

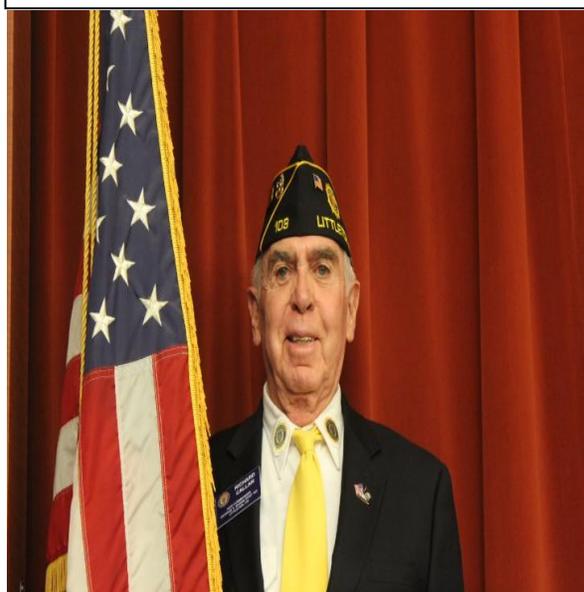


**“For God and Country” GEORGE C. EVANS POST 103 “United We Stand”**

**“The Leader Post” December 2015**

Editor: Harry Ciruli- 720-287-2139 [adjutant@legionpost103.org](mailto:adjutant@legionpost103.org)

Website-[www.legionpost103.org](http://www.legionpost103.org)



- 12-10-15 BINGO Slammers Bingo Hall
- 12-17-15 BINGO Slammers Bingo Hall
- 12-24-15 NO BINGO “Christmas Eve”
- 12-31-15 BINGO “New Years Eve” Slammers Bingo Hall
- 1-04-15 Officers meeting Buck Rec. Center 6:30 PM
- 1-06-15 General Membership Meeting  
Buck Rec. Center 7:00 PM
- 1-07-15 BINGO Slammers Bingo Hall
- 1-14-15 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 Blvd.

**COMMANDERS COMMENTS:**

The months of November and December, 2015 have been especially busy and productive for Post 103. In November, we all enjoyed a very nice banquet held at the Englewood Elks Lodge. This event was well attended and everyone had a good time. I wish to extend my sincere appreciation to the marvelous planning committee of, Janelle Rodriguez, Roger Masse, and Bill Brudwick. I am indebted to them for all of their hard work, organizational skills, and attention to detail! At the banquet, it was my sincere appreciation in awarding the “Legionnaire of The Year” award to Harry Giglio! Harry has been a dedicated and hard working member of the Post for many years. His current role is that of the Commander of the All Veterans Honor Guard. He is truly an asset to the Post for all of the veteran’s funeral services he coordinates. That is no small accomplishment!

Also, it was my honor to present a “Certificate of Appreciation” to: Jack Pansini, Bill Brudwick, Roger Masse, and Fred Himelspach. A special award to recognize her assistance to the Post was presented to Auxiliary President Janelle Rodriguez, as acknowledgement for all of her contributions to Post 103. Thanks Janelle, you are definitely a treasure.

At the Executive Committee meeting on November 30th, informal plans were formulated to develop a community based Holiday program for deserving veterans and families in need.

There was a renewed call for Post members to become involved in our many programs. These positions do not require a yearlong commitment, but rather to assist on special programs or projects. We take pride in the many accomplishments and membership renewal percentage. However, we still have only 20-25 members who are involved in Post activities who are actively involved in our daily and monthly functions. I am requesting that any member who feels he would like to become more active in your Post, please step up and help us with our many needs. In advance, please accept my sincere appreciation for your efforts. Feel free to contact any Post Officer, to make inquiry.

On behalf of the Executive Committee, I want to wish one and all a Very Merry Christmas and Joyous New Year!

## **“We Want You”**

I want to issue a clarion call for members of Post 103 to step up and become part of the Post Management team. I would like more members volunteer and become involved in our many activities.

I don't expect any member to become a permanent part of this august body, however, there is a need for post members to assist in special projects that require a brief period of participation time to be part of a project or assist in an ongoing task. So, please make an effort to join your peers in becoming part of **“The Leader Post”**

Please contact myself or 1st Vice Commander, Roger Masse, to let us know that you are willing to volunteer for these important functions.

Remember, we are the **“The Leader Post”** because of its membership!

Richard Callan  
Commander

## **General Meeting Minutes**

Meeting was gaveled to order at 1900 hrs. Adjutant Harry Ciruli declared that there was a quorum present.

Past Commanders present at tonight's meeting: Rich Carlson, Mike Romero, Ed Pietsch, Dean Casey, and Bud Goodwin

World War II Veterans Present at tonight's meeting: Five Veterans from WWII were present at tonight's Meeting and we all thank you for your Service.

