



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

**“The Leader Post” September 2013**

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**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- 9-11-2013 – Patriot Day
- 9-12-2013 - Bingo – Slammers Bingo Hall
- 9-19-2013 - Bingo – Slammers Bingo Hall
- 9-20-2013- POW/MIA Recognition Day
- 9-21- 2013 –Post Breakfast- Englewood Elks
- 9-26-2013 - Bingo – Slammers Bingo Hall
- 9-28-2013 - Sheridan Parade
- 9-30-2013 – Officers Meeting-7:00 PM-Buck Rec. Center
- 10-2-2013 – General Membership Meeting-7:00 PM
- 10-3-2013 – Bingo – Slammers Bingo Hall- (MUST GO)
- 10-10-2013 – Bingo – Slammers Bingo Hall
- 10-17-2013 – Bingo – Slammers Bingo Hall
- 10-24-2013 – Bingo – Slammers Bingo Hall
- 10-31-2013 – Bingo – Slammers Bingo

Englewood Elks- 3690 S. Jason St., Englewood, CO  
 Buck Rec. Center—2004 W. Powers Ave., Littleton, CO  
 Slammers Bingo Hall-1884 S. Wadsworth-Lakewood, CO

**COMMANDER’S COMMENTS:**

Another great Post meeting this month! I thank all the members for attending and participating in the meetings and at Post activities. September is a busy month for us, so please come on out and share in the enthusiasm and fellowship.

September 20<sup>th</sup> is POW/MIA Recognition Day and in honor of that day we performed a POW/MIA Remembrance Service at our meeting explaining the meaning of each item on the POW/MIA table. We also recognized three Littleton MIAs from the Vietnam War that the Post had honored in 2007. A short paragraph on each one of these Air Force pilots was read by a different veteran of the Air Force. We are including this write up later in this newsletter. I want to thank Lynn Peterson, Fred Himelspach, George Williams, Rich Carlson and Pat Callahan for their assistance in this expanded recognition of POW/MIAs.

Our big activity in August was the Western Welcome Week Parade on August 17<sup>th</sup>. The Post had a great showing for this parade. Thank you to all the participants. The response

received from the spectators was much appreciated. Please see the pictures and details later in this newsletter.

All 34 participants appreciated the Olinger Chapel Hill Mortuary & Cemetery for providing Post members/spouses with a great lunch on August 28<sup>th</sup>. The Chapel Hill staff explained this was part of their "We Honor Veterans Program". They provided a beautiful Certificate of Appreciation to the Post for the members' service to our nation. We thank all the Chapel Hill employees for your recognition, the great food and hospitality we received at this event, as well as your support to the Post throughout the year.

We have a lot happening in September so be sure to see articles on Patriot Day (9/11/13), Post Breakfast (9/21/13) and the Sheridan Parade (9/28/13). In August, we made a donation to the Multiple Dystrophy Association. Recently on behalf of our SAL Squadron 103, a donation has been made to Colorado's Mike Moss campaign for SAL National Commander.

The Post will be having a Bingo "Must Go" on October 3<sup>rd</sup>, these are very busy days and extra help is always needed. See the Bingo Report for more details.

We are looking for someone to step up to take over the Oratorical Program. This is a speech contest on the Constitution and its Amendments for high school students. This program will be completed over the next four months so it is relatively short in duration but the results can be very rewarding. It is an opportunity to meet some very talented and patriotic students. Please let me know ASAP if you might be interested. I can be contacted at 720-287-2108 or by e-mail at e\_pietsch@msn.com.

Mark your calendars for Saturday November 9<sup>th</sup>. This will be our Post Annual Banquet and we will once again start at 1 pm. Also at 11 am, on Monday November 11<sup>th</sup> will be our annual Veterans Day Ceremony at the Littleton WWII Memorial. Keep these dates open.

Lastly, please let me know any recommendation you might have for Legionnaire of the Year.

Thank each of you for your continued service to the Post, Community, State and Nation.

*Ed Pietsch*  
Commander

## **General Meeting Minutes**

Commander Ed Pietsch gaveled the meeting to order at 1900 hours.  
Opening ceremonies and Recitals conducted.

An expanded POW/MIA ceremony was conducted in honor of POW/MIA Recognition Day on September 20<sup>th</sup>.

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

Adjutant Harry Ciruli declared that there was a quorum present.

The minutes of the August 7, 2013 Meeting had been sent either electronically or hard copy by mail. There were no changes to the minutes, so they were accepted as written.

Guests at the Meeting were:

Joey Drennan - Littleton High School student  
Fred Muskopf - District 5 Jr. Vice Commander  
Jeremy Kmett – new member, US Army

An Initiation Ceremony was held for Jeremy Kmett, Dennis Keasling and Robert Ingram. Welcome to the Post.

