



THE AMERICAN LEGION



"The Friendly Word" from "The Friendly Post"

1655 Simms Street

Post 178

Lakewood, CO

Post Volunteers and Meridian Residents Display Patriotism

Thirteen volunteers from Post 178 reported to *The Meridian Westland Senior Living Community* the Saturday before July 4th with a mission to install flag holders outside residents' decks.

The project was the brainchild of resident **Richard Radow** with eager approval from **Program Director Jan Bond**. The Post's volunteers left the outside of the facility ablaze in waves of red, white, and blue stars and stripes.



Buford Johnson Turns 100

Post member **Buford "Beefie" Johnson** will celebrate his 100th birthday Saturday, August 19, 2017 with a grand party at VFW Post 9644 located at 2680 W. Hampden Ave. Dinner will be served at 5:00 p.m. followed by dancing from 7:00 to 11:00 p.m. Post 178 members are encouraged to attend and honor Buford for his long service to America and The American Legion. **RSVP to Darlene 303-975-9093 or Elsie 303-795-6415.**

Buford has been a member of the Legion for 63 years. In February, 2017 he was awarded 11 service medals by Brigadier Gen. Laura Clellan in a ceremony at Post 178 (*The Friendly Word*, April 2017). He's also

received a U.S. flag that flew over the Washington D.C. Capital and a Colorado flag from above the State Capital.



CHAPLAIN'S REPORT
Wayne McClimans

When the good Lord put us together, do you think he would want us to fail? Not really, but it happens.

"The sheer rebelliousness in giving ourselves permission to fail frees a childlike awareness and clarity. When we give ourselves permission to fail, we at the same time give ourselves permission to excel." —Eloise Ristad

What a blessing. Two key words, awareness and clarity. Awareness of mistakes gives a chance to take a different approach. Thinking about more than one angle can add clarity and justification. We could fail again, however, bite by bite getting to a solid resolution will come.

Dear Lord, thank you for the letting us be ourselves, giving us a chance to talk to you, and giving into your divine will for the final resolution. Amen.

Post 178 Funds Available

Over the years Post 178 has helped many Veterans and their families through our Hardship Fund. However, the system also was abused. So we are inviting suggestions for dispersing this fund in ways that will assist Veterans in need. Please contact Adjutant Bill Radunz with your suggestions at: adjutant178@comcast.net.

COMMANDER'S REPORT
David Clinger

Blessings and Greetings. Summer in full swing, members and family are enjoying vacations. Even Sue and I are headed to Florida to spend time with our kids. Please be safe traveling this summer.

Our officers and volunteers have been busy. First, **Randy Baria** conducted a very worthwhile fund raising drive. He and his volunteers did a great job of fund raising to support **Project Sanctuary**. Our **July 4th Picnic** was a success with family and friends gathering for a good time in our backyard... almost made me feel like home.

As we move forward, look for some changes. Our new electronic billboard is up and running, showing information pertinent to members. Thanks **Glad Potvin** and **Steffen Wagner**! Our bathrooms have calendars and upcoming events posted. Thanks **Bob Heer**. Our backyard is awesome. Thanks **Wayne McClimans, Brad Hall, his crew, and other volunteers**. **Mark Ward** and **Shawn Bloomer** are busy...more to come.

Please stop in and say hi, have some lunch or dinner. I've seen a move toward more friendship and camaraderie, and would like you to join in. We also look forward to seeing you at one of our monthly meetings.

Got an idea or comment? Please e-mail me at comander178@comcast.net. I will consider your e-mail confidential unless you specify otherwise. I remain your humble and grateful commander.

SR. VICE REPORT
Mark Ward

Greetings. Renew membership drive is in full swing. Commander David and his wife Susan kicked off the drive recently at the Post by renewing their 2018 membership. 2018 membership is projected to be a BLITZ year. Already nearly 100 have renewed their membership. Remember, renew your membership by October 1st and qualify for our **FREE Early Bird Dinner** in October. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

SAL REPORT
Brad Hall

Here we are into the last month of Summer already. Football is around the corner and soon snow will be in the forecast. (Hate that thought).

Randy's Run was a huge success again this year. Thanks to all who helped out and donated to the cause.

August 19th the Sons will be hosting our **5th Annual Tommy Tucker & Conrad West Memorial Horse-shoe Tourney**. Entry cost is \$20.00 per player and you can pick your own partner. The fee includes lunch (Bobby's Smoked Pulled Pork Sandwiches—\$8 for non) with 50% payback to winning team and 50% going to SAL charities.

If you have anything for the newsletter, please let me know and we will try and get it in print.

