



THE AMERICAN LEGION



"The Friendly Word" from "The Friendly Post"

1655 Simms Street

Post 178

Lakewood, CO

New Flags Created by Artist Chuck Elsen Adorn Post



U.S. Navy Veteran **Chuck Elsen** is continuing his quest to make our Post the most patriotic in the state and maybe in the nation. Chuck has hung numerous Veteran oriented flags in the lounge and is in the process of attaching similar flags to the chain parking barrier on Simms Street. Please do not drive into them if you park along Simms Street.

Chuck pays for all the associated expenses from money he receives by performing maintenance chores and other duties at the Post. Next time you see Chuck be sure to thank him for all he's doing at our Post. —*Bob Heer*



Dee Yurko Celebrates Her 88th Birthday

Dee Yurko is one of the most prolific volunteers at Post 178. She has been a member of The American Legion Auxiliary for 59 years and shows no signs of slowing down. Happy Birthday, Dee, from all of our membership.



LEGION CHAPLAIN*Mary Johnson*

Welcome to Springtime! As we enjoy the beginnings of warmer weather, we should be thankful for the many blessing that are bestowed upon us every day. We should also remember those who have sacrificed for love of freedom and country so that we may enjoy the new season of the year. As written in Zechariah 10:1:

“Ask the LORD for rain in the springtime; it is the LORD who sends the thunderstorms. He gives showers of rain to all people, and plants of the field to everyone.”

COMMANDER'S REPORT*Wes Vanderpool*

Happy April Post 178! As we transition into the vibrant month of April, I wanted to take a moment to extend my gratitude to each and every one of you for your continued dedication and support of our beloved American Legion Post 178.

First and foremost, I'd like to extend a heartfelt thank you to **Randy Baria, Bobby Black**, and all the incredible **volunteers** who helped make our fifth Friday dinner in March such a resounding success. Your hard work and dedication never cease to amaze me, and the food was truly outstanding, as always. It's moments like these that remind us of the strong sense of community and camaraderie that defines our Post.

Looking ahead, our April membership meeting will be held on Saturday the 13th at 9:00 a.m. I encourage all of you to mark your calendars and join us for what promises to be an informative and engaging gathering. Following the meeting, we'll be offering a complimentary breakfast for all Legion members in attendance. It's a small token of appreciation for your continued support and participation in our Post activities.

During the April meeting, we will also be holding officer nominations. This is an important opportunity for us to shape our future leadership, and I encourage anyone who is interested in taking on a leadership role to step forward and make your voice heard.

As always, if you have any questions, concerns, or ideas for upcoming events, please don't hesitate to reach out. Your feedback is invaluable as we strive to make our Post the best it can be.

Thank you again for your unwavering support, and I look forward to seeing you all at the April membership meeting. Ever forward!

AUXILIARY REPORT*Kay Scott*

I would imagine you are ready for April SHOWERS to bring May flowers!! Let's hope snow and cold are now behind and warm sunshine is ahead of us.

I am so THANKFUL to all those helping to make our annual **St. Patrick's Day Dinner** a success: **Kim Gebinine, Rochelle Hart, David Mull, Jeannie Whittenburg, Kathy Schwab, Joy Nichols, Rosie Fouts, Judy Myers, Yvonne Trujillo, Deb Dickinson, Carol and Brian Conway, Wayne McClimans, Nikki Donnell, Shari Davis, Penny Polston, Karla Scott, Eddie O'Hara, Dee Yurko, Stephanie, and Daisi and Ruby Vanderpool.** Traditional Corned Beef & Cabbage was served to 70 folks and we owe huge debt of gratitude to our own **Ranya Kelly** for her provision meat and veggies.

Our **Wednesday Dinner Nights** in April will be the full menu of Burgers, Fish, Shrimp and sides for April 3rd, 10th, and 17th. On April 24th, **Randy and Lori Kipp** will be serving **“Push's Famous Meatball” dinner!** Come on out and let us feed you a great meal at a great value. Service begins each Wednesday at 5:00 p.m. and ends at 7:00 p.m.

