

Armistice Day Program



All Salida is invited to attend the services at the Elks Home at 2:00 o'clock Wednesday afternoon (Armistice Day) dedicating the Honor Roll of Chaffee county men in the armed service of their country. Most of the names have been lettered on the side of the Alexander Drug Store building, the others to be added as fast as they are turned in by relatives.

Dr. George L. Nuckolls of Gunnison, state chaplain of the Colorado Elks' Association, will deliver the address. Dr. Nuckolls is one of the outstanding orators of the West. He has been heard in Salida on other occasions and those who have heard him speak, always desire to hear him again.

Five Chaffee county men, Theodore D. Benjovsky, LaVerne F. Knipp, Phillip F. Scholl, John T. Fowler and Raymond Thorpe gave their lives to the cause. Special honors will be given to them in the services.

The High school dectette, accompanied by Miss Elaine Matthews and directed by John Held will sing patriotic selections and the High school band, let by William Mobeck, will play appropriate numbers.

It had been planned to hold the services outdoors but because of the uncertainty of the weather, it was decided to hold the services in the Elks Lodge room

Exalted Ruler James E. Kane and his fellow officers have devoted considerable time to the preparation of the program. Those who attend are sure to be impressed.

PROGRAM

Dedication Services "Chaffee County Honor Roll Board"
Elks Lodge Room

Armistice Day, November 11th, 1942, 2:00 P. M.

Advancing of the Colors ----- American Legion

Opening Number: "America"

Service Medley: "Marine March," "Anchors Aweigh," Caisson Song" and "Stars and Stripes Forever," --- Salida High School Band

Wm. Mobeck, Director

Introductory Remarks ----- Exalted Ruler and Officers

Prayer ----- Chaplain

Selection, "America, My Own" ----- High School Dectette

Elaine Matthews, Accompanist, John Held, Director

Dedicatory Address ----- Dr. George L. Nuckolls

State Chaplain, Colorado Elks Association

Selection, "America, My Wondrous Land" --- High School Dectette

[Illegible]

"It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us, that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they here gave the last full measure of devotion." From Lincoln's Gettysburg Address.

THEODORE D. BENJOVSKY LAVERNE F. KNIPP

PHILLIP F. SCHOLL JOHN T. FOWLER RAYMOND

THORPE

Taps ----- William Aby, Bugler

Concluding Number, "Star Spangled Banner"

Salida High School Band and Audience

Retiring of the Colors

WWII Honor Roll Board History

Disclaimer: Work in progress

The accuracy of these notes is subject to confirmation by reference to the sources indicated. Much of the cited material is paraphrased here, and even direct quotes should be confirmed from sources. The main objectives were to establish the start date, the people who constructed the board, and when the board was completed. The start date is confirmed below. The only person regularly mentioned in connection with the board is Montie Reekers. A mention in minutes (January 12, 1943, below) indicates Montie was most likely G. A. Reekers, who transferred to 808 from Alamosa lodge in 1943, but apparently in residence here before then. "Bill" was most likely Wm. D. Reekers, a member who was initiated in Salida. The Board was still being updated in September 1945.

Also note dedication November 11, 1942 : Program 11/10, Reports 11/12 – Special honors to five Chaffee county men who gave their lives to the cause.

June 23, 1942 Sterling CO Honor Roll Board reported to Salida Lodge by Bernard Shea

comment: little do we realize there are over 300 Chaffee county boys in the service to date.

June 25, 1942 Letter from ER to Mrs. Dean (implied by reference)

June 30, 1942

Reply from Mrs. Dean read in Lodge.

Salida Elks Lodge #808 acts to start construction of honor roll.

July 1, 1942 Salida Daily Mail, the Elks Bugle (page 2)

July 8, 1942 Salida Daily Mail, the Elks Bugle (page 2)

July 15, 1942 Salida Daily Mail, the Elks Bugle (page 2)

Elks will erect Chaffee County Honor Roll Board. Thanks to Mrs. Anita S Dean and Mrs. Alexander.

July 22, 1942 Salida Daily Mail, the Elks Bugle (page 2)

July 29, 1942 Salida Daily Mail, the Elks Bugle (page 2)

Names will be placed on Honor Roll Board in the near future.

August 5, 1942 Salida Daily Mail, the Elks Bugle (page 2)

Work on the Honor Roll Board is progressing nicely. Monty Reekers is doing a splendid job. Please send in names of those enlisted before war was declared, and those enlisted before the Selective Service Board was instituted. Everybody help.

August 12, 1942 Salida Daily Mail, the Elks Bugle (page 2)

The Honor Roll Board is a Big Attraction. From all observance the Honor Roll Board has been an attraction the last few days.

August 19, 1942 Salida Daily Mail, the Elks Bugle (page 2)

The Colorado Elks Association State Convention will be held in Grand Junction. This may be the last convention for the duration of the war.

