



## Tis the Season to Recognize Our Volunteers

As we approach the end of another year at Post 178, we extend our deepest gratitude to the volunteers who give their time, energy, and heart to our keeping our Post vibrant.

Whether you volunteer regularly in the kitchen, help at special events, or step up wherever a hand is needed, we recognize your selfless efforts and are thankful for your dedication.

Our Post thrives because of people like you—members who show up early, stay late,



Beth Hall, Angel Tree.

take pride in our Post, and support veterans, fellow members, and guests.

Your service embodies the very spirit of The American Legion. You remind us that community is built by the people who care enough to contribute.

Thank you for your generosity, your teamwork, and your unwavering commitment. We are stronger because of you. Whatever role(s) you fill as a volunteer at Post 178, you deserve our utmost respect and sincere gratitude.



Auxiliary Special Events Volunteers



Veterans Day Volunteers



Thanksgiving Day Volunteers



Sunday Breakfast Volunteers

**LEGION CHAPLAIN***Mary Johnson*

Here we are in December and the holidays are fast approaching. This month has many to honor and much to celebrate. On December 7th, we honor fallen veterans on National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day and we celebrate the birthday of the U.S. National Guard on the 13th. Following those are celebrations of Hanukkah (14th-22nd), Christmas (25th) and Kwanzaa (12/26-1/1).

The holidays can be full of joy, friendship, and family. However, they can also cause stress, loneliness, and anxiety. So, this month I encourage everyone to reach out to those less fortunate and to find balance in all you do for the festivities. On that note, I leave you with two bible verses:

*“Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.” —John 14:27 (KJV)*

*“Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!” —Psalm 46:10*

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

It has been brought to my attention that we have members coming to the Post and expecting to get in before 11:00 a.m. Bob's office door is NOT a way to enter the Post. The bartender will open doors at 11:00 a.m. and then members can enter. Please don't arrive at the Post before 11:00 a.m. expecting to get in.

Once again **Max Thompson** has generously donated to the Post family. His contribution is appreciated and very thoughtful. Thanks to his support we continue to support veterans. **Thanks Max!!!**

We need people to step up and serve as Post officers. We need a **Finance Officer** for the coming fiscal year starting July 1, 2026. I have not decided to stay on as **Commander** or pass the position to someone else. Both positions need to be filled in order for Post 178 to continue in its mission to serve veterans.

Meaning of **The American Legion Preamble** continued: Part 5. To preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in all wars.

Service in defense of America is the greatest experience in the lifetime of all veterans. Recalling the highlights of that service means more than flashbacks to tense moments of experience and danger in battle, the grime of muddy trenches, the perils of sub-infested oceans, the combats in the wild blue yonder. It means also the unerasable recollection of the comradeship, the bravery of pals, the teamwork, the sacrifices, the miseries and hardships of military campaigns shared in common. It means the bond that binds all ex-servicemen and women together in mutual affection, respect and gratitude. It also means keeping green forever the memories of the supreme sacrifices of gallant American patriots, sacrifices necessary to the winning of wars. It means faithful annual observance of Memorial Day and Veterans Day.

**AUXILIARY REPORT***Kay Scott*

**Veterans Day** at the Post was a fun-filled day celebrating our veteran members with an additional Bingo day! Twenty-seven members were given a free \$5 card (no promises of a win though!). After Bingo our traditional **Spaghetti Dinner** was served and another **HUGE Thank You** to all volunteers for helping make this meal a great success: **Judy Myers, Shari Davis, Dee Yurko, Diana McCarl, Susie Rice, Joni Dokken, Sandi and Eron Gailey, Kathleen O'Riley, Niki Holland, Shannon Sanchez, Glenna Aurich-Phelps, Tracy Garner, Jan Casper, and Dita Alexander.** Please forgive me if I left anyone out. Thank you to **Max Thompson** for his generous donation to the Auxiliary.

**Bizarre Bazaar** concluded this year with great thanks to **Judy Eberley**, as she took donations for snacks, crafts, conducted 50/50's, and raffled quilts during every Bingo day starting in mid-September. The final total raised was over \$3,000, all of it given to the **Angel Tree** project!

