



THE AMERICAN LEGION



"The Friendly Word" from "The Friendly Post"

1655 Simms Street

Post 178

Lakewood, CO

2023 Memorial Day Observed



Departed From Post 178

LEGION

GEORGE BASQUES

JOE BOWERS

RUDOLPH CADORNA

ALAN CATES

GEORGE CHRISTMAS

PHILIP COLLIER

EDWARD JONES

THOMAS KELLER

LARRY KEMPER

DWIGHT LANGLAND

LARRY LITSEY

ROBERT MOCHA

WAYNE MORRIS

GENE O'MALLEY

WILLIAM SCHAEFER

RALPH WARHIME

RONALD WEST

LLOYD YORK

JOE VACILEK

SAL

STEVE NASH

DAVE CALKUM

AUXILIARY

MARILYNN ANDERSON

DOROTHY HALDEMAN

ROSEMARY YOUNG



LEGION CHAPLAIN
Russ Scott

O God, giver of love and life, bless our troops both deployed and at home. Be with the families of those troops and grant them peace. Cover us all with your grace and may you grant our leadership wisdom. Heal this country, and keep her safe. We ask these things in your mighty name. Amen.

COMMANDER'S REPORT
Wes Vanderpool

Hello Post 178! **Memorial Day** was a great success thanks in large part to all of the volunteers who worked tirelessly to make that event happen. The grill was manned by our grill-ologists, **Randy Baria** and **Brad Hall**. Great job on the food gentlemen, and thanks to the **Auxiliary** for their contributions to the lovely picnic!

We have new officers taking their Posts on July 1st. Below is a list of new officers and their positions. We still need a Service Officer to provide knowledge and assistance to our veterans who need help navigating the bureaucratic red tape of the VA. Though that sounds intimidating, we will provide the right person with training and resources to succeed at the job. If you're interested please let me know.

2023—'24 Legion Officers

COMMANDER	WES VANDERPOOL
SR VICE COMMANDER	NICK TRUJILLO
JR VICE COMMANDER	SHAWN BLOOMER
ADJUTANT	NICK TRUJILLO
FINANCE OFFICER	GABE PAGLIERE
CHAPLAIN	MARY JOHNSON
SGT AT ARMS	CHRIS JAMES (CJ)
HISTORIAN	RANDY KIPP
JUDGE ADVOCATE	RANDY BARIA
SERVICE OFFICER	OPEN

A special **Thank You** to **Max Thompson** for his very generous donation to the Post. His contribution to the Legion plus a generous donation to **SAL** went to **Camp Wapiyapi**, which gives children with cancer and their siblings a two-week camp experience so they can be kids instead of constantly facing the harsh reality of cancer. Thanks to Max and SAL, the Post sponsored two children and their families!

Lastly, and as always, we need volunteers at all events and meals. I've had many folks ask about Saturday breakfast being canceled some weekends. The closing is due to the expense of running the kitchen. It costs the Post the same on utilities whether we have a hundred people show up to eat or one person. With Saturday being buffet style, a lot of food goes to waste. There is talk of changing the type of breakfast we offer on Saturdays.

There is also a cost to the volunteers. That cost is time and energy. We have had more volunteers than before, but when it becomes the same people volunteering all of the time they become burned out. In an effort to keep our volunteers sane and able to continue volunteering, we will continue cancelling breakfast on Saturdays when there are no large groups scheduled.

That being said, if you want to be more involved in our Post, pick a meal time and talk to the unit hosting that meal about volunteering. A Legion member can volunteer for **Wednesday Burger Night** or **Sunday SAL Breakfast** as well as **Friday Night Dinner**, even if it's not your unit's meal. We are family at 178 and can all have each other's backs. If you are not sure who is in charge of each a meal you would like to volunteer for, please contact our kitchen coordinator, **Mark Ward**, and he can square you away.

Thanks to all members for your continued support! Ever Forward!

RIDERS REPORT
Steve Petersen

Greetings from the Riders. We are chomping at the bit to be getting out on the road, in spite of the rain!

There is not a lot going on this month as far as charity events. However, we like to keep up with other ALR Posts in support of their events, like Post 22's Poker Run in April in memory of **Dave Bralish**. He was a previous member of Post 178, a great recruiter for the Riders, and a really great dude.

I'd like to thank **Bill Baer** for representing us at "**A Flower on Every Grave**" at **Fort Logan Military Cemetery** recently. We wish all of you God speed and happy trails!

100th Birthday Party Set for Lt. Col. James H. Harvey III

Post 178 will host a party the day of Col. Harvey's 100th birthday on Thursday, July 13th.