## **Officers Report**

### **Harry Ciruli - Adjutant:**

The good news is, out of 471 members we have 354 that have paid their dues. I would like to have all dues in by December 31<sup>st</sup> 2015, so the members can avoid National's dues increase. If you have any questions give me a call. A copy of your DD214's is required to show proof that all members were honorably discharged. I also need them in case a member's family can't find the DD214 for their loved ones funeral.

I have 145 at present on file. Please call me to confirm that you have your DD214 on file. My phone No. is 720-287-2139. If there are any address and/or Email changes let me know.

Remember please get your membership renewal in ASAP.

### **Roger Masse - 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander:**

#### *Oratorical Speech Contest-*

We will hold the Oratorical competition at Metropolitan State College, March 12, 2015. We will be needing volunteers for that day. Also, anyone that knows any high school students between 9<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades is welcome to invite them to compete in the contest. They are eligible to compete all 4 years they are students, unless they win the National Contest in April 2016. Scholarships are given at the State level and at the National level. For more information contact: Roger Masse 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander.

#### *Oratorical Meeting Schedule-*

Meetings are held once a month, on the first Saturday of the month, at Department Headquarters. There are no meetings in June or July.

#### *Color Guard Season-*

I need volunteers for the games at various schools. If you are interested, please email me at [drivercoach69@yahoo.com](mailto:drivercoach69@yahoo.com). You can also call me at 719-648-2818 for more information and details. Thank you.

**Bill Brudwick - 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander:** No report

**Finance Officer - Ed Pietsch:**

*November Results-*

We had another positive month in November with Post income exceeding expenses. This is in large part due to membership dues and donations to the All Veterans Honor Guard. We also combined some unused accounts into our Post checking account and then transferred some of those funds into a Certificate of Deposit.

We encourage all Post members that have not yet paid their dues to renew by the end of December. This helps the Post achieve membership goals but also provides a foundation for management of Post funds for the new fiscal year beginning January 1<sup>st</sup>.

**2016 Budget**

The Board and Membership approved the 2016 Post Budget at the December meetings. The Post income for next year primarily comes from membership and donations to the AVHG. These account for 75% of our Post direct income and pay for many of the Post operating expenses plus what we pay National and the Department of Colorado for their share of members' dues. Currently the Post only retains \$9 of the members' \$38 dues with the remainder going to National and the Department.

Most of the funds we receive to pay for all our many programs and projects we run every year are derived from our Bingo operations. Bingo funds pay for two-thirds of the total Post expenses every year which will equal about \$40,000 next fiscal year. The Post also receives another \$30,000 in state grant funds to support needy veterans and their families which are managed by the Post Service Officer.

**“We Need You”**

When combined the Post Budget, Bingo Budget and State Grant provides a large footprint of support to veterans programs, youth programs, and charities in the community. To continue to fund and support these programs to our maximum ability, we need volunteer manpower. Please consider joining your fellow members at meetings, get involved in some of the Post programs and projects or just help out at bingo. I am sure there are some activities that will interest you and your input and participation will strengthen existing programs and provide insight on other opportunities to better serve the community.

**Bingo**

We had an outstanding month of November with our Must GO plus two other positive weeks. We have already surpassed our best year ever and look to achieve a benchmark for the future that will be hard to achieve. We thank all our Legion and Auxiliary volunteers for their assistance but could use several more. Please consider joining us at Slammers Bingo Hall,

(northeast corner of Jewell and Wadsworth) every Thursday morning. The session runs from 11:30am to about 2pm. Volunteers should arrive by 10 am.

We will be taking off on December 24<sup>th</sup> because of Christmas, but we will be there December 31<sup>st</sup> as usual.

Congratulations to Roger Masse, he passed the Bingo Manager's test and we sent the results into the Secretary of State Office for his Bingo Manager's License.

### **Mike Romero - Chaplains' Report:**

**Thelma Blemler's Funeral** was held on Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at Ft. Logan National Cemetery followed by a "Celebration of Life" reception at the Englewood Elks.

A "Sympathy" card was mailed to Chuck Blemler and family, with condolences from the Officers and Members of Post 103.

**Al Bevilacqua**, has begun radiation treatments for Lymphocytic Lymphoma. According to Al, the prognosis is good that for making a complete recovery. A "Get Well" card was mailed to Al from the Officers and Members of Post 103.

Please keep those mentioned, in our thoughts and prayers.

Contact me at: 303-973-2493 or: [mjromero44@gmail.com](mailto:mjromero44@gmail.com) if you know of any member needing a visit or call.

### **Lynn Peterson -Legion Baseball:**

State-wide, Colorado's American Legion Baseball (CALB) Program for 2016 has begun and is presently gearing up in the early Planning Stages. Also, at Post 103, planning for our sponsored teams is underway. Traditionally, Post 103 Sponsors American Legion Baseball teams from three local High Schools – Littleton, Heritage & Englewood. While we expect that to continue, with the increased interest & participation particularly in the South Denver metro area, several other area High School Baseball Teams have expressed interest, which Post 103 may Sponsor too. I should know more in the next several months. Till Then...

