



"For God and Country"



"United We Stand"

George C. Evans Post #103 "The Leader Post"

Newsletter

The American Legion
P.O. Box 281
Littleton, CO 80160

April 4, 2018

Editor, Al Rodriguez

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COMMANDER'S COMMENTS:

Alonzo F. Rodriguez



I'm looking forward to some better, warmer as I'm sure many of you are as well. But, despite our weather, Post 103 continues to move forward as we try and make life a little easier for some veterans who have hit some bad times.

In addition these past few months we have focused more on our youth by agreeing to sponsor Legion Baseball and offering eight \$1000 scholarships to high school graduating boys and girls seeking to continue their education at a college or university.

At our General Meeting, we had one of our largest crowds ever. We had 30 Legionnaires, 18 Auxiliary members and 20 guests who witnessed us give out 6 scholarships.... 5 Descendants of Veterans and one Claire Davis Scholarship.

Further, we sponsored one student at the State Oratorical Contest and continued our support of local student-athletes by providing Color Guard ceremonies at basketball games.

We are currently busy gathering information to submit required Departmental and National Reports.

A committee was appointed to begin the process of identifying members who might be interested in running for an Executive Board position. So, if you're interested please contact Chaplain Mike Romero. His contact info is located on the last page of this Newsletter.

Finally, despite having reached 100% of our membership goal, we continue by virtue of the efforts of our 1st Vice, Joel Mendelson, to reach out to the community and encourage veterans to join our Post.

Executive Board/General Assembly Meeting/ Breakfast Dates

Apr 30	Executive Board	6:30 PM	Buck Center
May 2	General Assembly	7:00 PM	Buck Center
May 12	Post Breakfast	9:00 AM	*Elks Lodge
Jun 5	Executive Board	6:30 PM	Buck Center
Jun 6	General Assembly	7:00 PM	Buck Center

*Englewood Elks Lodge, 3690 Jason Englewood



Auxiliary - Sherry Pietsch (President)

Our April meeting had a nice turn out with over 18 members attending, each month our numbers keep on going up which is nice. This month we joined the Legion for opening prayers and pledges and then stayed for the presentation of The Descendants of Veterans Scholarships Awards. This year we had three members of our Auxiliary whose grandchildren received the \$1,000.00 scholarship given by the Post.

Elections will be held in May and if you would like to run for an office please email me. Also, if you would like to be on a committee, please let me know. We have lots of things you can help with if you would like.

Last Friday, Janelle Rodriguez, Darlene Romero and I attended a dinner event honoring our National Auxiliary President at Northglenn Post 22. It was a very nice dinner and the National President gave an informative discussion about the Auxiliary.

Next meeting will be May 2, 2018 at the Buck Center starting at 7 pm. See you there

Sherry Pietsch
President

Adjutant - Al Rodriguez

As of March 7, we have exceeded our goal of 401 paid members. We currently have 406. When we include those members who transferred to our post and paid 2018 dues this past year, we actually have 441.

On April 4, we had 2 Legionnaires who were initiated into our Post: **Robert Bengston and Jean A. Taylor**

Welcome Comrades to our Post!

Boys State

Looking for some more high school boys that would like to learn more about our government, how laws are passed and the dynamics of our political structure. Expenses are paid by our Post for this week on the campus of UCCS where you will interact with young men from throughout the state. This leadership program will be held June 9 -15 2018. If you know of any high school boys interested in this exciting patriotic program, contact Rich Callan at 303-779-5097 for more information.

Legion Baseball

The Board recently agreed to sponsor Englewood's Legion "B" Team for this coming year.

Baseball Program Director

Joe Hollowell has stepped up and agreed to take the leadership role as our Legion Baseball Program Director.

Free Trip to Washington D. C.

They say that nothing's free in life but let me assure you that this trip is **FREE**.

Fellow Legionnaire Chuck Blemler shared an opportunity for veterans to partake. It is an all-expense paid trip to Washington DC. Here's how it works to see the memorials.

The VA sponsors a flight to Washington DC through Rocky Mountain Honor Flight. An application must be completed and submitted to the Rocky Mountain Honor Flight Organization located in Broomfield, Colorado.

