



# THE AMERICAN LEGION



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

1655 Simms Street

Post 178

Lakewood, CO

## Col. Hal Mund (ret.) Celebrates 90th Birthday



Longtime Post 178 member **Hal Mund** turned 90 on October 26th. He and wife **Jean** dropped by the lounge to toast the occasion. Hal and Jean met at a polka dancing club and married 17 years ago.

Hal joined the U.S. Air

want and I'll accept whatever you give me. He took charge of my life and has guided me ever since. Whenever I've had a major concern, and there have been a few, I say, 'Lord you're in control'"

Hal went on to pilot F-86, F-4, F-100, T-33, and



Force in 1952. In 1954, while struggling as a flying cadet, he was dispondent with life. He recalls saying, "Lord, I've had it. Do with me what you



T-37 fighters. He flew 198 combat missions in Vietnam in an F-4 Phantom before retiring from the Air Force as a full Colonel in 1984.

## 50-Year Legion Member Vern Luoma Recognized

**Vern Luoma** has been awarded a Certificate of Continuous Membership conveyed by National Commander James "Bill" Oxford and National Adjutant Daniel B. Wheeler in appreciation for his outstanding record of consistant loyalty to The American Legion and further citing him as an outstanding contributor to Legion programs.

Vern holds Post 178 member card Number One and possesses a wealth of stories about our Post's history. He served in the U.S. Army from 1961 to '67 as an electrician assigned to duty in Thailand and Greenland.



**AUXILIARY CHAPLAIN***Kim Jackson*

*Lord, thank you for your love and care of Veterans everywhere. Help us to be thankful for the things we have and the people you have placed in our lives. May we always be dedicated to improve the lives of the Veterans we come in contact with, giving them hope and the knowledge that we hold them in esteem. Amen.*

**COMMANDER'S REPORT***Mark Ward*

The construction project in the South parking lot is finally complete. A **BIG THANK YOU** goes out to the Post Officers and members who recognized the critical need for the repairs and voted without hesitation to approve the budget. I think all will agree that these upgrades dramatically improved the curb appeal and safety of our Post.

Thanks to the **Early Birds** who renewed their 2022 membership by October 15th. This allowed Post 178 to surpass the National and Department membership quota of 55%. I hope all enjoyed the **Early Bird Prime Rib Dinner**, prepared by our talented chefs, **Bobby Black** and **Randy Baria**. Special thanks to the many volunteers that made the event a success.

Thanks to **Don Gill** for the generous donation of a 2005 Ford Freestyle. Proceeds from the sale will help support the Post's many Veteran's programs. As always, donations of any kind are appreciated. Currently, members who are willing to contribute a little time to volunteer at the Post are needed most.

**AUXILIARY REPORT***Judy Meyers*

The Auxiliary will celebrate **Veterans Day** by providing a **Spaghetti Lunch/Dinner** on Thursday, November 11th from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. Veteran members from 178 eat free. For all others it will be \$8.00. This will occur right as Bingo is finishing so the players will have the opportunity to eat as well.

Remember our general membership meeting on Tuesday, November 2nd at 7:00 p.m.

Menus for November are as follows: Burger Night full menu November 3 and 10. Chili and Cornbread on November 17, and no dinner on the 24th.

The **Angel Tree** will be starting up at the beginning of December. Everyone was most generous last year and allowed us to give healthy donations to many Veterans' causes. Donations can be earmarked for the Angel Tree and placed in the Auxiliary mailbox at the Post even before the actual tree is put up.

**BUSINESS REPORT***Bob Heer*

Many individuals to thank this month for their hard work in getting the Post ready for the change in seasons. First to **Commander Mark Ward** for his tireless efforts in getting the South parking lot improvements completed and both lots re-stripped. Mark put in endless hours securing estimates, selecting contractors, and overseeing the entire project. Awesome job Mark!

**Kathy Schwab** was a godsend in getting the outdoor canopies down as well as cleaning all the flower gardens of the many plants she was instrumental in planting last spring. For those of you who know Kathy she is a whirlwind in getting a job completed. Thanks again Kathy.

**Bob and Mike Black** drilled anchors in the new concrete on the South side of our building and reattached the lattice enclosure. Bob even used a chalk line to make sure it was straight! Thanks guys.

Our back patio is again enclosed thanks to **Bob Black** and **Doug Schwab**. Bob and Doug had to reconstruct some of the aging framing as well as replace exterior sheeting that had become rotted. While Bob and Doug were doing the above, **Bill Beard** jumped in and washed all the doors. Amazing what can get done in a few short hours.

Last but not least a thank you to **Chrissie Garritano** for shopping for and delivering a replacement washing machine. Chrissie was also instrumental in getting our old appliances picked up free of charge. You are all awesome volunteers.

# New Members

**Sandra Arquellowells, USA**  
**Patrio D. McKenzie, USN**  
**Jo Lynn Tessean, USAF**  
**David A. Richeson, USAF**  
**Amanda Garrett, USN**  
**Kim R. Burke, USN**  
**Robert T. Dowling, USN**

# Deceased

**John Lowry, USN**  
**Ron Lubinski**  


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**Doug Powell, USMC**  
**Died 10-14-2021**  
**Services 11-15-2021 at**  
**Post 178, 3:00 to 6:00 P.M.**

**SAL REPORT**  
*Brad Hall*

Another year almost in the books. Time just keeps going faster and faster. Maybe it has something to do with age.

