



AMERICAN LEGION NEWPORT HARBOR POST 291
215 15th Street, Newport Beach, CA 92663

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, November 8, 2017

Meeting called to order at 1901 hrs

The Colors were advanced.

Invocation: Skipper Tim Bercovitz

Pledge of Allegiance: Commander Nye

National Anthem: lead by Steve D'Arca

POW/MIA Ceremony: Gilbert Rodela and Brian Fleming

Recited the Preamble of the Constitution of The American Legion: lead by Commander Nye

Roll Call:

Doug Nye, Commander

Mike Schubert, 1st Vice

Anne Borren, 2nd Vice

Sandy Schneeberger 3rd Vice

Jess Lawson, Jr. Past Comm

Gene Anderson, Adjutant

Robert Wright, Judge Advocate

Paul Meye, Finance Officer

Skipper Tim Bercovitz, Sgt-at-Arms

Jesse Garcia, Service Officer

William Bennett, Chaplain

Carmen Williams, Historian

Don Putzig, M.a.L.

Al Yarrington, M.a.L.

Rich Whitlinger, M.a.L.

Eric Schroeder, M.a.L.

Rob White, M.a.L.

Wayne Zippi, M.a.L.

EXCUSED: William Bennett, Jesse Garcia, and Eric Schroeder

Honored Guests: Dan Ferrari; Barbara Hallett, and Walt Wagner.

Reports from Legion Family Members & Other Guests:

Auxiliary – Debbie Schubert, Acting President – The Holiday Boutique fund raiser is on November 9th (4:00 to 8:00 PM). December 10th is the children's Christmas party from 11:00 AM to 1:30 PM. Operation Pajamas is starting and there is a donation box in the Post; they are collecting underwear, pajamas, and personal items for women and their daughters. The donated items will be taken to Camp Pendleton. Troop Shipping was on Saturday, November 4th at 10:00 AM. Discussed the various groups that support this event. Announced they received a plaque in thank you for doing the Troop Shipping.

SAL – Jeff Gottfredson, 1st Vice Commander: Reported they are donating two TVs to March Air Force Base for use in the waiting room for troops going overseas. Announced they are starting a fund raiser in February 2018 to raise funds to support veterans. Mentioned their deep sea fishing trip for veterans; they are planning for a much larger group for the deep sea fishing trip coming up in the spring. Discussed their involvement in the upcoming Boat Parade event.

ALYC – Mike Berdine, Commodore – Discussed their boating activities for all the Family Members of the Post, which includes, sail boat races, social activities, and community support. Discussed the annual Sailing for the Blind and Visually Impaired event. This year 160 blind people with their escorts participated in the event; there were 23 boats that took these people out on the water for a day. Discussed other events they hold throughout the year. Mentioned their upcoming General Meeting, and that they will be taking nominations for next year's officers at this meeting. There are about 1,000 current members, and 2018 renewals are being taken in November. Discussed the purchase of a Race Committee Boat.

Bar & Restaurant – Jon Reynolds – Encouraged people to take advantage of the amenities offered by the Post. Mentioned that we have a full bar (open 7 days a week) and restaurant (open 6 days a week – closed on Mondays). He mentioned that we have a “Burn Your Own” (burger and hot dogs) option that is available while the Post is open. Announced that Thanksgiving and Christmas dinner will be served at the Post. Announced that the Christmas Boat Parade is starting earlier this year; 6:45 PM. Mentioned that the facility is available for use for private events. Discussed the upcoming events to be held at the Post.

Post Color Guard – Commander Brian Fleming – Announced that the primary purpose of the Honor Guard is to serve at funeral services for veterans that have passed. They also do Color Guard services in the community, and participate in local, state, and national Color Guard competitions. Mentioned that for the last two years they have won the National Color Guard competition. They have served at 68 events this year, and more are scheduled. He invited the new members to contact him if they would like to join the Honor Guard team.

Executive Board Meeting Minutes: Gene Anderson, Adjutant, read the November 2nd Executive Board Meeting minutes.

General Meeting Minutes: Commander Nye requested the following motion be made by the membership:

M/S/C to waive the reading of October 11th, 2017 General Meeting Minutes.

The motion was approved.

Commander Nye requested the following motion be made by the membership:

M/S/C to approve the October 11th, 2017 General Meeting Minutes.

The motion was approved

Correspondence: Gene Anderson, Adjutant, reported there was no correspondence to report this month.

Commander's Comments: The Commander reminded everyone that the Wednesday, December 13, 2017, General Meeting has been moved to Tuesday, December 12, 2017 to accommodate the Christmas Boat Parade event. The Christmas Boat Parade is scheduled to pass-by the Post beginning about 6:50 PM. The National Commander won't be coming to Post 291 this December. On December 11th the National Commander will be visiting the Richard Nixon Yorba Linda Post during the day, and the National Commander's dinner will be held that evening at the Orange Post No. 132.

