



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

“The Leader Post” December 2013

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

Website-www.legionpost103.org



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 12-12-2013-Bingo – Slammers Bingo Hall
- 12-19-2013-Bingo – Slammers Bingo Hall
- 12-26-2013-Bingo – Slammers Bingo Hall
- 1-2-2014- Bingo – Slammers Bingo Hall
- 1-4-2014-Post Breakfast-Englewood Elks-9:00 to 11:00 AM.
- 1-6-2014-Officers meeting-7:00 PM- Buck Rec. Center
- 1-8-2014-General Membership Meeting-7:00 PM Buck Rec. Center
- 1-9-2014- Bingo – Slammers Bingo Hall
- 1-16-2014- Bingo – Slammers Bingo Hall
- 1-17-2014 – Mid-Year Conference in Longmont

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:

The Post is having a great 2013 and we are looking forward to an even better 2014! I want to thank all the members and guests for weathering the snow and cold to attend the December 4th meeting. We held initiations including new Post member Julie Foyle and four new Sons of the American Legion (SAL) members. SAL Commander Nick Arceo initiated new SAL members Joey Drennan, Vincent Foyle, Dillon Pietsch and yours truly. It is really great to see the growth of the SAL and it is becoming a very significant component of the George C. Evans American Legion Family.

I also want to thank David Buckner for speaking about his new church and their activities to help veterans, youth and the community. Following the meeting we joined the Auxiliary to enjoy refreshments and good cheer for the Holiday Season. Post and SAL members thank our Auxiliary Unit for the goodies and for all you do throughout the year.

Jon and Cheri Neuroth brought Haus (a German Shorthair Pointer) to the meeting for members to see him. Several years ago, Haus was purchased by the Post for the Air Force Academy. He was trained in explosives detection and has been on numerous deployments

overseas protecting installations and personnel. He was recently retired by the Air Force and thanks to the efforts of Jonn and Cheri he was adopted and is back where he started.

The Post passed motions to donate \$500 to the Auxiliary Unit to help supplement their activities to provide clothes to veterans at the VA Hospital and to donate \$100 to the Santa's Elves program to help provide gifts to needy children.

The main Post activity in December is the Oratorical competition. It appears the Post will have at least two contestants and we will hold our Certification on December 15th at the Buck Recreation Center. Program Manager Roger Masse is looking for a few members to help in this process. Please see his article later in this newsletter.

A brief recap of November: we had a busy and productive month with our Post Banquet, Veterans Day and our Post Breakfast. Rich and Marsha Callan did a great job putting on the Post Banquet which was attended by the largest number of participants ever for this event. I want to thank everyone who attended and made this a special day for the Post. No sooner than the Banquet was over we were honoring veterans at the World War II Memorial for the Veterans Day Ceremony. This is a joint event put on every year by VFW Post 4666 and our Post. Also, before or after this ceremony, several member attended school Veterans Day programs to help "Ignite Patriotism" in our youth. We had a fantastic Post Breakfast on November 16th and we thank our good friends at the Englewood Elks Lodge for providing a complimentary breakfast to all Post veterans in honor of Veterans Day.

We are very close to achieving our 100% membership goal by the end of December. This is very rare accomplishment for medium or large posts. If you have not yet renewed, do so immediately because with the Holidays documentation needs to be submitted to the Department early to qualify. You can renew on line at legion.org or by contacting our Adjutant, Harry Ciruli at 720-287-2139. Harry is able to accept verbal renewals and has the ability to process credit cards for payment of dues.

We have a great Legion Family and your leadership is proud of each and every one of you for helping 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. Become involved whenever possible.

From the George C. Evans American Legion Family to each one of you and your families, we wish you a Happy Holiday Season and a happy and healthy New Year.

We are the "Leader Post".

Ed Pietsch
Commander

General Meeting Minutes

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

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

Guest tonight were Julie Foyle, Vincent Foyle, Dillon Pietsch, Joey Drennan and his parents Kim and Don Drennan

Adjutant Harry Ciruli declared that there was a quorum present.

The minutes of the November 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.

Julie Foyle was inducted as a new member into Post 103.