I would like to start off by thanking everyone who helps out at the Post on various functions, duties, side work, and whatever needs to be done. These individuals are often in the background and no one knows what they do. To that point, I would like to say that volunteers are what holds this organization together. Without them, I don't see the doors staying open. So if you have any spare time, go ahead and talk to someone about volunteering for something. It's always happening.

Also, things like cleaning up do not get done by some freak act of nature. If you see empty coffee cups on empty tables, don't be afraid and take them to the bar. If you are on the back patio, and all the ashtrays are overflowing, hey, novel idea.....empty them. Same as paper on the floor, if you're able, bend over and pick it up and throw it away.

I personally would like to thank **Randy Baria** and **Bob Black** for all the times they plan, buy groceries, and cook some of the best BBQ to be had anywhere. Thanks Guys!

Many of you have seen the girls pictured above on Friday nights, Sundays, and almost anytime their life lets them come in and help out. They are not members and they are not of drinking age, however, they respect Veterans, they respect their elders, and they respect the Constitution and what it stands for. If you see them, give them a thank you.

While we are thanking people, let's give **Dave McBrien and his Sunday kitchen crew** some props. They serve upwards of 75 custom meals on Sunday and it would leave a huge hole if they quit volunteering and there was no breakfast on Sunday morning.

Thank a Vet if you see one.

**RIDERS REPORT**  
*Rodney Jones*

Last month we had our first **Taco and Burrito Dinner Night**, with many positive comments. We will be doing it again November 19th, served buffet style. We will still be offering our usual **Steak, Salmon, Pork Chop Dinner** on the 5th of November.

Both dinners have a service time of 5:00 till 7:00 p.m. Please come join us as we love to serve everyone.

After our regular meeting on Saturday, November 6th we will be heading to the **Colorado Veterans Project**. Although the parade is not happening this year we want to go downtown and show our support to all our Veterans. I encourage you to go to their website for any information and activities.

The Riders are jumping to the holiday season as we prepare for our **Annual Heather Grove Thanksgiving Celebration** on November 20th. Our list has been made for the residents of Heather Grove and we will be using the money raised this year to help with both, gifts, and dinners. Special thanks to **Ranya Kelly** and her **Redistribution Center Inc. (RCI)** for helping us with food donations as well as some gifts. Without her we would not be able to do much of what we are doing at the Legion to help others. Her dedication to helping Veterans and families is overwhelming.

The **Angel Tree** will be coming out this month sponsored by the Auxiliary, please consider giving as much you can. Although the tree may only be up for a short few weeks, you can always donate by simply placing any money in the Auxiliary box and noting it to the Angel tree fund.

Our **RCI/Warriors Warehouse Toy Giveaway** is coming up in mid December. With help from **Lisa Rossi**, one of the volunteers, the Riders will be providing pizza for close to 90 children. The Legion will be hosting the party for children of Ft. Carson families. Social distance spacing and masks will be required.

Please remember, volunteers are always needed. Please check with your respective leaders about how you can help. Many hands make light work.



*Koko, Ava, and Kit.*



### Early Birds Get Prime Rib



### THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS

<b>JUDY MYERS</b>	<b>MARK WARD</b>	<b>RANDY BARIA</b>
<b>RUSS SCOTT</b>	<b>KAY SCOTT</b>	<b>BOB BLACK</b>
<b>BARB</b>	<b>KOKO</b>	<b>TOM DAVIES</b>
<b>BRAD HALL</b>	<b>KIT</b>	<b>BETH HALL</b>
<b>KAREN BLACK</b>	<b>RODNEY JONES</b>	<b>CRYSTAL JONES</b>
<b>MARY JOHNSON</b>	<b>DAWN DIMENT</b>	<b>ROB DYNES</b>
<b>DAN WESSELS</b>	<b>DEE YURKO</b>	<b>BOB HEER</b>
<b>MACKIE O'CONNELL</b>	<b>GENA ORT</b>	<b>KATHY SCHWAB</b>

### Member Submissions

The Legion Auxiliary's "Bizarre Bazaar" is in full swing. **Nancy Chandler** has crafted a large quilt she calls "Liberty Bell" that will be raffeled to a lucky winner on Veteran's Day, November 11th. Tickets are available at the Bazaar or in the lounge.

**Nancy and Judy Eberley** operate the Bazaar and also solicit donations for special projects such as Girls State, Black Ops, Alzheimer's Quilts, and Suicide Prevention Journals. Nineteen beautiful quilts donated by Columbine Quilt Guild will be given to Post 178 Vets through Veteran's Day in a new program Nancy has named "178 Hug-A-Vet." Please visit the Bazaar and support Nancy and Judy's fantastic efforts.



**Ranya Kelly** is in desperate need of winter coats to be given to active duty military and their children at this year's RCI Christmas Party held at the Post.

A large box is located in the lounge to collect your contribution of new or slightly used, clean coats. Thanks for your support.

Post 178 webmaster **Larry Posner** reports that our Facebook page (Lakewood American Legion) has been averaging over 1,000 single person opens per month.

Larry deserves credit for the great job he's doing by continuously adding content that attracts viewers. Thank you, Larry.