



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

“The Leader Post” October 2016  
Editor: Harry Ciruli- 720-287-2139 [adjutant@legionpost103.org](mailto:adjutant@legionpost103.org)  
Website-[www.legionpost103.org](http://www.legionpost103.org)



- 10-13-2016 BINGO, Slammers Bingo Hall
- 10-14-2016 BINGO, Slammers Bingo Hall
- 10-20-2016 BINGO, Slammers Bingo Hall
- 10-27-2016 BINGO, Slammers Bingo Hall
- 10-31-2016 Officers Meeting, Buck Rec. Center 6:30 PM
- 11-2-2016 General Membership Meeting, Buck Rec. Center 7:00 PM
- 11-10-2016 BINGO, Slammers Bingo Hall
- 11-12-2016 Pos Banquet; 12:00 PM Englewood Elks
- 11-17-2016 BINGO, Slammers Bingo Hall
- 11-24-2016 NO BINGO!!!

Englewood Elks: 3690 S. Jason St., Englewood, CO  
Buck Rec. Center: 2004 W. Powers Ave., Littleton, CO  
Slammers Bingo Hall: 1884 S. Wadsworth Blvd.

**COMMMANDERS COMMENTS: Commander Roger Masse**

As I lay in my hospital bed, only slightly aware of what was happening around me, my family tells me that I was visited each and every day by many of my Post 103 friends. Upon arriving home I found cards, more Post visitors and received many phone calls inquiring about my health. In the past few weeks I have relied heavily on the help of Executive Board members, each of whom has stepped in to help me fulfill my responsibilities as I continue to recover. I have been overwhelmed by everyone’s concern and support, and it has given me a new appreciation of the Legion’s commitment to mutual helpfulness. Please accept my deepest

appreciation and thanks to all of you for helping make the past two months a little easier. I look forward to returning the favor!

September was a busy month. On September 13<sup>th</sup>, Post 103 sponsored a luncheon for the National Commander, Charlie Schmidt, at the Englewood Elks Club. Along with myself, Officers in attendance were:

Chaplain Mike Romero  
Auxiliary President Darlene Romero  
Finance Officer Ed Pietsch  
Second Vice Commander Joyce Tuepker  
JAG-Historian Joel Mendelson  
AVHG Harry Giglio  
Past Commander Bud Goodwin  
Adjutant Harry Ciruli  
Department Service Officer Dean Casey  
Department Adjutant Pat Smith

We presented Commander Schmidt with a \$500 donation to his charities.

On September 24<sup>th</sup>, the Color Guard from Post 103 presented The Colors for the WWII 464<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group. Myself and the below four Legionnaires served as Color Guard and joined the five surviving members from this unit that served in Italy for a dinner honoring their service.

Joyce Tuepker  
Joel Mendelson  
Jack Pansini  
Lynn Peterson

The Post Banquet will be held on the afternoon of Saturday, November 12<sup>th</sup> at the Englewood Elks Club. The Post Breakfast for that day has been cancelled due to the Banquet.

The District 5 Commanders Meeting was held at Post 21 in Golden at the end of September. We discussed leadership, training, and membership.

The House of Purpose Church has invited two members of our Post to a banquet on October 15<sup>th</sup>. SAL Commander Nick Arceo and myself will attend. At our October meeting I shared a letter that they wrote us, as well as a letter from The

Chapel of the Four Chaplains. Please let me know if you're interested in seeing those letters.

The American Legion Department of Colorado is doing a membership drive in conjunction with the Boo at the Zoo events at the Denver Zoo this year. Volunteers are needed for weekend dates in October. Other upcoming Post 103, District and Department of Colorado planned activities and events include

### **October**

10/8/16 MIA Presentation, Fairmount Cemetery, Noon

### **November**

11/8/16 – Election Day

11/11/16 – Veterans Day

11/12/16 – Post Banquet

11/18-20/16 - Department Membership Drive

11/24/16 – Thanksgiving Day

Please let me know if you have any suggestions, questions or concerns for the Post. I'm excited for the remainder of the year, and continuing to serve as your Commander. Thank you.

**Roger Masse**

Commander, Post 103

### **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 our Membership Meeting were: Dean Casey, Mike Romero, Ed Pietsch and Lynn Peterson.

**Four WWII Veteran Members** were also present; they were: Chuck Blemler, and Jack Pansini.

### **Officers Report**

**Harry Ciruli - Adjutant:**

We have started the 2016-2017 Post year. As of today we have 273 members renewed out of 478. We are looking great, our goal has been set 420.