The flight works on a priority system meaning that available seats first go to veterans of WWII, Korea, Vietnam, etc. When they are ready to depart and if you are selected, they will call you with the dates of the flight.

You incur no expenses, the flight, hotel and meals and transportation is all free to those selected.

Two of our WWII Veterans have taken the flight and they rave about the experience.

If you are interested, contact me and I will send you the application for you to submit.

1st Vice Commander - Joel Mendelson

Membership / Recruitment

As of April 4, 2018, we are at 406 members, 101.25%.

Post 103 sponsoring of the District 5 Call Center Day will be April 21st at the Englewood Elks from 9am to 3pm. Approved and on the calendar. I picked up from Headquarters 2 separate lists which cover a 10 mile radius from Zip code 80120. Over 500 names including paid 2018, possible transfers, and a list of last payment received was 2017.

2nd Vice Commander - Steve Valdez

Attention all Post 103 Members:

The summer months will soon be here. Please remember to put the July 4th Parade on your calendars.

The Parade will take place at Columbine Valley - 2 Middlefield Road - Columbine Valley Colorado 80123.

If you wish to march in this event contact Steve Valdez at 720-364-0490 or steve.valdez52@gmail.com

Steve will be happy to give the arrival times and event schedule.

Chaplain - Mike Romero

Ward Oliver, has been feeling well enough to attend our Thursday bingo sessions. He tells me that he will be to as many sessions as possible as long as he has the strength.

We are all glad to have him back in the group.

Danny Danforth, another bingo volunteer, had to miss this past session because of a severe cold, but is getting back to his old self rapidly, it's hard to keep a good man down.

Past Commander, Wayne Coleman, took a tumble off his walker that resulted in a broken leg however, he sounds very positive, and says he'll be back taking long walks in record time.

Past Commander, Rich Carlson, who is now living in Arizona, tells me that he has been undergoing tests on his heart. All the tests have come back saying all is well, and he's very thankful for that.

Howard Olson, recently out of the hospital is currently being treated for congestive - heart failure, is being treated through medication by his Cardiologist who tells him he should make a rapid, and sound recovery.

Don Good, a recent member to our Post, has moved with his wife Margaret to:

Hi Point, an assisted living center. 6383 E. Girard Pl., Denver, CO. 80222

They welcome visits or calls from anyone at: 303-744-7390. Don flew for the USAC, in WWII, he will be celebrating his 96th Birthday, June 1st, 2018.

Let's keep these members and all 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

NOTE: we currently have these medical items available for loan to our Post Members.

Canes: 2 adjustable, 3 non-adjustable. Walkers: 5 non-wheeled. Wheel Chairs: 1 with foot-rests, 1 without. Motorized Chairs: 2. Shower Chair: 1 Adjustable. Bedside Commode: 1 adjustable.

Finance Officer - Ed Pietsch

The Post income for March only totaled about \$750 with most of it coming from membership

dues, Post Breakfast, All Veterans Honor Guard donations and Joel Mendelson's donation of over \$100 to next year's State Oratorical Contest. These funds were an accumulation of individual donations received by Joel and others manning membership recruitment tables in recent months.

Post expenses were only \$450 and consisted of payment of membership dues to Department/National, purchase office supplies, All Veterans Honor Guard expenses and the Post phone.

Scholarships

The Post Scholarship Committee has awarded two \$2,000 Claire Davis Memorial Scholarships and eight \$1,000 Descendants Scholarship Committee of Veterans Scholarships. Six of the awardees attended the April Membership Meeting and it was great seeing and hearing these outstanding young adults. This is one of our most rewarding programs – it's the kind of program that makes us "The Leader Post". The remaining four winners will be attending the May Meeting, so please come out and see them receive their Certificates.

The Fifth Annual Claire Davis Memorial Award winners from Arapahoe High School are Bettina L. Meske and Rafael Levy-Diner. The Descendants of Veterans awardees are James A. Giglio, Nicholas E. Grant, Hanna S. May, Dillon S. Pietsch, Taylor E. Rapp, Taylor K. Stuke, Taylor D. Tesch and Isabel E. Walker. Four of these outstanding young adults are related to Post 103 members and the other four are related to veterans and reside in our Post service area.

