



# THE AMERICAN LEGION

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

1655 Simms Street

Post 178

Lakewood, CO



## American Legion Racers Dominate IndyCar

Last February, IndyCar driver Alex Palou spoke with NBC Sports about representing The American Legion and its Be The One Veterans suicide prevention program. He shared how an active-duty service member attending the opening race of the season spoke with Legion staff at the organization's trackside display about thoughts of suicide. He was immediately put in touch with mental health specialists and connected with members of the American Legion Family.

"He's now surrounded by all The American Legion folks. We saved that life," Palou said. "I'm so proud and privileged to be racing for a cause... with The American Legion and their Be the One campaign. I think that we're raising the awareness of the issue. It all starts by just asking our Veterans if they need help. You never know. You can be the one to save a Veteran's life today."

The 27-year-old Spaniard driving for Chip Ganassi Racing did his part throughout the season chalking up five wins and 10 podiums and claiming the pole at the 107th running of the Indianapolis 500 with the fastest ever four-lap average of 234.217mph. He finished fourth

in the Memorial Day race. At season's end was the runaway 2023 NTT IndyCar Series Champion.

Another CGR driver, Marcus Armstrong, also wearing American Legion livery, was the IndyCar Season Rookie of the Year.

"Supporting our nation's Veterans is of immense importance to our organization and we are humbled to continue



supporting The American Legion's mission in ending Veteran suicide," said Team Owner Chip Ganassi. "We will do absolutely everything we can to help Veterans get

the support they need while raising public awareness of the 'Be The One' platform."

The partnership has delivered measurable results for The American Legion over the last two years including new memberships, fundraising, and overall media reach far surpassing previous marketing goals for



The American Legion.

"We have received an overwhelming amount of support from fans, active-duty military members, and Veterans as a result of this partnership and we're pleased to see it grow," said Dean Kessel, Chief Marketing Officer for The American Legion.

## Auxiliary's Bizarre Bazaar is Raffling Two Quilts

**Donna McKelvey (l.) and Judy Eberley at the**

Auxiliary's Bizarre Bazaar table where you can purchase Legion, Broncos, and patriotic T-shirts and raffle tickets for two quilts.

One of the handmade quilts features images from the U.S. Constitution and was donated by the **Service to Veterans** organization in honor of **Rosemary Young**, who passed away recently. **Marta Fyffe** made the quilt pictured above.



*The Auxiliary is hoping to sell many more tickets*

during Bingo hours through Veterans Day, Saturday, November 11th when the winning tickets will be drawn during the Auxiliary's Spaghetti Dinner.

Your participation makes a positive impact on our communities and military families! The proceeds will fund Christmas presents for our military children. Hope to see you at Bingo and Good Luck to everyone!

**LEGION CHAPLAIN**  
*Mary Johnson*

*Heavenly  
Father, Novem-  
ber is a month*

*of reflection and thanksgiving. We appreciate your bounty and the opportunity to commune with family and friends prior to the frenzy of the winter holiday season. Give us your blessings and enable us to appreciate and be thankful for all the people in our lives that bring us joy, camaraderie, and support. We wish the U.S. Marine Corps a Happy 248th Birthday on November 10th. Amen.*

**COMMANDER'S REPORT**  
*Wes Vanderpool*

We are ever closer to Winter being official and nine Saturdays away from Christmas! Boy this year has flown by. The **Early Bird Dinner** was a great success and though we did run out of Prime Rib, this was the biggest crowd I have seen at the Post. Almost as many people as attended the car show! It was great meeting people who have been members for years and catching up with those who we don't get to see much.

The dinner wouldn't have been successful without all of our volunteers. I especially wanted to thank the following folks for their outstanding service at the Early Bird Dinner; **Shari Davis, Deb Dickinson, Judy Brown, Yvonne Trujillo, Tanya Kiger, Dee Yurko, Karen Scholefield, Judy Myers**, and our wonderful **Chefs Bobby Black, Randy Baria, Brad Hall, and Beth Hall!** If I missed anyone I sincerely apologize, but this event would not have happened without all you! This dinner was truly a Post event with every unit pitching in and working hard to make it successful.

