



THE AMERICAN LEGION



"The Friendly Word" from "The Friendly Post"

1655 Simms Street

Post 178

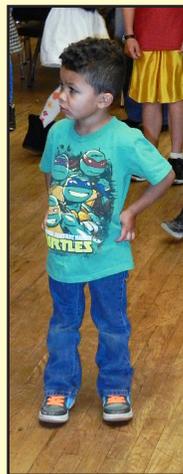
Lakewood, CO

Santa Stirs Kid's Christmas

Jolly Old Saint Nick (**Bobby Black**) together with the volunteers who provided gifts brightened the faces of over 25 children during the *Women's Auxiliary Christmas Party* at the Post on Saturday afternoon, December 20th.

Auxiliary Children's Christmas Party

Photos by Sheryl Funakoshi and Dave Dupree



CHAPLAIN'S REPORT
Wayne McClimans

I hope the Legion family had a wonderful Christmas. We all need hope.

"Hope works in these ways: it looks for the good in people instead of harping on the worst; it discovers what can be done instead of grumbling about what cannot; it regards problems, large or small, as opportunities; it pushes ahead when it would be easy to quit; it "lights the candle" instead of "cursing the darkness."

Commander Steve Tomlinson will again become a regular sight at the Post after a long recuperation. That means we'll also get to see more of **Auxiliary President Mary Tomlinson**. Thanks for prayers.

ADJUTANT'S REPORT
Bill Radunz

Warm and Happy Holidays to all from here in Florida. Membership for the Legion stands at 543, or 73%; and the Sons 135, or 61%.

I would like to acknowledge members' contributions to the Post during last month. Thanks to **Joe and Fran Bower, Randy and Dawn Rehbein, and SAL** for offsetting live music costs for **Friday Night Dinners**. A big thanks to **Chuck Morgan** for his generous donation to the Legion. It was used as part of the **\$1500 Legion contribution to Angel Tree**. The Legion also made a **\$200 donation to Heather Grove Retirement Home** for the Veterans living there.

Thanks to all the volunteers at our **Thanksgiving Dinner**. We served 50 people; Vets and families. The following either worked or brought food, some both: **Dee Yurko, Connie and Ken Stark, Jerry Stauter, Jim Cunningham, Max Thompson, Wayne McClimans, Dave McBrien, Brad Hall, Randy Baria, Larry Belardinilli, Mike, Peggy and John Ragole, Tim Brand, Karen Black, Mark Chagnon** and me (**Bill Radunz**). It would not have happened without all of you. *Thanks one and all!*



AUXILIARY REPORT
Carol Conway

I hope everyone had a wonderful and safe Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Another year has come to a close for

the Ladies Auxiliary with our **Children's Christmas Party** held on December 20th. There were sandwiches, punch, candy, gifts galore, fun activities, and a visit from Santa! It was a wonderful and memorable event thanks to all those who helped: **Marilynn Anderson, Ginny Martindale, Patti Wagner, Mar Stecker, Sheryl Funakoshi, Dee Yurko, and Michelle Marcotte**. And a special thank you to our **Santa Bob Black** and his awesome helpers **Lexi Pintor** and **Kaylie Montoya**. *It was just great!*

We want to say *thank you* to all those that have given to **Angel Tree**. Your generous and caring support has provided **\$200 to each of 15 families** so far. The Angel Tree will remain up a while longer, so come see the Santa (in the SW corner of the bar) and make your donation.

We can always use more volunteers to help with Burger Nights and other events. We meet the 1st Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at the Post. *Please join us!*

Soups On! Please join us every Wednesday evening at **Auxiliary Burger Nights** from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. We have quite a selection of delicious food items and you can add a cup of soup for only \$3.00! **YUM!**

At the end of the month the ladies will be journeying down to Colorado Springs for the **Mid-Year Conference**. Here's to another wonderful year!

RIDERS REPORT
Brian Conway

Welcome 2015! I can't believe it's here already. We finished 2014 with our **Christmas Party at Heather Grove** and the **RCI Toy Drive** held December 13th at the Post. It was a great way to end the year and lighten the lives of many Veterans and their families.

At our January meeting our new officers will take over, continuing the Riders' work helping Veterans and their families. Coming up on **February 14th** is our world famous annual **Chili Cook Off**. Pick up your entry form in the lounge. Immediately following the Chili Cook Off, we'll have a party with a live band.

