



The Centennial

Volume XV
Edition 11

November 2024

**AMERICAN LEGION NEAL THOMAS JR. CENTENNIAL
POST 209**



Check out a way to get 2 tickets to the Air Force Falcons vs. Fresno State game on 9 November, and 2 tickets to the Air Force Falcons vs. Oregon State game on 16 November! See the details on pages 12 and 13.

INSIDE:

From our Officers (Pages 3-9)

- Hear from your Post family officers on the latest news and information

Special Features (Pages 9-10)

- Salty Dog
- Bringing a Little South to the West

Upcoming Events (Pages 11-18)

- Butter Braids Sale
- USAFA Football!
- TAL Training
- Wreaths Across America Fundraiser
- Turkey Shoot
- 3-Gun Raffle
- Medicare 101

Upcoming Events/ Programs (Pages 19-24)

- Crisis Tips
- Alarm Battery Replacement
- Walk of Honor
- Room rental
- Programs for Our Kids

Calendar (Page 25-26)

- Calendar of Events

3613 Jeannine Dr. Colorado Springs, CO 80917
719.599.8624

www.legion209.org

<https://www.facebook.com/AmericanLegionCentennialPost209/>



The American Legion Post 209 Officers 2024-2025

Commander:	Steve Hayes	(719) 494-7166
Adjutant:	Marvin Weaver, Jr.	(719) 244-3535
Sr. Vice Commander:	Jerry Hopper	(918) 953-9980
Jr. Vice Commander:	Bobby Senter	(719) 660-3775
Finance Officer:	Jeff Heischman	(719) 482-4357
Service Officer:	Brian Murphy	(719) 930-4147
Judge Advocate:	Stan Hamamoto	(719) 322-6959
Historian:	Kurt Skinner	(719) 963-3517
Exec. Committeeman:	Lino Calica	(719) 963-0956
Chaplain:	Jim Bird	(719) 231-4928
Immediate Past CDR:	Marvin Weaver, Jr.	(719) 244-3535
Sgt.-at-Arms:	Chris Roebuck	(719) 412-3145



American Legion Auxiliary Unit 209 Officers 2024-2025

President:	Royce Hopper	(918) 953-9993
Vice President:	Michelle Castillo	Mikamish84@yahoo.com
Secretary:	Pat Weaver	(719) 638-4763
Treasurer:	Kellie Hayes	(719) 494-7167
Chaplain:	Pricilla O'Donnell	(719) 290-9130
Exec.-at-Large:	Jackie Bowen	(901) 481-0673
Historian:	Sean Cope	(719) 246-4820
Sgt-at-Arms:	Monalisa Taylor	monalisahugo@gmail.com



Sons of The American Legion Squadron 2024-2025

Commander:	Chris Hollingsworth	(910) 364-1677
Adjutant:	Jim Bird	(719) 231-4928
Sr. Vice Commander:	Rob Barry	(719) 930-5725
Jr. Vice Commander:	Jeff Heischman	(719) 482-4357
Finance Officer:	Ken Taylor	(719) 461-4047
Chaplain:	Bob "Odie" O'Donnell	(719) 432-6018
Sgt-at-Arms:	Chris Roebuck	(719) 412-3145
Executive Committeeman:	Brian Wess	(719) 528-6672 (home)



American Legion Riders Post 209 Officers 2024-2025

Director:	Sean Cope	(719) 246-4820
Vice Director:	Chris Cicchi	(719) 493-5897
Secretary:	Royce Hopper	(918) 953-9993
Treasurer:	Kellie Hayes	(719) 494-7167
Sgt-at-Arms:	Terry Buxton	(720) 520-9878
Road Captain:	Scott Laudan	(719) 238-2679
Logistics:	Maria Alecia	
Communications:	Chris Castillo	(202) 709-7485
Chaplain:	Jim Bird	(719) 231-4928



From the Desk of Our Commander

Up front, it is important to note that our November Membership Meeting has been rescheduled to 3pm Saturday, 9 November at the Post. This will allow Post 209 family participation in the Veteran's Day Parade at 11am that morning. Details on the parade show time and location will be published soon.

It is almost Veterans Day and Thanksgiving! This is a time to reflect and remember all those who have served as well as a time to count our blessings and share time with family and those we are close to. November is the anniversary month of the first national convention of The American Legion in Minneapolis, Minn. The convention was held November 10-12, 1919. During that convention, the first Constitution and Preamble were adopted as well as a resolution supporting the Boy Scouts of America as the first youth program. That marked the establishment with the Scouting program as a partnership in Americanism.

