



# AMERICAN LEGION



## Wilmore Richter Post 161

6230 W. 60th Ave. Arvada, CO 80003 - (303) 424-0324 - December 2023 - Volume 60, Issue 12

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

### God Bless Israel

#### RON NELSON COMMANDER



Hello 161

December 2023 here! Santa is on his way!

Dec. 7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day! What a Hellish Day, God bless the folks that did and did not survive that day!

Hanukkah begins 12-7 and ends 12-15. Let's hope our world calms down and let the Jewish people celebrate their Faith!

Dec. 15 Bill of Rights day. May we continue to protect them.

Dec. 16 Post 161 Christmas party our post. Please sign up soon. Don't miss out.

Dec. 20 HAPPY BIRTHDAY SPACE FORCE!!

Dec. 20 Panama Operation Just Cause 1989.

Winter Begins, Christmas and New Years Eve wraps up the year.

Merry Christmas!!

#### MEDAL OF HONOR

World War II - U.S. Navy

#### EDWIN JOSEPH HILL

#### DETAILS

- RANK: CHIEF BOATSWAIN
- CONFLICT/ERA: WORLD WAR II
- UNIT/COMMAND: U.S.S. NEVADA
- MILITARY SERVICE BRANCH: U.S. NAVY
- MEDAL OF HONOR ACTION DATE: DECEMBER 7, 1941
- MEDAL OF HONOR ACTION PLACE: PEARL HARBOR, HAWAII TERRITORY, USA

#### CITATION

For distinguished conduct in the line of his profession, extraordinary courage, and disregard of his own safety during the attack on the Fleet in Pearl Harbor, by Japanese forces on 7 December 1941. During the height of the strafing and bombing, Chief Boatswain Hill led his men of the line-handling details of the U.S.S. Nevada to the quays, cast off the lines and swam back to his ship. Later, while on the forecandle, attempting to let go the anchors, he was blown overboard and killed by the explosion of several bombs.

AMERICAN LEGION ADVOCATE



Continued from Page 1

## MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENT EDWIN J. HILL

### ADDITIONAL DETAILS

- ACCREDITED TO: PENNSYLVANIA
- AWARDED POSTHUMOUSLY: YES
- BORN: OCTOBER 4, 1895, PHILADELPHIA, PHILADELPHIA COUNTY, PA, UNITED STATES
- DIED: DECEMBER 7, 1941, PEARL HARBOR, HAWAII (TERRITORY)
- BURIED: NATIONAL MEMORIAL CEMETERY OF THE PACIFIC (PUNCHBOWL) (MH) (A-895), HONOLULU, HI, UNITED STATES

**Many Thanks to the volunteers for cooking Saturday evenings** for Queen of Hearts. As of today 11-14, I do believe we have December covered. January still has two open dates, the 20th. And 27th. If anyone wants to step up for an open spot or just wants to help on any other day just let Me or Kathy T know. (slight change to the Queen tickets and all is good) Many Thanks to Rick and the gang.

**The ladies from the Friendship Club had a luncheon on the 9th** and I had an opportunity to speak to them. I'm not sure if was my talk that brought out their generosity, but these ladies were very generous. Cash, Checks Toys 4 Tots! Lots of toys!

**TOYS 4 TOTS** now I have an opportunity to speak of my pet project, Toys 4 Tots. The box will be in the lobby. New unwrapped toys Please! It was said by a program director last year that the ages from 12 – 15 are always short changed. Please keep that in mind when you go shopping. Post 161 always does Great, Thank You.

### **Persistent /pər-sis'tənt/**

1. Continuing firmly or obstinately in a course of action in spirit of difficulty or opposition.

I'm talking about our member **Phil Saba**. Phil has been trying to publish an article in the Arvada Press about our American Legion for what seems like a decade! Well Hallelujah; Page 12 Nov. 9, 2023, issue Arvada Press. (Full Page) Congratulations, Phil. Persistence pays off!

Hopefully I didn't miss anything or missed thanking anyone.

### **PSYCHIC ALERT:**

This is where my psychic mind comes into play: before Thanksgiving even happened and I can say it was wonderful and bountiful. Happy Thanksgiving and big fat turkey thanks to all folks making it work so perfectly.

