



AMERICAN LEGION



Wilmore Richter Post 161

6230 W. 60th Ave. Arvada, CO 80003 - (303) 424-0324 - September 2023 - Volume 60, Issue 9

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

AMERICAN LEGION ADVOCATE

RON NELSON COMMANDER



Notice: Post 161 along with all 160 posts around Colorado are solvent! Recently our TV news it said that Legion posts were or may be closing their doors. THIS COULDN'T BE FURTHER FROM THE TRUTH! Because of mismanagement at the DEPARTMENT OF COLORADO IT WAS TAKEN OVER BY AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL. THE DEPARTMENT IS UNDER NATIONAL CONTROL! WE ARE SOLVENT AND SO IS THE DEPARTMENT.

Where in Heck did August go?

The new executive board and I and a darn near a complete makeover of the BOG are starting our 3rd. month. I hope we are living up to your EXPECTATIONS.

I must give an honorable mention about our new club manager **Kathy Tierney**. She Rocks!!! We have many other spokes in the Post 161 wheel; our secretary **Lynn Cody**, our adjutant **Rick Cody**, the Pickle Pickin People (PPP) lead by longtime volunteer **Butch**. The PPP is also the keeper of the Queen (Queen of Hearts) every Saturday Night at 7 pm. Oh I almost forgot Bar BINGO every Sunday at 1 pm led by many super volunteers. To complete the wheel is our staff (bartenders cooks, and custodians) who all keep the wheel rolling. Thank You all very much!

Our summer picnic is done. How fun! Can't say it was without a lot of hard work from many volunteers. Big Thanks to them and the businesses! Congratulations to the winners.

Arvada Harvest festival: We need bodies to help man our Legion recruitment booth at the park (3 day). September 8, 9 & 10th we have a great opportunity to meet young veterans from our community and give them information about our post. You may have a block of time somewhere in those 3 days Sign up now! LORD KNOWS WE NEED YOUNG VETERANS, SAL members, LADIES aux. and RIDERS!



SAL Golf tournament is coming fast (Sept. 16th) get signed up now.

Ladies, you can call off the Hit. Your restroom is complete with New High-rise Stools and Grab bars, thanks to one very generous member. (For now, her name is anonymous) May you ladies sit like Queens!!

School is back in session so please watch for those little farts running amok on our streets. I'm very pleased to say my 6 school age grandchildren made it through the first day without any interaction with the principal, school nurse or police!



Continued from Page 1

Not sure why but this incident was left off our American Legions August Calendar: During the Pullout 26 August 2021 at 17:50 local time at Hamid Karzai International Airport in Kabul, Afghanistan. We lost 13 souls: 10 Marines, 1 Sailor and 1 Soldier. May these young warriors Rest in Peace! "NEVER FORGET"

September calendar highlights: 2nd Japan signs Surrender 1945, 11th Patriot Day, 15th POW-MIA Recognition Day, 18th US Air Force Birthday.

Please never overlook our warriors!

MEDAL OF HONOR (JUST ONE OF 3536)

GARY WETZEL

- **RANK: PRIVATE FIRST CLASS (RANK AT PRESENTATION: SPECIALIST FOURTH CLASS. HIGHEST RANK: SPECIALIST FOURTH CLASS)**
- **CONFLICT/ ERA: VIETNAM WAR**
- **UNIT/COMMAND:
73D ASSAULT HELICOPTER COMPANY, 11TH COMBAT AVIATION BATTALION,
ST AVIATION BRIGADE**
- **MILITARY SERVICE BRANCH: U.S. ARMY**
- **MEDAL OF HONOR ACTION DATE: JANUARY 8, 1968**
- **MEDAL OF HONOR ACTION PLACE: NEAR AP DONG AN, REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM**

CITATION

Sp4c. Wetzel, 173d Assault Helicopter Company, distinguished himself by conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty. Sp4c. Wetzel was serving as door gunner aboard a helicopter which was part of an insertion force trapped in a landing zone by intense and deadly hostile fire.

