



AHWATUKEE AMERICAN LEGION POST 64

APRIL 2017

americanlegionpost64.com

1. COMMANDER'S COMMENTS: (from Commander Ed Mangan)

April is a busy month for many reasons. First is the annual Easter Parade which will be on April 15. We have two main functions that day; march in the parade and cook some good food for all of our guests. I hope most of you can help in either one of those activities. I know Dave Von Tersch is working overtime getting the Color Guard and our other marchers ready to go. ARC Veterans Club and Post 64 lead the way every year. If you know someone who can march and carry one of our large burial flags, please contact Dave Von Tersch.

At our April 19 Post 64/ARC Vets Club meeting we will be nominating our officers for the coming year. We really need to nominate and select a Treasurer (Finance Officer). Bob Smithson has been covering three jobs and we need a full-time Treasurer. So, if you can handle that task, please step up. You don't need to be a CPA, just dedicated to Post 64.

Also at our April 19 meeting, Lin Sue Cooney, Hospice of the Valley representative, will be our guest speaker. She will be conducting a special program several topics--saluting our veterans; chronic illness care; dementia care; pet, massage and music therapy; and more. As always, all members of the community are invited and welcome.

Then on April 23, Dave Von Tersch has made arrangements for our Color Guard to present colors and present our wreath at the Vietnam Memorial at Wesley Bolin Plaza for 'Vietnam Remembrance Day'. Join us.

Don't forget that our meetings are held every third Wednesday at 3:00pm at the ARC. If you have a neighbor or a friend who is a veteran, ask them to join us. There are many activities in our Post 64, so attend as many as you can.

2. CONDOLENCES are extended to:

Ray Kubiak following the passing of his son Raymond.

The family of Les Tenney, a former member of Post 64 and WWII veteran.

Post Sgt-at-Arms and Color Guard Commander Dave Von Tersch following the passing of his wife Jeannie.

The family of George Walton who passed away in September 2015. George was an Army veteran of the Korea era and first joined the American Legion in 2007.

GREETINGS to members Robert Shestko, John O'Donnell, Frank McPhillips, and Ralph Garlow.

HELLO from member Mike McCarron in Virginia. He wanted you to know he misses everyone in Ahwatukee.

3. MEMBERSHIP (from First Vice Commander Bob Smithson) We have met our 100% goal For 2017.

I, the Post, and the American Legion would like to thank the 181 members who renewed so far this year. The Legion year of 2017 began July 1, 2016, and is coming to an end. But, we still have a few members who have not renewed. Remember when you send in your dues you are giving a voice to Washington that will protect past, present, and future veterans from negative legislation. Also, a portion of your dues goes to help your Post continue its local programs. To renew online go to www.legion.org/renew. It's easy and fast!

According to our records Post 64 is made up of 76 US Army veterans, 49 US Navy veterans, 32 US Air Force veterans, 18 US Marine Corps veterans, 2 US Coast Guard veterans, and 0 WWII Merchant Marine veterans. Quite a diverse group of heroes!

Among the heroes is our own Robert Moore, a WWII Army Air Corp flyer who was shot down over Nazi-occupied Yugoslavia. His story is in the book entitled "The Forgotten 500". It is a story of how they were hidden from the Germans by the local farmers and peasants until they waited to be rescued in 1944. The book is a gripping behind the scenes look at the greatest escape of WWII. The book library number is ISBN 978-0-451-22495-8 if you want to read it.

