



News from the Pikes Peak Post and Auxiliary



November/December 2016

Volume 36 Issue 11-12

Upcoming Events

Saturday, November 5th
**Colorado Springs
Veterans Day
Parade**

See Page 2 for Details

Sunday, December 11th
**Annual Egg Nog
Party**

1- 3 p.m.

Saturday, December 31st
**New Year's Eve
Celebration**

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

Dear Members,

Thanks to Post member Bill Thomas who brought to our attention the story of Petty Officer Daniel T. Griffin who was reinterred at Evergreen cemetery on 17 October 1947. The Pikes Peak Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4051 Honor Guard was in attendance.

Petty Officer Griffin was killed on December 7, 1941 during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. He was the first Coloradan killed and is widely believed to have been the first American military member killed on that fateful day. AMM1c Griffin graduated from Colorado Springs High School (now Palmer High School) in 1928. He enlisted in the Navy in 1930.

On December 7, 1941 PO1 Griffin was stationed in Hawaii. He was an enlisted pilot flying the PBY Catalina located in Kaneohe Bay. He was attacked and shot down just as his plane lifted off. Griffin exited his aircraft and was shot through the head and killed as he was swimming to shore. In 1943 the US Navy commissioned the USS Daniel T. Griffin APD 38. An unsuccessful attempt was made to rename Memorial Park after PO1 Griffin in 1948.

Petty Officer Griffin will be recognized at the Navy League's annual ceremony on December 7th at the Pikes Peak Regional Development Center, 2880 International Circle at 11:00 a.m. I plan to attend – please join me.

Sincerely,
Barbara Green
Post Commander

Auxiliary President's Column

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

We have been busy!! I am ecstatic to report that in the last two months we have gained three MALE members as well as three more ladies!! Welcome all of you!

In October, the Auxiliary volunteered at the Annual Homeless Stand Down at the City Auditorium and provided dinner at the Post for up to ten homeless veterans and family units (35 people) participating in the Transitional Housing Initiative. I wish to thank the many volunteers from the Auxiliary and the Post that helped to make this such a success!

HAPPY VETERAN'S DAY! The Post and Auxiliary will again participate in the Veteran's Day Parade on November 5th here in the Springs and the Auxiliary will be distributing poppies November 12th at the Safeway on Mesa Ridge.

****November 8 – Get Out and Vote****

Upcoming Theme Dinners:

November 18 – Auxiliary Thanksgiving Dinner with our bake sale starting at 5 p.m.
December 16 – Auxiliary Christmas Dinner and again, our bake sale starting at 5 p.m. \$\$\$ Proceeds to benefit our many Veteran's Programs \$\$\$

Auxiliary meeting change starting at the November meeting – we will have coffee and breakfast treats from 9:30-10:30 (social hour) and the meeting to start promptly at 10:30 a.m.

Call Charlene (719) 578-1429 or Tami (719) 238-3543 if you are able to volunteer your time and talents in helping
(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
	Eddie Roberts
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

**Colorado Springs
Veterans Day Parade
Saturday, 5 November 2016**

There will be no formal Post meeting on Parade Saturday. At 8 a.m. we will meet at the Post for coffee and donuts and a brief round table business discussion to address Post affairs. Immediately afterwards we will prepare the trailer, determine who will march and who will ride, and depart so as to be in position for the 10:00 a.m. start of the parade.

***March or Ride,
Please Join Us For This
Important Community Event!***

Chaplain's Report

Have you ever felt that your prayers have gone unanswered? I know I have. When my only son Doug passed away I felt as if my prayers were falling into a dry well, disappearing and going unanswered. In this awful time, I remembered a prayer I once read taken from a fallen Civil War soldier. It goes like this,

"I asked God for strength, that I might achieve,
I was made weak, that I might learn humbly to obey...
I asked for health, that I might do greater things,
I was given infirmity, that I might do better things...
I asked for riches, that I might be happy,
I was given poverty, that I might be wise...
I asked for power, that I might have the praise of men,
I was given weakness, that I might feel the need of God...
I asked for all things, that I might enjoy life,
I was given life, that I might enjoy all things...
I got nothing that I asked for -
but everything that I had hoped for,
Almost despite myself, my unspoken prayers were answered.
I am among all men most richly blessed."