Within the Post building, the audio-visual upgrade continues to progress. We have received two additional TV donations, allowing us to increase the size of the display in the Auxiliary room as well as mount a TV in the back window to the Patio and add an amp with exterior speakers. The new addition to the patio will let us enjoy a game around the firepit out back. We also added security camera display and a video doorbell with interactive display in the Adjutant/Finance office. This vastly improves their ability to see what is going on in the post and interact with visitors when they are alone in the building working. Next steps include adding hard-wire network drops in the meeting rooms, expanding the display system upstairs and adding the capability to push the Dish broadcast upstairs through the rest of the post. Thanks again to everyone that has donated or assisted with the effort so far.

Come on by and check it all out! See you at the Post!

Our family dinner for Friday, November 22nd will consist of a holiday menu. Turkey dinner and all the fixings for \$17. Come on down and enjoy a great holiday meal with your Legion family! We will have our annual Turkey Shoot that evening following the meal. See the flyer in this edition.

Reminder that the Post is now able to offer remote audio-video meeting capability in the main meeting room via Zoom using your computer, tablet or phone. Obviously, we'd MUCH prefer your attendance in person, but we know there are times when that's not possible due to conflicts, illness or travel. This way, you can still stay connected to what is happening at our Post and in our community. Just keep in mind you won't get to eat our delicious breakfast through Zoom!

To virtually access a monthly meeting conducted in the main meeting room, go to:

- Web Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88157713484?pwd=SpUNbbjHxzruvaCfqrnoS4BG0QVJ2L.1>

- Dial In: 719-359-4580; Phone or Zoom App Meeting ID: 881 5771 3484, Passcode: 834801

Steve Hayes
Post Commander





From Our Adjutant

Have you ever wondered what happens at the Fall & Spring NEC Meetings? I had always wondered what actually happened there also. The first part of October I had the privilege of being able to attend and see what actually happens. Now to be honest I didn't go to just attend the meetings. I went to run Jay's first hospitality suite. The hospitality suite is one of the things Jay has to provide during the Fall & Spring meetings during his campaign for National Commander. We took 17 people with us to put on the hospitality suite and over the three days we were open we saw 452 people come thru the suite. It was a lot of work but with everyone pitching in and doing their part it was very successful and we made Jay look good.

With the hospitality suite events concluded I stayed for the NEC meetings to see what goes on. I can tell you that a lot of what the Legion does at the National level is decided at these meetings. All of the Commission Chairmen gave a report on what they have done since the last meeting and presented resolutions to be voted on. They had about 30 different resolutions discussed and voted. I have a copy of the resolutions if you want to stop by and see me and I can tell you even more about the meeting. This was the first of 4 different hospitality events we will be putting on to support Jay. Not everyone that was there to help out was from our Post. I am pleased to say that we had Legionnaires, SAL members, and Auxiliary from around the state to help make Jay look good.

I am in the office on most Mondays from 9:30 – 3:00. If you want to come by and talk with me about the Fall & Spring Meetings or bring your renewal to the Post you can do so at that time. With the AV upgrades Steve and his team have been doing I now have a monitor for the security cameras and we have a ring doorbell installed so just ring the bell when you come and I will be right down to let you in.

Thanks for all you do to help Veterans and the Post.

Marvin Weaver, Jr.

Post 209 Adjutant



From Our Senior Vice Commander

As Senior Vice Commander, it falls upon me to attempt to entice all of our members to renew your membership in The American Legion and help get others to join. That is a very difficult job when I don't get to talk to 90% of our members. Fortunately, most of you take the initiative and renew on your own. I can only guess as to your reasons for being a member. I try to reach out to all of the members of Post 209 by phone, but that is not successful. I leave messages on answering machines and I do not get many return calls. I hope that those of you that I don't talk to, read this monthly newsletter and remember to renew. Please remember The American Legion needs all of us to continue our support through membership. When our National Staff and Commander go in front of Congress to express the concerns of our veterans,

our 1.5 million plus membership carries a lot of weight on their decisions. Remember, you are not only helping yourself, but you are also helping the millions of veterans and veteran's families in need.

As citizens and veterans of this wonderful country, The United States of America, I hope everyone of you exercise your inalienable rights to vote.

On a lighter side, fall is upon us. The trees have changed colors. The kids have enjoyed trick or treat. The temperatures are dropping. This is my favorite time of year.

Jerry Hopper
Sr. Vice Commander



From our Sons of The American Legion Commander

It's hard to believe that we've already reached the end of October! Time seems to be flying by, and before we know it, the holiday season will be upon us. As we move into the final stretch of the year, I want to thank each of you for your continued dedication and service to our squadron and our community.

As the cooler weather sets in and we prepare to "fall back" with the upcoming time change, it's a great reminder to take care of an often-overlooked but critical safety task: checking and replacing the batteries in your smoke detectors. Daylight Saving Time is not only a cue to adjust our clocks but also the perfect time to ensure that our homes are equipped with functioning smoke alarms.

Our squadron continues to support our community by offering to replace smoke detector batteries for those who need assistance. If you or someone you know could use a hand with this important safety check, please don't hesitate to reach out to any member of the Sons. It's a small but vital way to protect our homes and loved ones as we head into the holiday season. Together, we can help keep everyone safe and sound!

