



# The Centennial

Volume XVI Edition 5

May 2025

## AMERICAN LEGION NEAL THOMAS JR. CENTENNIAL POST 209



Our newest US Citizens getting ready to take the oath at the Federal Courthouse in downtown Colorado Springs.

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3613 Jeannine Dr. Colorado Springs, CO 80917  
719.599.8624

[www.legion209.org](http://www.legion209.org)

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

**The American Legion Post 209 Officers 2024-2025**

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

**American Legion Auxiliary Unit 209 Officers 2024-2025**

<b>President:</b>		
<b>Vice President:</b>		
<b>Secretary:</b>	Pat Weaver	(719) 638-4763
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Kellie Hayes	(719) 494-7167
<b>Chaplain:</b>	Pricilla O'Donnell	(719) 290-9130
<b>Exec.-at-Large:</b>	Jackie Bowen	(901) 481-0673
<b>Historian:</b>	Sean Cope	(719) 246-4820
<b>Sgt-at-Arms:</b>	Monalisa Taylor	<a href="mailto:monalisahugo@gmail.com">monalisahugo@gmail.com</a>

**Sons of The American Legion Squadron 2024-2025**

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

**American Legion Riders Post 209 Officers 2024-2025**

<b>Director:</b>	Lorenzo Trotter	(719) 964-5925
<b>Vice Director:</b>	George Sedlack	(719) 320-2487
<b>Secretary:</b>	Rick Feliciano	(719) 291-4955
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Kellie Hayes	(719) 494-7167
<b>Sgt-at-Arms:</b>	Lenzie Jeter	(719) 367-3383
<b>Road Captain:</b>	Scott Laudan	(719) 238-2679
<b>Logistics:</b>		
<b>Communications:</b>		()
<b>Chaplain:</b>		()



## From the Desk of Our Commander

It's May and Summer is around the corner. Come on out for all our events and dinners. Checkout the Kiosk displays at the post and the website event calendar at <https://legion209.org>. There is something of interest for everyone in there. Don't forget the Post Garage sale on 17 May. Donate items to the post for fundraising or rent a table to sell for yourself (\$10 card table size, \$20 for 8 feet, You need to bring your own table).

We will have our Installation followed by our Installation Dinner on Saturday 10 May. We will install the officers for the Post, Auxiliary and SAL starting at 4:30pm, followed by your choice of chicken fried chicken or chicken fried steak for dinner. We will not have a breakfast or membership meeting that day. Come on out and support your newly elected officers!

Finally - Congratulations to Rob Berry (District 7 Commander), Jeff Heischman (District 7 Sr. Vice Commander) and Sarah Tobin (Historian) for their election to district office at the District 7 Spring convention at Post 13 on 26 April. Post members continue to support and serve all of the Post families in District 7 well!

See you at the Post!

*Steve Hayes*

**Post Commander**



## Can't be there in person - ZOOM Into the Meeting!

Can't make it to the Post for the monthly meeting? You can still participate!!! 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://us05web.zoom.us/j/85019977840?pwd=Kjb6mwNLRAjqzqUIVut8DHERIH0UXD.1> - Dial In: 719-359-4580; Phone or Zoom App Meeting ID: 850 1997 7840, Passcode: 448593



## Important Membership Message

Please check your membership card. If your card shows 2024, the grace period for renewal ended 1 Feb and you are no longer current for American Legion membership. We currently have about 250 individuals in this status. The Post is currently at 86% with 150 memberships to go to meet our annual goal. Please let us know if you need assistance with your renewal. You can renew online, by mail with check or in person at the post. The adjutant is usually in the office on Mondays between 10 and 2pm or he can accept it in person at Friday dinners or the Second Saturday membership meeting. Online renewals at national are available at his link: <https://mylegion.org/PersonifyEbusiness/Membership/Renew#legion-org>



## From Our Adjutant

This year is flying by; it is already May. We will not be having our membership meeting on Saturday morning this month. We will be having our annual Installation of Post Officers starting at 4:30 with dinner to follow. Make sure to come out and congratulate the new officers.

Department Convention will be June 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> at the Hilton Hotel in Fort Collins. For more information on rooms and meals go to <https://coloradolegion.org/departement-convention.html>.

I still need to get your input to complete the Consolidated Post Report (CPR). I have to complete this and turn it in by June 1<sup>st</sup>. I need to know the hours, money, and mileage you donated over the past year. I have attached a tracking sheet in the 411 to assist me with compiling the information needed. If you do not know which block to check, I can do that for you if you give the activity a good description. The key is to just report it, no matter how small or if you think it matters. The reporting period is 1 June 2022 through 31 May.

