

# The Centennial



VOLUME VIII EDITION 11

November 2018

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## From the Desk and Mind of the Commander

Lino Calica

Aloha, as the summer activities, are coming to an end, I want to thank you for all the hard work and support. As we began our second quarter starting October 1st, we've been very busy with multiple shows at the Colorado Springs Event Center. The Annual El Paso Homeless Veterans Stand-Down was an awesome event. We had a great number of supporters from our Legion family, which included the Legion, Auxiliary, The Sons of the American (SAL) and Legion Riders. The Auxiliary ladies had a great table with multiple products and items; their biggest hit was the blankets. The Legion, SAL and Legion Riders were the security and escorts. Colorado Springs Mayor, John Suthers dropped by our table.

November is membership retention month. As of October 12th, our 2019 membership is at 641, this includes members who have renewed and also members who just joined. We currently sit at 60% of the Department's November 14th goal of 65%. Let's not slow down recruiting new members and renewing existing members. On November 30, we will be having a Direct Mail Solicitation (DMS) drive at the following Posts; November 30th, Post 209 (12 – 5 pm), December 1st, Post 38 (9am – 5pm) and December 2nd, Post 209 (9 – 5 pm). We will contact members who joined The American Legion at the holding Post 211 in Denver. We will be calling those new members who live in the Colorado Springs area and asking if they are willing to transfer to a local Post in Colorado Springs. We could use all of your support in recruiting one new member or inviting a new guest to the Post. If you want to volunteer on any of the dates, please bring your phone and chargers.

This will be a busy month once again. November 3rd is the Veterans Day Parade and the District 7 Fall Conference at Neal Thomas Jr Centennial Post 209 at 1:00 pm.

November 10th is our general meeting and Flag Disposal Ceremony right after the general meeting. Also; on November 30th, we will be having a Hawaiian Dinner at the Post at 6:00 pm. The cost of the dinner will be \$14.00 dollars. Please RSVP on [LEGION209.ORG](http://LEGION209.ORG). The proceeds for this dinner will go towards The Department Commander Robb Smith project, the Veterans Assistance Fund. The funds raised for the dinner will be given to the Department Commander's Project. At the dinner we will have raffles and a 50/50 drawing.

Our Fundraising committee has discussed multiple fundraisers for the coming year. The first fundraiser will be The American Legion 100 Year Anniversary Luau Celebration. It will be held on Saturday March 16, 2019. Ticket prices: Adults \$25.00; Children prices; Ages 0-6 is free and Ages 7-11 is \$10.00. More fundraiser details will follow and we are also planning a golf tournament the summer. Anyone with fundraisers ideas, please feel free to attend the meetings or email your suggestions.

As we are heading into the Holiday Seasons, my family and I would like to wish you all a Wonderful and Safe Thanksgiving.

## **THERE WILL BE NO GENERAL MEETING IN DECEMBER**

*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. Please remember that if you haven't renewed by Dec 31st, National will consider you delinquent.

Don't forget November 3rd is the Annual Veterans Day Parade. We will decorate the grandstand and stage. If you would like to help with that please let Jackie or me know. Come out and enjoy the comradeship of our Post. Also on November 3rd at 1:00 p.m., District 7 Fall Conference will be at Post 209, everyone is welcome.

Just a reminder that the Auxiliary is providing dinners for The Homeless Veterans from the Stand Down housed at the hotel for 45 days. The dates are November 4th and November 18th.

Join us for our monthly membership meeting on November 10th. Come down for breakfast at 9:00 a.m. and our meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Don't forget the Post will be hosting a Hawaiian Dinner on November 30th at 6 p.m. Cost is \$14.00, all proceeds from the dinner will go to the Department Commander's project "The Colorado Veteran Assistance Fund." RSVP by November 24th to Jackie Bowen at [jackiebowen2005@yahoo.com](mailto:jackiebowen2005@yahoo.com).

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. Just a reminder that our annual Christmas Party will be held on December 15th. Time: TBD. 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. 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 Butter Braid orders, this will run until November 9th with delivery date of November 14th. If you placed an order and want it for the holidays, be sure to mark your calendars for pick up. Please see Jackie Bowen or Cathy Barger to place an order.

Happy Birthday to Mary Bramer, Charley Bock, Brenda Cortese, Emilie Cunnington, Cheryle Ehrke, Helen Hunter, Margery Johnson, Jazimine Kozlowski, Hazel Kula, Rose Loewe, Nora Taylor and Wendy Wood. Make sure to wish these ladies Happy Birthday when you see them.

