

THE AMERICAN LEGION – CENTENNIAL POST 209
P.O.Box 25334, Colorado Springs, CO 80936-5334
719-599-8624

December 2004 – NEWSLETTER

Season's Greetings

Holiday Luncheon
Saturday, December 18, 2004, 1:00-3:00 PM
Country Buffet, Citadel Crossing

Officers' Comments

COMMANDER-Bill Marshall

Season's Greetings from the Post 209 Officers. We hope you and your family have a safe and joyful holiday. We look forward to seeing you at the luncheon on December 18 and the next General Membership meeting on January 8, 2005. **Happy New Year!**

Pearl Harbor Observance

December 7, 1941, "A day that will live in infamy," will be observed at Memorial Park, 11:00 AM, Tuesday, December 7.

January General Membership Meeting/Breakfast

Rear Admiral Jamie Fraser, Canadian Navy, will be our guest speaker January 8, 2005. RADM Fraser is the Canadian Government Liaison Officer to Northern Command and will bring us up to date on how the Canadian Navy is assisting the U.S. in the war on terrorism, as well as his position at NORTHCOM. He will have some handouts to go with his presentation, so plan on being there. **IT WILL BE A PACKED HOUSE, SO MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS EARLY.**

JR. VICE COMMANDER – W. W. Bandler

A last reminder to all Post members about our Christmas luncheon at the Country Buffet at the Citadel Crossing shopping center on December 18th from 1300 to 1500. If you haven't let us know if you will attend please call the office and leave a message. All you can eat buffet style with a total cost of \$6.37 per person. See you there.

ADJUTANT - Ann Foster

Membership

We are nearing our goal of 285 for the Legion year 2005. We are at 241; we need one for 85% and 44 for 100%. I know we can do this. I ask you to renew, if you have not already done so. I ask you to sign up one new member, if you have not already done so. These two things would be so very helpful and very much appreciated.

Cub Pack 24

The popcorn sales received an additional order from a Post member, so we now have contributed \$291.00 to the Pack. This is awesome! Let's keep this project in mind for next year and see if we can't beat this year's total. We only have three more orders to get delivered or picked up and I expect that to be taken care of by the time you receive this newsletter. Thanks to all who made this possible. The Pack sold a total of \$10,000 worth of popcorn.

Post Records

This is similar to the progress mentioned above about membership. We continue to receive your DD Form 214, or the document used before that showing your actual periods of service, but we still have a long way to go. If you need help in obtaining a copy or in the making of a copy from your only copy, please call in and let me know. I am willing to even come to your home to pick up a copy, bring it to the office, make a copy for your file here, and then bring your copy back to you at a time that is mutually convenient. If you can't remember whether or not you have provided this to us, please leave a message and I will get back to you. I cannot stress enough how important it is to take care of this for you and your family as well as your records with the Post. Thanks to all who have sent in their DD Form 214 recently.

Scout Request

We are still able to contribute to the Eagle Scout candidate mentioned last month who wants to repair the back porch of one of the two transitional housing units purchased by The Colorado Veterans Resource Coalition. If you are able to do this, it would be appreciated very much by the Scout, the Post and the Coalition. Please call and leave a message at the Post if you are interested.

CHAPLAIN – Mario Taracena

GIVE THANKS DAILY

The annual national holiday that we celebrated on the 4th Thursday in November originated in the Fall of 1621. The Governor of Plymouth invited neighboring American Indians to join the Pilgrims in celebration of the bountiful harvest. This activity extended for three days of gratitude, feasting, recreation and dancing. This tradition continued through out the years and

was officially proclaimed a national holiday by President Lincoln in 1863. As we celebrate this holiday, we should count our blessings: our daily bread, our families, our physical and spiritual well-being, and our nation and liberties we enjoy. We should follow the counsel and admonition of the Apostle Paul, "In everything give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." (Thessalonians 5:18)

Rosalie Fricke: Rosalie is the wife of 60 years of our fellow legionnaire Harold Fricke, who recently joined our post. Rosalie was admitted to Penrose Hospital with heart failure. She was treated and discharged on the 13th of November. She is currently home and resting, surrounded by a loving family of children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. We pray for her continuing recovery.

Agnes Nilles: Agnes is the wife of our fellow legionnaire Fred Nilles. She was admitted to Penrose Hospital on Friday, November 19th for open-heart surgery to replace a valve. The Nilles are long residents of Colorado and have four children and three grandchildren. They all are in the area and are waiting for the fast recovery of Grandma. Her prognosis is excellent according to her cardiologist. Our prayers are with the Nilles' family

JUDGE ADVOCATE – Larry Johnson

Release No. 10-13-04
Oct 19, 2004

New Law Sinks 'Check Floating' Practice

Capt. Charles Warren
12th Flying Training Wing Legal

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN) -- The practice of "floating" a check until payday will become a thing of the past Oct. 28 when the new federal Check Clearing for the 21st Century Act, also known as Check 21, goes into effect.

