



THE AMERICAN LEGION

"The Friendly Word" from "The Friendly Post"

1655 Simms Street

Post 178

Lakewood, CO



Riders Serve Thanksgiving Dinner at Heather Grove



Veterans Day at Post 178



See more pictures on Facebook ([American Legion Post 178 Lakewood Colorado](#) and [Sheryl's AL Pictures](#)).

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT
Mickey West

For us a child is born, for to us a son is given; and this govern-

ment shall be upon his shoulder, and his name will be called "Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace".

—Isaiah 9:6

Our Father, it is the holiday season.

A joyous time. A time to share. A time

to love. A time to pray for everlasting peace in world of unrest, bitterness, war, and hate. Let us, as Legion members, be examples of true family love. And let our example be visible to everyone everywhere. We ask this in Your name. Amen.

COMMANDER'S REPORT
Bill Radunz

First off, **Happy Holidays to all!** I want to thank my extended Legion family for making my job as Commander more fun than work (most of the time) . Our family continues to grow. God Bless all military families past as well as currently serving.

We are all family.

I would like to thank the members who donated food for Thanksgiving. **Dick Moore, Wayne McClimans, Dewey, Bloomer Family, Paula Hargrove, Larry Posner, Dee Yurko, Stark Family, Theresa Hyman, Judy Myers, and Commander Bill.** Also it would not have happened without the volunteers: **Randy Baria , Bob Black, Brad Hall, George Thein, Dave Clinger, Linda Quinlan, Max Thompson, Barb Bunting, Greg Peterson, Mark Chagnon, Lee Bachman, Stark Family, Bloomer Family, and Potvin Family.**

Thanks to all. It was a great Thanksgiving dinner.

I have tried to save the Legion's money by having members pick up their membership cards at the Post.

Not many helped me out. We are in the process of mailing them. You should have 2017 cards by the time you receive this newsletter. Yellow door cards will not work on January 1st. Pay you dues now for 2017.

Start the New Year by having *lunch at the Post Monday thru Saturday from 11 am to 1 pm.* **Glad and Dave Potvin** are doing a great job for a very reasonable price.

For people complaining about the wait time on Sunday breakfast, you might want to volunteer to help. The members (too few) doing the work are all volunteers and there is only so much they can do. Many have been in our kitchen for 5, 10, and 15 years. Time for others to step up, or not. If not, maybe no more Sunday breakfasts. Sometimes things need to be said. The SAL has been cooking for 17 years, mostly the same members.

Lets have a great year! Yours in Service, Bill Radunz. Commander.

AUXILIARY REPORT
Carol Conway

It's that time of year when family and friends gather near. *Please remember all our Veterans and their families through the holidays and coming year!* We appreciate their service and they are not forgotten! Please show your support for all they have done.

We had a wonderful **Veterans Day Dinner** and served over 175 people! Thank you so much for all your help in making this a memorable event!

The **Annual Children's Christmas Party** is Saturday, December 17th from 2 to 4 p.m. Please sign up to "adopt" a child by December 9th, and then join us for the party!

We will have a special guest at our December meeting; **Department President Pilar Bottoms** will be joining us. Please attend the meeting (the first Tuesday of the month—December 6th at 7 pm) and say Hi!

We welcomed 4 new members in November: **Joann Isett, Apollo Garcia, Rosemary Young, and Minnie Lundberg.**

Our coupon drive is still going strong! At last count we've sent **\$366,769.70** in coupons to our 4 overseas bases. Thank you to everyone that is making this a success and helping our Vets and their families so far from home!

And last but not least, the **RCI Toy Giveaway** will be Saturday, December 10th from 11 am to 2 pm. Please join us for this wonderful giving event for our military families!

Please pray for members and families.

Final Roll Call

Larry Chamberlain—Vietnam—Air Force (11/16)

Charley Johnson—SAL (11/07/16)

Welcome

NEW MEMBERS

Ryan P. Hughes—Gulf—Marines

TRANSFERS

Apollo L. Garcia—Gulf—Navy

Joseph A. Romero—Vietnam—Navy

BUSINESS REPORT
Bob Heer

Merry Christmas to all our Post members and their families. The Post will close early on Christmas Eve and remain closed on Christmas Day. There will be Bar Bingo on Saturday the 24th.

