



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

“The Leader Post” November 2013

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

Website-www.legionpost103.org



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 11-14-2013 – Bingo – Slammers Bingo Hall
- 11-16- 2013 – Post Breakfast-9:00AM Englewood Elks
Free for Veterans
- 11-21-2013 – Bingo – Slammers Bingo Hall
- 11-28-2013 – No Bingo Happy Thanksgiving to All
- 12-2-2013- Officers Meeting-7:00 PM- Buck Rec. Center
- 12-4-2013-General Membership Meeting-7:00 PM- Buck
Rec. Center
- 12-5-2013- Bingo – Slammers Bingo Hall
- 12-12-2013-Bingo – Slammers Bingo Hall
- 12-19-2013-Bingo – Slammers Bingo Hall
- 12-25-2013 – Happy Holidays
- 12-26-2013-Bingo – Slammers Bingo Hall

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:

Wow what a busy time period this has been! I want to thank all the members for attending and participating in the meetings and at Post activities in October and early November. Most importantly in October, we delivered a check to the flood victim from Lyons who lost her husband, home, vehicles and most of her personal possessions. She appreciated the Post's generous donation that will help her “get a new start on rebuilding her life.” We also had a Bingo Must Go in October that was attended by more than double our usual number of customers. Thank you to all our regular helpers and the additional ones that come out to help work the Must Go which resulted in a very profitable day. We had a great November Meeting with many attendees including District 5 Commander Dean Casey, who is also the Department Service Officer and our Post Past Commander.

Our Post Banquet was on Saturday, November 9 which was attended by the largest number of participants ever for this event. I want to thank everyone who was able to attend and everyone seemed to have a good time. It was a great Banquet thanks to Rich and Marsha

Callan. Plus, many deserving individuals were recognized for their accomplishments this year. We will provide more details later in the newsletter.

It seemed like that no sooner than the Banquet was over than we were on our way to the World War II Memorial at Ketring Park for the Veterans Day Ceremony. What a beautiful day it was and an outstanding ceremony. This is a joint event put on every year by VFW Post 4666 and our Post. The Littleton Mayor Debbie Brinkman spoke along with Post and VFW members. The ceremony was attended by one of the largest crowds ever at a Veterans Day Ceremony in Littleton and we have heard many very positive comments from the attendees. Our All Veterans Honor Guard could not have been more impressive, they sounded as one on with all three rifle volleys. Great job guys!!!

Also, I want to thank the many members who participated in school ceremonies before or after the Veterans Day Ceremony. Please let me know of your involvement so we can include these on our annual report at the end of the year. Thank each of you for helping to “Ignite Patriotism” in our youth.

November is not over yet. We still have our Post Breakfast on Saturday, November 16th at the Englewood Elks Lodge starting at 9:00 am. The Lodge is where the Banquet was held and the address is 3690 S. Jason Street. The Elks have informed us that all Veterans participating in the breakfast will be complimentary in honor of Veterans Day and your service to the country. Please come out and join us for a good meal and great company.

In December, we will have a short business meeting and then enjoy some refreshments with the Auxiliary in honor of the Holidays. We also hope to be putting on our first ever Post speech contest on December 15th at the Buck Recreation Center. Roger Masse, our Oratorical Program Manager has been working hard to drum up interest for this competition in the local high schools and with students who get schooled at home. The Legion State Oratorical Competition will be held at DeVry University on January 4, 2014. If you know any High School students who might be interested please have them contact Roger Masse at 710-648-2818.

I am very proud of our Post and our members who have stepped up to help us accomplish all we are able to do for veterans and their families, for improving Americanism and Patriotism in our youth, and for our service to the community, state and nation. I know many of you are unable to help or to come out to events. Just by your membership you are helping the cause of veterans – there is strength in numbers! If you are able to come out, please join us for a meeting or breakfast or at one of our activities. I am sure you will find us friendly and you may just find one or two programs or activities you may want to become involved in. If you need any assistance in getting to the meeting or event please let us know – we are veterans serving veterans.

We are the “**Leader Post**”.

Ed Pietsch
Commander

General Meeting Minutes

Commander Ed Pietsch gaveled the meeting to order at 1900 hours.

