

May 2009 Newsletter

COMMANDER'S CORNER

It looks and feels like Spring is finally here!! You will notice a few things happening this month as part of our Post Spring Clean-up. We are planning to have the horseshoe pits cleaned up and renovated, the trumpet vines trimmed up, and various other projects around the building in preparation for Summer.

A special thanks to those who helped get the Post Hall Bar area renovated. If you get a chance to check it out, you'll see that it looks great and is a very nice addition to the overall look of the Hall which came in under budget.

Congratulations to the Sons of the American Legion Squadron 11-11. They were 2nd in the State of Colorado for donations to the Child Welfare Fund, and Colorado was 1st in the nation. This is what the Legion Family is all about.

Post 11-11 has donated \$1000.00 to Homes for Our Troops. This organization has built 35 homes across the nation and a sixth home is being constructed here in Colorado. Please check out the flyers around the Post and attend the "Homes for Our Troops Event" scheduled at Invesco Field on May 17th.

The election of new officers is coming up soon. If you would like to participate and help lead us in the coming year, please talk to any current Post Officer for details. Nominations will be taken at this month's meeting and just before the election at the June meeting.

We are still a little shy with this year's membership drive. If you haven't paid your 2009 dues, please do so as soon as possible. The books need to be closed at the end of this month. If you know a veteran who is not a member of the American Legion, bring them in and let them get acquainted with our Post.

When visiting the Post, make sure you talk to the other veterans there. We need to make everyone feel welcome while enjoying our great meals, entertainment and other activities. You never know, you just might meet a fellow comrade from days gone by or just make a new friend.

As always, please keep our young men and women fighting for our country all over the world in your thoughts and prayers. Especially our family and friends serving in the Colorado National Guard who just left for Iraq.

Till next month,

Yours in Comradeship,

Michael J. Carriveau
Commander

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LEGION LOW DOWN

This past month has been a busy one and a snowy one. With a joint venture, we have made enough for one more set of cabinets and counter top. A big THANK YOU to everyone supporting our fundraisers - Quack needs a home, Easter corsage and Easter egg contest. With your support, we will continue working on the kitchen. The Easter egg contest was quite the entertainment. Thank you to Mary Ann Blay and Ava Barden for heading up this two day event of decorators at their best. Let's see what we come up with for next year.

Snow Day – Nick's night was canceled due to the snow. He will reschedule his evening taking us back to Italy. Please watch for fliers announcing his new date.

All American Burger Night will add a lighter side to their menu, grilled chicken breast seared on a bed of greens. Also for this month, they will offer a glass of Miller Beer with your burger and chips. Come out as they move their burger night to the patio, weather permitting.

I would like to thank all the volunteers for all the hard work with the Tuesday Night, Wednesday Night, Friday Night and Sunday morning meals. Also, the bartenders, all of these people volunteer to cook and serve up your favorite bubbly. Tips are Greatly Appreciated! We have a couple of new volunteer cooks, Pat and Rad. If anyone else is interested, please check this month's calendar I have a few spots to fill.

Mother's Day is right around the corner. A Volunteer Breakfast will make Mothers Day a very special day for Mom. Menu will be posted.

Keep our service men and women in your prayers.

Cindy

AUXILIARY

It is spring time in the Rockies. Hopefully, by the time you receive this newsletter, the snow will have stopped.

At the April meeting, the Auxiliary elected new officers. Officers will be installed at the next meeting on May 7. The officers are:

Sherry Baker - President

Janet Lee - Vice President

Secretary - Rae Ryan

Treasurer - Shirley Starley

Sgt at Arms - Mary Ann Blay

Chaplin - Joyce Allen

Historian - Donna Flygare

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We are still looking for a young woman, who is currently a junior in high school, to sponsor for Girls State. If you know of anyone who would like to attend, please have them contact an officer.

Remember to get your Poppy at the Post. Donations will go to the Auxiliary to help support our many activities for our veterans, their families or others who are in need.

The next Merchandise Pickle will be held on Friday, May 15, at 6:00 PM. Your donations are most appreciated and we hope to see you all there.

Newsletter: The next newsletter will be assembled on Sunday, May 24 at 1:00 PM. Please consider dropping in to help.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, May 7 at 7:00 PM.

May God Bless and protect our troops and comfort and care for their families.

Sherry Baker, President

FROM THE CHAPLAIN

May is a busy time for Legion members starting with our District Convention on the 2nd at Post 161 in Arvada. All Post members are welcome and I will give a memorial service there for our departed District Legion members and enter them into Post Everlasting. V-E Day is the 8th ending WWII in Europe. You should honor your Mother everyday, but treat her special on the 10th. Peace Officers Memorial Day is the 15th and the 16th is Armed Forces Day when we thank our military members for their patriotic service in support of our country.

On the 25th, Post 11-11 will have a Memorial Day Service at 11:30 AM, honoring our Military who gave their lives for our freedom. The Flag Code states: The United States flag should be hoisted to the top of a flagpole for an instant and then lowered to half-staff until noon, before being returned to the top of the staff for the rest of the day. Those without a vertical flagpole may affix a black mourning bow to their home flag kits instead of lowering the flag.

It has been an honor serving you as the Post Chaplain for the past several years. I'm proud to have made some of our services a Post tradition; however, it's time for me to step into another position while still maintaining the Post website. I will be available as your District Chaplain and Historian, please feel free to contact me anytime for my services at 720-945-9915.

