



## AHWATUKEE AMERICAN LEGION POST 64

MARCH 2018

[americanlegionpost64.com](http://americanlegionpost64.com)

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

As always, we have been very busy, and the Easter Parade is right around the corner. We always need plenty of help with that. You don't need to be in the Color Guard, you just need to volunteer. Our next general membership meeting on MARCH 21 will be slightly different. The ARC ballroom is being used by the Entertainers for their annual production on March 23, 24, and 25. So, the ballroom will be set up for the show for the entire week of March 18-25. Use of the ballroom and extension will be very limited. But we did get permission to use part of the extension area on March 21 for an abbreviated Post 64 meeting. There will be NO SOCIAL TIME AFTERWARDS AT THE ARC. Instead, I have made arrangements at Brad's Place to have our normal social hour, with soda, beer, wine and finger food etc. for those who wish to join us there. The price will be right for everyone. For those of you who are not familiar with Brad's Place, it is next to Safeway. We must be out of the ARC ballroom area by 4:30, preferably sooner. The officers and I will make every effort to have an abbreviated meeting. But, please join us for both portions of our meeting. Dave VonTersch will definitely be looking for volunteers for the parade. I apologize for this last-minute change to our meeting, but that is life. If you have any concerns, feel free to contact me. Thank you for your understanding.

**2. CONDOLENCES:** to Dave VonTersch following the passing of his sister Sally Ann Downum.  
Membership

**3. MEMBERSHIP: (from First Vice Commander Bob Smithson)** To date we have 160 members who have renewed membership for 2018. We are at 82% of reaching our goal of 196 paid up members. There is a way to go to reach our 100% mark. I would like to thank all who have renewed to date. It shows that you care about Veterans, Legion, Community and your Post.

For those who have not renewed as of yet time is running out. The new 2019 cards are printed by National in April. I need your assistance in achieving our 100% goal. If you can renew as soon as possible it would go a long way to help us make our goal. As always you can renew on line at [www.legion.org/renew](http://www.legion.org/renew). It is convenient, fast and safe. It should keep you from getting those passed due notices in the mail. However, using the mail to renew works just as well; it just takes longer to get it to National.

**4. DEPARTMENT ORATORICAL CONTEST FINALS:** Will again be hosted at ARC by Post 64 on Sat. March 3. Colors will be posted at 9:50 am with the contest to begin immediately after. A free lunch will be served when the contest is completed.

### **5. IMPORTANT DATES FOR COLOR GUARD:**

Thursday, March 29, 2018, Vietnam Veterans Ceremony, Wesley Bolin Plaza (see ad later in newsletter)

Saturday, March 31, 2018, Ahwatukee Easter Parade. Can you walk a mile? Can someone in your family walk a mile? We again need approximately 30 flag bearers to help the Color Guard lead the parade. They will carry the burial flags of deceased Post 64 members, friends, and families. With Easter as a celebration of "life after death" for the Christian religion, many people feel this is an appropriate time to fly the memorial flags. If you can help with the parade please contact Color Guard Commander Dave Vontersch, 480-753-4166, [djvontersch@q.com](mailto:djvontersch@q.com) We assemble at ARC beginning at 8 am and shuttle to the start

of the parade line up shortly after 9 am. Wear black or navy pants and a short sleeve white shirt, or a Legion uniform/cap if you have one.

## **6. MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY 21 MEETING:**

21 members and guests attended.

The annual Patriotic Day Celebration was held at Akimel Middle School this morning. The Post 64 Color Guard presented Colors, and 12 members and friends from Post 64 stayed for the program and breakfast.

Commander Ed Mangan reported that approximately 120 people attended the Agent Orange Seminar in Mesa on Feb. 10. He also reported that recent Legislation in the Arizona House (HB2236) which would have increased the amount of military pension money which was tax free in the state of Arizona failed to pass the Appropriations Committee. He has also submitted Post 64 to the Ahwatukee Chamber of Commerce for the Non-Profit of the Year Award.