4. FINANCE REPORT: (from First Vice Commander Bob Smithson)

| | | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|---|---------|---------|
| CHECK BOOK BALANCE 2/1/2017 | | | | 3852.36 |
| | DEPOSITS | | | |
| | Donations | | 40.00 | |
| | | (Thank you to Mike McCarron for his donation) | | |
| | Membership Dues | | 420.00 | |
| | TOTAL DEPOSITS | | | 460.00 |
| | EXPENSES | | | |
| | Dues to Department | | 282.00 | |
| | Holiday Party expenses | | 1556.10 | |
| | Newsletter postage | | 39.20 | |
| | TOTAL EXPENSES | | | 1877.30 |
| CHECK BOOK BALANCE 1/31/2017 | | | | 2435.06 |

5. THE AHWATUKEE EASTER PARADE IS SATURDAY, APRIL 15

This is one of the biggest annual events for Post 64 and the ARC Veterans. On Monday, April 10, anyone who can help mount burial flags on poles should meet at the storage room at ARC at 8:30 am to make preparations for Sat.

On Sat., April 15, everyone should assemble at ARC at 8:30 am, and we will caravan to the start of the parade. Thanks ahead of time to the Color Guard, burial flag carriers, golf cart and truck drivers, the "food crew" getting the hot dog feed prepared, and the Akimel Middle School Jazz Band.

6. COLOR GUARD EVENTS are indicated on the calendar at the end of the newsletter by ***

If you have any questions about Color Guard, contact Dave Von Tersch. (contact info later in newsletter)

7. SUMMARY OF THE MARCH 15, 2017, MEETING 34 members and guests attended.

U.S. Flags (made in the USA) are on sale in the ARC Gift Shop for \$20 each.

Boys State information has been received by the schools. Post 64 has been allotted a total of 4 students—2 from Mt. Pointe and 2 from Desert Vista, but interest in attending has been very low this year. Cost per student is \$450.00, with the Post responsible for \$300.00 per student.

The Post Golf Tournament will be held this Fall.

April 27 will be the date to package boxes to send to the troops, starting at 9:00 am. Donations of items and money are being accepted in the ARC lobby. (See the list of suggested items later in this newsletter.) Mary Williams and Terri Williford need assistance transporting the boxes to Luke Air Force Base once packaging is complete.

During the next month we will be ordering School Awards and stick flags.

Both Candidates for Area B Vice Commander 2017-2018 were present to speak—Ken Queen the current District 12 Commander from Post 27 in Apache Junction and Ken King the current District 11 Commander from Post 134 in Laveen.

Guest speakers in March were George Lutz and Laura Sutton, who spoke about the Honor and Remember flag program for fallen veterans and the new Honor and Sacrifice flag program for fallen first responders.



8. POST OFFICERS FOR 2017-2018 Nominations for next year's Post 64 officers will be opened at the April 19 meeting, with elections to be held at the May 17 meeting. Please consider being one of the Post leaders. We really need someone to fill the Finance Officer position, as Bob Smithson has been doing double duty. We provide assistance and training !

9. FUTURE SPEAKERS

April 19, 2017 Lin Sue Cooney on Hospice of the Valley

May 17, 2017 John Boyer and Ed Mangan on Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR)

10. POST CONTACT INFORMATION:

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John Boyer

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Alice Maynard

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11. ORATORICAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM 2017 The Department Finals of the 2017 Oratorical Program were held in Ahwatukee on Sat., March 4, 2017. Selected to represent Arizona at the National Finals in Indianapolis was Juliana Martinez, a Senior at Pusch Ridge Christian Academy in Oro Valley. The title of her oration was "Timeless". She was sponsored by Oro Valley Post 132 and Area A.



back row: (judges) Sal DiCiccio, Carol Warner, Amy Nicholls, Bernard Strass, Julie Vietri, George Cushing
front row:

Juliana Martinez, First Place, \$1500.00, Pusch Ridge Christian Academy, sponsored by Post 132, District 2, and Area A

John Church, Fourth Place, \$300.00, Great Hearts Veritas Academy, sponsored by District 12 and Area B

Cade Curtis, Second Place, \$800.00, Benson High School, sponsored by District 3 and Area A

Hyrum Hale, Fifth Place, \$300.00, Bradshaw Mountain High School, sponsored by Post 108 and Area C,

Selena Avilez Lopez, Third Place, \$500.00, Cesar Chavez High School, sponsored by District 11 and Area B

This Program requires a huge group effort to be successful. Department Chairman Roger Munchbach would like to thank everyone who supported the 2017 contests.