Let's make the most of these last few months of the year, continue to serve, and prepare for the upcoming holidays with the spirit of camaraderie that defines our squadron.

As we look towards November, we have two occasions to commemorate. Each of these dates holds a special place in our hearts as we honor the brave men and women who have served our great nation. Here are the important events for this month:

Marine Corps Birthday - November 10, 1775. The United States Marine Corps was established on this day to augment naval forces in the Revolutionary War. The recruiting headquarters was set up by Capt. Samuel Nicholas in the Tun Tavern on Water Street in Philadelphia, which is considered to be the birthplace of the Marines.

Veterans Day - November 11, 1954

November 11 Veterans Day is a federal holiday that honors all who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces. The national ceremony is held at Arlington National Cemetery, where the president lays a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns, and a bugler plays "Taps." Veterans Day was originally recognized as Armistice Day in 1918, and was renamed in 1954.

The Marine Corps and the United States Armed Forces typically observe both Veterans Day and the

Marine Corps Birthday as a 96-hour liberty period.

As we reflect on these important dates, let us also acknowledge the continuous efforts of all our members in supporting our veterans and active-duty service members. Your dedication to our cause is what makes our organization strong.

For God and Country,

Chris Hollingsworth
SAL Commander



From our Post Historian

In the early days of our War for Independence, the Continental Congress passed a resolution on 10 November 1775 that raised two battalions of Continental Marines for service as landing forces with the recently formed Continental Navy. This is observed as the birth date of the U.S. Marine Corps – happy birthday and “Semper Fidelis!”



On the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month of 1918, the Great War, regarded at the time as the “war to end all wars,” formally ended with an armistice. One year following the end to hostilities, the tradition of Armistice Day remembrance began as a day to observe the service and sacrifice of America’s veterans of that conflict, and “to perpetuate peace through good will and mutual understanding between nations.” Not until 1954, after America had mobilized the greatest military force in history to fight the Second World War, followed by another bloody war on the Korean peninsula, did Congress formally authorize 11 November as “Veterans Day” to recognize the military service of ALL American veterans.



On 11 November 1921, President Harding placed the Medal of Honor on the casket of an unidentified American soldier of the Great War, who was given a state funeral and interred at Arlington National Cemetery in the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Inscribed on the sarcophagus are the words: “Here Rests in Honored Glory an American Soldier Known but to God.”

President Abraham Lincoln delivered a brief address on 19 November 1863, dedicating a military cemetery at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. In honoring “those who gave their lives that this nation may live,” he said, Americans must resolve that “these dead shall not have died in vain.” When the Vietnam Veterans Memorial was dedicated in Washington D.C. on 13 November 1982, we as a nation acknowledged that same resolve.

On 12 November 1919, the first convention of The American Legion, meeting in Minneapolis, adopted a constitution and preamble, declaring “For God and Country we associate ourselves together....” They also passed a resolution in support of Boys Scouts of America, a kindred organization that recognized the value of promoting Americanism. Scouts are trained to “leave your campsite better than you found it.”

As veterans, our shared military service in support of the U.S. Constitution has provided us a vested interest in America beyond the experience of average citizens. May we as veterans continue to act together in that same spirit of our founders, determined to leave this nation better than we found it.

Kurt Skinner
Post Historian



From Our Auxiliary President

Happy November! I hope everyone is enjoying this time of year as much as I enjoy it.

Be sure to watch your emails for volunteer opportunities and events that will be happening this month. This is the season of giving and our Post family is very good about helping out wherever we can.

Happy birthday to our members who are celebrating their birthday this month.

Royce Hopper
Unit President



From our Color/Honor Guard Captain

The Post 209 Honor Guard has a couple of big events coming up in November. The first event is the Colorado Springs Veterans Day Parade. I am sure most everyone has heard about the parade that was to be held on Saturday November 2nd was cancelled. The parade has been rescheduled for Saturday November 9th. The Honor Guard will be supporting the Post's entry with a Color Guard team out front. Please come out and show your support for the Post, Post Family, and Veteran Community.

The Post 209 Honor Guard also has the honor and privilege to provide the Full Final Honors for a dear friend of the Post who passed away this past summer, Robert "Bobby" Rydell. The service will be at Pikes Peak National Cemetery on Wednesday November 20, 2024. The service starts at 13:00, with attendees needing to be lining up by 12:40. Honor Guard members will be providing Full Final Honors, which includes: the three rifle volleys, TAPS, and the folding/presentation of the American Flag to Bobby's mother, Helen (also a Post 209 member). The Honor Guard always presents three expended rounds engraved with DUTY, HONOR, COUNTRY to signify the three rifle volleys and the Veteran's dedication to Duty, Honor, Country. As an Army veteran, Bobby lived up to those three important words in ways that few people ever achieve. Bobby was an inspiration to many of the Post Family members, always

there to help in any way he could. If at all possible, please attend this very important service and support Bobby's family.

