



News from the Pikes Peak Post and Auxiliary



Volume 37 Issue 03-04

March/April 2017

Upcoming Events

Saturday, March 11th
**St. Patrick's Day
Celebration**

See Page 4 for Details

Saturday, April 1st
**Post Officer
Elections**

See Page 2 for Details

Saturday, April 29th
**Pancake
Breakfast**

See Page 4 for Details

PRAY FOR OUR
SOLDIERS, SAILORS,
AIRMEN, MARINES AND
COAST GUARD AROUND
THE WORLD

**MAY GOD
BLESS AMERICA!**



Commander's Column

Guest Columnist Carmel Thompson,
1st Place Colorado 2016-2017
Patriot Pen Contest Essay Contest

The America I Believe In

Nelson Mandela once said, "For to be free is to not merely to cast off one's chains, but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others." This quote describes the simplistic way of life in the America I believe in. People in the America I believe in respect the freedom and rights of others. In the America I believe in, I can speak my mind and celebrate my culture. I am also free to be a part of any religion I desire. In addition, I have the opportunity to better myself through education, hard work, and dedication to prepare myself for the future.

America is filled with millions of people. Within these groups of people, many are heroes. My America is filled with brave and committed men and women not afraid to fight for what is right. In my America, we defeat any evil forces that stand in the way of freedom. Being proud of our returning veterans and supporting them in a more profound way is a hallmark in the America I believe in. The America I believe in sounds like the National Anthem echoing off the bleachers with everyone standing, hat in hand and children with their hands over their hearts. In my America, we stand together working towards a common good. The America I believe in looks like the American flag waving back and forth, representing both unity and diversity. Freedom to express one's culture,

(Guest Column continued on page 4.)

Auxiliary President's Column

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Our Auxiliary has an opportunity to send Care Packages to our troops currently deployed to Poland. Here are the suggested items that we will be collecting: *puzzle books, adult coloring books, colored pencils, markers, individual snack size crackers, nuts, jerky, cookies, and M&Ms (no other chocolate candy)*. Any monetary donations will be used to purchase these items and pay for postage. Please bring the items you are donating to our March 11th meeting.

Also happening on March 11 – St. Patrick's Day – the Post's annual corned beef and cabbage -- \$8 – club open @ 10 a.m. – serving from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Auxiliary has been asked to bring cookies (store bought is fine). Leave the cookies in the package they came in and bring to the Post on Monday, March 6th. Please mark your bags 'Auxiliary' and leave them in the kitchen.

Upcoming Auxiliary Dinners:

March 3rd – Mardi Gras
April 21st – Spring Fling
Jambalaya/Red Beans & Rice
Crispy Oven Chicken

At the start of this auxiliary year (July 1, 2016) we have 225 Life Members! We have become so involved in things of today, we would really like to hear from you! Many of these members have not been able to attend functions at the Post, therefore, we most probably have lost touch. We truly are concerned about these

(President's Column continued on page 4.)

**VFW Post 4051 Officers
For 2016-2017**

Commander	Barbara Green
Senior Vice Commander	Eric Veed
Junior Vice Commander	Dr. Chris Linski
Quartermaster	Joe Cormier
Adjutant	Duane Knutson
Chaplain	James Griffith
Staff Judge Advocate	Dr. D. J. Alberts
Surgeon	LeRoy Jensen
Service Officer	Lance Dyar
Officer of the Day	Eddie Roberts
Trustee #1	Dr. D. J. Alberts
Trustee #2	Barb Bacon
Trustee #3	Eddie Roberts
Guard	Eric Denny
House Committee	Rick Archuleta, Chairman
	Barbara Green
	Joe Cormier
	Jerry Walter
	LeRoy Jensen
Ways and Means	Barbara Green
	Joe Cormier
	Jerry Walter
	Rick Archuleta
Americanism	Jon Wander
	Bill Vanaman
	Eddie Roberts
Buddy Poppy	Jim Griffith
Community Activities	Barbara Green
Bingo Games Manager	Gerald Walter
Membership	Eric Veed
Legislative	Dr. David Jenkins
Public Affairs	Ron Marshall
Voice of Democracy	Barbara Green
Patriot Pen	Barbara Green
ROTC/JROTC	Dr. Chris Linski
Scouts	Dr. Chris Linski
Teacher of the Year	Barbara Green
National Home	Dr. Chris Linski
Safety	Bill Vanaman
Honor/Color Guard Captain	Eddie Roberts
Entertainment	John Mazzella
Webmaster	Bill Thomas/Eddie Roberts
Flag Committee	Rick Archuleta/LeRoy Jensen
Adopt a Unit POC	Paige Lanier

