



AMERICAN LEGION



Wilmore Richter Post 161

6230 W. 60th Ave. Arvada, CO 80003 - (303) 424-0324 - August 2024 - Volume 61, Issue 8

Website: www.alp161arvada.org - Facebook: [AmericanLegionPost161](https://www.facebook.com/AmericanLegionPost161)

AMERICAN LEGION ADVOCATE

RON NELSON COMMANDER



July 13th. A Very sad day in America! (Assassination Attempt! Are you kidding Me?) May the victim of this senseless act Rest in Peace! May the injured and Former President Trump experience God Speed in their recovery!

AS WE APPROACH THE NOVEMBER ELECTION!

This next paragraph is a quote from 2024 American Legion Officer Guide.

ARTICLE III NATURE

Section 1. This Post is a civilian organization and membership therein does not affect or increase liability for military or police service. Section 2. This organization shall be absolutely nonpolitical and shall not be used for the dissemination of partisan principles nor for the promotion of the candidacy of any person seeking public office or preferment. Section 3. Rank does not exist in The American Legion; no member shall be addressed by his military or naval title in any meeting of this Post."

This above quote does not say a member cannot talk and speak his or her thoughts and or beliefs! What the above quote does say is the **POST WILL NOT ENGAGE IN POLITICAL SUPPORT IN ANY OFFICIAL CAPACITY!**

1st Amendment:

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

"I'M PROUD TO BE AN AMERICAN, WHERE AT LEAST I KNOW I'M FREE"

Song Lyrics form Lee Greenwood (God Bless the USA)

When I was a kid in the last century, it was also hot in the summer, and we worried about another ice age. August always seemed to be the hottest.-

Aug. 2nd. Invasion of Kuwait 1990, 4th U.S. COAST GUARD BIRTHDAY, 5th GULF OF TONKIN VIETNAM 1964, 7TH PURPLE HEART DAY, 14TH V-J DAY 1945, 30th Afghanistan Pullout to end 20 year war 2001-2021. 13 American warriors KIA and a great number injured at Kabul Afghanistan Airport!

OUR NEW CHAIRS ARE ON THEIR WAY. Will continue to raise funds to cover the \$4800.00 balance from total amount of \$18699.00. Thank you everyone who has contributed to get us this far.

You all going to Alaska, be safe and have fun!



Tech Support in plain English please!! I'm looking for a member or 2 that are savvy in office products, mainly copy/printers! We currently have a copy machine that is leased. We are approaching the end of a 5-year obligation that is very costly. Our goal is to downsize to a more practical / affordable printing source. Thanks, Ron & The BOG

Come to your Post and Enjoy!

Weekday lunches, Queen of Hearts every Saturday night.

Aug. Sunday Breakfasts 4th, 11th, & 18th. (no breakfast on the 25th)

Aug. 3rd. After the Queen hang around for some fun, Karaoke!

Aug. 9th. Friday night music with Soda Blues band!

Aug. 25th. The Post Picnic!

War on Terrorism (Iraq) - U.S. Marine Corps

JASON L DUNHAM

DETAILS

- **RANK: CORPORAL**
- **CONFLICT/ERA: WAR ON TERRORISM (IRAQ)**
- **UNIT/COMMAND:**

**4TH PLATOON, COMPANY K, 3RD BATTALION, 7TH MARINES (REINFORCED),
REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM 7,**

1ST MARINE DIV. (REINFORCED)

- **MILITARY SERVICE BRANCH: U.S. MARINE CORPS**
- **MEDAL OF HONOR ACTION DATE: APRIL 14, 2004**
- **MEDAL OF HONOR ACTION PLACE: KARABILAH, IRAQ**