With warmer days ahead, the Auxiliary has many activities planned for which all of our members may want to participate! Our next monthly meeting is Tuesday April 2nd at 6:00 p.m. Please attend if you are able! We have lots of fun activities planned and we want you to have fun with us!

On Sunday April 14th from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. we will be making **Poppy Wreaths.** Please email me (unit178auxiliarypresident@gmail.com) or call me (720-244-1594) and let me know you will be attending so we know how many to plan for.

During the **Memorial Day Picnic** we will host a **Silent Auction**, and these wreaths along with anything anyone wants to donate will be available for bid. Please go through your belongings and donate those unwanted items to us! The Auction will begin after the Memorial Service and end at 2:00 p.m. We will also have a 50/50! All money raised will go to the **Auxiliary General Fund.**

Saturday, April 27th, is the **Community Day of Service.** This year, our Unit, along with all the Units in District 5, are taking donations for the **Community Table in Arvada.** A tub in the Game Room is ready to receive donations of diapers, baby wipes, non-perishable food, and toiletries. Please let me or another Auxiliary member know if you have donation items we can pick up from you. Thank you for helping us help others in need.

FREE Breakfast Saturday, April 13

*All Legion members attending the regular monthly meeting on Saturday, April 13 at 9:00 a.m. will receive a **FREE breakfast** of eggs, meat, potatoes, and toast prepared by **Chef Dave McBrien** at the conclusion of the meeting.*

BUSINESS REPORT

Bob Heer

I want to thank those of you who are not parking full-size vehicles and SUVs on Simms Street as these parking spots are reserved for compact cars and motorcycles. To those of you who continue to park unauthorized vehicles in these designated spots, shame on you. Maybe you should be ticketed like those who park illegally in handicapped designated spots? No, small SUV's do not qualify as a compact car!

Life Line Screening will be here at the Post on April 17th. Advance reservations are required by calling 1 800-640-6307 to schedule one or more of the offered screenings. Flyers with additional information are available here at the Post.

SAL REPORT

Brad Hall

April showers huh? I personally can't wait until it's rain instead of snow that is showering us.

The benefit for **Greg Jensen** turned out to be fantastic! Over \$20,000 was raised. It was great seeing the Post bustling on a Friday and a Saturday. Reminded me of the old days. One of the things I noticed was the number of people from Greg's family who came and supported the function. They cooked, cleaned, were pleasant to be around and generally handled the entire event by themselves. It is great to see a family come together like that for an event such as this.

It seems we forget that the American Legion family loses focus on the mission at hand sometimes. But this event showed us all what we can do if our family steps up for the cause at hand which, is supporting Veterans, Community, and Childrens charities. We can raise a lot of funds when everyone is focused on the end game.

Now another thing; the Sons of the American Legion are a direct off shoot of The American Legion. It would be nice if when referring to our organization people would use the terms Sons or SAL ("SAL" said as the three individual letters not like a person's name "Sal"). In this world of Acronyms, it takes very little effort to say the three syllables.

Reminder that the website is up and running for the **Golf Tournament** in June. I would like to thank the folks that are signing up early. It really helps avoid the mad dash as the date draws near.

Hole sponsorships are available for \$150 for a regular hole or \$200 for a prize hole (long drive, closest to pin etc.)

Thank a Veteran when you see one.

RIDERS REPORT

Steve Petersen

Hello Post 178. Even though the snow keeps coming, we are still planning our year with some clear windows between storms so we can ride out to plan our stops for dice runs. Riding in the snow capped mountains is truly awesome; dry roads, warm weather, and snow all around.

We have an opportunity for a ride to honor **Dave Bralish**, RIP, from Post 22 in May. Our annual **RCI Ride** will be June 29. Hopefully we can secure Riders from some other Posts and elsewhere to make this phenomenal charity the best ever.

