



# THE AMERICAN LEGION



*"The Friendly Word" from "The Friendly Post"*

1655 Simms Street

Post 178

Lakewood, CO

## Cars, Cacklers Converge on 178

If you went to only one car show this summer it should have been the September 27th event at Post 178. Over 75 show cars flooded our south parking lot and even more spilled into the streets. They were joined by four special exhibitors who twice “cackled” their nitro-fueled engines for showgoers. Show winners are pictured below.

Auxiliary member **Susie Rice and son Danny** fired-up their nostalgic dragster for a decibel competition with SAL member **Mike Harvey** and his Assassination Vega Funny Car. **Myke Davidson and Craig Hustler** sounded-off their A/Fuel Dragster followed by **Dave and Edie Cox** making big noise with their ‘57 Chevy-bodied “golf cart.” Post 178 member and Hall of Fame drag racer **John Abbott** was on hand giving out autographs. **Best of Show** honors went to an incredible 1940 Ford convertible sitting atop an all-tube frame, owned and built by **John Becker**.



**Mike & Cindy Harvey, Nitro Vega**



**Best of Show  
John Becker, 1940 Ford**



**Dave & Edie Cox, Nitro Chevy**



**Danny VonFeldt, 1957 Nomad**



**Bill Edrich, 1930 Pierce Arrow**



**Howard Hall, 1955 Chevrolet**



**Ken Keiter, 1967 Nova**



**Susie & Danny Rice, Nitro Dragster**



**Fred Hines, 1934 Ford**

**CHAPLAIN'S REPORT**  
*Mickey West*

*Dear Heavenly Father, during this special month of Thanksgiving*

*we pause to say" thank you."*

*We are so quick to complain that we often forget that Your grace has always sustained and blessed us. Stay at our side as we give You praise for each day. As members of The American Legion, we thank You for those who are serving our nation, and ask your special blessing for those around the world who are unable to be with their families this Thanksgiving. In Your Holy Name we pray. Amen.*

**COMMANDER'S REPORT**  
*Steve Tomlinson*

The Post will host a potluck dinner on **Thanksgiving Day** from 12 Noon to 2:00 p.m. Volunteers are needed that morning for set-up and food prep, and later for serving and clean-up. We will provide the turkeys but we ask members to bring a side dish. If you can volunteer or bring a dish, please sign-up in the lounge.

We served approximately 120 dinners at our **Annual Early Bird Dinner** and received countless compliments on the ham and scalloped potatoes. Thanks for attending and renewing your dues early.

**SAL REPORT**  
*Dave McBrien*

**Denver's Veterans Day Parade** will have a special theme this year covering the Civil War through present conflicts. The Legion Riders will lead off, followed by the Sons. Contact me or **Wayne McClimans** if you'd like to participate. The parade starts at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, November 8th.

Don't forget our **Friday Night Dinners** with Beef Tips and Meatloaf.

The **Annual Car Show** was super! Special thanks to **Karen Black, Nancy, Marshall, Dave Dupree, Dave McBrien, Frank Spano, Chris Schroeder, and Rob Dynes. Super Job!!**

**ADJUTANT'S REPORT**  
*Bill Radunz*

Legion membership is at 454 of 743 or 61%. Only 30%, or 89 of SAL's 213 memberships, have renewed.

As usual, I will be visiting family in Florida for the holidays. If you have not paid your dues for 2015, you will need to pay them by December 10th, or you will not have your new door card for January 1st. You will not be eligible for the daily draw, dice game or joker poker after January 1st until your dues are paid. I will return January 6th. Legion dues are still only \$45 and \$20 for SAL.

**AUXILIARY REPORT**  
*Mary Tomlinson*

We are looking forward to hosting our **Annual Veteran's Day Spaghetti Dinner** on Tuesday, November 11th from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. We will stop serving if business is slow. **Spaghetti, Meatballs, Italian Sausage and Salad with Garlic Bread are FREE to all Veterans.** Cost for non-veterans is \$7. Ladies, please volunteer to help with preparation, serving and clean up. There is a sign-up sheet on the ALA bulletin board. You can sign up for the time you are available. Help is greatly needed and appreciated.

Thanksgiving is Thursday, November 27th. **Burger Night** will be closed Wednesday, November 26th so our volunteer cooks and servers can enjoy the holiday with their families.

The Auxiliary will be serving soups as part of our Wednesday night menu starting November 5th. There will be a sign-up sheet on the Auxiliary bulletin board for those who wish to donate a soup for Wednesday nights. Soups need to be at the Legion by 4:00 p.m. the night you sign-up for. Details regarding an award for donating soups will be posted in the December newsletter.

Please join me in welcoming new members; **Kiley Montoya**, Junior member, and Senior members **Katrina McLeland** and **Deborah McLeland**.

*Please pray for members and families.*

**Sick Bay**

None Reported

**Final Roll Call**

- Robert J. Corey — 10/20/14
- Sam McCollum — WWII — 07/31/04
- Rolland Hermann — WWII — 07-07-14
- Frank Veltman — WWII — 10/19/14
- Thomas E. Wise — WWII — Air Force — 08/24/14

**Broncos Games**



**Join the Party at Post 178**  
**POTLUCK AND TV SHOTS**

**Veterans Day Concert**

*Complimentary tickets are still available for the **Rocky Mountain Brassworks** concert at **Lakewood Cultural Center** on **November 11** at **7:30 p.m.** Post member and coronet player **Larry Miller** is providing the tickets to **Post 178 Veterans** and their families. See **Wayne McClimans** to sign-up.*



## Chuck Morgan Turns 95

**Chuck Morgan** was honored during a Birthday Party at the Post to celebrate his 95th on October 10th. He was born into a large Scot-Irish family in Herrin, IL in 1919 and married Angelyn, the pretty Italian girl who lived down the street, immediately after she pinned on his wings in 1943.

