



THE AMERICAN LEGION



"The Friendly Word" from "The Friendly Post"

1655 Simms Street

Post 178

Lakewood, CO

Dreams Come True for Post 178 Members and Friends

Dick Surratt, noted midget racer turned drag racer and long-time member of Post 178, recently demolished a quarter-mile record set in 1967 by Mickey Thompson.

Dick's front-engine "Half Fast" dragster, so-named for its supercharged 4-cylinder Pontiac Tempest



engine, is the same configuration conceived by Thompson to make his historic run 51 years ago. Dick's now famous dragster is a perennial exhibitor in the Post's car show, and he was a Special Honoree at our 2016 event.

"Half Fast" was built by Dick and Ken Lawrence in Dick's garage at home using a chassis blueprint created by their friend Larry Prenteau. The four-year-long effort was marked by "blown engines, exploding blower manifolds, and other frustrations," according to Dick.

Dick drove the dragster for testing before fellow Post 178 member's son **Don McIntosh III** took the seat to set the record. Don covered the quarter-mile in 8.84 seconds at of 149 mph, eclipsing Thompson's 9.50 elapsed time.

"Mickey Thompson has always been a hero of mine," Dick revealed, "and when health issues forced me to give up midgets I undertook the challenge of building a dragster identical to his to break his record. With friends' help, we finally succeeded."



One of our favorite bands, **The Movers and Shakers**, won a chance to compete in the *International Blues Challenge* in Memphis this coming January. Their dream became reality in Colorado Springs at Stargazers Theater on August 19th, when they took first place in the band competition. We wish them well in their

quest for the international title. There will be 240 bands competing from all over the world, which will make for an exciting time on Beale Street. Several of our Auxiliary and Legion members will be going to support them.

Glad Potvin
August Volunteer of the Month

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT
Patti Wagner

Oh God, from whom proceed all graces and blessings, grant to our country thy divine blessing in this land of abundance. Thou hast permitted men of all races to gather together under one flag. Here they can work out their salvation according to the ideals of right government and right living. May this land that has lighted the torch of liberty for the oppressed and directed them with the ways of peace be guided ever onward by thee. Amen.

COMMANDER'S REPORT
David Clinger

Our September meeting will be Tuesday the 4th at 7:00 p.m. I appreciate the increase in turnout at our monthly meetings. By staying informed and involved, we can do a lot of good work for veterans and their families within our community.

Post membership has approved the FY2019 budget. To reduce monthly newsletter costs, I am asking members to please receive the newsletter via e-mail and remove their names from our USPO mailing list. Contact **Dave Dupree** to make your change. The cost to produce our monthly newsletter last year was \$8,726.43.

Painting is now completed on the outside of the building. A lot of activities are scheduled for September including our **Labor Day Picnic** Monday, September 3rd which is free for members. Fall is around the corner, and so is our **Early Bird Dinner** on October 13th at 5:30 p.m. Its free for members who have renewed their membership by October 1, 2018. The dinner is being catered and music will be provided, so I look forward to a good turnout. The sign-up sheet will be posted at the pickle cage, so sign up as soon as possible.

BUSINESS REPORT
Bob Heer

We are now testing accepting credit cards in the lounge. Minimum charge is \$10 and there will be no cash back option. At the end of the two-month test period we will evaluate its cost effectiveness.

At this time neither food or dues may be paid by credit card.

Our last member picnic of the year is on **Labor Day** beginning at noon. You are encouraged to bring a side dish to share. Non-members will be charged \$5 at the door.

Dave Dupree has again organized our **Car Show** which kicks off at 9:00 a.m. on September 22nd. Breakfast will be served but no bar bingo that day.

We are planning a casino trip to the **Mardi Gras Casino in Black Hawk** on October 17. Bus will leave the Post at noon and return at 6:00 p.m. On your return you will be given a free burger here at the Post. Cost is \$20 per person with \$10 coupon book from the casino. To allow us to schedule the right size bus we need everyone planning on going to sign up in the lounge and prepay by October 12.

Please pray for members and families.

Sick Call Call

Rick Ricketts—Rehabbing Back Injury
Lou Stauter—St. Anthony's Hospital
Dave Ellis—In Rehabilitation

BUS TO BLACKHAWK

Wednesday, October 17

**Leave Post 178 at Noon, Return at 6 PM
for FREE Dinner (Burger Night Menu)**

**\$20 per person includes \$10 FREE play
at Mardi Gras Casino**

Sign up and Pay in Lounge

Welcome

NEW AND TRANSFER MEMBERS

- James E. Hutton—Vietnam—Marine
- Dale E. Schmidt—Vietnam—Marine
- Bernard Mullins—Vietnam—Air Force
- Joseph M. Braley—Active—Army
- Robin G. Burnham—Gulf—Army
- Michael Everett—Panama—Army
- Luis F. Montoya—Vietnam—Navy
- Daniel L. Ramsey—Vietnam—Marine
- Lloyd Smith—Vietnam—Navy
- Jean D. Willis—Vietnam—Army
- Philip Petty—SAL

Learn How Your Veteran's Benefits Can Help Finance Your Senior Housing Needs

FREE Lunch & Seminar
Post 178 from 11:30 to 1:30
Tuesday, September 18

presented by

Brookdale Meridian Westland
RSVP Today 303-514-4866



SAL REPORT *Brad Hall*

The **6th Annual Tommy Tucker/Conrad West Horseshoe Tournament** was August

18th and the winners this year were **Richard Pintor** and **Scooter Wellensiek**. Congrats guys! Thanks to all who joined in and played. A shout out to our friends from the old Shenanigan's Bar for their continued participation.

