America Beautifully Celebrated

Three hundred members and guests exercised their liberty by gathering at Post 178 to pay tribute to America’s founding and enjoy this year’s Independence Day Picnic. Shade for patio tables was abundant thanks to new canopies courtesy of Michelle and Jody Marcotte and Kathy and Doug Schwab. Volunteer door monitors were busy, as were grill masters Randy Baria and Dave McBrien. The Auxiliary, Riders, Max Thompson, and Dave Cleveland all contributed generously to the success the celebration. Picnickers provided an impressive array of side dishes.

Post to Host Scouts

Looking for amazing adventures, fun, and the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of boys? Post 178 is helping start a new Cub Scout Pack for boys age 6-10 and a Boy Scout Troop for boys age 11-18. Adult volunteers are needed to get these units up and running. We already have equipment, books, training material, and other resources. All that’s missing is you! BE A PART OF SCOUTING!

Please contact David Mancinelli (720-266-2117 or david.mancinelli@scouting.org).
Membership for 2014 is currently 746, or 103%. I am now accepting dues for 2015. If paid before October 1st you will be eligible for the FREE Early Bird Dinner in October. There will be a sign up sheet at the Post starting in September. Membership cards for 2015 will be available for pick up at the Post starting August 2nd. Out of town memberships will be mailed beginning on the 26th. The rest will be mailed after the Labor Day Picnic. If you are having trouble paying your dues PLEASE contact me as we have a number of ways to assist you. We value your membership and we are a family.

We had a good turnout for our 4th of July Picnic. Right at 300 people attended and our door volunteers collected $548 from non-member guests. Thanks to all of you for your support, side dishes, and generosity. And a huge thank you to the Ladies Auxiliary for providing the pop and bottled water at all our picnics.

Our daily draw is back up and running following rule changes by the Office of the Secretary of State. The only difference in how we operate the drawing is that the Post retains 30% of the gross revenue which is used to support our many veteran programs.

We make our back hall with tables and chairs available for bereavements at no cost when a member of Post 178 passes away. We provide the facility for their family members for $100, and $150 for anyone unrelated to our Post. These arrangements are contingent on the hall’s availability for the day and time requested. Bereavements scheduled for a Friday must be concluded by 5:00 p.m. to allow the Post to serve dinner as usual. The established policy is that the Post does not provide food or beverages for any bereavement.

Membership stands at 217 or 94%. I am now taking renewals for 2015. Dues are still only $20 for the year. If dues are paid by October you will be eligible for the FREE Early Bird Dinner. Sign up begins in September.
 Hopefully everyone is enjoying their summer. If you attended the 4th of July Picnic I know you had a good time. The summer picnics are always fun for all. I certainly enjoy seeing everyone and watching the horseshoe and shuffleboard tournaments.

On Saturday, August 2nd the Auxiliary will host the students we sponsored at Colorado Boys and Girls State this year. We’ll be serving hamburgers, hotdogs, and sides from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Our guests will describe their Boys and Girls State experiences. Please come out and join us in honoring these special youths and hear what it meant to them to attend.

So we know how much food to purchase, a sign-up sheet located in the hall across from the ladies room at the Post.

Due to the increase in food prices, we are forced to increase our prices for Auxiliary Burger Night. All entrees will increase by $1.00. Side orders of french fries and onion rings will increase by 50 cents. The price of beans will remain the same. Price changes will take effect the first Wednesday of September.

We need members to help out with some of our committees. Most importantly, we’re looking for someone to help Mary process 2015 memberships and take over the responsibility next year. We also need someone to head the Poppy committee this year. Penny Polston has done a fabulous job for many years and will still be a great resource for continuing a successful Poppy campaign, but she could really use some help. Please see Mary Tomlinson if you are willing to help with these very important tasks.

Of Interest to Vets

The Airman’s Attic at Buckley has re-opened and is accepting donations of canned food, toys, furniture, and clothing. GreetingCardUniverse.com is donating 10% of profits and offering a 10% discount on purchases from over 6300 military-specific cards in hundreds of categories. Enter promo code AMLEGION at checkout.

Congratulations

Ellen Densmore of Denver won a $14,000 college scholarship for placing 3rd at The American Legion’s National High School Oratorical Program. Post 23 in Aurora sponsored Ellen, whose oration was titled, “The Land of the Free.”

The Riders partnered-up with Legion member Randy Baria to put on the most successful poker run fund raiser we’ve ever had. It started with a beautiful ride through the mountains ending at the Post where we enjoyed food, drink, and a live band.

Poker hands were dealt out to 106 people. Combined with the silent auction, we raised $3466 for the Legion Honor Guard, Redistribution Center Inc., and Post 178. The high poker hand was won by Brad Hall who promptly donated it right back. Thanks, Brad!

August will be a month of vacations for our members, many making the annual ride to Sturgis. The Cripple Creek Veterans Rally is August 16th, and many Riders will be participating in this fantastic event. With that in mind, we will not have a monthly meeting in August. Our next will be Saturday, September 6th following the annual Arvada Harvest Parade in which we’ll again participate.

POW/MIAs you are not forgotten.
Randy’s Run Racks Up $3466

A record number of Legion Riders (106) rode to raise $3466 for the Legion Honor Guard and Redistribution Center Inc. on July 19th. The annual poker run was again overseen by Randy Baria, who also organized a silent auction, rounded up some great food and plenty of beer, and brought in a live band.