Editorial Staff

Post Commander	Barbara Green
Editor	Bill Thomas
Assistant Editor	Ron Marshall

**VFW Post 4051 Auxiliary Officers
For 2016-2017**

President	Tami Veed
Senior Vice President	Charlene Cormier
Junior Vice President	Jane Hart
Secretary	Tina Stemen
Treasurer	Rachel Brown
Chaplain	Rita Christensen
Conductress	Carol Archuleta
Guard	Carol Knutson
Patriotic Instructor	Carol Knutson
Ways and Means	Rita Christensen
	Charlene Cormier
	Carol Knutson
Trustee #1	Rita Christensen
Trustee #2	Charlene Cormier
Trustee #3	Carol Knutson
Americanism	Vina Candia
Buddy Poppy	Maggie Wander
Cancer Aid	Rachel Brown
Community Service	Jane Hart
Legislative	Rachel Brown
Voice of Democracy & Youth Activities	Barbara Green
Membership	Charlene Cormier
Membership Administrative Chairman	Barbara Green
National Home	Charlene Cormier
Tech Support	Tami Veed
Rehabilitation	Linda Dunahoo
Games Manager	Rita Christensen

Post Elections

Annual elections of new or continued officers begin at our next Post meeting on Saturday, 4 March. If you are interested in running for any of the following positions, please be at this meeting: Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Quartermaster, Chaplain, and Trustee.

If you cannot make the meeting, but are interested in one of the positions, please put the request in writing and it will be considered.

Also, you will have one more chance on 1 April, just before the elections, to declare your candidacy if you wish to be considered for an elected office.

All other positions will be appointed by the Commander.

Barbara Green
Commander

Chaplain's Report

"Gratitude is a sickness suffered by dogs."—Joseph Stalin.

"No one is as capable of gratitude as one who has emerged from the kingdom of night."— Elie Wiesel.

Nowhere are human attitudes about gratitude and thanks more divergent than in these two quotations from the twentieth century. One comes from the perfecter of the concentration camp and the other from a survivor. They distill and encapsulate entire world views about God, the human condition, and hope.

To Stalin, power was everything; he could write one death is a tragedy and a million deaths a mere statistic. To him, compassion and gratitude were weaknesses shown by the powerless to the powerful. Gratitude to him was not a virtue but a vice; something contemptible.

Elie Wiesel, a survivor of the Buchenwald Nazi camp system, spoke of the gratitude he felt when rescued by soldiers of the U.S. Third Army. His view also captures a world view tempered by the darkness of evil but with a hope not extinguished by it. His was a gratitude that spilled over to fill his life and the lives of those he touched. Not a vice, but the strongest of virtues which, when combined with courage, changes the world.

The Apostle Paul wrote, "In all things give thanks for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

History's and faith's verdicts are clear. Today in the former Soviet Union, like unto the Rome of Emperor Nero, men name their dogs Stalin (Nero) and their sons Paul.

Our VFW Ritual Closing Prayer starts "Almighty God, the hour has come when we must part. We commit ourselves to Thy care." We also pause to remember our Post Comrades and Auxiliary Members who have recently passed, and we to commit them to Thy care.

Call me at (719) 200-8223 if I can be of assistance.

Sincerely,
James Griffith
Post Chaplain

TO REPORT A DEATH

To report a death of a Post member, please contact Chaplain James Griffith, 632-9874 or for an Auxiliary member, contact Chaplain Rita Christensen, 598-0613. Also, you may leave information either at the club or on the bulletin board so that proper follow-up can be taken. Please include: Name of Deceased; Date of Call; Date of Services; Funeral Home Handling Arrangements (if known); Your Name, Phone Number and/or Other Point of Contact.

