



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

“United We Stand”

“The Leader Post”

March 2014

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

Website-www.legionpost103.org



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 3-13-2014- Bingo – Slammers Bingo Hall**
- 3-15-2014- Post Breakfast- Englewood Elks- 9:00 AM**
- 3-20-2014- Bingo – Slammers Bingo Hall**
- 3-27-2014- Bingo – Slammers Bingo Hall**
- 3-31-2014 – Officers meeting- Buck Rec. Center-7:00 PM.**
- 4-2-2014- General Membership Meeting- Buck Rec. Center- 7:00 PM**
- 4-3-2014- Bingo – Slammers Bingo Hall**
- 4-10-2014- 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:

We had another good turnout for the March meeting that included the initiation of five new members who had just transferred into our Post as a result of the Membership Open House that was held at the Englewood Elks Lodge on March 1st. I want to thank all the Post members who helped at the Open House. We had great results, transferring in more than 45 new members from Post 211. Post 211 is a Department of Colorado holding Post for new Legionnaires who sign up under the National direct mailing system. The members stay in this holding Post until they are transferred to a local Legion Post such as ours.

I welcome all members who transferred into “The Leader Post”. I know many of you are still working or others have a hard time getting to meetings or involved in other activities. Some of you just want to support the Legion and its programs through your membership. That is okay because we need the added influence that larger membership brings to the Post, the Department of Colorado and our National organization. We do a lot of good things for veterans and their families, kids and the community, but we could do even more with your help and ideas.

I challenge you to try to make at least one meeting to see the good work your Post does and to meet some great members. One of our newer members told me earlier this week that his “participation at meetings and Post functions was the best thing he has ever done for himself. Post members are not pretentious; they’re just genuine good people trying to do good things for others”. Please give us a chance so you also can experience the camaraderie, pride and Legion experience.

At the March meeting, Past Commander Wayne Coleman made a special presentation to Past Commander Bud Goodwin for all he has done in his career for service to his country, community, Post 103 and the Four Chaplain Program. At our February meeting the Post honored the Four Chaplains as we do every February. Commander Goodwin had led this ceremony for the prior nineteen years. Each year he used different props and scripts to educate members on the courage and sacrifice made by the Four Chaplains aboard the U.S.A.T. Dorchester on February 3, 1943 when it was tragically sunk by a German submarine. This Four Chaplain Legion of Honor Award presented to Past Commander Goodwin was awarded by the Four Chaplain Foundation in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

I hope to see you at the Post Breakfast on March 15th at the Englewood Elks Lodge. It is a great opportunity for new members to come out and meet your fellow Legionnaires and their families. The cost is only \$5 per person and family and friends are invited. The address is 3690 S. Jason St. Englewood, 80110.

I appreciate the members who helped in the Honor Guard duties to present the Colors at the Future Business Leaders of America Conference on February 7th, the Buell Theatre on February 25th and the Englewood Elks Lodge on February 21st. Also, I want to thank other members who attended the Englewood Elks Dinner to help honor the veterans from the VA Medical Center on February 21st. As always thanks goes out to the All Veterans Honor Guard, the Bingo volunteers, and our Program Managers. They make our Post successful.

If you have any questions, comments or ideas for new projects, please let me know by calling 720-287-2108 or by e-mail e_pietsch@msn.com.

I thank each of you for all you do.

We are the “Leader Post”.

E. Pietsch
Commander



My favorite duty as
Commander is to Initiate
new members.

Welcome to Post 103!!!

James D. Riepe
Gerald E. Folger
Louie M. Sliter
Larry D. Wolf
James M. Johnston

General Meeting Minutes

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

Opening ceremonies and recitals were conducted.

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

Adjutant Harry Ciruli declared that there was a quorum present.

The minutes of the February 5, 2014 meeting had been sent either electronically or hard copy by mail. There were no changes to the minutes, so they were accepted as written.

Guest at tonight's meeting included 5 new transfers from Post 211: Gerald E. Folger, James M. Johnston, James D. Riepe, Louie M. Sliter and Larry D. Wolf. Welcome to the Post.

All five new members were initiated into the American Legion.

Officers Reports

Harry Ciruli – Adjutant: WOW at our Membership Open House, we had a great day. We ended up transferring 48 members and signed 1 new member. My thanks goes out to Nick Arceo, Lynn Peterson, Pat Callahan, Fred Himelspach, Roger Masse, George Williams, Ed Pietsch, Mike and Darlene Romero, and Department Officers Commander Carol Kennedy, Adjutant Pat Smith and Service Office/District Commander Dean Casey. And a special thanks to the Englewood Elks.

I need a copy of your DD-214 for our records. You can e-mail them to me, or send them to the Post mail box. We are required to show proof that all members were honorably discharged. I have 137 at present. You can call me to see if I already have yours on file. My phone number is 720-287-2139. This is very important.

Keep the date July 12th open for the Post Picnic which will be held again this year at Sterne Park.