We paused to take a moment to Honor our Comrades who has passed on with a Post Everlasting Ceremony. Comrades. Jackie W. Richards, Coy Strait, and Richard E. Taylor were honored.

Opening ceremonies and Recitals conducted.

Guests – we had three visitors and District 5 Commander/Department Service Officer/Past Post Commander Dean Casey.

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

Adjutant Harry Ciruli declared that there was a quorum present.

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

Officers Reports

Harry Ciruli – Adjutant:

Membership goal is 369, at the present time we are at 330. We also have 2 new SAL members -Dean Casey & Vincent Foyle Welcome Dean, and—Welcome Vincent.

We received a thank you note from Cheri Boland from Lyons, CO.

Lynn Peterson - 1st. Vice Commander:

Membership - Renew, Stay Active & Keep Up the Tradition as “The Leader Post”

Special Welcome to our New Post 103 Members/Legionnaires & Meeting Guest Attendee's: Richard Hernandez, USMC; Richard Cure, USAF; and Charles Hatten, USA.

Remember to.....Renew your Annual Post 103 Membership!! Please Visit www.legionpost103.org for On-Line New Membership Start-up or Annual Renewal. It's as Easy as 1-2-3! We Greatly Appreciate your continuing Post 103 Program Activity 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 Regular Monthly Membership Meetings!!! Also, Wives You're Welcome 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 Women's Auxiliary Unit & Sons of the American Legion (S.A.L.) Squadron.

For the Good of the Legion:

Thanks to All.....For your valued participation and efforts in your local area schools Patriotic Veterans Day Programs and Littleton's annual World War II Veterans Day Ceremony.

Rich Callan - 2nd. Vice Commander:

Post Breakfast

On November 16, at 9 AM, Post 103 will have their 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. Veterans' breakfast are free this month.

Oratorical – Program Manager Roger Masse went to 15 schools and home schooling network. Talk to the boys and girls at the Post banquet.

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: Please keep Pat and Margaret Callahan in our thoughts and prayers. Margaret is undergoing testing to determine what is causing her back problems. Dear members and spouses, please notify me, when you know of any person with special needs. 303-795-1243

Lynn Peterson - Legion Baseball: No report.

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

JAG -Duane Leiker: No Report.

AVHG- Harry Giglio: 155 Funerals since January 1st.

Bingo Manager - Cal Wilson: - We made a profit of over \$5,000 for the month of October due to a very busy and successful Must Go on October 3rd. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped to make the Must Go and all our regular sessions such a success. We may not make a profit every week but over the long run we have been very successful. Come on out, and help us help the Post!

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.

Service Officer - Pat Callahan: October was moderately busy in assisting veterans financially. Six veterans were assisted in the amount of \$2,597.00.. To date \$3,873.00 of the \$20,000 has been spent. The second advance on the \$20,000 in the amount of \$2,715.00 was received on October 30, 2013 giving us a balance of \$3,402.00. All figures are rounded to the nearest dollar.

I wish to thank Fred for giving my report at the November general meeting as I am currently home-bound caring for my wife.

Historian - Gene Foyle: Has taken photos of Post events

SAL – Nick Arceo: Post 103 Legionaries, here is an update on our S.A.L. I am still looking to grow this section of our post. I need your help. If you have any question regarding membership eligibility please contact me. I am proud to say that the Sons Of American Legion support "Our Country", "Our Family", and our "Veterans". Post 103 currently has 7 members with a goal for 2014 of 11. If you know someone that would like to be a part of Post 103 S.A.L. please let me know. I am very proud and honored to represent the S.A.L. group at our post and look forward to reaching out to our Veterans and their families. Thank you for all your support and help reaching my goals! We are now at 9 members, and looking for more!!

Boys State: No Report.

District 5: Dean Casey gave a brief report on District 5 events and meetings and thanked the Post for membership results to date. Informed members of his Service Officer role and offered his assistance to all members who may need it.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business: None

Around the State Mid-Year Conference will be Jan 17 and 18, 2014 in Longmont Colorado. We encourage Post members to attend. Please contact Ed Pietsch if you are interested. The Sons of the American Legion National Commander Joe Gladden will be attending the conference. Hotel reservation can be made by calling 303-776-2000 and be sure to request the American Legion Rate.

