



“For God and Country” GEORGE C. EVANS POST 103 “United We Stand”

“The Leader Post” July 2013

Editor: Harry Ciruli- 720-287-2139 adjutant@legionpost103.org
 Website-www.legionpost103.org



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 7-18-2013 - Bingo – Slammers Bingo Hall
- 7-25-2013 - Bingo – Slammers Bingo Hall
- 8-1-2013 - Bingo – Slammers Bingo Hall
- 8-5-2013 - Officers meeting –Buck Rec. Center – 7:00 PM
- 8-7-2013 – General Membership Meeting-Buck Rec. Center- 7:00 PM.
- 8-8-2013 - Bingo – Slammers Bingo Hall
- 8-15-2013 - Bingo – Slammers Bingo Hall
- 8-17-2013 - Western Welcome Week
- 8-18—8-21- Littleton Lions Baseball Tournament
- 8-22-2013 - Bingo – Slammers Bingo Hall
- 8-29-2013 - Bingo – Slammers Bingo Hall

Buck Rec. Center—2004 W. Powers Ave., Littleton, CO
 Slammers Bingo Hall-1884 S. Wadsworth-Lakewood, CO

COMMANDER’S COMMENTS: First and foremost, I want to thank Mike and Darlene Romero for an outstanding year for the Littleton American Legion Family. Both the Post and Auxiliary had a very great year but that was accomplished through dedication, consistency, hard work, leading by example and humility. We Salute and Thank You both for a very successful year and for the recognition the Post and Auxiliary received at the Colorado State Convention in Fort Collins.

I am humbled and honored to be your new Commander and pledge to do my best to follow the past great leaders of the Post. I want to thank Bud Goodwin for presiding over the installation and for all of you who have helped mentor me and whose guidance I will continue

to rely on this year. Our now Past Commander, Mike Romero has made the transition easy and will continue to be a friend and advisor as I settle into my new role. We have a fantastic Executive Board and I thank each of them for stepping up for another year (some in new positions) or for their first year of service as Officers in the Post. I thank Nick Arceo for being installed as our first ever Sons of the American Legion (SAL) Squadron Commander. I look forward to working with the membership, Program Managers, Officers, Auxiliary and SAL this year. Please contact me with any questions, concerns or new ideas.

Past Commander, Mike Romero has set the bar high, but he has built a springboard for future accomplishments. We have our updated Post's Constitution, By-Laws and Policies. We have a membership base that has grown significantly and we will attempt to continue that trend. We have a solid base of activities and programs and we will continue to make minor adjustments to these and expand into new areas where the membership has expressed an interest. I want to try to focus more of our efforts locally. That is to serve the veterans, their families, the schools, the children in the local communities. We have always had great programs and will continue to support these but there may be opportunities to bring some of these "Closer to Home". I am looking to the membership to help us identify opportunities to respond to local needs.

Upcoming events include Littleton Lions hosting the District American Legion Baseball Tournament, Littleton's Boys State Samsung Scholarship Winner is scheduled to speak at the August 7th Post Meeting and the Western Welcome Week Parade is scheduled for August 17th. More information on these is included in this newsletter.

Ed Pietsch

Commander

General Meeting Minutes

Commander Mike Romero gaveled the meeting to order at 1900 hours

1st Vice Commander Ed Pietsch performed the ceremony to recognize all POW's and MIA's.

Adjutant Harry Ciruli declared that there was a quorum present.

Acknowledgement of Past Commanders: Rich Carlson, Pat Callahan, John Palmquist and Bud Goodwin. Thanks to one and all for fulfilling this vital role!

Guest: Richard (Dick) Barney, transferring from Post 377, Kenner, Louisiana. , and Al Kravitz, U.S Navy and a Littleton native. Welcome aboard gentlemen!

The minutes of the July, 2013 meeting have been sent either electronically or by hard copy. There was a motion made and seconded to accept.