Be Not Afraid

That's All



**THANK YOU TO ALL OF THE GENEROUS MONTHLY, ANNUAL AND ONE TIME DONORS FOR SUPPORTING OUR POST. WE APPRECIATE EACH AND AND EVERY ONE OF YOU.**

## ROBERT TINSLEY - SAL 1ST VICE COMMANDER



**Merry Christmas from all of us at the S.A.L.** to all members of the Post. We hope everybody is healthy and safe.

**S.A.L. members, please disregard the National Headquarters postcard** that was mailed out from National and not from Post 161. S.A.L. dues are \$30 for 2024 and are due by December 31st 2023. Please don't voice your opinion of the postcard to our awesome office personnel due to the fact that they have no control over this matter. Any questions, please call Robert at 720-810-4933. Thank you very much.

**We are still looking for volunteers to help us on our fundraisers.**

Please call Rich at 303-426-6960 to volunteer.

**Welcome new members to our Post 161.** The S.A.L. has two new members who joined this past month.

Once again we hope December is festive and enjoyable. Troops stay safe and healthy.

## AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY



### American Legion Auxiliary (ALA)

**Founded in 1919, the ALA is made up of male and female spouses, grandmothers, mothers, sisters, and direct and adopted female descendants of members of The American Legion.** The mission of the ALA is to support The American Legion and to honor the sacrifice of those who serve by enhancing the lives of our veterans, military, and their families, both at home and abroad. The ALA is involved in many projects and activities including Girls State/Nation,

Troop Welcome Home/Send Off, Troop Care Packages, Blue Star Banners, and the Poppy Program just to name a few.

### The Poppy

After WWI, the poppy flourished in Europe. Scientists attributed the growth to soils in France and Belgium becoming enriched with lime from rubble left by the war. From the dirt and mud grew a beautiful red poppy. The poppy came to symbolize the blood shed during battle. On September 27th, 1920, the poppy became the official flower of The American Legion family to memorialize soldiers who fought and died during the war. In 1924, the distribution of poppies became a national program of The American Legion. Led by the ALA, each year members of The American Legion family distribute poppies with a request that the person receiving the flower make a donation to support the future of veterans, military personnel, and their families with medical and financial needs. National Poppy Day is designated the Friday before Memorial Day.

# PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES FOR 2024

## Departed

**Myron Gardner**  
**Stan Helmkamp**

## New Members

**Mark Colyer - Navy, Lebanon**  
**Dennis Arfsten - Air Force, Vietnam**  
**William Cikot - Army, Vietnam**  
**Ronald Tiece - Navy. Gulf War**  
**Dale Bowman - Navy, Vietnam**

## Donations

**\$150 - VA**

**\$100 - Community Table**

**\$250 - RCI**

**\$1,000 - Aux. Christmas Party**

## Total Membership

**Quota: 674 - 2023: 407 - % of Goal 67.8%**

## Post 161 Officers 2023-2024

### Legionnaires

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

### American Legion Auxiliary

President- Regina Montgomery  
Vice President- Open  
Treasurer- Jennette Scott  
Secretary- Helen Muskopf  
Chaplain- Robin Roposa  
Historian- Mary August  
Sgt-at-Arms- Charlene Orr

### 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 - Roger Divis  
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

President Fred Muskopf  
Vice President Brian Messer  
Secretary Helen Muskopf  
Finance Officer Mike Bobb  
Sgt at Arms Roger Divis  
Chaplain Jan Bobb  
Road Captain Al Muniz  
Road Lt Michael Westen