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

Haus, a German short-hair pointer, was donated to the Air Force Academy by American Legion George C. Evans Post #103 and was trained and certified by the Academy kennel master, Chris Jakubin. Haus has now been retired and adopted by the new proud owners and Post/Auxiliary, Jonn and Cheri Neuroth.

Banquet Summary – Ed Pietsch

We all owe Rich and Marsha Callan a big Thank You for making the Banquet a huge success. As part of our opening, Fred Himelspach and Lynn Peterson preformed the formal POW/MIA Remembrance Ceremony. This was followed by the introduction of guests including District Officers, Past Unit Presidents and Past Post Commanders, Girl State Representatives and parents, Boys State Representative and parent, the General Manager of Chapel Hill Mortuary and Cemetery and Boy Scout Troop 114 representatives. Amiel Smith played his harmonica before the Post meal was served, thank you Amiel for your enthusiasm and talent. We had a wonderful meal and then began the Program.

We had some enlightening comments from District Officers Dan Szelkowski and Wayne Best followed by recognition of Legion Family Officers and members. Certificates of Appreciation for all they do for our Post throughout the year were awarded to Olinger Chapel Hill Mortuary and Cemetery and Boys Scout Troop 114. The Post also made a donation of \$250 to Troop 114.

We then heard from several Program Managers and their guests including Baseball, Boys State, Girls State, Oratorical, Service Officer, All Veterans Honor Guard (AVHG) and Bingo. We recognized Gene Foyle and his wife, Julie for their pictures and minutes, Adjutant Harry Ciruli for his membership renewal efforts and for the Post Newsletter and Fred Himelspach for serving as backup coordinator of the AVHG while Harry Giglio was out of town. During the applicable portion of the presentations all participants in the AVHG, Bingo Program, Master of the Flag, Sheridan Parade, and Poppy Sales were recognized.

Certificates/Awards were presented to:

- A poem entitled “All Veterans Honor Guard” written by Ursula Pansini and included in this newsletter was read and presented to Harry Giglio.
- Certificate of Participation was awarded to “rookie” and Past Commander Mike Romero for becoming a new member of the AVHG.
- Certificates of Participation were awarded to new Bingo volunteers Wayne Arguello, Joe Gryniewicz, RIP Hobson and Terry McAvoy.
- Certificate of Appreciation was awarded to Ursula Pansini for her repair and mending of flags at the WWII Memorial and Buck Center.
- Certificate of Appreciation was awarded to JoAnn Giglio for making scarves and goodies for the members of the AVHG.
- Certificates of Appreciation were awarded to Maharu Jacobs and Dillon Pietsch for carrying the Post Banner in the Sheridan Parade.

- Certificate of Participation was issued by the Auxiliary to Joyce Leiker for selling poppies for the Auxiliary over the Memorial Day weekend.

Special Awards

- A Medal of Merit was presented to **Michael J. Romero** for all that he helped accomplish last year including putting together a core team of outstanding Officers/Program Manager; leading by example; issuing the Post Tri-fold; updating core Post documents; increasing membership through open houses and phone banks; achieving 100% membership goal; recognizing post members accomplishments by awarding Medal of Merit. Thank you Mike for all you have done.
- Special Award plaque was presented to **Roger Masse** for making himself indispensable, a member of the AVHG and the Bingo Program, led us in several school visitation programs, recognize businesses that display the Flag, made the Sheridan Parade happen and has now become our Oratorical Program Manager. We look forward to Roger's continued growth in the Post.
- Bob Bailey Award Bob was a very special person with a positive attitude, endless energy, involved in everything Americanism. What a role model he was for the membership. He was a doer with a capital "D". You did not have to ask Bob to do anything he knew what was needed and did it. I hope this award becomes a regular one at future Post Banquets. This Award was presented to our modern version of Bob, **Fred Himelspach**. We needed another Commander or Chaplain for AVHG, caller at Bingo, a backup to the Service Officer, a new form for Bingo, a Tri-fold for membership, or a backup coordinator for the AVHG Commander. Whatever we need Fred was there to provide it. Thank you Fred for all you do.
- Program Manager Award This plaque was presented to **Harry Giglio**. We have several great Programs that Post 103 runs every year and many were mentioned above. But we have one outstanding Program and an outstanding Program Manager and he is appreciated by the Post Officers, Post membership and especially by all the members of the All Veterans Honor Guard. Harry is a valuable asset to the Post and selfishly, we would like to see him back as a Post Officer in the future.
- Legionnaire of the Year As can be seen from the quality of individuals who have received awards, we had a tough choice to make for this Award. But one individual was selected with input from the Board, Mike Romero and I. This individual runs another very successful Program for the Post and has for many years. He is recognized around the Department and at National and has the title of President of Colorado American Legion Baseball. He has been a Board member, served as 2nd Vice Commander and now as 1st Vice Commander, and has continuously brought in new members, and has issued more Blue Star Banners than anyone else in the Post. He has volunteered to fill in for me and others officers multiple times and with great success. Our Legionnaire of the Year for 2013 is **Lynn E. Peterson**. Thank you Lynn for all you do.

