



THE AMERICAN LEGION



"The Friendly Word" from "The Friendly Post"

1655 Simms Street

Post 178

Lakewood, CO

Pancakes Net \$2700 for Junior Shooters

Members of the *Arvada Rifle and Pistol Junior Shooting Team*



Shooting Team swarmed all over the Post Sunday, April 7th making and serving pancakes and other edibles to eager breakfast

goers.

Their 50/50 raffle was won by **Pam Gendreau**.



The championship team of Junior and Senior High School students also assists with our breakfasts on the first Sunday of every month.

Our members are extremely proud to support this excellent group of youths from our community.



Post to Sponsor 5 at American Legion Boys State

Wayne McClimens recently spent two days at *Golden View Classical Academy* interviewing high school juniors for this year's American Legion Boys State. Post 178 will provide the \$250 fee for each of the five students to attend the week-long program at Northeastern Junior College in Sterling June 2nd through the 7th. The students selected are **Kyle Zeswing (Golden View)**, **Treyton Benfield (Develyn)**, **William Taylor (Forge Christian)**, **Luke Whal (Golden View)**, and **Fletcher Williamson (Golden View)**. At Boys State they will found a mock political party, create their platform, conduct a convention, campaign for office, and organize city, county, and state governments.

LEGION CHAPLAIN
Mary Johnson

The month of May contains Memorial Day (May 27th), which is a time for honoring and mourning all U.S. military personnel who have died while serving in the Armed Forces.

Dear Lord, we ask for your care and blessing to be showered on all military personnel who have made the ultimate sacrifice and given their lives for freedom and democracy. We ask your blessings for fallen families who feel the loss of a loved one and we ask your protection from our enemies, foreign and domestic. Amen.

On Mother's Day (May 12th) please remember this quote from Isaiah (66:13), "As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you."

COMMANDER'S REPORT
Wes Vanderpool

As we gear up for the month of May, there are two important events on the horizon that I want to bring to your attention.

First, our upcoming membership meeting on May 11th at 9:00 a.m. marks an important occasion for our Post. At this meeting, we will be accepting final nominations and holding officer elections. I want to encourage all eligible members to consider running for a position. Serving as an officer is not just a duty, but a privilege and an opportunity to shape the direction of our Post. Your leadership and commitment are vital to keeping our Post vibrant and effective. Whether you have served in a leadership role before or are considering it for the first time, I urge you to step forward and contribute your skills and dedication to the betterment of our community. The current nominations put forth are as follows:

Commander	Russ Scott	Executive Committee At Large Members	
1st Vice Commander	Nick Trujillo		
2nd Vice Commander	Shawn Bloomer		
Finance Officer	Open Position	1 Year	Bob Palmer
Chaplain	Mary Johnson	2 Year	Chuck Elsen
Sergeant-at-Arms	Chris James "CJ"	3 Year	Mary Johnson

The following positions are open for the next membership year and will be appointed by the elected commander: **Legion Adjutant, Judge Advocate, Post Historian, Public Relations Officer, and Post Service Officer.**

If interested in any of these positions, please email me at commander178@comcast.net or have someone nominate you from the floor during the membership meeting on the 11th.

Second, I want to remind everyone about our upcoming **Memorial Day Ceremony** on May 27th, starting at 11:30 a.m. This is a solemn occasion where we come together to honor the memory of our fallen comrades who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. It's a time for reflection, gratitude, and unity as we pay tribute to all the departed who served and a time of special recognition for members of our Post who passed away since last Memorial Day. I encourage all members to join us for this meaningful event as we stand together in remembrance and respect. Our annual picnic will follow at 12 noon.

Last, I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all our dedicated volunteers who continue to serve our Post selflessly. Your hard work and commitment are the backbone of our organization, and we are incredibly grateful for everything you do.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to American Legion Post 178. I look forward to seeing you at the membership meeting and Memorial Day Ceremony.

SAL REPORT
Erad Hall

Welcome to May. Hopefully the weather keeps warming up and we don't have much more snow this year.

The **16th Annual SAL Golf Tournament** is six weeks away. All sign-ups for foursomes need to be in prior to June 1st. If you're planning on playing, please get your entries in. We are hoping for a large turnout this year to support the Sons of The American Legion charities. We also have room for more hole sponsors. Costs are \$150.00 for a hole or \$200.00 for a prize hole (longest drive, closest to the pin, etc.)

The Sons will be serving smoked chicken dinner with potatoes and veggies Friday, May 10 to coincide with the Johnny O Band.

We still need volunteers for Sunday breakfasts and Friday meals. Please see **Dave McBrien** or fill out the volunteer sheets on the North wall of the pickle cage.

Thank a Veteran when you see one.

BUSINESS REPORT

Bob Heer

Our traditional **Memorial Day Service** and member picnic will kick off with a remembrance service beginning at 11:30 a.m. followed by the picnic. The Post will provide the burgers, brats, condiments and beer. Members are encouraged to bring a dish to share. Please use disposable containers to minimize the number of dishes needing to be washed.