We roasted a pig in conjunction with the Horseshoe Tourney this year and had a pretty good turn-out, selling around 50 plates. These functions are only made possible through hard work, volunteers, and donors. Among them I would like to thank the following: **Curly Johnson** and **Ed R.** (didn't know how to spell your last name Ed) for picking up and getting the pig on the roaster. **Curly Johnson** gets credit for donating half the cost of the pig, **Tanya Kiger** for her bracket mastery, and **Tom Davies** for organizing tourney. Thanks also to **JD Bormolini**, **Jody and Michelle Marcotte**, **Beth Hall**, and **Frank Spano**. The recognition goes to the **Legion**, **Women's Auxiliary**, and **Doug Lemons** for their generous contributions.

ADJUTANT'S REPORT *Bill Radunz*

Membership for 2019 is currently; Legion 304, Sons 24. Legion dues are \$52, SAL \$20, and Auxiliary \$35 yearly, not monthly.

AUXILIARY REPORT *Judy Myers*

2019 dues are being accepted now. Please get them in early so you will be eligible for the Early Bird Dinner held in October.

We will once again be looking for volunteers to work at the **Bake Sale** table during the car show. A sign up sheet will be in the hallway. Please bring your baked goods in for the sale on Friday afternoon, September 21st or very early on the day of the **Car Show**, September 22nd and put them in the Auxiliary room. Last year was very successful and we sold out of all the delectable goodies.

Please remember the **Toy Drive** to be held on October 6th for toys for to be distributed by **RCI** and to the **AmVets Post** in Missouri.

There will also be food, music and an auction to raise money so that more items can be purchased.

Ranya Kelly, of **RCI**, will be having a coat drive for gently used and new coats for active duty service people and their families. There will be a collection box set up at the Post for these items. The deadline for your contributions is November 7th. Ranya will also be accepting donations for Thanksgiving baskets of non-perishable items. The deadline for these donations is November 20th.

The Auxiliary welcomes three new members, **Patricia Braden**, **Patricia Montoya** and **Michelle Burke**.

Turkey Dinner will be the menu entree on the 4th Auxiliary Wednesday, September 26th.

SAL Horseshoe Tourney Winners Collect Cash



Richard Pintor and **Scooter Wellensiek** took home the prize money at the 6th Annual Tommy Tucker and Conrad West Horseshoe Tournament. This year's event included a pig roasted by **Curly Johnson** and a host of volunteers, that was enjoyed by more than 50 people.

Bill Radunz to Resign Positions

"The word is out. I have resigned from the Corp Board as of September 15th and the position of Legion Adjutant no later than November 6th, subject to my moving date. After September 24th I will no longer be doing lunch. My Saturdays will probably cease at the end of October.

"As most of you know, I'm suffering from COPD (emphysema) and can no longer deal with the altitude here. Therefore, I will be moving to Florida before the end of 2018.

"I've been a Legion member for 28 years and the Sons for 21 years. During that time I've always tried to do what's best for the Post and The American Legion. Thank you everyone for allowing me to serve you all of these years."

— Bill Radunz

OFFICER POSITIONS OPEN

Post 178 is in immediate need of filling positions for:

- **Senior Vice Commander**
- **Adjutant**
- **Finance Officer**
- **SAL Adjutant**

Positions require 4 hours per week.

Training provided. Interested please e-mail
Commander178@comcast.net

LAKEWOOD AMERICAN LEGION POST 178

1655 Simms Street

Lakewood, CO 80215

David Clinger, Commander..... 720-984-0507
commander178@comcast.net
Bill Radunz, Adjutant..... 303-995-2663
adjutant178@comcast.net
Randy Kipp, Chaplain 720-473-3255
pushkva@comcast.net
Judy Myers, Auxiliary President 303-525-7102
judy@chezmyers.com
Patti Wagner, Auxiliary Chaplain 727-504-0755
Brad Hall, SAL Commander 303-210-4125
brad.hall@kone.com
Bill Radunz, SAL Adjutant 303-995-2663
adjutant178@comcast.net
Mike Watson, Riders President 720-635-3391
mrkmwatson@comcast.net
Dave Dupree, Newsletter Publisher..... 303-238-9723
news@alpost178.org
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.

BULLETIN BOARD



THE AMERICAN LEGION
Krackel Fest
and
Car Show

CAR SHOW SATURDAY SEPT 22

JFK HS HONOR PLATOON PERMMORMANCE 10 AM



RIDERS REPORT

Mike Watson

The summer seems to be blowing by, but the smoke from the western forest fires has been making our rides a little less scenic. We are happy to announce that we are up to 43 members in the Riders and continue to recruit new members such as our newest pair **Carl and Lani Rogers**. With plenty of riding opportunities still available in the coming fall months, along with pleasant cooler temperatures, we will be out enjoying the Colorado sunshine while supporting the efforts of The American Legion.

Recently we provided escort support to memorials at Ft. Logan, supplemented the **Patriot Guard** in their efforts to honor our fallen heros, ridden in support of the Riders at Post 22 in Northglenn, escorted "**Lt. Dan**" Holman on his mission to donate a wheelchair to every Harley-Davidson dealership in the U.S., and provided parking logistics for the **Cripple Creek Veterans Rally**. In early September, we will be traveling down to Buena Vista to gather with our fellow Riders from across the state. As always, we are striving to make our **Friday Night Dinners** a great experience.

Quilts to be Ruffled at Car Show

Crafted by hand and donated by Post 178 friend Stella Backes. Proceeds benefit the Women's Auxiliary. \$1 per ticket, available in the Lounge before or at the Car Show and Bake Sale, September 22.

