



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

“The Leader Post” May 2014

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

Website-www.legionpost103.org



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 5-17-2014 - Legion Training – Post 209 Colorado Springs 8am
- 5-24-2014 - Poppy Sales, King Soopers, Highlands Ranch 10am-3pm
- 5-25-2014 - Poppy Sales, King Soopers, Highlands Ranch 10am-3pm
- 5-26-2014 - Memorial Day Ceremonies
 - Littleton Cemetery 8am
 - Littleton WWII Memorial – Ketring Park 10am
 - Chapel Hill Cemetery 11:30am
- 5-26-2014 - Flag Retirement Ceremony, Chapel Hill Cemetery following Memorial Day Ceremony
- 6-2-2014 - Officers Meeting- Buck Rec. Center-7pm
- 6-4-2014 - General Membership Meeting- Buck Rec. Center- 7pm
- 6-7-2014 - Tribute to Greatest Generation, WWII Memorial 11am
- 6-13-2014 - Flag Day Ceremony, Buck Rec. Center 12:30pm

COMMANDER’S COMMENTS: Now is the time we begin kicking into high gear. We have three Memorial Day Ceremonies, a flag retirement ceremony, Flag Day Ceremony, Post elections, Tribute to the Greatest Generation, Department Convention, Boys State, Girls State, Legion Baseball and the installation of our new Post Officers, all taking place over the next 60 days. That does not include our routine activities such as All Veterans Honor Guard services at Fort Logan and Bingo every Thursday.

We had another good turnout for the May meeting, which lasted a little longer than planned but we had a lot of new business to discuss. We continued with the new seating arrangement and agreed that in the future we will have clipboards available to assist those who want to take notes.

We are very proud to have implemented the Claire Davis Memorial Scholarship. Claire Davis was the Arapahoe High School student who was tragically killed last December. We have been working with the Davis family, their advisor and AHS staff to make this scholarship happen in 2014 so it would commence with what would have been Claire’s graduating class. The Post has selected CJ Bossart and Chris Davis to receive the first Claire Davis Memorial Scholarships of \$1,000 each. We hope to have these winners and the Davis Family at the June

Meeting. Both the family and AHS have expressed their appreciation to Post members for our generosity and kindness in this beneficial remembrance of Claire.

In April, the Post presented a Certificate of Appreciation to retiring Columbine High School Principal Frank DeAngelis for all he has done for CHS and the Littleton community. The certificate read in part, "Not only have you helped us all to heal when faced with tragedy but helped us to grow stronger, improve and move forward." What a great role model he is and he thanked all Post members not only for this honor but for your service to the country.

Nominations of candidates for next year's Post Officers were presented at the Meeting. A complete list of candidates is included later in this newsletter. Elections will be at the June 4th membership meeting. Nominations will remain open until the election is actually held. Any member interested in running for a Post office should let me know ahead of time or announce their interest at the June meeting. I want to thank Past Commanders Mike Romero and Bud Goodwin for their assistance. We have a great team of nominees that will continue our traditions of support to the veterans and their families, the Americanism programs and the community.

We are very fortunate because in addition to the Post, our Sons of the American Legion Squadron and the Ladies Auxiliary Unit are all having great years. We truly have a fantastic American Legion Family in Littleton. As Post Commander and Harry Giglio as the All Veterans Honor Guard (AVHG) Commander, we both want to thank the Auxiliary Unit for their recent donation to the AVHG.

We have a lot of upcoming events that will be covered later in this Newsletter including Memorial Day Ceremonies and Tribute to the Greatest Generation. Please read on.

God, Duty, Honor & Country

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 Comrade, Patricia DiMaggio who had passed away earlier this year with a Post Everlasting Ceremony.

Opening ceremonies and recitals were conducted.

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

Adjutant Harry Ciruli declared that there was a quorum present.

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

Guest, Scott Neff, a former Boys State participant and a leader with the Future Business Leaders of America spoke about starting a youth group to help identify veterans' needs.



**Commander with
Columbine High School
Principal Frank DiAngeles**



Post Guest Scott Neff

Officers Reports

Harry Ciruli – Adjutant: At present we have 489 paid members. We also have 17 SAL members. T shirts are for sale at \$10.00 each and the order needs to be in by May 19th. The Post received a thank you letter from the family of Claire Davis for initiating the Clare Davis Memorial Scholarship.

