



AHWATUKEE AMERICAN LEGION POST 64

June 2023

<http://www.americanlegionpost64.com>

**CHECK OUT THE POST WEBSITE. INFORMATION INCLUDED:
Photos, Newsletters, Uniforms, Veterans' Benefits, Congressional
Contacts, Items of Interest,
Links to other Veterans' Websites, Flag Etiquette, and Much More !**

Post 64 Social Meeting

**June 21, 2023
Ahwatukee Recreation Center
4:30-6:30 PM**

Join American Legion Post 64 for our social meeting/ potluck dinner.

Meet and mingle with veterans and auxiliary members.
Music and card playing.

For more details, contact Brenda at bsmull@me.com



First Vice Commander – Brenda Smull

Across the country, May is an important month of remembrance which culminates in the Memorial Day holiday and tribute ceremonies. American Legion Post 64 continued with its annual tradition of holding an Honor and Remembrance Service during our May member meeting. This year we rang the bell and called out the names of ten post and auxiliary members who passed away in the last year. This experience was especially impactful for me since I participated in an honor guard ceremony and penned tribute articles for three of the veterans: John Uhler, Ed Mangan and Dave Von Tersch. It was a simple, solemn and touching ceremony that gave our fellow legionnaires and auxiliary members the honor and respect they deserve. The ARC meeting room was tastefully set up with a remembrance table of photos, programs and red roses for the family and friends of the deceased. In front of the lectern was an honor table with a beautiful wrought iron cross, candles, a Bible, a Koran and a yarmulke. Red poppies stood out brilliantly against the white tablecloth and added the strong and significant symbol of loss, sacrifice and hope.

The slate of nominated Post Officers for the upcoming year was voted in and I am humbled and honored to be your Commander-Elect. As the first member of Generation X to hold this position at Post 64, I hope to help bridge the gap between generations and help engage and recruit more veterans from the numerous conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan after 1991.

Our membership stands at 132 which are down from the 235 final numbers in 2020. Although we have lost paid members during these difficult COVID-19 years, I am optimistic that we can, with the help our newly formed Auxiliary Unit 64 and our partnership with Boy Scout #172, get more veterans and family members actively engaged and aware of the benefits of the American Legion.

Our mantra and focus for the coming year:

Veterans Helping Veterans

Through

Service and Support

Honor and Remembrance

Connection and Community



Honor and Remembrance Service

American Legion Post 64

May 17, 2023



To honor our post and auxiliary members who have passed in the past year.

*Jerry Crutcher/ U.S. Army / Vietnam
Raymond Kubiak/ U.S. Army / Korea
Edmund Mangan III / U.S. Air Force/ Vietnam
William McLellan/ U.S. Army/ Korea
Anthony Sebastiano / U.S. Army/ WWII
Don Seeman / U.S. Army/ Vietnam
David Von Tersch / U.S. Navy/ Vietnam
John Uhler/ U.S. Army/ Korea
Debbie Dembiec /Auxiliary
Georgene Smithson/Auxiliary*



May 17, 2023, Meeting Minutes - Roddy Charlton

Vice Commander Brenda Smull opened the meeting with greetings to 50 members and guests and called the special Honor and Remembrance meeting to order. The colors were pre-posted and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice Commander Brenda Smull. She discussed the total number of paid Post members is 132 members which is greater than last year's baseline of 111 members. **Chaplain Rebecca Schmidt** provided the Invocation. The minutes of the April meeting were published in the Post Newsletter and reading of the minutes was dispensed by the Vice Commander and accepted as published.

Adjutant Roddy Charlton discussed Post Reports. All four mandatory Annual Post Reports have been completed and submitted to the American Legion Department of Arizona. The reports included the Consolidated Post Report, Officers Report, Certification of Service Records of American Legion Officers, and Notification of Post Commanders and Adjutants. All eight American Legion Student Awards have been awarded. The Post supports Desert Vista High School, Mountain Pointe High School, Altadena Middle School and Centennial Middle School. This includes a Certificate, Bronze Medallion plus a \$200 Scholarship for each Senior Student. See Adjutant Report for additional information.

