave.

While advancements in the telephone industry have changed many things and made communication easier, we've lost some of the beauty of Mr. Bell's invention. He developed the telephone to make voice communication better. No longer did we have to rely on letter writing or telegraphs to send a message. We could actually pick up the phone and call. Now, phones are not used for talking. They are used for gaming, texting, and picture taking. The art of oral communication is dying. If Alexander Graham Bell was alive today, he'd probably turn over in his grave.



## Post Officers 2017-2018

Office	Name	Telephone
Commander	Mike Barger	719-290-3218
Sr. Vice Cdr	Eric Testorff	719-510-4177
Jr. Vice Cdr	Jerry Lollar	719-641-2778
Adjutant	Marvin Weaver, Jr.	719-244-3535
Finance Officer	Rusty Bower	719-649-0654
Chaplain	Paul R. Darrow	719-237-4461
Sergeant-at-Arms	Stan "Sgt. Ski" Krasinski	719-373-7814
Historian	Chris Earley	719-338-1398
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 2017-2018

Office	Name	Telephone
President	Bob Caddell	719-393-5180
Vice President	Steve Hayes	719-494-7166
Secretary	Cathy Barger	719-290-3163
Treasurer	Rusty Bower	719-649-0654
Sgt-At-Arms	Tim McDowell	719-510-9907
Road Captain	Grady Mitchell	719-201-3353



## Auxiliary Officers 2017-2018

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	Donna Testorff	719-510-4567
Historian	Donna Rae Smith	815-973-0073



## Sons of The American Legion 2017-2018

Office	Name	Telephone
Commander	Ken Taylor	719-761-4047
Sr. Vice Commander	Marv Weaver Jr.	719-244-3535
Jr. Vice Commander	Stan "Sgt. Ski" Krasinski	719-373-7814
Adjutant	Rick Kettering	813-967-6680
Finance Officer	Rusty Bower	719-649-0654
Sgt-At-Arms	Steve P. Cox	970-580-8191
Assistant S-a-Arms	Stanten Krasinski	719-373-7814
Chaplain	Shelten Krasinski	719-373-7814
Historian	Eric Testorff	719-510-4177

## November 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Young Guns 6:30pm 	2 Young Guns 6:30pm Executive Committee Meeting 6:30pm 	3 Price Varies with order District 7 DMS; Post 209 Hamdogger 6:00pm 	4 District 7 DMS; Post 38 Veterans' Day Parade! 9:00am
5 Daylight Saving Time Ends District 7 DMS; Post 209	6 Honor Guard Mtg/Tng 6:00pm 	7 Election Day	8 Young Guns 6:30pm 	9 Young Guns 6:30pm 	10 \$9.00 Meal AUX Dinner - 6:00pm RSVP Required! 	11 Veterans Day Membership Meeting Breakfast - 9:00am Meeting - 10:00am 
12	13	14	15	16 Fundraising Committee Meeting 7:00pm	17 \$14.50 Meal Steak Night! - 6:00pm Turkey Shoot! RSVP Required! 	18
19	20 ALR Executive Board 6:00pm 	21	22	23 Happy Thanksgiving! 	24	25
26	27 Honor Guard Mtg/Tng 6:00pm 	28 ALR Monthly Meeting 6:30pm. Social 5:30pm SAL 5:45pm 	29	30	Notes: Chef's Choice is cancelled this Month	

December 2017						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 <b>Price Varies with order</b>  Hamdogger 6:00pm 	2
3	4 All Veterans Honor Guard Meeting; 6:00pm 	5	6	7 Executive Committee Meeting 6:30pm 	8 <b>\$9.00 Meal</b> Aux. Dinner RSVP Required! 6:00pm   	9 Post 209 Christmas Party! 4:00pm   
10	11 Honor Guard Mtg/Tng 6:00pm 	12	13	14	15 <b>\$14.50 Meal</b> Steak Night! - 6:00pm RSVP Required!   	16
17	18	19	20	21 Winter Solstice  Fundraising Committee Meeting 7:00pm	22	23
24	25 <b>Merry Christmas!</b> 	26	27	28	29	30
31	Notes:  <b>Chef's Choice Cancelled this Month</b> <b>ALR Exe Board Mtg and Rider Monthly Mtg Cancelled</b>					

January 2018						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 New Year's Day <b>Happy New Year!</b> 	2	3	4 Executive Committee Meeting 6:30pm 	5 <b>Price Varies with order</b>  Hamdogger 6:00pm 	6
7	8 Honor Guard Mtg/Tng 6:00pm 	9	10	11	12 <b>\$9.00 Meal</b> ALR Dinner - 6:00pm RSVP Required!  	13 Membership Meeting Breakfast - 9:00am Meeting - 10:00am  
14	15 Martin Luther King  ALR Executive Board 6:00pm  	16	17	18 Fundraising Committee Meeting 7:00pm	19 <b>\$14.50 Meal</b> Steak Night! - 6:00pm RSVP Required!   	20
21	22 Honor Guard Mtg/Tng 6:00pm 	23 ALR Monthly Meeting 6:30pm. Social 5:30pm SAL 5:45pm  	24	25	26 <b>\$10.50 Meal</b> Chef's Choice! - 6:00pm RSVP Required!   	27
28	29	30	31	Notes:		