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

*Marvin Weaver, Jr.*

**Post 209 Adjutant**



## From our Post Historian



In the opening salvos of the Spanish-American War, Commodore George Dewey's seven-warship U.S. Asiatic Squadron destroyed the Spanish Pacific fleet on 1 May 1898 in the Philippines Battle of Manila Bay without suffering a single American combat fatality. Immediately hailed as the "Hero of Manila," Dewey became the only Naval officer in American history to attain the rank of Admiral of the Navy.

On 1 May 1960, former USAF pilot Francis Gary Powers was shot down by a surface-to-air missile over the Soviet Union while conducting a CIA-sponsored U-2 aerial reconnaissance mission. While the U.S. initially claimed the plane went off course on a meteorological mission, the Russians embarrassingly exhibited the captured pilot, plane, and processed camera rolls to the world, convicting Powers of espionage in a Moscow show trial.

Osama bin Laden, founder of Islamic terrorist group al Qaeda, was killed in Pakistan by a team of Navy SEALs on 2 May 2011. While his death was a welcomed accomplishment in the "War on Terror," no other person had a greater impact on early 21<sup>st</sup> century American security and defense policy, and contributed to global instability.



On 5 May 1961, Navy Commander Alan Shepard was launched aboard the Freedom 7 space capsule on a 15-minute suborbital flight, becoming the first American astronaut launched into space. Ten years later, Shepard became the fifth man to walk on the moon as part of the Apollo 14 lunar mission.

“The American Legion” was adopted as our organization’s official name at the Saint Louis Caucus on 5 May 1919.

8 May 1945 – Americans celebrated the victorious end of WWII in Europe, dubbed “VE Day,” with the unconditional surrender of Nazi Germany. Harry Truman had been President less than one month, following the untimely death of President Franklin D. Roosevelt on 12 April. Having served as an artillery officer in France during the First World War and a founding member of the first American Legion Post in his native Missouri state, Truman earned the distinction as the first Legionnaire to become U.S. President. Upon suddenly inheriting the role of American wartime commander in chief, Truman remarked, “I felt like the moon, the stars and all the planets had fallen on me.”

On 9 May 1997, following the American restoration of diplomatic relations with Vietnam, former USAF Captain Douglas Peterson became the first U.S. Ambassador to Vietnam since the 1975 fall of Saigon. Shot down on 1966 bomber mission over Hanoi, Peterson had been held as a POW for six years during the Vietnam War.



The Berlin Airlift, considered an early “battle victory” of the Cold War, came to end on 12 May 1949. Eleven months earlier, in retaliation for the Allied nations’ formation of Western Germany, the Soviet Union blockaded all road, rail, and water communication routes into West Berlin in an attempt to force the isolated city into Soviet control. In the first major test of the newly formed U.S. Air Force, America (and Britain) responded with the largest airlift in history, flying in over 2.3 million tons of food, fuel, and supplies to the beleaguered city around the clock for eleven months. Six years later, when Western Germany became a NATO member in May 1955, the Soviet Union responded by establishing a “Warsaw Pact” organization of seven Soviet-controlled Eastern European nations.



On 15 May 1942, the Women’s Auxiliary Army Corps (WAACs) was established, granting women official military status. Though performing “non-combatant” roles, the WAACs served in every theater of war and paved the way for the eventual integration of women into every component of military service.

Traditionally, “Decoration Day” began in May 1868 to adorn the Arlington National cemetery graves of Civil War dead. Memorial Day, observed the last Monday of May, is set aside to remember those who have died in military service to our nation. Lest we forget.

*Kurt Skinner*  
Post Historian





## From our Color/Honor Guard Captain

The Honor Guard has continued to support Final Honors at various locations, supported the Post 209 Post Everlasting in March, and supported the Honor Bell ceremony in March to present the artifacts that are going to be part of Honor Bell 002. Over the last few months, the Honor Guard has also been making uniform changes to increase the impact the Honor Guard makes during events. The team now wears black berets, which allows the Honor Guard to have uniform headgear across all members. The transition to black cords and black ascots for Final Honors and other somber events ties in the team's uniform to the meaning of the event. This also makes a better incorporation of ALR Color Guard members to help support events where both teams are involved. The gold cords are now used only for Color Guard related events, along with the gold ascots. New jackets have been purchased due to Flag & Emblem no longer carrying the standard jackets the team has used for several years. The new jackets are black and much less prone to fading. We are in the process of putting Velcro on all patches to be used, allowing for easier transition to other members, especially across the Legion Family.