Adjutant Roddy Charlton conducted the Post Officers Elections. The Slate of Officers for 2023-2024 was presented at the May 17, 2023, Post meeting and published in the May Post Newsletter. The Slate of Officers was reviewed: Commander Brenda Smull, First Vice Commander Al Hunter, Second Vice Commander Pete Meier, Adjutant Roddy Charlton, Service Officer Craig Annis, Chaplain Rebecca Schmidt, Treasurer Jay Hendrix and Sgt-at-Arms Mark Shillinger. A request was made for any other officer nominations from the floor and there were none. A motion was made to wave a vote by ballot as required in Post By-Laws and vote by a show of hands. The motion was seconded and approved. A vote by show of hands of present Post members was conducted and all were approved with no descending votes. The Officer Swearing In Ceremony will be held at the September 20, 2023, meeting. Congratulations to Post Officers!

Honor and Remembrance Service was conducted by **Chaplain Rebecca Schmidt**, Auxiliary **President Darlene Hunter** and **Adjutant Roddy Charlton**. This is an annual service to honor our Post and Auxiliary members who have passed in the last year. A prayer by Chaplain Rebecca Schmidt opened the service. Auxiliary President Darlene Hunter read the names of two Auxiliary members; Georgene Smithson and Debbie Dembick. Chaplain Rebecca Schmidt read the names of eight Post members: John Uhler, Dave Van Tersch, Jerry Crutcher, Antonio Sebastiano, Ed Mangan, William McLellan, Don Seeman and Raymond Kubiak. Adjutant Roddy Charlton rang the service bell after each name and provided a prayer. Auxiliary President Darlene Hunter offered a closing prayer. The service was well attended and well received by Post members and guests. A tribute table held photos of deceased members. Chaplain Rebecca Schmidt provided roses for surviving loved ones. Post Auxiliary provided red poppies in honor of Memorial Day.

Refreshment Chairperson Alice Maynard provided refreshments and a special American Flag cake. Thank You.



Adjutant – Roddy Charlton

Student Awards Program

We have completed this year's American Legion Student Awards program. This award is based on six qualities: Courage, Honor, Leadership, Patriotism, Scholarship and Service. **Commander Pete Meier** presented awards at Mountain Point High School on May 3, 2023, to Mason Colville and Taylor Wright. **Awards Coordinator John Augustyn** presented awards at Centennial Middle School on May 17, 2023, to Elizabeth Kelly and Jaxson Barbain. **Adjutant Roddy Charlton** presented awards at Altadena Middle School on May 17, 2023, to Adaya Rodriguez Rivera and Alexander Gellman. **Adjutant Roddy Charlton** presented awards at Desert Vista High School on May 24, 2023, to Payton Kelly and Tucker Kirkes. These awards included \$800 in scholarships from Post 64. These awards provide students an understanding of these six qualities and better equip them to live their own lives as outstanding examples of good citizens. Thanks to Post Members in completing this important community outreach and congratulations to the award winners.

Sgt at Arms Report – Mark Shillinger

At the April 17, 2023, monthly general meeting, the colors were pre-posted, due to the very busy agenda. The officers for next year were elected.

Incoming officers;

- Commander-Brenda Smull
- First vice commander-Al Hunter
- Second vice commander-Pete Meier
- Adjutant- Roddy Charlton
- Chaplin-Rebecca Schmidt
- Service Officer-Craig Annis
- Treasurer-Jay Hendrix
- Sgt-at-Arms-Mark Shillinger

The annual Honor and Remembrance Service was conducted by Adjutant Roddy Charlton and Chaplin Rebecca Schmidt, honoring those legion and auxiliary members who have passed in the last year.

Roddy Charlton, Adjutant, and John Augustyn handed out awards at Centennial and Altadena schools. Dan Chong and Mark Shillinger posted colors twice at the Centennial School graduation that evening.

A Pow/Mia flag was added to the ARC flagpole, flying underneath the American flag everyday. June 14, 2023 is flag day. As of this writing, there are no scheduled Color Guard activities for the month of June.

June 21, 2023 is the next Post 64 general meeting, at 4pm.

Post 64 is in need of additional Color Guard members. In the recent past, we have had as many as 15 Color Guards. Currently, we are down to six, which is the bare minimum. This is a very rewarding activity that honors our flag and veterans. If you are interested in joining or have questions, please contact me at markshillinger@hotmail.com.