CITATION

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as a Rifle Squad Leader, 4th Platoon, Company K, Third Battalion, Seventh Marines (Reinforced), Regimental Combat Team 7, First Marine Division (Reinforced), on 14 April 2004, Corporal Dunham's squad was conducting a reconnaissance mission in the town of Karabilah, Iraq, when they heard rocket-propelled grenade and small arms fire erupt approximately two kilometers to the west. Corporal Dunham led his Combined Anti-Armor Team towards the engagement to provide fire support to their Battalion Commander's convoy, which had been ambushed as it was traveling to Camp Husaybah. As Corporal Dunham and his Marines advanced, they quickly began to receive enemy fire. Corporal Dunham ordered his squad to dismount their vehicles and led one of his fire teams on foot several blocks south of the ambushed convoy. Discovering seven Iraqi vehicles in a column attempting to depart, Corporal Dunham and his team stopped the vehicles to search them for weapons. As they approached the vehicles, an insurgent leaped out and attacked Corporal Dunham. Corporal Dunham wrestled the insurgent to the ground and in the ensuing struggle saw the insurgent release a grenade. Corporal Dunham immediately alerted his fellow Marines to the threat. Aware of the imminent danger and without hesitation, Corporal Dunham covered the grenade with his helmet and body, bearing the brunt of the explosion and shielding his Marines from the blast. In an ultimate and selfless act of bravery in which he was mortally wounded, he saved the lives of at least two fellow

Marines. By his undaunted courage, intrepid fighting spirit, and unwavering devotion to duty, Corporal Dunham gallantly gave his life for his country, thereby reflecting great credit upon himself and upholding the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and the United States Naval Service.

MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENT JASON L. DUNHAM

ADDITIONAL DETAILS

- ACCREDITED TO: SCIO, ALLEGANY COUNTY, NEW YORK
- AWARDED POSTHUMOUSLY: YES
- PRESENTATION DATE & DETAILS: JANUARY 11, 2007

THE WHITE HOUSE, PRESENTED BY PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH TO HIS PARENTS

• BORN: NOVEMBER 10, 1981, SCIO, ALLEGANY COUNTY, NY, UNITED STATES

• DIED: APRIL 22, 2004, BETHESDA, MD, UNITED STATES

• BURIED: FAIRLAWN CEMETERY, SCIO, NY, UNITED STATES



God Bless our Troops

Do not be afraid!

That's All

HELEN MUSKOPF - AUXILIARY PRESIDENT



As the new American Legion year starts lets hope all is well with everyone.

We are in hopes that everyone will be as excited as we are to have a fun year and get involved in the different ideas that will be implemented. Its' all about having fun and supporting the other entities for our veterans and their families. We can't do it without you.

Some of the ideas are as follows: get care packages ready to send out to our troops and solders, work on a craft day at the post so that everyone can show their creativity while being inside where you can sit in the cool air working on something that we can sell to bring in money for the auxiliary causes and more. Get involved and put a smile on someone's face while showing your caring thoughtfulness.

We do have the **Post picnic coming up on Aug 25** with lots of fun raffles to participate in with so much more. Bring a small dish and come and enjoy.

Best regards until next month.

POST PICNIC AUGUST 25
POST WILL PROVIDE HAMBURGERS AND HOT DOGS.
PLEASE BRING A SIDE DISH OR DESSERT TO SHARE



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Marcantonio
 President & CEO

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📧 jonathan@yourneighbors.net

🌐 www.yourneighbors.net

DOT# 3965077
MC# 1479902

FRED MUSKOPF - LEGION RIDERS 161 DIRECTOR



Thanks to your support and generosity, Post 161 Riders were able to donate \$8330.35 to benefit the veteran and enlisted community along with our post for the last year. The Riders also volunteered 1425.25 hours and rode 4657.8 miles.

This year we are trying to make this even more. Riding motorcycles is just the icing on our cake, helping our vets and Post are what we do.

We as Riders represent the entire Post, Legion, Auxiliary and Sons of the Legion, by being a total of all entities, we each bring a different view to

what we need to do, to support our Post and veterans. When we ride to another Post for a dice or poker run, each rider pays for the privilege to ride. The money each rider pays goes to help that Post's charities or projects that they have going on. We often get to bid on silent auction items or buy raffle tickets for different items. Often times we just ride for the fun of it, and may get lunch while we are out. As an example, on July 6, Post 161 Riders worked with the Lakewood Post 178 Riders, to put on a fundraiser for RCI. Not only were there Riders from 161 and 178, but also Riders from Post 1985 Firestone and Post 22 Northglenn plus some other Riders that are not affiliated with the Legion. For this ride we were able to donate over \$2400.00 to RCI.

In this past year, with your help, we were able to donate to the **Legion Scholarship fund**, in the amount of \$1500.00 for the children of fallen Soldiers and for those of 50% or more disabled to help get a college education.

