



THE AMERICAN LEGION



"The Friendly Word" from "The Friendly Post"

1655 Simms Street

Post 178

Lakewood, CO

Post 178 Pool Team Vies for Vegas Trip



Post 178's official Pool Team has fresh, new uniforms and is playing 5 games every week over a 13-week season against 6 to 8 other teams. The season ends in December.

Teams with the best records will compete in the playoffs in January with their sight set on a trip to Las Vegas.

The "DD-214ers" consist of eight players; seven Veterans and one Auxiliary member. Players are (l. to r.) **Judy Myers, Chris "CJ" James, Armando Jiron, Russ Scott, Dan McMahon, Russell Enloe** (Team Captain), **Joe Rivera, and Tom Sullivan** (not pictured).

Dick Surratt (5/10/1939 — 10/22/2024)

U.S. Army Veteran, Dick Surratt, a noted midget racer turned drag racer and long-time member of Post 178, passed away October 22nd at age 85. He was the Special Honoree at the Post's 2016 Car Show.



Artist Jerry Potts created award plaques that year featuring a unique rendering of Dick's front-engine dragster. Dick won awards at other Post 178 Car Shows with his 1931 Chevrolet "Vicky" and 1965 Ford Mustang.

After his military service, Dick went to work as a mechanic for Centric Elevator Corporation. He founded his own company, Vertical Transportation Maintenance (VTM), in 1993 and following retirement sold it to Centric in 2005.

Dick's lifelong passion was racing. He loved racing on dirt, and was an accomplished midget racer competing locally at Englewood, Lakeside, and Rocky Mountain Speedways as well as venues from coast-to-coast. He was well-known and well-liked, and counted Tony Stewart among his many top-tier racing associates.

When health issues forced him to give up midget racing, he undertook the challenge of building a dragster in his well-equipped home garage. Dick's front-engine "Half Fast" dragster, so-named for its supercharged

4-cylinder Pontiac Tempest engine, was the same configuration conceived by one of his heroes, the legendary Mickey Thompson. Thompson set a record with his version in 1967 which had never been broken.

In 2018, Dick and his team of Ken Lawrence, Don McIntire Jr., Don McIntire III, Larry Parenteau, and son Ken, covered the quarter-mile in 8.84 seconds at 149 mph, eclipsing



Thompson's 9.50 elapsed time. It was a significant accomplishment in Dick's life and the sport of drag racing.

Dick is survived by wife, Betty; son, Kenneth; daughter, Penny Murrison; and grandchildren Keycee, Cori, and Cody. He was one-of-a-kind, and will be missed by the racing community and his many friends.



LEGION CHAPLAIN
Mary Johnson

It's November and fall is finally upon us. Now we enter a month of Thanksgiving and the beginning of the winter holidays. We celebrate the U.S. Marine Corps birthday on November 10th and we remain thankful to all active duty military, veterans, and their families.

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. — Philippians 4:6

COMMANDER'S REPORT
Russ Scott

A HUGE thank you is in order for all those helping make the **Early Bird Dinner** a great success. **Bobby Black** and his crew served a delicious Prime Rib.

Thanks also to those members renewing their membership to our Post for another year. With thanks to **Nick Trujillo** for taking his time to compile the list, I am able to recognize the following twenty-four Legion members with 40 or more years of membership:

40 Years or More Post 178 Legion Members

| | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Theodore Bajorek | Elmer Flath | Jon Kelly | Thomas O'Connor |
| Gilbert Blakey | Robert Freeman | Ellis Linn | Noel Olebos |
| Frank Briels | Edward Guthmueller | John Lippke | Michael Pearson |
| Alfred Busnardo | William Harris | Robert Luchsinger | Arthur Peterson |
| Robert Cowan | Gary Jalbert | Vern Luoma | William Pino |
| Terry Dikeman | Stephen Johnson | Frank McNierney | Russell Zingelman |

I have received some comments from people about the political conversations that are taking place in the Post. This is not to be tolerated as some of the conversations turn into name calling and disrespectful comments. Leave your political views at home or at the door. All members and guests are to be treated with dignity and respect no matter their political views, beliefs, or affiliation. We are a veteran organization which serves all members, sons of veterans and auxiliary; and as such we are to treat all with the utmost respect. If you can't comply with this directive then don't come in, or you will be asked to leave.

Les Hays has made his last Wednesday bread run and we need someone to step up and take over. This not only serves the Post but helps **Ranya Kelly (RCI)** who we support with all she does.

We need volunteers at the Post or the Post doesn't operate. Check the volunteer board for more ways to get involved.

The regular monthly meeting scheduled for November 5 at 6:00 p.m. is canceled. It's Election Day! Get out and vote if you haven't already done so.

AUXILIARY REPORT
Ray Scott

Here we are amid a beautiful warm Fall looking toward the end-of-the-year celebrations and holidays. I want to thank each member of our Post helping to make the **Early Bird Dinner** a delicious success. **Bobby Black** and his crew served up a great meal. A hearty pat on the back to **Ed Roehre, Jim Hutton, Jeannie Whittenberg, Dee Yurko, Judy Brown, Beth Hall, Brad Revard, Karla Scott, Wayne McClimans, Dave McBride, Randy Kipp, Shari Davis, Sherri Mitchell, Joy Nichols, and Mark Ward.** Please forgive me if I have omitted someone.