First Vice Commander Bob Smithson handed out membership reward pins.

Second Vice Commander Pete Meier reported that the Holiday Party was a great success. He thanked donors for the gift of a new rolling beverage/ice wagon to Post 64 following the untimely deterioration of our previous wagon. The new ice cooler will be stored and locked in the Post storage room. He also reported that a crew did the Elliot Rd. street clean-up on Feb. 17.

Finance Officer Gerald Kramer reported there is \$7200.00 in the Post checking account.

Every year the Roloff sisters (Diane Laubmeier, Debra Bruns, and Renee McLaughlin) donate \$400.00 in memory of their father Charlie Roloff which is used to fund 4 scholarships for seniors from Desert Vista and Mountain Pointe. A motion was made to have the Post match their donation so that the 4 scholarships can be for \$200.00 each. Discussion was held and then tabled for further consideration next month.

John Boyer gave a report on the new Post 64 Marketing Plan which he has been developing with input from Post officers and members. This plan will include a Media Profile, a Media Pamphlet, and increased usage of the Post website.

Mary Williams gave a report on her meeting with the state liquor board about Special Use Permits for non-profit organizations, which cost \$25.00 per year and can be used for up to 12 events. A friend of the Post donated the fee to obtain such a permit for Post 64.

Terrie Williford reminded members to keep their Maricopa County Food Handlers' Certifications up-to-date, especially with the Easter Parade Hot Dog Feed approaching at the end of March. The process can now be completed totally online, and you DO NOT need to go for a picture afterward. <https://www.maricopa.gov/2268/Food-Service-Worker-Training>

Our guest was Candidate for Alternate National Executive Committeeman 2018-2020, Andy Jaime from Post 44 in Scottsdale. Andy spoke about the AZ Veterans Hall of Fame and the nomination process to be invited to membership.

## **7. PLEASE LET US KNOW ABOUT YOUR VOLUNTEER HOURS: (from Adjutant Roger Munchbach)**

It will soon be time to complete the Post Consolidated Report to Department and National (due mid-May). This is the report where we let them know how many hours and dollars we have put into service to veterans, their families, and our community in the year from May 2017 to May 2018. We have a record of the hours that you have worked at the Post 64 functions, but if you also DONATE BLOOD, OR VOLUNTEER AT ARC, YOUR CHURCH, WITH OTHER VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS, OR ANYWHERE IN YOUR COMMUNITY, please give a list of activities and hours to Roger Munchbach BEFORE MAY 5, 2018. See his contact information further on in this newsletter.

## **8. SEND REASONS TO JOINING AND STAY IN THE AMERICAN LEGION: (copied from *DISPATCH*, Feb. 2018)**

Anyone who has been a member of The American Legion for some time, or has recruited someone to join, can quickly list a few good reasons to become part of the nation's largest organization of wartime veterans - and to renew.

The reasons may be national in scope, such as: Strengthens the veteran voice in Washington for a more effective VA health-care system; Keeps the GI Bill updated and relevant for new generations; Provides substantial veteran oversight of congressional committees and agencies.

The reasons may be specific to an American Legion department, such as: Adds to the network of like-minded Legion Family members in my state; Ensures support, resources and training for American Legion department service officers who assist others who served; Builds future leaders through American Legion Boys State and other youth programs.

They may, of course, be local, such as: Young people in my community need Legion mentoring through Scouts, Junior ROTC, Junior Shooting Sports and other programs; Community memorials to those who served before must never be forgotten; The local Legion Riders chapter has a great time raising funds that matter in the community.

And, they may be individual, such as: Camaraderie with fellow veterans and patriotic Americans; The Legion helps me understand my VA benefits; The discount programs are valuable.

During the centennial year, The American Legion would like to remind eligible veterans and those who have let memberships expire "100 Good Reasons to Join and Renew in The American Legion." The best of those reasons will come from local posts and members. The multi-media campaign is set to launch in September 2018.