So, now it is time for the standard ending of my newsletter article – Want to be part of a great team? The Honor Guard needs to gain more new team members in order to ensure we are able to continue supporting our veterans, like Bobby, and our community. Understandably, not everyone has much time to participate in the Honor Guard. In reality, all someone needs are a few available hours: about an hour to participate a night for a training meeting (check the newsletter calendar or the calendar on the Honor Guard website - <https://legion209.org/honorguard209/>) and up to a couple of hours for an event. So around three hours a month for a meeting and just **ONE** event is all you need to make a difference in helping support our veterans and our community. Members of The American Legion, the Sons of The American Legion, and The American Legion Auxiliary are all eligible to be members of the Honor Guard with all uniform items provided except Legion family-specific cap and shoes. If you or someone you know might be interested in supporting the Honor Guard, please reach out to me at: (719) 482-4496 or honor.guard@legion209.org.

Like and Follow Post 209 Honor Guard" Facebook page. The link is at the top of the Honor Guard website: <https://legion209.org/honorguard209/>

Joel W. Haas
Honor Guard Captain



From our Junior Shooting Sports Program

The Young Guns Basic Course provides youth ages 10-18 years old (boys and girls) the opportunity to learn about firearms safety and basic shooting skills. During Young Guns, credentialed National Rifle Association (NRA) Basic Rifle Instructors teach the safe handling of firearms, shooting positions (prone, kneeling, and standing), how to zero a rifle, and how to score targets. At the end of the course, the youth have a competition shoot against the others in the course in order to show off the skills they have learned. The Marksmanship Course provides graduates of Young Guns the opportunity to further develop their shooting skills. Both courses have a credentialed NRA Range Safety Officer (RSO) overseeing the range and ensuring all activities are conducted safely and in accordance with the JSSP Range Standard Operating Procedures (SOP). If you have a child, grandchild, niece, nephew, neighbor kid, etc. interesting in learning about firearm safety, contact the Post 209 JSSP at: jssp209@gmail.com

The Fall 2024 classes have continued with Marksmanship on Wednesdays and Young Guns on Thursdays at Post 209. Marksmanship students are showing improvement as they shoot more (Practice, Practice, Practice). We are past the teaching stage for the Young Guns students and are now coaching the them to assist them in improving their skills. The Awards Night and Pizza Party will be Thursday November 14, a great opportunity to celebrate everyone's accomplishments.

The JSSP needs Instructors, RSOs, and Volunteers to support the program to ensure the continuation of quality instruction and a safe range for the students taking part in the program(s). Probably by the time this article is read, a National Rifle Association (NRA) Basic Range Safety Officer (RSO) Course scheduled for Sunday November 3, 2024 will have been completed. The planning for a future NRA Basic Pistol Course is in the works, more details to come when more is known. The next NRA Basic Rifle Course is tentatively going to be scheduled in early January 2025. The course is open to those at least 16 years old and legally able to own/possess a firearm. All materials, lunch, facility use, etc. are included in the course costs.

- \$50 for “youth” 20 years and under;
- \$60 for Post 209 JSSP volunteers and Post 209 Legion Family members;
- \$90 for local junior shooting program volunteers and local Legion Family members; and
- \$120 for general public, if there are any openings remaining.

If you are interested in the NRA Basic Rifle Course, volunteering, or just learning more about the Post 209 JSSP, please email: jwahas.jssp209@gmail.com.

Like and Follow “Centennial Post 209 Young Guns Shooting Sports” Facebook page. The link is at the top of the Young Guns website: <https://legion209.org/young-guns/>

Joel W. Haas
JSSP Instructor



Salty Dog

GALLEY:

Probably the most important place on the ship especially if you like to eat. They are also referred to as the Mess Decks. On most ships there are the Enlisted mess, the Chief’s mess, and the Officer’s mess. On Carriers (or at least the Kennedy where I served) they have a forward mess deck, aft mess deck, 1st Class mess deck, Chief’s mess, and at least two Officer’s mess.



Marvin Weaver, Jr.
Post 209 Adjutant





Bringing A Little South to the West

Growing up, getting a spanking from my parents, and even my grandparents was nothing new. Not that I did anything wrong mind you, but I guess they must have thought I did. Interestingly, most of the corporal punishment was administered by the females of the family more so than the male members. But I do remember the one time I was spanked by Paw Paw, my Mother's father. And it was over Bull Frogs.

My Paw Paw and Maw Maw lived on a farm in eastern Arkansas. They were cotton and soybean farmers, as well as growing vegetables to sell at a local market. Their farmland consisted of maybe 50-60 acres near their home and another 40 acres separated by a wooded area. Often, my brother Bubba (a.k.a. Eddie) and I would take either Paw Paw's 12 gauge or his .22 semi-auto rifle to the woods in search for squirrels or other edible game.