Lynn Peterson - 1st. Vice Commander:

Local Publications: Look for our George C. Evans Post 103 Advertisement currently published in each of our Local Littleton Area Weekly Thursday Edition Community Newspapers – *Denver Post YourHub, Littleton Independent, Columbine Courier* & a new addition - *The Villager*. Share & pass along to others.

New Committees: Three new Committees have been established by the Commander in accordance with Post By-Laws. They will begin forming immediately and functioning in July:

1. Community Relations w/Preliminary General Duties/Responsibilities

- * Develop Post 103 Community Relations Strategic/Action Plan
- * Develop contacts, relationships & work with the Greater Littleton Area Local Newspaper Media & Journalists at: Columbine Courier, Denver Post/Your Hub, Littleton Independent & The Villager
- * Network with Local Businesses, Service Organizations & Chambers of Commerce
- * Prepare Special Post 103 & Military Event News Media Articles
- * Coordinate & work with Local Political Elected Officials

2. Fundraising w/Preliminary General Duties/Responsibilities

- * Develop Post 103 Fundraising Strategic/Action Plan
- * Develop Relationships with Local Special Interest Groups, Corporate Businesses/Sponsors
- * Generate Post 103 Supplemental Operating Revenue

3. Hospitality/Member Involvement w/ Preliminary General Duties/Responsibilities

- * Develop Post 103 Hospitality & Member Involvement Strategic/Action Plan
- * Direct, Implement & Manage Post 103 General Member Activity Interest Form
- * Assist & Match Post 103 Legionnaires with Area(s) of Interest & Participation
- * Meet & Greet Legionnaire's & Post Family Members
- * Plan & coordinate Greeter(s) for Post Functions: General Membership Meetings, Special Events (Dinners, Banquets, etc.)
- * Manage & Track Legionnaire General Meeting Attendance
- * Develop, Coordinate & Produce Legionnaire Name Tag(s)

If you have an interest in serving as Committee Chairman or as a Committee Member on any of these committees, please let your interest be known via email to: Commander Ed Pietsch (e_pietsch@msn.com) and/or 1st Vice Commander Lynn E. Peterson (lepeteron47@comcast.net).

American Legion Baseball: For the Upcoming 2014 Summer American Legion Baseball Program, Post 103 will be Sponsoring Two Local High School Baseball Program Teams.

1. Littleton High School Lions Baseball Teams – Bernie Bernhardt, Head Baseball Coach

- a. Legion B – 17 & Under
- b. Legion C - 16 & Under
- c. Legion D - Incoming Freshmen

2. Heritage High School Eagles Baseball Team – Head Baseball Coaches Steve Bond & Mike McLaughlin

- a. Legion D – Incoming Freshmen

The team schedules will be posted in late May 2014 on our Post 103 Website (www.legionpost103.org). League Games will begin in late May thru the middle of July.

Stay tuned in June for plan on our Annual Sponsored Summer Baseball Team BBQ - Post 103 Appreciation Game Event.



Another great turnout for our May 3rd Post Breakfast with 60 Post members, family members and guests attending. Our next breakfast will not be until September. We will have a Post picnic on July 12th at Sterne Park.

(Note picture was from March 15th breakfast)

Rich Callan - 2nd. Vice Commander:

Memorial Day: Memorial Day, May 26th the Post will be hosting three Ceremonies at the Littleton Cemetery at 8 am, the Littleton World War II Memorial at 10 am and the Chapel Hill Cemetery at 11:30 am. Please plan on joining us at one or more of these Ceremonies. The Post and VFW will host the first two ceremonies and we will need Post and S.A.L. members to assist in handing out programs at both services and to help set up and take down chairs before and after the 10 am service.

The Post will host the Chapel Hill Ceremony along with the Olinger Chapel Hill staff. Immediately following the Chapel Hill Ceremony we will also hold a Flag Retirement Ceremony. Please bring any old, worn, frayed or soiled flags you have for destruction.

On May 22nd at 8:20 am, Joe Leber of the VFW will be on Rick Crandall's radio program (AM 1430) talking about the three Memorial Day services.