Being a Rider is a lot of fun, but also a lot of donated time and money to make our Vets and Post just a little better.

If you or someone you know wants to become a Rider give me a call, 303-915-9796 and we will work to make it happen.

ROBERT TINSLEY - SAL 1ST VICE COMMANDER

Happy August to all Post 161 Members.



On July 12, 2024 we lost one of the dearest volunteers to the S.A.L. and the American Legion. **Raymond Rudolph Bollig**, age 98 and a US Army World War 2 veteran. Ray was a very caring person and loved everybody. He made all of the S.A.L. smile and laugh when he volunteered. We will miss Ray and may he rest in peace. We love you Ray.

The S.A.L. dues are due for the upcoming year. The dues are \$35.00 and can be mailed to the Post (attn: S.A.L.) We also have a S.A.L. drop box in the lobby that you can drop your dues in.

Thank you to all the S.A.L. members who have supported us. This year the S.A.L. needs all members to update any changes of e-mails, addresses, cell numbers and names.

Don't forget to get on our S.A.L. e-mail list so you can receive any updates we have.

The S.A.L. raised some funds to donate to the RCI fund to help them in their cause.

Don't forget September 14th is our 20th annual golf tournament. We still need golfers, volunteers, donations and items for our great event to help our kids in need.

Joker's famous island hamburgers are back on Saturday, August 31 at 5pm before Queen of Hearts. Please come down to help us raise funds for our Golf Tournament. We want to break our record of hamburgers sold from last month.

The S.A.L. wishes everybody to have fun in August and stay cool.

Troops hurry home and stay safe.

Departed James Molnar

Donations

\$150 - VA
\$100 - Community Table
\$250 - RCI
\$680 - Ginnys Kids - golf
\$450 - SAL - golf

Total Membership

Quota: 600 - 2024: 621 - % of Goal 103.57%

Daily Drawing

6/14	Ryan Derrough	\$118.00
6/15	Richard Aragon	\$129.50
6/16	Peter Daniluh	\$137.75
6/17	Ricahrd Aragon	\$149.25
6/18	Randolph Nold	\$154.25
6/19	Robert Carbone	\$162.00
6/20	Michael Westin	\$170.25
6/21	Michelle Burdis	\$179.75
6/22	Roland Pike	\$187.00
6/23	Thomas Grosz	\$196.25
6/24	Wayne Humphrey	\$205.75
6/25	Raymond Davis	\$215.00
6/26	Jennifer Jussel	\$221.75
6/27	Donald Hutton	\$229.75
6/28	Regina Montgomery	\$237.75
6/29	Eugene Flatin	\$247.00
6/30	Henry Hartman	\$252.50
7/1	Dennis Thompson	\$260.25
7/2	John Sharp	\$269.75
7/3	Shaelynn Groen	\$277.00
7/4	Kristin Jensen	\$286.00
7/5	David Jackson	\$292.00
7/6	Tracy Kobold	\$300.00
7/7	Stacy Shellenberger	\$311.50
7/8	Paul Legler	\$318.75
7/9	Christina Fresquez	\$326.25
7/10	James Culbreth	\$331.75
7/11	Beverly Smith	\$340.25
7/12	Paul Hughes	\$349.00
7/13	Pamela Heren	\$355.50
7/14	Wanda Ford	\$362.00

Post 161 Officers 2023-2024

Legionnaires

Commander - Ron Nelson
 Sr. Vice - Fred Muskopf
 Jr. Vice - Dale Crow
 Chaplain - Fred Muskopf
 Finance Officer - Judy Maathuis
 Adjutant - Rick Cody
 Exec Com Member - Brian Messer
 Sgt-At-Arms - Ray Rocho
 Historian - Vacant
 Veteran Svc Officer - Vern Benjamin
 Past Commander - Ed Shreeve

American Legion Auxiliary

President- Helen Muskopf
 First Vice - Jan Bobb
 Treasurer- Jeannette Scott
 Secretary- Jeannette Scott
 Chaplain- Char Orr
 Historian- Regina Montgomery
 Membership - Christine Mayer
 Sgt-at-Arms- Char Orr
 Members at Large:
 Lynn Cody & Crystal Messer