Located on the property that adjoined Paw Paw's "lower 40" was a gravel pit. There were actually 2 or 3 pits about 20 feet deep with water in each. I guess the water was collected by the occasional rains in the area. It was not uncommon to find snakes and several bull frogs in the ponds formed in the gravel pits.

One day, Bubba and I decided it was time to explore the pits. We borrowed Paw Paw's .22 rifle and a box of his shells, and took off for the pits. When we arrived, we found a dead cow lying on the slope of one of the pits. We thought it would be cool to cover the dead cow with some of the many cardboard boxes in the pit and give the cow a cremated final rite. Being young and very stupid, we didn't notice how bloated the cow was and I can tell you setting a bloated dead cow on fire is not a very smart thing to do. The smell probably covered the entire county.

But I digress. As we walked along scoping out the ponds 20 feet below, we discovered several bull frogs along the banks and just in the water. What fun we had "popping" those frogs. We used up the entire box of .22 rounds we "borrowed" from Paw Paw. When the box was empty, we made our way back to the house. Paw Paw met us outside and asked if there were any shells left in the box. When we told him it was empty he asked what we found to shoot that required that so many shells. We shared the story of our great hunt and shooting skills. He looked at us and had us turn around to check for game. He told us he didn't see any bull frogs. We said we left them all at the pits. He was infuriated. Who knew they were good eats (that was before I learned how tasty frog legs are)? Apparently, we did two things wrong; we needlessly (his words) shot up a full box of .22 rounds and didn't bring home the game we shot. Being a farmer back in those days didn't pay well, and many things were edible. Paw Paw didn't believe in killing any animal that we didn't eat. This was the first and only time I remember getting spanked by Paw Paw.

That never happened again. Bubba and I gained a new appreciation for hunting and why. In the country, there are many things edible most city folks would not even consider. Growing up with my grandparents I learned to appreciate things like deer, squirrels, possums, raccoons, rabbits, and several other wild game. I think I'll find a place that serves frog legs for dinner. By the way, for those who have never tried them, they taste like chicken, only different.

Jay Bowen
Past Commander



UPCOMING EVENTS

Yum, Yum, Eat'em up!! YAY! It's that time again.

Butter Braid Sale October 18th thru November 9th. Requested delivery date is November 20th. Tell your friends, neighbors, and your neighbors' friends about the sale. Please turn in orders no later than November 15th. I will call or email you with the delivery time. Make checks payable to ALA Unit 209. The price is \$16.00 per braid. We need the payment before the delivery date. You may call Jackie Bowen, (901) 481-0673 or email jackiebowen2005@yahoo.com, with an order and then mail a check to her or discuss receipt of payment. Watch for reminder/update blasts to be sent. Thanks in advance for helping us make this a success.

FLAVORS: Apple, Blueberry & Cream Cheese, Cinnamon, Strawberry & Cream Cheese, Bavarian Crème Cheese, Raspberry, and Cherry.





Are you an Air Force Falcon fan? Maybe a Fresno State Bulldog fan?

If so, here's your chance to win 2 tickets plus free parking to the game played at the Air Force Academy's Falcon Stadium.

Here are the details:

Date: 9 November, 7:45pm kickoff

Air Force Falcons vs. Fresno State Bulldogs

These are Blue and Silver tickets, which includes free food and two adult beverages.

Retail value for the game tickets and parking is \$700.

This fundraiser will be done by sending your bid for the tickets to Jay Bowen at legionnairejay@yahoo.com

This will be a "Silent Bid" auction fundraiser. **Minimum bid is set at \$100.**

The bidding will end at 3:00pm on Wednesday, 6 November. The winner will be contacted via email or cell (please provide a good cell number with your bid). The tickets can be sent electronically to the winner. Payment will be via Venmo or you can mail the check to our Colorado Springs Post 209 address.

From previous game tickets winner SAL Detachment Commander Rob

Barry: "First-Class treatment from the catering to the front row leather recliners. If you like Air Force football, you need to experience this. Thank you, Jay, for the opportunity!"

Proceeds from this fundraiser will go to support our Colorado candidate for National Commander!



Are you an Air Force Falcon fan? Maybe a Oregon State Beaver fan?

If so, here's your chance to win 2 tickets plus free parking to the game played at the Air Force Academy's Falcon Stadium.

Here are the details:

Date: 16 November, 1:30pm

Air Force Falcons vs. Oregon State Beavers

These are Blue and Silver tickets, which includes free food and two adult beverages.

Retail value for the game tickets and parking is \$700.