Outgoing Commander Mike Romero delivered a farewell address to the Post. It was heartfelt and very well accepted by those present. Thank you Mike, for a year of excellence in leadership!

This was followed by the installation of new officers, conducted by Bud Goodwin.

Incoming Post Commander delivered an opening speech that was very heartfelt and emotional. Ed, we look forward to a year of your leadership skills!

Officers Reports

Harry Ciruli – Adjutant: New Officers are listed under New Business.



Lynn Peterson - 1st. Vice Commander: *Recent Post #103 Events*

I. Annual Flag Day Ceremony & Ice Cream Social - June 14, 2013

Special Thanks to all participating Post Legionnaires, AVHG, and attending Post members, Auxiliary and Sons of the American Legion members for another successful Post 103 Flag Day Ceremony at the Buck Center. A special flag folding ceremony and the reciting of the “13 Folds” was conducted for a Highlands Ranch veteran who needed burial flags for her grandfather and uncle refolded. Another highlight was Post Commander Mike Romero’s presentation of a check for \$300 for the Special Olympic Softball Program.



II. Annual Post #103 Baseball Appreciation Day - June 28, 2013

- Special High Fives to all attending Post Legionnaires & Auxiliary members who supported our Post 103 sponsored Littleton Lions, Legion B team. The Lions won both games of the double header.

III. Annual Post 103 BBQ Picnic - Saturday, July 13, 2013

- Mega Ditto Thanks to our record breaking **58** Post 103 Legionnaires, Auxiliary & guests who enjoyed this relaxing & food-filling annual event. Special appreciation and acknowledgement to our Honorary Chefs Rich Carlson & Nick Arceo. As well as, a Big Hoot to those remaining Legionnaires & Auxiliary members who assisted with the Maintenance Engineering/Clean-up Duties.



Upcoming Post #103 July Event Reminder

I. Littleton Lions Legion B District Tournament Host – July 18 – 21, 2013

- Post 103's Littleton Lions will be hosting and participating in an 8-team District Tournament at Littleton High School Baseball Lighted Field. The top 3 teams will advance to Legion B State Tournament in Woodland Park, CO on July 25 – 28, 2013. Come out enjoy the games & support our Team!!!!
- Game Times:
 - Thursday, July 18th. 8:30 am, 11:00 am, 1:30 pm & 4:00 pm
 - Friday, July 19th. 8:30 am, 11:00 am, 1:30 pm & 4:00pm
 - Saturday, July 20th. 8:30 am, 11:00 am, 1:30 pm & 4:00pm
 - Sunday, July 21st. 8:30 am & 11:00 am Championship Game; with "If" Game 1:30 pm

Rich Callan - 2nd. Vice Commander:

Western Welcome Week Parade: August brings us to the Annual Western Welcome Week and the Grand Parade. Our participation this year will include Boys Scouts from Littleton Troop 114 carrying the Post Banner, a Color Guard Unit to be led by 1st Vice Commander Lynn Peterson and members carrying the US Flag, State Flag, POW/MIA Flag, Service Flags, and Post Legion Family Flags (Post, Auxiliary and SAL). We will also have a couple of vehicles (preferably convertibles) to carry those who cannot walk in the parade. Finally, this will be followed by Olinger Chapel Hill hearse with military seals and a sign referencing Dignity Memorial's Homeless Veteran Burial Program. All Post 103 members are invited and urged to participate in this civic program. The parade date is Saturday, August 17th and it starts at 10 am. If you would like to participate as a flag carrier or by driving please contact Rich Callan at 303-779-5097.

Oratorical – No report.

Financial Report - George Williams: Post 103 Finances continue to be quite light, 12 transactions for the month. Remember to pay your dues.

Peter Schroder- Chaplain: No Report.

Lynn Peterson - Legion Baseball: See 1st. vice Commanders report.

Sergeant-At-Arms- Roger Masse: No Report.

JAG -Duane Leiker: No Report.