Sp4c. Wetzel was going to the aid of his aircraft commander when he was blown into a rice paddy and critically wounded by two enemy rockets that exploded just inches from his location. Although bleeding profusely due to the loss of his left arm and severe wounds in his right arm, chest, and left leg, Sp4c. Wetzel staggered back to his original position in his gun-well and took the enemy forces under fire. His machine gun was the only weapon placing effective fire on the enemy at that time.

Through a resolve that overcame the shock and intolerable pain of his injuries, Sp4c. Wetzel remained at his position until he had eliminated the automatic-weapons emplacement that had been inflicting heavy casualties on the American troops and preventing them from moving against this strong enemy force.

Refusing to attend to his own extensive wounds, he attempted to return to the aid of his aircraft commander but passed out from loss of blood. Regaining consciousness, he persisted in his efforts to drag himself to the aid of his fellow crewman. After an agonizing effort, he came to the side of the crew chief who was attempting to drag the wounded aircraft commander to the safety of a nearby dike. Unswerving in his devotion to his fellow man, Sp4c. Wetzel assisted his crew chief even though he lost consciousness once again during this action.

Sp4c. Wetzel displayed extraordinary heroism in his efforts to aid his fellow crewmen. His gallant actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the U.S. Army and reflect great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of his country.

Honored to be your Post Commander!

Thank You

Ron Nelson

ROBERT TINSLEY - SAL 1ST VICE COMMANDER



Wow - the summer has flown by so fast! Hope everybody could spend time with family and friends the past few months. Happy summer from the S.A.L.

In two and a half weeks the S.A.L. is having their annual golf tournament. It's not too late to sign up to golf, volunteer, or make a donation to our great fundraiser.

Last year we donated over \$4,500 to three of our children's organizations we support. Please call Joker at 303-519-8968 or Robert at 720-810-4933 if you would like to help us out. Thank you in advance.

The S.A.L. was able to raise \$100 to help a young 19-year-old member who lost his mom. We hope our member can be strong during this rough time.

2024 dues are due and the amount is only \$30 a year. Please update all new cell numbers and addresses along with your emails to the S.A.L.

The Post picnic was a hit. Thank you to all the volunteers who made this possible.

The S.A.L. had three new members this past month. Welcome new members.

Look around the Legion inside and outside and notice some great changes. Thank you to all the volunteers who have spent a lot of hours to make the changes.

Happy September and don't forget, if you can help us on our tournament give Joker or Robert a call.

Troops stay healthy and hurry home

Served from 11 a.m - 2:30 p.m. **SEPTEMBER LUNCH SPECIALS** Regular menu is available Friday Dinner: 4 pm - 7 pm in addition to Daily Specials

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

					1	FISH			
4	BAR BASKETS	5	TACOS (CRUNCHY)	6	BBQ PORK SANDWICH	7	COUNTRY FRIED STEAK	8	FISH SANDWICH
11	SHRIMP BASKET	12	CHIMICHANGA	13	CHICKEN CHEESE QUESADILLA	14	ROCKY MOUNTAIN OYSTERS	15	FISH
18	PHILLY SANDWICH	19	ENCHILADAS	20	ROAST BEEF POTATOES & VEGGIES	21	LASAGNA W/ CHEESY BREAD	22	FISH
25	MEATBALL SUB	26	TOSTADAS	27	SHRIMP SALAD	28	ROCKY MOUNTAIN OYSTERS	29	FISH

LUNCH SPECIALS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE - REGULAR MENU AVAILABLE EVERY DAY

SAL GOLF TOURNAMENT - SEPTEMBER 16



Our Golf Tournament is on September 16 at Lake Arbor Golf Course. We will have a reception afterward at the Post.