The ability to put together a Post 209 Color Guard to compete in the Color Guard Competition at the National Convention is still hopefully a possibility. Post 209 has over 1,000 members, is the largest Post in Colorado, and is recognized as one of the most active posts (or most active) in the Department. A member of Post 209, Jay Bowen, is on the path to becoming the National Commander in 2026. The Post just needs four Legionnaires with the desire and commitment to be the best. I do not know if there has ever been a Post win the competition and become the National Commander's Color Guard for a National Commander from their Post. I doubt it has ever happened and Post 209 has an opportunity to do something truly outstanding.

It appears March is the month when the Honor Guard has to deny the first Final Honors request of the year. This time the team was unable to ensure Navy veteran Edwin Bernard received the Final Honors he was entitled to and earned. We were unable to support the event because the team was **one member** short of the three required. The Honor Guard needs to gain more new team members in order to ensure we are able to continue supporting our veterans 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](mailto:honor.guard@legion209.org).

Like and Follow "The American Legion Neal Thomas, Jr. Centennial 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 (JSSP)

The Spring 2025 session has ended. The Awards Night and Pizza Party was held on Wednesday April 16, 2025. Three new students completed the Young Guns program, all siblings. William was the session's Top Shot, with both William and Diana receiving the Eagle Eye Award for shooting a perfect bullseye. The Marksmanship course had the following NRA MQP Air Rifle awards earned:

- One student earned Pro-Marksman, Marksman, and Sharpshooter;
- One student earned Pro-Marksman and Marksman; and
- One student earned Sharpshooter.

The Fall 2025 session for Marksmanship and Young Guns will start in September. Applications can be submitted at any time. Youth ages 10-18 years old (boys and girls) have 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 youths have a competition shoot 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. interested in learning about firearm safety, contact the Post 209 JSSP at: [jssp209@gmail.com](mailto:jssp209@gmail.com)

The JSSP still 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). Currently, the program has four primary dual Instructors/RSOs, with an additional RSO available. There must be an Instructor and a RSO present for each class. When two or more instructors are unavailable, the courses risk being canceled for those nights.

If you are interested in volunteering, or just learning more about the Post 209 JSSP, please email: [jwhaas.jssp209@gmail.com](mailto:jwhaas.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**





## From *The Centennial's* Editor

Do you enjoy reviewing/editing stories and documents? Are you proficient using Microsoft Word? Are you a member of our Post 209 family (Legion, Auxiliary, Sons, Riders)? Do you have four hours of time spread throughout the month to give to our Post?

If you answered yes to the questions above, contact me at [legionnairejay@yahoo.com](mailto:legionnairejay@yahoo.com) or call me at 901-484-7193. Why? We need an editor. I've been doing this for several years and with my travel schedule and impending election to serve as The American Legion's National Commander, I will very soon no longer be able to serve as our newsletter editor.

We REALLY don't want to chance letting this periodical slip. Our members want and need to hear from us monthly, and we have found this is a great way to share what we are doing and planning to do. I will help get you started, but it really isn't that difficult, and it is not that time-consuming. **So step up and reach out!**

Let's keep this nationally award-winning newsletter going.

*Jay Bowen*  
Editor



## From Our Auxiliary Unit Secretary

The election for 2025-2026 Unit Officers was held on April 12, 2025 with the following results: President Pat Weaver, Vice President Rebekah Arpan, Secretary Cathy Barger, Treasurer Kellie Hayes, Chaplain Priscilla O'Donnell, Historian Valerie Stephens, and co-Sgt-at-Arms Pauline McCauley and Kris Joyce. Please offer your congratulations to these ladies. If you are interested in becoming a committee chairman, please contact anyone of these members. Installation of our new Unit officers will be held in place of the May general membership meeting on May 10, 2025. The ceremony will begin at 4:30 PM followed by dinner at 6 PM. The menu is a choice of Chicken Fried Chicken or Chicken Fried Steak. When making an RSVP to Jackie Bowen please indicate which meat you would like. There will be NO breakfast and morning meeting this month. Please plan on attending and show your support to the new officers. Happy Mother's Day to all the beautiful mothers in our Unit. We will be laying roses at the Vietnam Memorial and Forward Controllers Memorial on Memorial Day. We will determine the exact time we will meet and send an email to everyone. Happy Birthday to everyone celebrating birthdays in May.