I want to thank the Scholarship Committee for their hard work and I want to thank each Post member for continuing to support this program. The members of the Scholarship Committee are Fred Himelsbach, Michael Romero, Roger Masse, Steve Valdez, Howard Olsen and Jan Lewallen, the retired Post Graduate Counselor from Arapahoe High School, and myself.

Service Officer – Joe Cordova

Assisted 2 veterans with rent in March.

All Veterans Honor Guard – Harry Giglio

The All Veterans Honor Guard had 17 services for the month of March. The breakdown for Veterans was WWII 3, Korea 5, Vietnam 9, Gulf War 0 Memorial 0. The breakdown for branches of service for March was Army 2, Air Force 6, Navy 8 Marines 1.

We have had a total of 53 services year to date. The Veteran breakdown year to date is WWII 14, Korea 10, Vietnam 18, Gulf War 9 and Memorial 2. The breakdown for branches of service for the year was Army 18, Navy 12, Air Force 16 and Marines 4 and Merchant Marines 3.

Let your families know that Post 103 All Veterans Honor Guard will be available to do services at Ft Logan on Monday, Wednesday and Friday of every week. You can contact me at 303-246-7648.

JAG – Joel Mendelson

Nothing to report.

SAL – Nick Arceo

Welcome to spring! As we enter this new season, take time to be thankful for living in the greatest nation in the world. Take time to thank a Veteran for their service and remember that is the reason we are free. I'm proud to be part of The American Legion, The Sons of The American Legion. My eligibility comes from my Father who served in the Army during the WWII era. Thank you, Sons, for supporting all the programs that The American Legion has in reaching out to Veterans and their families. Please consider joining The Sons of The American Legion and make a difference for God and Country.

Here are the results from the Oratorical Speech Contest. Students in place of order-

Kidus Zelalem, Post 1864 Parker, Smokey Hill HS-Junior

Tabitha Jeub, Post 9-11 Monument, Home School-Senior

Vincent Nowak, Post 178 Lakewood, Golden View Academy-Senior

Matt Logan, Post 13 Canon City HS-Junior

We wish God Speed to our winner Kidus at the National Finals! Thank you to everyone that came out and volunteered your time, it was a great contest this year. It's that time of year to get ready for new incoming officers.

If you have a desire to be an Officer in The Sons of the American Legion, please submit your name to Mike Romero or myself. The following positions are open, Commander, Adjutant, Finance, Sr. Vice Commander and Jr. Vice Commander. I look forward to helping and supporting you as you consider these positions. God Bless you and God Bless the United States of America.

Historian - Chris Bredesen

I have no report.

BINGO - Ed Pietsch

Bingo income for March was a little over \$4800, our best non-Must Go month in over two years. Bingo paid Post expenses of approximately \$400 which included the Post Breakfast and the Legion College training fee for Joel Mendelson. I want to thank our many volunteers who help support our Bingo Program. As you know, Bingo is the Post's primary source of revenue and enables us to participate in the Legion and community programs that we undertake each year. We need additional volunteers that can help out on Thursdays from about 10 am to about 2 pm. If you can't stay the whole time, that is okay, we could use your help for part of the session. Most Bingo tasks are simple and easy to learn. Please join us at Slammers Bingo Hall at the northeast corner of Jewell and Wadsworth. Ed Pietsch 720-287-2108, email, e_pietsch@msn.com.

Executive Board Members/Auxiliary President

Post Officers	
Alonzo (Al) Rodriguez, Cmdr.	alrodriguez@csudh.edu
Joel Mendelson, 1st Vice	bigdaddyjdm@comcast.net
Steve Valdez, 2 nd Vice	Steve.Valdez52@gmail.com
Mike Romero, Chaplain	mjromero44@gmail.com
Ed Pietsch, Finance Officer	E_Pietsch@msn.com
Joe Cordova, Service Officer	joedcordova@yahoo.com
Wayne Arguello, Sgt-at-Arms	wyn54@msn.com
Chris Bredesen, Historian	holyarc_angels22@yahoo.com
Joel Mendelson, Judge Ad.	bigdaddyjdm@comcast.net
Harry Giglio, Cmdr. AVHG	harrygiglio@comcast.net
Nick Arceo, SAL Cmdr	nicrco@gmail.com
Sherry Pietsch, Aux. Pres.	sherrypietsch@msn.com

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Dated Material