This fundraiser will be done by sending your bid for the tickets to Jay Bowen at legionnairejay@yahoo.com

This will be a "Silent Bid" auction fundraiser. **Minimum bid is set at \$100.** The bidding will end at 3:00pm on Wednesday, 13 November. The winner will be contacted via email or cell (please provide a good cell number with your bid). The tickets can be sent electronically to the winner. Payment will be via Venmo or you can mail the check to our Colorado Springs Post 209 address.

From previous game tickets winner SAL Detachment Commander Rob Barry: "First-Class treatment from the catering to the front row leather recliners. If you like Air Force football, you need to experience this. Thank you, Jay, for the opportunity!"

Proceeds from this fundraiser will go to support our Colorado candidate for National Commander!

-TAL NATIONAL REGIONAL INFORMATION CONFERENCE-

The most often request/recommendation we hear from our members is “We want/need more training opportunities!” We heard you! So, on 16 November, we are offering the inaugural National Regional Information Conference, at the Westin Westminster Hotel. This conference marks a historic first, and attendees will have the opportunity to be part of shaping its future.

Please help spread the word and encourage everyone to sign up to secure their place and take advantage of the early bird pricing for a valuable learning experience!

How to Register:

For Sons of The American Legion: Click the Link Below

Cost: Early bird registration is \$70.

Attendees will learn about the Priceless Heritage of the Sons of The American Legion, a program that has been strengthening the Legion Family since 1932. This session will provide resources for chartering and maintaining an SAL Squadron to help posts engage families and grow.

For The American Legion: Click the Link Below

Cost: Early bird registration is \$70.

Core sessions include Be the One, Constitution & By-Laws, Post Operations, MyLegion, and more. This event offers valuable insights and tools for members to support The American Legion's mission.

Room A – Agenda

8:00 AM: Registration Opens
9:00 AM: Constitution and Bylaws
10:00 AM: Legal
11:00 AM: Post Operations
12:00 PM: Lunch Break
1:00 PM: Running an Effective Meeting
2:00 PM: Parliamentary Procedures
3:00 PM: Be The One
4:00 PM: Resolutions

Room B – Agenda

8:00 AM: Registration Opens
9:00 AM: Mentorship
10:00 AM: Membership Retention
11:00 AM: History
12:00 PM: Lunch Break
1:00 PM: Programs
2:00 PM: Post Opportunities (Awards)
3:00 PM: Buddy Check
4:00 PM: MyLegion

Let's ensure this historic event is well-attended! If you have any questions or need further clarification, feel free to reach out.

Press and hold the CTRL key, then click on the link below to register and get more information.

<https://web.cvent.com/event/f4b11f3a-2c12-4c9e-ac63-97c84f04e228/summary>

10/19/24, 6:24 AM

Yahoo Mail - WAA PPNC dinner flyer



ITALIAN DINNER

Benefitting Pikes Peak National Cemetery

Saturday, November 16, 2024

6 PM

American Legion Post 209

3613 Jeannine Dr., Colorado Springs, CO

\$20

(All profits go to WAA PPNC)

Your choice of homemade:

Lasagna, meatballs and marinara or Chicken Alfredo

All meals include salad, garlic bread and dessert, iced tea or lemonade

RSVP by November 13, 2024

To: jackiebowen2005@yahoo.com or 901-481-0673

There will be silent auction items available

Co-sponsored by ALA Unit 2008 and ALA Unit 209

Sent from my iPhone



12th 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 immediately following our Holiday Dinner on November 22nd expected to start around 7:00pm. There will be three categories; one for youth under 18, one for ladies and one for gentlemen. 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 Holiday Dinner and support our Junior Shooters by participating in our 12th annual Turkey Shoot!



3 GUN RAFFLE

American Legion 209 Auxiliary #2024-19157 Benefitting Veterans through American Legion Post 209

Choose your order of preference on your ticket stub

CHOICE #1

- CZ Scorpion 9mm
- Folding stock
- Rear flip ghost ring/front post sights
- 2 magazines
- Cleaning kit and case
- Safety lock



Folded view

CHOICE #2

- G-FORCE GFY-1
12 gauge
- 1 magazine
- 2 chokes w/choke tool
in case
- MBUS flip-up sights



3 chances
per \$20
ticket

CHOICE #3

- Remington 700
30-06
- Camo Stock
- Extra black stock
- Scope rail
- Hard case



Need not be present
to win

Drawing to be held on December 14, 2024 at the American Legion Post 209 Christmas party
@ 5pm at American Legion Post 209, 3613 Jeannine Dr., Colorado Springs

If winners cannot pass the background check, firearms will remain with American Legion Post 209.



Medicare 101 for Veterans & Spouses

Presented by Chip Underwood of Medicare Mentors & Post 209 Member

Navigating the Medicare space can be confusing, complex, and frustrating, especially for Veterans and their spouses when the VA Healthcare system (including ChampVA) and Tricare for Life are involved. Whether you are or are not a beneficiary of these benefits, please take advantage of one of the three opportunities to sit back and learn about these nuances in a strictly educational setting with an opportunity to ask any questions you may have. Light refreshments will be provided.