*Pat Weaver*  
Unit Secretary







## From Our Auxiliary – Garage Sale!

**We are having a Garage Sale 17 May!** See the flyer with information and signup sheet later in this newsletter edition. We are also looking for volunteers to help setup, manage, and clean up after the event. If you can give us a couple of hours, or if you want/need more information, contact Kellie Hayes or Jay Bowen.

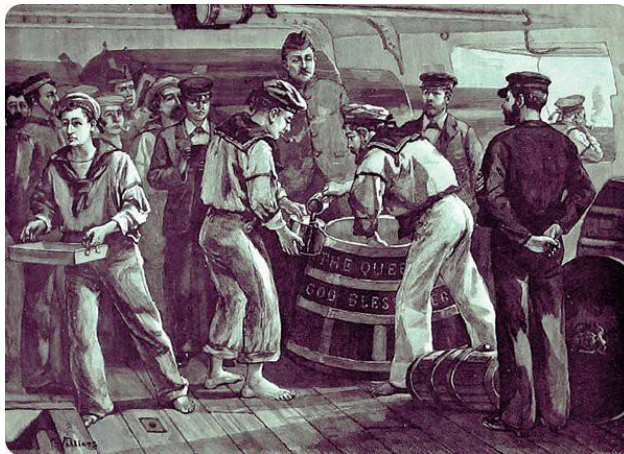
*Jackie Bowen*  
**Executive at Large**



## Salty Dog

### SCUTTLEBUTT:

The scuttlebutt was the drinking fountain (scuttle means drill and a butt is a cask) on the ship. When the crew would gather around for a drink, Sailors would exchange rumors and gossip. Today scuttlebutt refers to the water cooler (drinking fountain).



*Marvin Weaver, Jr.*  
**Post 209 Adjutant**





## Bringing A Little South to the West

Things have certainly changed since I was a child. I'm talking about how young people today render respect to adults. Growing up, if asked a "yes" or "no" question from any grownup, my answer ALWAYS included either "yes ma'am (or sir depending who asked), or no ma'am or sir.

Nowadays, most kids just answer "yeah," or "yes." If you do find a child answering respectfully with "yes ma'am," many people will comment, "I guess you're from a military family." So, should my takeaway from that comment be that the only kids with manners are children of military families? That may be the case today, but not when I was growing up.

Anyone who served on active duty in any branch of service learned on day 1 that addressing an officer of any rank included either "sir" or "ma'am" depending on who you were addressing. But if you said that to an NCO, you would typically hear, "Don't call me sir, I work for a living!" This was suggested to indicate officers direct and order, while NCOs carried out the orders and worked to execute the directive. Even now when talking with many Veterans, if I refer to them as "sir" or "ma'am," I'm likely hear the same response unless talking with a former officer. It just became a habit, or maybe it was what some would call "Common Courtesy." But don't get me started on anything related to "common." I don't think it exists any longer.

And I don't think it was restricted to southern families, although I tend to hear it more from that region of the country than most others today. Back in the day, it was just something taught to all kids across the country and at a very young age. It was a means of rendering proper respect to adults and this was the manner in which it was done.

Also, when did it become the norm to respond to a "thank you" with "of course?" What the heck does that mean anyway? Are they saying, "well of course you should thank me?" What happened to a simple "your welcome?" That's two words, just as "of course" is.

I guess I just don't get it. My fear is we've become too informal and insensitive when it comes to paying respect to others. It feels we've lost what many would call "Common Courtesy."

If it is a "military family" or "southern" thing, then maybe we need to infiltrate more southerners and military families into our society. Maybe we need to get them into a Veterans Service Organization such as The American Legion and have them write monthly periodicals for their local newsletters. Would that work? What if we could get a southerner who was retired military to actually write the articles? Would that help return us to the days of "Common Courtesy?" Sounds like a pipe dream. Where in the world would you find a southerner living out west that was also retired military and willing to write a monthly newsletter article for their American Legion Post?

Oh well, until then I guess we'll just have to keep looking and hoping someone will move here and step up to **Be Part Of The Solution** to bringing us back into a society who isn't ashamed to show respect for all. Thank you sirs and ma'ams for allowing me to offer this solution.

And if you appreciate what I've written and want to thank me for writing it, "Your Welcome!"