## DAILY DRAWING

Oct 1	Deanna Gardner	\$301.50
Oct 2	Stacey Shellenberger	\$313.50
Oct 3	Timoteo Valdez	\$322.00
Oct 4	Jody Saba	\$331.00
Oct 5	Andrew Meverden	\$341.75
Oct 6	Russell Hedden Jr	\$352.25
Oct 7	Ron Purviance	\$363.00
Oct 8	Steven Cowel	\$372.25
Oct 9	Mary Vigil	\$383.00
Oct 10	Shaelynn Groen	\$391.50
Oct 11	Gloria Lorenz	\$398.50
Oct 12	Frances Potestio-Richardson	\$410.00
Oct 13	Gerald Castro	\$421.75
Oct 14	Lila Helenkamp	\$432.00
Oct 15	Jack Emery	\$441.00
Oct 16	Lila Froid	\$452.25
Oct 17	Kenneth Graybill	\$460.75
Oct 18	James Rose	\$470.75
Oct 19	Conner Bobb	\$481.00
Oct 20	Dennis Ruff	\$503.00
Oct 21	Robert Runge	\$514.00
Oct 22	Susan Miller	\$524.75
Oct 23	Terry Casias	\$535.00
Oct 24	Draper Carlson	\$545.00
Oct 25	Donald Chapman	\$554.00
Oct 26	Sandra Campbell	\$562.75
Oct 27	Karen Cramer	\$572.75
Oct 28	Joel Creger	\$579.50
Oct 29	Stanley Hanson	\$582.75
Oct 30	William Mills	\$592.50
Oct 31	Michael Weishaar	\$601.25
Nov 1	Kenneth Atkinson	\$611.00
Nov 2	Jerry Mabry	\$621.50
Nov 3	Daniel Feighert	\$630.25
Nov 4	Charles Anema	\$636.50
Nov 5	Joseph Hebda Jr	\$641.50
Nov 6	Richard Lovas	\$650.25
Nov 7	Roger Bodette	\$658.75
Nov 8	Michael Gay	\$665.75
Nov 9	Jerry Adams	\$671.75
Nov 10	Patrick Miller	\$680.00
Nov 11	Lester Campbel	\$691.25
Nov 12	Carl Andrews	\$699.25
Nov 13	Dorothy Silliman	\$706.00
Nov 14	Robert Tinsley	\$717.50
Nov 15	Ronny Soukup	\$724.25
Nov 16	Leonard Champoise	\$733.00
Nov 17	Mary Cessar	\$743.50
Nov 18	Floyd Ulm	\$751.75
Nov 19	Ronald Stierle	\$759.75

## MARINE CORPS RESERVE



**DONATION BOX IN LOBBY.  
PLEASE DONATE NEW UNWRAPPED TOYS.  
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE  
SEE OUR COMMANDER RON NELSON.**

## **JANICE MARIE KING THANKS THE VETERANS DAY DINNER VOLUNTEERS!**

- ROBERT TINSLEY
- MARY AUGUST & DOROTHY
- PAM GREEN & ROD MILLER
- ROBIN REPOSA
- CORKY RAMSEY
- KATHY T
- BERNICE VEIL
- CHRISTINE MAYER

***I couldn't do it without these angels. Their contributions are enormous and so very appreciated.***

***82 MEALS SERVED!***

In addition to serving our Veterans here at 161, the money we made, \$350.00 in tips, donations and paid dinners will be matched 100% for a \$700.00 donation to Semper Fi & America's Fund. This Veterans organization assists critically wounded and combat amputees, service members, Veterans and military families. Semper Fi has a 99% score and a A+ rating with Charity Navigator.

# **DINNER SHOW!**

**CHRISTMAS WITH**

# **Shelvis**

## **and the Roustabouts**

**December 9 - Turkey dinner at 5pm and show at 7pm  
Tickets can be purchased on Mon, Wed, & Fri noon - 2pm  
Details are posted. Legion Riders are selling the tickets.**

**PLEASE PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS BY DECEMBER 6**

**\$10.00 DINNER, \$10.00-SHOW EA: \$35.00 PER COUPLE  
AT DOOR \$15.00 DINNER—\$15.00 SHOW EA: \$40.00 PER COUPLE**

# **THANK YOU!**

***To the 161 Legion Riders, Dutch and Barb,  
and all of the Volunteers who  
prepared and served our Thanksgiving Dinner.  
Thank you to RCI for their generous food donations.***

***Thank you also to the Volunteers who decorated  
our Post for the Christmas season!***

# BAKE SALE

DECEMBER 10

SIGN UP SHEET WILL BE POSTED  
CANDIES - COOKIES - CAKES - PIES  
PLEASE BRING GOODIES ON SAT DEC 9  
BAKE SALE SUNDAY 8 AM TO 4 PM