Keeping up with membership dues every year is no easy task. In case you are not aware, **Nick Trujillo (Legion), Judy Myers (Auxiliary), and Ed Roehre (SAL)** are the volunteers spending a lot of time processing new member applications and renewals. Please thank them when you see them for all they do.

In this issue of the newsletter we are recognizing all those Post 178 members with forty years or more of American Legion, Auxiliary, SAL membership. Thank you to **Nick Trujillo (Legion), and Brad Hall (SAL)** for putting up with me during this project.

Auxiliary forty-or-more-year members include **Linda Braden, Willa Janssen, Linda Simpson, and Dee Yurko.** Thank you ladies for your continued association and contributions to this organization.

Beginning November 1st, the **Angel Tree** will be up and ready to receive monetary donations that will be given to the military families at the annual **RCI Christmas Party** right here at the Post on Saturday, December 14th. An angel ornament, color of your choice, will be hung on the Angel Tree. Thank you so much in advance for your donation, and let's make the Tree merry and bright!

No Auxiliary meeting this month; our meeting would normally be on November 5th which also happens to be Election Day. Please vote!

Veterans Day Dinner is fast approaching on Monday, November 11th and the Auxiliary will be serving

our traditional Spaghetti Dinner from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. The dinner comes with a green salad, garlic bread, and cake for desert. Post Vet members eat free and non-Vets pay only \$9. A sign-up sheet is posted on the Volunteer Board by the Pickle Cage to help with preparation and serving. Preparations will begin on Sunday November 10th and any time you will be able to assist us Sunday and/or Monday is greatly appreciated.

Please see the November Calendar for our Wednesday Dinner Menus and note that we will not be serving on the 27th as it is the night before Thanksgiving so our cooks can prepare and serve family feasts at home.

BUSINESS REPORT
Bob Heen

A big thank you to **Ron King** for coming in once a week to sweep and mop both the game room and back hall. Your help is really appreciated Ron. I also want to thank **Tom Peterson** and **Rob Ostrander** for winterizing and covering our evaporative coolers for the season. Huge help Tom.

On Monday, December 2 we will be hosting Life Line Screening. Flyers are available in the lounge that provide information regarding the tests available and how to schedule an appointment. On December 6 we will be offering a free seminar on wills and trusts. The seminar begins at 5:00 p.m. This is not a sales seminar. It is sponsored by a 501 C 3 non-profit organization that will provide information and all forms you may need free of charge. See the advertisement below and look for information to follow.

There will be no bingo or food on Thanksgiving Day but the lounge will open at noon that day.

Last but not least I want to thank **Les Hayes** for the many years he has volunteered on Wednesday picking up days of bakery products from Costco for our Bread Store. Les' last day doing this was October 23 and he will be greatly missed. If anyone would like to take on what Les had been doing on Wednesdays please contact me at the 303-234-0178. I am also posting a sign-up sheet in the lounge soliciting volunteers. Even if you are available on a limited basis we can use your help.

SAL REPORT
Brad Hall

It was great seeing some members who don't come to the Post very often pass through the line for the **Early Bird Dinner!** Everyone involved with the preparation, serving, and clean-up did a bang-up job.

Not much happening in the SAL for November; time to take a breath.

We have scheduled one of our famous **Rib Dinners** for Friday, December 13th. The evening include music by **The Deltasonics**.


If any SAL members have anything to say or put into the newsletter, let me know by the 15th of the month and we'll see about getting it in the newsletter. (A better way would be attending our monthly meeting which is always on the first Thursday of the month.

Time is creeping up on us, so get your dues for 2025 paid. Thank a Veteran when you see one!

Revocable Living Trusts with "Pour-Over" Will

Friday, December 6, 2024 at 5:00 PM


Learn more about us or donate on our website:
www.bonavias.org




The Bona Vias Foundation

Our mission is to promote and enable economic equality and personal prosperity for all people.

Our 501(c)(3) charitable organization specializes in continuing adult education. All donations are tax-deductible and provide FREE public educational services in Academic Development, Financial Management and Professional Advancement.



Introduction to



SAVE \$1,800!!!

All document templates will be provided FREE to all attendees.

© 2024 - The Bona Vias Foundation

Artist Jerry Potts Contributes Wall Hanging to Post 178



Nationally acclaimed artist Jerry Potts was named Post 178's Car Show Special Honoree in 2024. Jerry has created most of the award plaques for our car shows over the years. He so appreciated being selected for recognition this year that he created the rendering shown above in the center of past Car Show award plaques, and donated it to our Post. Thank you, Jerry.



The Auxiliary's 3rd Annual Knit Drive is underway and accepting donations of knitted and crocheted items now until December 13th. Collected items will be given to Veterans and their families at Ranya Kelly's Annual RCI Christmas Party at the Post on Saturday, December 14th. "Keep the Little Ones and Veterans Warm This Winter" by



dropping sweaters, gloves, hats, scarves, etc. into the collection box in the Lounge pictured above. The Auxiliary's Angel Tree will be up in the Lounge from November 1st until just before the RCI Christmas Party. Please place your monetary gifts into one of the colored envelopes on the tree. All donations will be given to Veterans at the RCI Christmas Party.



Post 178 has a new fence along the south side of our facility. It is a collaboration with our neighbor, Lakewood Manor. The Post will pay for half the cost and receives an addition that contributes nicely to our property.