THE AMERICAN LEGION

"The Friendly Word" from "The Friendly Post"

1655 Simms Street | Post 178 | Lakewood, CO 80215

Chilies Test Tasters' Tongues

More than 30 homemade chilies were sampled by over 100 tasters at the ***Legion Riders Chili Cook-Off***, both record numbers for the annual event according to **President Brian Conway**. All funds raised go to Riders' charities.

BEST RED CHILI
Bob Francisco

RUNNER-UP RED CHILI
Joe Calabro

Brother and sister team **Danielle** *and* **Jamie Johnson** *show us the money awarded for their* ***Best Green Chili.***

BEST GREEN CHILI
Danielle & Jamie Johnson

RUNNER-UP GREEN CHILI
Jennie & Danny Montoya

Coming This Month

Riders

60s & 70s Night

Saturday—March 22

Music by Boomers

6 —11 PM

60s/70s Dress Encouraged

Chaplain's Report
Mickey West

Dear Lord, we are thankful for Your continuing love and humbly ask for Your guidance and understanding. Make us always aware of the needs of others. As always, we pray for the safety of our troops here and abroad. Grant us the wisdom to do and think what is right, and be our guide as we work for our Veterans and their families. This we ask in Your most holy name, Amen.

Adjutant's Report
Bill Radunz

Membership currently stands just 23 members short of 100%. Your annual dues support Legion programs, but your participation at our monthly meetings is crucial. We urgently need more members to invest about one hour per month tending to the future of Post 178. Meetings are always the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Welcome

NEW MEMBERS & TRANSFERS

Don Maine—SAL
Stephen Lawler—SAL
Gilbert Leyba—Vietnam—Army
Robert A. King—Grenada—Army
John McManus—Vietnam—Navy
Al Weltzheimer—Vietnam—Army
David Siemens—Vietnam—Air Force

Please pray for these members and their families.

Sick Bay

None Reported

Final Roll Call

Don Melton (1-24-14)
Steve Fabrizio—SAL (1-27-14)
Patrick Hart—WWII—Army (11-03-13)
James Parr—Vietnam—Navy (12-16-13)

Websites for Veterans

Because Veterans–especially retirees–are targets for identity thieves, they're also in the sights of companies offering to detect and prevent identity theft. The choices and options can be confusing.

You can compare 26 services that are rated on 33 different features at **http://www.reviews.com/identity-theft-protection-services/**.

There is no charge to use the service.

St. Patrick's Day

Doug's Poker 1:00 PM
BINGO 5:30 PM
Monday—March 17
11 AM — 7 PM
Adults $7.50
10 & Under $4
Corned Beef & Cabbage

Riders Report
Brian Conway

This year's world famous ***Chili Cook-Off*** was the biggest and best by far! Over 100 Legion Riders, family, and friends turned out, and the number of chili entries was surprising. The winners were: **Red 1st Place, Bob Francisco; Red 2nd Place, Joe Calabro; Green 1st Place, Jamie and Danielle Johnson; Green 2nd Place, Jennie and Danny Montoya**.

Thanks to the Riders and friends for all their support. A very special thanks to **Brad and Beth Hall**, and daughter **Megan** for their hard work. Brad's grandson, **Colt**, made a grand appearance at the event.

The Riders continue to support the ***Redistribution Center Inc.*** with cash donations and volunteer work helping to sort and distribute food and clothing to Veterans and their families. Recently we've had several clothing donations which we took to ***Heather Grove Veterans Center***. In March we're hosting their Vets for dinner at the Post.

Our ***4th Annual 60-70s Party*** is ***March 15***. Food starts at 6:00 p.m. and ***Boomers*** band will play from 7:00 to 11:00 p.m. Period-appropriate dress is invited but not required to have a great time.

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

National Emergency Fund

Since 1989, The American Legion's National Emergency Fund has provided more than $8 million in direct financial assistance to Posts, Legionnaires, and their families. The program helps with out-of-pocket expenses such as food, temporary housing, and clothing.

Last year, the NEF program granted nearly $750,000 in assistance to Veterans in need. NEF money went to victims of Superstorm Sandy, tornados in Oklahoma, and floods in Colorado.