**Sergeant-at-arms - Rip Hobson:** 37 Members were present at our December meeting.

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

**AVHG- Harry Giglio:**

We had 18 services for the month of November. Year to date we have completed 207 services. The breakdown by service era is: WWII-76, Korea-52, Vietnam-68, Gulf War-3, and memorial services-6.

We are possibly looking to do the special service at Ft Logan on the 2nd Saturday of January.

**Service Officer – Fred Himelspach:**

Over \$4300.00 was given in assistance to four Veterans. We also purchased \$1,500.00 from King Soopers & Walmart, for 30 gift cards to buy food and other necessities, for needy Veterans.

I have a little over \$1,600 in the Grant Fund Bank Account, and this week I will be applying for reimbursement of over \$5,800.00.

Arapahoe County has requested another \$1,000.00 for Gift cards for December and the upcoming holidays.

**Historian - Gene Foyle:** No report:

**SAL Commander - Nick Arceo:**



**Nick Arceo, Squadron Commander**  
**nicrco@gmail.com**

Thank you all SAL members! Our goal for membership is 18. Currently we are at 25 members, 147.06% and we are 100% renewal. Did you know many of the SAL members are dual members? That's right; you can become a dual member also if you qualify. If your father or grandfather served in the armed forces you can join SAL Squadron 103. This is a great way to honor them. Please see for more information.

The Sons of the American Legion (SAL) is a program established in 1933. Since then, the SAL has assisted the American Legion with its programs and activities. SAL assists the American Legion and the Citizens Flag Alliance in their efforts to secure a constitutional amendment to protect the flag of the United States from desecration.

**Unfinished Business:** None

**New Business:** None

**For the Good of the Legion:**

A 50/50 drawing was held, and the lucky recipient was Bill Brudwick. He donated half to AVHG and half to Meals on Wheels. A good choice and thanks Bill.

The meeting was adjourned at 1940 hours followed by a gathering with the Ladies Auxiliary to celebrate the coming Holiday Season.



**Janelle Rodriguez, President**

**720-207-8008**

**[nellson25@yahoo.com](mailto:nellson25@yahoo.com)**



Holiday Greetings! This last Wednesday evening, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Auxiliary and Legion members of Post 103 enjoyed wonderful goodies and great conversations to start off this month of festivities. We continue to get membership dues sent in and hope to have all members renewed by December 31, 2015 – if you have not paid such, please send \$25.00 Senior Fee or \$5.00 Junior Fee to Jean Jesser, 150 W. Sterne Pkwy, Littleton, 80120.

Please remember Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941, this was a day that would live in infamy and thrust the United States of America into the second World War. Still today, seven decades after the war's end, American Legion Auxiliary members and people from all over the world pause to pay tribute to those who were there on that fateful day. I know my grandparents were at a dance in Omaha, NE that night and heard the news there as it started to move across the mainland of what had happened in Hawaii.

I wish to thank all of the wonderful members of Unit 103; we have a small but mighty group of ladies that bring/buy items for veterans use such as food, clothing and necessities; help with Bingo each Thursday and are always available for other responsibilities throughout the year that include Girls State, the Oratorical Contest, and of course, Poppy Sales; each of you makes our unit a very special group to not only belong to but, to have ready made friends!

May you all have a blessed and wonderful Christmas! And a most Happy New Year for 2016!

*Janelle Rodriguez*  
Auxiliary President

**Post Spotlight:**

John Holz  
WW II, Air Force  
Sergeant 3<sup>rd</sup> Class



*Basic Training-*  
Lackland Air Base San Antonio Texas

*Schools Attended-*  
Biloxi Mississippi Aircraft Maintenance, Engine Mechanic.  
after Going through basic training and school was sent overseas during the occupation of Japan in Okinawa Japan worked on the Flight line and Build up shop 22<sup>nd</sup> Bombardment group,



then was sent to 32<sup>nd</sup> supply Squadron and supply group Earned a Commendation while working in supply Division



then transferred to Smokey Hill Salinas Kansas B-29 Refueling squadron 301<sup>st</sup>



After World War II, I worked several Jobs from Construction in Fremont, Nebraska to Hormel Meat Packing. Learned to plaster houses with a cousin and took a course through the mail, then finished in Kentucky United Electronics Labs. Went to work at Collins radio for 3 years then worked at Glenn L. Martin Engineering for 18 years then got laid off and started my own business, Popcorn machines and supplies. After 11 years I sold the business and retired in 1997.

Married to Bonnie Holz for 53 years and had 2 children a son and Daughter

Member of American Legion, George C. Evans, Post 103, also of Pat Hannon, VFW Post 4666, where I am a Past Commander.