



AHWATUKEE AMERICAN LEGION POST 64

JANUARY 2017

americanlegionpost64.com

1. COMMANDER'S COMMENTS (from Commander Ed Mangan) Our December 21 meeting was great. I enjoyed visiting some vets who I have not seen for many years. Plus, the pot luck was super. Everyone brought all kinds of good munchies. Thank you all for making this such a nice time for camaraderie and fine food.

The annual Holiday Party is fast approaching. It will be on Saturday, January 21 at the ARC. The doors will open at 5:30 pm with the Color Guard and POW/MIA recognition starting at 6:00. Dinner will begin at 6:30. This is our main fundraiser for the year. We did not have our golf tournament last year, so our coffers are running low. If you can, please bring an item to raffle off. Bob Smithson and Dave VonTersch are spearheading this program. Tickets are only \$25.00 and are on sale every Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday morning at the ARC from 0830 - Noon; or contact any Post Officer to reserve seats. See the attached brochure for the details of this program. Don't forget it is BYOB.

I would like to thank Pete Meier for accepting the position of Second Vice Commander. Bob Smithson is getting us near our 100% membership goal for the year. Sgt-at-Arms and Color Guard Commander Dave VonTersch continues to do a great job with leading and managing our Color Guard. Dave and Herb Mauch looked sharp on the local TV on December 7 at the Pearl Harbor Day Celebration. They made our Post 64 and the American Legion look proud that day. By the way, we are always looking forward to getting at least one more person to join our Color Guard ranks. If you can help, give Dave a call.

I hope all of you had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. A big thank you goes out to Dave, Pete, Ken Dembiec, and George Meegan for conducting the memorial services on December 28 for Army Vietnam veteran Mark Hayball, who died at a hospice on December 11. He was not a member of our Post, but he was a veteran, his family asked for our help, and we helped.

2. MEMBERSHIP (from First Vice Commander Bob Smithson) Through December, 153 members have renewed their 2017 membership. The first half of the year accounts for 86% of our goal of 177 paid members. 25% of the members have renewed online, the quick and easy way. When you renew online you're immediately added to our roster and you may avoid getting any further renewal notices. To renew online go to www.mylegion/renew.org. While on the site, check out the Paid-Up-For-Life offer.

3. FINANCE REPORT: CHECKING ACCOUNT

Beginning Balance 11-1-2016		1502.46	
Deposits			
Dues	270.00		
Donation	5.00	(Thank you to Jane Nesbitt)	
		275.00	
Payments			
ARC Thanksgiving	150.00		
Support the Troops	250.00		
Wreaths Across America	60.00		
Dues to Department	273.00		
		-733.00	
Ending Balance 11-30-2016		1044.46	

4. VA CEMETERIES OFFERING PRE-ENROLLMENT FOR ELIGIBLE VETERANS: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced it now provides eligibility determinations for interment in a VA national cemetery prior to the time of need. Through the Pre-Need Determination of Eligibility Program, upon request, individuals can learn if they are eligible for burial or memorialization in a VA national cemetery. Interested individuals may submit VA Form 40-10007, *Application for Pre-Need Determination of Eligibility for Burial in a VA National Cemetery*, and supporting documentation, such as a DD Form-214, to the VA National Cemetery Scheduling Office by toll-free fax at 1-855-840-8299; email to Eligibility.PreNeed@va.gov; or mail to the National Cemetery Scheduling Office, PO Box 510543, St. Louis, MO 63151.

5. ACTIVITIES SINCE THE LAST NEWSLETTER:

Dec. 7 Pearl Harbor Day:

Massing of the Colors at Marcos de Niza High School



Wesley Bolin Plaza

(left) Herb Mauch with WWII Veteran who turned 93 the day before (right) Navajo Code Talker
You can watch a video of the ceremony, which includes a clip of Herb Mauch and Dave VonTersch carrying the Post 64 wreath !!!

<http://www.azcentral.com/story/news/local/phoenix/2016/12/07/arizona-commemorates-75th-anniversary-pearl-harbor-attack-ceremony-state-capitol/95090234/>

Dec. 8 and 9: Bob Smithson and Herb Mauch worked their phones at the Membership Drive at Post 1, and transferred 7 Legionnaires from Post 100 to Ahwatukee Post 64. Welcome to all of them, and thank you Herb and Bob for making the calls !!!

Dec. 10: Roger and Deb Munchbach set up a Christmas Tree on floor 4C at the VA Hospital in Phoenix, leaving candy and other “goodies” for anyone who could use them.

Dec. 14: Post Executive Committee Meeting; reviewed Post Responsibility Self-Audit presented last month by District 12 Commander Ken Queen during his visit to the Post 64 meeting; discussed Holiday Party scheduled for Jan. 21, 2017; discussed possible golf tournament; recommended approval of Pete Meier as Second Vice Commander; discussed monthly agendas and guest speakers; discussed ‘Evolution’ Program video and photos.

Dec. 16: Deb Munchbach delivered \$450.00 in gift cards and presents to ‘Save the Family’ for our adopted Christmas family.

Dec. 21: Post 64 Meeting attended by 31 members and guests. Pete Meier was approved as Second Vice Commander. Terry Williford reported that 350 wreaths were placed in the Arizona National Veterans Cemetery on Cave Creek Rd. through ‘Wreaths Across America’. Post 64 purchased 4 wreaths.