A copy of your DD214 is required to show proof that you as a Veteran 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 146, DD214's currently on file. Please call me to confirm that I have your DD214 on file. My phone is: 720-287-2139. If there are any address and/or email changes let me know.

Remember please get your membership renewal in ASAP.

## **Lynn Peterson - 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander:**

### **Membership / Recruitment**

As "**The Leader Post**", **Post 103 Asks a Simple Favor of YOU....**Practice Post 103's Membership Three R's by.....**Renewal, Renewal, Renewal.** HELP CONTINUE TO MAKE & KEEP Geo. C. Evans Post 103, Dept. of Colorado & The American Legion STRONG!!!,

Currently, Post 103 Membership is at 63%. For those that have Renewed for 2016/2017, a Hearty Special & Appreciated Thanks. **If You have Not Yet Renewed your 2016/2017 Geo. C. Evans Post 103 Membership. please do so immediately.** With Department of Colorado's 2016/2017 American Legion "**Post Target Goal of 85%**" **Membership by November 15th, WE NEED YOUR ASSISTANCE.**

So Step up to the Plate. Annual Post 103 Dues are \$40.00. You can RENEW simply by EITHER Sending a Check Payable to: George C. Evans Post 104; & Mail to: Adjutant Harry Ciruli, 872 E. Thames St., Highlands Ranch, CO 80126 OR Payment On-Line. Visit [www.legionpost103.org](http://www.legionpost103.org).

Additionally & Importantly, in assisting Post 103 Add to our Vital Veterans Organization Strength, several up coming Denver Metro Recruitment Events are Planned, needing your Volunteerism Spirit. They Include:

### **Joint District 5 & 6 Recruitment Day Events Scheduled**

1. **Boo At The Denver Zoo** - Booth Volunteers Needed; Min. 3 Hr. Shift
  - a. Saturday, Oct. 22nd, 7AM - 7PM (Morning Shift Openings)
  - b. Sunday, Oct. 23rd, 7AM - 7PM (Morning Shift Openings)
  - c. Saturday, Oct. 29th, 7AM - 9PM (Morning Shift Openings)
  - d. Sunday, Oct. 30th, 7AM - 9PM (Morning Shift Openings)
2. **Metro Denver Area Direct Mailing Solicitation (DMS) Recruitment**
  - a. Friday, November 18th @ Dept. Hdqtrs., 12Noon - 4PM;

- b. Saturday, November 19th @ Denver Post #1, 12Noon - 4PM; and
- c. Sunday, November 20th @ Denver Post #1, 12Noon - 4PM.

As “**Veterans Serving Veterans**”.....Become a part of a Growing Movement of National, State & Local Community Significance. Contact 1st. Vice Commander Lynn E. Peterson ([lepeteron47@comcast.net](mailto:lepeteron47@comcast.net) or 720-841-5079) for the Sharing of your Time & Efforts.

**Oratorical Report:** We are starting to form a committee for the 2016-2017 Oratorical year.

Site and Date are in the workings. If you would like to work on a committee or be an oratorical volunteer, Please contact Roger Masse at: 719-648-2818 or: [drivercouch69@yahoo.com](mailto:drivercouch69@yahoo.com)

**Joyce Tuepker 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander:** Working on hand-off to John Mullin (Service Officer). Intent is to continue as Service Officer with John being the primary. I plan to assist where needed (paperwork, delivery of checks, working with ACVA, etc.).

Will be meeting with Janelle Rodriguez regarding the upcoming banquet on 12 November. There is a very short turnaround. Information will be sent out as plans are finalized.

Will continue to support the AVHG as much as possible.

Will continue to go through the paperwork I received regarding the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander position and come up to speed as quickly as possible.

**Finance Officer - Ed Pietsch:** We had another positive month in October with Post income significantly exceeding expenses. This is in large part due to Past Commander Elmer Herbaly’s generous donation to the Post from his Estate. We will always remember Elmer’s as a fine gentleman, a mentor and a significant participant in Post Americanism programs especially the Post Oratorical Program which he chaired for many years. The Post also had received donations to the All Veterans Honor Guard (AVHG) for their participation in veteran’s services at Fort Logan. Funds were also received for membership renewals and from National for our 40, Paid Up For Life members.

The Post Expenses were minimal and were mostly for membership paid out to the Department and National as well AVHG expenses, the Post telephone and office supply expenses.

We encourage all Post members that have not yet paid their 2017 dues to renew As Soon As Possible. This helps the Post achieve membership goals but also provides some financial income to meet Post expenses.

