



THE AMERICAN LEGION

"The Friendly Word" from "The Friendly Post"

1655 Simms Street

Post 178

Lakewood, CO



Champion Chili Chefs Crowned

The Riders rounded up 30 different red and green chili recipes for this year's Chili Cook-Off, and over 100 people paid \$5 to taste and rate their much appreciated efforts. Winners collected \$50 each for best red and green chili and \$25 each for runner-up. The Riders wish to thank all the entrants for supporting this delicious event.



BEST GREEN CHILI
Julie (and Ron) Schubert (r)

RUNNER-UP GREEN CHILI
Dawna (and Stan) Schawe (l)



BEST RED CHILI
Casey Larson (l)

RUNNER-UP RED CHILI
Frankie Henton (r)



CHAPLAIN'S REPORT
Wayne McClimans

“Freedom prospers when religion is vibrant and the rule of law under God is acknowl-

edged.” —Ronald Reagan

Thanks to **Larry Miller, Frank Henson, and Rocky Mountain** who helped add a special personal touch to the **Four Chaplains Memorial Service** last month. You guys are a blessing. **Mike Makofske**, hip surgery, home now. **Don Larson**, upcoming eye replacement. **Larry Miller**, knee surgery.

COMMANDER'S REPORT
Bill Radunz

The **Colorado Country**

Music Hall of Fame will be here on March 20th and April 17th from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. The shows are FREE to all our members.

Jr. Shooters Pancake Breakfast March 13th. All proceeds to their very successful program.

Things are going well at the Post, however, we would like to see more of you here to help out. Time to step up. Nominations of Officers will take place at our April meeting and elections in May. If you are interested in running for office contact the Executive Board, we need more members to participate as Officers and on different committees. Not good to have the same people doing all the work year after year. Many different opportunities are available that will fit into your busy schedule.

All donations requested from the Legion must go through the Executive Board the week prior to the monthly meeting. If anyone knows of an Eagle Scout that would like to be nominated for Scout of the Year please contact me. **American Legion Scout of the Year will receive a \$10,000 scholarship.** Three runner-ups receive \$2,500 each.

Yours in Service, Bill Radunz, Commander

SAL REPORT
Steve Stroud

Whereas February was the month for lovers, March contains many special and religious holidays. It is a month to reflect on all the fortunate things in our life and to celebrate with family and friends. We in the American Legion Post 178 have much to be thankful for. We are surrounded by friends who welcome us as family.

Be kind to one another and only speak the good about one another. If you are thinking or speaking poorly about someone else, it is more of a reflection on you. Remember when you point one finger at someone else, you are pointing three fingers back at yourself. If negativity breeds more negativity and positivity promotes more positivity, ask yourself what you want to be known for. We all need a positive pat on the back to remind us to pat another on the back. Be joyous in March.

Please note that SAL is hosting a **Hawaiian Luau on Saturday, May 7th**, with “Hawaiian” food and dance music. Tickets are on sale now at \$12.50 each for members and \$15 for non-members. We need volunteers for the kitchen, to put up and take down decorations, and to provide door prizes. Contact Steve Stroud at alpost178sms@gmail.com for tickets, information, and offers to help.

RIDERS REPORT
Nick Trujillo

Because of the incident at the recent motorcycle expo, the DEC has acted on Riders uniformity issues that have been plaguing us for a while. As a result, we need to do some updating to our vests.

Our next big event will be the **60s & 70s Night** featuring live music by **Night Wolf**. In April, **Chef Bill Torrez** will do the honors April 16th at our annual **Lasagna Dinner**.

I need to report that Jamie Johnson had to drop out because of health issues. And on a personal note, I want to thank everyone for your support when my son passed away, especially the Ladies Auxiliary for the bereavement. It was all very much appreciated and helped us through a difficult time.

BUSINESS REPORT
Bob Heer

Chuck Elsen has been very busy this past month painting military insignias on ceiling tiles in the lounge. In addition to the panels adding color to the area, they recognize the service of our diverse military family. **Excellent job Chuck!** (For those of you who don't know, Chuck is doing all this artwork strictly as a volunteer. He requests a \$100 donation to paint a panel and gives \$50 to **Colorado Boy's State** and \$50 to **Legion Rider charities**).

With the significant turnout we are experiencing for bar bingo on Saturday afternoons we can no longer make our back hall available for rentals until after 4 in the afternoons. This will also hold true for summer backyard rentals because of our limited parking. Everyone's understanding is appreciated.

Please pray for members and families.

Sick Bay

Karen Black—recovering at home

Final Roll Call

None Reported

History's Four Chaplains were represented in a service at Post 178 on January 31st by (l to r) **Rocky Mountain, Larry Miller, Wayne McClimans, and Frank Henson.**

Post 178 Scholarships Available to Colorado Boy's and Girl's State June 15—10, 2016

Offering practical teaching experiences in citizen government to high school students in their Junior year.