*Jay Bowen*  
Past Commander





# UPCOMING EVENTS & PROGRAMS



DOC TALK

## Senior Veterans & Spouses: Improve Your Health & Savings

May 21 | 10am to 11am



with Dr. Ramchandani



Dr. Sunny will share tips for senior veteran families to improve their health and savings.



American Legion Post 209  
3616 Jeannine Dr.  
Colorado Springs, CO



**FLAGSHIP**  
HEALTH





# FLAGSHIP HEALTH™

Flagship Health is a primary care medical practice tailored to seniors and veterans.

To learn more, contact us by scanning the QR code, or visit **[flagshiphealth.org/contact](https://flagshiphealth.org/contact)**.







## **Post 209 is Having a Garage Sale!**

Nope, we're not selling garages, but if you have stuff you've been hoarding/saving and want to get rid of it, you are welcomed and encouraged to rent a space at the Post to sell those things and clean out your garage.

**What Day?** 17 May, 2025

**What Time?** 9:00am to 3:00pm

**Where?** American Legion Post 209, 3613 Jeannine Drive

**Cost?** \$10 for a small table space; \$20 for large table space (you must provide your own tables). All proceeds go to the Post Improvement fund.

**Who Profits From the Sale?** You, if you rent a space and man the table.

If you don't want to mess with selling it, we will gladly take it off your hands as a donation and sell it and the Post will keep the profits from the sale. Please note, if your saved "treasures" don't sell, you will need to take it back home or they will be donated. We simply do not have storage space at the Post. And we cannot accept any donations prior to Friday evening, 16 May.

Volunteers are needed to help with setup and running the Garage Sale. We would greatly appreciate giving us a few hours of your time to help. Even if you can only help with setup or manning a table, any help for any length of time is appreciated. A volunteer signup sheet will be at the Post by the Soda bar.

For more information, contact Kellie Hayes at [hayeskelliej@yahoo.com](mailto:hayeskelliej@yahoo.com) or Jay Bowen at [legionnairejay@yahoo.com](mailto:legionnairejay@yahoo.com)

## American Legion Post 209 Garage Sale Table Request

3613 Jeannine Dr., Colorado Springs, CO 80917

- May 17, 2025 from 9am to 3pm.
  - Set up will be at 7pm on the 16<sup>th</sup> or 7am on the 17<sup>th</sup>.
  - All proceeds from the Garage sale will be going to the Post Improvement fund.
  - For information, please call Kellie Hayes at 719-494-7167 or send an e-mail to [hayeskelliej@yahoo.com](mailto:hayeskelliej@yahoo.com). Registration deadline is May 1st or when all booths are taken. Please complete the registration form and return with payment to Kellie Hayes, 3613 Jeannine Dr., Colorado Springs, CO 80917 or scan and e-mail to [hayeskelliej@yahoo.com](mailto:hayeskelliej@yahoo.com).
- 

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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I would like to set up on \_\_\_\_\_ Friday (May 16th at 7pm)

\_\_\_\_\_ Saturday (May 17th at 7am)

\_\_\_\_\_ Small Table space (8' max) (must provide your own tables) \$10

\_\_\_\_\_ Large Table space (must provide your own tables) \$20

Total amount due \_\_\_\_\_ (Make checks payable to AL Post 209 Club Acct)

Authorized signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



**1<sup>st</sup> Annual Neal Thomas Jr.  
Centennial Post 209 Golf Tournament**  
**Where:** Antler Creek Golf Course, Peyton, CO  
**When:** Saturday, 31 May, 2025  
**Time:** Player Check-in 7:00 am  
Shotgun Start 8:00am – Scramble Format



**Let's support a GREAT cause! Invite your boss, neighbors, friends, and/or family to join us for a fun day of Golf and support our Veterans!**

This will be played in a modified 4-person Scramble format with optional on-course side games, followed by lunch and an awards ceremony. The entry fee is \$125 per-player which includes; **Green Fees, Longest Drive, Closest to the Pin, Team Ball, Range Balls, Golf Cart, Lunch, Door Prizes, and Awards.** Team/player check-in will begin at 7:00am, followed by a "shotgun" start at 8:00am. Teams/Players must pre-pay for the event. Payments can be by cash, check, or credit card. **The Registration form and payment must be received by 6 May, 2025.** Payment may be made through mailed check, cash or money order with this form to; American Legion Post 209, 3613 Jeannine Dr. Colorado Springs, CO 80917 (Pls indicate "Golf Tournament" on payments). Alternatively, payment may be made through the Post PayPal account at <https://legion209.org/ppec-products/867> (pls indicate "Golf" in the comments along with org, player name(s), & contact information). Contact the Committee Chairman below with any questions.