The **VFV Ride sponsored by Michael Burroughs**, a past Rider President of Post 178 is coming up on June 22nd. Don't forget the Rider Sponsored **Picnic on July 4th** at our Post. Then on to the **R.O.M.P.** September 6 and 7 in Buena Vista.

Kudos go out to all those who volunteer to support us as we support our charities. Thank you.

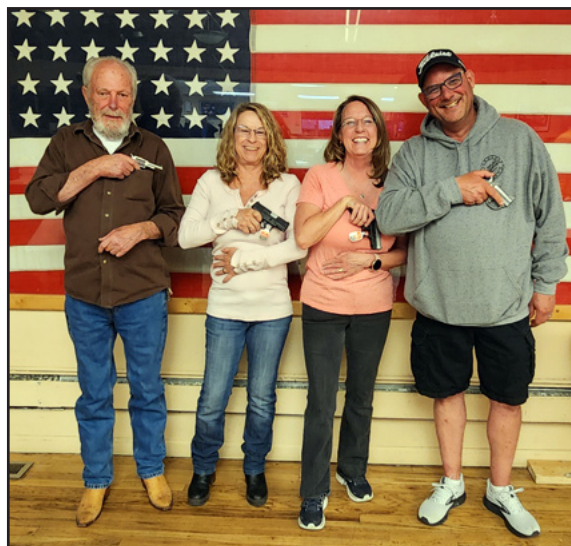
Spring Comes to Post 178



St. Patrick's Day 2024



Greg Jensen Fundraiser Gun Raffle Winners



Randy Baria, Barbra Janak, Kim Meer, Darren Jensen. Bob E. not pictured.



16th Annual

SAL



Tournament

Friday, June 14, 2024

Applewood Golf Course

14001 W. 32nd Ave, Golden

Player / Team Sign-in at 6:30 a.m.

Shotgun Start at 7:30 a.m.

\$90 per Player / \$360 per Foursome

Entry Deadline June 6 (NO EXCEPTIONS)

Prizes and Awards

- *Team Awards for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place*
- *Awards for Longest Drive, Closest to the Pin, and Longest Putt*
- *1st Drink, Lunch, and Door Prizes at Post 178*

Tournament Sponsorship Opportunities

Contact Brad Hall 720-471-9383 (leave a message)

Hole Sponsor \$150

Prize Hole Sponsor \$200

(Includes sign on tee box, recognition at lunch, and in Post newsletter)

Sponsors' Deadline June 1

Proceeds go to SAL Charities

Register online or scan QR Code

<https://tinyurl.com/yx7y3tra>



As Seen in:



This Memorial Day Help Us Place A Flower on Every Grave



<https://victoryforveterans.donorsupport.co/page/FUNUTKXQSNV>

"The Denver area has some truly great donors as we continue to grow 'A Flower on Every Grave' each year. Awesome patriots, great businesses, and wonderful families honor the veterans who gallantly served to uphold our Country's Freedom. Come join us **Memorial Day 2024** and every year thereafter to help sponsor roses and volunteer to place them on the graves at Fort Logan National Cemetery as we celebrate the true meaning of Memorial Day together ~ bring the entire family! Every dollar donated for the flowers goes for the flowers and we allocate 50 cents of every donated dollar annually to reduce veteran suicides. Thank you Castle Rock and surrounding communities."

~ COL (Ret) Mikel Burroughs



Let's take the time to remember those who put their lives on the line so the rest of us could enjoy our freedoms as Americans.

Sponsor • Volunteer • Donate



LOCAL ORGANIZER:

Mikel Burroughs, COL (Ret)

mjb1057@aol.com



*Click to help us make our
2024 Goal of 30,000+ Flowers*

DONATION AMOUNTS:

\$30 = 20 Roses

\$10 for VFW Suicide Prevention

\$75 = 50 Roses

\$25 for VFW Suicide Prevention

\$180 = 120 Roses

\$60 for VFW Suicide Prevention

\$375 = 250 Roses

\$125 for VFW Suicide Prevention

\$ _____ Choose Your Own Donation

One third will go to the Victor for Veterans Suicide Prevention

