



THE AMERICAN LEGION

"The Friendly Word" from "The Friendly Post"

1655 Simms Street

Post 178

Lakewood, CO 80215

Work, Generosity at Post 178 Cited

The *Legion Riders*, *Sons of The American Legion*, and *Women's Auxiliary* reported impressive fund raising results for 2013 in support of The American Legion, thanks to each Unit's vitality and contributing membership.

The **Legion Riders** were highly visible at the Post last year, organizing and hosting numerous events. The Riders also rode— **25,582 miles** to be exact— raising money and contributing to their causes. They appeared in parades, at community events, went on charity runs, and were a welcome presence at Ft. Logan ceremonies. They volunteered **3,450 hours** working to help Veterans and their families. Two of the Riders' favorite organizations continue to be *Heather Grove Veterans Assisted Living Center* and *Redistribution Center Inc.* RCI distributes food and material goods to Veterans and families of those currently serving. The Riders prepare and serve Thanksgiving Dinner for the Heather Grove Vets every year and buy them gifts for Christmas.



Twice-monthly Friday night dinners keep the Riders rolling, punctuated by occasional dance nights and annual affairs like their *Chili Cook-Off*. The Legion Riders at Post 178 raised *and donated* a total of **\$7,852** in 2013.

The **Sons of The American Legion** Squadron at Post 178 has always been a dedicated supporter of *The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation*. Begun in 1954, CWF is a repository of funds raised nationwide and dispersed to deserving non-profit children's organizations.

Colorado has contributed \$550,000 of the \$12 million raised by the foundation since inception. CWF awarded \$644,005 to 21 youth-serving organizations from funds raised during the last fiscal year (July 2012–June 2013), of which \$31,000 came from 2,700 Colorado SAL members. Colorado led the nation in per-capita giving, doubling the second place State. The 240 Sons at Post 178 worked **1,593 hours** for CWF and accounted for **\$4,359** of the State's contribution, *easily the most of any Colorado Squadron*. One of the foundation's 2013 recipients was *Klinefelter Syndrome and Associates* of Pine, Colorado, awarded \$20,000 to provide critical information to parents of children with the chromosome variation.



All eyes were on SAL Commander Tom Tucker at the CWF Dinner last April as he presented Post 178's check for \$1,780, by far the largest contribution of the evening.

The *Annual SAL Golf Tournament* and *Duck Race* generate much of the proceeds earmarked for CWF. The Squadron depends heavily on their Sunday morning breakfasts and Friday night dinners to also help the *Colorado State Veterans Center in Homelake* (\$2,300), *Fisher House* (\$2,100), *Boys and Girls State* (\$550), and other Veterans and community causes (**\$2,478**) totaling **\$11,787** in cash contributions during fiscal 2013. *continued inside*

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT

Mickey West

Last month we prayed that our Chaplain's Board would list fewer members' names. So far this month, none have been reported. A prayer answered.

Dear Lord, we are grateful to You for all the blessings in our lives. Throughout this month we especially want to remember our Veterans both past and present. Help us to honor and support them. Prepare us in thoughts and interactions to be gentle and open, with purpose, creativity and faith. We humbly ask for your constant vigilance over the safety of our troops here and abroad. May they be returned to us safely to further serve our nation and You. Thank You for always being with us in our daily living. Help us to help others and to bring them to a full understanding of Your never-ending love. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

COMMANDER'S REPORT

Steve Tomlinson

The holidays have come and gone, and I hope they went well for everyone. The Post can be grateful that our Chaplain's Board has been blank for the past month. This is a God-send.

Once again, I'm asking for volunteers to help organize our much-needed **Honor Guard**. Right now, we're most in need of a Commander. It will take some of your time, but the rewards of this volunteer position are immeasurable.

The kitchen remodel is coming along nicely. Hopefully, it will be complete by the time you read this article. Thanks to all who have assisted in this major project.