Note: some recipients of Awards were not present at the Banquet and these will be handed out at a Post Meeting or event.



Legionnaire of the Year – Lynn Peterson



Program Manager - Harry Giglio Commander AVHG



Certificates of Appreciation
for
Carrying Post Banner in
The Sheridan Parade

Maharu Jacobs
&
Dillon Pietsch



Fred Himelspach receiving the Bob Bailey Award



Roger Masse receiving a Special Award



Mike Romero receiving Medal of Merit



Girls State Representative, Taylor Dugdale won the picture



Darlene Romeo introducing Girls State Representatives



Joyce Leiker receives Certificate of Participation



A few of the Banquet Participants

The following poem was written by Ursula Pansini and it was presented to Harry Giglio, Commander of the All Veterans Honor Guard at the Banquet.

ALL VETERANS HONOR GUARD

There is a special group of men
Who give their time and heart
To honor those that passed before
"The All Veterans Honor Guard"
To be there for the families
When their loved ones now are gone
To honor those who gave their all
And all that they have done.

To come when there is rain or snow
Or hot and sunny days
To be there and remember when
They served in many ways.

They got the call, they proudly went
On land, by air or sea
And knew that they were needed
To keep our country free.

So let us thank them, one and all
For that important part
That they now play in our lives
The "All Veterans Honor Guard"

by

Ursula Pansini

Thank you Ursula all the members of the AVHG appreciate your message.

Post 103 Spotlights: Cal Wilson



Calvin Wilson served in the US Navy. He was in WWII and Korea. Cal has been a member of the American Legion for 8 years. His current Post duties include Bingo Program Manager for Post 103 and he is at the meetings early to help set up, get the coffee started and plays the boom box for us as needed.

He has been married to his wife Yvette for 3 1/2 years. He has three boys and one girl from a previous marriage. Cal has three grandsons.

Cal has earned a BA in Electrical Engineering and has an Engineering License.

Best thing about being in Post 103—Fellowship with the comrades from the Post.

Cal and his wife also belong to two Toast Masters Clubs. He is the President in one and the Secretary in the other one.



Darlene Romero, President

303-973-2493

Darlene_Romero@msn.com

We had another good meeting on November 6th. We had twelve members in attendance. We will be collecting warm clothes for both men and women for the VA Hospital for the next two meetings. We will deliver them sometime in January or February. We are also going to send a check for \$100.00 to the VA Hospital for their annual Christmas Party.

We are still collecting food for the Distribution Center. The food for December is flour and sugar. Also, pop can tabs, empty printer cartridges, plastic grocery bags, canceled stamps and travel size toiletries.

We also had a very nice initiation ceremony for members that have never been initiated.

We have 24 members and are at 84.4%. If you haven't paid your dues for 2014 you can send them to Jean Jesser.

The Post had their annual Banquet on November 9th. It was a lot of fun and the food was good.

The Auxiliary raffled off the picture we won at Convention in June. We won it for the largest increase in delegate sponsorship, a six hundred percent increase. One of our Girls State Delegates and Jr. Auxiliary member, Taylor Dugdale won the picture.

We made \$155.00 and it will go to our Auxiliary General Fund.

Upcoming Events: Post Breakfast at the Elks Lodge November 16th. At 9:00am. Cost is still \$5.00 and you can bring a guest.

Our next meeting is December 4th. We will have a short meeting then join the Legion members for refreshments, celebrating the Holidays.

Thank you,

Darlene Romero
President