



THE AMERICAN LEGION

"The Friendly Word" from "The Friendly Post"

1655 Simms Street

Post 178

Lakewood, CO



Veterans Day Observed

A new format for Denver's annual *Veterans Day Parade* augmented by a warm Indian Summer day made this year's event memorable for viewers and participants. **Post 178's Honor Guard** and **Riders** proudly represented our members in the parade. The Honor Guard posted the colors during school assemblies at *Vivian and Kullerstrand Elementary Schools*, and for a brass band and bag pipe concert at the *Lakewood Cultural Center*. Back at Post 178, the *Women's Auxiliary* prepared and served over 100 free spaghetti dinners for Veterans throughout the day.

Veterans Recognized by Post 178's Honor Guard and Women's Auxiliary

Photos by Sheryl Funakoshi and Dave Dupree



CHAPLAIN'S REPORT
Mickey West

Dear Lord, this Christmas Season let us mend a quarrel, seek out a friend, replace doubt with trust, write a letter, share some treasure, answer softly, encourage youth, show mercy in word and deed, keep a promise, find the time, forego a grudge, forgive an enemy, listen, apologize, try to understand, flout envy, think first of someone else, appreciate, be kind and gentle, laugh a little, disdain malice, go to church, welcome a stranger, gladden the heart of a child, and above all, Love God and our neighbors. Amen.

Please keep **Commander Steve Tomlinson** in your prayers as he recovers from another bout with a persistent internal malady, as well as **SAL Commander Dave McBrien** and **Riders President Brian Conway** who are both recovering after surgeries.

Please pray for members and families.

Sick Bay
Steve Tomlinson
Dave McBrien—recovering from surgery
Brian Conway—recovering from surgery

Final Roll Call
Charlene Stauter (Lou's wife)—11/18/14
Ray Route—WWII—11/03/14
Kevin McCoy—Vietnam—Army
Joe Holder—Korea—Army—10/28/14
Donald L. Jandro—Vietnam—Marines—10/26/14

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone.

AUXILIARY REPORT
Mary Tomlinson

The **Children's Christmas Party** will be held Saturday, December 20th from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Please sign up your children or grandchildren up to 12 years of age who plan to attend. The sign-up sheet is located on the Auxiliary bulletin board. Please sign up by December 13th. We will have snacks, activities, and Santa.

We are asking members to sponsor a child attending the party by purchasing a gift for the child of your choice. Gifts should be for \$6.00 to \$10.00 in value. Please wrap your gift and include the child's name on the gift. Bring gifts to the Post by December 13th. If you do not wish to purchase a gift you can give a donation and The American Legion Auxiliary will do the shopping for you. Please contact Mary at 303-961-4163 with any questions.



Broncos Games
Join the Party at Post 178
POTLUCK AND TV SHOTS

Please pay your 2015 membership dues before December 10th if you wish to receive your 2015 door card before January 1st. If you pay your dues after December 10th, you will not receive your card until January 5, 2015.

Dee Yurko will be setting up the **Angel Tree** again this year. Please donate so that we can help active military families. We were able to sponsor 15 families last year, let's double that number this year. The tree will be located in the bar area. 100% of funds received will be sent to families in Colorado. *Please have a safe and Happy Holiday.*

BUSINESS REPORT
Bob Heer

Effective immediately the cost for renting the backyard for members increases to \$150. If the grill is used there will be an additional charge of \$50. Additionally, whenever the back hall or the backyard are rented, a minimum of 2 security personnel are required for events with up to 80 guests and 3 for over 80 guests. The security change is required to protect our liquor license from people bringing in their own alcohol as well as curtailing underage drinking.

The bartenders of our Post have created a holiday wreath that we are raffling off. Tickets cost \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Please stop by and support their efforts by joining in the raffle. The wreath is on display in the lounge.

Due to Steve's illness **Bill, Karen, and Kathy** have all stepped up to serve lunch during the week. Please stop in and support them.

I want to thank **Faye Okeneske** and **Jim Beener** for volunteering to run our Bar Bingo on Thursday and Saturday afternoons, and **Angie Bell** for calling bingo on Monday nights. It is volunteers like these that make a difference at our Post.

The Post will be closed on Christmas Day so our employees can spend the holiday with family and friends.

SAL REPORT
Dave McBrien

We'll be discussing new Friday night menu ideas at our next meeting on December 3rd, so please attend. If you can't be there, I welcome your written suggestions put into the SAL box.

