



THE AMERICAN LEGION

"The Friendly Word" from "The Friendly Post"

1655 Simms Street

Post 178

Lakewood, CO



Auxiliary Serves Over 100 Dinners on Vets Day



Post members gather around Tuskegee Airman Col. James Harvey (seated) and daughter Kathy on Veterans Day.



Auxiliary volunteers pose at left. Judy Eberley, Donna McKelvy, and Nancy Chandler, center, in front of quilts to be raffled. Penny Polston's Granddaughter, Ayala, assisted by Kathy Schwaab, draws the lucky quilt winners, Ron King and Rodney Jones.

AUXILIARY CHAPLAIN
Nancy Chandler

*We come to you,
in unison, to pray for
Post 178.*

The Veterans we serve will need turkeys, toys, hugs, thanks, camaraderie, and support. God bless the Redistribution Center, the Auxiliary Members, The Riders, the Sons, and the Legion who help with this effort. We pray that we find ways to give each other love, respect, a song to sing, a verse to memorize, and a positive dream for the new year. Happy Birthday to Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, and a special salute to all veterans who sacrificed for our freedom to worship as we please. Amen.

Post Everlasting

Ruben Pacheco, 10/26/2022

Peter Aberle, 11/06/2022

COMMANDER'S REPORT
Wes Vanderpool

Happy December Post 178! Hard to believe we are almost through another year, but here we are. To start with, a few words of thanks to everyone that helped out the post in Bob's absence. Thanks to **Randy Baria** and **Kathy Schwaab** for keeping the Post running day to day. Everything from taking deliveries, to reconciling bar tills, kept the place running smoothly wouldn't have been possible without their hard work and dedication to the Post.

Also, a big thank you to former commander **Mark Ward** for taking care of paying bills, reconciling accounts, and handling the secretary of state submittal while I was out of town on a family emergency. He kept everything in order and is always outstanding in jumping in to help.

Thanks to everyone who made the **Early Bird Dinner** possible. We had officers and volunteers from every unit at the Post preparing food, serving, and cleaning up. I also want to send a special thank you to the Riders. During the dinner they were the last group to get food. And after everyone had eaten, without being asked, they helped clean up tables and chairs. Outstanding team effort by the Post as a whole, which really exemplifies what the American Legion is about. I'm proud to be your Commander and be a part of the Post 178 family. **Merry Christmas** to everyone! Ever Forward!

SAL REPORT
Brad Hall

With Christmas and New Years on the way, everyone's schedule is a little hectic so please check the calendar and notices at the Post for dinner/meal schedules outside the norm. Everyone likes to enjoy the Holidays including all the Volunteers who provide the meals. Also, everyone can always use volunteers for their meal dates. See **Dave McBrien** to let him know if you can be available.

Please try and remember the Veterans that need a hand-up during the Holidays. A good way to contribute is the **Auxiliary's Angel Tree** which is standing in the lounge area.

RIDERS REPORT
Rodney Jones

All the Riders would like to thank you all for your support with our **Toy Drive**. We received a great number of toys and gifts. Combined with the Riders at Post 161 and Post 22, we delivered a truckload of toys to **Rocky Mountain Children's Hospital**.

We'd also love to give a special thank you to **Nancy Chandler** for the beautiful quilt she designed and made especially for the Riders! Her handmade quilt was raffled on Veterans Day and the winner was none other than...me.

With constant effort from **Judy Eberley** and **Donna McKelvy** at their table two times a week, hundreds of dollars were raised for **Ranya and RCI**.

I am proud to be a Rider and member of Post 178. The way our membership has shown support to all of the Riders and our family is something everyone should be proud of. This is what we are here for. We thank you all for everything you have done for us!

With December now in our grasp we will be doing everything we can to help celebrate Christmas for some who need some assistance. We have long a list of things we have helped with and are continuing to do. On December 17th we will be hosting, in conjunction with the Auxiliary, **Ranya Kelly's Annual Christmas Party** and toy giveaway. Don't forget the **Auxiliary's Angel Tree**. Your donations help support RCI and these families. Now is the time to show the Auxiliary and Ranya how much we appreciate all of the things they do for everyone at the Post.