If you would like to play in the Tournament, please let us know. There is a sign up sheet on the door or you can call Robert at 720-810-4933, Mike at 303-915-1485, Brian at 303-710-3500, or Joker at 303-519-8968. The cost for a player is \$100 which includes golf, a cart, a prize at the golf course, two free drinks at the Legion and a taco bar lunch. A team is \$400 and a hole sponsorship is \$100. If you have a team and a hole sponsorship, the special price of \$450 will apply.

We will have a 50/50 drawing on the day of the Tournament and it is open to everyone. There is a jar of tickets behind the bar. 6 tickets for \$5!

Consider sponsoring a hole! A hole sponsorship is \$100 and includes a full-color sign for your business, organization, or family to be placed on one of the holes at the golf course. Hole Sponsors will also be featured on our Thank You banner which will be displayed at the golf course and at the reception afterward.

We are also gratefully accepting donations of prize items that we can use for our raffle and silent auction.

Our raffle and silent auction will be at the Post following the Tournament. We have plenty of great raffle prizes, including a Cobra Driver, an Odyssey putter, a golf bag, lots of restaurant gift cards, golf outings, show tickets and many more! We also have plenty of excellent items for the Silent Auction which will be announced. For the silent auction we will be accepting cash, checks and all credit cards as payment options.

Our tournament proceeds are donated to two children's charities; Ginny's Kids and the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation. Last year we raised over \$4,500 for these worthy charities and we want to break a record this year!

From the Child Welfare Foundation website: *"Our foremost philanthropic priority is to contribute to the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual welfare of children and youth by aiding progress in the field of child welfare through dissemination of knowledge about research, studies, surveys, projects, or by supporting programs and activities benefitting the welfare of children and youth."*

And from Ginny's Kids website: *"Ginny's Kids International is an all-volunteer 501 c (3) organization devoted to bringing help, hope and happiness to families in their time of need. The mission of Ginny's Kids is to create cherished memories for families with children facing life-threatening illnesses by providing them with an opportunity to experience a dream vacation."*



JOIN US FOR A DAY OF FUN!

American Legion Post 161

19th Annual



SAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Saturday, September 16, Lake Arbor Golf Course - 4 person scramble

Departed

John Daily
Ed McQueen
Darwin Verke
Michael Perschbacher
Adrian Sabatka
Gary O'Neill
Jerry Olsen

Transfers

Thomas Gates
Larry Trujillo
Forrest Krebs

Donations

\$150 - VA
\$150 - CO Veterans Kids Fund
\$100 - Community Rable
\$150 - RCI

Total Membership

Quota: 674 - 2023: 592 - % of Goal: 87.83%

DAILY DRAWING

06/16	Chris Watson	\$252.75
06/17	Russell Hedden	\$265.25
06/18	Theodore Anderson	\$276.00
06/19	Larry Bangert	\$288.00
06/20	Michael Weston	\$297.00
06/21	Sharon Wharton	\$308.75
06/22	Clifford Frye	\$317.75
06/23	Terry Hoy	\$326.50
06/24	Roger Bachofer	\$344.50
06/25	Robert Schemof	\$354.00
06/26	Janice Adams	\$366.50
06/27	Paul Kozik	\$376.00
06/28	James Lutz	\$387.00
06/29	Sandra Trout	\$398.00
06/30	Helen Muskopf	406.00*
07/01	Larry Ackerman	\$12.50
07/02	Albert Drumright	\$20.00
07/03	Nancy Denny	\$30.00
07/04	Richard Welburn	\$40.75
07/05	Robert Runge	\$49.75
07/09	Richard Sabol	\$60.00
07/07	Daroll Piph	\$69.25
07/08	Alan Taylor Sr	\$82.00
07/09	Kenneth Clements	\$94.25
07/10	Tim Keefover	\$103.25
07/11	Richard Philbrick	\$113.25
07/12	James Warren	\$125.25
07/13	Richard King	\$142.50
07/14	Cynthia Reed	\$150.50
07/15	Bonnie Rork	\$159.75
07/16	Cliff Rivenes	\$169.75
07/17	Robert Ferguson	\$180.75