Chuck was an A-student who played football, basketball, excelled at baseball, but became a track star throughout high school, college, and in the Army Air Corps. The 440-yard dash record he set on an old cinder track in 1937 still stood in 1998 when he was inducted into the Herrin High School Hall of Fame.



*Continued on page 4.*

### RIDERS REPORT Brian Conway

The **Riders Coat Drive** ends the first weekend of November. Donated coats can be placed in the blue barrel at the Post through Sunday, November 2nd. They will be distributed by **RCI** to Veterans at Post 178 and at Fort Carson on November 6th.

This year's **Veterans Day Parade** on Saturday, November 8th will be a totally new format coordinated by the U.S. Army. The Riders are meeting at the Post at 7:30 a.m. The parade begins at 10:00 a.m. with the Riders leading the procession through downtown Denver. A festival at Civic Center Park will follow the parade. The new organizers and their expanded format promise to rejuvenate Denver's Veterans Parade. Please contact me if you'd like to ride with us or Wayne McClimans if you'd like to march with our Post in the parade.

We're going grocery shopping Tuesday, November 18th for our annual **Heather Grove Thanksgiving** feast, which we'll celebrate with the Vets living there on Saturday, November 22nd at 11:00 a.m.

New officer nominations are the subject of our Saturday, November 1st monthly meeting. Elections will be held at our next meeting on December 6th.

Special thanks goes out to **Gary and Alynn Huffman** who hosted the **2nd Annual Fall Colors Ride & BBQ**. *It was great!! POW/MIA's you are not forgotten.*

### BUSINESS REPORT Bob Heer

The **Car Show** on September 27 was, in a word, "awesome." Thanks to the outstanding marketing efforts of **Dave Dupree** we had 75 official entries in the show and four cackle cars. As joint coordinator with Dave, **Karen Black** did an excellent job of recruiting volunteers for parking, registration, cooking and ensuring participants and spectators had a rewarding experience. **Rob Dynes** also deserves thanks for providing the "back to the 60s" music.

The pulled pork was smoked by **Randy Baria** and the ribs donated and prepared by **Steve Tomlinson**. The food, like the weather, was outstanding.

People have been asking when we're going to again display the license plates obtained from other Legion Posts visited by our members. **Dick Moore** designed a carousel that displays the plates in state and city order. We have placed this display in the lounge for everyone to enjoy. *Excellent job Dick.*

Your cooperation is requested by not parking at *anytime* in the night bartender's reserved parking spot. Oftentimes the night bartender comes in early and when someone is in their designated parking spot they need to go out, often after dark this time of year, to move their car when the space opens up. This designated parking area is important from a security standpoint as it is illuminated after dark. Spaces reserved for Post officials should also be respected.

I also wish to thank **Les Hayes** for his help in enclosing our back patio for the winter months, and **Wayne McClimans** for his unrelenting spraying of weeds and doing general yard cleanup.

## Welcome

### NEW MEMBERS

William D. Caldwell—Vietnam—Army  
William Terry—Current Conflict—Army  
Robert L. Braun—SAL  
Ronald G. Braun—SAL

### TRANSFERS

Roger S. Dennis—Vietnam—Army  
Gabriel B. Madrid—Vietnam—Army

# THE AMERICAN LEGION

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**Bill Radunz**, Adjutant ..... 303-995-2663  
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**Wayne McClimans**, Chaplain ..... 303-279-6712

**Mary Tomlinson**, Auxiliary President... 303-961-4163  
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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

**Brian Conway**, Riders President ..... 303-424-0902  
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**Dave Dupree**, Newsletter Publisher..... 303-238-9723  
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**Bob Heer**, Post Manager ..... 303-234-0178  
alpost178@comcast.net

**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

# Just Married

OCTOBER 29, 2014



Photo by Sheryl Funakoshi

# Congratulations

BRIAN AND CAROL CONWAY

## Chuck Morgan, continued from page 3.



Chuck flew 35 missions with the 8th Air Force in England piloting a B-24 on bombing runs over Germany between May and August of 1944. Another mission, listed as “Not Completed,” began in bad weather with a full load of 100-pound bombs. Chuck recalls that, “while circling up in the soup after takeoff, turbochargers on all four engines went wild and we couldn’t reach altitude. With our base socked-in and other B-24s catching up, I was directed to break out and find another runway. We ducked under the weather to about 500 feet and went flying, at one point lifting our right wing just in time to clear a smokestack.

“We spotted a runway and on the third try I put the plane down and applied the brakes. It was like ice. Our wheels locked-up immediately, sending us off the end into a field of tree stumps. The nose gear collapsed and the plane dug in nose down, tail up. As we bailed

out, fire trucks and ambulances arrived to inform us we had landed on an new, unfinished runway. Miraculously, not a single bomb came out of its rack. All 10 of us sat down in the rain and drank two bottles of Scotland’s finest scotch, courtesy of the ambulance crew.”

Called up during Korea, Chuck flew a B-29 and C-119 before settling into a 27-year career with Pet Milk Company as a sales and medical specialist to hospitals and doctors. Eventually he took over Pet’s largest territory in Denver. He finished his career by working 12 more years at two brokerage companies.



Chuck and Angie have four children; Lynn Ann, Charles, Maribeth, and Patricia. Angie passed away in 2005 after 63 years of marriage. Post 178 has been Chuck’s Legion-home since 1970. You can spot him regularly, surrounded by friends and telling more riveting stories. Please stop at his table and wish Chuck a “Happy 95th Birthday.”