



AHWATUKEE AMERICAN LEGION POST 64

January 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 !**

General Meeting

Wednesday, January 18, 2023, 4:00 pm

ARC Main Hall



First Vice Commander – Brenda Smull

Our current membership renewals are 94 members which is 85% of the last year's number of 111.

We are working on community outreach projects to increase the awareness and recruiting efforts to gain more new members.

I received a member application and check from a spouse who wants to join the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA). Post 64 does not currently have an Auxiliary and the process to Charter a new unit involves getting 10 members. If you know anyone who is interested in joining and forming a new ALA unit, please contact me directly at bsmull@me.com.

Eligibility Requirements for ALA:

Grandmothers, mothers, sisters, spouses (male or female) , and direct and adopted female descendants of members of The American Legion.

For more information: <https://www.legion-aux.org>



December 21, 2022 Meeting Minutes - Roddy Charlton

Commander Pete Meier opened the meeting and greeted the 17 members and guests in attendance. The colors were pre-posted and *To The Colors* was sounded with a hand salute. **Adjutant** Roddy Charlton led the Pledge of Allegiance. **Sgt-At-Arms Mark Shillinger** conducted the POW/MIA Empty Chair Ceremony. **Chaplain Rebecca Schmidt** provided a prayer. The minutes of the November meeting were published in the Post December 2022 Newsletter, the reading of the minutes was dispensed by the Post Commander. A request for corrections was made by **Adjutant Roddy Charlton** and there were none. A motion for acceptance was made and seconded to approve the minutes as posted.

Vice Commander Brenda Smull discussed a proposal for Post 64 to sponsor the Ahwatukee Boys Scout Troop 174. American Legion Posts sponsor 30 Boy Scout Troops throughout Arizona. Troop 174 has been well established in Ahwatukee area for seventeen years and conducts weekly meetings at Day Spring Church. The Troop has 52 scout members. Four of the Troop leaders were introduced to Post Officers and meeting members. Scout Leader Eric Flohmen introduced the Troop leadership team and American Legion District 12 Representative Chuck Mackey. An overview was given of the Troop charter and the Troops activities through the school year. This included posting American Flags on veterans graves each Memorial Day, Color Guard/Honor Guard support and American flag retirement ceremonies. The floor was opened to questions and answers. Questions discussed included Post liability, funding and Troop expectations from Post 64. The Boy Scouts of America provides \$1 million dollars in liability insurance. A sum of \$100 is required to become a sponsor. A motion was made that Post 64 becoming a sponsor to Troop 174. A "yes" vote was given by all present (this included five of the six post officers). **Vice Commander Brenda Smull** was voted to represent Post 64 as Charter Organization Representative (COR) and will start process. A "draft" resolution will be generated by **Post Adjutant Roddy Charlton** to support his process.

American Legion Auxiliary - Post member spouse Darlene Hunter requested the Post consider adding an American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) to Post 64. She is very interested in joining the Post with her husband Al Hunter. The ALA is comprised of spouses, mothers, daughters, granddaughters and sisters of American War Veterans. This organization was founded in 1919. The ALA is dedicated to serving veterans, military and their families. In 2019, the American Legion's National Convention voted to and opened up the eligibility to include male and female spouses of U.S. Veterans. **Adjutant Roddy Charlton** will investigate Post participation in the ALA Program.

Commander Pete Meier discussed other Post activities. Post Member Street Cleanup was completed on December 3, 2022; Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day was held on December 7, 2022 at the ARC flag pole; Post Spring Fling is scheduled at the ARC, with a live band, Saturday March 4, 2023; Post Color Guard will lead the 47th Kiwanis Ahwatukee Easter Parade with a Burial Flag Detail.

Refreshment Chairperson Alice Maynard provided refreshments. Thank You.



Adjutant – Roddy Charlton

Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

A day to remember and honor the 2,403 Americans killed in the Japanese sneak attack on Pearl Harbor December 7, 1941.

The Post Honor Guard held a ceremony at the ARC to honor this day. **Sgt-A- Arms Mark Shillinger** lead the Honor Guard and **Post Commander Pete Meier** and **Alice Maynard** raised and lowered the American flag to half staff. **Chaplain Rebecca Schmidt** provided additional support. **Adjutant Roddy Charlton** discussed "A date which will live in infamy", words spoken by President Franklin D. Roosevelt to a joint session of Congress on December 8th, 1941. This day has special meaning to me as my Uncle Charles Nickolas Charlton, USN Boiler Tender First Class, was one of 1,177 sailors and marines killed on the battle ship USS Arizona that day. His remains were not recovered and he is entombed with his fellow shipmates. My first observance of the USS Arizona was on the deck of aircraft carrier USS Kitty Hawk on our way to the South China Sea to support the Vietnam War. I was "manning the rail" in dress white uniform. As our ship slowly moved past the Arizona, a hand salute was rendered. From the flight deck I could see the entire ship underwater and said a prayer for my Uncle Charles.

We will never forgetRemember Pearl Harbor ...Never Again!



Sgt at Arms Report – Mark Shillinger

Saturday, December 3rd

Post 64 members performed their quarterly street clean up, on Elliot Road. Everyone met at the Safeway store, 4747 E. Elliot, donned their safety vests and split up into two groups. One group cleaned the North side of Elliot and the other group cleaned the South side. Many thanks to all that helped!

Wednesday, December 7th, (Pearl Harbor Day)

Post 64 Color Guard performed a flag ceremony at the ARC flagpole. Members In attendance were: Pete Meier, Roddy Charlton, Rebecca Charlton, Alice Maynard, Dan Chong and Mark Shillinger. The ceremony consisted of marching to the flagpole, where Pete Meier and Alice Maynard lowered the American flag, the raised it (To the Colors was played). After a brief pause, the flag was lowered to half-staff and Taps was sounded. The Color Guard saluted and held the salute during the flag raising and lowering to half-staff and until Taps was completed. Color Guard was then dismissed.