**Mike Romero - Chaplain:**

**Pat Callahan** is home and improving, his wife **Margaret** is also home after a stay at Sky Ridge Hospital, they can be reached at: 303-770-2857.

**Wayne Coleman** is still at Someren Glen where he is rehabbing from a broken hip. His wife **Tommie** says he is doing well and will be home soon.

**Ray Pearson** recently had successful surgery for a twisted colon at Swedish Hospital. He was in there for two weeks and was transferred to Power Back Rehab Center and was then sent back to Swedish with pneumonia. Was there for another two weeks, and then sent to Power Back again for rehab. He was discharged, sent home and sent back to Swedish because of fainting. The doctors were unable to find the cause so kept him in for a few days, and then was discharged. He is currently home and tells me he's doing fine and feeling much better.

**Jesse Rivera Sr.** is out of University Hospital, where he was in for pneumonia and into Kindred Hospital for rehabilitation.

**Ed Wearing** a 5<sup>th</sup> District Officer was sent a "Get Well" card on, 10-17-2016.

**Dean Carlo** a Post 103 member was sent a "Get Well" card on, 10-17-2016.

**Vernon Weber** also a Post 103 member was sent a "Get Well" card on, 10-18-2016

Let's keep these members in our thoughts and prayers.

If you know of anyone needing a visit or call, contact me at: 303-973-2493 or email me at: [mjromero44@gmail.com](mailto:mjromero44@gmail.com)

**American Legion Post 103 1st Quarter Closure Report for the 2016 Veteran Trust Fund.**

Grant money in the amount of \$7500 was deposited into the AL Post 103 Veterans Assistant bank account on 9 Sep 2016.

A deposit was received from AL Post 103 in the amount of \$3000 on 22 Aug. Assistance was given to Dakota Ridge Apartments for veteran Ed Delgado to cover rent in the amount of \$1365.00 (check #1152/dated 30 Aug 16) written from account ending 7451.

Assistance was given to South Park Mobile Home and RV Community for veteran Richard Sherman to cover rent and electric in the amount of \$880.67 (check #1176/dated 25 Sep 16) written from account ending 7541.

KS gift cards were purchased on 13 Aug in the amount of \$582 (check #1151) written from account 7541 and turned over to the ACVA to be disbursed.

KS gift cards (30) were purchased on 10 Sep in the amount of \$1455.00 (check # 1084) written from account 9160 and turned over to the ACVA to be disbursed.

Respectfully Submitted by John Mullin .

### **Harry Giglio – Commander, AVHG:**

The AVHG had 20 services for the month of July. The breakdown was WWII 7, Korea 4, Vietnam 9. We have had a total of 143 services since January. The breakdown year to date is WWII 50, Korea 32, Vietnam 56, Gulf war 2, Memorial 3.

**Also let your families know that our Post 103 All Veterans Honor Guard Unit is available to do services at Ft Logan on Monday, Wednesday and Friday of every week, if the need arises.**

You can contact me if you have any questions.

### **Lynn Peterson - Legion Baseball: Post 103 Sponsored Teams**

In 2016, our Post 103 Legion Baseball Program Budget consisted of \$7,500.00, of which, \$5,980.00 was obligated to Seven Littleton Area Legion Baseball Team Sponsorship's. Six of Seven Post 103 Sponsored 2016 American Legion Baseball Teams submitted their respective Team Expense Summary Reports.

### **Statewide - Colorado American Legion Baseball (CALB)**

The 2017 & 2018 American Legion Baseball (ALB) Western Region 8 Tournament will be Hosted by Department of Colorado's CALB Program. The 8-Team Qualifying State Champions will include: Arizona, California, Colorado (2), Hawaii, Nevada, New Mexico & Utah. With a \$15,000.00 Annual Commitment requirement, in the upcoming year, CALB will be looking for Fundraising & Post Donation(s); including Post Member Volunteer Assistance. For more

information, Interested Post 103 Legionnaire Baseball Fans & Supporters, Contact Lynn E. Peterson ([lepeterson47@comcast.net](mailto:lepeterson47@comcast.net), 720-841-5079).

**JAG – Joel Mendelson:** No Report.

**Ed Pietsch – Bingo Manager:** We had an outstanding month of September with our Must GO plus two other positive weeks. We are just keeping pace with last year which was our best year ever, and hope to establish a new benchmark for the future that will be hard to achieve. We thank all our Legion, Auxiliary and Sons of the American Legion 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. Congratulations to Joyce Tuepker, she passed the Bingo Manager's test several months ago and is quickly learning the Bingo Manager's duties. She has already provided valuable assistance in re-writing several of our Bingo forms and volunteer list.