Bob Black is cooking brisket with side dishes to be served at 6:00 p.m. and the **All American Big Band** will play from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m.

Let's all celebrate with Harvey and his family on this momentous occasion.

— **Wes Vanderpool**

BUSINESS REPORT

Bob Heer

We have some wonderful members of our Post who give back in many ways. **Max Thompson** is able to help us financially and recently gave each of the Post entities \$5,000 to fund their veteran and youth programs. **Mark Ward** volunteers his time and cooking skills to cook breakfast on Saturday mornings as well as serve lunch on bingo days. **Ron King** has been assisting me in keeping the interior of your building clean by sweeping and mopping the back hall and game room every Monday morning. Thank you for all you do for your Post.

We will have one more member picnic on July 4 kicking off at noon. Like Memorial Day, non-member guests are welcome but will be charged to attend. Adults \$8 and children under 12 \$5. A signup sheet is in the lounge if you can volunteer to be a door monitor that day. We only ask for 30 minutes of your day.

I want to thank the following individuals for checking membership cards on Memorial Day: **Vern and Cheri Schmitt, Les and Sheree Metcalf, Dee Yurko, Kim Jackson, and Doug Lemons.** You always step up to help and it is greatly appreciated.

SAL REPORT

Brad Hall

The **Memorial Day Ceremony and Picnic** was a success. The Ceremony was somber and a lot of people came out which was shown by the number of burgers and brats we served. It was good seeing everyone who showed up.

The **SAL Golf Tournament** will be the 16th of June. Remember, you don't have to play golf to contribute to this event.

The State meetings for all the groups will be held the last weekend of June. Hopefully there are no huge shake-ups to report after the meetings.

If anyone has any questions/problems with their membership, please contact me or our new **Adjutant, Ed Roerhe**, at 720-429-2161 so we can straighten it out.

AUXILIARY REPORT

Kay Scott

On May 17th, a Colorado Coach Bus transported 34 folks to **Bally's in Black Hawk** and were treated to a Burger Dinner at the Post afterwards. I heard fun was had by all and they want to go again soon!

The Auxiliary had the pleasure of serving two **Junior Shooter's Banquets** in May.

Poppy Day, May 26th, was enjoyed at the Post with red paper poppies hung above the bar. Thanks to **Dee Yurko, Kathy Sangl, and Kim Jackson's daughter Shaina** for taking donations for them. Thanks also to **Elene Miles, Lori Kipp, Stephanie, Daisi, and Ruby Vanderpool** for making treats and poppy cookies. Daisi and Ruby, with Stephanie's help, took time out of their Saturday the 27th, to take donations for cookies to the Bingo crowd. Thanks so much! Thanks also to **Becky Beard, Lori and Randy Kipp, Penny Polston and her granddaughter Ayla** for distributing paper poppies and taking donations at King Soopers (Colfax & Robb). All the proceeds for Poppy go to our veteran projects and as well to the VA Creative Arts Festival here in Denver in 2024. And another BIG thank you to **Larry Posner**, for donating twenty-one Poppy-fabric tote bags he sewed to the Auxiliary. He may say he sews them for stress relief, but we are truly blessed by his time and talent!

Our June Auxiliary meeting will be June 6th at 6:00 p.m.

I have had a request to sponsor a **Post Backyard Table Sale**. Individuals purchase a table to use for \$20, bring and sell items as you would for a garage or yard sale. We will decide on a Friday all day and a Saturday 'til noon date at our June meeting.

Wednesday Dinner Nights will be as follows: June 7, full menu; June 14 (Flag Day), burgers and brats on the backyard grill with a side salad following the ceremony; June 21, half chicken dinner with sides' June 28, full menu. Please consider attending the **Flag Day Ceremony** and staying afterwards and eat. Hopefully the weather will be warm so we can eat outside and enjoy the beautiful gardens so many have worked hard to plant and tend. Thank you **Ranya Kelly** for giving us so many plants!

Installation of Officers for 2024 will take place on June 13th at 6:00 p.m. **Colorado Department President Bettina Kossow** will officiate for the Auxiliary and her husband **Chip Kossow, Past Department Commander**, will install the Legion Officers. Please plan to attend, welcome our guests, enjoy light refreshments, and each other's company.



The bus to Black Hawk awaits.

Memorial Day Picnic



Post 178 Playground Project



Thank You SAL Mother's Day Volunteers.



Post 178's new playground project was initiated by Lori Kipp and funded by the Legion and Auxiliary. The work crew included Wayne McClimens, Brad Hall, Lori and Randy Kipp, Brian and Carol Conway, and the Cherokee Trail High School football team.



Barb Bunting's new Mother's Day t-shirt.