Pomona Post Partnered

Nineteen veterans from Post 30 in Pomona, California plus their kids and grand kids from age 4 to 25 were hosted by Post 178 member and former drag race champion **John Abbott** at the November 16th **NHRA World Finals**. In all, 56 guests participated in the **Opening Ceremony Track Walk** led by the legendary **Don Garlits**. Several times throughout the event, **Mayor Elliott Rothman** paid public tribute to the Pomona veterans.

Abbott and his daughter **Teri Vanderhoof** earlier



John Abbott (l.) with Bob Radcliff (3rd from l.) and other Post 30 guests.

contacted **2nd Vice Bob Radcliff** in Pomona who, in short order, rounded up eager occupants for complimentary half-track seats to watch

the season-ending championship round of professional drag racing. “I was honored to enjoy the day with them,” John acknowledged. “In 50 years I’ve never spent an entire drag race in the grandstands, but I couldn’t say goodbye to them.”



Post 30 vets on the starting line at the NHRA World Finals in Pomona.

Radcliff recalled walking onto the drag strip. “It was a whole new experience; so sticky that one of our kids literally walked out of their shoes. Most of us have never been to this race, only watched it on TV. John was the perfect host. I’m still getting compliments from everyone who went.”

John Abbott joined Post 178 recently and immediately thought of a way he could serve fellow Veterans and youths, two of The American Legion’s pillars of service. Thank you John. —Editor

ADJUTANT’S REPORT Bill Radunz

Legion membership stands at 532, or 71.6% of our 743 membership goal. Of SAL’s 213 goal 117 have paid 2015 dues, or 55%.

Remember, I will be visiting family in Florida for the holidays so if you don’t pay your dues for 2015 by December 10th you will not have your new door card for January 1st. Also, the Daily Draw, Dice Game, and Joker Poker will be off limits to you after January 1st until your dues are paid. I will return January 6th. Legion dues are still only \$45 and \$20 for SAL.

RIDERS REPORT Brian Conway

It’s hard to believe the year is almost over. We finished November with our annual **Thanksgiving**

Dinner at Heather Grove Veterans Assisted Living Center. It was good serving the guys and sitting down and talking with them.

December 13th is our **Christmas Party at Heather Grove**. We’ve bought gifts for all the guys. After the party we’ll hurry back to the Post where we will be helping **Redistribution Center Inc.** with a toy give away for Veterans’ kids.

We will elect new officers at our December meeting who will take over in January. After two years as President and two as Vice President of the Riders, I’m finally stepping aside. I will continue to be Treasurer of the **Riders Scholarship Fund** and serve on the Post’s Executive Committee.

During this time we’ve raised thousands of dollars helping Veterans and their families. Last fiscal year (from July, 2013 to June, 2014) the Riders reported a total of \$8,564 raised and donated (100%), 4,603 volunteer hours worked, and 32,228 volunteer miles ridden. *Good work, Riders.*

It has been great working with the Legion, Sons, and Auxiliary. I’m sure the Riders good work will continue with new officers. Thank you all, it’s been a great ride!

Welcome

NEW MEMBERS

John C. Abbott—Korea—Navy
Michael W. Harrison—Vietnam—Air Force

TRANSFERS

Don A. Seeley—Grenada
Raymond R. O’Neill—WWII
Henry C. Binder—Vietnam—Army
Andrew V. Hazelton—Vietnam—Marines
Douglas M. Nicholson—Vietnam—Marines

THE AMERICAN LEGION

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Mickey West, Auxiliary Chaplain 303-238-0039

Dave McBrien, SAL Commander 720-621-8791

Rob Dynes, SAL Chaplain 303-887-3723

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Bob Heer, Post Manager 303-234-0178
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Lounge and Dining 303-232-4041

Lounge Hours*

Mon.—Thurs. 11:00 AM to 12:00 Midnight

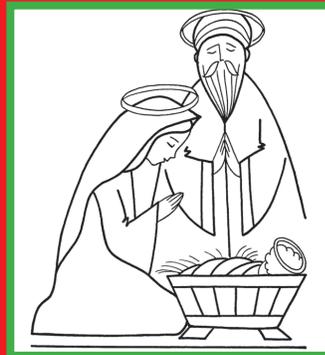
Fri. 11:00 AM to 2:00 AM

Sat.—Sun. 9:00 AM to 12:00 Midnight

*Bartenders may close earlier on slow nights.

NEWSLETTER BANNER PHOTO BY BETH HALL

Merry Christmas



Children's Christmas Party



Saturday, December 20
2 – 4 PM

Sign up by Dec. 13th

Santa has presents for
children 12 and under.

Denver's Veterans Day Parade

Photos by Sheryl Funakoshi