### **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.

### 2017 Scholarships – Ed Pietsch

We are finalizing our scholarship application packages for both the Claire Davis Memorial Scholarship (limited to Arapahoe High School students) and the Descendants of Veterans Scholarships. As these are finalized, they will be provided to area schools and placed on the Post webpage. All George C. Evans American Legion Family Members who have children, grandchildren or even great grandchildren that our high school seniors with a 2.5 or better cumulative grade point average, regardless of where they live they can apply for one of six \$500 Descendants of Veterans Scholarships. Also, children located in the Post 103



service can apply if they meet the criteria and are a descendant of a veteran. Let you friends and neighbors know.

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Come out, give us a try and we think you will like it. 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 look forward to seeing you!

If you have questions please call Ed Pietsch at 720-287-2108, Cal Wilson 303-470-7206 or our newest managers, Joyce Tuepker, 303-948-9916, Harry Ciruli at 720-287-2139 and Roger Masse 719-648-2818.

**Historian – Joel Mendelson:** [George C. Evans Post 103 participated in the Annual "Downtown Littleton Western Welcome Week Parade" on 8/20/2016](#)

### **A visit from our 2016 American Legion National Commander**

**American Legion National Commander Charlie Schmidt** visited Post 103 for lunch at the Englewood Elks Lodge 2122 on S. Jason St. 9/14/2016. Present were the following personal. Past Nat'l Commander Tom and Elaine Bock, Colorado State Commander Jay Bowen, Commander Roger Masse, Ed Pietsch, Bud Goodwin, Harry Ciruli, Mike and Darlene Romero, Harry Giglio, Joyce Tuepker, Dean Casey, Joel Mendelson. Others from the Colorado State level.

#### **Charlie's message:**

- For every member to try to recruit at least one new member so as our membership swells so does our voice on Capitol Hill in Washington.
- House vote of the 114<sup>th</sup> Congress to vote for HR5620 VA accountability for appeals.
- Shared an account of four bicyclists, three high school students and a 70 yr. old Navy Combat Medic, that set out from Astoria, Oregon to Ground View New York City, on a 59 day, 3600 miles just to raise awareness for Operation Comfort Warrior for those whom have been wounded in combat. They raised \$26,000. These 3 High School students also were Boy Scouts, so they drew the attention of the Boy Scouts of America.
- Charlie went on to share other experiences and stories of American Legion accounts of good things happening.
- I could tell the audience found Charlie to be passionate in his position as "National Commander", he certainly enjoys meeting A.L. Members where ever he travels, he has

an exceptional recall of his experiences, and reminds me of Tom Bock in his delivery to his audience. This is a skill set not all possess.







### **Spending a day with Post 103 AVHG (All Veterans Honor Guard)**

A day at Fort Logan Cemetery with our AVHG. 9/16/2016. Their assignments for the week are usually on a short notice. On this day following members, Commander Rifle Team Harry Giglio, Commander Al Rodriguez, Chaplin Rich Callan, Rifle Team, Gerald Folger, Joyce Tuepker, Chuck Blemier, Michael Romero, Bill Hines, Terry McAvoy, Ed Pietsch, Taps by Ken Reck, and tag along Historian Joel Mendelson.

Their day started at the Visitor Center for most at 8:45am. There were four services scheduled for the day . If you go to [www.legionpost103.org](http://www.legionpost103.org) and then Facebook under albums you will see about 50+ pictures.

On this day there were 10 Post members present out of a total of 24+ members of Post 103 donating their time to serve our Veterans. They went about their assignment as they have done many, many times before, AVHG Commander Harry Giglio keeps them on their toes and sharp, they know the drill but he is their conscience. Upon arriving at each site well before the Funeral procession, the Team is at attention as the Funeral procession arrives, Rich and Al are at curb side to greet the procession along with the two Military representatives. During the ceremony Rich and Al along with the Military personnel conduct the proceedings, and then as the Colors are presented CMDR Harry silently approaches the aft of the ceremony for the presentation. After that The Color Guard does a 21-gun salute and then Taps.

At the last Proceeding there was an extra salute most family's don't know they can have at their ceremony, a huge bell which was sounded off seven times. It is free but donations are always welcome. It was the perfect send off. It was "SALUTING THOSE WHO SACRIFICED SELFLESSLY WITH A RESOUNDING TRIBUTE". As was explained to me this was The First Honor Bell it was forged by the Verdin Company of Cincinnati, Ohio. Artifacts from Servicemen and women of Colorado were added to this bell in the casting process such as Medals and name tags to truly make this bell One of Honor. The first Honor Bell will or already has, (not sure) be dedicated into service at Fort Logan National Cemetery in Denver. It is transported in a one-ton Ford Van and is deployed on a roller system out of thru the back doors for ringing.