The Commander discussed the improvements that have been recently made to the Post's buildings. The Commander reminded the membership that a membership must be signed before it is valid.

Officer Reports:

1st Vice Commander Mike Schubert – is in-charge of membership for the Post. He made his presentation later in the evening when he introduced the new members. At that time he mentioned that membership is at a 65.9% renewal rate, and this is for the first four months of the membership renewal period. This is a very phenomenal rate. Announced that 40% of our new members are post 9/11 veterans.

2nd Vice Commander Anne Borren – is in-charge of fund raising and entertainment for the Post. Discussed the upcoming activities and events at the Post. She mentioned the upcoming Veteran's Day event on November 11th. The next Casino Night is February 17th. The New Year's Eve Party will be held on December 31st, and reservations will start on December 1st. On November 11th there is a Veteran's day event beginning just before 11:00 AM. Announced that Thanksgiving and Christmas dinner will be served at the Post. Mentioned that our events are shown on line at AL291.org, and in the Sea Breeze.

3rd Vice Commander Sandy Schneeberger – is in-charge of Americanism, Boys State, the High School Oratorical Contest, and Boy Scouts. Discussed having scout troops come to the Post to meet us, and to do events. Reported that we are working to get more people involved in the Oratorical Contest that is held on January 15th. There is a need for volunteers; she will begin recruiting volunteers next month. Boys State candidates expressed a desire to volunteer with the Oratorical Contest. Discussed the Post's Boys State event, and the increase in cost per individual this coming year. Discussed the audio visual setup in the Post.

Finance Officer Paul Meye – Mentioned that our Post is divided into two sections; membership and business. Discussed the Post's finances through November 1, 2017. See the table below. We have no debts. We are in a very strong financial position.

Financial Statement Summary as of **YTD 11/1/2017**

Post 291 Business P&L By Class					YTD AS OF 11/1/2017				
YTD 2017	ADMIN	BAR	REST	BANQUET	TOT REST/BAN	HALL	CUSTOD	MARINA	TOTAL
TOT INC	\$4,327	\$511,485	\$626,730	\$325,566	\$952,295	\$121,702		\$235,257	\$1,825,066
COGS		\$341,167	\$613,056	\$262,757	\$875,813				\$1,216,980
GROSS PROFIT	\$4,327	\$170,318	\$13,674	\$62,808	\$76,482	\$121,702		\$235,257	\$608,087
EXPENSES	\$103,957	\$110,296	\$70,992	\$11,869	\$82,861	\$53,701	\$104,854	\$144,185	\$599,853
NET ORD INC	(\$99,630)	\$60,023	(\$57,318)	\$50,939	(\$6,379)	\$68,001	(\$104,854)	\$91,071	\$8,233
OTHER INC	\$399,497								
OTHER EX	\$450								
NET INCOME	\$299,417	\$60,023	(\$57,318)	\$50,939	(\$6,379)	\$68,001	(\$104,854)	\$91,071	\$407,280
BANK BAL	\$1m110k								
OPERATE ACCT	\$105k								
MBRSHIP ACCT	\$61k								
RESERVE ACCT	\$845k								

Judge Advocate Robert Wright – Nothing to report.

Service Officer Jesse Garcia – Nothing to report.

Historian Carmen Williams – Discussed the pictures that he takes at all Post events and where they can be viewed on the al291.com website.

Chaplain William Bennett – Nothing to report.

New Members

New members were introduced by 1st Vice Commander Mike Schubert, and invited to stand. Next, the new members were invited to the front of the Hall. The Commander asked each member to recruit one new member to join the Post.

A motion was made and approved by the membership to accept the new applicants into Post 291. The Commander welcomed the new members into Post 291.

New Business: Nothing to report.

Good of the Legion: Rees Lloyd, member in good standing, spoke about several issues. He reminded the membership of the Veteran's Day event being held at the Post on Saturday, November 11th, at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month; which was when the Armistice was signed ending the hostilities of WWI. Mentioned the achievements of the Honor Guard team over the past three years. Discussed the Chuck Wilder show. Described the "Sailing for Veterans with Stress" project being started by Skipper Tim Bercovitz. Next, Skipper Tim spoke about his new project.

Skipper Tim Bercovitz: said the closing prayer.

Retired the MIA/POW Flag.

Meeting Adjourned at 2035 hrs.

Respectfully submitted,

Gene Anderson
Adjutant, Newport Harbor Post 291 American Legion