Subjects to be presented include:

- The Medicare roadmap when approaching age 65 & other eligibility events
- VA and ChampVA Healthcare in partnership with Medicare
- Tricare for Life in partnership with Medicare
- Medicare Advantage & Supplements (not the same thing!)
- How to identify Medicare product advertising/marketing pitfalls
- Answers to the Most Frequently Asked Veterans'/Spouses' Questions
- Q&A

Dates offered (all at Post 209):

- 22 Sep (Sunday), 3-4:30pm/1500-1630 hours
- 20 Oct (Sunday), 1-2:30pm/1300-1430 hours
- 20 Nov (Wednesday) at 6pm/1800-1930 hours

****Sunday event times have been deconflicted with the Broncos games!**

This is an Educational Event, not a sales event; specific information regarding carriers and their products will not be provided in this presentation

***For accommodations of persons with special needs at meetings, call
970-236-8570 (TTY: 711)***

Tips for Confronting a Veteran in Crisis!



**ASK A FELLOW VETERAN
CARE FOR A FELLOW VETERAN
EMBRACE A FELLOW VETERAN**

Always ask questions 1 and 2.	Past Month	
1) Have you wished you were dead or wished you could go to sleep and not wake up?	Yellow	
2) Have you actually had any thoughts about killing yourself?	Yellow	
If YES to 2, ask questions 3, 4, 5 and 6. If NO to 2, skip to question 6.		
3) Have you been thinking about how you might do this?	Yellow	
4) Have you had these thoughts and had some intention of acting on them?	High Risk	
5) Have you started to work out or worked out the details of how to kill yourself? Did you intend to carry out this plan?	High Risk	
Always Ask Question 6	Life-time	Past 3 Months
6) Have you done anything, started to do anything, or prepared to do anything to end your life? <i>Examples: Took pills, tried to shoot yourself, cut yourself, tried to hang yourself, took out pills but didn't swallow any, held a gun but changed your mind or it was grabbed from your hand, went to the roof but didn't jump, collected pills, obtained a gun, gave away valuables, wrote a will or suicide note, etc.</i> If yes, was this within the past 3 months?	Yellow	High Risk

If YES to 2 or 3, seek behavioral healthcare for further evaluation. If the answer to 4, 5 or 6 is YES, get **immediate help**: Call or text 988, call 911 or go to the emergency room. **STAY WITH THEM** until they can be evaluated.

Download Columbia Protocol App





SAL



SAFETY INITIATIVE

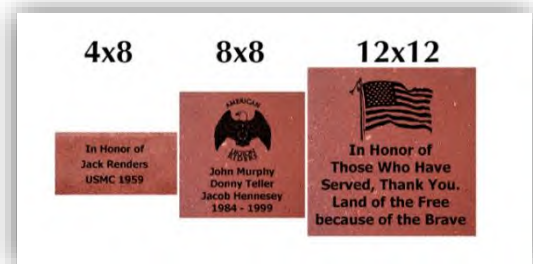
Sons of the American Legion
Squadron 209 will replace and install
smoke detector batteries at no cost for
veterans in financial need or with
physical limitations

Contact SQ 209:
Rob Barry
719-930-5725
colo.rsb@yahoo.com



Walk of Honor

- **What are the costs for the individual bricks?** Prices vary depending on size, style, and lettering desired but typically range from \$75 to \$200, depending on size.
- **What are the costs for the corporate/veteran supporter bricks?** Again, prices vary depending on size, style, and lettering but typically range from \$125 to \$500.
- **What is the difference between individual and corporate bricks?** Individual bricks are for veterans and family members wishing to purchase a brick to honor their veterans. The corporate bricks are for our veteran-friendly supporters and businesses who want to show their continued support for our nation's heroes by purchasing a brick.
- **Is the brick purchase restricted to members of the Post 209 families?** No. We encourage members to buy a brick for themselves for their veteran loved ones or to show their support for our veterans.
- **Where do I go to buy a brick?** We have a link on our website. Just visit legion209.org and click on "Walk of Honor." Or, you can visit <http://polarengraving.com/ALPost209> to buy your brick. The site is user-friendly and will walk you through the design and purchase. In addition, you will see a preview of your brick before finalizing the purchase.
- **How do I pay for the brick?** We have the site set up to accept payment via PayPal or 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 sent 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 in the area we call the Walk of Honor.
- **How long will this fundraiser effort last?** We plan to continue selling bricks until the Walk of Honor is covered with personalized bricks.
- **Will I have an opportunity to buy a brick later?** Quite possibly, depending 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 projects. If you buy multiple bricks, let our Adjutant know, and we will ensure they are all placed together.

Celebrate

At
American Legion
Neal Thomas Jr. Centennial Post 209

Host your next event with us! With over 2,500 SQFT of venue space this is the perfect location for your next social event!