August 26, 1942 Salida Daily Mail, the Elks Bugle (page 2)

The CEA Convention is scheduled for September 3,4 and 5.

September 2, 1942 Salida Daily Mail, the Elks Bugle (page 2)

September 9, 1942 Salida Daily Mail, the Elks Bugle (page 2)

September 24 Public meeting scheduled at Lodge: US Navy will show movies of operations in the South Pacific.

Reminder: The Honor Roll Board belongs to everyone in the county. If you know a name that should be on the board, please call 808 and give it to us.

September 16, 1942 Salida Daily Mail, the Elks Bugle (page 2)

A letter from the Grand Esteemed Leading Knight (the Elks national first vice-president) was read in Lodge. He was returning from the CEA convention in Grand Junction by train and stopped in Salida. He was greatly impressed by the Honor Roll board as well as Salida Lodge #808.

September 23, 1942 Salida Daily Mail, the Elks Bugle (page 2)

Program and sponsors for September 24 public meeting hosted by the Lodge, implementing Navy policy to keep the public informed of the activities and progress of the United States Navy. In addition to Salida Elks Lodge No. 808, the event is sponsored by the Salida Chamber of Commerce, the American Legion and Rotary.

November 4, 1942 Salida Daily Mail, the Elks Bugle (page 2)

Salida Elks to Dedicate "Chaffee County Honor Roll Board" Armistice Day, Wednesday

November 11, at 2:00 pm

November 10, 1942 Salida Daily Mail (page 1)

Armistice Day Program - Services dedicating the Honor Roll of Chaffee county men in the armed service of their country. Most of the names have been lettered on the side of the Alexander Drug Store building, the others to be added as fast as they are turned in by relatives.

November 12, 1942 Salida Daily Mail Headline

"Impressive Services Held Dedicating Honor Roll"

November 12, 1942 Salida Daily Mail, the Elks Bugle (page 2)

More on Dedication : Speakers, Attendance

1943

January 12, 1943 Minutes

(Elks) Honor Roll Board was donated by Bill & Montie Reekers

(June 14, 2016) Elks Honor Roll board signed by G.A. and W.D. Reekers still hanging in lobby of Lodge room of Elks Home.

June 9, 1943 Salida Daily Mail, the Elks Bugle

Remember to call 808 or the local draft board (with names for Honor Roll Board)

August 11, 1943 Salida Daily Mail, the Elks Bugle (page 2)

"More Names to Be Added to 'Honor Roll Board'" The painter, Montie Reekers ...; ... call 808 or 26 and give the full name ... ; ... We don't want to overlook a single name that belongs on the "Honor Roll"

August 18, 1943 Salida Daily Mail, the Elks Bugle

"In Appreciation"

August 25, 1943 Salida Daily Mail, the Elks Bugle

"More Names Being Added to Honor Roll Board Today"

1944

September 27, 1944 Salida Daily Mail, the Elks Bugle (page 4)

More names to be added to "Honor Roll Board" ...Montie Reekers ... belongs to ALL in Chaffee County ... Help us to make the Board complete 100 percent ...

October 4, 1944 Salida Daily Mail, the Elks Bugle

... Thanks for sending in names for Honor Roll Board. ... should be up to date in near future....

1945

VE May 8 - President Harry Truman's 61st birthday.

May 22, 1945 Minutes

member suggests everything be done to get our Chaffee County Honor Roll Board up to date
VJ August 14 - three years, eight months and seven days since Sunday, Dec. 7, 1941

Formal surrender September 2 ('Official VJ Day')

September 12, 1945 Salida Daily Mail, the Elks Bugle (page 3)

More names being added to "Honor Roll Board" ... The painter, Brother Montie Reekers ...

Help us to make the Board complete 100 percent ...

[See also 3x3 inch ad on same page : Notice - Honor Roll Board]

September 13, 1945 (Thursday)

Salida Chamber of Commerce Resolution to thank and commend the Elks for installing and maintaining the service board on the south side of the Alexander Drug Store. (Elks' copy;

contains instruction for publication in "both newspapers" as well: most likely meaning

Salida Daily Mail and Salida Record)

September 18, 1945 Minutes

Chamber of Commerce Resolution dated September 13 read in Lodge.

September 20, 1945 Salida Daily Mail, the Elks Bugle (page 3)

Chaffee County Honor Roll Board ... have received more names, will be added in a few days

Chamber of Commerce Resolution dated September 13

"We the Elks take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks to the Salida Chamber of Commerce for this commendation."

September 26, 1945 Salida Daily Mail, the Elks Bugle (page 3)

"We offer our sincere thanks to the citizens of Chaffee County for sending in the names of those that belong on the "Honor Roll Board," and the painter will add them as soon as possible, so that we may get the board up to date keep sending in the names if you have not already done so.

..... Current end of research