



American Legion

Centennial Post 209

P.O. Box 15461

Colorado Springs Colo. 80935

Newsletter August 1981

FROM: American Legion Post 209
Post Office Box 15461
Colorado Springs, CO 80935

ITEM 1: Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, 20 August 1981 at 7:30 p.m. at the DAV Home located just east of the Olympic Training Center at 2101 Willamette (2 blocks east of Union Blvd.). Please try to attend. We are starting our new Legion year and getting off to a good start will certainly help things along.

ITEM 2: By this time we should have all received our membership renewal notices. Please return these to the Adjutant, Neal Thomas, thru our post office box. This renewal covers the period September 1981 thru December 1982. By being an "Early Bird" you make things a lot easier. Our goal this year is 60 members - the same as last year but we would certainly like to see 70 or more. We did ourselves proud last year by making quota - let's surpass it this year.

ITEM 3: Our financial position is steadily improving and the monies we are accumulating are being invested in the safest, highest interest, insured accounts that we can find. Several of us have been talking informally of buying some land soon in anticipation of erecting a Post Home sometime in the future. I would like all of you to keep this in mind and plan on making it the topic of discussion at a meeting in the near future.

ITEM 4: At the recent District 7 Executive Committee Commander George Dayhoff was given authority to try to organize a formal Vietnam Era Veterans Recognition Day at the Rock in Memorial Park. If the Pikes Peak Military and Veterans Council declines its support District 7 will undertake the event as American

Legion sponsored. As I envision it, there would be wide publicity in all the media announcing the "Day" to attract as much attention as possible. The event itself would consist of a ceremony followed by questions and answers about the various veterans organizations that care to participate and guidance on vet benefits and how to take advantage of them. Keep this in mind, Legionnaires. Our post would like to make a good showing at such an event.

ITEM 5: Our meeting this month will be primarily concerned with a debriefing by the young men we sponsored to Boys State in June. Committee and other reports will be suspended except for the Finance Officer. During the period when the boys are with us the bar will be closed except for soft drinks - so come early and stay after. I think we owe them that courtesy.

ITEM 6: BINGO - now that summer is ending and most vacations and visitors are on the wane wouldn't it be nice if we could organize ~~the~~^{two} groups of five and two alternates to handle this most profitable challenge? Of course we'd like 20 instead of 12 but every step forward is better than none at all.

ITEM 7: Refer to ITEM 6. We have a post with more potential than we know what to do with. Our post and its officers are recognized at Department and District. Our accomplishments in our short life may not be as grand in scale as our larger brother posts but our participation, our dedication to the ideals of the Legion and the way we carry out our projects has garnered recognition of our post as being one that is going places. We can maintain that image - all we need is the combined efforts - participation - of all our members. George gets tired at times from making all the decisions and doing all the work.

ITEM 8: Time is coming (and, for that matter, is already here) to appoint various committees. That's fine, but who do I appoint? The 10 or so Legionnaires who attend the meetings are already doing yeomen's labor. I'm waiting to see who our "Early Birds" are and then I will know who we have to work with. If one of our

disabled members would volunteer for the Telephone Committee for calling when meetings or other events have sudden changes, it would be much appreciated.

ITEM 9: Don't forget our project at UCCS on 24,25,26 August. The Department Mobile Assistance van will be in the parking lot at UCCS from 12:30 to about 5:00 p.m. each of those days to offer assistance to the military veteran students. Senior Vice Commander John Kovar, one of our token Vietnam Era Vets, is honchoing this project but in addition to the support of John Gaillard's County Vet Service Office we would like to have some of our members there with their funny hats. It may inspire some of those students to reach out and touch themselves 25 years from now.

ITEM 10: Someone once wrote a lot of words about no man being an island. There is so much truth to this that the very thought of the significance of that statement inspires a measure of awe. We, the American Legion, and all the proven veterans organizations must do everything possible to have the veteran who feels that ~~the~~^{the} military and the Government has dealt him a bad hand realize that he is us 25 years from now. Only by joining such established organizations and working toward Leadership positions can that veteran hope to preserve those very generous benefits to which he is entitled.

("He" is used in the generic sense).

Thanks for bearing with me!

For God and Country

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