Poppy sales: Memorial Day weekend, May 24 & 25 the Legion and S.A.L. will be helping the Auxiliary Unit sell poppies at the King Soopers store at the intersection of University & Colorado in Highlands Ranch. If anyone would like to participate and you have not yet signed up, please call Darlene Romero (303-973-2493) or Jean Jesser (303-771-2746) to coordinate a time.

Tribute to The Greatest Generation: The Post is working with the VFW on a program to honor the Greatest Generation which is to be held on June 7th at the Littleton WWII Memorial. Radio celebrity Rick Crandall will moderate the event. On May 29th at 8:20 am, Joe Leber will be on Rick Crandall's radio program talking about this Tribute. We would like as many WWII veterans as possible to participate on June 7th, please invite your friends and neighbors who are WWII veterans or who stayed home to support the war effort.

The Post will be sending all WWII members a short questionnaire to bring to the next Post Meeting or return by mail to the Post Commander. This will facilitate gathering information that will be used at the June 7th event.

In addition to the June 7th information, the Post/SAL is putting together a separate more detailed questionnaire. You can be as brief or as detailed as you like on this document. It will be used to pull together a Post historical record of our WWII members and depending on our success; we may try to make copies available for those who responded. Anyone having difficulty completing either questionnaire can email Ed Pietsch at e_pietsch@msn.com or call him at 720-287-2108. We will have someone provide assistance to you.

Additionally in July, the Littleton Museum will be putting on a special WWII exhibit and had hoped to interview some of our WWII veterans. The exhibit curator may be at the June Meeting to discuss her project.

Boys State: We currently have eight participants for Boys State. Roger Masse and I will be attending the week long program at CSU Pueblo in June.

Flag Day Ceremony: On June 13 starting at 12:30 pm the Buck Recreation Center will host their Annual Flag Day Celebration including an ice cream social, Post 103 Flag Day Program and the Tip Top Tappers. The Post will have a number of speakers, patriotic songs, the 13 Folds, and the All Veterans Honor guard will conduct the 21 gun salute and play “Taps”. This is always an enjoyable and patriotic event so bring the family.

Financial Report - George Williams: Another very quiet financial month. The Honor Guard and dues payers continue to be our major income sources.

Peter Schroder- Chaplain: Please keep our ailing comrades in your thoughts and prayers: Rich Callan, Pat Callahan, John Palmquist, and Wayne Arguello. Dear members and spouses, please notify the Chaplain Peter Schroder, when you know of any person that has special needs. 303-795-1243

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

JAG -Duane Leiker: No Report.

AVHG- Harry Giglio: Funerals since January 1st total 61. The Post AVHG had 8500 man hours of service during the Legion reporting year (May 2013 – April 2014).

All Veterans Honor Guard – Special Service: Our next service is scheduled for Flag Day, Saturday June 14th at Fort Logan Shelter A at 11:00 am.

Bingo Manager - Cal Wilson: - We had a great April which included a Must Go and we ended the month earning \$5,544 in profits and we paid out only about \$400 in Post expenses.

Please join us as a volunteer or come out and play Bingo. We are at Slammers Bingo Hall every Thursday. Slammers is located at 1884 South Wadsworth Boulevard (the northeast corner of Wadsworth and Jewell). Volunteers arrive between 9:30 and 10:30 a.m. and the session starts at 11:30 a.m. and goes until about 1:45 p.m. Hope to see you there!!!

Service Officer - Pat Callahan - Three veterans were financially assisted from 4/1 through 5/9 for an outlay of \$2,526 from the Veterans Trust Fund. I had calls from two other veterans seeking help. Supposedly, they are gathering their needed documents to work with the County Veterans Service Officer. On 4/29 we received the 6th advance in the amount of \$2,928.00, leaving us with a current on hand balance of \$3,692.96.

A note to veterans seeking assistance from the Arapahoe County Veterans Service Officer: This agency discourages walk-ins and is insisting on a telephone call to 303-738-8045 to set up an appointment. At that time, the veteran will be advised of what documents will be needed when the vet comes for the appointment. As your Post Service Officer I am available at all times for assistance. As I have stated in the past – I may not have all the answers but I do have access to those more knowledgeable.

Historian - Gene Foyle: A link to the Post 103 Facebook page is on the Post Web Page.