Many people to thank for their volunteering this past month: **Kathy Schwab** for cleaning the flower beds in the back yard, **Wayne McClimans** for his endless raking of leaves, **Pete Zuniga** for cleaning and polishing our back hall floor, and **Dick Moore** for blowing out our sprinkler. I also wish to thank **Barb Bunting** for her donation earmarked for snow removal. *Your generosity is greatly appreciated.*

November 18th Christmas elves **Dawn and Randy Rehbein, Kathy and Doug Schwab, and Dee Yurko** decorated the post for the Christmas season. They did an awesome job making us look very festive.

Last but not least, a thank you to **Chuck Elsen** and **Les Metcalf** for repainting our sign on Simms Street. The Post always brightens up this time of year, so please stop in and check us out.

SAL REPORT
Steve Stroud

Happy Holidays and Merry Christmas to all our members. December is a time of renewal. We celebrate in our own way, we share our time and good cheer, we reach out to the ones we love and the

ones who are without. Let us remember the forgotten, those who may need just a positive word. This is a time to remind us just how important it is to have a connection with others. Some of our friends at the Post may not have another family besides the family of Post 178. Speak kindly, give generously, hug warmly, and laugh loudly. For some, this may be the only time to share in the spirit of the holidays.

The Sons made the following contributions in November: **The American Legion National Emergency Fund, \$2,500; Colorado State Veterans Center in Homelake, \$2,500; Post 178 Building Fund, \$1,000; and American Cancer Society, \$100.** Thanks to everyone who supports the Sons' activities at the Post.

RIDERS REPORT
Nick Trujillo

This month we asked for nominations for the Board for the Riders. Two years have gone by since I was elected to the position of Riders President. I may not have made all the right decisions, and may have made some people unhappy with what I have done. But my term will soon be over, and someone else will be taking the helm. I wish them all the best.

We served our annual **Thanksgiving Dinner** to **Heather Grove** residents on Saturday the 19th. The Riders purchased the food and the kitchen staff prepared it for us. I received the Christmas gift list for the residents, and have distributed it to the Riders. To all, **Happy Holidays.**

Sons Receive CWF Award

Post 178's SAL Squadron has received The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation's **"Children First Gift Club Guardian"** Award for its contributions during the 2015-16 fiscal year.

VIPs and Generous Contributor Visit Post 178



It was just another Tuesday at the Post on November 15th until **American Legion National Vice Commander Paul Espinoza** dropped in for lunch. He was accompanied by **District 5 Commander Jimmy Walker** and **Colorado State Commander Jay Bowen.**

As they were about to dine, **Ed Stiltner, Branch Manager of Georgetown Mortgage,** walked in carrying a very large check for **Post 178 Commander Bill Radunz.** Ed's company, located in Belmar, holds several events throughout the year to raise funds for community causes. This year, Post 178 was selected to receive a check for \$3,520. Thank you, Ed!

(l. to r.) **Jay Bowen, Colorado State Commander; Paul Espinoza, National Vice Commander; Jimmy Walker, District 5 Commander, Ed Stiltner, Georgetown Mortgage Branch Manager; Bill Radunz, Post 178 Commander.**

LAKEWOOD AMERICAN LEGION POST 178

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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



**Auxiliary
Children's
Christmas Party**

**DECEMBER 17
2 — 4 PM**

Fly Your Flag
Pearl Harbor Day Dec. 7

Friday Bands

Movers & Shakers - Dec. 2

Uptown Girls Dec. 9

Evolution Dec. 16

**JOKER POKER
6 PM Fridays**

**JOKER
POKER**

6 PM FRIDAYS

RCI TOY GIVEAWAY
Saturday December 10
11 AM — 2 PM
**MERRY
CHRISTMAS**



Clockwise from top right.

- 1). Chuck Elsen and Les Metcalf at work on our sign.
- 2). Thanks to the volunteers who decorated our Post.
- 3). Riders packing Thanksgiving boxes at RCI.
- 4). Rick Ricketts touring the National WWII Aviation Museum.