Many of our members are unaware of our Post website, please check it out and give me your feed back. Visit www.legionpost11-11.org, you will find on our officer page a copy of our manual/guide and a short copy of Roberts Rules of Order with definitions—learn how to conduct yourself at a meeting. Links page has essential veteran information. Get the latest event updates

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and read the post news for the past year and much more.

I would like to see our SAL and Auxiliary contribute to the site this year with some local information and updates, the rest of the website is sometimes changed daily.

Chaplain Jim Bellew

GENERAL MEMBER INFORMATION NOTICE OF ELECTIONS 2009-2010

Pursuant to Article III-IX-2 (page 13) of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr., American Legion Post 11-11, an election of Post 11-11 officers will be held at the regular meeting of the membership in the Post 11-11 Hall on June 9, 2009 at 7:00 PM. The Post 11-11 Hall is located at 9959 Wadsworth Boulevard, Broomfield, Colorado 80021

Nominations for officers will be received until the election. Anyone interested in serving as an officer for the 2009-2010 year should contact any current officer of Post 11-11. The following is a list of interested persons who will be formerly nominated at the membership meeting on May 12, 2009.

COMMANDER: Michael Carriveau
Jim Bellew

Sr. Vice Commander: Lew Bickford
Chuck Blay

Jr. Vice Commander: Tami Talbot

Adjutant: Jim Bellew

Finance Officer: John Baker

Sgt. At Arms: Tim Schenck

Service Officer: Walt Lee
Tom Wartella

Chaplain: John Baker

Historian: Ava Barden

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AUXILIARY POPPIES

Please join Post 11-11 Auxiliary in recognizing the sacrifice of our Armed Force members by wearing a red memorial poppy this Memorial Day weekend. We wear it in honor of the millions of men and women who have willingly served our nation to preserve our freedom, all too many of whom have made the ultimate sacrifice.

The Poppy Program is the oldest and most widely recognized Auxiliary program. Each year around Memorial Day, Auxiliary volunteers distribute bright red crepe paper poppies in exchange for contributions.

The poppy also honors the hospitalized and disabled veterans who make the red, handcrafted flowers. The poppy continues to provide financial assistance to those veterans who construct them, as well as benefiting other veterans and their families by your donations collected from poppy distributions.

The poppies will be available in the lounge at Post 11-11.

Poppy Symbolism

The four petals represent...

- ...Dedication
- ...Sacrifice
- ...Responsibility
- ...Compassion

The red petals... stand for the vast outpouring of blood.

The black... the mud and desolation of all battlefields.

The green of the stem and foliage... is symbolic of the forests, meadows and fields where generations of Americans have perished to make this land free.

The stem... represents the courage and determination of our fallen warriors.

The assembled product... a flower... is a symbol of resurrection, which is sure to follow.

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WESTMINSTER TRIBUTE GARDEN

The City of Westminster will be hosting their Memorial Day event on May 16, 2009 at 10:00 AM at the Armed Forces Tribute Garden.

The Armed Forces Tribute Garden is located at 6001 West 104th Avenue (east of U.S. 36 on 104th Avenue between Christopher Fields and Big Dry Creek). Nearby parking is reserved for those with handicap license plate or placard. A drop-off area will be designated. Parking is available at the City Park Complex, 10455 Sheridan Boulevard.

The Tribute Garden is an enduring place of respect that pays tribute to the commitment and patriotism of members of the armed forces, past, present and future.

If you are interested in purchasing an engraved brick paver for your veteran or current active military, you can download the order form on the City of Westminster website:
<http://www.ci.westminster.co.us/192.htm>.

There are also brochures available at the Post on the glass counter by the front door.

If you are not able to attend this event, please visit the Tribute Garden some other time. It is very impressive.

MARILYN MONROE, PUPPIES AND CATERPILLARS?

Heartfelt thanks to those who participated in our Easter Egg Dying Contest!

Eggs, dyes, craft materials and prizes were donated at no cost so that participants could complete their entries on the Friday and Saturday prior to Easter Sunday.

As the photo reflects, we had some very creative entries in the contest. Three of our post members judged the entries, and prizes were awarded for first, second and third place. 100% of the proceeds have been added to the kitchen fund.

If you did not have an opportunity to join in the fun this year, watch for the event next year.

Mary Ann Blay

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FROM THE EDITOR

The deadline for the June newsletter is Saturday May 16, 2009. Have a happy and safe Memorial Day.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- 5/2/09** District Convention at Post 161 in Arvada. All members are invited.
- 5/7/09 7:00 PM** Auxiliary Meeting - Installation of Officers.
- 5/12/09 7:00 PM** Legion Meeting—Official Nomination of Officers
- 5/14/09 7:00 PM** SAL Meeting—Installation of Officers.
- 5/14/09-5/17/09** Traveling Vietnam Memorial Wall Exhibit and Veteran's Tribute. Top Gun Riding Competition. (See enclosed poster for more details.)
- 5/15/09 6:00 PM** Auxiliary Merchandise Pickle at Post 11-11
- 5/16/09 10:00 AM** Armed Forces Tribute Garden Event (City of Westminster)
- 5/25/09 11:30 AM** Memorial Day Services by Chaplain Jim Bellew at Post 11-11. BBQ potluck to follow—Look for Poster in Lounge.