To help, members everywhere are invited to send their top 10 reasons by email to [dispatch@legion.org](mailto:dispatch@legion.org) From those suggestions, the centennial campaign will be designed, fueled by the 100 best reasons from the combined submissions. Reasons should be limited to no more than one or two sentences each, including a specific local reference, if applicable.

As the ideas come in, look for them at [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org), in social media and other centennial promotions as the 100th anniversary of the organization unfolds.

## **9. POST CONTACT INFORMATION:**

**ED MANGAN, Commander**

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**PETE MEIER, Second Vice Commander**

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**DAVE VONTERSCH, Sergeant-at-Arms, Color Guard Commander**

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**WILLIAM 'RODDY' CHARLTON, Asst. Sergeant-at-Arms, Asst. Color Guard Commander**

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**ROGER MUNCHBACH, Adjutant**

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**REBECCA SCHMIDT, Chaplain**

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**BOB SMITHSON, First Vice Commander**

480-496-0705 [busibob@aol.com](mailto:busibob@aol.com)

**JOHN BOYER, Service Officer**

520-705-7185 [nisjohn@cox.net](mailto:nisjohn@cox.net)

**GERALD KRAMER, Finance Officer**

480-893-3758 [glk-services@outlook.com](mailto:glk-services@outlook.com)

**ALICE MAYNARD, Refreshment Chairman**

480-244-6539 [amaynard2007@yahoo.com](mailto:amaynard2007@yahoo.com)

**10. YOU ARE INVITED:** By Tempe Post 2 to their “Sentimental Dreams Dance” benefitting Boys and Girls State on Saturday evening, March 3 from 7:00 to 10:00 pm.

**11. REMEMBER THE HOT DOG FEED AND BAND CONCERT** at ARC, starting as soon as the Color Guard finishes leading the Easter Parade on Sat. March 31. It is FREE, and everyone (with their families and friends) is welcome. We have a great time celebrating every year. JOIN US !

**12. IMAGES FROM FEBRUARY**



LEFT: Elliot Rd. clean-up crew  
RIGHT: Akimel Middle School Patriotic Day Color Guard



LEFT: Singing Kindergarten Students from Lagos Elementary School  
RIGHT: Meeting guest Andy Jaime



# National Vietnam War Veterans Day Ceremony

Join us in thanking and honoring our nation's Vietnam veterans and their families for their service and sacrifice



Thursday, March 29, 2018  
1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Wesley Bolin Memorial Plaza  
Vietnam Veterans Memorial  
1700 West Washington Street,  
Phoenix AZ 85007

Guest speakers include Gov. Doug Ducey, Phoenix VA Health Care System Deputy Director, Shawn Bransky and Arizona Department of Veterans' Services Director, Wanda Wright

Presented by:  
**Arizona Department of Veterans' Services**  
*For Arizona veterans and those who care for them*



◀ February		March 2018						****indicates Color Guard activity		April ▶	
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday					
				1	2	3	****DEPT. ORATORICAL CONTEST FINALS AT ARC COLORS POSTED AT 9:50 AM LUNCH AFTER CONTEST OPEN TO THE PUBLIC POST 2 TEMPE 7:00 TO 10:00 PM SENTIMENTAL DREAMS DANCE BENEFITING BOYS AND GIRLS STATE				
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Intl. Women's Day				
DISTRICT 12 FAMILY PICNIC POST 35 CHANDLER NOON FREE FOR ALL MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES											
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	Daylight Saving Begins	3 PM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING AT ARC	Saint Patrick's Day		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	Spring Begins (Northern Hemisphere)	****3 PM GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AT ARC	World Tuberculosis Day		
DISTRICT 12 MEETING 2 PM AT POST 44 SCOTTSDALE											
25	26	27	28	29	30	31		****VIETNAM VETERANS CEREMONY WESLEY BOLIN PLAZA 1:00 PM TO 2:00 PM (see ad)	Good Friday	****AHWATUKEE EASTER PARADE MEET AT ARC STORAGE ROOM AT 8 AM	