The Auxiliary dinner for November is Soup/Salad and dessert for \$10. Please come down and support the Auxiliary, and make sure to RSVP to Jackie Bowen at [jackiebowen2005@yahoo.com](mailto:jackiebowen2005@yahoo.com).

Happy Thanksgiving! Serving Our Veterans Proudly!



## **From our American Legion Riders**

President Grady Mitchell

Amy and I took a vacation trip to Scotland in September, so I didn't get an article out for the month. It was our first in a good number of years, and we enjoyed ourselves.

The Department of Colorado ALR held it's first Ride On Military Pride (ROMP) the weekend of 7 – 9 September. All the ALR's from Colorado were invited to Buena Vista for a weekend of games, rides and comradeship. We had a good time and a good turnout for the first of what we hope is an annual event.

ALR 209 held our annual Neal Thomas Jr. Memorial Run on September 30<sup>th</sup>. We rode down to Bishop's Castle, then on to Colorado City for lunch. It was a beautiful day and the Aspens were in full color. We raised \$460 for Neal's Veterans Assistance Fund.

October brought changing weather, but we were still able to get out and do some riding. The annual Veterans Stand-Down was held on the 16<sup>th</sup> at the Colorado Springs Auditorium. It's our attempt each year to help those homeless Vets & families who want get off the streets and to provide new clothing and personal items for those who need them. Post 209 helped provide security for the event.

November, as always, will bring cold weather, but those hardy Riders will still find a way to get out there and get the wind in our faces. Until next time, keep the rubber side down, and be safe out there.



### **From the Adjutant**

Marvin Weaver, Jr.

November will be busy. The District 7 Fall Conference will be hosted by Post 209 on November 3rd starting at 1:00pm. Officers from Department will be down to fill us in on what is happening in Colorado. The reason for the late start is the Colorado Springs Veterans Day parade is that morning starting at 10am. The Post is registered for the parade and we will have the semi-truck back this year, so come down for the Veterans Day parade and then come to the Post for the Fall Conference. The staging area is the Southwest side of Dale St. off of Tejon. Saluting America events start the following week at School District 11. Our Honor Guard will present 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 the DAV on Peterson & Palmer Park 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 Direct Mail Solicitation (DMS) event on Nov 30 – Dec 2. National will send out a list 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 to Post 209 on Nov 30<sup>th</sup> or Dec 2<sup>nd</sup> from 12 – 5pm or Post 38 in Fountain Dec 1<sup>st</sup> from 9am – 5pm and bring your cell phone and charger.

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

We will not be having a December membership meeting; we will be having our Post Christmas Party instead on December 15th. 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.



### **From the Historian**

Art “AJ” Carter

#### **Colorado Post 209 Past Events Sep14 thru Oct 14**

Sep 15: Visit to the Pueblo Nursing Home. Also, we Hosted the Annual “WWII, Battle of the Bulge Association (BOBA) Dinner.” Veterans from all over the States flew in to Re-Connect and Catch-up. The dinner was chaired by Art Kimbrel-Club Manager, assisted by the Post Auxiliary, and members of the SAL. The BOBA presented our Post with a signed memento, accepted by Stan Krasinski-Post Junior Vice Commander.

Sep 30: We sponsored the “Post 209 Neal Thomas Jr. Memorial Run.” The AL-Riders from Posts 38, 209, and 2008 met at the Broadmoor Plaza to start their Run to Florence thru the San Isabella Nation Forest, to Bishop’s Castle, ending at Colorado Springs. Chaired by John Hanchek-Post 209 ALR Road Captain. Beautiful Run.

Oct 06: We supported a booth at the “Colorado Springs Home Show,” hosted by the Colorado Event Center. Chaired by Jeraud Stuart, assisting members were Ken Taylor, Dave and Becky Hall. Purpose is to Advertise the Post and Recruit Members.

Oct 12: Legion Family dinners are a Post 209 fundraiser/dinner held on Friday of every month. This month’s meal was hosted by the American Legion Riders.

Oct 13: At our General Membership meeting Sergeant-At-Arms Joe Schmidt presented Steve Hayes with the October Members Volunteer Participant (MVP) Award. And Norm Moyer presented members of the Post 209 Honor Guard with a \$100 check to go towards Honor Guard uniforms and expenses.

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

If you have any pictures you would like to share for our 2018-19 yearbook, please send them to me (Please indicate what the event or occasion is, when, and who is in the picture(s)):

EMAIL: [ajcarter209@comcast.net](mailto:ajcarter209@comcast.net) TEXT: (603)913-3261



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

Each year, as part of Saluting America during Veterans Week in November, the Post 209 Honor Guard represents our Post and the American Legion. We are invited to Colorado Springs School District 11 schools where we post the Colors in a color guard formation for school assemblies, or we raise the Colors at the school flagpole with the student body in attendance.