### **Officers Reports**

**Harry Ciruli – Adjutant:** The Air Force Honor Guard to perform honors for Charles Glanville (retired Air Force) at Fort Logan on September 12<sup>th</sup>. Comrade Glanville passed away on September 1<sup>st</sup>. 2013.

**Lynn Peterson - 1<sup>st</sup>. Vice Commander:**

**Membership - Renew, Stay Active & Keep Up the Tradition as “The Leader Post”**  
Remember to renew your Annual Post 103 Membership!! Please visit [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org) and click on “Members” to get to on-line membership start-up or renewal. It’s as easy as 1-2-3! We greatly appreciate your continued Post 103 Program involvement, interest, support, attendance & participation in and service to our Veterans, Community & Youth. Keep it coming and keep it strong!!!

Make a difference....Invite & bring a guest - “Veteran” Relative, Friend, Neighbor or Acquaintance - to our monthly membership meetings or Post events such as the Patriots Day Celebration, Post Breakfast or the Sheridan Parade which are covered below. Also, wives & family members are welcomed too! Come see what we’re all about & what we’re doing. Try it; you might very well like the feeling and pride of providing Community Service to our local area families & veterans. Find out and if interested, become involved with our Post, Women’s Auxiliary Unit or Sons of the American Legion (S.A.L.) Squadron.

### **Americanism – Supporting & Mentoring our Youth**

Special Guest, Littleton High School Junior Student Joey Drennan attended our September General Membership Meeting expressing his continued interest in volunteering to help our Post and desire to become a Sons of the American Legion Post 103 Squadron member. Already Joey volunteered to help with the upcoming City of Sheridan “Military Heroes” Parade. Thanks Joey!!! Also, Joey is our First Post 103 Boys State Applicant for 2014.

### **Blue Star Banners**

Two Blue Star Service Banner Certificates, with Service Star Banner & Pin were recently presented on separate occasions: a Two Blue Star Service Award to Glenn & Mary Aspholm, Littleton, CO for sons Steven & Benjamin, both US Navy Pilots and One Blue

Star Service Award to Charles & Yolanda Trujillo, Littleton, CO for son Eddy, US Air Force.

### **Rich Callan - 2<sup>nd</sup>. Vice Commander:**

#### **Western Welcome Week Parade**

The 2013 Annual Western Welcome Parade on August 17<sup>th</sup> was a huge success. Post 103 members who participated are praised for their professionalism, civic dedication, and display in American Patriotism. We had 24 participants including two Scouts from Troop 114 that carried the Post banner, Lynn Peterson led the ten flag carriers with two escorts that were followed by three vehicles carrying ten participants. We also want to thank Olinger Chapel Hill Mortuary & Cemetery for providing a limousine and driver. The Post entry was very impressive and we were cheered, saluted and thanked by the large crowd. Special thanks to Historian, Gene Foyle and Sherry Pietsch for the photographs. See more pictures later in this newsletter.



#### **Post Breakfast**

On September 21, at 9 AM, Post 103 will resume the bi-monthly breakfast at the Englewood Elks Lodge (located at 3690 S. Jason Street in Englewood). These breakfasts are an excellent way to spend a Saturday morning for the Legion Family to experience fellowship with fellow Post, Auxiliary and SAL members and their spouses. The cost is only \$5.00 and is an excellent value.

#### **Post Meetings**

Post 103 is experiencing unprecedented growth and members attending our monthly meetings. I have been involved with Post 103 for 14 years, and this renewed enthusiasm is a nice experience. If you have not attended a meeting in recent years, I strongly urge you to come back and see the "new and improved" American Legion Post 103! (You won't be disappointed!)

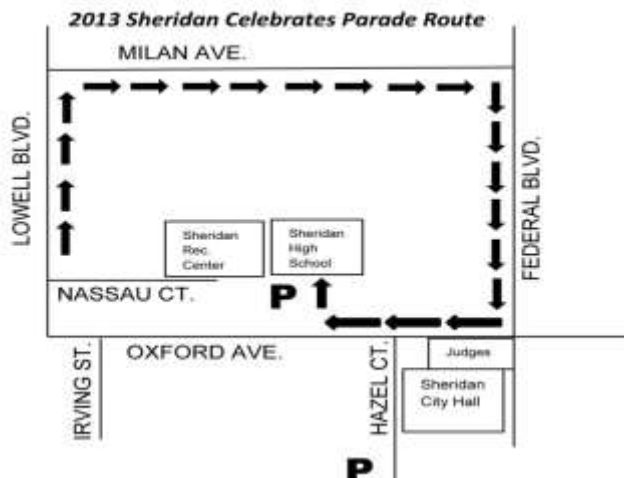
## Patriot Day

On Patriot Day, September 11th, the Post 103 AVHG will participate in this national recognition of 9/11/2001. The rifle detail and bugler will be part of the ceremony in conjunction with the Littleton Police and Fire Departments. The ceremony will take place at 8 AM in front of the flag pole at the Littleton City Center, 2255 W. Berry Avenue, Littleton, CO 80120. Participants should arrive by 7:30 AM wearing your AVHG uniform. Other Post member planning to observe the ceremony should wear their Legion hat and shirt, if available. Let's show our Legion colors.