Dillon Pietsch, Commander Ed Pietsch, Joey Drennan, and Vincent Foyle were inducted into the Sons of the American Legion. Our SAL membership is now at 12 members.

Officers Reports

Harry Ciruli – Adjutant:

Membership goal is 369, at the present time we are at 361. Please remember to pay your dues.

Lynn Peterson - 1st. Vice Commander: No formal Officers report.

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.

American Legion Baseball: No Activity

For the Good of the Legion:

Remembering the 72nd Anniversary of December 7, 1941 Pearl Harbor & Honoring those Brave 2,400 + Fallen American Soldiers & remaining Survivors.

Rich Callan - 2nd. Vice Commander:

Veterans Day School Programs

In addition to the Veterans Day Ceremony at the Littleton WWII Memorial, several Post members participated at Veterans Day school programs at all levels (High School, Middle Schools and Elementary schools) In the spirit of "Ignite Patriotism" in our youth –we appreciate all who shared their time and experience at these school events.

Post Breakfast

On January 4 at 9 AM, Post 103 will have our next 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.

Oratorical – We will be conducting the Oratorical Certification on December 15th at 1:30 PM, with two contestants. One is registered with the state, and the other has contacted us but not formally registered yet. Anyone interested in helping, provide advice /guidance or just observing with the contest, please call or email Roger Masse at 719-648-2818 or drivercoach69@yahoo.com.

Financial Report - George Williams: As is typical at this time of the year, our expenses exceeded income by about \$200 in November.

Peter Schroder- Chaplain: Dear members and spouses, please notify the chaplain Peter Schroder, when you know of any person with special needs. 303-795-1243. Please keep our ailing Legion Family members Ray Pearson, Jean Jesser and Margaret Callahan in your thoughts and prayers.

Lynn Peterson - Legion Baseball: No report.

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

JAG -Duane Leiker: Post 103 insurance coverage increased by \$31.00 for 2014. Rather modest, considering the fires and flooding in Colorado this past year. Duane presented the Post a check from the A'Hern Insurance Agency to be split between the AVHG and Pastor David Bucker's House of Purpose Church. We thank Joyce and Duane Leiker for once again donating their earned commission from the Post insurance policy.

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

Bingo Manager - Cal Wilson: - We basically broke even for the month of November due to two so-so days and one bad day as a result of a snow storm and small crowd. Also, we were off for Thanksgiving so it was a short month. Let's hope we have a better December. Bingo did pay out about nineteen hundred dollars in Post expenses during November. Thank you to all our dedicated volunteers.

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 join us as a 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:

Activity for the Veterans Grand during the past month has been unusually heavy, with an outlay of over \$2800.00. The fund is now at an all-time low for this time of year. With the cold weather we are experiencing there is little doubt the balance will quickly disappear. Our request for the third advancement of \$3700 has been forwarded to State; however, if past responses are any indicator, we may not see any additional money until after the first of the New Year.

Be advised that Arapahoe County VSO, Rick Stewart, is back east attending to his deceased father's estate; however, Assistant VSO Tim Westphal is manning the office and is available to anyone in need. Our condolences to Rick and his family.

Margaret and I wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Historian - Gene Foyle: All photos were taken by Gene Foyle, thank you Gene.

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". If you know someone that would like to be a part of S.A.L. Squadron 103 please let me. 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 in reaching my goals! We are now at 12 members, and looking for more!!

Boys State: No Report.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

The Post passed motions to donate \$500 to the Auxiliary Unit to help supplement their activities to provide clothes to veterans at the VA Hospital and to donate \$100 to the Santa's Elves program to help provide gifts to needy children.

The Post is considering setting up a medical equipment locker for items like walkers, wheel chairs, and electric carts for Legion Family members use. An issue was identified relative to potential Post liability. This subject will be reviewed further prior to further action.

Around the State

Mid-Year Conference will be January 17, 18, and 19, 2014 in Longmont Colorado. We encourage Post members to attend. Please contact Ed Pietsch (720-287-2108) 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 Mike Romero. He donated his winnings to the AVHG and the other half goes to the Meals on Wheels Program. A good choice and thanks Mike!