This is a charitable fundraiser event sponsored by our Post. Proceeds will be used to support our Veteran programs at the local & national levels. The American Legion works within our local communities to promote our four pillars; support for veterans and their families, continuing education of our youth, promoting Patriotism and Americanism, and advocating for a strong national defense.

**TEAM NAME:**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Email</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Entry fee</u>
*			\$125
			\$125
			\$125
			\$125

\*Asterisk Team Captain / Main POC.

Total:

Thank you for your support!

Chip Underwood, Golf Committee Chairman

[Post209Golf@gmail.com](mailto:Post209Golf@gmail.com)

719-210-6180



## Neal Thomas Jr.-Centennial Post 209 The American Legion Colorado Springs, Colorado

30 April, 2025

Friends of The American Legion and Veterans,

The American Legion, Neal Thomas Jr.-Centennial Post 209 will be hosting its 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Neal Thomas Jr. Golf Tournament on Saturday, 31 May, 2025 at the Antler Creek Golf Course, Peyton, CO. We are respectfully asking your support for this event. Funds raised will enable us to continue to faithfully serve the Veteran Community, both locally and nationwide.

The American Legion is a non-profit organization with a long history dating back to over a century. We are comprised of active-duty military, Veterans, and their families who believe in providing support for Veterans rehabilitation, national security initiatives, youth enrichment, and Americanism. The American Legion Post 209 was established in 1976 to assist the veterans of our Colorado communities through our comradery and support of our fellow veterans. We are the largest American Legion Post in Colorado with a Legion family of over 1,100 strong.

The programs listed below are just a few that Neal Thomas Jr.-Centennial Post 209 support in our community each year:

Veterans Affairs claims and appeals	Emergency financial support for Veterans & families
Homeless Veteran Stand Down	Veteran retirement home support
College Scholarships for HS Students	Boys and Girls State program
Veteran Legacy scholarships	6 Scout charter sponsorships
Junior Shooting sports/safety	Patriotic holiday ceremonies
National children's safety night	Southern Colorado Honor Flight
Veteran Service Animal Training	Colorado Kids Welfare Fund

Post 209 can only continue to support programs like these and many more, both locally and nationwide, through its members' volunteering efforts, donations from generous members of our community, and local businesses like yours.

There are several ways you can help; please see the attached page of sponsorship options and/or to make a single donation.

We are a Non-Profit 501c (19), Tax Exempt EID: 51-0175267.

**The registration deadline for player rosters and sponsorships is 6 May - please register early and we hope to see you there!**

Please contact me with any questions and/or to coordinate donations and a huge "Thank You" for your support!

Respectfully,  
Chip Underwood, Golf Committee Chairman  
[Post209Golf@gmail.com](mailto:Post209Golf@gmail.com)  
719-210-6180

Dinner & event RSVP:  
[RSVP@legion209.org](mailto:RSVP@legion209.org) (901) 481-0673

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## **Golf Tournament Sponsorship Opportunities**

**Partial Sponsorships below may be available**

### **Host Sponsor: \$5,000 – 2 Each**

Signage at Registration  
Recognition as the Presenting Sponsor on our website for 1 year  
Opportunity to include item in each swag bag  
Social media recognition  
Opportunity to provide and handout golf prizes  
Opportunity to speak at the luncheon  
Ability to provide up to 4 players at no cost

### **Lunch Sponsor: \$2,500 – 1 Each**

Signage at Registration  
Signage in the Dining Room  
Recognition on our website for 1 year  
Opportunity to include item in each swag bag  
Social media recognition  
Ability to provide up to 2 players at no cost

### **Putting Contest Sponsor: \$1,250 – 1 Each**

Signage at Registration  
Signage at Putting contest  
Recognition on our website  
Social media recognition  
Ability to provide 1 player at no cost

### **Breakfast Sponsor: \$1,000 – 1 Each**

Signage in the Dining Room  
Signage at Registration  
Social media recognition  
Recognition on our website

### **Golf Ball Sponsor: \$1,000 – 1 Each**

Signage at Registration  
Social media recognition  
Recognition on our website  
Ability to provide a sleeve of logo balls in the swag bags

### **Hole Sponsors: \$300**

Signage with logo on the hole  
Recognition on our website  
Manned Table at the hole