Our menus in December won't change, but mark your calendars for the 16th when we'll celebrate birthdays for both **Stephanie Vanderpool** and **Judy Myers**. They will each bring desserts and we'll have live music.

BUSINESS REPORT

Bob Heer

I have been overwhelmed by the support so many of you have given me during my recent hospitalization and recovery. Words cannot begin to express my thanks and appreciation. The huge get-well card so many of you signed was a real pick me up and got a lot of attention from the hospital staff. Special thanks to **Kathy Schwaab, Randy Baria, Wes Vanderpool, and Shawn Bloomer** for keeping the day-to-day lounge operations running smoothly during my absence. They did an awesome job!

The Post will not be open on Christmas Day and may close early on Christmas Eve if there is no business. We will be open for breakfast on January 1.

Have a wonderful holiday season and take it from me, do not take your health for granted.

AUXILIARY REPORT

Kay Scott

Happy Holidays 2022!

The Auxiliary served a delicious Spaghetti Dinner to 57 Veterans and 51 non-Vets. Thank you to all Auxiliary members preparing, cooking, serving, and cleaning up afterwards. The volunteers were **Dee Yurko, Shauna Stockmar, Beth Nalty, Jeannie Whittenburg, Leslie Moore, Sue Vacilek, Carol and Brian Conway, Penny Polston and Granddaughter Ayala, Nickie Donnell, Nancy Marshall, Tanya Kiger, Belinda Tessean, Beth Hall, and Judy Myers.**

Thanks to **Dee Yurko**, the **Angel Tree** is up and ready to receive your money donations. Your generosity will give those Military Families attending the **RCI Christmas Party** additional funds to make the Holiday Season much brighter.

Our **Keep The Kids Warm Project** of hand-knit, crochet, sewn, or purchased baby blankets, baby and children's hats, scarves, ends on December 10th. Please place your donations in the tub on the coupon clipping table in the Game Room. The tub is getting full! Thank you to all donating to this project.

A few Auxiliary and Riders helped pack food boxes at RCI on November 16th. Even though it was a chilly snowy day, we were able to fill 52 boxes with all the Thanksgiving fixings for Vets and disabled Vets in less than an hour! They will also receive a turkey and/or a ham. Thank you, **Ranya Kelly**, for letting us come to help.

The **RCI Christmas Party** is on December 17th and Ranya needs the Auxiliary to help her. Please come to the Post between 9:00 and 10:00 a.m. ready to help.

Ranya and **RCI / Warriors Warehouse** will give away toys and coats to 40 families. Additionally, the generosity of the Post will allow the Auxiliary to give a cash gift to each of these families. The Auxiliary will also provide other assistance as needed during the party.

Thanks to all of our members for your support during the past year.



Bartender Mike Servantes and the Post's Angel Tree on display in the lounge.

"Just Like Dad's" Beef Jerky Program Partners With SOWW

We will be contributing to Special Operations Wounded Warriors (SOWW) by providing the delicious Just Like Dad's beef jerky to the wounded warriors participating in SOWW's programs. Our first event is a hog hunt in February called "Takin' Bacon." About a dozen troops gather to participate in the event and designed to bring some much needed healing as well, and some delicious beef jerky. Just Like Dad's will be in their gear on the hunt. We are so blessed and excited about this new venture.

For more information about Special Operations Wounded Warriors go to sowwcharity.org.
— Randy Kipp



Thank You Veterans Day Volunteers



Dee Yurko, Shauna Stockmar, Beth Nalty, Jeannie Whittenburg, Leslie Moore, Sue Vacilek, Carol and Brian Conway, Penny Polston and Granddaughter Ayala, Nickie Donnell, Nancy Marshall, Tanya Kiger, Belinda Tessean, Beth Hall, and Judy Myers.



Christmas at Post 178



Dee Yurko (left) heads the Auxiliary's Angel Tree Program again this Christmas.

Thanks to volunteer decorators Karen Steggs, Karen Black (both seated), Kathy Schwaab, and Bill and Kim Jackson (standing) for bringing Christmas spirit to Post 178.

