



# THE AMERICAN LEGION

*"The Friendly Word" from "The Friendly Post"*

1655 Simms Street

Post 178

Lakewood, CO



## Randy's Run Raises Record \$10,347

The 2016 annual fundraiser first organized by **Randy Baria** 7 years ago combining a silent auction and **Legion Riders Poker Run** was the most successful ever. *Post 178* received \$5,000 and a very surprised **Redistribution Center Inc. (RCI)** founder **Ranya Kelly** received a \$5,347 check for her award-winning Veterans assistance organization.



Randy was eager to thank everyone who participated as well as the individuals who worked tirelessly on behalf of Veterans. They include **Bob Black, Faye Okeneske, Chuck Elsen, Dave Cadwell, Les Metcalf, Steffen Wagner, Brad and Beth Hall, Dave and Galadriel Potvin, Jim and Rosie Kunst, and Jody and Michelle Marcotte.**

*Legion Riders Brian Conway, Nick Trujillo, and Terry Wright presented a \$5,347 check to RCI's Ranya Kelly, who immediately responded with a list of Veterans' needs that can now be addressed.*



July 4th at Post 178



**CHAPLAIN'S REPORT**  
*Wayne McClimans*

“Faith is like radar that sees through the fog—the reality of things at a distance that the human eye cannot see.” —Corrie ten Boom

When I was in the Navy I had to stand fog watches. A most daunting task for someone who had only seen fog on the Purdue River. Yes, faith must be in everyone’s being. The American Legion is moving into history with the 100th centennial celebration. A lot a faith has been around since 1919. Looking forward to the upcoming events.

“I could not, at any age, be content to take my place by the fireside and simply look on. Life was meant to be lived. Curiosity must be kept alive. One must never turn his back on life.” —Eleanor Roosevelt

**BUSINESS REPORT**  
*Bob Heer*

I have a lot of volunteers to thank for what they did for the Post this past month. **Dave Simpson** and **Doug Schwab** for removing and reinstalling the garage door, **Dick Moore** for replacing a bathroom door, and the following 4th of July Door Monitors: **Sheri and Vern Schmitt, Dick Moore, Faye Okeneske, Tina Montoya, Brian Conway, Marilynn Anderson, Dee Yurko, Dave Clinger, Sue Mountain, Dave Potvin, Greg Peterson** and **Chip Reidmiller**. They collected \$508 from non-member guests and distributed 283 wristbands. Thank you all for giving of your time. Volunteers will again be requested to cover the Post doors on Labor Day.

Thank you also to the **Legion Riders** for staffing the grill and preparation of the condiments.

For the next two months the lounge will be open until 9 PM every evening to accommodate evening members. At the end of this test period we will evaluate to determine if it is cost effective to stay open later than we have been.

**RIDERS REPORT**  
*Nick Trujillo*

The silent auction and poker run went well; we had a good day for riding, and almost 100 miles of beautiful mountain scenery, and raised a big donation for RCI.

We rode in the **Annual Wounded Vets Escort** on Friday, 22 July. **Eight Riders were from Post 178, 4 from Post 87, 1 from Post 183, 8 from Post 2008, and 9 from the Denver HOG Chapter.** Thanks to all the separate groups for their support. *In all we covered approximately 4,600 miles and contributed 240 hours.*

A reminder to the Riders that the annual membership renewal is starting in November and ending in February. Also coming up is the election of officers in December. I would like to thank the Legion members and their families for supporting our **Friday Night Dinners**. Our next meeting is on the 6th of August at 10:00 a.m.

**SAL REPORT**  
*Steve Stroud*

“Hot August Nights” are here again. It’s the time of year to become “hot” about recruiting new SAL members. We have a good membership but do we have a GREAT membership? What would make you feel GREAT about being a member of Post 178? Are you just satisfied with the “status quo?” When did you last attend a meeting and participate in helping to make this a GREAT Post? We belong to one of the finest organizations in the world, the country, the state, and the city. “Light a fire” under yourself and tell folks about this Post. We can each invite at least one person to a gathering at the Post and encourage membership. Be the member you would like all members to be. Set the example for other members. Challenge a friend to a membership drive and strive to make our Post “Great.” See you at our regular events and our meetings!