Adjutant Roddy Charlton had assembled a display table, showing memorabilia and medals from his uncle, Charles Nicholas Charlton, who was killed on the USS Arizona, in Pearl Harbor, the morning of December 7th, 1941. Roddy shared information about his uncle and Navy traditions.

December 21st

The monthly Post 64 meeting came to order at 4pm and was held in the main hall, at the ARC. We had 4 adult guests from the Boy Scouts of America, who were there to discuss Post 64 being the executive sponsor for troop 172.

Commander Pete Meier discussed Spring Fling celebration, to replace Winterfest this year.

There were several other business issues discussed, including starting an American Legion Auxiliary at Post 64. The meeting was adjourned at 5:45pm. (Adjutant Roddy Charlton's report has the detailed minutes of the meeting)

Post 64 is in need of additional Color Guard members. This is a very rewarding activity that honors our flag and Legion members. . We have some gently used uniforms and other uniform parts available for any new incoming members. If you are interested, or know of someone who may be, please contact me at markshillinger@hotmail.com





Community Report—Brenda Smull

On December 5, 2022, three Post 64 members and a spouse took a trip to the US Veterans housing facility on Grand Ave and presented donations of 10 homemade quilts, a laptop computer and medical supplies for the homeless veterans and the women at Ashley's Place.

The gifts were greatly appreciated and we plan to make more field trips to visit the veterans.

The quilts were donated to Post 64 at the annual ARC Arts and Craft fair by the Charity Sewers.



Chaplain—Rebecca Schmidt

A NEW YEAR'S PRAYER

As the old year comes to an end, let us ponder on what it has held for us. Let us be thankful for the rich experiences it gave us--for every sympathetic smile, for every tear, for moments which brought laughter's melody, for nature's loveliness, and for friendship's beauty. Let us also ask forgiveness for thoughts and deeds unwise.

As we stand in the threshold of a New Year, let us be thankful for the opportunity to stand and peer intently, eagerly beyond the door to so many challenges that lie ahead. May we have the courage, truth, and faith to meet them without flinching and thought of self. Amen.

SPECIAL DATES IN JANUARY

- Jan 1, New Year's Day
- Jan 6, Epiphany
- Jan 16, Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- Jan 17, Persian Gulf War Began (1991)
- Jan 27, Signing of Vietnam Peace Accord (1973)
- Jan 31, Panama Campaign Ended (1990)

Wishing you and your families All The Best in this New Year!

January 2023

American Legion Post 64



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 Executive Meeting ARC 4:30 pm	12	13	14
15	16 	17	18 General Meeting ARC Main Hall 4:00 pm	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Post 64 Contact Information

Commander	Pete Meier	602-690-3361	petehmeier@gmail.com
First Vice Commander	Brenda Smull	303-301-4429	bsmull@me.com
Post Adjutant	Roddy Charlton		wrcinaz@aol.com
Finance Officer	Jay Hendrix	480-831-9121	jayhendrix@cox.net
Post Chaplain	Rebecca Schmidt	602-292-8401	rebeccacinaz@aol.com
Sergeant-At-Arms	Mark Shillinger		markshillinger@hotmail.com



Memorial Tribute to Ed Mangan Written by Brenda Smull

I first met Ed Mangan in 2018 when I joined the Ahwatukee American Legion Post 64. He was the Commander of the Post and welcomed me with a hearty laugh and a warm smile. At my first Post 64 member meeting, I noticed the Captain bars on Ed's Legion cap and the tri-color band that held a round medal signifying he was a member of the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame. I remember thinking to myself, "Wow, this guy is squared away!". He impressed me even more when I learned that he was active in MOAA (Military Officers Association of America) and volunteered for ESGR and JROTC programs. Having served as a Captain in the Army, I know what these organizations are and hold great respect for people who participate and support them.



Ed was an inspiring leader who walked the walk and spoke strongly and passionately about the importance of remembering those who have served as well as younger members of the community. He took his roles seriously and enthusiastically participated in hundreds of parades, flag ceremonies, and honor guards.

The world needs more people like Ed Mangan and it is my honor to write and share this tribute article about him and his life.

Edmund "Ed" Louis Mangan III was born in Chicago, Illinois and was the fourth of eight children. He graduated from Joliet Catholic High School in 1961 and served in the United State Air Force as an aircraft maintenance technician, communications engineer and recruiting officer. He was deployed during the Vietnam conflict and was stationed with units in Wisconsin, California, Mississippi, Texas, Missouri, Kansas, Arizona, Germany, Thailand, and Vietnam.

After completing correspondence courses at numerous duty stations, Ed graduated from ASU in 1973 with a Bachelors degree in Electrical Engineering. He took 18 credits each semester and took summer courses to complete his degree.

Following his military career, Ed worked as an energy management consultant and eventually started his own company, Energy Design and Consulting, "EDC." He specialized in saving schools on their electric costs so their funds could be allocated elsewhere.

Memorial Tribute to Ed Mangan (Continued)

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When not working, Ed truly enjoyed dancing and his favorite dance was the Swing. He professionally taught ballroom dance at Fred Astaire Dance Studios in Phoenix, Arizona. When he was a new instructor, Ed was introduced to a new student, Ann Schminke, when the two were paired together for a few dances. They loved to dance together and eventually taught dance lessons to other couples at the Ahwatukee Recreation Center.



Ed attended many Arizona Diamondbacks games and enjoyed going to Spring Training with his daughters Lisa and Laura. He and Ann had Sunday tickets for a few seasons directly behind home plate.