I believe this is a vital part of our presence in the community. Indeed, it models Americanism for our citizens and our youth. This is one of the Four Pillars of the American Legion. The Pillars represent our support for our Veterans, a strong national defense, our youth, and Americanism.

As of this writing, we have four area schools signed up for flag ceremonies, with weeks to go for more signups. One tradition that many of the schools have is to open their doors to more than just the Color Guard. They invite area Veterans to come in, attend the assemblies, stand and be honored for their service, and maybe even answer some questions posed by students.



If you are interested, or know of a Veteran who might be interested in these important school programs, please contact Honor Guard Captain Eric Testorff at: [etestorff@legion209.org](mailto:etestorff@legion209.org).

We can match you up with a school that is ready to give Veterans Day honors to those who served.



## Young Guns Update Ken Taylor



The Fall Young Guns Class began September 13th with 9 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! Students have received instruction in bench rest shooting, prone position, kneeling position, standing position and as always Safety, Safety! Safety! The class will conclude on November 8th with an awards and pizza party!

NRA Marksmanship began Wednesday September 12th with 6 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 7th.

The Annual Turkey Shoot will be held on Friday November 16th at 7:00pm. 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!

### **Health Care and America's Military Heroes**

By Bernard M. Harris, Special Agent-Retired, USAF

Ladies and gentlemen, healthcare coverage is changing and costing more each day! A fellow retired Veteran recently stated that when he enlisted many decades ago, he was promised free healthcare coverage for life if he gave his country 20 years of service. The most honest reply I could offer was, "you too"!

Folks, it is not news that healthcare coverage for virtually every segment of American society has skyrocketed, and it is projected to cost even more for the foreseeable future. At this point, the federal government is revamping the list of dental and vision providers for all current employees and retirees as well. Using a family of four as an average, each retiree will average right at \$100 per month for family dental, and approximately \$30 a month for vision coverage. You have an advantage of getting a discounted plan for either \$24.95 or \$39.95 a month that covers your entire household, if you so choose.

Visit your website at: <https://alp209.savewithdiscounthealthcare.com>! You will see a plethora of benefits and services immediately available for every member and family member of the Post. This even includes members that have their own business and want to support their workers. Pass this information to friends and family across the Country and help increase the cash flow of the Post.

I strongly recommend the Deluxe-Plus plan for \$39.95 as it allow each household to immediately access licensed physician 24-hours a day, 7-days a week.

Again, you are "investing" in your household members' healthcare, saving money and financially supporting our Post. Can we set a goal of getting a minimum of 200 members into the program before year's end and then continue to grow? The Post will earn an additional \$1,996.00 in cash each month with the dental plan, and \$3,196.00 with the Deluxe-Plus plan. Each member will rest easy knowing he/she has coverage that follows them across our great nation. This is your Post, your website, your money, why not help Post 209 fill your account and better your programs!

Lastly, please remember to visit the government's website and see for yourself the changes that take effect on 01/01/2019. You also have to make a decision during the period: 11/12 thru 12/10/2018, if you want one of the government provided plans. Folks, not one of those plans even comes close to the benefits and services immediately available to you at your website, period! Please call me with any questions or concerns! 719-650-6174



**From the Jr. Vice Commander**  
Stan "Sgt. Ski" Krasinski

Good day all my American Legion family and future volunteers,

To continue with my discussion from September and October, a quick recap:

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

Benefit 3: Volunteering can advance your career.

If you're considering a new career, volunteering can help you get experience in your area of interest and meet people in the field. Even if you're not planning on changing careers, volunteering gives you the opportunity to practice important skills used in the workplace, such as teamwork, communication, problem solving, project planning, task management, and organization. You might feel more comfortable stretching your wings at work once you've honed these skills in a volunteer position first.

Teaching you valuable job skills! Just because volunteer work is unpaid does not mean the skills you learn are basic. Many volunteering opportunities provide extensive training. For example, you could become an experienced crisis counselor while volunteering for a women's shelter or a knowledgeable art historian while donating your time as a museum docent.

Volunteering can also help you build upon skills you already have and use them to benefit the greater community. For instance, if you hold a successful sales position, you raise awareness for your favorite cause as a volunteer advocate, while further developing and improving your public speaking, communication, and marketing skills.

Volunteering offers you the chance to try out a new career without making a long-term commitment. It is also a great way to gain experience in a new field. In some fields, you can volunteer directly at an organization that does the kind of work you're interested in. For example, if you're interested in nursing, you could volunteer at a hospital or a nursing home.