*Please pray for members and families.*

**Final Roll Call**

Roger Poe—Korea—Army (7/24/16)

Pat Payne Spano—AUX—(7/17/16)

**2017 DUES**

*The Post is now accepting \$52 annual dues for 2017. New cards must be picked up at the Post after August 15th. After Labor Day, cards will be mailed to out-of-metro area members.*

*Members have until the September meeting to read the updates of our bylaws. They are posted at the Post.*

**NOTICE**

*The Legion Riders and other Post 178 members who prepare and serve Friday Night Dinners, weekend breakfasts, and Wednesday Night Burgers are not professional restaurateurs—they are VOLUNTEERS. They give their time and energy so you can enjoy a great meal at a great price. Constant complaints about service or menu items from some patrons are not appreciated, and will not be tolerated. Also, if you're not one of the team of volunteers, please stay out of the kitchen. If you want to be part of the team, please volunteer. Thank you.*

**AUXILIARY REPORT**  
*Carol Conway*

First of all I'd like to thank everyone that helped make the **Girls and Boys State Picnic** a great success! We

listened to 6 young ladies and gentlemen tell about their week-long experiences at their State event.

I've received feedback in support of raising the dues for the 2017-18 year. We'll vote on it at the August meeting. Please join us August 2nd at 7:00 p.m. We've had a couple officer changes: **Ginny Martindale** has decided not to take the Secretary position this year and Alynn Huffman (previously 2nd Vice) was voted in to fill the Secretary spot. If you would like to fill the 2nd Vice President position please let us know.

We welcomed 5 new members to the Unit: **Jody Schmidt, Marcy Palmer-Hamburger, Kristen Means, Kay Scott, and Amber Womack**. Be sure to say "Hi."

**Dawn Rehbein** is taking some items generously donated by **Ranya Kelly (RCI)** and a couple of baskets made by **Dee Yurko** and **Marilynn Anderson** to our adopted Legion Post in Rockaway Beach, MO. They really appreciate all our support.

We need volunteers for our **Wednesday Burger Nights**. Please sign up on the sheet in the kitchen or stop by on a Wednesday Night and we'll show you what it's all about! We have a great time and could really use your help!

And last but not least, please remember to renew your membership! It's that time of year. Then you can join us in October at the **Early Bird Dinner**, compliments of the Post.

**COMMANDER'S REPORT**  
*Bill Radunz*

Our next meeting will be at 7:00 p.m. August 2nd. Come and join us. At our September meeting we will be approving our updated bylaws. Dues are not due until January 1, but our **Early Bird Dinner** is in October so please pay now and be rewarded with a free dinner. Your dues are needed to run our programs. If you pay here and still get reminders from National, disregard their notices as they are a few months behind.

The new fiscal year is underway, and I would like to thank all of the past and present Officers as well as the Post members who have supported me as your Commander. Together we have made great achievements and continue to move forward. I am proud to have had the opportunity to work with all of you, the Auxiliary, Sons, Riders, and especially all the volunteers. I honestly believe we have a true Legion Family at Post 178, "The Friendly Post." It's because of all of you that we've been able to achieve all that we have.

Having said that, there are some things that do not make me happy, which I feel I must express. Yes, I do enjoy the great music, food, bingo, and other events as much as any of you, however there is more to The American Legion than just the lounge and good times. Many of our Officers have served in various capacities for a long time. We are not going to be around forever. With more than 700 paid Legion members, I find it upsetting and disturbing that we cannot get more members involved. I've heard all the excuses, from "my time is limited" to, "I don't know what I could do." I worked a full time job and still found time to hold various offices and do a lot of cooking. You can do many things to support your Post that don't involve much time. After all, you joined to support our fellow Veterans, our Community, and our Legion family.