Board of Governors

Phil Saba
 Ray Mayer
 Bill Jackson
 Brian Messer
 Roger Divis
 Automatic BOG: Ron Nelson
 Automatic BOG: Dave Edwards

Sons of the American Legion

Commander - Brian Froid
 1st Vice - Robert Tinsley
 2nd Vice - Dale Crow
 Finance Officer - Neil Walker
 Sgt at Arms - Mike Blimling
 Chaplain - Rich Liberato
 Adjutant - Don Rodlin
 Historian - Jim Clark

Post 161 Legion Riders

Director - Fred Muskopf	Sgt at Arms Roger Divis
Vice Director - Brian Messer	Chaplain Jan Bobb
Secretary Helen Muskopf	Road Captain Al Muniz
Treasurer Mike Bobb	Road Lt - Phil Rome
Color Guard Cpt - Crystal Messer	Historian - Regina Montgomery

BREAKFAST

AUGUST 4, 11, 18

8-11 am



FREEDOM - - - AT WHAT COST?

By: Tony Dattilo - Retired Peace Officers

“Independence Day” is celebrated annually on July 4th . An article following provides an excellent historical account of gatherings, traditions, celebrations, and parties that have, and continue to be those joyous gatherings in appreciation for our American heritage and what is commonly referred to as our “Freedom.” Freedom from tyranny, and enemy aggressors who threatened our nation, our citizens, and our allies across the world.

Although the July 4th Independence Day “Holiday” is a time for joyous celebrations across our nation, especially marked by tens of thousands of fireworks displays, and consumption of those special food and drink items, the question in the background of this freedom that we celebrate comes to mind:

“At What Cost?”

The history of our United States of America depicts our initial freedom that was obtained during the colonial days during which our nation’s forefathers broke free of an oppressive, intrusive, and tyrannical government in what is referred to as the “Revolutionary War.”

This war was the first of many during which the threat of enemy factions thought to attack, decimate, and overrule the American ideals of freedom, law, and order. Each of those threats resulted in American men and women being called to serve in our American military. Although the history books provide information on each of these conflicts, the negative impact upon millions of American families is not realized, but listed just as “statistics.” The fatal tragedies of battles created unspeakable sorrow and heartbreak for parents, spouses, children, and friends of those who died in the services of war in order to prevent our American way of life from being overtaken and modified by enemy nations. There is no way to compensate for the loss of these lives. The numbers of our lost are extreme. THIS – is the true COST of Freedom.

As we celebrate this Independence Day, let us remember, and honor those who gave their lives to preserve our way of life since the birth of our United States of America. Although various sources may differ slightly in the numbers provided below, either on foreign soil, or on our own streets, the “payment” is made with the lives of those who were called, who volunteered, who served in unspeakable conditions of war, and the ever-present threat of aggressors who seek to destroy our America. Despite the ‘boring’ statistics enumerated in the history books, charts, graphs, and stories – the reality remains for millions who suffered the agonizing loss of a loved one. Remember them all – those who pay the ultimate “Cost” of Freedom.

AMERICAN WAR “CASUALTIES” (DEATHS)

Revolutionary War:	70,000
War of 1812:	2,260
Mexican / American War:	15,000
American Civil War:	620,000
Spanish American War:	387
World War 1:	116,516
World War 2:	407,316
Korean War:	36,000
Viet Nam War:	58,220
Gulf War:	382
Iraq War	4,065
War in Afghanistan:	2,459
United States Law Enforcement Officers (Ongoing War)	24,067
TOTAL LOST:	1,356,872

With gratitude that cannot be expressed in words, we thank and revere them all for their reservation of our American Freedom that so many take for granted. May they all rest in eternal peace.

August 2024

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

Curtiss P-40 Warhawk



1

Rocky Flats
Breakfast 9am

2

SODA BLUE
6:30

3


KARAOKE
6:30
DINNER 5-6:45
QUEEN OF HEARTS 7PM

4 **8-11am**
BREAKFAST!



BINGO! 1pm
Lounge open 8 am

5


Scouts 6:00pm

6

Retired Peace
Officers 12 pm

BOG 6:00 pm

7


LUNCH EVERY WEEKDAY

8

Friendship Lunch
11:00 am

Membership Meeting 7:00 pm

9

Bingo Volunteers Luncheon
11:30 a.m.