## Sheridan Parade

Also, Post 103 will participate in a military parade in the City of Sheridan. This will take place on Saturday, 9/29/2013. We still need more flag carriers and will have two vehicles for those wishing to ride (on first come basis). If you are interested in participating, please contact Roger Masse: email: [drivercoach69@yahoo.com](mailto:drivercoach69@yahoo.com) or 719-648-2818. Parking for participants is behind Sheridan High School on the south east side of the Recreation Center. The staging area will be on the west side of the Recreation Center. It is a short walk from the parking area to the staging area. We should be there at approximately 8:30 am, with the parade starting at 10 am. Please see map below.



**Oratorical** – We are looking for a new Program Manager.

**Financial Report - George Williams:**

Thanks to the prompt payment of dues by our membership, our income has exceeded our expenses the past weeks. Keep up the good work.

**Peter Schroder- Chaplain:**

Dear members and spouses, please notify the chaplain Peter Schroder, when you know of any person who is sick or distressed. Thanks Peter Schroder at 303-795-1243

Henry Ward Beecher...writes (Count what is in a man, not what is on him, if you would know what he is worth-whether rich or poor.)

William Shakespeare...writes (This above all: to thine own self be true, and it must follow as the night the day, thou canst not then be false to any man.)

**Sergeant-At-Arms- Roger Masse:** See Sheridan Parade information.

**JAG -Duane Leiker:** No Report.

**AVHG- Harry Giglio:**

Several services were performed in August. He also thanked Fred Himelspach for acting as AVHG coordinator when he was in New Jersey.

**Bingo Manager - Cal Wilson: -**

We made a profit of \$530 for the month of August. We are looking for a much better results in September and our next “Must Go” is scheduled for October 3<sup>rd</sup>. The “Must Go” is where our Progressive Bingo Jackpot will be given away to some lucky winner(s). Our attendance usually doubles at “Must Go” sessions and **we always need extra help on these days**. If you can volunteer about 4 hours of your time to help your fellow Legionnaires, we would truly appreciate it. The crowd comes early on Must Go days so please try to be at Slammers no later than 10 am. I will be in Europe, so please email Ed Pietsch at e\_pietsch@msn.com or telephone him at 720-287-2108 if you can help.

Slammers Bingo Hall is located at 1884 South Wadsworth Blvd. (the northeast corner of Wadsworth and Jewell). Our Bingo session starts at 11:30 am and ends about 2 pm. Please come out to volunteer or to play.

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:** On August 22, 2013 the first advance of \$5,000.00 on the 2013-2014 Veterans Grant was received. The following day King Soopers gift cards in the amount of \$800.00 was purchased and subsequently delivered to the Arapahoe County Veterans Service Officer for distribution. So far no requests have been received for financial assistance. If history repeats itself, this \$5000 will soon be distributed for assistance in rent, utilities and other emergencies. If anyone knows of a veteran in need of a one-time financial

need, please let me know – 303-770-2857. I will direct him/her to Rick Stewart, Arapahoe VSO, for proper processing.

**Historian - Gene Foyle:** No Report.

**SAL – Nick Arceo:** Calling all SONS!

Hello, I'm Nick Arceo. I'm the SAL Commander for Post 103. SAL is short for Sons of the American Legion. My father served in the Army in WWII.

I'm also the store manager of the Bel-Mar King Soopers. I became interested in the Littleton American Legion when my store needed an American Flag. I was so impressed with the response of Post 103, I wanted to join. As a SAL, I support the American Legion and everything they support. I am proud to support our country, family and our Veterans. I look forward to growing the SAL Squadron in Post 103. If you have anyone that might be interested in joining the SAL, please refer them to me. I can answer any questions they might have. God bless American and God bless the American Legion. Thank you.

**Boys State:** No Report.

**Unfinished Business:** None.

**New Business** None

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

The meeting was adjourned at 2008 hours followed by refreshments.

