



# THE AMERICAN LEGION



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

1655 Simms Street

Post 178

Lakewood, CO

## Bizarre Bazaar Raises \$3,000 For Vets

This year's version of the Legion Auxiliary's Bizarre Bazaar turned in \$3,000 to be doled out to Post charities.

Thanks go to **Judy Myers, Shari Davis, Mark Ward, Tracy Garner, Leslie Schomer, Shannon Sanchez,**

**Judy Eberley** (r.) put in countless hours over many weeks selling a wonderful variety of unique items at the Bazaar, plus tickets for the quilt raffle.

She was ably assisted by volunteers **Donna McKelvy, Kay and Russ Scott, Sharon Koehly, Carol Doe-hler, Shari Davis, Joy Nichols, and Kathy Schwab.**

The Auxiliary's Veterans Day Dinner was a true success in so many ways. Volunteers served 89 spaghetti dinners. Their crew of new and seasoned members was outstanding!



**Cleo Wickersham, Deb Dickinson, Niki Holland, Isabel Duran, Judy Brown, Bonnie Stocker, Leslie Moore, Lani Rogers, Beth Nalty, Sandi and Eron Gailey, Noni Parr, Sheree Evans-Met-calf, Nancy Carter, Susie Rice, and Diana McCarl.**

The many Vets who enjoyed dinner at the Post were joined by a host of scouts from Troop 748 near Green Mountain who brought dozens of thank you cards made

by them and presented to our Veterans. Pictures on P4.

## Veterans Day Quilt Winners



Bizarre Bazaar raffle winners were drawn during Veterans Day festivities at the Post. **Rich Rooney** (l.) purchased his winning ticket in September at the Post's annual Car Show, where he also took home Best of Show honors for his immaculate 1950 Ford Crestline. SAL member **Eric Miller** (r.) had the winning ticket for the largest quilt prominently featuring the U.S. flag. **Carey Dietz** (not pictured) was the third quilt winner. Congratulations to all three winners.



**LEGION CHAPLAIN***Mary Johnson*

Happy Holidays for the month of December. We need to remember the tragic effects of the Pearl Harbor invasion on December 7th and celebrate the 5th birthday of the U.S. Space Force on December 20th. Then, we embark on the winter holidays of Christmas (Dec 25th), Hanukkah (Dec 25th-Jan 2nd) and Kwanzaa (Dec 26th -Jan 1st). I pray for blessings on all veterans, their families, and friends and hope for peace throughout the season. I will leave you with these:

**Translated Prayer for Hanukkah:** *Blessed are You, Our God, Sovereign of all, who has kept us alive, sustained us, and brought us to this season.*

**Prayer for Kwanzaa:** *We ask that the spirit of Kwanzaa be infused into every aspect of our daily lives, that we may constantly remember the benefits and obligations of family, community, and nationhood. May the light of the seven candles illuminate our daily affairs and guide us into fulfillment of our true potential.*

**Bible Verse for Christmas:** *For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. — Isaiah 9:6*

**COMMANDER'S REPORT***Russ Scott*

Thanks to **Chris "CJ" James** and **Jim Hutton** for volunteering to participate in our **Veterans Day** presentation at the **Belmar School of Integrated Arts**. We performed the U.S. flag folding ceremony that includes an explanation of what each fold means. The event was attended by the full school, both students and faculty. We received many thanks from both, and especially from the principal and the librarian who had invited us to participate.

Looking forward to December, we are planning a **Secret Santa** event. We think it will be lots of fun for everyone who attends. We will let everyone know how to join in the fun and what to expect at the event. Look for the day and time to be announced. All proceeds to go towards the Post 178 insurance fund.

A HUGE thank you to **Les Hayes** for your time, energy, and gasoline doing the bread run on Wednesdays for many years, delivering treats from Costco to our Post and also to Camp George West. We also assists **Ranya Kelly** load her **RCI** truck for weekly trips to Ft. Carson.

Taking Les's place is **Rick Korona**. Thank you Rick for stepping up. **Bill Black** and **Steve Petersen** continue to do the Monday and Friday runs respectively. When you see Rick, Bill, and Steve, please give them a hearty 'thank you' for all they do.

*Les Hayes***SAL REPORT***Brad Hall*

Already the end of another year! I cannot believe how quickly 12 months goes by now a days.