All donations made to NEF go directly into the program. To contribute go to **www.legion.org/nef**.

Wayne's 80th Birthday

Dawn Rahbein's father, **Wayne Wheatley**, celebrated his 80th birthday at Post 178 surrounded by a hall full of his friends and family including Dawn's husband, **Randy**; sister, **Amy Close**; and Wayne's girlfriend, **Betty Jarvis**. The popular band ***Nightwolf*** provided entertainment and the **Legion Riders** served dinner to party guests.

Auxiliary Report
Nita Calkum

It's March and time again for our annual ***St. Patrick's Day Celebration*** on Monday, March 17. We'll serve traditional corned beef and cabbage dinner from 11:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. The cost is $7.50 for adults and $4.00 for children 10 and under.

Our monthly meeting on Tuesday, March 4 at 7:00 p.m. is very important with approval of bylaws still on the agenda. We're currently accepting nominations for upcoming officer elections. Please give your selection to the Nominating Committee of **Dee Yurko** and **Marilyn Anderson**.

The Auxiliary hopes to sponsor several students at this year's Girls State. Please contact Dee or Marilyn if you know of a candidate. They must be a current high school Junior approaching their Senior year.

Volunteers are needed for St. Patrick's Day. It's a long day for the Auxiliary, so even an hour or two will help. Please use the sign-up sheet at the Post or contact Dee at 303-883-4965 to see how you can help.

It's time to report your volunteer hours for the past 12 months (April 1, 2013 through March 30, 2014). Drop your calculations in the Auxiliary box at the Post.

We're also seeking nominations for "Member of the Year." Please put your choice in the Auxiliary box with a brief essay describing the reasons for your endorsement.

Business Report
Bob Heer

All future Corporation Board meetings will start at 2:00 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month.

The Valentine's Day Basket Raffle benefiting ***Boys State*** was won by **Kathy Schwab** and raised $417 for this important Legion program.

Thanks again to **Pete Zuniga** for volunteering the hard work it takes to keep our back hall floor in great shape. A thank you is also in order to **Rocky Mountain** for repairing the mirror ball lights and overhead fixtures in the back hall. Another group that deserves an overdue thank you are the volunteers who bring the bread and pastries to the Post each week. Please extend your thanks to **Bob Sronce**, **Patty Payne**, and **Les Hayes** when you see them.

Life Line Screening

will be at the Post on Wednesday, March 26. To make an appointment call **1-888-653-6450**. Flyers are available at the Post.

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	

THE AMERICAN LEGION

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Barb Bunting, 40 et 8 President..... 303-988-7351
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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.*

BULLETIN BOARD

Riders

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Commander's Report

Steve Tomlinson

Our kitchen renovations are complete. We now have a new floor, cabinets, and electrical improvements. Thanks to everyone who helped with the project.

When you dine at Post 178 you're helping the ***Jr. Shooters***, ***Girls and Boys State***, ***Lakewood Jr. Baseball***, and other programs for youth. God bless our troops and our Vets.

SAL Report

Bill Radunz

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, March 5 at 6:00 p.m. The ***Son's 7th Annual Golf Tournament*** will be here soon. We still need prizes, awards, sponsors, food service volunteers, and monetary donations to cover the cost of food, trophies, etc. If you know of a potential sponsor (business or individual) please contact me.

The Sons were pleased to contribute $200 to the Riders in support of their best-ever Chili Cook-Off. Congratulations and thanks for all the delicious chilies.

As noted last month, we've changed our ***Friday Night Dinner*** menu and added a DJ every fourth Friday. Our special meatloaf seems to be the new favorite, so we'll be serving it every fourth Friday. We're currently working on entertainment for the second Friday of the month.

The addition of Italian or Polish sausage link (4x1) to our ***Sunday Breakfast*** rotation has been well-received. You can still sample the new sausages during Saturday's Breakfast Buffets.

Membership renewals are behind at 200, or just 86% for 2014.

Eli Larimer, Colorado's 2013 Small Bore State Champion and Post 178 representative, is congratulated by Tom Tucker.

*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.*