



THE AMERICAN LEGION



"The Friendly Word" from "The Friendly Post"

1655 Simms Street

Post 178

Lakewood, CO

Changes to Newsletter Distribution Announced

Beginning with the January, 2019 issue, Post 178 members who live in the metro area will no longer have a printed newsletter and monthly calendar delivered by the U.S. Post Office. Only out-of-state members will continue receiving their copies by surface mail.

This decision was enacted by vote in the Legion's November monthly members' meeting. It is being done to save money. The Post spends over \$8,000 annually to produce and distribute the monthly newsletter, and the cost of postage is projected to increase soon.

A limited number of printed newsletters and calendars will be available for members at the Post the first of every month. We will continue sending members the newsletter, calendar, and daily draw by e-mail.

If you would like to be added to our e-mail list it's easy to do at to our website: alpost178.org. See the box at right for directions. A sign up sheet for giving us your e-mail address is also located by the pickle cage at the

Post. Please DO NOT CALL the Post to provide your e-mail address. We appreciate your understanding.

TO SUBSCRIBE BY E-MAIL:

- 1). Go to alpost178.org
- 2). Enter your name and e-mail address in the boxes on the left side of the home page.
- 3). Click "Submit."

View and print the newsletter, calendar, and daily draw anytime by clicking on "Current Newsletter," "Current Calendar," and "Daily Draw."

Kathy Schwaab

November Volunteer of the Month

Kathy is a member of the Women's Auxiliary and, for the past 18 years, has been a bartender at our Post. She seems to know everyone at Post 178, and always greets them personally.

She is the go to person for organizing crews to plant our many backyard flowers. She leads by example, always being the first to begin planting and the last to clean up when work is done. She returns in the fall to clean out the beds after the first frost.

Putting up Christmas decorations gets the same enthusiasm from Kathy. Follow-

ing most Post events she can be seen putting away chairs, tables, dishes, etc. In a word, when Kathy sees something that needs to be done, she is quick to jump in.



Unsung Hero

Recently, a member of Post 178 toiled alone, unnoticed, and in somber silence among those laid to rest in Mount Olivet in Wheat Ridge. His attention was focused on plot 21-11-0-684, marking the final resting place of *Marine PFC Ted Joseph Carlton*.

Frank Spano voluntarily undertook the task of restoring the WWII Veteran's headstone, which had become almost unrecognizable. *continued on page 4*



CHAPLAIN'S REPORT

Randy Kipp

Almighty and ever-present God, creator of life and author of peace,

guard the brave men and women serving now in our military services. Watch over each and every one. Protect them as they discharge their duties. Give them unflinching courage to defend with honor, dignity, and devotion the rights and lives of those imperiled by injustice and evil. Encourage them as they encourage one another. May the power of Your love enable the troops who are now serving away from home to return safely.

Additionally, Lord, pour out Your grace on those who wait for the safe return of their loved ones. Protect and strengthen the families, friends, and significant others left at home. Cause Your peace, which surpasses all understanding, to guard their hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Amen!

COMMANDER'S REPORT

David Clinger

It's time for us to spend quality time with family and friends. Before reminiscing, let's remember November at the Post. Veteran's Day became an entire week of opportunities. **Captain (Chaplain)**

Wayne McClimans led our Post **Color Guard** to present colors at local elementary schools. **Mike Watson** led over 100 **Riders** downtown and led off the **Veterans Day Parade**. The **Color Guard** marched beside the **JFK High School Honor Platoon** and in front of our Legion Van. **Auxiliary President Judy Myers** and **Glad Potvin**, supported by volunteers of the **Women's Auxiliary**, prepared and served spaghetti lunch/dinner to thank our Veterans. Our sincere appreciation to everyone for their hours of volunteering, participation, and patriotism.

During 2018, we continued to demonstrate to visitors as well as dignitaries why we are "**The Friendly Post**." We experienced an increase in attendance at many events and holidays throughout the year. We hosted **The American Legion National Commander and National President of the Women's Auxiliary**, both accompanied by **Department Officers**. It's worth noting how welcomed they felt, and how many compliments we received about our Post and its beautiful back yard.