On Friday, December 13th we will serve **Bob's Famous Ribs** at our SAL dinner. Music will be provided by **The Delta Sonics**. Come on out and enjoy a great dinner and band.

Also, the **Jackson Clan** will be making their famous pizza on Friday, December 27th. Come in for a cocktail at the bar and a slice or two of pizza. Be aware that full pizzas will be limited because our ovens cannot keep up with the demand. Prices will be announced later.

Members, please keep getting those dues to the Post. If you don't have your new membership/key card on January 1st, you won't be able to get in the door. And it may be very cold outside.

Remember, there are several opportunities to volunteer every month. Breakfast on Sundays can almost always use help as well as the 2nd and 4th Friday nights each month. There is a sign-up sheet on the pickle cage wall, or say something to **Dave McBrien** if you want to volunteer.

Suggestions for the newsletter are always welcome. Please bring your ideas to me.

## BUSINESS REPORT

Bob Heer

Don't forget the **FREE seminar** providing an introduction to revocable living trusts with "pour-over" wills on December 6th at 5:00 p.m. Document templates will be provided free to all attendees.

**Max Thompson** effectively started the Christmas giving season with his gift to the Post of \$5,000. Your generosity Max is greatly appreciated and, as you know, your donation will be put to good use supporting Veteran programs.

Big thank you to **Rob and Jen Ostrander** for washing all the windows here at the Post. I also want to thank **Rick Korona** for volunteering to pick-up Costco donations on Wednesday's.

A significant change has been implemented in the lounge relative to the use of credit cards. The service fee that the Post used to pay will now be paid by the card user. We also have a new hand-held card reader that will expedite the checkout process and means the credit card never leaves its owner's hand.

The Post will be closed on Christmas Day to allow staff to spend time with family and friends. Last but not least, I want to wish all of our members a very **Merry Christmas**.

## AUXILIARY REPORT

Kay Scott

Happy Holidays! I hope this finds all of you recovering from a delicious Thanksgiving meal! Here we are again in December hopefully preparing for time with family, holiday lights, festive gatherings, and making memories. This season is not that way for everyone though, so please reach out to others and be mindful to take time to visit, make a phone call, and be a good neighbor and friend.

The **Angel Tree** is up in the lounge and ready to accept your monetary donations to pass on to the Military families attending the **RCI Christmas Party** on December 14. Your generosity gives them the much needed extra money to make their Holiday special. Envelopes are next to the tree in which you can place your donation. An angel with your name will then be hung on the tree. A HUGE thank you to **Beth Hall** for carrying on this project begun years ago by **Dee Yurko**. Thank you Dee for your passionate care.

Our third annual "**Keep the Kids and Vets Warm**" project gathering hats, gloves, scarves, afghans, socks, all handmade or purchased, will end on December 13th. All of these donations will be offered to those attending the **RCI Christmas Party** on the 14th. Ranya will distribute anything left over to other Veterans in need. A donation tub for these items is located inside the east entrance. Thank you to all that have donated.

Serving Times have changed for **Wednesday Dinner Nights!** Until further notice, our service will begin at 4:30 p.m. and end at 6:30 p.m. And if the weather is cold or snowy with slick roads, our meal may be cancelled or end early. If in question, please call the Post and ask the Bartender if our dinner is being served.



Beth Hall is now heading up the Angel Tree Project.

A joint **Holiday Party** is being planned for Saturday December 21st beginning in the afternoon after Bingo. Save the date and plan to be with us! More details will be sent to members via email.

Our **December Auxiliary Meeting** is Tuesday, December 3rd at 6:00 p.m. Please attend and help us get the new year off to a great start.

Please see the December calendar for your dinner offerings in December and note that there will be no dinner served on the 25th. Have a very **Merry Christmas!**

# Revocable Living Trusts with "Pour-Over" Will

Friday, December 6 at 5:00 PM

Attendance is **FREE**

# 2024 Veterans Day at Post 178



Veterans Day Volunteers (l. to r.) Orlando, Les Metcalf, Mary Johnson, Russ Scott, Mark Ward, Pete Praznik, Randy Baria, CJ (Chris James).



Kitchen Volunteers (l. to r.) Leslie Shomer, Niki Holland, Dee Yurko, Bonnie Stocker, Kay Scott, Judy Myers, Sheree Evans-Metcalf, Beth Nalty.