Your volunteer work might also expose you to professional organizations or internships that could be of benefit to your career.

Taken from and please visit [www.helpguide.org](http://www.helpguide.org) <<http://www.helpguide.org>> .

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

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

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

Do you own or work for a business providing services and/or products? Would you like to register your business with us? I can't tell you how many times I've needed or been asked if I knew a Veteran owned business offering services or products. I know that with a Post as large as ours, we have several who could fit into one or several of those categories. We want to know who you are.

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

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

Do you need to replenish your bar at home? A member of our Post owns a Liquor Store and they offer discounts to Legionnaires every day. Do you need some plumbing help? A member of our Post works for a well-known and respected plumbing company.

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

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

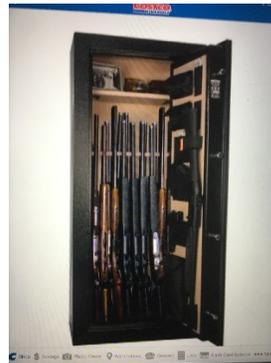
# \*\*\* Raffle \*\*\*

1<sup>st</sup> Prize Cannon 24 Gun Safe With One Bonus Gun Inside

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize \$100 Visa Gift Card

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize \$50 Visa Gift Card

\$10 Per Ticket or 3 for \$25



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

Only 300 Tickets will be sold

\*\*Do Not Have to be present to win\*\*

License Number 2018-12982



## From The Sons of The American Legion Squadron Commander

Stan "Sgt. Ski" Krasinski

Good day all my American Legion family and SAL Brethren,

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

With recruiting in the forefront and our squadron running a little behind please share the following with potential new SAL members.

To be eligible for membership in the Sons of The American Legion, you must be a male descendant (son, grandson, stepson, or adopted son) of a member of The American Legion. You are also eligible to join the Sons of The American Legion if you are the male descendant (stepsons and adopted sons included) of a Veteran who died in service during World War I, World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, Lebanon, Grenada, Panama, or the Persian Gulf War or the War on Terror (see specific time periods for service during these conflicts below). Additionally, you would be eligible to join the Sons of The American Legion if you are the male descendant (stepsons and adopted sons included) of a Veteran who died subsequent to his or her honorable discharge from service in World War I, World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, Lebanon, Grenada, Panama, or the Persian Gulf War (the same eligibility periods apply as above).

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

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



# Air Force Falcon Football!

Summer has gone!

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

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

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

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

Donated are:

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

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

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



# AMERICAN LEGION POST 209

THE PREEMINENT VOICE FOR VETERANS • COLORADO SPRINGS, CO



## WALK OF HONOR

### Buy A Brick Fundraiser!

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

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

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

## Bringing a Little South to the West

Past Post Commander Jay Bowen

For those who are frequent readers of this article, you know I was blessed to have grown up knowing and spending quality time with both sets of grandparents. My Mother didn't have any siblings, although she had an uncle who was very close in age to her so she considered him more of a brother than an uncle. Dad had one sister who lived just across the Mississippi River in West Memphis, Arkansas.

Thanksgiving was a very big family time for the Bowen family. Although Uncle Slim (his real name was Forrest, because he was about 6'7" and skinny as a rail) never made the trek from Sikeston, Missouri with his family for the holiday, our grandparents and Aunt Alta Mae, with cousin Barbara and Uncle Troy (in between divorces and re-marriages) would generally make the trip along with both sets of grandparents. It was interesting, I don't remember a single time my grandparents rode together over to the house for Thanksgiving even though they lived about 5 miles from one another outside the little country Arkansas town of Cherry Valley. I guess it was because they were so different; one was a devout Pentecost, and the other never attended church except for weddings and funerals.

I don't remember ever having Thanksgiving dinner anywhere other than our little home in Memphis on Swinnea Road. My grandparents and Aunt would always come to our house. It wasn't because our house was bigger (although by comparison it probably was). We did have a dining room with a table and 6 chairs. But we had Thanksgiving dinner there every year I can remember growing up. It appeared Dad was the de-facto clan leader...maybe that's why the dinner was always at our house.

The day always started the same. Mom was up at the crack of dawn starting the Turkey and Ham. She would turn on the TV to the Macy's Day parade. We had a Muntz black and white TV. Each year, Mom would make some comment about wanting to one day watch the parade in color. She finally got her wish the year after I joined the Army and moved out of the house. That was the same year Dad sprung for a window air conditioner. I'm sure it was just a coincidence that they bought those two large tickets appliances the year I left home. I wasn't really high maintenance...or was I?