Please pray for members and families.

Sick Bay

None Reported

Final Roll Call

Robert Malisch—Korea—11/18/14

Mardoceolo Vialpando—WWII—Army—11/30/14

Items of Interest



Games Manager **Doug Powell** wants to direct everyone's attention to our new Pull Tab Machines, and encourage you to try your luck.



All of photographer **Sheryl Funakoshi's** countless pictures of people and events taken at Post 178 are available on her Facebook page: **Sheryl's AL Pictures**.



Robert King received a service medal from **Gen. Robert Enzenauer, M.D.** in a ceremony read by **Nick Trujillo** at the Post.

2015 CWF Grants Announced

The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation (CWF) has awarded \$566,691 to 18 non-profit organizations for 2015. A \$20,000 grant, sponsored entirely by the **Sons of The American Legion**, was awarded to the **United States Association of Blind Athletes** based in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

BUSINESS REPORT *Bob Heer*

A huge *Thank You* to **Dawn and Randy Rehbein, Jeni Bentz, Nancy Marshall, and Les Hayes** for their help in decorating the Post for Christmas. For those of you who visited us over the holidays, I am sure you will agree they did an awesome job. I also want

to thank **Pete Zuniga** for again cleaning and polishing the back hall floor. Through his dedication we are able to keep the floor in decent condition.

During December the lounge spent right at \$1,500 for repairs to our boiler, the glass washer behind the bar, the refrigerator in the kitchen, and the keg cooler. This information is being shared to let you know where our money goes.

On New Year's Day we will be serving steak, eggs, hash browns, and toast from 9 a.m. until noon. Cost is \$8. Mimosas will also be available for \$3.50

The raffle of the Christmas wreaths netted the Post \$171. Thanks to everyone who purchased tickets.

SAL REPORT *Dave McBrien*

We've decided to experiment with our **Friday Night**

Dinner menu beginning **January 9th** when we'll feature a choice of **Smoked Baby Back Ribs** or **Chicken Cordon Bleu**. Both come with salad, baked potato, and mixed veggies. The cost is only \$8. Please give the new entrees a try, and give us a review. We welcome your menu suggestions, as well. We'll liven up the night with music by **Zanty's** band.

At our December meeting we approved contributions to **Angel Tree (\$500), Homelake Veterans Center (\$1500), Denver Fisher House (\$1000), RCI (\$500), and The American Legion's National Emergency Fund (\$120) and Colorado Kids (\$500)**.

Thanks to all the members who support SAL by dining with us often at the Post. We could use a few more volunteers for Friday and Sunday kitchen help. Please resolve to join the fun in the new year and help SAL keep supporting our Veterans.

Welcome

NEW MEMBERS

Richard Bond—Grenada—Army
John A. Affeld—Gulf—Marines
Robert Rose—Current Conflict—Army
Steven A. Olson—Vietnam—Army

TRANSFERS

Russell M. Scott—Vietnam—Navy

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Mary Tomlinson, Auxiliary President... 303-961-4163
stevemary1@comcast.net

Mickey West, Auxiliary Chaplain 303-238-0039

Dave McBrien, SAL Commander 720-621-8791

Rob Dynes, SAL Chaplain 303-887-3723

Nick Trujillo, Riders President 303-763-9510
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Dave Dupree, Newsletter Publisher..... 303-238-9723
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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

BULLETIN BOARD



Broncos Playoffs

Join the Party at Post 178

POTLUCK AND TV SHOTS

Coming in February

FOUR CHAPLAINS SERVICE

Taste Every Chili for One Low Price

Saturday—February 14—1 PM
The Year's HOTTEST Event!

The American Legion Riders
Chili Cook-Off



Riders Gift Children / Vets

The Riders helped RCI's Ranya Kelly give donated toys to children of Veterans on December 13th at Post 178, and were presented with an award from Sgt. Sanchez for helping feed disabled soldiers during last summer's warrior games in Colorado Springs.



Earlier that day the Riders descended on Heather Grove Assisted Living Center bearing gifts for all the Veterans in residence.

Santa showed up, food was served, and presents were passed around amid smiles of gratitude.