God answers all prayers. Just not always in the way we wanted. God is Sovereign and is free to answer yes, no, wait, or to answer in ways we could not imagine. We trust that God directs our lives, but in tough straights we question His and our ways. Reflection and time brought this unknown soldier to marvel at God's wisdom and compassion. In the end God hears not just our prayers but our needs, and gives depth to our character and humility to our walk with Him and others.

Our VFW Ritual Closing Prayer starts "Almighty God, the hour has come when we must part. We commit ourselves to Thy care."

We pause to remember our Post Comrades, Joseph Wooten and Thomas Hendrix to commit them to Thy care.

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

Sincerely,
James Griffith
Post Chaplain

Auxiliary Chaplain's Column

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Thinking of you cards were sent to Past Auxiliary President Ruth Huisenga and to our current Auxiliary President, Tami Veed.

The holidays are just around the corner, with November, the month of Thanksgiving, reminding us to be thankful for all the freedoms we enjoy. Our best wishes for a blessed Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year.

Keep in your thoughts and prayers, those who are ill and those who have lost loved ones. Please let me know if there is anyone who is in need of our help.

Sincerely,
Rita Christensen
Auxiliary 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 Phone Number.

TAPS

Post

Thomas Hendrix and Joseph Wooten

Auxiliary

None

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

New Year's Eve (NYE) Information

Dinner & Dance will be \$45 per person; Dinner only will be \$25, and Dance only will be \$25. The menu will be shrimp cocktail, Caesar salad, prime rib, baked potato, green beans, and cheese cake. The canteen area will be open for cocktails by 5:30 p.m. with dinner to be served at 6:30 p.m. Dancing to the Springs band will be from 8 p.m. to 12 p.m. Champagne or sparkling cider toasts for everyone will be at 10 p.m., 11 p.m. and midnight. Door prizes, a raffle, and a 50-50 drawing will also be available to all.

Reservations and payment (cash or check only) are now being accepted but no later than December 15th. Please provide name, phone number, and number of people at your table; with tables of 2, 4, 6, 8 or even 10-12. (Changes can be made until 15 Dec.) Our New Year's Eve Team must limit the seating to 125, so make your plans early.

We will need volunteers to get ready for New Years Eve, so please be a part of the NYE Team for 2016. Call the Post at 632-9874 if you are willing to help.

Please Be a Part of the NYE Team for 2016!

Buddy Poppies for Veterans Day 2016

Buddy Poppies for Veteran's Day 2016 Weekend will be distributed by VFW Post 4051 members at four locations on Friday, 11 November and Saturday, 12 November.

Locations are the Safeway Stores near the corner of Galley Road and North Circle Drive and on Powers Boulevard near Constitution Avenue, the Wal Mart on Woodmen Road near Powers Boulevard, and the Wal Mart Neighborhood Market on 665 North Murray Boulevard just north of Platte Avenue.

Meet at the Village Inn parking lot on Academy Boulevard and Palmer Park Boulevard at 8:30 a.m. to pick up your poppies and get your location assignments.

On Friday, eat breakfast before that on your own. On Saturday, the Post will pay for your breakfast at the Village Inn at 8:00 a.m. followed by poppy supplies and assignments. The distribution times at all locations will be approximately 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Please come and help out, even if you cannot do a full day. All donations will be accounted for each day and secured at VFW Post 4051.

Wear your VFW uniform if you have one, wear a cap if you don't have a uniform, and if you have neither, COME ANYWAY!

Refer questions to James Griffith at 719-200-8223 or griffithjr001@yahoo.com.

(Auxiliary President's Column cont'd)

us out in the kitchen or anything else you might be interested in. You may also email me at tward101@msn.com with any comments or suggestions. Follow us on Facebook too – VFW Auxiliary Post 4051 @lavfw4051.