**Other donations for swag bags and/or silent auction are greatly appreciated.**

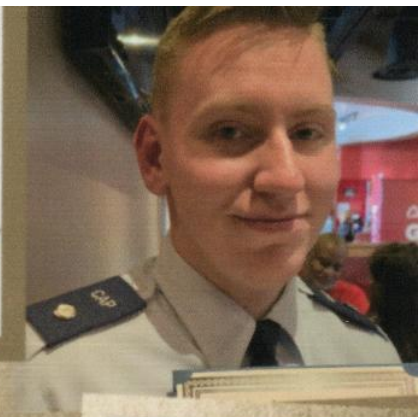
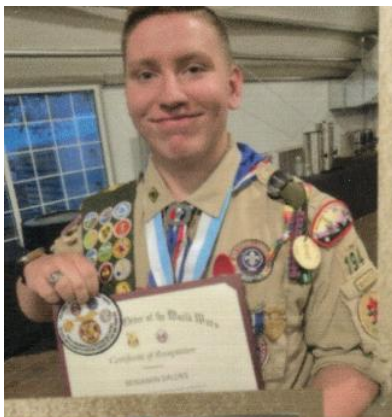
**I'm unable but would like to donate \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Make checks payable to:**

The American Legion, Post 209  
3613 Jeannine Dr.

Colorado Springs, CO 80917

or via the Post 209 PayPal account at <https://legion209.org/ppec-products/867/> (pls indicate "Golf" in the comments along with org, player name(s), & contact information).



IT'S A  
GRADUATION  
*party*  
FOR:

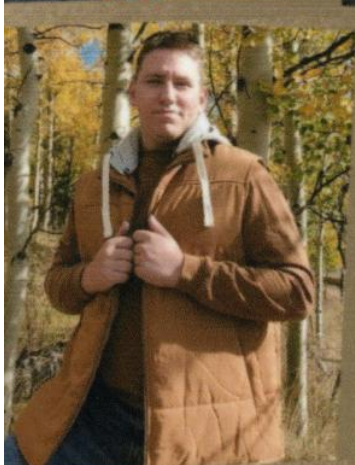
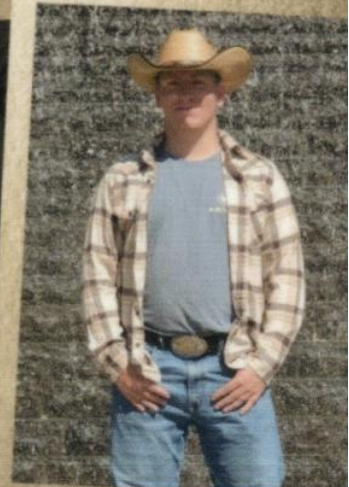
Cadet 2nd Lt.

BENJAMIN K. DALLIES

and

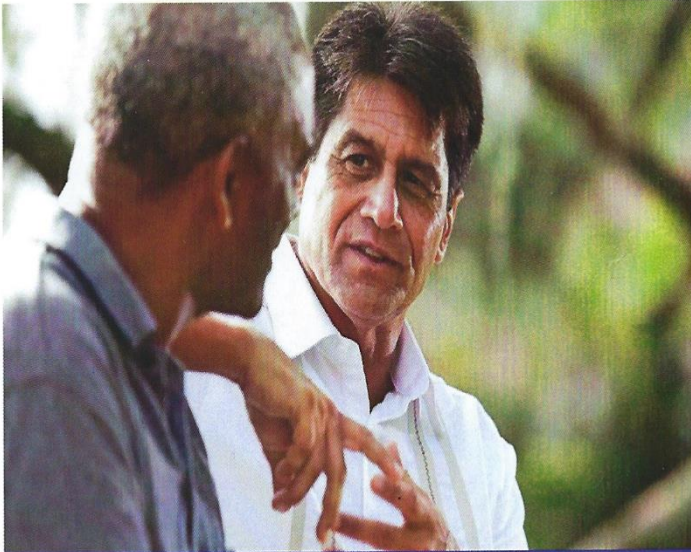
Eagle Court of Honor  
Sunday May 18th, 2025  
at 4pm

American Legion Post 209  
Jeanine Dr.  
Colorado Springs





## Tips for Confronting a Veteran in Crisis!



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



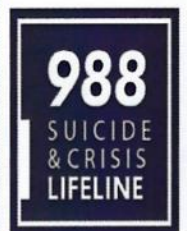
See Reverse Side for  
Questions that Can Save a Life



