



American Legion
Centennial Post 209
P.O. Box 15461
Colorado Springs Colo. 80935

Newsletter: NOVEMBER 1984

ITEM 1: First, I must apologize for not having gotten out a newsletter for the month of October. The first two weeks of October were very hectic on my job, plus the adverse weather only further complicated the matter. As you know, the meeting was finally cancelled due to weather. Nevertheless, we will be conducting our regularly scheduled meeting next Tuesday, 20 November 1984 at 7:30 p.m. The meeting will take place at the Retired Enlisted Association Club. Hopefully, I will see all of you there. We really have short, informative meetings and we do not smoke during the meeting. Plan to attend.

ITEM 2: This month has already started off with a bang. We held a Pancake Breakfast on 2 November 1984 which kicked off the start of Mid-Winter Department Conference. Although the Pancake Breakfast was not the huge success that we had envisioned; it was nevertheless, a very fruitful endeavor. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Bill Mahar and Dave Thomas for their time and efforts in insuring that this breakfast was a success. If you didn't come out, you missed a golden opportunity to meet and fellowship with other Legionnaires from throughout the State. Many thanks to the handfull of members who did support the effort. There were a few members who had tickets to sell. Please attend the meeting next Tuesday evening and turn in the proceeds from the ticket sales. If you are unable to attend the meeting, please send the tickets and proceeds by someone in attendance.

ITEM 3: The Colorado Department American Legion Mid-Winter Conference convened at 9:00 a.m. at the Holiday Inn North on 2 November 1984. The conference was a huge success and provided some timely information on upcoming events. We had a rather impressive opening ceremony with the U. S. Air Force Academy Color Guards presenting the colors. The highlight of the conference was the awarding of the top placement of Veterans Awards. I am happy to report that Colorado Job Service Veterans Unit received the Coveted Award for the second straight year. This award is presented annually to the large office unit that places the most veterans in jobs over the year. Colorado Springs won the award and believe me, Centennial Post 209 is well represented. Of the eight placement officers assigned to this unit, five are members of Post 209, namely; Mel Cooper, Don Browder, Tom Gross, Walt McDonald and myself. I was also in receipt of the individual award which I will bring to the next meeting. These awards were presented by the State Veterans Director Bill Belz in behalf of the Department of Colorado along with the Department Commander, Everett McConnell. Tim Drago, Chairman of the Colorado Tribute to Veterans, gave a talk on the memorial to be erected on the State Capitol grounds. More information on this matter will be presented at the meeting, 20 November 1984. Thomas Schneider, Assistant Director for Veteran Affairs and Rehabilitation also gave a lengthy report which will be covered by John Gaillard at our next meeting. It was also decided by the Department Executive Committee to ask John Kovar to relinquish the Department Adjutant position due to deteriorating health problems. John Kovar concurred with this decision and is now back home with us. We can sure use you, John. Many other interesting events occurred at the conference, including a well attended banquet followed by a dance at Post 5. Sunday we had a very impressive Memorial Service, followed by the conclusion of the conference. Lt. Gen (Ret) Jack Forrest gave a very indepth report on the Space Foundation and Space/Military Adaptations.

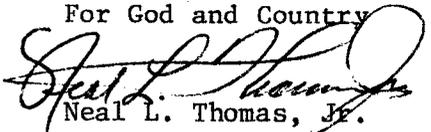
Following this report other Committee reports were made and the Mid-Winter Conference closed.

ITEM 4: Bingo is progressing beautifully, however, with very few faithful workers. We could certainly use some able bodied help from the rest of the Post members. We have Bingo each Thursday night at the DAV Chapter 26 home out on Palmer Park Blvd. Why not come out and help your Post and give the few faithfuls a break. Thanks to those few who can be counted upon weekly. We are also in need of workers for the Wednesday night Bingo at the Germania Club with Sertoma. Also, please respond to the recent letter sent out by Dave Thomas regarding your desire to assist the Post in any fashion. Please let us know what you are willing to do in behalf of the Post's efforts.

ITEM 5: Our goal for this year's membership is 135 members. At the present time we aren't half way home. We are presently at 52 members; new and renewals, inclusive. By now you should have received your 2nd notice, so please renew immediately. Our motto for this year is -"Every Member Get A New Member In 1985", have you gotten yours? Remember the easiest way to get a new member is to simply "ask them". Also, have you considered "permanent membership"?

ITEM 6: The Post was well represented in the recent Veteran's Day Celebration due to the efforts of one member - Big John. He carried the Post Colors in the parade and displayed them for the Post at the Memorial Service at the park. Thanks to John, we were represented. Where were the rest of Post 209? Let's get involved!!!

For God and Country


Neal L. Thomas, Jr.
Commander