AVHG- Harry Giglio: On Tuesday, July, 2, 2013, members of the AVHG were invited to attend the Rotary Club International, Club #5547 to a wonderful breakfast at the Embassy Suite Hotel. The AVHG was warmly received. The team returned the favor by performing a 13 fold flag folding ceremony, with John Palmquist reading the folds and their meaning. This was awarded with applause and many questions after the ceremony.

Fred Himelspace will be the coordinator for AVHG while Harry is out of town.

Bingo Manager - Cal Wilson: - June was a good month with \$6500 in profits. Great job to all our regular volunteers and to those extra Legionnaires and Auxiliary members who helped at our Must Go. The Bingo funds paid for about \$2,000 in Post expenses in June including cost for Officer training, Convention, Special Olympics, Legion Baseball sign and our storage locker rental.

Please consider joining us as a regular Bingo volunteer or as a player on any Thursday at the Slammers Bingo Hall which is located at 1884 South Wadsworth Boulevard (the northeast corner of Wadsworth and Jewell). Our session starts at 11:30 am and usually ends about 1:45 pm. Most workers arrive between 10 and 10:30 am.

If you have questions please call Cal Wilson 303-470-7206, Ed Pietsch at 720-287-2108 or Pat Callahan 303-770-2857.

Service Officer - Pat Callahan: The FY 2012-2013 Veterans Grant has ended with a close-out report submitted on June 20th. During the year \$19,221 was distributed in aid to more than 50 needy veterans. It was with sadness that the remaining \$779 had to be returned to State with the close-out report; owing to the behest of the grant administrator. Now, to look forward to FY 2013-2014. Initial approval has been received for a grant of \$20,000. Again, I will be working closely with the Arapahoe County Veterans Service Officer to assist as many veterans as possible.

To assist needing veterans through the unfunded grant period of July-September, our bingo budget has provided a line item of \$4,000 to meet those in need. This is a separate program from the State Veterans Grant and is handled differently. A veteran needing assistance needs to contact me directly at 303-770-2857. Upon contact arrangements will be made to personally meet to begin the processing. Documentation supporting the need and verification of veteran status (DD 214 or other honorable discharge document) will be needed. Do not hesitate to call me!

George C. Haus is the German Setter the Post purchased as a bomb sniffing canine for the Air Force Academy several years ago. Haus underwent extensive training, had two or more tours in Iraq/Afghanistan and has now served the purpose for which purchased and trained. Haus is now being retired and is available for adoption. Anyone interested in adopting Haus needs to call me at 303-770-2857. I will put the interested party in touch with an individual

who is thoroughly familiar with the temperament and personality of Haus. Do not hesitate to call me, Pat Callahan, 303-770-2857.

Historian - Gene Foyle: No Report.

Boys State: The Post had another great year with the five participants we sponsored. One of the Post's participants, Chandler Zastrow, will be attending the August General meeting to relate his experience at Boys State. Chandler was the winner of the Samsung Scholarship competition at Colorado Boys State and his entry will be submitted to Samsung for consideration for the \$20,000 scholarship. Chandler was also elected as a Governor by his peers. Out of the 209 participants at Colorado Boys State, the key positions chosen at end of Boys State are two Senators (who go on to the Boys Nation) and the Governor. For Chandler to have won the Scholarship competition and been selected as Governor, he is a very high achiever! A big thank you goes to the Post Program Manager, Richard Callan for another year of leading a very successful program.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business: Officers installed by Bud Goodwin were:

Commander- Ed Pietsch

1st. Vice Commander- Lynn Peterson

2nd. Vice Commander- Richard Callan

Adjutant- Harry Ciruli

Finance Officer- George Williams

Chaplin- Peter Schroder

Sgt-at-Arms- Roger Masse

Historian- Gene Foyle

Service Officer- Pat Callahan

Asst. Service Officer- Fred Himelspach

Judge Advocate- Duane Leiker

SAL Commander- Nick Arceo

For the Good of the Order. A 50/50 drawing was held, and the lucky recipient was member Carter Jones. He donated his winnings to the Meals on Wheels. A good choice and thanks Carter!