While we are on the topic of meals, I need to remind everyone that starting this month **Saturday Breakfast** will be served on the first and third Saturdays of the month only. This will be the schedule going forward in order to keep our cost down and our volunteers morale up! If you haven't worked a Saturday breakfast yet, I recommend jumping in on one. It is hard work, but it is a very rewarding experience to serve your fellow members and enjoy a free breakfast for volunteering! Volunteering is a core value of the American Legion, and Post 178 always steps up as an example of continuing to serve! It is an honor to serve as Post Commander and as always, Ever Forward!

**AUXILIARY REPORT**  
*Kay Scott*

Our Post now has one location for volunteers to sign-up, located around the corner from the Pickle Cage. The Legion, SAL, Riders, and Auxiliary all have tasks requiring various abilities. Simply write your name on any of the sign-up sheets for duties and events of your liking, and we'll get in contact with you to help you get started helping out!

I was ever so sorry to be away for the **Early Bird Dinner!** I heard 135-140 dinners were served! Thank you so much to **Shari Davis, Deb Dickinson, Judy Brown, Yvonne Trujillo, Beth Hall, Tanya Kiger, Dee Yurko, Judy Myers**, and **Karen Scholefield**. Your time and energy is greatly appreciated.

At our next monthly meeting Tuesday, November 7th at 6:00 p.m., we will make plans for our annual **Veterans Day Spaghetti Dinner**. We'll start serving spaghetti with meatballs, sausage, side salad, garlic bread, and dessert at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 11th after Bingo and continue until 7:00 p.m. Dinner is FREE to all Post 178 Veterans. Two quilts will be raffled and the winners will be drawn during dinner.

Our November meeting will include information about potential **Oratorical** participants Post 178 will sponsor at the contest held on December 2nd. We also hope to make a decision regarding improvements to the Post kitchen pantry. Thank you so much to **Joy Nichols, Shari Davis, Dee Yurko**, and any others I am unaware of helping to clean and organize the pantry.

The Auxiliary is currently taking donations of homemade knit, crochet, sewn, and purchased hats, scarves, and gloves. Our 2nd annual **"Keep the Vets and Little Ones Warm"** drive will continue until December 1st. A receptacle for items is located on the Coupon Clipping Cornier Table in the Game Room and another one is in the Auxiliary Room. Thank you so much for any donations.

**Wednesday Dinner Nights** for November 1st, 8th, and 15th, will be the full menu of Burgers, Fish, Shrimp with sides of Fries, Onion Rings, Beans, and Cole Slaw all for a minimal cost. No dinner will be served on the 22nd, the day before Thanksgiving. On November 29th, we'll warm every one up by serving Chili with Cornbread. Happy November to you and your family!

# Post Everlasting

*Camille Praznik, 10/20/2023*

*Harold Nelson, 10/21/2023 (age 108)*

*Dave McCarl, (Bereavement 11/3/2023, 12:00 PM)*

*Geno Heaston, (Bereavement 11/10/2023, 2:30 PM)*



## BUSINESS REPORT

*Bob Heer*

Thanks to **Nick Trujillo and Robert Gutierrez** our entry ways have all been re-carpeted as well as the lounge office.

Nick personally purchased mats for the entry ways with The American Legion logo. The new carpet and mats are awesome guys!

In anticipation of our first freeze **Kathy Schwab, Linda Quinlan, Judy Brown, Dee Yurko, and Wayne McClimans** cleaned up the back yard including the flower beds. Thank you to all. **Shari Davis** and **Joy Nichols** did an unbelievable job cleaning up the pantry and organizing it with new storage containers donated by Joy. If everyone returns items to where they found them, we can keep it neat and orderly.

Thanks to **Mark Ward** for coordinating the concrete replacement in front of the Post which has eliminated several tripping hazards. Excellent job Mark. I ask everyone who may help out during winter weather events to not go crazy applying excessive ice melt to the new cement. Remember more is not better. Pretend your feeding chickens.