Post 161 Officers 2023-2024

Legionnaires

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

Board of Governors

Phil Saba
Ray Mayer
Bill Jackson
Brian Messer
Bill Schoeninger
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

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

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

BREAKFAST

SEPTEMBER 10 & 24

8-11 am





JOIN US FOR A DAY OF FUN!
American Legion Post 161
19th Annual



SAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Saturday, September 16, Lake Arbor Golf Course - 4 person scramble



Cash Prizes



Prize Drawings



**Delicious Lunch
Taco Bar!**

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 at 720-810-4933, Mike at 303-915-1485, Brian at 303-710-3500, or Joker at 303-519-8968.

**50/50 RAFFLE
TICKETS ON SALE!
OPEN TO ALL**

Entry fee includes Golf, Prize, Cart, Goody Bag, 2 drinks (at Legion) and Lunch

LASAGNA DINNER

\$16 PER PERSON
FUNDRAISER!

Friday, Sep 29

5-7 pm · Live music at 7 pm

Dinner includes Deb's
Homemade Lasagna, Salad,
Garlic Bread and Dessert



MUSIC BY



**4 on the FLOOR
OVERDRIVE!**

Proceeds will benefit the Veronica Briseno Fund

FOOD - DRINKS - RAFFLES - FUN - LIVE MUSIC

FUN AT THE SOCK HOP!

Photos by Regina Montgomery and Mary August



IMPORTANT NOTICE FROM THE COMMANDER

Members of Post 161

7-23-23

Important request

If any member of our post verbally arranged or verbally contracted before July 1, 2023, for the use of our hall it's important to talk with our new club manager!

Sooner the better! We just want to communicate and make sure we have all of our ducks in a row.

Please call Kathy Tierney 303-424-0324 -Thanks, Ron

September 2023

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

					1  Lunch served every weekday	2  QUEEN OF HEARTS 7PM
3 POT LUCK SUNDAYS 1 PM  BINGO! 1 pm Lounge open 12 pm	4  Scouts 6:00pm	 Lunch served every weekday Retired Peace Officers 12 pm	6  Lunch served every weekday	7 Rocky Flats Breakfast 9am	8 Bingo Volunteers Luncheon 11:30 a.m.	9  QUEEN OF HEARTS 7PM
10 8-11am BREAKFAST!  BINGO! 1 pm Lounge open 9am	11 PATRIOT DAY  Scouts 6:00pm	12 BOG 6:30 pm	13 Sub Vets 7:00 pm	14 Membership Meeting 7:00 pm Friendship Lunch 11:00 am	15  POW/MIA Recognition Day DINNER 5-7 PM	16 SAL Golf Tournament  QUEEN OF HEARTS 7PM
17 POT LUCK SUNDAYS 1 PM  BINGO! 1 pm Lounge open 12 pm	18  AIR FORCE BIRTHDAY Scouts 6:00pm	19 Marine Corps League 6:30 pm	20  Lunch served every weekday	21 Coopers Troopers 11 am	22  VISIT THE POST!	23  QUEEN OF HEARTS 7PM
24 8-11am BREAKFAST!  BINGO! 1 pm Lounge open 9am	25  Scouts 6:00pm	26  REMEMBER TO SIGN IN!	27  SUPPORT OUR POST!	28  Lunch served every weekday	29  BEST LUNCH IN TOWN!	30  QUEEN OF HEARTS 7PM

DINNER!

Friday, September 15

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

Hot and Delicious

PIZZA!

Served in the Lounge at all times

FUN AT THE PICNIC!

Photos by Regina Montgomery and Mary August



BEST FOOD IN TOWN!





Arvada

HARVEST FESTIVAL

September 8 - 10th

We need volunteers for the Post 161 booth!

Help us grow our Legion, Auxiliary and SAL memberships

Please sign up for a 2-Hour shift on any day during the Festival

Sign up sheet on lounge entrance door..