Lynn Peterson - 1st. Vice Commander:

Membership

In 2014 lets continue to make a difference.....Invite & bring a guest - "Veteran" Relative, Friend, Neighbor or Acquaintance - to our regular monthly membership meetings!!! Renew, stay active & help keep up the tradition as "The Leader Post"

Remember to Share: “Why We Do What We Do?” Because.....We Believe in Patriotism, Helping our Veterans, our Youth & Communities!!!! If You Believe, Join Us & Make a Difference.

Local Publications

Look for our George C. Evans Post 103 meeting announcements.....currently published in each of our Local Littleton Area Weekly Thursday Edition Community Newspapers – *Denver Post Your Hub, Littleton Independent, & Columbine Courier*. Share & pass along to others.

Post 103 Fundraising Campaign

Please submit your thoughts, suggestions & interests....e.g. golf tournament, dinner(s), car wash, etc.. What are they???? Let us know. Send to: adjutant@legionpost103.org.

American Legion Baseball I have invited Heritage High School to consider rejoining us for this season of Legion Baseball and I am awaiting their response. We will again have teams from Littleton High School sponsored by the Post. We have invited Coaches to attend our April 2nd General Membership Meeting.

Rich Callan - 2nd. Vice Commander:

I participated in a ceremony at Englewood High School, where a formal agreement was signed between the Future Business Leaders of America and the American Legion. It was agreed that the FBLA would encourage participation in Legion programs and activities such as Boys State, Girls State, and Oratorical and the Legion would use volunteers from FBLA to provide support to the Legion Family on community projects.

I am actively engaged in the recruitment and interviewing candidates for Boys State. Tom Bock, the Department’s Boys State Program Manager, reports that application numbers are ahead of 2013 numbers by approximately 12 students. So far the Post has interviewed and accepted sponsorship of four candidates. We will continue communications with local schools to encourage additional participation. Boys State is open to High School/home schooled students that are currently in their Junior year.

Financial Report - George Williams: Post income was slightly more than our expenses in February.

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

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

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

JAG -Duane Leiker: No Report.

AVHG- Harry Giglio: 189 Funerals since January 1st.

Bingo Manager - Cal Wilson: - We had a great February earning over \$2,000 in profits and we paid out about \$550 toward Post expenses including donations to the Four Chaplain Foundation and the Englewood Elks Lodge. 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. Volunteers should arrive by 10 am if possible.

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 Grant activity during the month of February was relatively quiet. Only four (4) veterans sought financial assistance for an outlay of \$2,146. Third quarter report is due to State at the end of March.

Should there be a Post member (family) needing financial or other assistance, please call me at 303-770-2857 or e-mail at pdcal@q.com. I may not know all the answers but have ways of referral to those in the know.

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

SAL – Nick Arceo: I want to welcome all new members from Post 211 to the George C. Evans Post 103! Thank You for your transfer, we look forward to each of you joining us at our monthly meetings. Did you know that you too can join the S.A.L. (Sons of the American Legion) if your father or grandfather was a veteran. What a great way to honor them. That would make you a "Dual Member" in our Great organization. Please contact myself or adjutant Harry Ciruli for details. Squadron 103 S.A.L. continues to grow. We are now 14 members strong, and that is 200% of our 2014 goal! Great job and thank you! Colorado now has 2,425 members, that's 815 to goal. WOW! That's a lot of proud Son's! As S.A.L. Commander I am proud to be a part of the American Legion Family and support all efforts to help our veterans and their families.

God Bless America and God Bless the American Legion and the SAL.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business: Approved by the Membership

The membership approved a \$750 donation to Tom and Elaine Bock's daughter, Kristi and granddaughter, Dominique whose rental house burned down. They had just moved into the house near Grand Junction and had not yet purchased rental insurance when they left to go on a Bock family cruise celebrating the safe return of Adam (Tom and Elaine's son) from deployment in a combat area. As a result of the fire Kristi and her daughter lost all their possessions including their vehicle. Keep Kristi and Dominique in your thoughts and prayers.

New member James Johnson suggested that the Post do something to recognize Frank DeAngelis, the retiring Principal of Columbine High School. It was agreed to present him with a Certificate of Appreciation from the Post for all he has done at Columbine and for the Littleton

community. In a letter to parents the Principal said in part “It has been my privilege to lead this wonderful school through the best and worst of times. The support of our families and the Columbine community has meant the world to me; I have been profoundly honored and humbled to be a part of the Columbine family. I can never thank you enough for the continued support that you have given me over the past four decades as a teacher, coach, assistant principal and the past 18 years as principal...”

Special Presentation: Past Commander Wayne Coleman presented a special Legion of Honor Award from the Four Chaplain Foundation to Past Commander Bud Goodwin for all he has done for the Post, community and to recognize his dedication to the Four Chaplains.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 2008 hours followed by refreshments.