The Honor Bell Foundation, P.O. Box 12400, Denver, CO. 80212 (720) 282-9182 [INFO@HONORBELL.ORG](mailto:INFO@HONORBELL.ORG)

A few Fort Logan facts. It was established in 1887 as a military post. Named for General John Alexander Logan who served in the Civil War. Fort Logan is referred to as the birthplace of the Air Force. In 1894 the fort became the base for a Signal Corps balloon. The oldest burial in the cemetery is Mable Peterkin, daughter of Private Peterkin, Company F, 18<sup>th</sup> Infantry, who died June 28, 1889 (See E Grave 100). Fort Logan has three Medal of Honor recipients interred – Major William E. Adams, US Army 1971, First Sergeant Maximo Yabes, US Army 1967, and Private John Davis, US Army 1998.

***Statistical Data as of April 30, 2016.***

Interments FY15: 4,319  
Total Burials: 126,075  
Graves Occupied: 94,179  
Casket Sites used: 65,233  
Cremation Sites used: 26,389 (in ground)  
Columbaria Burials: 2,557

Watching these Legionnaires keeping in mind a few of them are in their 70's doing this all day sometimes makes you never want to complain about a simple back ache again. On the lighter side it also makes you wonder as one of them told me "these white gloves do nothing to keep my hands warm in winter ❄️. Consider the AVHG is out there in the heat 105° down to 0° degrees, rain, shine or snow it is one heck of a sacrifice on their part. They have been to Funerals with only "One" family member present up to a packed house. Participated in as many as 11 in one day, literally running from one site to the next.

The 21-gun salute bullets casings are of course blanks with 5 crimps on the end. Mandatory safe ammo. The rifles have an end piece bolted to the end of the barrel with holes in it to deflect the cartridge fire. Believe me it is still loud. But ironically the Geese in the lake 50 foot away don't flinch as was pointed out to me. They know they are safe, or deaf?

These volunteers put in I figure on any given week up to 24+ hours of their personal time. So the next time you see one of them, shake their hand and say THANKS.

\*Post103 AVHG Participates at Fort Logan Cemetery on Mondays, Wednesdays, & Fridays



**SAL Commander – Nick Arceo:**



**Nick Arceo, Squadron Commander**

**nicrco@ gmail.com**

Thank you Sons of The American Legion. This year our goal is to get back to 17 members. We are currently at 7 members. If you still have not paid your dues, please get them in. I want to thank everyone once again for your help with the Golf Tournament. I received a thank you letter from The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation, thanking us for the donation of \$2,532.00. Our check helped put the Sons total life time donation over the 7 Million mark! Our next goal is to get over 8 million! This year already Colorado is at \$8,475.00, total donations are at \$150,887. We are on our way to 1 million \$\$ . Please consider becoming a

SAL. Eligibility is easy! If your Father or Grandfather served our great Country, you can join and honor them! We have several dual members here at post 103. Please see me with any questions you might have about the Sons of the American Legion. We are very involved in assisting the American Legion help Veterans and their families.

## **SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION**

**"...To Adopt in Letter and Spirit all the Great Principles for which the AMERICAN LEGION Stands and to assist in carrying on for God and Country."**



**Darlene Romero, President**



**303-973-2493**

[darlene\\_romero@msn.com](mailto:darlene_romero@msn.com)

At our October 5<sup>th</sup> meeting, we had 8 members. Our 5<sup>th</sup> District Auxiliary President, Pilar Bottoms was unable to attend our meeting, but hopefully, will visit Unit 103 in the spring. At our November meeting, our members will bring warm clothes, such as hats, gloves, sweat shirts and pants and take them to the VA Hospital. We also donate \$200.00 to buy clothes for both men and women.

We are still collecting: Food for the Redistribution Center, toiletries, plastic grocery bags, pop can tabs, canceled stamps, and small empty printer cartridges.

### **Upcoming Events:**

The Post Banquet will be held November 12<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 at the Englewood Elks Lodge. We will be holding a raffle for a crocheted blanket in the design of our Continental Flag "13 Stars in a circle".

There will be No Breakfast on the 12<sup>th</sup> because of the Banquet.

If you would like to join our Auxiliary Unit or come to one of our meetings to see what we do, you can call Darlene Romero at: 303-973-2493.

**Darlene Romero**

Auxiliary President, Unit 103