Auxiliary Chaplain's Column

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

A sympathy card was sent to the family of Auxiliary Life Member Eileen Perotti and to the family of Auxiliary Life Member Barbara Adair. Both Sisters passed away in January 2017. A sympathy card was sent to the family of Sister Mary Hillis, who passed away in February 2017. The Auxiliary Charter was draped in memory of Sister Eileen, Sister Barbara, and Sister Mary at our February 11, 2017 meeting. A Speedy Recovery Card was sent to past Men's Auxiliary President David Hughes who is recovering from knee surgery.

I am only one; but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but still I can do something; I will Not refuse to do the something I can do.
(Helen Keller)

If you know of anyone who is ill, recovering from surgery or in need of our help, please call me at (719) 598-0613.

Sincerely,
Rita Christensen
Auxiliary Chaplain

TAPS

Post

**Frank Rose, Walter Bjerkelund,
Leland Kinney, Vito Martinez,
and John Aragon.**

Auxiliary

**Eileen Perotti, Mary Hillis,
Norma Wolles, and Barbara Adair**

Each of our departed Comrades made a special contribution to our Nation, our Community, and our Post.

Call me at (719) 200-8223 if I can be of assistance.

Sincerely,
James Griffith
Post Chaplain

(Guest Column cont'd)

religion, and beliefs are paramount in my America. "Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness," is a good quote from the Declaration of Independence describing the freedom my America would have. The America I envision for the future feels like the wind hitting my face as I walk down the street in a free country.

Thomas Jefferson once said, "We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." This quote describes the admirable way of life for people in the America I believe in. Though we are varied like the colors in a quilt, we are sewn together with the same thread...individually beautiful, but stronger together.

Carmel Thompson
8th Grade
Russell Middle School

Women's History Month

Happy Women's History Month! We celebrate this month to remember the women who stepped forward to fight inequality, break down barriers, and pave the way for future generations.

Please take a moment to honor all women throughout history for their sacrifices and accomplishments. Also, pause to reflect on the women who served and still are serving in the military, who helped shape this country.

We honor them for their support, strength and willingness to sacrifice everything for the freedom and liberty we all enjoy today.

St. Patrick's Day Celebration

All our welcome to join us for our St. Patrick's Day Celebration on Saturday, March 11. The club opens at 10 a.m. A corned beef & cabbage dinner for \$8.00 will be served from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. There will also be Irish music, an Irish Coffee Bar for \$3.00 a drink, and a Celtic Dance performance at 1:30 p.m.

Pancake Breakfast

A full pancake breakfast, courtesy "Shai and Helpers" will be prepared and served from 8:00-11:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 29th. All families are cordially invited. Cost of breakfast is \$5.00 for ages 11 to adult and \$2.00 for everyone age 10 and under.

(Auxiliary President's Column cont'd)

members! Please do not hesitate to contact any one of us if you yourself need help – or if you know of other members needing help with anything! We will do all we can 'in keeping our veterans and their families close to our hearts!'

Contact numbers

VFW Post 4051 – (719) 632-9874

Current Auxiliary President Tami Veed (719) 238-3543

Chaplain – Rita Christensen – (719) 598-0613

Loyally yours,
Tami Veed
Auxiliary President

Mount Carmel Center of Excellence

The Mount Carmel Center of Excellence is an organization that serves veterans and their families.

Just a few of their programs include; pro bono legal advice, many types of counseling, financial aid, G.I. Bill information, VA Vocational Rehab Programs, family medical clinics, classes on understanding your credit, VA Home Loan steps, Yoga for Veterans, and much more!

The facility is located at 530 Communication Circle on the west side of Colorado Springs off of 8th Street and Moreno Avenue. Call (719) 309-4714 for more information and to make appointments.

Our Post helps sponsor and support this very important community endeavor.

We provided a \$300 donation so far this year, and we received a very nice "Thank You" from them.

Post Surgeon's Report

Dear Comrades:

We extend our sympathies to the families of all our departed Comrades. Thank you to all who keep me informed. A get well card and fruit basket were sent to Eric Veed, and a get well card was sent to Larry McDermed.

Once again, we collected soiled and unserviceable flags for proper disposal. And, we are always in need of canned or dry packaged foodstuff for the Silver Key box. We deliver the donations to Silver Key at 1605 South Murray.