All attendees will be required to enter through the South lounge door and show their membership cards. Non-member guests of our Post members are welcome but must pay \$10.00, and non-member children under age 12 must pay \$5.00. Guests must be in the company of a Post 178 member to be allowed entry. I also want to remind everyone that dogs or other non-service animals are not allowed.

As always, I am asking for volunteers to sign up for a 30-minute shift to check membership cards. If you can help, a sign-up sheet is on the wall by the pull-tab cage or call me at 303 234 0178 to add your name. On Memorial Day the Post will open at 11:00 a.m.

AUXILIARY REPORT

Kay Scott

The beginning of May brings warm sunshine days and leaving behind, at least for a while, snow and cold. I hope warmer weather is a welcome happening for you!

At our May 7th 6:00 p.m. meeting, we will be planning and preparing for **Poppy Day** on May 24th and hosting the annual **Memorial Day Picnic**, Monday May 27th that will follow the 11:30 a.m. ceremony. Hamburgers, hot hogs, and brats will be served from the backyard grill, and we need your donations of sides or desserts to make the meal complete. Please bring your food donation in a disposable container.

A **Silent Auction** of donated items will happen from Noon to 2:00 p.m. on Memorial Day. You are welcome to bring your unwanted treasures anytime and place them on the tables in the Auxiliary Room no later than Sunday May 26th. The proceeds from the auction will go to our general fund serving Veterans.

Election of Auxiliary Officers for 2024-2025 will also be held at the May meeting. Please attend and vote. We welcome your input for what is important to you as an American Legion Auxiliary member at Post 178.

Wednesday Dinner Night meals in May will be the full menu of Hamburgers, Fish or Shrimp, sides of Baked Beans or Cole slaw, Fries, or Onion Rings. The only exception will be on May 22nd as Reuben Sandwiches will be served. Come on out, let us serve you a great meal at a great value.

News Flash! **Judy Myers** is having a **Paint Pouring Class** on Sunday June 2nd from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Mark your calendar and set aside \$30 for the class. A sign-up sheet will be available soon. These classes are usually a sell-out, so don't delay.

RIDERS REPORT

Steve Petersen

Springtime in the Rockies folks! Even with all of the inclement weather, we Riders have been blessed with good days for the dignified escorts we have done.

On April 16th we carried the flags for an escort to Ft. Logan to lay to rest unclaimed remains of fallen service men. However there was one family to claim the remains of their loved one. Then on April 23rd, back to Ft. Logan to lay to rest Rodney Ross who passed away April 13. If any of you know Rodney you know what a great man he was. Always smiling, always positive. He will be missed by many good friends. On April 30th we assembled to escort 13 remaining unclaimed Veterans' remains to Ft. Logan. A solemn month indeed. Yet it is enlightening to attend these services and realize the spirit of freedom and liberty that these and others sacrificed for God and country.

"Just Like Dad's" / "Hearts of Love" Update

Thank you, American Legion Post 178, for the outstanding support given to the "Just Like Dad's" beef jerky and the "Hearts of Love" care packages to deployed troops program over the last two years. By the end of May 2024 over 1,600 bags of beef jerky and 21 care packages will have been shipped to deployed troops all over the world since this program began.

We always love to take care of the deployed troops who are connected to Post 178. So, if you

have family or friends who are deployed or who are about to deploy, please connect them with us.

It's most helpful if we get the troops' email address and/or phone number in order to plan the logistics for everything. You can also just give them our contact information.

Thanks again for your support. We thank all of our volunteers who have come in to help make the beef jerky and put together care packages. God bless.
—Randy and Lori Kipp



Backyard Colors Pop Thanks to Ranya Kelly and Post Volunteers



On April 27th, **Community Service Day**, donations were delivered to the **Community Table** in Arvada. Thank you, **Deb Dickinson**, for taking charge of this project, and thanks for donating.

Dee Yurko, Judy Myers, Daisy Vanderpool, Stephanie Vanderpool, Sheree Metcalf, Shari Davis, Ruby Vanderpool, Kay Scott, Kim Merr, Deb Dickinson, Leslie Moore, Leslie Hughes.

Stephanie, Daisy, and Ruby Vanderpool, and Kay Scott met on April 14th to make the Poppy Wreaths that will be up for bid at the **Silent Auction on Memorial Day**. It was a new craft they enjoyed.



Col. James Harvey is now residing at the **VA Community Center** at Fitzsimons in Aurora. He reports that living conditions are excellent and he enjoys his new residence. He's happy to receive visitors.



Ranya Kelly has been awarded a **Meritorious Public Service Medal** by the Department of the Army for her "contribution to Soldiers, Families, and Veterans through RCI and Warrior's Warehouse. Her extraordinary contributions are in keeping with the finest traditions of service to our country and reflect great credit upon her..."

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