SAL – Nick Arceo: Our SAL membership continues to grow. We now have 17 members, 242.86 % of our goal! Thank you all for your membership. I continue to encourage anyone who wants to honor their Father or Grandfather by joining SAL, please see me for details and an application. I would like to share the facts regarding the Son's "Emblem". The design of our emblem was taken from the emblem of our parent organization, but is oval in shape so as to be easily distinguished. The star in the center represents our country, and the five points of the star represent the five-point program of the Sons of The American Legion. The sun in the background represents the Sons of The American Legion and the rays represent the loyalty of its membership. The blue of the emblem, like the blue of our flag, stands for justice. The two stars in the blue border stand for freedom and democracy. The wreath below the star is in memory of our comrades, and those of our forefathers who willingly gave their lives for their country. The ten points of the emblem represent the 10 ideals of every son. I look forward to growing our Squadron and to assist in carrying on for God and Country.

I'm in the process of putting together our first Golf Tournament for the Post. I'm hoping that all golfers will support this effort to raise funds for our Post/Squadron this summer. Information will be forthcoming. Anyone who would like to assist me on this project should contact me at 303-903-5262 or email nicrco@gmail.com.

Post Officer Nominees for 2014 -2015 Legion Year



Commander	Lynn Peterson
1 st Vice Commander	Rich Callan
2 nd Vice Commander	Roger Masse
Adjutant	Harry Ciruli
Finance Officer	George Williams
Chaplain	Wayne Arguello
Service Officer	Pat Callahan
Assistant Service Officer	Fred Himelspach
Sargent-at-Arms	Rip Hobson
Judge Advocate	Gene Foyle
Historian	Gene Foyle

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business: SAL Commander Nick Areco presented a motion to host a shot gun start golf tournament at the Willis Case Golf Course on August 1, 2014 and requested \$800.00 seed money (which includes a \$400.00 deposit to hold the date). Profits will go to the Child Welfare Foundation. The motion was seconded by Roger Masse and approved by the Post.

For the Good of the Order. A 50/50 drawing was held and the lucky recipient was one of our recent members, Gary Gambrel who won \$40.00. Congratulations Gary!

The meeting was adjourned at 2025 hours followed by refreshments.

FYI

Joe Gryniewicz's son SPC Joseph E. is a Cavalry Scout with the 4th Squadron, 3rd Cavalry Regiment stationed at Ft. Hood, TX. He and his unit are scheduled to deploy to Egypt on May 19, 2014. It is expected to be a 9 month deployment.

Ken Caryl Post – Ed Pietsch - There was discussion about the attempt to establish a new Ken Caryl Post at our May Meeting. One member at the meeting confirmed he had been called by District 6 Commander Jim Otto to discuss joining a new Ken Caryl Post. Past Post Commander and now Past District 5 Commander, Dean Casey said he had not heard of this and was concerned with encroachment into District 5 by another District. As Post Commander, I had three concerns: 1) Why was I not informed? 2) Who gave anyone permission to contact our current members and how did they get that information? 3) Why was District 6 (Denver City & County) involved when this area is clearly District 5?

I sent my concerns in an email to the Department and found out the following information at the District 5 Convention on May 10th based on discussions with Tom Bock (Department Assistant Adjutant) and District 6 Commander Jim Otto.

1) It is a courtesy not a requirement to contact the Post(s) impacted by the potential establishment of a new Post. Jim Otto's position is that Post 103 should have been notified by District 5 in accordance with paragraph 3) below.

2) Existing members of Post 103 were not being contacted. The only exceptions were a few recent transfers (4 individuals) into Post 103 who were still on a Department list of Legion members from Zip Code 80127 who are not assigned to a local post. Jim Otto assured me once he found out any contacted Legionnaire was already a member of Post 103 he immediately ceased discussions with them regarding joining the Ken Caryl Post. He apologized for these inadvertent contacts with Post members.

3) Over a year ago, the Department membership committee had approved several locations including Ken Caryl for the establishment of new Posts. A list of these locations was to have been provided to all Districts for their information and distribution to their District Posts. District 5 Past Commander, Dean Casey has repeatedly stated he has never seen this list and is not sure who, if anyone in the District had ever received it.