Past Commander Bud Goodwin

being presented

the Four Chaplain

Legion of Honor Award

by

Past Commander Wayne Coleman

Coming Events

2014-2015 Post Election

We are beginning to put together volunteers to run for office in the Post for the 2014 – 2015 Legion year. Past Commanders Mike Romero (303-973-2493) and Bud Goodwin (303-794-9507) are the Nominating Committee. Anyone wishing to participate on the Executive Board should let them know of your interest. They can be contacted with questions regarding the positions and qualifications.

Annual Convention

We are already beginning plans for the Annual Convention in LaMar, June 19-22, 2014. Please let Harry Ciruli know if you would like to attend so we can help arrange for hotel rooms.

Honoring the Greatest Generation

We are working with the VFW on a program to honor WWII veterans and spouses to be held on June 7th at the Littleton WWII Memorial. Radio celebrity Rick Crandall will moderate the event. We are looking for ideas or USO style entertainers who may contribute to the memories of this era. We have already lost too many members of this era of veterans without having a special day of recognition to honor them. If you have any suggestions please call me at 720-287-2108 or email e_pietsch@msn.com. We would like to make this a special event.

The Post is considering putting together a special document of our WWII veterans. This would include name, places of birth, a short summary of your duty locations and special events during the War. We will be sending out a questionnaire for you to complete or we will have helpers complete the questionnaire for you via telephone or in person.

We will also be asking if you want to be interviewed, recorded on tape and or video for the **Littleton Museum**. This July they will have a WWII pictorial exhibit that has been moving around the country. It will be in Littleton for 6 weeks. In conjunction with that exhibit, the Littleton Museum is putting together a special exhibit on Littleton during the war. They would like to video record veterans and their stories to replay for visitors during the exhibit which is expected to run for about two years.

Suellen Winstead of the Littleton Museum will be putting together this exhibit and interviewing veterans. She will be at the April Meeting to discuss her project. I know you have good stories to tell but you may have other items from the War that the museum may want to borrow to put on display in the exhibit.

Job Listings

Darrell Myers from the Department of Colorado does an excellent job of getting out employment opportunities for veterans. If you are interested in a job or know a veteran who is, please email Ed Pietsch at e_pietsch@msn.com and I will include you/them on my distribution list. Sometimes the same job may get included on multiple listings. We usually get emailed a couple lists each week

Buell Theatre Presenting the Colors



Post members practicing their presentation of the Colors before the audience is admitted and saluting the Colors after posting the flags right before the start of the performance. The Buell Theater requests our participation several times a year. Thanks Harry Giglio, Chuck Blemler, Bill Himes, Fred Himelsbach and Gene Foyle.

Post 103 Spotlights: Past Commander Wayne Coleman



WWII Veteran, born 2/28/1926

US Marines July 9, 1944 - August 13, 1946

Basic Training - San Diego California
Infantry Training - Camp Pendleton

Shipped overseas to Mariana Islands,
specifically the Island of Saipan

Stopped in Pearl Harbor for three days

He performed a lot of patrols while
stationed there.

Wayne graduated from Southern Methodist University and in his last job he worked for Texaco for 19 years before retiring. He has been married to Auxiliary member Tommie Coleman for 63 wonderful years and they have three sons and two grandsons.

Wayne has been a member of Post 103 since 1994 in the early stages of revitalization and he has held many positions and performed many duties including Finance Officer, Post Commander (2 years), Bingo volunteer and All Veterans Honor Guard member and Commander. The Post has been very fortunate that Wayne Coleman and a handful of other key leaders took the Post from the brink of losing its Charter to becoming the "Leader Post". Wayne has been a role model and mentor to many newer officers in the Post. Wayne is also a member of the VFW Post 4666 and the Marine Corps League.

March Meeting



It is great that we are increasing our attendance at the meetings, but we are running out of space. We been trying to work with the Buck center staff on a larger room but we may be limited to our current space. If so, we may have to reduce the number of tables and go to theater style seating in the middle.



Darlene Romero, President

303-973-2493

Darlene_Romero@msn.com

We had a good meeting on March 5th. We had eleven members present and two guests, Darlene Folger and Annie Green.

The standing committee for the revisions of our By-Laws met at the Buck Center and the members will be updated at each meeting.

We are still collecting food for the Veteran's Redistribution Center, and the food for April is soup. They also are in need of canned vegetables, such as green beans, corn and peas. Also, we still need pop can tops, plastic grocery bags and empty printer cartridges.

We are going to buy more clothes for the homeless Veteran's at the VA hospital with money we have left that the Post donated.

We will have nominations for new officers at the April 2nd meeting, and have elections in May. We will have the installation in June.

Upcoming Events: Post Breakfast, March 15th. At 9:00am at the Elks Lodge.

Darlene Romero
President

Englewood Elks Lodge Dinner to help honor the veterans from the VA Medical Center



Post Guests at the Dinner



Post donation to Elks Lodge



Post and VA Hospital Guests at the Dinner