After the parade, Dad would switch the TV over to the football game. Detroit always played at home on Thanksgiving Day. Dad was a big football fan, whether it was college, AFL or NFL. He had a few favorite teams, mainly the Cowboys. But he liked to watch any football game. Back then, we didn't have the choices we have today. We had the 3 major networks plus PBS. There was normally only one game on at a time so it was easy to decide which game to watch. Dad would watch the game even if it didn't involve one of his favorites. I remember once asking him who he wanted to win a particularly boring, non-favorite game. He indicated he didn't really care, but if he had to choose, it was the southern team or the one closest to the Mason-Dixon line.

When dinner was ready, the grandparents and Mom and Dad sat at the dining room table. My Aunt, Uncle (when they were married or re-married), Cousin Barbara and us 4 kids ate at the kitchen table. Some years we'd have to "scrunch up" to get everyone around the table, but we'd manage. Only on rare occasion did someone have to sit in the living room and eat on the TV tray. I would always volunteer to do that so I could watch the game, but most of the time one of the older siblings got the honor.

Even though we didn't have much money, there was always plenty to eat, especially on Thanksgiving Day. There was Turkey, Ham, Cornbread dressing (or stuffing), a tossed salad, Yams, Mashed Potatoes, Pinto Beans, and two or three pies. My favorite was Karo Pecan Pie. For those not cultured, Karo was a brand name for syrup. It was the only choice for Pecan Pie.

We'd eat until we couldn't eat any more, then we'd migrate to the living room to catch the end of the game. After the game, we'd break out the dessert. Later in the evening, we'd eat more dessert. No matter how many pies were made on that Thursday, they would all be gone by the weekend. And it wasn't until a week or two later that we'd start prepping for Christmas. Now it appears we start in July.

I love this time of year. It brings back memories of family, football (now college because I'm done with the NFL), and great food. It also seems people are a little more friendly this time of year and more in a giving spirit. I don't know if it's because it's Thanksgiving and I really don't care. Whatever causes it, too bad we can't make it last all year.

Happy Thanksgiving everyone!



## Post Officers 2018-2019

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



## ALR Officers 2018-2019

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



## Auxiliary Officers 2018-2019

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



## Sons of The American Legion 2018-2019

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

## Calendar of Events (see back page for November)

### December

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

### January 2019

- 4th; Hamdogger Nite
- 11th; Auxiliary Dinner, (RSVP Required!) 6:00pm (\$9.00)
- 12th; Breakfast, 9:00am
- 12th; Legion/Aux. General Membership Meeting, 10:00am
- 17th; Fundraising Committee Meeting, 7:00pm
- 18th; Steak Night, (RSVP Required!), 6:00pm, (\$14.50)
- 21st; ALR Executive Board Meeting, 6:00pm
- 22th; ALR Monthly Meeting, 6:30pm, Social Hour, 5:30pm
- 22th; SAL Monthly Meeting, 5:45pm
- 24th-27th; Department of Colorado Mid-Year Conference
- 25th; Chef's Choice, 6:00pm, (RSVP Required!), (\$10.50)



Win a Turkey!



On Friday, 16 November at 7:00pm you can try your luck at winning a Turkey for Thanksgiving!

For a \$5.00 donation, you get 5 shots with our Young Guns air rifles from a standing position.

Who will win the Turkey this year for the 3 groups? Come on out and "Give it a shot!"

November 2018						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Instead of Steak Night on the 16th, we are having a Holiday Dinner.						
				1 Young Guns 6:30pm	2 Price Varies with order Hamdogger 6:00pm	3 Veterans' Day Parade!
4 Daylight Saving Time Ends	5	6 Election Day Exec. Committee Meeting 6:30pm	7 Marksmanship 6:30pm	8	9 \$9.00 Meal Auxiliary Dinner - RSVP Required!	10 Membership Meeting Breakfast - 9:00am Meeting - 10:00am
11 Veterans Day Happy Veterans' Day!	12	13	14	15 Great American Smokeout Fundraising Committee Meeting 7:00pm	16 \$14.50 Meal Holiday Dinner!-6:00pm RSVP Required! Turkey Shoot!	17
18	19 ALR Executive Board 6:00pm	20	21	22 Happy Thanksgiving!	23	24 Healing Warriors 9:00am - 12:30pm
25	26	27 ALR Monthly Meeting 6:30pm. Social 5:30pm SAL 5:45pm	28	29	30 \$14.00 Meal Fundraiser! 6:00pm Hawaiian Dinner! RSVP Required! DMS Event - Post 209 12:00pm - 5:00pm	Notes:



# Happy Thanks- giving Everyone!