



# THE AMERICAN LEGION

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

1655 Simms Street

Post 178

Lakewood, CO



## Honor Bell Tolls For Veterans

Defense Department cutbacks are sadly causing many of the over 1,000 Veterans laid to rest in America every day to be buried without the full military honors required by the National Defense Authorization Act.

The nonprofit Honor Bell Foundation, founded in Denver by Louis Olivera, unveiled a response to the situation at Fort Logan National Cemetery this past Memorial Day in the shape of a three-foot-wide, 1,000 pound bell.

The Honor Bell is the first of its kind in the country, and the first bell cast in U.S. history for the sole purpose of rendering final honors to Veterans.

Olivera got the idea after attending a funeral at Fort Logan. He recruited friends and colleagues to raise funds and form a staff. He contacted a bell foundry in Cincinnati, Ohio in business since 1842 and learned the casting process hasn't changed in more than six centuries. A deep sounding bell must be made from solid bronze and be at least 37 inches in diameter.

But Olivera also had the idea of including melted-down Veterans' artifacts in the casting. The families of 12 deceased Colorado Veterans from all five service branches and all major conflicts since WWII donated dog tags, medals, insignia, belt buckles, buttons, and other military memorabilia from their loved ones to become part of the Honor Bell. Their combined size was no larger than a soda can, or about 0.1 percent of the bronze bell. Yet they appear as slight markings in the sides of the bell.

After casting, the first Honor Bell Ceremony took

place as part of Major League Baseball's celebration of Armed Forces Day at the Great American Ball Park, home of the Cincinnati Reds. It was then escorted to Colorado by members of Rolling Thunder and the Patriot Guard Riders. The Honor Bell was dedicated in a 2016 Memorial Day Ceremony at Fort Logan.

"The bell is forged from honor," according to Olivera, who is now Executive Director of the Foundation. It hosts a circular formation of seven stars, including a raised gold star in honor of surviving spouses, parents, and family members of those killed in combat.

A special van with a back-door slide mechanism is used to transport the bell to ceremonies at Fort Logan. Hearing it is a moving experience. Honor bells are tuned to mourning. Seven solemnly-paced notes are struck to communicate depth of sorrow and extent of loss. Seven signifies completeness. The dignity, traditions, and simplicity of military funeral services are complimented

beautifully by the Honor Bell's notes of reverence.

Eventually Olivera wants to put bells, each costing \$50,000, in every U.S. National Cemetery (133). The very first Honor Bell will remain at Fort Logan, with the 100,000 Veterans resting there.

Bell Honors are a complimentary service offered to any service member being buried at Fort Logan National Cemetery. To donate to the Honor Bell Foundation, serve as a volunteer for the Honor Bell Guard, or request a service, go to [honorbell.org](http://honorbell.org).



**CHAPLAIN'S REPORT**  
*Mickey West*

Dear Lord,  
as we approach the

time of the year when we congregate to give thanks for Your many blessings, we ask that you extend Your grace to those serving our nation within our borders and around the world, who are unable to join their families. As leaves turn from summer greens to autumn reds and yellows, they mark another season that our military families are dispersed. Lord keep them healthy and strong. Comfort them as they see empty chairs and long to see their loved ones again at the table. We pray You will grant their wishes Lord, in keeping with Your will.

Bless each of us as we pursue the programs of our organization and strengthen our resolve to each day be a blessing to our veterans and our active duty military and their families. In Your holy name we pray. Amen.

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

The Holidays are fast approaching. Every **Thanksgiving** the Post provides a dinner for members and their families. I am looking for volunteers to donate turkeys, canned cranberries, yams, green bean casserole, stuffing, etc. We'd also like you to sign up if you plan to attend. Thanksgiving morning we also need volunteers to prepare and carve turkeys, make stuffing, etc. We'll need pots, pans, and dishes washed, plus bus people and clean up people. Without these volunteers we cannot do this. A sign up sheet is available at Post.



*"Thank You" Wayne McClimans for cleaning the leaves, pine needles, and trash out of our gutters.*

have two new members on our **Corporation Board**. Representing the **Auxiliary, Dee Yurko**, and the **Sons, Dave Dupree**. This will allow all units to be represented in how our Post is run.

I am looking for someone to take over our **Facebook Page**.

The next membership meeting is November 1st at 7 p.m. Don't miss out!

Yours in Service, Bill Radunz, Commander.