"Check floating" occurs when people write checks a few days before payday, figuring that by the time their checks hit the bank, there will be money in the accounts to cover them.

With Check 21, money will be withdrawn immediately from a person's account when he or she writes a check.

The new federal law is designed to help banks efficiently process more checks electronically. This means that debits to a person's checking account will occur in minutes, not days.

Paper checks as record-keeping devices will also become a thing of the past. Instead, banks will replace canceled checks with substitute checks -- paper copies of electronic images of a person's original check. Consumers must have a substitute check to exercise all of their rights under Check 21 for the recrediting of their account in the event of a transactional error.

The potential effect on consumers is simple. Unwary consumers will be more likely to bounce checks because of the enhanced speed and efficiency of check processing.

Consumers probably will not be able to access funds from checks deposited in their accounts any sooner because the new law does not shorten check hold times for banks. This means people may not be able to withdraw money from their accounts the same day a deposit is made.

Here are a few tips to help people adjust their banking habits in response to Check 21:

- Check your balance. Ensure you have sufficient funds in the checking account to cover any purchases made by check.
- Request substitute checks. Although banks are not required by law to issue them, be persistent in requesting that substitute checks accompany bank statements.
- Ask for a re-credit in writing. If a loss is related to a substitute check received, notify the bank in writing within 40 days of the bank statement and request a re-credit to the account. Do not forget to include the substitute check.

For more information about Check 21, visit the Consumers Union or the Federal Reserve Web sites. (Courtesy of Air Education and Training Command News Service)

Programs Supported by Post 209

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|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| -Service to Veterans | -Pikes Peak Veterans Council |
| -Veterans Day Parade | -Scouting |
| -Boy's State | -Jr. ROTC |
| -Crawford House for Homeless Veterans | -Jr. Shooting Program |
| - Stand-Down for Homeless Veterans | -Oratorical Contest |

Coming Events

- 2 December---Ex. Comm.& Brd. of Trustees mtg.. 6 PM
- 4 December---D.E.C. mtg., Department Headquarters, Denver, 10 AM
- 6 December---Reconnect Program, FT. Carson, 3rd ACR, 11 AM
- 7 December---Pearl Harbor Observance, Memorial Park, 11 AM
- 17 December---Oratorical Applications due
- 18 December---Holiday Luncheon

2004-2005 Ad Hoc Committees

- Constitution and Bylaws – Neal Thomas, 719-392-1510
- Property Inventory
 - Office – Ann Foster, 719-599-8624
 - Storage Unit – Larry Johnson, 719-622-0344
- Auxiliary Liaison – Bill Marshall, 719-495-0088
- Sons of the American Legion – Larry Johnson, 719-622-0344

2004-2005 Board of Trustees

Chairman – Neal Thomas
Secretary – Alton Cyriaque
Finance Officer – Norm Moyer
Commander – Bill Marshall
Member (3yr) – Alton Cyriaque
Member (3yr) – Chuck Zeitvogel
Member (2yr) – Ann Foster
Member (1yr) – Neal Thomas
Member (1yr) – Larry Johnson

2004-2005 Meetings

Post Executive Committee meets 1st
Thursday of the month at 4291 Austin
Bluffs Pkwy., Ste. 104, at 6:00 p.m.

Board of Trustees meets 1st Thursday of the
month at 4291 Austin Bluffs Pkwy., Ste.
104 immediately following Post Executive
Committee Meeting.

2004-2005 Post 209 Officers/Executive Committee

Commander	Bill Marshall
Sr. Vice Commander	Greg Andries
Jr. Vice Commander	W.W. Bandler
Adjutant	Ann Foster
Finance Officer	Norm Moyer
Historian	Penny Marshall
Sergeant-at-Arms	Robert Rydell
Chaplain	Mario Taracena
Judge Advocate	Larry Johnson
Service Officer	Tom Morant
Post Ex. Committeeman	Neal Thomas
Past Commander	Chuck Zeitvogel

2004-2005 Auxiliary Unit

President	Dot Dassero
Secretary/Treasurer	Barbara Johnson
Chaplain	Open
Sergeant-at-Arms	Open

Calendar

December 2004						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 Exec. Com/Board Trustees mtg.	3	4 D.E.C. mtg. Denver
5	6 Reconnect Program, FT. Carson, 11 AM	7 Pearl Harbor observance, Memorial Park 11 AM	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17 Newsletter Items Due Oratorical applications due.	18 Holiday Lunch 1-3 PM Citadel Crossing, Country Buffet
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 Christmas Day
26	27	28	29	30	31 New Years Eve	