Loyally,
Tami Veed
Auxiliary President

Membership Pins

The following members received membership pins at the October Post meeting:

5 Year Pin
Joseph Cormier
Eddie Roberts
Galen Steele

10 Year Pin
Chris Linski
Bob Green
Jim Waddle
Lance Dyar

15 Year Pin
Jim Hackett
Bill Vanaman

20 Year Pin
D J Alberts

25 Year Pin
Barbara Green

30 Year Pin
John Mazzella
Jerry Walter

35 Year Pin
Vito Martinez

40 Year Patch
Paige Lanier

45 Year Pin
LeRoy Jensen

If you feel you are eligible for a membership pin please let me know and I will have one ready for you at the December Post meeting.

Sincerely,
Barbara Green
Post Commander

Chairman of the House Committee's Column

Dear Members:

We are starting out on a sad situation to end the year, as the Men's Auxiliary will no longer exist at our Post! The wisdom of VFW National, or lack thereof, has decided to dissolve the Men's Auxiliary at the Post level. Present members can become part of the "Auxiliary" if they so choose, by providing DD214s and paying the annual dues again. Hopefully, most current members will decide to do so. We need to keep our Post Auxiliary strong!

We are still in the process of upgrading the lights in the ballroom, and replacing the flooring in the ladies restroom in the canteen area. The floor in the kitchen has been repainted, along with some touch up, in the canteen. Our Post budget for repairs is a bit tight, so we are doing as much as possible, and as quickly as we can.

With the Holiday's fast approaching, we want to extend best wishes to our members, employees, and their families a most "Happy Holiday Season."

Yours in Service,
Chairman, Rick Archuleta
Board Members: LeRoy Jensen, Jerry Walter, Eddie Roberts, Joe Cormier
Alternates: Duane Knutson, Ron Marshall

Gourmet & Guests

GUESTS: Did you know each member can bring/ sponsor up to 12 guests for a Friday night dinner/dance? The House Committee has turned the spotlight on advance signup and set 30 signups as the tripwire for dinners (if there are less than 30 signups, dinner will be cancelled). Please make your dinner and dance reservations by close of business each Wednesday, phone 632-9874, and include the number of guests and your contact phone number.

Thanks to those of you who are already giving strong support; now more of our membership can help the dinner/dance efforts raise funds to support veterans and their families.

Friend's Committee Report

For the time being, the Post will be closed on Wednesdays & Saturdays except for rentals or special events. Additionally, there will be no light meals on Wednesday evenings until further notice. Finally, Friday evening dinners will now be on the 1st & 3rd Friday of the month only.

VFW 4051 Bingo

VFW 4051 Bingo pays the big bills for the Post like utilities, insurance, etc. Our bingo sessions are on Tuesday and Friday, from noon until 2:30 p.m., each week at the North Carefree Bingo Hall, 3440 N Carefree Circle, a block west of Academy on North Carefree.

Each bingo team needs 7 or 8 people to work from about 11am to 3pm. **We really need a couple more workers for each session.** If you can work both sessions – GREAT! But just one day a week would really help. Please call our Bingo Games Manager, Jerry Walter at 574-4324 for more information.

FOR ALL MEMBERS, COME PLAY BINGO; BRING YOUR FRIENDS; SUPPORT VFW 4051 BINGO!

Honor Flight

Just a reminder that all WWII and Korean War veterans are eligible to go to Washington D.C. to tour the various memorials and monuments.

We have had several of our Post members go on this wonderful 3-day excursion.

You will be assigned a "Guardian" who will escort you on the flight, on the bus to see all the memorial sites, and make sure you are well taken care of at the hotel, dinners, and other events.

If you are still in good enough health and want to go on one of these trips, please call Nancetta Westcott at 719-235-3300, or Cory May at 719-351-6688 to get more details and add your name to the list.

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 of anyone who is ill at home or in the hospital.

Please bring in dry packaged food or canned goods for our Silver Key box. A quick reminder that Silver Key has moved from Bott Avenue to 1605 South Murray.

Whenever you have torn, soiled, or faded U.S. flags please bring them in to the Post and I will take them to American Legion Post 209 for their periodic proper disposal ceremony.