They same people volunteer week after week after week because others choose no to be involved. It's easier for someone else to do the work. I'm asking for just a few hours a month to take the burden off those who have continuously stepped up. I don't believe that's asking too much. The Legion is not alone with this problem. Right? The Auxiliary, Sons, and Riders also need their members to volunteer!

I believe we need new ideas and fresh volunteers to come forward so we can continue to grow and prosper. It's time for others to step up and learn how to be a leader. The **FUTURE** of your Post is **NOW**.

**WHY NOT GET INVOLVED NOW?** Attend a meeting, chair or sit on a committee, volunteer a few hours a month to support your Legion, Auxiliary, Sons, or Riders. I'm compiling a list of specific things to help with. Please stop by and see Wayne McClimans or myself to see how you can become involved.

Yours in Service, Commander Bill Radunz

**NOTICE**

*Whoever borrowed our appliance dolly,  
please return it for use by others. Thank you.*

**Colorado Country Music**

**Hall of Fame**

**Induction and  
Awards Banquet**

**Post 178 Members**

**Admitted FREE**

**Sunday August 28 • 2—6 PM**



## LAKWOOD AMERICAN LEGION POST 178

1655 Simms Street

Lakewood, CO 80215

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**Bill Radunz**, Adjutant ..... bradunz@msn.com

**Wayne McClimans**, Chaplain ..... 303-279-6712  
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**Carol Conway**, Auxiliary President ..... 970-275-2891  
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**Mickey West**, Auxiliary Chaplain ..... 303-238-0039

**Dave McBrien**, SAL Commander ..... 720-621-8791

**Steve Stroud**, SAL Adjutant ..... 303-988-9686  
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**Nick Trujillo**, Riders President ..... 303-763-9510  
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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.

NEWSLETTER BANNER PHOTO BY BETH HALL

## BULLETIN BOARD

### SAL Horseshoe Tournament

SATURDAY, AUGUST 6, 12 NOON

2-Person Team \$40 (includes food)

PAYOUT: 50% WINNERS / 50% SAL

Contact Tom Davies at 720-297-9507

JOKER  
POKER



6 PM FRIDAYS

### Friday Bands

Cruisin Cats ..... Aug 5

Movers & Shakers ..... Aug 12

Look Both Ways ..... Aug 19

Country Road One ..... Aug 26

### Colorado Country Music Hall of Fame

Sunday August 28 • 2—6 PM

### Boys and Girls State Picnic Held

Post 178 was proud to sponsor 8 students who attended this year's Boys and Girls State. Six were present for the Auxiliary's July picnic in their honor.

Delegate **Luke Giusto** also placed 3rd in *The American Legion's Oratorical Contest*. **Bendie Minu**, older brother of **Celest Muni** and former Post 178-sponsored Boys State delegate, has been accepted at *West Point*.



Benjamin Larimer (home school). Andrew Esaw (Wheat Ridge High), Aleksandra Reseigh, (Wheat Ridge High), Luke Giusto (Lakewood High), Anngelica Reseigh (Wheat Ridge High), and Celest Minu (Lakewood High).  
Photo by Sheryl Funakoshi.

### Bob Francisco Rates Post's Gratitude

**Bob Francisco** is *Director of the Harley Owners Group (HOG), Denver Chapter* which meets monthly at Post 178. He's also the owner of *Chevron Structures*, a commercial/residential concrete company.

Bob is responsible for the Post's new garage floor as well as the new concrete in the north parking lot and around the flag pole, and for mounting our 105mm Recoilless Rifle on a stand.

He donated material and the work was done by his employees. The entire project required weeks of effort, and is a noticeable improvement to our Post.

Bob's incalculable contribution to Post 178 is appreciated by the entire membership.