ANNOUNCEMENTS

On Labor Day we are having a potluck lunch - Post will provide hot dogs and hamburgers. Please bring your favorite dish to share.

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

Breakfast will be on September 10th and 24th from 8 till 11 am.



If any member of our post verbally arranged or verbally contracted before July 1, 2023, for the use of our hall it's important to talk with our new club manager! Please call Kathy Tierney 303-424-0324

We need volunteers for our Harvest Festival booth to grow our Legion, Auxiliary and SAL memberships. If you would like to do a 2-hour shift on September 8, 9, or 10 please sign up on the sheet at the Lounge entrance.

Bob Runge is sponsoring a project to provide electric wheelchairs to veterans and first responders in need.

For details call 303-345-5277.

The S.A.L. is holding our Annual Golf Tournament and Fundraiser for September 16. An ad in last month's newsletter incorrectly specified the date as the 17th. The Tournament is on Saturday the 16th. We are asking for donations of items, gift cards, etc. that we can use for our raffles and auctions to raise money for our three children's charities. If you have a donation, please call Robert at 720-810-4933 or Joker at 303-519-8968

**SAL GOLF
TOURNAMENT
SEPTEMBER 16**

There is a Swap Meet at the VFW - 2nd Saturday of the month, May-October. The hours are 8am-1pm.

LEGION RIDERS - COLLAGE BY HELEN MUSKOPF



OUR PRESIDENT NEEDS A HAIRCUT



RIDERS AT STURGIS

RCI- RANYA-CEO IN WHEATRIDGE & DONNA IN FT. CARSON ACCEPTING AWARDS



ADVERTISING



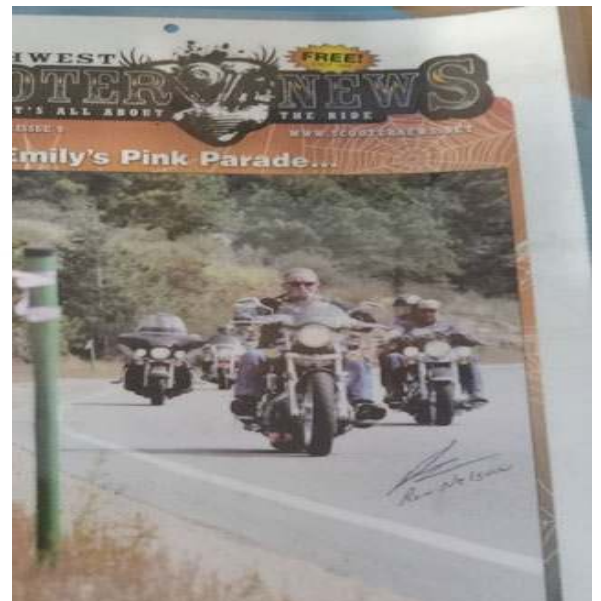
AMERICAN LEGION RIDER HAPPENINGS

IT TAKES A FAMILY TO MAKE THINGS HAPPEN. AT WILMOR-RICHTER AMERICAN LEGION POST 161, ARVADA, THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT WE ARE WORKING TOWARDS. LOOK AT ALL OF THE FUN WE ARE HAVING AND MORE TO COME. PARTICIPATION & TEAMWORK IS THE KEY TO EVERYTHING WE DO. WE WISH TO THANK THE ENTIRE POST 161 FAMILY FOR THE HELP THAT WE HAVE RECEIVED AND THE FRIENDLY FACES WE SEE EACH AND EVERY DAY WHEN WE WALK IN. SMILES ARE

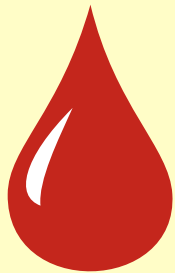
MR & MRS RIDER— TREASURER & CHAPLAIN-CHEF



RIDERS AT A CEREMONY



POST 161 COMMANDER RON NELSON LIVING THE DREAM



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**

Stork-Bullock Family Mortuary Tina Stuckey

Funeral Director

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