## **Special Notes**

### **George C. Haus**

George C Haus, bomb sniffing canine – Jonn Neuroth of our Post has submitted the necessary documents in an effort to adopt Haus. The paperwork is currently at Lackland AFB being processed. How long it will take for finalization is anybody's guess.

The 380th Air Expeditionary Wing has a unique asset in the form of Haus, the only military working dog to be donated and trained outside of the Lackland Air Force Base military working dog training unit. Haus, a German short-hair pointer, was donated to the Air Force Academy by Post #103 and was trained and certified by the Academy kennel master, Chris Jakubin.

After making arrangements to donate a dog to the kennels in honor of George C. Evans, representatives from the post took Mr. Jakubin to a dog farm in Denver, where he performed a series of tests to figure out which one would make the best detection dog.



Haus, a military working dog with the 380th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron, and his handler perform a random perimeter sweep at an undisclosed location in Southwest Asia.

(Excerpts of an article from: Defense Video & Imagery Distribution System; ca. 2009)

Haus turned 9 years old on September 9, 2013.

Courtesy Photo

### **Special Thank You To**

- all members of the All Veterans Honor Guard for what they do in providing the final honor to veterans and a memorable service for the veteran's family and friends.
- all the Bingo workers who diligently run the Post Bingo operations every Thursday. Revenue from Bingo provides the funds that enable the Posts to have successful programs and activities.
- Jonn and Cheri Neuroth for their effort to adopt George C. Haus from the Air Force Academy.



Amiel Smith playing his harmonica before Chapel Hill Thank You Lunch



## All Veterans Honor Guard at Memorial Service for Navy Veteran on 8/26/13



### Littleton, Colorado Vietnam MIAs

In 2007 the Department POW/MIA Chairman made an effort to have all the Colorado MIAs (32) from the Vietnam War honored by a Legion Post. A POW/MIA Flag was flown over the Colorado Veterans Memorial, folded, placed in a flag case with the MIA name along with the Post name and number placed on a brass plated affixed to the flag case. There were three MIAs that had Littleton, Colorado listed as their home of record and Post 103 honored all three in September 2007.

1. Captain David Louis Hrdlicka, US Air Force

On May 18, 1965, Captain Hrdlicka was the pilot of the lead F105 aircraft in a four-aircraft flight over Laos when his aircraft was hit by ground fire. His aircraft was on fire and the Captain ejected and parachuted to the ground landing in a valley near a small village. Later that day, a rescue helicopter landed and the villagers reported to the rescue team that Captain Hrdlicka was picked up by the Pathet Lao. For several years afterwards, he was pictured in several Chinese and Russian newspapers being held in captivity by the Pathet Lao. The US never reached an agreement with Laos and the fate of many servicemen captured in Laos including Captain Hrdlicka remains unknown.

2. 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant Robert Michael Gilchrist, US Air Force, 1963 Graduate of the Air Force Academy

Lieutenant Gilchrist was the pilot of a reconnaissance version of the Phantom F-4. On October 7, 1966 he was on a reconnaissance mission over North Vietnam near the city of Ba Don. His aircraft was hit by enemy fire and crashed. Whether he survived the crash is unknown and he has never been accounted for.

3. Captain Thomas B. Mitchell, US Air Force, 1963 Graduate of the Air Force Academy

Captain Mitchell was a pilot of a C130 flying supplies from Ubon AFB in northeastern Thailand to Khe Sanh Combat Base in South Vietnam. On May 22, 1968 while on a supply run,

radio signal was lost over Laos but not far from Khe Sanh. When the plane did not return to a friendly airbase, all 9 crew members were listed as Missing in Action.

Captain Mitchell's remains were subsequently recovered and verified and a Group Burial was held at Arlington National Cemetery on June 10, 2010.

### Western Welcome Week





**Darlene Romero, President**

**303-973-2493**



**[Darlene\\_Romero@msn.com](mailto:Darlene_Romero@msn.com)**

We had another good turnout for our September meeting with 13 members in attendance. We also had a Girls State delegate, Carrie Monroe filling us in on her experience at Girls State. She said she had great time.

We discussed looking into another Veteran's organization, Valor Point for Homeless Veterans.

Our members brought in lots of food for the Veteran's Distribution Center along with tabs from pop cans and toiletries. October's food of the month is pasta.

We are having initiations in November. If you haven't been initiated, please come to our November meeting. If you aren't a member, but would like to come to meeting to see what we do, you can call me at 303-973-2493.

Upcoming Events: Post breakfast at the Elks Lodge, September 21st at 9:00am. The cost is still \$5.00 and you can bring a guest.

Bingo is having a Must Go On October 3<sup>rd</sup>. We will need extra help selling pickles and specials, so if anyone would like help out we would appreciate it.

Thank you,

*Darlene Romero*  
President