Any individual or group of individuals from any location can establish a new Post in the area(s) approved by the Membership Committee. Since District 5 did not pursue establishing a Ken Caryl Post, Jim Otto decided to take it on as his own Project. The determination of which District a new Post will be assigned to is the decision of the Department's Executive Committee (DEC) at the time the new Charter is submitted for approval. There are reportedly several exemptions where the DEC has placed a Post physically located in one District's boundary under the jurisdiction of a different District. If the Ken Caryl Post charter is ever submitted to the DEC for approval, we will have to wait to see the DEC's decision on which District (5 or 6) the Post will be placed in.

Annual Conventions

Seven Post members attended the District 5 Convention on May 10th at Aurora Post 23rd. Our Past Post Commander Dean Casey has been the District 5 Commander. Dean turned over the District 5 leadership to the new District Commander, Terri Shelefontiuk. District 5 Posts have all had an outstanding year in membership and the District sits at 108% of its membership goal. As a result, Dean Casey will be recognized with a special District Commander award by National for this accomplishment. Congratulations to Dean Casey and all the Posts in the District.

The Department of Colorado Annual Convention is in LaMar, June 19-22, 2014. Please let Harry Ciruli know if you would like to be a Post delegate to the convention. We will need to approve Post delegates at the June Post Membership Meeting.

Post 103 Spotlight: Jack Pansini



Born In Molfetta, Italy on March 22, 1929. Jack enlisted in the U.S. Army Medical Corps on April 1, 1946. He served for 4 years during WW II including basic training; medical training and orderly training before volunteering for the European Theater of Operations. He was an occupation troop originally shipped to Marburg, Germany; then spent time at Camp Grohn in Bremen, Germany; and Detachment "A" 7802 at Marine Schule barracks in Bremerhaven, Germany. He spent most of his time at the First Aid Station. His total time in Europe was 1 year, 11 months and 19 days. He left Germany on the troop transport ship with his bride Ursula Steuernagel in December 1948. He then worked as a Medical Tech. and Medical Laboratory Tech. at the Brooklyn Army Base. He was discharged on January 30, 1950 for the "Convenience of the Government." He reenlisted for 3 years in the Inactive Reserves

Jack then attended Pharmacy School at the University of Colorado in Boulder for 4 years and then worked for Spears Drug in Julesburg, Colorado as pharmacist. Jack and Ursula have 5 boys and 1 girl. His American Legion Post 103 duties include the All Veteran Honor Guard, taking care of the U.S. Flags at the WW II Memorial and at Buck's Recreation Center with his wife Ursula repairing and washing flags as needed. Help out at bingo when time all allows.



Some of the
Members
at the
May 7th
Meeting



Darlene Romero, President

303-973-2493

Darlene_Romero@msn.com

It's that time again to hand out Poppies at the Highlands Ranch King Soopers, 9551 S. University on May 24th and 25th from 10 am to 3 pm. If anyone would like to join us you can call Darlene Romero at: 303-973-2493 or Jean Jesser at: 303-771-2746.

At our May 7th meeting we discussed fundraisers, Ilsa Oliver, suggested a no bake, bake sale and the members agreed. For anyone that would like to donate, you decide what you would like to bake and the cost to buy the ingredients then double the amount for your time. You can send your donations to our Treasurer, Adreann Palmquist, 9022 Greenwich St., Highlands Ranch, CO 80130.

We are sponsoring three girls to attend Girls State this year.

At our May meeting we elected next Year's Officer's. We will have the Installation at our June 4th Meeting.

President:	Janelle Rodriguez
Vice President:	Darlene Romero
Secretary:	Marsha Callan
Treasurer:	Adreann Palmquist
Corresponding/Membership Secretary:	Jean Jesser
Chaplain:	Betty Smith
Sergeant at Arms:	JoAnn Giglio
Historian:	Margaret Callahan

There will be no meetings in July or August.

Upcoming Events:

- May 24th - 25th. Poppies at King Soopers at 9551 S. University.
- May 26, Memorial Day Ceremonies: Littleton Cemetery at 8:00AM, Littleton WWII Memorial at Ketring Park at 10:00AM. Ceremony and Flag Retirement at Chapel Hill at 11:30AM.
- Post Picnic July 12, 12:30 PM, Sterne Park.

Darlene Romero
President