



THE AMERICAN LEGION



"The Friendly Word" from "The Friendly Post"

1655 Simms Street

Post 178

Lakewood, CO

Post 178 History Sought

The American Legion will celebrate its 100th anniversary in 2019. Because the Legion is first and foremost a grass-roots organization, a call has gone out for Posts everywhere to research and share their histories. The individual stories will become part of the Legion's 100-year heritage. Post legacies with pictures will be hosted on a web page developed by National Headquarters.

Lakewood Post 178 was chartered in 1941 as documented by several newspaper clippings passed down in a scrapbook from the time. The clippings only cover the Post's first two years. Searching additional newspaper records would undoubtedly tell more of our story.

Other records might reveal more of our building's history. *Ed McKenna* recent-

Post 178 Organized Rodeos in its Early Days



Just one year after its founding, Post 178 began staging annual rodeos on Table Mountain outside Golden.

Post members are pictured in a July 1, 1943 newspaper to promote the 2nd annual rodeo which featured "western novelty events... bronco riding...steer riding...bull dogging and calf roping."

Left: The Arvada Enterprise

Below: Jefferson County Republican

Legionnaires to Direct Table Mountain Rodeo July 4-5



The above is a recent picture of a group of the members of the Lakewood American Legion extending their invitation to Governor John Vivian to be their guest of honor at the rodeo they are sponsoring on July 4th and 5th on South Table Mountain. This is the second annual event of the Lakewood Post, and they are participating a record breaking attendance this year with two full afternoons of rough and wooly western entertainment. Both programs start at 2:00 o'clock.

ly found a courthouse record documenting its 1978 sale to the Post. Various members have reported that it was once a biker bar, a church, and that the game room was leased to a Chinese Restaurant.

To find conclusive evidence, we're looking for a few volunteers to research newspaper and legal records. Personal recollections from Post 178 members are eagerly invited as well to help assemble our history.

If you can volunteer please contact **Dave Dupree at 303-238-9723**. If you have memories about Post 178 to share, please e-mail them to alpost178news@gmail.com or call Dave for an appointment to meet.

With a little help, we can correctly document Post 178's important and colorful legacy within our community.

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT
Wayne McClimans

Sunday, February
22nd Post 178 will host a
Four Chaplains Service

at 10:00 a.m. in Jenson Hall. The service commemorates the moving story of four chaplains who gave their lives so others could live during WWII.

"All men are afraid of battle. The coward is the one who lets his fear overcome his sense of duty. Duty is the essence of manhood." — Gen. George S. Patton.

"What a duty to give up ones life in frigid waters far from home. You gain strength, courage, and confidence by every experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face. You must do the thing you think you cannot do." — Eleanor Roosevelt

"The Four Chaplains defeated fear." — Wayne McClimans

COMMANDER'S REPORT
Steve Tomlinson

To everyone who has ever worked in the kitchen, you will be pleased to know that we have purchased a new dishwasher and are anxiously awaiting it's arrival. Many thanks to **Brian Conway** for doing the leg work to find it.

We got a deal that was too good to pass up, so the Corporation Board made the decision to go ahead and purchase it. **Dawn and Randy Rehbein** immediately contributed \$1000 towards its purchase. *We cannot adequately express our thanks to them.* We will be discussing payment of the balance at the February monthly meeting.

New Year's Day Steak and Egg Breakfast was a huge success. Thanks to the volunteers and everyone who attended for your support. We are looking forward to keeping this tradition going in the future.

Friday January 30th is a 5th Friday of the month, so the Legion will be sponsoring the dinner. There will be a band and the menu will be smothered pork burritos, Spanish rice, and baked beans. Everyone come and dine and dance.

We are slowly but surely reaching our 743 membership goal, so if you have not paid your 2015 dues please do so and help us reach our 100% goal. We are the second largest post in the state, and would like to be number one.

Look forward to seeing everyone at the next meeting. And always remember that our POW-MIA's are never forgotten.

ADJUTANT'S REPORT
Bill Radunz

Legion membership stands at 646=87% of goal. We are always looking for new members

to help sustain the Legion Pillars. If you know someone that could belong, please sign them up. Also a reminder that your wife, sons, daughters, grand kids, and great grand kids are eligible to join. If you are reading this newsletter and you have not paid dues for 2015, you will not receive next months newsletter.

SAL membership stands at 136=61%. If you have not paid 2015 dues you will be taken off our rosters next month. Please pay your dues now.

SAL REPORT
Dave McBrien

Friday March 20th Squadron 178 will be hosting the
Homecoming Dinner for

new **SAL National Commander Mike Moss**. We will have people from all over the country visiting our Post. Please welcome them and show them why we're "**The Friendly Post.**"

Dinner and music by Zanty's will cost \$10 for this special night. Social hour starts at 5:00 p.m. and dinner

Please pray for members and families.

Sick Bay

None Reported

Final Roll Call

Wayne Wheatley—SAL—01/04/15

Gerald Stanger—Vietnam—Army—01/08/15

Welcome

NEW MEMBERS

Chris Martinez—Vietnam—Army

Richard Riedel—Vietnam—Army

Jeremy Flechsig—Gulf—Air Force

Jack Howell—Lebanon—Air Force

Charles A. Teresi—Vietnam—Air Force

Todd Elsen—SAL

Jack Howell—SAL (Dual Member)

TRANSFERS

William A. Neal—Vietnam—Navy

Richard Knoche—WWII—Air Force

Barbara E. Currence—Gulf—Air Force

Romane L. Williams—Korea—Air Force

Fred Griffin—SAL

will be served until 7:30 with live music from 6:30 until 9:30 p.m.