Apply at:

Boys: colegionboysstate.org
Girls: alacolorado.com/girls-state

Post 178 Contacts:

Boys: Wayne McClimans
Girls: Dee Yurko or Marilyn Anderson



—Sue Clinger photo

**Riders
60s & 70s Night**

Saturday—March 19th, 6—10 PM

Music by Night Wolf

60s/70s Dress Encouraged

AUXILIARY REPORT

Carol Conway

Top of the month to everyone! Can you believe March is already here! And there's no better way to start the month than by welcoming new members **Bernadette Cole, Shaina Jackson, Marie Hall, Dana Stautes-Welch, and Elaine Quintana.**

Please join us the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. for our meetings! The Ladies Auxiliary will be serving our annual **St. Patrick's Day Lunch/Dinner Thursday, March 17th from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., or until we run out.** We need volunteers for this large event. Please sign up on the Auxiliary board in the hallway. And no St. Patrick's Day celebration would be complete without **Auxiliary Shamrocks!** They will be for sale in the lounge \$1 each or 6 for \$5. **LADIES!!!** Volunteer hours are needed by the end of March. You can drop them in the Auxiliary box. Thank you so much for all you do for our Vets!

Welcome

NEW MEMBERS & TRANSFERS

- Ronald King— Vietnam—Navy
- Patrick Heye— Vietnam—Marine
- Robert E. Gier— Korea— Air Force
- Gene A. Pastor— Vietnam—Marine
- William McGowan— Vietnam—Navy
- Robert Hollingshead— Vietnam—Navy
- Richard McGowan— Vietnam—Marine

FYI

In 2015 **The American Legion's Temporary Financial Assistance (TFA)** program disbursed \$819,971 in grants benefiting 631 Legion-eligible Veteran families and 1,511 children.

TFA helps financially struggling families meet the costs of shelter, food, utilities, and health expenses with the goal of keeping minor children in a stable home environment. Post 178 continuously supports TFA.

As you know from the last newsletter, we've adopted an American Legion Post in Rockaway Beach, Missouri. We are planning a **Clothing Drive on Sunday April 10th from 11:00 a.m to 2:00 p.m.** Please bring new and or gently used clothing for infants through high school ages. We'll be collecting at the Auxiliary outside door (north side of the building by the kitchen back door). Everything collected will be sent to our newly adopted Post. Thank you!

SHOOTING SPORTS



Fund Raiser

Sunday March 13

9 AM — Noon

\$7 PANCAKES

ALL YOU CAN EAT

THE AMERICAN LEGION

1655 Simms Street Post 178 Lakewood, CO 80215

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Bill Radunz, Adjutant bradunz@msn.com

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Carol Conway, Auxiliary President 970-275-2891
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Mickey West, Auxiliary Chaplain 303-238-0039

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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.

NEWSLETTER BANNER PHOTO BY BETH HALL

BULLETIN BOARD

Membership Report

	2016 Goal	Actual	%
Legion	738	686	93
SAL	221	164	74

Riders Lasagna Dinner

Saturday—April 16th
4—7 PM

Don't be late,
the lasagna goes fast!

Hawaiian Luau



Saturday May 7th

5 PM Social

6 PM Dinner

RSVP at Post 178



Hawaiian Dinner—Music—Hula Dancing—Raffle

All Hail Harold's Hundred and First

Post 178 member **Harold A. Nelson** turned 101 on February 28th. He celebrated the occasion by going on a Nevada gambling junket with one of his daughters. He and companion **Jeanne Gold** (88) are frequent visitors at the Post where they always enjoy drinks and dining.

Harold was a 26-year-old Nebraska farmhand when he was drafted in 1941. He fought in the 7th Infantry un-

der Patton in campaigns that took him to Tunisia, Sicily, Algeria-French Morocco, and Naples-Foggia (Italy). He was wounded in 1943 and again in 1944. He was honorably discharged in 1945 at the rank of Staff Sergeant.

After the war Harold moved to Denver and became an engineer at Keebler Cookie Co. During the war his hometown newspaper printed the following story about Harold under the headline "**Resourceful Sergeant.**"

Sgt. Harold A. Nelson, Wolback, Neb., was using his tommy gun and grenades effectively on German troops in close combat recently when he ran out of ammunition. Looking about for reinforcements, he spotted an abandoned American tank nearby, separated from him by an open space of 30 feet. He dashed across the opening, climbed in the tank and turned its machine guns on the Germans. They were eliminated. "I would have fired the big gun on the tank," he said, "but I didn't know how to shoot the blame thing."

Harold's CO put him in for a Silver Star, but he's still waiting. Among the medals Harold did receive is a Purple Heart with One Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster.



Harold Nelson and Jeanne Gold regaled everyone at their table during October's Early Bird Dinner.

—Sheryl Funakoshi photo