Sincerely,
LeRoy Jensen
Post Surgeon

DINNER 6 PM \$10.00 NOVEMBER 2016 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>		1 Post Closed	2 Post Closed Available for Rental Events	3 Open 4 to 7 Salsa!!! 8:30 to Midnight \$5.00 Cover Charge	4 Dinner/Dance Glazed Ham (John B.) Carlos Crull Open 4 to 11	5 Veterans Day Parade Coffee/Donuts/ Brief Round Table Mtg. 8:00 A.M. Post Closed Available for Rental Events
6 Daylight Saving Ends Post Closed	7 Post Closed	8 <i>Election Day</i> Post Closed	9 Post Closed Available for Rental Events	10 Open 4 to 7 Salsa!!! 8:30 to Midnight \$5.00 Cover Charge	11 <u>No Dinner/</u> Dance Only Springs Open 4 to 11	12 Aux Meeting Coffee/Treats 9:30 A.M. Meeting 10:30 A.M. Post Closed Available For Rental Events
13 Post Closed	14 Post Closed	15 Post Closed	16 Friends of the Post Mtg 4 P.M. Post Closed Available for Rental Events	17 Open 4 to 7 Salsa!!! 8:30 to Midnight \$5.00 Cover Charge	18 Dinner/Dance Thanksgiving Turkey Dinner & Bake Sale (The Aux) Carlos Crull Open 4 to 11	19 Post Closed Available for Rental Events
20 Post Closed	21 Post Closed	22 Post Closed	23 Post Closed Available for Rental Events	24 <i>Thanksgiving</i> Post Closed	25 <u>No Dinner/</u> Dance Only David Hudson Open 4 to 11	26 Post Closed Available for Rental Events
27 Post Closed	28 Post Closed	29 Post Closed	30 Post Closed Available for Rental Events			

DINNER 6 PM \$10.00		DECEMBER 2016					DANCE 7 TO 10 PM \$10.00	
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday		
(NOTE) <i>Reservations Required For Dinner</i> Call (719) 632-9874					1 Open 4 to 7 Salsa!!! 8:30 to Midnight \$5.00 Cover Charge	2 Dinner/Dance Roast Pork (D.J.) Carlos Crull Open 4 to 11	3 <i>Post Meeting</i> Coffee/Donuts 8 A.M. Meeting 9 A.M. Post Closed Available For Rental Events	
	4 Post Closed	5 Post Closed	6 Post Closed	7 <i>Pearl Harbor Day</i> Post Closed Available for Rental Events	8 Open 4 to 7 Salsa!!! 8:30 to Midnight \$5.00 Cover Charge	9 <u>No Dinner/ Dance Only</u> Carlos Crull Open 4 to 11	10 <i>Aux Meeting</i> Coffee/Treats 9:30 A.M. Meeting 10:30 A.M. Post Closed Available For Rental Events	
	11 <i>Annual Egg Nog Party</i> 1 - 3 P.M. Post Closed	12 Post Closed	13 Post Closed	14 Friends of the Post Mtg 4 P.M. Post Closed Available for Rental Events	15 Open 4 to 7 Salsa!!! 8:30 to Midnight \$5.00 Cover Charge	16 Dinner/Dance Christmas Ham Dinner & Bake Sale (The Aux) Springs Open 4 to 11	17 Post Closed Available for Rental Events	
	18 Post Closed	19 Post Closed	20 Post Closed	21 Post Closed Available for Rental Events	22 Open 4 to 7 Salsa!!! 8:30 to Midnight \$5.00 Cover Charge	23 <u>No Dinner/ No Dance</u> Open 4 to 11	24 <i>Christmas Eve!</i> Post Closed Available for Rental Events	
	25 <i>Merry Christmas!</i> Post Closed	26 Post Closed	27 Post Closed	28 Post Closed Available for Rental Events	29 Open 4 to 7 Salsa!!! 8:30 to Midnight \$5.00 Cover Charge	30 <u>No Dinner/ No Dance</u> Open 4 to 11	31 <i>New Year's Eve Party</i> See Page 4 Springs 8 - Midnight	

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.**

***Veterans Day Parade November 5th - Brief Round Table at 8 A.M.
Post Meeting On December 3rd at 9 A.M.***