**Todd Whitton** has done an outstanding job of designing and printing new patriotic beverage coasters for our Post lounge. Todd has taken this on totally at his own expense. Please thank him for his generosity when you see him.

## SAL REPORT

*Brad Hall*

It's official, Summer is over. As we move into the Winter months, how about getting involved with some of the goings on at the Post. There is a sign-up sheet by the pickle cage for each organization, just add your name and number so you can be contacted when something comes up.

I need to make a correction to the list of **Car Show Volunteers** reported in last month's newsletter. It was **Bill Black**, not his brother **Bob Black**, who deserves our thanks and recognition. Both of the Black brothers are a great help around the Post, but it's Bill who deserves credit for helping prepare and serve all those racks of ribs at the car show.

The SAL will be doing some special meals in the next couple of months, so please check the Post's weekly email blasts for the latest information.

Memberships are payable now and will need to be done prior to years end so you don't get locked out without a new key card.

With Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Years around the corner, it's a good time to try and remember the troops who are struggling out there. Several opportunities are available to donate time and/or money if possible to make our Hero's lives a little special at this time of year.

## RIDERS REPORT

*Steve Petersen*

Greetings from the Riders. The end of Summer means our fundraising rides are finished for the year. Our next event is the **Annual Chili Cook-Off** scheduled for February 17, 2024. We are already gearing up for next years **RCI Poker Pun** and hope to include Post 161 in the fundraiser.

Post 178 Riders raised a significant amount of funds for the **Colorado Legacy Scholarship Fund** for which we were awarded a **Certificate of Outstanding Support** (see page 5 of the digital newsletter). The award was presented during this years **R.O.M.P. (Ride On Military Pride)** pictured below.



*New beverage coasters designed by **Todd Whitton** and printed by **Mitchell Schmidt** of FRMD LLC. Mitch held his wedding reception at Post 178 several years ago and booked it through a guy named **Bill Radunz**.*





## Thank You Early Bird Dinner Volunteers



### Just Like Dad's Beef Jerky/Hearts of Love Program Update

**Randy and Lori Kipp** report that in the past year and a half over 1,100 bags of beef jerky and 16

care packages have been sent to military troops deployed worldwide. The project has now partnered with Arvada Post 161 member **LuWanda Ford**, whose Pocket Flag Project folds small flags to include in each care package.

Next up is a U.S. Army Special Ops unit

that will receive packages in time for Christmas.

**Stober Elementary's** first graders are coloring Christmas cards and writing "thank you" notes to include in these packages.



Care items are needed for the Hearts of Love packages. The easiest way to contribute is by shopping on the Hearts of Love's Amazon wish list.

These items are shipped directly to Post 178. Please indicate who is sending the items so that we can properly thank each one of you. Scan the QR code to access the Wish List.

Another two or three volunteers are needed to help make the two batches of beef jerky each week. You can sign-up on the Volunteer Board by the pickle cage. We thank **Denny and Donna Bendt** for their faithful dedication to helping make jerky.

Thanks to all the members of Post 178 for your continued support of this unique program.







THIS CERTIFICATE OF OUTSTANDING SUPPORT IS GRATEFULLY PRESENTED  
TO

# AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS POST 178

IN RECOGNITION AND SINCERE APPRECIATION OF YOUR OUTSTANDING  
SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE AS A CAMPAIGN LEVEL DONOR TO THE 2023  
COLORADO LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP FUND CAMPAIGN, WHICH PROVIDES  
NEEDS-BASED COLLEGE AND VOCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS TO CHILDREN  
OF POST 9-11 KILLED IN ACTION, DIED ON ACTIVE DUTY AND GREATER  
THAN 50% DISABLED VETERANS.

PRESENTED BY AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS COLORADO

THIS 27TH DAY OF JULY, 2023

ATTEST:

STEVE "HANDS" HAYES  
AMERICAN LEGION RIDER STATE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN 2022-2023