Sincerely,
LeRoy Jensen
Post Surgeon

Chairman of the House Committee's Column

Dear Members:

Since our last newsletter, we have finally replaced the flooring in the ladies restroom, along with paint and brighter lighting. The plan is to do the same in the ladies restroom in the ballroom area. All materials have been purchased and we should do it soon. The only cost has been for materials, as all the labor has been done by volunteers of our Post. We are very grateful for these members for their unselfish time and talent to get the work done. They saved our Post a lot of money!

We still plan on upgrading our lighting to LEDs, and putting in baseboard heating in the upstairs area. We also plan on having Post cleanup days 3 times a year instead of just once a year. Our first workday for this year will be on Saturday, 22 April, starting at 8 a.m. and lasting until around noon. August 26 is the planned work day for the second one. The third one is TBD. Volunteers will be needed!

We know we are asking a lot from our members when it comes to donations, but we do a lot to help our veterans and their families. When you can, please donate to the Post Relief Fund.

Yours in Service,

Chairman,
Rick Archuleta
Board Members: LeRoy Jensen, Jerry Walter, & Joe Cormier
Alternates: Duane Knutson & Ron Marshall

Change of Command

At our last Post meeting we said farewell to LTC Neil Snyder, commander of Ft Carson unit 2-77 FA. He is awaiting orders to either a college to get his Doctorate degree, or an assignment to Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas.

We welcomed his replacement, LTC Don Cherry, and their change of command ceremony was on 13 February. LTC Snyder presented us with a nice, framed poster of his troops in the field overseas.

Our Post has been supporting this unit for the past couple of years, and we will continue to support them with donations of snacks and games for the troops.

Paige Lanier

Post Membership

For any of our members that recruit two or more members (annual or Life) with their paid dues, you will receive a free dinner dance ticket at the Friday night dinner/dances.

For any active duty members, if they pay the first year, they will receive the second year free.

Marian House Soup Kitchen

We received a very nice "Thank You" from Catholic Charities for our \$500 donation to the Marian House Soup Kitchen in support of their essential services program of providing an average of 600 hot, nutritious meals a day. Many of the people who use the soup kitchen are veterans in need.

Visit To McCandless Veterans Community Living Center

We will be assisting with two events at the Bruce McCandless Veterans Community Living Center in Florence this spring. The first event is on 15 April (the Saturday before Easter). This will be an Easter Egg Hunt for local children. The residents like having the children there for this event. We will operate the snow cone, popcorn and cotton candy machines. The time is to be determined based on when Florence holds their annual hunt.

The other event is on 29 May (celebrated Memorial Day) when they have a ceremony to honor those residents who have passed in the previous year. Time to be determined.

Please save the dates and let me know if you are available for either or both activities. More information will be provided as it is received.

Bob Green,
bobgreen@hotmail.com or (719) 244-5578.

Buddy Poppy Program

Please be thinking about volunteering for the Poppy Distribution during the Memorial Day weekend. Memorial Day is on Monday, 29 May, so we will plan on handing out poppies on Saturday, 27 May, and Sunday, 28 May. Call me at (719) 200-8223 if I can be of assistance.

