



"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

December 7, 2018



COMMANDER'S COMMENTS:

Joel D. Mendelson
(303)973-8342



Joel Mendelson

Commander

Meeting Dates

week of the month. Don't forget that our next breakfast is **January 12th** at the Englewood Elks Lodge at 9:00 am, \$5 per person.

Executive Board/General Assembly Meeting/ Breakfast Dates/Other

We are at end of yet another year. I want to wish all a happy and safe Holiday and Happy New Year to all. Hopefully you will have time to spend with families and friends. Our thought and prayers go out to our Veterans serving away from their loved ones, whom are giving so much for us to have the freedom to be here safe with our loved ones. To all of the Post 103 volunteers that have given countless hours supporting all the Programs, fundraisers and Fort Logan my extreme gratitude to all. May you have a Joyous Holiday

Jan 2	General Assembly	7:00 PM	Buck Center
Jan 5	DMS at the Elks	TBD	*Elks Lodge
Jan 12	Post Breakfast	9:00 AM	*Elks Lodge
Feb 4	Executive Board	6:30 PM	Buck Center
Feb 6	General Assembly	7:00 PM	Buck Center
Mar 4	Executive Board	6:30 PM	Buck Center
Mar 6	General Assembly	7:00 PM	Buck Center
Mar 9	Post Breakfast	9:00 AM	*Elks Lodge
Apr 1	Executive Board	6:30 PM	Buck Center
Apr 3	General Assembly	7:00 PM	Buck Center
Apr 29	Executive Board	6:30 PM	Buck Center
May 1	General Assembly	7:00 PM	Buck Center
May 11	Post Breakfast	9:00 AM	*Elks Lodge

*Englewood Elks Lodge, 3690 Jason Englewood



Auxiliary – Sherry Pietsch (President)

We had a nice Holiday party with the Legion joining us at our last meeting. Thanks to everyone that brought goodies to share.

We have been busy doing several projects this month. Several members went shopping for clothing for the VA hospital. We made up Christmas bags with clothing and snacks and these bags will be given to patients at the VA hospital on Christmas day. We also collected can goods and made a donation to a local food bank who will take the items to Fort Carson to be given to needy active duty military families. We will also participate in the "Wreaths Across America" event at Fort Logan next Saturday (15th). This event starts at 10:00 am, if you are interested attending the ceremony. It is always crowded so go early.

Please, if you have not paid your dues send them to Jean Jessor, 150 W. Sterne Parkway, Littleton, CO 80120. If you do not want to renew please email me so I can take you off our list. Our next meeting is Wednesday, January 2, 2019 at 7pm at the Buck Center. Ed and I wish everyone a Happy Holiday season.

Adjutant – John Snyder

As of December 7, 2018, a total of 341 membership renewals have been processed. This represents 82 percent of our membership goal. Thanks to all of those who have renewed. We wish to also thank the 21 members who reside outside of Colorado for their continued support of Post 103.

We mourn the loss of Mr. Fay Cunningham from our ranks. Mr. Cunningham served in the US Army during World War II in a very distinct capacity. When Fay graduated with a degree in Advanced Mechanical Engineering from the University of Maryland, his Military Occupational Specialty was Geodetic Computer Specialist and he was assigned to the Manhattan Project, Oak Ridge, Tennessee. From 1942 until his honorable discharge in 1945, Fay was a pioneering contributor to the development of

nuclear energy. Post 103 was proud to have Mr. Cunningham as a member for 18 years and honors his service.

It may surprise the membership to know that Post 103 had one canine member. George Haus K 208 was a Springer Spaniel service dog were served with distinction and saved lives. Unfortunately, our canine member passed away last month. In recognition of his faithful service, he was made an honorary member of the Post and we regret his passing.

Boys State

Nothing to report currently

Legion Baseball

Nothing to report currently

1st Vice Commander – Steve Valdez **Membership / Recruitment**

This is a repeat from the November Newsletter. I am sending this out because Post 103 is still trying very hard to reach its goal of 100%, currently we are at 81%.

A big 'THANK YOU' – to everyone who has renewed his or her membership.

I would to take the opportunity - to encourage any member of American Legion Post 103 - who has not renewed their 2019 Post membership, to please do during the months of December and January. Currently the Post is short of its goal by many members who have not renewed. The purpose of this encouragement is so that the post can still continue with its Community Based activities, in which all members are encouraged to participate.

Please note – If you have already renewed your membership – Thank you.

Should you wish to renew your Post 103 membership – you may do so using the following manner. You can mail your (USPS) your 40.00 to the Post 103 Adjutant.