Thanks also to **Jen Burgess'** mom, **Debbie Melvin**, for the beautiful patriotic quilts she made.

**SAL REPORT***Brad Hall*

Not a lot to report on from the SAL this month. Mostly we are taking it a little easy to let all enjoy the Holidays with their families and friends.

Thank you **Jackson Family** for the awesome pizza last month. I would also like to thank **Mike and Kathy Velasquez** for stepping up and taking some Friday Night Dinners off **Dave McBrien's** hands. Dave's time, as most know, is pretty much consumed by his Sunday Breakfasts.

A big thanks to **Max Thompson** for his very generous donation. It is a huge help to our organization.

This reminds me, I would like to thank all the kitchen volunteers on Sundays for their continued efforts. I shouldn't have to remind anyone that all these folks are volunteers. Thanks a bunch **Dave, Mike, Ricky, Stephen, Nancy, Ed, Chip** and all the others that help out on Sundays. Please stick your head in the kitchen and give them a well-deserved shout-out and a thanks.

Hope everyone has a **Merry Christmas** and a **Happy New Year.**

## 2025 Veterans Day at Post 178



### BUSINESS REPORT

*Bob Heen*

Thanks to **Max Thompson**, Santa has come early to the Post. Max donated \$5,000 which he asked be divided equally between the Lounge, Legion, Auxiliary, SAL and Riders. Your generosity Max is greatly appreciated and will help fund our many veteran programs. Thank you again Max for your gift, you are awesome!

Over the past several weeks we have experienced frustration with our credit card machine going off-line. I have been working with the vendor and are optimistic we have it repaired. Thank you for your understanding.

Recently I have non-working members showing up before we open and using the lounge office as their entry point to the Post. This is a business office and it is very disrupting when people just come and go as they choose. Going forward I am going to keep the office door locked and am asking you to respect our opening time and not bang on the door to get in.

Monday through Friday we open at 11:00 a.m. On days we serve breakfast we open at 9:00 a.m. Your cooperation is appreciated. We will be closed on Christmas Day but will be open on New Year's Day. Have a wonderful Christmas season.

### RIDERS REPORT

*Steve Peterson*

We hope you had a wonderful **Thanksgiving** and weather to match.

We are gearing up for next year's rides. The **RCI Ride** in June will include a cookout and a raffle for **Ranya Kelly**. She does so much for her Post, (178), and of course veterans, enlisted, and so many other charities. The funds raised during the ride mostly go to cover the cost of travels associated with picking up and delivering all the donations collected by Ranya to **Warriors Warehouse** at Ft. Carson in Colorado Springs. Ranya also purchases food for our Post we use in our kitchen.

Since we have aligned the Riders with the **Veterans 4 Veterans** group we get more play for our rides, which benefits us greatly. In the coming year we will also continue to help the **Special Forces, CVMA**, (combat vets), **Eagle Riders, Veterans MC**, and **Post 22, Post 161**, and **Post 1**.

We are all raising funds for our charities. By the way, CVMA and Special Forces come to the Post 178 regularly for meetings and breakfast. Say hi and thank them for their support of our Post.

Did you know many have said we have the best facility among all the other Posts. It's not a competition but good to know we ARE **"The Friendly Post."**

Keep up the good work and have a **Merry Christmas!**

## Veterans Day Quilt Recipients



Dick Wellensiek, USN



Bizarre Bazaar raffle winner **Art Riggins** with **Judy Eberley** and quilt-maker **Deborah Melvin**. Winner of the second quilt, Arvada Legion Post 161 member **Deb Schell**, is not pictured.



Ed Kenner, USM



Leonardo Berumen, USA



Susan Malott, USA



Jack Donnell, USN



Joe Venhuda, USAF  
Leconca Smith, USAF  
Richard Sangl, USA



David Lesure, USA



Arthur Riggins, USA



Curtis Burow, USA  
Ed Van Harn, USAF



Robert Perkowski, USAF  
Jerry Montoya, USAF



Robert Crochran, USA