Sincerely,
James Griffith
Post Chaplain

DINNER 6 PM \$10.00

MARCH 2017

DANCE 7 TO 10 PM \$10.00

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>(NOTE) Reservations Required For Dinner Call (719) 632-9874</p>			<p>1 Post Closed Available for Rental Events</p>	<p>2 Open 4 to 7 Salsa!!! 8:30 to Midnight \$10.00 Cover Charge</p>	<p>3 Dinner/Dance Mardi Gras/ Jambalaya-Red Beans-Rice (The Aux.) Carlos Crull Open 4 to 11</p>	<p>4 Post Meeting Post Officer Nominations Coffee 8:00 a.m. Meeting 9:00 a.m. Post Closed Available For Rental Events</p>
<p>5 Post Closed</p>	<p>6 Post Closed</p>	<p>7 Post Closed</p>	<p>8 Friends of the Post Mtg 4 P.M. Post Closed Available for Rental Events</p>	<p>9 Open 4 to 7 Salsa!!! 8:30 to Midnight \$10.00 Cover Charge</p>	<p>10 <u>No Dinner/ Dance Only</u> Springs Open 4 to 11</p>	<p>11 St. Patrick's Day Celebration Details Page 4 Aux Meeting Coffee/Treats 9:30 A.M. Meeting 10:30 A.M.</p>
<p>12 Post Closed</p>	<p>13 Post Closed</p>	<p>14 Post Closed</p>	<p>15 Post Closed Available for Rental Events</p>	<p>16 Open 4 to 7 Salsa!!! 8:30 to Midnight \$10.00 Cover Charge</p>	<p>17 <u>No Dinner/ Dance Only</u> David Hudson Open 4 to 11</p>	<p>18 Marine Corps League Meeting Breakfast 8:00 a.m. Meeting 9:00 a.m. Post Closed Available For Rental Events</p>
<p>19 Post Closed</p>	<p>20 Post Closed</p>	<p>21 Post Closed</p>	<p>22 Post Closed Available for Rental Events</p>	<p>23 Open 4 to 7 Salsa!!! 8:30 to Midnight \$10.00 Cover Charge</p>	<p>24 Dinner/Dance Italian/Manicotti - Meat Sauce (Shai & Helpers) Birthday Cake (John Mazella) Carlos Crull Open 4 to 11</p>	<p>25 Post Closed Available for Rental Events</p>
<p>26 Post Closed</p>	<p>27 Post Closed</p>	<p>28 Post Closed</p>	<p>29 Post Closed Available for Rental Events</p>	<p>30 Open 4 to 7 Salsa!!! 8:30 to Midnight \$10.00 Cover Charge</p>	<p>31 <u>No Dinner/ Dance Only</u> Springs Open 4 to 11</p>	

DINNER 6 PM \$10.00

APRIL 2017

DANCE 7 TO 10 PM \$10.00

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>(NOTE) Reservations Required For Dinner Call (719) 632-9874</p>						<p>1 Post Meeting Post Officer Elections Coffee 8:00 a.m. Meeting 9:00 a.m. Post Closed Available For Rental Events</p>
2 Post Closed	3 Post Closed	4 Post Closed	5 Post Closed Available for Rental Events	6 Open 4 to 7 Salsa!!! 8:30 to Midnight \$10.00 Cover Charge	7 Dinner/Dance Baked Ham (John B.) Carlos Crull Open 4 to 11	8 Aux Meeting Coffee/Treats 9:30 A.M. Meeting 10:30 A.M. Post Closed Available For Rental Events
9 Post Closed	10 Post Closed	11 Post Closed	12 Friends of the Post Mtg 4 P.M. Post Closed Available for Rental Events	13 Open 4 to 7 Salsa!!! 8:30 to Midnight \$10.00 Cover Charge	14 No Dinner/ Dance Only Springs Open 4 to 11	15 Marine Corps League Meeting Breakfast 8:00 a.m. Meeting 9:00 a.m. Post Closed Available For Rental Events
16 Easter Sunday Post Closed	17 Post Closed	18 Post Closed	19 Post Closed Available for Rental Events	20 Open 4 to 7 Salsa!!! 8:30 to Midnight \$10.00 Cover Charge	21 Dinner/Dance Crispy Oven Chicken (The Aux.) Carlos Crull Open 4 to 11	22 Post Workday 0800-1200 Post Closed Available for Rental Events
23/30 Post Closed	24 Post Closed	25 Post Closed	26 Post Closed Available for Rental Events	27 Open 4 to 7 Salsa!!! 8:30 to Midnight \$10.00 Cover Charge	28 No Dinner/ Dance Only Springs Open 4 to 11	29 Pancake Breakfast 8:00 - 11:00 a.m Details Page 4 Post Closed Available for Rental Events

News from the Pikes Peak Post

VFW Post 4051
430 E. Pikes Peak Avenue
Colorado Springs, CO 80903
Website www.vfw4051.org
(719) 632-9874

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Support Our Troops Around the World!!

VFW POST 4051



Friday Night Dinner/Dance (Dinner Reservations Required)
Dinner \$10.00 Dinner & Dance \$20.00 Dance Only \$10.00
Call (719) 632-9874

**Club Hours: Closed Sunday, Monday, Tuesday,
Wednesday, and Saturday**

Open Thursday and Friday at 4 P.M.

Post Meetings On March 4th & April 1st at 9 A.M.

Auxiliary Meetings On March 11th & April 8th at 10:30 A.M.