Please remember, The Legion, Auxiliary, SAL, and Riders cannot survive without the help and input of the other organizations. When someone asks for help, don't answer, "whose function is it?" Just step up to the plate. We're all family.

RIDERS REPORT
Bill Torrey

Great summer for you and us. Our weather has definitely been riding weather, we had a great poker run on July 8th. Randy had another great run on the 15th.

The Riders have been working hard at raising money for our Veterans. The 4th of July was hosted by the Riders and food and fun for all was had. We still have some summer left and the Riders still have another run coming up this year. I'll report further when I have all the details.

Ride safe, drive careful and lets all have a safe fun summer.

2ND VICE REPORT

Shawn Bloomer

We have lots of upcoming events and activities scheduled at the Post. Following our **Memorial Day Service**, the Commander asked me to form a committee to look into improving the sound system. After considering several options, I am prepared to submit a recommendation to membership that will meet/exceed our current and future needs. Please plan to attend the **Legion monthly meeting August 1st at 7:00 p.m.** to hear my report.

If you're planning a birthday, anniversary, or special event look into having it here at the Post. The backyard is amazing with its recent upgrades and play area for kids. See **Bob Heer** for more information on reserving your event.

Hope to see many of you at our **Labor Day Picnic** in September.



Commander David Clinger (2nd from right) and his wife Sue (left) initiate this year's membership blitz by renewing their memberships early. Witnessing are Auxiliary President Judy Myers, Past Commander Bill Radunz, and Senior Vice Commander Mark Ward.

AUXILIARY REPORT

Judy Myers

If you haven't paid your dues yet, please put your \$35 in the Auxiliary drop box. Our July meeting was well-attended. Thank you for your support in coming to my first meeting as President. It is most appreciated. We hope to see all of you and more at our meetings in the future.

Our Unit recently won a 1st Place Security Award due to Carol Conway's efforts in reporting.

Our **4th Wednesday Lasagna Night** in June was quite a success. Thanks to **Nick and Evelyn Trujillo** for their donation of the lasagna. July's 4th Wednesday was a Taco Salad, and **we'll have a different type of salad available on August 23rd** as well.

Thanks go to **Dee Yurko, Kay Scott, and Kathy Benton** for helping to wash dishes after the **4th of July Picnic**.

On the Saturday before the 4th of July, 13 of us from all the different units at Post 178 traveled to **The Meridian Westland Senior Living Community** to help hang brackets for American lags on the porches of the residents. Who says a woman can't wield a power tool?

BUSINESS REPORT

Bob Heer

On the 4th of July we distributed 253 wristbands to members and guest with our door volunteers collecting \$385. Thanks to **Joe and Fran Bowers, Bill Radunz, Legion Riders, Faye Okenske, and Bob Black** our beer costs were covered. Thanks to the **Auxiliary** for providing bottled water and pop. The following door volunteers again made the picnic a cost effective success: **Vern Schmitt, Brian and Carol Conway, Nick Trujillo, Russ Scott, Jody Marcotte, Julie Bloomer, Dee Yurko, Patti Wagner, Joe and Fran Bowers, Faye Okenske, Tina Montoya, and Doug Lemons**. Thanks also to **Jim Gibson, Les Hayes, and Doug Powell** for preparing the condiments and working the grill. A great team effort all around.

I want to report that whoever borrowed our gas trimmer has returned it. Thank you. All I ask of everyone is, if you would like to borrow something please coordinate with me.

Thanks to **Mark Ward** for replacing the old tile around the urinal in the men's room. Very professional workmanship, Mark.

Thanks to **Cindy Parker** for the idea and **Shawn Bloomer** for the donation, we now have a small hot dog machine behind the bar. Dogs are available daily after 3:00 p.m.

LAKEWOOD AMERICAN LEGION POST 178

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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.

BULLETIN BOARD

SAL Horseshoe Tournament

SATURDAY, AUGUST 19 AT 12 NOON

2-Person Team \$40 (includes food)

Payout: 50% Winners / 50% SAL

Contact Tom Davies at 720-297-9507

**JOKER
POKER**



6 PM FRIDAYS

**Friday
Bands**

Movers & Shakers..... Aug 11

Incidentals..... Aug 18

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Contact Tom Davies at 720-297-9507

Post member Ron Wilson with the quilt made for him by Quilts of Valor Foundation®. The organization gives quilts to Veterans as a “tangible reminder of appreciation.” They’ve made 150,000 since 2006. For information contact www.QOVF.org.



Two of the 6 Girls State attendees sponsored by Post 178, Charlotte Barker (l.) and Sara Merr (r.), were honored by the Auxiliary with a backyard BBQ June 21st.





JULY
4th