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? <small>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.</small> <b>If yes, was this within the past 3 months?</b>		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](mailto:colo.rsb@yahoo.com)

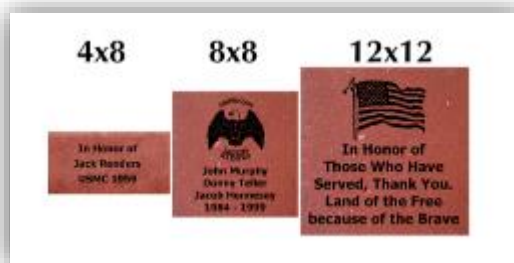


Made with PosterMyWall.com



# 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](http://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](http://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
- Cub Scout Pack 26 (Boys and Girls): p26@legion209.org
- Scouts BSA Troop 77 (Girls): t77@legion209.org
- Scouts BSA Troop 79 (Boys): t79@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/](http://www.colegionboysstate.org/)
- GIRLS STATE [www.alacolorado.org/girls-state](http://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](http://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/>



May 2025						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Notes: No morning membership meeting this month.				<b>1</b>  Venture Crew 7:00pm Exec. Cmttee Mtg 6:00pm 	<b>2</b> Price Depends on Menu Hamdogger Night! 6:00pm <b>RSVP Required!</b> 	<b>3</b>  Honor Bell Meeting 10:00am
<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Cinco De Mayo Troop 77 Mtg. 6:00pm	<b>6</b> Healing Warriors! 9:00am-4:30pm	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>  Venture Crew 7:00pm	<b>9</b> SAL Dinner 6:00pm <b>RSVP Required!</b> 	<b>10</b> Installation Ceremony 4:30pm Dinner 6:00pm   
<b>11</b> Mother's Day	<b>12</b> Troop 77 Mtg. 6:00pm	<b>13</b> Healing Warriors! 9:00am-4:30pm	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>  Venture Crew 7:00pm	<b>16</b> \$20/Person Steak Night! 6:00pm <b>RSVP Required!</b> 	<b>17</b> Armed Forces Day Garage Sale! 9:00am-3:00pm
<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Troop 77 Mtg. 6:00pm	<b>20</b> Healing Warriors! 9:00am-4:30pm ALR Exec. Mtng 6:30pm. 	<b>21</b> Girls State Ice Cream Social! 7:00pm-8:30pm	<b>22</b>  Venture Crew 7:00pm	<b>23</b> Commander's B'day Dinner 6:00pm <b>RSVP Required!</b> 	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Memorial Day Troop 77 Mtg. 6:00pm	<b>27</b> Healing Warriors! 9am- ALR/SAL Monthly Mtng SAL 5:30/ALR 6:45  	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>  Venture Crew 7:00pm	<b>30</b> Cub Scout Pack 26 Fundraiser Dinner 6:00pm <b>RSVP Required!</b>	<b>31</b> Post 209 Golf Tournament! 

June 2025						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Troop 77 Mtg. 6:00pm	<b>3</b> Healing Warriors! 9:00am-4:30pm	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>  Venture Crew 7:00pm Exec. Cmtee Mtg 6:00pm 	<b>6</b> Hamdogger Night! 6:00pm RSVP Required! 	<b>7</b>  Honor Bell Meeting 10:00am
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Troop 77 Mtg. 6:00pm	<b>10</b> Healing Warriors! 9:00am-4:30pm Honor Gd. Trng 6:00pm 	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>  Venture Crew 7:00pm	<b>13</b> ALR Dinner 6:00pm 	<b>14</b> Flag Day/Army B'day Membership Meeting Continental B'fast 9am Mtg - 10:00  
<b>15</b> Father's Day	<b>16</b> Troop 77 Mtg. 6:00pm	<b>17</b> Healing Warriors! 9:00am-4:30pm ALR Exec. Mtng ALR 6:30pm. 	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>  Venture Crew 7:00pm	<b>20</b> Summer Solstice Department Convention - Ft. Collins	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Troop 77 Mtg. 6:00pm	<b>24</b> Healing Warriors! 9am- ALR/SAL Monthly Mtng SAL 5:30/ALR 6:45  	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>  Venture Crew 7:00pm	<b>27</b> ALA Dinner 6:00pm RSVP Required! 	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Troop 77 Mtg. 6:00pm	Notes: There will not be a dinner 20 June due to Department Convention.				