American Legion Post 103

P.O. Box 281

Littleton, Colorado 80160

Or

You may go to WWW.legion.org/members

Please use the go to Renewal Feature: *Submit payment of your annual membership dues.*

May I also take this opportunity to ask everyone to get his or her updated information (if you need to) to our Post Adjutant John Snyder. That will include updated addresses, telephone numbers and new email addresses.

Please take note that on January 5, 2019 there will be DMS contact day? This will take place at the Englewood Elks Lodge, 3690 South Jason Street – Englewood, Colorado 80110. The day is a Saturday. The time will be from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Lunch will be served. If you can help – please contact Steve Valdez – 720-364-0490 or steve.valdez52@gmail.com

Please, have a safe and Happy Holiday Season☺

2nd Vice Commander – Nick Bilak

Post Breakfast:

We are set as of now with the breakfasts for 2019. Spoke to Diane from the elks and January 12, March 9, May 11 are set.

Admission is \$5 for breakfast.

Contact number: 619-602-2359

Chaplain – Mike Romero

Ward Oliver, has been attending our Bingo sessions for the past 2 weeks as a player, the only complaint he has is that Nick and I are not calling his numbers. He physically is feeling strong enough to get out of the house, and we at Bingo are glad to see him active again.

PC. Bud Goodwin, is home from the rehab center and is well on his way to good health. He is doing well enough that he has come into help out at Bingo for the past 2 weeks and got quite a work out as did everyone at our last Must-Go game. Glad to see you back Bud.

George Williams, has been unable to attend the past 2 Membership meetings due to night blindness, he is looking into a solution for this, If any of you members have any ideas you can share, please call George at: 303-695-5434.

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 1: We currently have these medical items available for loan to our Post Members.

Canes: 2 adjustable, 3 non-adjustable. **Walkers:** 6 non-wheeled. **Wheel Chairs:** 1 with foot-rests, 1 without. **Shower Chair:** 1 Adjustable.

Bedside Commode: 1 adjustable.

NOTE 2: As Post Chaplain, I am charged with preparing Post Everlasting Resolutions, and Post Initiation Certificates. If you members know of anyone needing this service, call me, or email me at the information I have provided above.

Finance Officer - Ed Pietsch

Post Finances

Post income in November was approximately \$1,700 and consisted primarily of dues renewal and donations to the All Veterans Honor Guard (AVHG) in appreciation for services conducted at Ft. Logan National Cemetery as well as donations in the memory of Duane Leiker.

Duane was a good friend, Legionnaire and dedicated AVHG participant.

Post expenses during November were \$1,400 and consisted of dues payments to Department, operating supplies and AVHG expenses.

2019 Budget

The December Post Executive Committee Meeting was primarily dedicated to a review of the draft budget for next year. The Budget consist of three parts: Post income, Post Expenses, and Bingo paid Post expenses. Each of these budgets were reduced slightly from the 2018 Budget, based on 2018 year-to-date experience and projections for 2019 needs. The vast majority of the Post Income and Post Expense Budgets relate to membership and All

Veterans Honor Guard. The Bingo Budget covers Post operating expenses and all our Post Program expenses. Some of the larger expenses include college scholarships, donations to veterans and community organizations, Post assistance to needy veterans & their families and the Boys State Program.

Scholarships

Nothing to report currently

Service Officer – Joe Cordova

Assisted 2 veterans with rent.
Purchased \$500 of King Soopers Food Cards.

All Veterans Honor Guard – Harry Giglio

The All Veterans Honor Guard had 15 services for the month of November. The breakdown for Veterans was WWII 3, Korea 4, Vietnam 7, Gulf War 1. The breakdown for branches of service for November was Army 9 and Navy 6. We have had a total of 211 services year to date. The Veteran breakdown year to date is WWII 54, Korea 53, Vietnam 95, Gulf War 8 and Memorial 1. The breakdown for branches of service for the year was Army 93, Navy 49, Air Force 43, Marines 22 and Coast guard 3 and Memorial 1. 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.

Harry Giglio

JAG – Richard Callan

Nothing to report currently

SAL – Roger Masse

On November 17th the 2018 Detachment of Colorado SAL Awards Banquet was held in Longmont. I am proud to report that Squadron 103 received the following awards:

- Jo D. Roe Americanism Award 2017-18.

- Woodrow L. Mudge Jr. Memorial Award for Children & Youth 2017-18
- Joseph Bokan Memorial Award 2017-18 (for the largest percentage membership increase)
- VA&R Award (in recognition of Veteran's Rehabilitation Programs)
- 2018 Membership Award (for achieving 100% membership in the SAL)
- Americanism Award (in recognition of Legion Programs for Americanism)
- Membership Renewal Award (in recognition of achieving 85% or higher membership renewal rate)
- William D. Abbey Jr. Memorial Award (in recognition of having the largest membership renewal rate)
- Children & Youth Award (in recognition of participation in American Legion Children & Youth Programs)

We continue to work on renewals, as well as recruiting new SAL members. The Constitution for the Squadron still needs approval. Sons members must meet in person for this purpose. It will hopefully happen in January. I attended the District 5 convention on November 10th and gathered information, including incorporating greater use of technology into our operation.