The next SAL meeting is Wednesday March 4th at 6:00 p.m. It's already time to start thinking about next years Officers. Plan to attend.

The **8th Annual SAL Golf Tournament** is being moved to July 17th.

RIDERS REPORT Nick Trujillo

At our monthly meeting Saturday 3 January the newly elected officers took their posts: **President, Nick Trujillo; Vice President, Ralph (Chip) Reidmiller; 2nd Vice, Les Hayes; Secretary, Linda Melnick; Treasurer, Dan McMahan; Historian, Frank Benton; Color Guard Cpt., Fred Muskopf; Sgt. at Arms, Dale (Bear) Pinkstaff and Jody Marcotte; Road Cpt., Joe Calabro; and Chaplain, Frank Henson.**

Our thanks to **Brian Conway, Ron Peddycoart, and Becky Earnhart** for an doing an exemplary job over the last 2 years.

We accepted **Dave McDonald** as a new Rider. The **Riders Swap Meet** in January was a success. Our next big event will be the **Chili Cook-Off** on Saturday, February 14th. There is no entry fee so sign up in the lounge. First place red and green chilies win \$50 each, and \$25 goes to 2nd place. The chili starts arriving at 1:30 p.m. and tasting starts at 2:00. Just \$5 buys all the chili you can eat, until it runs out. A live band will play from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.. So bring your appetites and be ready to vote for the best chili, and then cut a rug to burn it off.

AUXILIARY REPORT Mary Tomlinson

The American Legion Women's Auxiliary had a great 2014 and we are looking forward to an even better 2015.

We raised \$4,000.00 from **Angel Tree** donations and were able to send \$200.00 to each of 20 active duty military families here in CO. *Thanks to the help of some of you, Fran Bowers was able to send \$251,462 in coupons to military bases overseas.* Thanks to those of you who donated coupons and helped clip them.

At our January meeting we committed to sending \$500.00 quarterly to **Redistribution Center Inc.** We also donated \$500.00 to the **VA Hospital Canteen Project** and contributed to the **Legion, SAL and Riders.** We also made donations to **Blue Star Moms** and various other veterans related projects. We are able to do all of the above with donations from members as well as funds received for membership.

We are at 75% of our goal for membership. If you haven't already done so, please send in your 2015 dues so we can get to 100%. Several members did not pay their dues for 2014 and are in jeopardy of losing their years of continuous service.

Please welcome our new members; **Dolly Schreiner, Linda Griffin, Stephanie Rose, Cass Terry and Jeni Bentz.**

Items of Interest



Chuck Elsen (l.) deserves a round of thanks for his recent \$200 donation to the Riders, gladly accepted by **Chip Reidmiller.**



On behalf of all kitchen volunteers, **Karen Black** kisses the old dish washer goodbye.

Taste Every Chili for Just \$5

Saturday—February 14—1:30 PM
The Year's HOTTEST Event!

The American Legion Riders
Chili Cook-Off



Carol & Brian's
Wedding Party

February 14 Live Music
after the Chili Cook-Off



THE AMERICAN LEGION

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Mary Tomlinson, Auxiliary President... 303-961-4163
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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

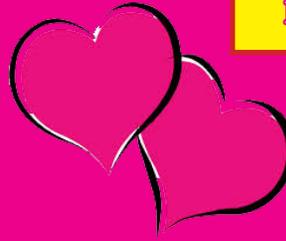
*Bartenders may close earlier on slow nights.

NEWSLETTER BANNER PHOTO BY BETH HALL

BULLETIN BOARD

Valentine's Day

FEBRUARY 14



Fly Your Flag

FEBRUARY 16

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall

www.virtualwall.com brings the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall to you online. The site lists all 58,267 names with corresponding military service dates, medals won, and location on the Wall. Many have photographs, letters, poems, and other sentiments from friends.

You can also print a name rubbing.

About The Wall

Names are arranged on the Wall in the order in which they were taken from us by date, and within each date the names are alphabetized. The first known casualty was Richard B. Fitzgibbon, KIA June 8, 1956. His name is listed on the Wall with that of his son, Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Richard B. Fitzgibbon III, KIA Sept. 7, 1965. There are three sets of fathers and sons on the Wall.

39,996 on the Wall were 22 years old or younger. 8,283 were 19 years old. 33,103 were 18 years old. 12 were 17 years old, 5 were 16 years old, and one soldier, PFC Dan Bullock, was 15 years old. The names of 8 women—all nurses—are on the Wall.

997 soldiers were killed on their first day in Vietnam. 1,448 were killed on their last day in Vietnam. Of the 244 soldiers awarded the Medal of Honor during the Vietnam War, 153 are on the Wall.

Junior
SHOOTING SPORTS

Helping Youths
Hold Steady,
Aim Higher



Regular Menu Available

Fund Raiser
Sunday April 12
9 AM — Noon
\$6 PANCAKES
ALL YOU CAN EAT



Four Chaplains Service
Sunday April 22, 10 AM
Jensen Hall
Post 178