10


DINNER 5-6:45
QUEEN OF HEARTS 7PM

11 **8-11am**
BREAKFAST!



BINGO! 1pm
Lounge open 8 am

12


Scouts 6:00pm

13


LUNCH EVERY WEEKDAY

14

Sub Vets 7:00 pm

15

Coopers
Troopers 11 am

16


LUNCH EVERY WEEKDAY

17




DINNER 5-6:45
QUEEN OF HEARTS 7PM

18 **8-11am**
BREAKFAST!



BINGO! 1pm
Lounge open 8 am

19

BLOOD DRIVE 
11 am - 3:30 pm

Scouts 6:00pm

20

Marine Corps
League 6:30 pm


21

Purple Heart
Vets 6:15

22


LUNCH EVERY WEEKDAY

23


VISIT THE POST!

24


SNACKS & POTLUCK 5 PM
QUEEN OF HEARTS 7PM

25 **POST PICNIC!**



26


Scouts 6:00pm

27

Legion
Riders 6pm

28


LUNCH EVERY WEEKDAY

29


REMEMBER TO SIGN IN!

30


LUNCH EVERY WEEKDAY

31


DINNER 5-6:45
QUEEN OF HEARTS 7PM





PICNIC!

August 25

11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

**PLENTY OF GREAT
RAFFLE PRIZES!**

Pot luck. Volunteers are needed to set up and put away. Lounge will be closed until cleanup is finished.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Commander has proposed a change to section 3 of the Post Bylaws to include an elected member from the SAL and an elected member of the Auxiliary to serve on the Board of Governors. This proposal will be voted upon in the August membership meeting. The proposal is on Ron's office door at the Post and you can also read it on our website here:

<http://alp161arvada.org/a1-bylawchange.pdf>

Our brand new Lounge chairs will be here in a few weeks. We still need \$4800 to finish paying for them because we borrowed the money from our Building Fund. We are gratefully accepting any and all donations. Thanks!

Dues for 2025 are now due. Please pay your dues today.

If you do not receive your newsletter notification in your inbox it is most likely being routed into another folder by your email provider. There are many reasons this may happen. Often the message will be mistakenly identified as spam or junk mail and will be routed into your spam folder. This is the first place to check for it. If you find it in spam, please mark it as 'not spam' and that should solve the problem for the future.

There are other folders which it may have been routed to as well and each provider has different folders. If you use Gmail there is an "All Mail" folder which will display all the emails from all the folders. Your email provider should have a similar option.

As a reminder, You can always read or download any issue of the newsletter from the newsletter page on our website www.alp161arvada.org



JOIN US FOR A DAY OF FUN!

**American Legion Post 161
20th Annual**



SAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Saturday, September 14, Lake Arbor Golf Course - 4 person scramble



Cash Prizes



Prize Drawings



**Delicious Lunch
Menu to be Announced**

Now accepting teams, individual players, hole sponsors, and donations of items we can use for our raffle, silent auction and goody bags! Proceeds from the tournament will benefit **Ginnys Kids and Child Welfare Foundation**. For details please contact **Robert** brnconrobert@gmail.com/ 720-810-4933 or **Joker** info@nshannon.com/ 303-519-8968.



KARAOKE!

Saturday August 3

Dinner 5-6:45

Queen of Hearts 7pm

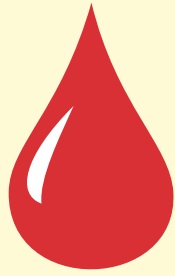


Join us for an evening of food singing and dancing!

**LUNCH AT
POST 161!**



A fast food combination meal is about the same price as a meal and a soft drink at Post 161, But the Post 161 meal is prepared hot and fresh to order and served on a plate rather than in a paper bag. Also, when you eat lunch at the Post, your dollars support the American Legion. And with our extensive lunch menu and Daily Specials, we have what you're hungry for. Come in for lunch every weekday from 11 until 2:30.



BLOOD DRIVE

**EVERY OTHER MONTH
(EVEN NUMBERED MONTHS)**

**Blood Drive for the
Arvada Community
Blood Drive - every other
month 3rd Monday
11 a.m - 3:30 p.m**

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