Wishing everyone a Happy Hanukkah, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

SAL Commander Roger

Historian – Richard Callan

At our web site www.legionpost103.org there are close to 1800 pictures of recent and past events including American Flag raisings, Breakfasts at the Elks, Picnics, Membership meetings, Parades, Memorial Holidays proceedings, and more. Once you go to the site under the heading **POST INFO** click on Facebook, log in and enjoy.

BINGO – Ed Pietsch

October Bingo

The Post donated \$2500 to the following charities in November; Rocky Mountain Hyperbaric Institute, Rocky Mountain Honor

Flight, Redistribution Center to help service families at Ft. Carson, Boy Scout Troop 114, and Special Olympics.

Bingo had one of its best months ever earning over \$7,500 at the Must Go and just under

\$10,000 for the month. Thanks to all our volunteers who help raise these funds, so we can continue to be "The Leader Post"

Executive Board Members/Auxiliary President

Post Officers	
Joel Mendelson, Cmdr.	bigdaddyjdm@comcast.net
John Snyder, Adjutant	sssieti@aol.com
Steve Valdez, 1st Vice	Steve.Valdez52@gmail.com
Nick Bilak, 2 nd Vice	nbilak88@hotmail.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
Richard Callan, Historian	richardcallan@hotmail.com
Richard Callan, Judge Ad.	richardcallan@hotmail.com
Harry Giglio, Cmdr. AVHG	harrygiglio@comcast.net
Roger Masse, SAL Cmdr.	drivercoach69@gmail.com
Sherry Pietsch, Aux. Pres.	sherrypietsch@msn.com

In
of
Fay L

Memory

Cunningham

July 26, 1922 - November 9, 2018

Fay L. Cunningham, 96, of Sarasota, FL and Littleton, CO passed away, in Littleton, Colorado.

Fay was born, in Lansing, MI to Ernest and Catharine (Remington) Cunningham. He spent his youth in Lansing, Michigan, graduating from Lansing Eastern High School in January 1939 at the age of sixteen.

When he became seventeen, he enrolled in the Civilian Conservation Corps and was sent to a camp in Wisconsin where he was the foreman of the timber cruising crew. He started Michigan State University in 1940 and managed to get two years of engineering in before enlisting in the Army in 1942. After basic training he was sent to the University of Maryland for advanced engineering training. After completing the mechanical engineering courses in the Army Specialized Training Program, he was transferred to the Specialized Engineering Detachment, Manhattan Engineering District at Oak Ridge, TN. After a brief stint at K- 25 gaseous diffusion plant (upgrading uranium), he was transferred to the Metallurgical Project at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) where he helped develop a machine to reproducibly tamp crucibles which after firing were sent to the Los Alamos Site for use in the final reductions of uranium and plutonium. He then worked on beryllium metallurgy until May of 1946. He then went to Operation Crossroads at Bikini, in the Marshall Islands (atom bomb tests Able and Baker), where he was a Radiation Monitor in the Radiological Safety Section measuring radiation on the surviving target vessels. After being discharged from the army, he reenrolled at M. S. U. and obtained a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering in 1948.

At this time, he married Geraldine (Geri) Smokovitz, whom he had met in chemistry class at MSU, and began working as a Development Chemical Engineer at the Upjohn Company in Kalamazoo, Michigan. Subsequently he became Research Manager of Fermentation Development, Research Manager of Chemical Engineering Development and finally as Director of Chemical Production. During the course of this work he and his teams played an important part in the development of processes for the production of the bulk drug for nearly all of Upjohn's many products. He set up a training program for Egyptian scientists in scaling up chemical processes as a part of the State Dept. A. I D. program and went to Egypt twice to assist in its implementation. He was active in community affairs, serving in Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, PTA, management associations, as well as engineering and chemical associations. He retired in 1988 after 40 years with Upjohn. He and Geri traveled extensively worldwide after retirement and gradually retired from skiing, tennis, and backpacking and climbing and phased into golf. His exposure to beryllium at MIT during the war came back to haunt him as chronic berylliosis took its toll.

In 1998, He and Geri established residence in Sarasota and a summer home in Littleton, CO. He is survived by his loving wife of 70 years, Geri, and two children, Deborah (Patrick) Reynolds of Littleton, CO and Bruce (Karen) Cunningham of Sandy, Utah. Also surviving are

four grandchildren, Remington Reynolds and Bridgette Reynolds, Shilo (Cunningham) Ward and Echo Cunningham, as well as two great grandchildren.