The meeting was adjourned at 2020 hours followed by refreshments.

Special Notes

Summary of Department of Colorado Convention (June 21-23 at Ft. Collins)

The Post had seven delegates to the State Convention including Commander Mike Romero, Vice Commanders Ed Pietsch and Lynn Peterson, Adjutant Harry Ciruli, Historian Rich Callan, District 5 Commander and Department Service Officer Dean Casey and Department Adjutant Pat Smith.

Elected Officers: The new Department Commander, Carol Kennedy (only the second women elected to this Office) is very exciting and is an outstanding individual who will continue Colorado's recent success. Her theme for the year is "Ignite Patriotism". The new Senior Vice Commander is Richard Humphrey a Past Junior Vice Commander and District 5 Commander who has visited our Post on several occasions. Elected Junior Vice Commanders include Lou Brackett, Tom Florez, Larry Johnson, Lee White, Paul Telefuse, and Bill Pollick (the only new Junior Vice and he is from District 5, Arvada Post 161). To represent Colorado at the National level, Frank McCurdy was elected to the National Executive Committee (NEC) and Jim Gates (immediate Past Commander) the alternate NEC member.

Resolutions: There were eight resolution voted on at the convention and more information on each will be included on the Department Webpage. The main one which also included a Colorado By-Laws change involved a change to the annual convention delegate fee. In the past a set fee was established for each delegate attending the convention (this year it was \$12). In the future, delegate fee will be a per capita (fifty cents) charged based on the number of Post members on the membership record at the time of the convention. The costs to our Post under the new formula for this year would have been more than doubled what we had paid.

Saturday Night Banquet: This was a time to honor the outgoing Officers and the accomplishments of the Colorado American Legion Family during the year. Additionally, the new Officers of the Department of Colorado, the Auxiliary and the Sons of the American Legion were installed.

Post Awards: The Post received several awards during the convention including 1st Place Community Service Award for Category 4 (251-400 members), two membership awards for exceeding our goal plus a Gold Ribbon for our Post Flag and recruiting pins for the Commander and Adjutant; and we also received an award for our Post Website. Thanks to Past Commander Mike Romero, the Executive Board and the membership for everything we accomplished.





Darlene Romero, President

303-973-2493

Darlene_Romero@msn.com



We had another good meeting this month. Our Unit received two awards at the Convention in Fort Collins in June. One for sponsoring six girls for Girls State. We also received a painting that will be raffled off at our Banquet this fall. We won first place in our group, 1 East and also the State for making the most money handing out Poppy's.

We are still collecting food for the Veteran's Redistribution Center. The food of the month is peanut butter. Also travel size toiletries, pop can tops, used printer cartridges, plastic grocery bags and canceled stamps.

We received a donation of 43 new men's dress shirts from Loretta's mother. We will donate those to a veteran's organization.

We welcome a new member, Ilse Oliver. If anyone would like to join our Auxiliary or come to one our meetings, you can call Jean Jesser at 303-471-4643, or Darlene Romero at 303-973-2493 email:darlene_romero@msn.com.

We had another good turnout for our July 13th picnic of 58 people and lots of good food. Several people asked for the recipe for spaghetti salad that Jan Stevens made. Here it is: Spaghetti Salad, Cooked spaghetti, Zesty Italian salad dressing, McCormick's Salad Supreme Spice. Mix spaghetti, spices and dressing together and enjoy!

Upcoming Events: Western Welcome Week, August 9-18th.

There is no Auxiliary meeting in August and our next meeting is September 4th.

Thank you,

Darlene Romero
President

**George C Evans Post 103
The American Legion**

**PO Box 281
Littleton, CO 80120**

DATED MATERIAL