The Post leadership team recognizes members for their many volunteer hours supporting our functions and programs. **Legion** members to thank include **Wayne McClimans, Mark Ward, Bill Radunz, Shawn Bloomer, Randy Baria, Joe Bowers, Bill Groves, Dave Potvin, Jim Gibson, and Nick Romano**. **SAL** members include **Dave Dupree, Dave McBrien, Frank Spano, and Brad Hall**. **Auxiliary** members to thank are **Judy Myers, Glad Potvin, Marilyn Anderson, Dee Yurko, and Sue Clinger (first Lady)**. And from the **Legion Riders, Mike Watson, Nick Trujillo, Russ Scott, Chuck Elsen, and Les Hayes**.

Our Post's leadership as well as countless of our members had a difficult time saying goodbye to **Bill Radunz** in 2018, while wishing all the best in Florida. Bill exemplified the meaning of being a member, and volunteer, of The American Legion. We also recognize and pay special tribute to our departed comrades.

As we enter 2019, let us renew our commitment to fellow Veterans, and to our Post. May we continue to be a resource for all of our members and our community. The key to our success, and our survival as a Post, rests with our volunteers. There are many in addition to those I've named above. Nevertheless, we must constantly plead for more members to step up and give a little time in service at the Post.

Merry Christmas and our best to all for a safe New Year. God bless you and the United States of America.

Please pray for members and families.

Final Roll Call

Bill Meyers—USAF—3 Wars—11/21/2018
Ken Steggs—USA—Vietnam—11/11/2018
Jim Ekstron—USAF—Vietnam—07/2018
Donald Houston—USAF—Korea—09/2018
Gerry Klenda—AUX—11/11/2018

Welcome

NEW MEMBERS

Paul Zieschang—USMC—Vietnam

TRANSFER MEMBERS

Eric Agnew—USA—Gulf
John Mikus—USA—Korea
Rodney Davis—USA—Vietnam
David Martinache—USAF—Vietnam
Aaron Sheedy—USA—Gulf
James Everetts—USN—Gulf
James Linke—USN—Gulf
Richard Burkholder—USAF—Korea
James Golden—USMC—Gulf
Reginald Powell—USA—Vietnam
Austin Watkins—USA—Vietnam
Fred Meyer—USN—Vietnam
Alfred Basgall—USA—Vietnam
Alan Tinkham—USA—Vietnam

BUSINESS REPORT

Bob Heer

As I look back at this calendar year, we have had some unusual bumps as well as many positive accomplishments. Thanks to **Dawn and Randy Rehbein** we have new drapes and blinds in the back hall and lounge. What, no more 80's? **Bill Beard** again volunteered to use his carpet installation skills and replaced the carpet on our back hall stage. The stucco on the outside of the building was reworked thanks to **Nick Romano**, and we were able to have the entire exterior painted with paint donated by **Home Depot**. Thanks to the generosity of all our Post organizations we purchased a new commercial range for our kitchen. **Dave Dupree** again pulled off another successful **Car Show** in September. Our three members' picnics were again well attended and many volunteers stepped up to make them so successful. Not to be forgotten is **Ranya Kelly** who again donated the many flowers for our back yard. An electronic sign was installed in our front yard thanks to **Mark Ward, Frank Spano** and **Shawn Bloomer**. I am hopeful next year we can raise the additional funds needed to purchase the other side of the sign. **Russ Scott, Chuck Elsen** and **Les Hayes** together with **Nick Trujillo** have continued their pick-up of bakery products and other food item from **Costco** and **RCI**. After re-reading the above, I really had to step back and thank my good fortune for having so many wonderful members and volunteers making us so successful. You all make me proud to be a member of this Post.

SAL REPORT

Brad Hall

Thanksgiving is in the books and Christmas is only weeks away. With everyone's busy schedules around the Holidays, please try and find time to come in and support the Post.

Speaking of the end of the year, please get your dues paid as quickly as possible. If we don't have them by year's end, we may have to give your key card number to a new member. Dues are 20 bucks for the year.