Chaplain—Rebecca Schmidt

FLAG DAY (Wednesday, 14 June 2023)

Oh God, we thank You for the Flag of our Country and for all that our Flag represents. We thank You for giving the victory to brave men and women who have given their last measure of strength in order that it might wave over the land of the free and the home of the brave. We thank you for giving us the ideals of faith and liberty, for preserving the sanctity of our homes and freedom of worship. Conscious of our limitations and our deep unworthiness, we pray that our Flag may bind together the many elements in our own wonderful country and foster in our ranks a one hundred percent Americanism. Make us who have served our country in time of war, willing at all times to uphold and defend our Constitution and our government. Grant that this Union of Sovereign States may remain forever an indissoluble Union flying the same Flag. Amen.

SICK CALL

Please keep in your thoughts and prayers Sigi Meier (she had surgery on May 17) and Barb Augustyn (surgery on May 22). Get well soon, Ladies!

WITH DEEPEST SYMPATHY

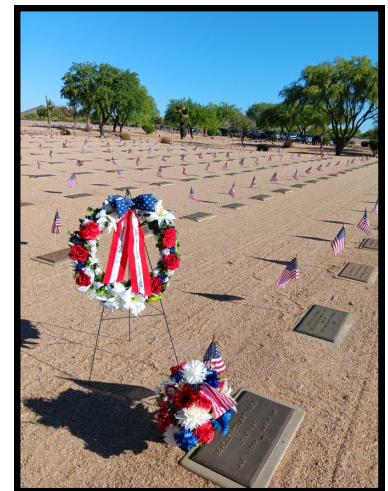
Our friend and member Anthony Sebastiano passed away on January 31st. Anthony was in the U.S. Army during WWII. Please keep Anthony's family in your prayers.

OTHER SPECIAL DAYS IN JUNE

- June 6 -- D-Day: Allied Invasion of Europe (1944)
- June 14 -- U.S. Army Founded (1775)
- June 18 -- Father's Day
- June 19 -- Juneteenth National Independence Day
- June 22 -- Pledge of Allegiance Recognized by Congress (1942)
- June 25 -- Korean War Began (1950)

FATHER'S DAY (Sunday, 18 June 2023)

Happy Father's Day to all Fathers, Step-Fathers, Grandfathers, and all of you gentlemen who have made such a difference in others' lives! God Bless You, and we love you!



Memorial Day
National Memorial Cemetery



Honor and Remembrance Service
May 17, 2023



**American Legion Auxiliary
Unit 64 Ahwatukee**

PRESIDENT – Darlene Hunter

Our formation process is still underway. The state is reviewing our Constitution, By-Laws and Standing Rules and National is sending out notifications of member #s. If you have not received an email with your member # indicated, please notify the President so this matter can be taken up and resolved.

Our Poppy Program is still in a development stage. Poppies are still being constructed and a potential list of placement locations is being assembled. If anyone (including our Legionnaires) has any suggestions on possible placement locations, we welcome the input at alhunter50@yahoo.com.

Auxiliary participated in its first Honor and Remembrance Ceremony held on May 17, 2023. Chaplain Rebecca Schmidt assembled a memorable program honoring those who had gone to their final reward this year.

Auxiliary is in the process of coordinating with Commander Elect Brenda Smull to construct a fun potluck dinner and Black Jack entertainment combo for June 21, 2023. Further information will be forthcoming shortly.

As always, in service and not self...



June 2023

American Legion Post 64



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6 	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 <i>Executive Meeting</i> ARC 4:00 pm	15	16	17
18 	19	20	21 <i>General Meeting</i> ARC Main Hall 4:00 pm <i>SOCIAL MEETING</i> 4:30 PM	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Post Officers Elect

Commander	Brenda Smull	303-301-4429	bsmull@me.com
First Vice Commander	Al Hunter	480-326-4656	alhunter50@yahoo.com
Second Vice commander	Pete Meier	602-690-3361	petehmeier@gmail.com
Adjutant	Roddy Charlton	480-993-6980	wrcinaz@aol.com
Finance Officer	Jay Hendrix	480-831-9121	jayhendrix@cox.net
Chaplain	Rebecca Schmidt	602-292-8401	rebeccacinaz@aol.com
Service Officer	Craig Annis	480-255-5622	cragannis@yahoo.com
Sergeant-At-Arms	Mark Shillinger		markshillinger@hotmail.com