Rental Features:

- 6 Hour Rental
- In House Catering Available*
- Fully Stocked Bar*
- Muti-Room Sound System
- Dance Floor with Lighting

If you and your family are looking for an affordable option for a wedding, corporate event, retirement party, or any other event, we here at The American Legion Post 209 are ready to assist you in all your event planning needs.

Starting at
\$350!



For More Information

www.legion209.org/contact_us

(719) 599-8624

3613 Jeannine Drive Colorado Springs, CO 80917

*Additional cost may apply

PROGRAMS FOR KIDS

Young Guns



NRA-Accredited members of Sons of The American Legion are sponsors and instructors for the Young Guns program. This basic rifle safety and marksmanship course are offered to boys and girls ages 10-18. Shooting is indoors, using air rifles.

<https://www.facebook.com/AmericanLegionCentennialPost209/>

Scouting Programs

The Post 209 family is the charter partner with the following Boy Scouts of America (BSA) units:



- Cub Scout Pack 24 (Boys and Girls): p24@legion209.org
- Scouts BSA Troop 77 (Girls): t77@legion209.org
- Scouts BSA Troop 79 (Boys): t79@legion209.org
- Scouts BSA Troop 187 (Boys): t187@legion209.org
- Venture Crew 762 (Young men and women ages 14-20): c762@legion209.org

Boys and Girls State



Boys State and Girls State are for high school juniors going into their senior year with at least one semester left.

- BOYS STATE www.colegionboysstate.org/
- GIRLS STATE www.alacolorado.org/girls-state

Oratorical Contest



This Nationwide contest is designed to develop a more profound knowledge and appreciation of the Constitution of the United States on the part of high school students.

www.colegionoratorical.org

Eagle Scout of the Year



The American Legion Eagle Scout of the Year nomination window is from **1 November to 1 March**. Nomination packets must be received by each applicant's respective The American Legion department (state) headquarters no later than 1 March.

<https://legion209.org/Scouting/>

November 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Note: We will not be serving breakfast prior to the monthly membership meeting. We will be participating in the Veterans' Day Parade. We will not have a dinner 29, November, the day after Thanksgiving. Everyone will be too full from the day before. :)</p>					<p>1 Price Depends on Menu</p> <p>Hamdogger Night! 6:00pm RSVP Required!</p> 	<p>2</p> <p>Honor Bell Meeting 10:00am</p> 
<p>3 Daylight Savings Ends NRA Basic RSO Course 7:30am-5:00pm</p>	<p>4 Troop 77 Mtg. 6:00pm</p>	<p>5 Election Day</p>	<p>6 Marksmanship 4:45pm-8:00pm</p> 	<p>7 Exec. Cmttee Mtg 6:00pm Young Guns 6:15pm Venture Crew 7:00pm</p>   	<p>8 Price TBD</p> <p>ALR Dinner 6:00pm RSVP Required!</p> 	<p>9 Veterans' Day Parade! Membership Meeting 3:00pm</p>  
<p>10</p>	<p>11 Veterans Day Troop 77 Mtg. 6:00pm Happy Veterans' Day!!</p>	<p>12 Honor Gd. Trng 6:00pm</p> 	<p>13 Marksmanship 4:45pm-8:00pm</p> 	<p>14 Young Guns 6:15pm</p> 	<p>15 \$10/person</p> <p>Stew and Biscuits 6:00pm RSVP Required!</p> 	<p>16 \$20/person</p> <p>Wreaths Across America Fundraiser Dinner 6:00pm</p> 
<p>17</p>	<p>18 Troop 77 Mtg. 6:00pm</p>	<p>19 ALR Exec. Mtng ALR 6:30pm.</p> 	<p>20 Medicare 101 For Veterans & Spouses 6:00pm-7:30pm</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22 \$17/person</p> <p>JSSP Turkey Shoot! Following the Dinner ALA Holiday Dinner 6:00pm RSVP Required!</p> 	<p>23 Healing Warriors! 9:00am-1:00pm Vets Helping Vets</p>
<p>24</p>	<p>25 Troop 77 Mtg. 6:00pm</p>	<p>26 ALR/SAL Monthly Mtng SAL 5:30pm ALR 6:45pm</p>  	<p>27</p>	<p>28 Thanksgiving Day Happy Thanksgiving!</p> 	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>

DECEMBER 2024

For the most current version see:
https://www.legion209.org/coming_up/

December 2024						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5 Exec. Cmtee Mtg 6:00pm 	6	7  Honor Bell Meeting 10:00am
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 Post 209 Family Annual Potluck Christmas Party 3:00pm-5:00pm
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 Start of Winter
22	23	24	25 Christmas	26	27	28 Healing Warriors! 9:00am-1:00pm Vets Helping Vets
29	30	31	Notes: Note: We will not serve dinners this month to give our support staff time to spend with family.			