The **Mid-Year Conference** was a good time as well as a much needed learning experience for me. Thank you **Doug Olson** and **Wayne McClimans** for representing the Post. As always, thanks to everyone who supports our Post and its many activities. God bless our troops and pray that they stay safe. **Never forget our POW/MIAs.**

Welcome

NEW MEMBERS & TRANSFERS

Charles Guyette—SAL
R. Lee Herrera—Gulf—Army
William Easton—Vietnam—Army
Thomas Lykins—Grenada—Air Force
Edwyd Jenssen—Vietnam—Air Force
Michael Dean Morse—Vietnam—Army

AUXILIARY REPORT

Nita Calburn

Thanks to the ladies who attended our last meeting so we could discuss our bylaws. We'll be finalizing the changes on February 4 at 7:00 p.m., so please attend. We need everyone's help to make to make the Auxiliary better and continue our programs.

The Auxiliary is looking for a member who knows a military family in need of assistance. We have funds available from **Angel Tree** contributions to help active duty families. Please drop **your** name, phone number, and e-mail address in the Auxiliary box at the Post so we can contact you.

We wish everyone—especially the ladies—a very **Happy Valentine's Day.**

Annual Dues

Legion..... \$45
Auxiliary.... 30
SAL..... 20
Riders..... 15
40 et 8..... 25

Membership Report

	2014 Goal	Actual	%
Legion.....	723	700	96.8
AUX	NA		
SAL.....	223	181	81.2

RIDERS REPORT

Brian Conway

January was **The American Legion's Mid-Year Conference** and the first meeting for the Riders under the new "Post Structure." There is now a committee appointed by the Department of Colorado's Executive Committee that will handle communications from State-to-Post Rider units. One or two Riders from Post 178 will be appointed Area Coordinators with the task of helping to establish new Riders units at Legion Posts.

Coming **February 15** is the **Riders World Famous Chili Cook-Off**. It will start about 1:00 p.m. Cash prizes will be awarded for the best **red** and best **green** chili. You can sample all the entries for just \$5. To enter your chili, pick up a entry form at the Post. This event is always a great time and everyone is welcome come and enjoy some awesome chilies.

Make plans to attend our **4th Annual 60-70s Party** on **March 15**. Food starts at 6:00 p.m. and the band will play from 7:00 to 11:00 p.m. Period appropriate dress is invited but not required to have a great time. More details will follow. **POW/MIAs you are not forgotten.**

SUNDAY

SAL Breakfast
9:00–11:30

MONDAY

Steve's \$6 Lunch
11:00–2:00

BINGO
5:30

Cindy's Dinner Spl.
5:00–7:30

TUESDAY

Steve's \$6 Lunch
11:00–2:00

WEDNESDAY

Steve's \$6 Lunch
11:00–2:00

Burger Night
5:00–7:30

Ladies Labor Tirelessly

continued from front page

The sum of \$6,414 passed through the caring hands of the **Women's Auxiliary** at Post 178 in 2013, funds raised from bake sales, a craft show, poppy sales, and candy sales. **Auxiliary Burger Night** on Wednesdays helped the ladies provide free lunch/dinner to Vets on **Veterans Day**, prepare and serve at all-to-frequent **Bereavements**, and host the Post's **Christmas, Easter, Father's Day, Independence Day, St. Patrick's Day, and Halloween Parties**. The ever-frugal ladies spent only \$2,797 on these events.

With energy to spare, the Auxiliary also assembled approximately **150 "Troop Boxes"** last year and sent them abroad filled with everything from toothpaste to golf balls at a cost of \$1,067. They raised \$1,050 for military families during the Christmas Season from **Angel Tree** donations.

Fran and Joe Bowers ended the year with \$530,903 in usable coupons collected for our overseas troops and their families (*yes, that's over a half-million dollars*). Letters of appreciation from Troop Box and coupon recipients are often posted on the hallway bulletin board at the Post. The Auxiliary was also able support **Girls State** (\$750), the **VA Hospital** (\$300), and other causes (\$300).



Taste Every Chili for Just \$5
 All proceeds go to American Legion charities
Register to Compete by February 14
 (forms available at Post 178)
No Entry Fee—Red or Green
\$50 First—\$25 Second, each category
Saturday—February 15—1 PM
The Year's HOTTEST Event!

The American Legion Riders
Chili Cook-Off

Dues paid in 2013 by members of the Riders, Sons, and Auxiliary also helped fund Legion programs. Supporting all three by dining at our Post frequently and attending their events enables them to function and fulfill their commitments. Indispens-

able to their success are volunteers. There is no better way to help the Riders, Sons, or Auxiliary (and the Legion) than by volunteering. Those who sign up in any capacity inevitably discover that the rewards of service are far more valuable than the time and effort expended. If you are not able to volunteer, please thank those who do.