# SANTA IS COMING!

December 16

9am - 11am

*Breakfast - Gifts for Children  
(11 and under) Pictures with Santa!  
We need volunteers and Santa's  
"helpers" or elves. Please sign  
up your kids by December 1.*



# December 2023

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



1



Lunch served every weekday

2



QUEEN OF HEARTS 7PM

3 **POT LUCK SUNDAYS 1 PM**



4  
Scouts 6:00pm



5  
Retired Peace Officers 12 pm

6  
Lunch served every weekday



7  
PEARL HARBOR DAY  
Rocky Flats Breakfast 9am

8  
Bingo Volunteers Luncheon 11:30 a.m.

9  
CHRISTMAS WITH SHELVIS  
QUEEN OF HEARTS 7PM

10 **8-11am BREAKFAST!**



BINGO! 1 pm  
Lounge open 9am

11  
Scouts 6:00pm



12  
BOG 6:00 pm



13  
Sub Vets 7:00 pm

14  
Friendship Lunch 11:00 am  
Membership Meeting 7:00 pm

15  
DINNER 5-7 pm



16  
QUEEN OF HEARTS 7PM



17 **POT LUCK SUNDAYS 1 PM**



BINGO! 1 pm  
Lounge open 12 pm

18  
BLOOD DRIVE 11 am - 3:30 pm  
Scouts 6:00pm



19  
Marine Corps League 6:30 pm

20  
SPACE FORCE BIRTHDAY  
Purple Heart Vets

21  
Coopers Troopers 11 am

22  
VISIT THE POST!



23  
QUEEN OF HEARTS 7PM



24 **Post Closes 5pm**

BINGO! 1 pm  
Lounge open 9am

25  
Christmas Post Closed



26  
Legion Riders 6pm

27  
NATIONAL FRUITCAKE DAY



28  
REMEMBER TO SIGN IN!



29  
Lunch served every weekday



30  
QUEEN OF HEARTS 7PM



31 **New Years Eve**



# DINNER!

Friday, December 15

SERVED FROM 5 P.M. TILL 7 P.M.

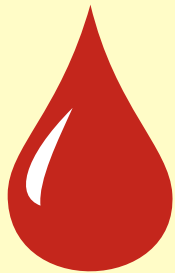
# BREAKFAST

## DECEMBER 10

8-11 am







# 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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# **LAST QUARTER, THE POST EARNED \$415.98 FROM THE KING SOOPERS COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM.**

If you your card isn't connected with our Post yet, it's easy to do. Go to [www.kingsoopers.com](http://www.kingsoopers.com) - Scroll to the bottom of the page and find "KS Community Rewards" under "Community." Post 161 is already enrolled so click on "Link your shoppers card." Then type "American Legion" in the search box and you should be able to choose American Legion Post 161. From then on, every time you buy something with your King Soopers card, the Post receives a percentage of the purchase.

## **Announcements**

Thank you to all the monthly, annual, and one-time donors who made cash donations to our Post this last year. We appreciate each and every one of you!

Every Wednesday and Thursday until December 7 from 2 pm until 4 pm we will have Vern in the lounge to answer all your questions and address your concerns about Medicare.

Christmas with Shelvis will be on December 9, with a turkey dinner from 5-6:30 and then the show at 7pm. Tickets are on sale now. for \$10 dinner and \$10 show or \$35 per couple. Legion Riders will be at the Post from noon until 2pm on M-W-F to sell tickets in advance. Please purchase tickets by December 6.

**Auxiliary Bake Sale: Sunday, December 10** 8am-4pm. If you would like to donate some goodies please bring them on Saturday afternoon.

The Auxiliary will also be hosting our popular children's Christmas party - Breakfast with Santa - on Saturday December 16 from 9am until 11 am. Gifts for kids age 10 and under. We need volunteers to be Santa's elves. Please sign up your kids for gifts by December 1.

Our bi-monthly Blood Drive is on December 18 from 11am until 3:30.

On Sunday, December 24 the Post will close at 5pm. On Christmas Day the Post will be closed.

Our monthly Dinner will be on Friday December 15. Special will be announced.. Also ribeye steaks and crispy chicken salads. Served from 5 - 7 pm.

Breakfast will be on December 15th from 8 till 11 am.