*Please pray for members and families.*

**Final Roll Call**

Margaret "Peggy" Slattery—Vietnam—Air Force (10/20/16)

**Denver's Veterans Day Parade** is Saturday, November 12th in downtown Denver. The parade begins at 10:00 a.m. followed at noon by a festival in Civic Center Park. Please join in honoring our nation's heroes by participating in this year's parade.

The **Women's Auxiliary** will serve **Spaghetti Dinner** on **Veterans Day**, Friday November 11th, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., or until it's all gone. Veteran-members of Post 178 are invited to dine **FREE**. The cost to others is \$7.

**The American Legion Oratorical Contest** will take place March 11th for Colorado contestants. Applications are due by January 31, 2017 and are available at the Post or online. All high school students are eligible. For information contact

**Wayne McClimans** or **Commander Bill**.

With the acceptance of our revised by-laws, we

# Welcome

## NEW MEMBERS

George Liss—Panama—Army  
V. Gene Bird—SAL  
Rikk T. Nichol—SAL  
Steve R. Wells—SAL  
Frank S. Carrillo—SAL

## TRANSFERS

Larry J. Cato—Vietnam—Navy  
Gary E. Jantz—Vietnam—Navy  
Robert J. Pavlik—Vietnam—Marines  
Stephan G. Bishop—Vietnam—Air Force  
Dale H. Overby—SAL  
Michael C. Stover—SAL

**RIDERS REPORT**  
*Nick Trujillo*

Fall is here and riding days are becoming fewer, but Winter activities are coming up including the **Annual Chili Cook Off**, and our **'60s & '70s Dance**. I hope everyone is looking ahead for those events.

**Thanksgiving Dinner for Heather Grove** is scheduled for Saturday, November 19th at noon. The Riders will provide the food and then serve our Veteran friends.

Officer elections are coming up in December. It's time for a change of pace and to welcome the new faces.

**AUXILIARY REPORT**  
*Carol Conway*

Our Veteran's Day Dinner is Friday, November 11th from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

There is a volunteer sheet in the hall. Please sign up to help!

There will be **NO Burger Night** on Wednesday, November 23rd.

Welcome to our new members **Donna King, Ivy Herrera-Garcia, Debra Foster** and juniors **Aubrey Garcia, LaNae Garcia, and Gabriella Garcia**. We're looking forward to seeing you around the Post!

Please turn in your volunteers hours! Your precious time means a LOT!

**BUSINESS REPORT**  
*Bob Heer*

The following volunteers did an awesome job getting

the kitchen reset and cleaned following floor repair: **Dave and Galadriel Potvin, Jim Gibson, George Burton, Brian Conway, Dave Clinger, Mark Ward, and Chuck Elsen**. If I have forgotten anyone, my apologies.

A big thank you also to **Rocky Mountain** for taking care of all the electrical issues. We spent \$2,984.40 having the kitchen range cleaned and calibrated. Everyone who cooks in the kitchen is asked to please help us keep it clean.

Thanks to **Nick Trujillo** we were able to get the brakes on the train working well enough to drive it into the garage for the winter months. *Thanks again Nick.*

## Auxiliary Calendar

**December 17, Saturday, 2 to 4 PM**  
**Annual Children's Christmas Party**

Volunteer and Children sign-up sheets will be posted soon.

**December 10, Saturday, 11 AM to 2 PM**  
**RCI Annual Toy Drive**

Stop by to see those shinning little faces!

**January 19-21**  
**Mid-Year Conference**

Details will be posted on the AUX board.

## Happy 97th Birthday Chuck Morgan



# LAKEWOOD AMERICAN LEGION POST 178

1655 Simms Street

Lakewood, CO 80215

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**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

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**Bob Heer**, Post Manager ..... 303-234-0178  
alpost178@comcast.net

**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



## Veterans Day AUX Spaghetti Dinner

Friday, November 11

11 AM to 7 PM (or until gone)

POST 178 VETERANS DINE FREE — Others \$7

**JOKER  
POKER**



**6 PM FRIDAYS**

## Friday Bands

Liquor Biscuit ..... Nov. 4

Uptown Girls ..... Nov. 11

Country Rd. One ..... Nov. 18

Hands Down ..... Nov. 25



**Early Bird Dinner, 2016**  
**73 Dinners Served**  
**24 No-Shows**

**Thank You**

**Sara Merr**  
**Karen Black**  
**Julie Bloomer**  
**MacKenzie Nelson**  
**Galadriel and Dave Potvin**