The National Finals will be held in Indianapolis, April 21-23, 2017. The Final Round will stream live on Sunday morning April 23 at 7:00 am, Arizona time.

**EAST VALLEY MARINES 4TH ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT
OAKWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
24215 S. OAKWOOD BLVD., SUN LAKES, AZ 85248
FRIDAY, APRIL 7, 2017**

Contact Doug Patterson 602-791-6843 or dpatterson27@cox.net if you have questions.

Check In at 7:00 am
Shotgun start at 8:00 am
4 person scramble
Lunch, cash awards, and raffle
\$85 per person which includes golf, cart, goody bag, lunch, and FUN
Mail check(s) and registration for your team (see below) to:

East Valley Marines
Marine Corps League #1296
PO Box 13192
Chandler, AZ 85248

INCLUDE FOR EACH MEMBER OF YOUR TEAM: NAME _____ CELL # _____ EMAIL _____

SUPPORT OUR TROOPS SUGGESTED DONATIONS

| | |
|--|--------------------------|
| TRAVEL SIZE TOOTHPASTE | BEEF JERKY |
| SMALL CANS OF PRINGLES | DRIED FRUIT/TRAIL MIX |
| GRANOLA BARS/NUTS | CROSSWORD PUZZLES/SUDOKU |
| SINGLE SERVING CRYSTAL LIGHT OR KOOL-AID DRINK MIXES | |
| INDIVIDUAL PACKETS STARBUCKS COFFEE | MENTOS ROLLS |
| CRACKER JACKS | PENS/PENCILS |
| MAGAZINES | BAND-AIDS |
| HANDI WIPES | GUM |
| WHITE CREW NECK T-SHIRTS L/XL | WHITE SOCKS |
| INDIVIDUAL FRUIT SNACKS | HARD CANDY-NO CHOCOLATE |

MONEY MAY BE LEFT IN THE SMALL BOX ON THE TABLE

PACKING DATE IS APRIL 27, 2017 AT 9:00 AM

April 2017

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---------|---|---|--|--|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| | | | 5 Gold Star Wives Day | 6 | 7 EAST VALLEY MARINES GOLF TOURNAMENT CHECK-IN 7 AM SEE AD IN NEWSLETTER | 8 |
| | | | 12 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING 3 PM AT ARC | 13 | | 15 *** AHWATUKEE EASTER PARADE ASSEMBLE AT ARC AT 8:30 AM: PICNIC AND CONCERT TO FOLLOW |
| 9 | 10 *** 8:30 AM MEET AT STORAGE ROOM TO PREPARE BURIAL FLAGS FOR EASTER PARADE | 11 | | 14 Good Friday Air Force Reserve 69th Birthday | | |
| | | | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 Earth Day ARC SHRED-A-THON 8-10 AM \$2 PER BOX |
| 16 Easter: Fly your Flag | 17 Tax Day (Taxes Due) | 18 | | 27 SUPPORT OUR TROOPS PACKING BOXES AT ARC 9:00 AM | | |
| | | | 26 Administrative Professionals Day | 28 Arbor Day | | 29 |
| 23 World Immunization Week Army Reserve 109th Birthday | 24 | 25 | | | | |
| NATIONAL ORATORICAL FINALS STREAMED LIVE OVER INTERNET AT 7 AM | | | | | | |
| *** VIETNAM REMEMBRANCE DAY POST COLOR GUARD GOING TO WESLEY BOLIN PLAZA LEAVE FROM ARC AT 8:00 AM | | | | | | |
| 30 National Military Brats Day | Notes: School Awards are coming up: <u>Mountain Pointe</u> May 2 at 7 pm; <u>Centennial</u> May 3 at 6 pm (Post Colors); <u>Desert Vista</u> May 15 at 7 pm; <u>Akimsel</u> and <u>Akadema</u> May 22 | | | | | |