Dec. 28: Pete Meier, Dave VonTersch, Ken Dembiec, and George Meegan conducted military honors for the internment of the ashes of Mark Hayball, Army veteran, Vietnam.



6. FROM COLOR GUARD COMMANDER DAVE VONTERSCH: When the Honor Guard attends an internment or memorial service for a deceased veteran, we don’t just Unfold/Fold the US Flag. There are words of comfort offered the survivors, also. Since our Honor Guard attends many of these functions, I thought it fitting to share some of those words with you. The following is from Mark Hayball’s internment.

Another Veteran has been called to the high command and has gone to report to the Commander of us all.

This moment is sacred with the almost visible presence of the one who has gone before. We come to honor the memory of Mark Hayball, who offered life in service for God & country; one who is now enrolled in the Great Spirit Army whose footsteps cause no sound. But in our memory, his soul goes marching on. Proudly we remember his service to our nation. Because of veterans like Mark Hayball, our lives are free; because of them our nation lives; because of them the world is blessed.

Let us not enshroud his memory with thoughts of sorrow. Tears or words of sympathy cannot bring back the contentment of those loving hands or the voices stilled. The solemn pride of that service is his, and for the living to remember. Family, friends, and veterans, let us here pledge ourselves anew to united service, to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by a devotion to mutual aid in the protection of those left behind.

We realize how futile are mere words to express our deep and abiding sympathy in your loss. May you feel our comrade is at rest and in endless peace. Generation after generation, all the peoples of the past have lived as we live, perplexed and mystified by death. They have gone into the great beyond with hearts filled with wistful longing, as all must go.

Surely there is an afterlife for all who have been loyal and true, a life to which light and peace shall come, where the burden shall be lifted and the heartache shall cease, where the love, the hope and the fulfillment that escapes us here shall be given to us, to be ours forever.

On behalf of Veterans everywhere I would like to offer this prayer for our Brother in Arms Mark Hayball, United States Army.

Oh God who heals the broken hearted and binds up their wounds; look in tender pity and compassion upon thy servants whose joy has been turned into mourning. Leave them not comfortless, but grant that they may be drawn closer to thee and to one another by their common sorrow. Fill their souls with the light and contentment of thy presence. Grant unto them such a vision of life wherein all mysteries shall be revealed, and all tears be wiped away, that they may be able to endure. So dwell with them and be their God, until the daybreak and the shadows flee away, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

7. THE POST OFFICERS WILL MEET AT 3:00 PM ON WED., JAN. 11, AT ARC for an Executive Committee session.

THE NEXT POST MEETING will be on Wed., Jan. 18 at 3:00 pm. We hope to play a short promotional video called 'Arizona Heroes of WWI'. We also plan to have a visit from a candidate for next year's Department Commander, Domingo Bonilla, Post 35 Chandler.

8. POST CONTACT INFORMATION:

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Jackie Oddo

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ARC VETERANS' CLUB / AMERICAN LEGION

Annual Veterans' Club
American Legion

Holiday Party

Saturday, January 21, 2017
ARC Main Ballroom

Entertainment! • Dancing! • Raffle!

OPEN TO ALL ARC MEMBERS & GUESTS

Tickets only \$25
per person - open to all!

Ticket sales begin on Wednesday, December 21
and continue each
Monday, Wednesday & Saturday
8:30 AM - 12:00 Noon

QUESTIONS? CALL DAVE VON TERSCH AT 480-753-4166

PTSD TOWN HALL MEETING

(Program conducted by National PTSD Specialists)

FEBRUARY 11, 2017 9 am to 1 pm

First United Methodist Church

15 E. 1st Ave.

Mesa, AZ 85210

(sponsored by Vietnam Veterans of America 1011)

Let Michael Marks know if you plan to attend, 480-266-7883, NO COST

DISTRICT 12 REHAB DINNER AND AUCTION

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2017

AMERICAN LEGION POST 35

2240 W. CHANDLER BLVD.

CHANDLER, AZ 85224

DINNER TICKETS \$15

RAFFLE TICKETS 6 FOR \$10 OR \$2 EACH

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM ROGER MUNCHBACH OR AT THE DOOR

January 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5	6	7 DEPARTMENT HQ OPEN HOUSE NOON TO 4:00 PM POT LUCK CONTACT TROGER MUNCHBACH FOR INFORMATION
8	9	10	11 POST EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING 3:00PM	12	13	14 CHILDREN & YOUTH/NATIONAL SECURITY CONFERENCE POST 1 PHOENIX 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
15 DISTRICT 12 MEETING 2:00 PM POST 35 CHANDLER	16 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	17	18 POST 64 MEETING 3:00 PM AT ARC	19	20 Inauguration Day	21 POST 64 HOLIDAY PARTY SEE AD IN NEWSLETTER DOORS OPEN AT 5:30 PM OPENING CEREMONY 6:00 PM DINNER 6:30 PM
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	Notes:			
			FEBRUARY 11 PTSD TOWN HALL MEETING (SEE AD IN NEWSLETTER)			
			FEBRUARY 11 DISTRICT 12 REHAB DINNER AND AUCTION (SEE AD IN NEWSLETTER)			
			FEBRUARY 22 PATRIOTIC DAY KIMEL MIDDLE SCHOOL 9:00 AM FEBRUARY 25 SACATON PARADE			