As always, volunteers are needed and appreciated for SAL events and especially for **Sunday Breakfast**. There is a sign up sheet just inside the kitchen door. Cutting the menu or making them twice monthly instead of weekly are some possibilities that we are exploring to lighten the load on the regular volunteers. Thanks again to **Dave, Chris, Lee, Rick and the others** that are always there to help out.

Remember to thank a Veteran whenever you run into one.

AUXILIARY REPORT

Judy Myers

Due to the weather our **Veterans Day** meals were not as well-attended as in the past. However, those who attended enjoyed their spaghetti and meatballs/sausage. Volunteers turned out to help in full force. Thanks to all of them for making this project a success.

After Thanksgiving, **Dee Yurko** will once again be heading up the annual **Angel Tree** program. Your donation, in any amount, buys you an ornament for our tree. The donation envelopes will be by the tree in the bar area. Funds from this project go toward making a better Christmas for our soldiers and their families at Ft. Carson.

We have **Trade Back** games for sale at \$10 each. Please see one of the officers for details.

Thanks to **Nancy Chandler's** generosity, her WWII quilt netted over \$1,000 for Auxiliary projects. The winner was **Dawn Rehbein**.

Thank you for renewing your membership for 2019. 50% of you have already mailed or dropped off your \$35 dues. New members in 2018 may not receive an official invoice mailed from our National office. Please know that on January 1, 2019, your orange door card will not work.

If you have renewed and have not received your 2019 gray card, please look in the plastic container in the bar area marked Auxiliary. We have attempted to save postage if you dropped off your renewal in our mailbox. To renew, just put your name on the outside of the envelope and drop it in our box or mail it to the Post. Starting on December 20th we will mail out all renewals. Hope to see you at our monthly meeting on December 4th.

From Rosemary Young, Membership Chair

The **Midyear Conference** is in late January in Greeley. Details will be sent by e-mail and posted on the Auxiliary bulletin board.

Our 4th Wednesday meal this month, December 26th, will be **Zuppa Toscana** (ala Olive Garden), a hardy vegetable soup with Italian sausage and breadsticks.



Thanks to **Nancy Chandler** and her impressive WWII quilt, over \$1,000 was raised for Auxiliary projects. Winner: **Dawn Rehbein**.

LAKEWOOD AMERICAN LEGION POST 178

1655 Simms Street

Lakewood, CO 80215

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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



Merry
Christmas
and
Happy New
Year

FRIDAY BANDS

SCOTT HACKLER	DEC 14	5:00 — 8:00 PM
MOVERS & SHAKERS	DEC 21	5:30 — 8:30 PM

Auxiliary Dinner Night
Every 4th and 5th Wednesday 5 — 7 PM
Always a Special Entree
(something besides burgers)

RIDERS REPORT Mike Watson

The season is upon us to think of all the things we are thankful for and want for our fellow man. We all are thankful for our family and friends, a warm home, good food, and the love of our great country.

We have ridden at the front of the **Denver Veterans Day Parade**, hosted fellow riders from the **Rocky Mountain Harley Owners Group** for the spaghetti lunch on **Veterans Day**, and provided a bountiful Thanksgiving meal to our veterans at the **Heather Grove**. We will be supporting the upcoming toy drives and holiday events hosted at the Post, being ever thankful for what we have and working to provide for those who do not.

Lastly, the Riders are thankful for the ongoing support from the members of our Post and our community. Without that, we would be burdened with completing our missions alone.

It was an unsolicited honor performed singularly by a 50-year Son's of the American Legion member. Had it not been anonymously brought to the attention of

Post Commander David Clinger, Frank's act of respect would have gone unrecognized.

Unsung heroes are present throughout our Legion Family. We deeply appreciate Frank Spano's charity, and wish to recognize him and others who embody the mission of The American Legion.

If you witness an act of charity, or know of someone like Frank, the **Community Service Committee** would like to hear from you. Please reach out to them. Their contact information is:

Nick Romano, Community Service Officer Assistant
(720) 692-1640 Nick.Romano@Century21.com

David Clinger, Community Service Officer
(720) 984-0507 david.clinger@yahoo.com