The meeting was adjourned at 2008 hours followed by our Holiday party.

Special Notes

January Dates – Who messed up the Calendar!!

It must be Harry Ciruli fault!

Since the first Wednesday in January 2014 is the 1st, we will not be meeting on New Year's Day. So we are moving our January membership meeting to January 8th and our Executive Board will be January 6th.

Well if that is not enough confusion. Our Post Breakfast would normally be on January 18th. But that weekend many officers will be attending the Mid-Year Conference in Longmont. The only other good date in May for the Englewood Elks to hold the Post Breakfast is January 4th. Mark your calendars for January to reflect all these changes. We will send out email blast reminder notices as well.

Post 103 Spotlights: Past Commander Bud Goodwin



Past Commander Bud Goodwin has been in the American Legion for 29 Years and Commander of our Post from 2000-2003. He also served in many other Post Officers positions, was a main stay on the AVHG and was the lead Post Bingo Manager for many years and continues to be a vital member of the Post Bingo operations. Bud is also a long time SAL member.

Bud served in the United States Navy for Six Years 1941-1946 and became Yeoman Petty Officer First Class – E-6. He attended Boot camp at Great Lakes. Bud served on USS England DE 635 which was commissioned in 1943 and in 1944 sank 6 Japanese Submarines in 12 days. He then served on USS Lofberg DD 795 Commissioned 1945. He was on Bridge of the Lofberg when the news came of the Japanese surrender. Bud is a Plank owner for both ships when they were commissioned.

After the Navy, Bud Goodwin worked for Burlington Railroad and Aurora Illinois Fire Department. He retired from the Fire Department after 31 Years. Bud was married in 1942 to Georgia Goodwin and they were married for 67 years (Georgia passed 3 ½ years ago). He has 3 children - 2 girls and a son.



Darlene Romero, President

303-973-2493

Darlene_Romero@msn.com



Thank you, we had a good turnout for our meeting and Christmas party in spite of the cold temperatures. We had 12 members present and Ursula Panzini was our guest, and soon to be member. We have a new junior member, Kari Townsend, and a new senior member, Taylor Dugdale.

The members brought in lots of flour and sugar for the Redistribution Center, along with pop-top tabs, plastic grocery bags, and used printer cartridges. The item for January is medium and large baby diapers.

We also brought in lots of clothes for the Vet's at the VA hospital. Our Legion members donated \$500.00 to the Auxiliary to buy warm clothes for the Vets at the VA hospital. Thank You, to all Post 103 Legion members.

After our meeting we joined the Legion and SAL members for refreshments, celebrating the upcoming Holidays. Thank You to all that brought refreshments.

Anyone that has not paid their dues can send them to me. You can call me at 303-973-2493 or email me at darlene_romero@msn.com. Jean Jesser will be having surgery on her knee, December 24th. She won't be able to do her membership duties for a while, so Adreann Palmquist and I will help her out until she is able to do it again.

Upcoming events: Breakfast at the Elks Lodge, 9:00Am January 4th. Cost is still \$5.00.
Next meeting is January 8th. 2014

Darlene Romero
President

Veterans Day at Littleton WWII Memorial



Some of the attendees



Chaplain Peter Schroder



Lynn Peterson & Carter Jones



Littleton Mayor Brinkman



Commander Ed Pietsch



Chaplain Peter Schroder
& Finance Manager
George Williams



All Veterans Honor Guard

Firing Squad: Roger Masse, Terry McAvoy, Mike Romero, Duane Leiker, Al Bevilacqua, & Fred Himelsbach.
Not shown: Jack Pansini, & Harry Giglio.

Color Guard: Not shown- Bill Hines & Joe Gryniewicz



Veterans line up behind their service flag as the service songs are played

December Membership Meeting



Initiation of Julie Foyle



Award Presented to Carter Jones



Initiation of new SAL Members (Post Commander Ed Pietsch, Vincent Foyle, Dillon Pietsch & Joey Drennan) by SAL Commander Nick Arceo



Legion Family enjoying Holiday refreshments