The Riders, Sons, and Auxiliary deserve recognition and assistance as they continue to serve Post 178 in 2014.

BUSINESS REPORT
Bob Heer

The Corporation Board voted unanimously to not allow the smoking of marijuana on Post property at its January meeting. Violators will be indefinitely suspended. A friendly reminder has been posted in the lounge that members and guests may not bring onto Post property their own coffee cup, water bottle, or any other container. Members renting the back hall or back yard are subject to the same rule. This clarification was necessary because of members/guests bringing alcohol onto Post property and illegally taking alcohol in containers off Post property.

A special thank you to **Karen Black** for volunteering to take down and store all of the Christmas decorations. We are currently holding a **Valentine's Day Basket Raffle** with proceeds to benefit **Boys State**. The basket includes a man's and ladies **Bulova** wrist watch that were donated by **Dee Yurko** and **Brad Hall**. The drawing will be held at 3 p.m. on Thursday, February 13, 2014 at the Post.

WAYNE'S BIRTHDAY PARTY
 Dawn Rehbein's father is turning 80 and everyone is invited to celebrate.
RIDERS STEAK OR SALMON DINNER
 5:30—7 PM
MUSIC BY NIGHTWOLF
 7—10 PM
"Please help make Wayne's Birthday another adventure to remember."

THURSDAY	Steve's \$6 Lunch 11:00—2:00	BINGO 1:00	Cindy's Burritos 5:00—8:00	FRIDAY	Steve's \$6 Lunch 11:00—2:00	SAL or Riders Dinner 5:30—7:30	SATURDAY	Legion Brunch 9:00—11:00	BINGO 1:00
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THE AMERICAN LEGION

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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



Sunday
Super Bowl Party
 Feb. 2

WAYNE'S BIRTHDAY PARTY

Dawn Rehbein's father is turning 80 and everyone is invited to celebrate.

RIDERS STEAK OR SALMON DINNER

5:30—7 PM

MUSIC BY NIGHTWOLF

7—10 PM

"Please help make Wayne's Birthday another adventure to remember."



Taste Every Chili
 for Just \$5

Saturday—February 15—1 PM
 The Year's HOTTEST Event!

The American Legion Riders
Chili Cook-Off



SAL REPORT

Bill Radunz

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, February 5 at 6:00 p.m. We'll be planning our Annual Golf Tournament and looking for prizes, awards, sponsors, food service volunteers, and donations. (*Bill Radunz has performed much of this work for many years, and he needs help. The need for volunteers is urgent if the tournament is to continue successfully. —Editor*). The Son's are also in need of a **Chaplain** to open and close our meetings. Volunteer(s) please?

We changed our **Friday Night Dinner** menu last month and received a good response from diners. We'll be serving and open-face pulled pork dinner February 14—**Valentine's Day**. By popular demand, our savory meatloaf will again be on the menu February 28.

Starting February 16, our **Sunday Breakfast** rotation will include a choice of Italian or Polish sausage link (4x1). You can sample the new sausages during Saturday's Buffet Breakfasts. We are also looking into scheduling live entertainment for Friday night dinners.

Please give our new Friday and Sunday menus items a try.

ADJUTANT'S REPORT

Bill Radunz

If you haven't paid your 2014 dues yet, *this will be your last newsletter.*

Membership pins are now available in 5-year increments. If your 2014 membership shows 5, 10, 15, etc. Continuous Years, you are eligible for one. Please contact me.

PHOTOGRAPHERS

SF SHERYL FUNAKOSHI

DD DAVE DUPREE

VS VERN SCHMITT

JR JUNIOR SHOOTERS



The **SAL/Legion Junior Shooting Team** will hold their **Annual Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, April 6** from 9:00 a.m. until noon. The Program allows youths ages 10-to-18 to compete in Olympic-style precision shooting matches with air rifles and small bore .22s. Their annual fund raiser provides the money needed for match ammunition and team entry fees for the entire year. Please support these kids by enjoying a stack or two of their delicious pancakes.

Our next meeting is Tuesday, February 4 at 7:00 p.m. This is *your* Post and we need your input, so please attend.