



**AMERICAN LEGION NEWPORT HARBOR POST 291**  
**215 15<sup>th</sup> Street, Newport Beach, CA 92663**  
**GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**  
**Tuesday, February 14, 2018**

Meeting called to order at 1900 hrs

The Colors were advanced.

Invocation: Skipper Tim Bercovitz

Pledge of Allegiance: Commander Nye

POW/MIA Ceremony: Kevin Van Otterloo and Brian Fleming

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

**Roll Call:**

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Doug Nye, Commander                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robert Wright, Judge Advocate      | <input type="checkbox"/> Don Putzig, M.a.L.               |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mike Schubert, 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paul Meye, Finance Officer         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Al Yarrington, M.a.L. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anne Borren, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Skipper Tim Bercovitz, Sgt-at-Arms | <input type="checkbox"/> Rich Whitlinger, M.a.L.          |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sandy Schneeberger 3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jesse Garcia, Service Officer      | <input type="checkbox"/> Eric Schroeder, M.a.L.           |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jess Lawson, Jr. Past Comm              | <input type="checkbox"/> William Bennett, Chaplain                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Rob White, M.a.L.                |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gene Anderson, Adjutant                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carmen Williams, Historian         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wayne Zippi, M.a.L.   |

**EXCUSED:** William Bennett, Don Putzig, Rich Whitlinger, Eric Schroeder and Rob White

**Honored Guests:** Dan Ferrari; Bob Brower (District 29 Finance Officer), and Dr. John Minnella (District 29 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander).

**Reports from Legion Family Members & Other Guests:**

Auxiliary – Debbie Schubert, President – Discussed the success of the Sweetheart Ball. Discussed that the Paint Night is being held on Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup>; the cost is \$30 per person. The Fashion Boutique for Cystic Fibrosis is being held on Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup>, 11 AM to 3 PM, with lunch starting at 11:45. Casino Night is being held from 5 PM to 10 PM on Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup>. The Blood Drive is being held on Monday, February 19<sup>th</sup>.

SAL – Jeff Gottfredson, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander: Discussed the membership of the SONS. Discussed the success of the “shoot baskets” fund raiser held in February 2018 to raise funds to support veterans. Announced that they have raised \$70,000.00 this year.

ALYC – Bruce Batcheller, Fleet Captain – Announced several ways to join the YC. Discussed the Commodore’s Ball held in January. Discussed the Midwinter Regatta that is being held on February 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> (they need more boats), and the Whale Regatta that is being held on March 17<sup>th</sup>. Stated the YC has 2 sail boats in the harbor that are free for members use. Discussed the numerous events the YC puts on during the year. Spoke about the dive and snorkel club that meets on a monthly basis.

Bar & Restaurant – Jon Reynolds – Discussed the advantages of being a member of the Post as a Legionnaire, SON, or Auxiliary. 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 encouraged members to volunteer at the Post. Mentioned that the facility is available for use for private events.

Post Color Guard – Commander Brian Fleming – Announced the number of events they have served has increased over the past several months; they average between 80 and 100 events per year. They currently have 26 active members. Encouraged members to join. Discussed the competition team, and they are about to start their practice for this year’s competitions.

Rees Lloyd Announcement: Announced that Jess Lawson has been appointed as Flag Resolution Committee Chair by the Department Commander.

Skipper Tim Bercovitz Announcement: Skipper Tim discussed the CHOC Follies event that has been going on for the past 21 years. The show is an original show with a lot of singing and dancing, and a cast of 85 people. It’s being held from March 29<sup>th</sup> through the 30<sup>th</sup> at Orange Coast College. Invited everyone to attend.

Executive Board Meeting Minutes: Gene Anderson, Adjutant, read the February 1<sup>st</sup> 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 January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018 General Meeting Minutes.

The motion was approved.

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

**M/S/C** to approve the January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018 General Meeting Minutes.

The motion was approved.

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

Upcoming 2018 Post Election: The Commander announced that the 2018 Election will be held on Wednesday, May 9<sup>th</sup>. He announced that he has nominated 3 Post members to serve as the Election Committee. He discussed the required qualifications to serve on the Election Committee. He also described the duties of the Election Committee. He announced the Election Committee members: John Lindgren (Chair), Dan Ferrari, and Jon Reynolds. He called for a motion to ratify the Commander’s selection of the Election Committee as approved by the E-Board.

**MSC:** A motion was made, seconded, discussed, and approved to ratify the Election Committee.

The Commander announced that nominations for all Elected Officers and Executive Committee (known as Members-at-Large) will be held at the March 14<sup>th</sup> and April 11<sup>th</sup> General Membership meetings, and he described how members are to be nominated.

Commander’s Comments: The Commander stated that the Post’s Bylaws and Constitution will be amended to address a ZERO tolerance policy in regard to sexual harassment and the use of marijuana, in any form, at the Post.

Officer Reports:

1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander Mike Schubert – is in-charge of membership for the Post. He announced that there are 51 new members joining the Post this month. He mentioned that the Viet Nam event is starting on April 7<sup>th</sup>. A Swift Boat is coming up from the San Diego Maritime Museum, and that he is trying to arrange for the “Take Me Home Huey Foundation” to attend the event.

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander Anne Borren – is in-charge of fund raising and entertainment for the Post. She discussed the bands that will be playing at the Post this year, and upcoming activities and events at the Post.

3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Commander Sandy Schneeberger – is in-charge of Americanism, Boys State, the High School Oratorical Contest, and Boy Scouts. Reported on the Oratorical Contest that was held on January 15<sup>th</sup>. Stated that the Post sponsors 13 Cub Scout Troops. Discussed that Boys State is a program that trains our future leaders, she mentioned that one of the 25 the Post's Boys State representatives was elected to attend Boys Nation at the White House last year.

Finance Officer Paul Meye – Mentioned that our Post is divided into two sections; membership and business. Discussed the Post's finances through the end of January 2018. He mentioned that the Post has no debts, and that the Post is in a very strong financial position.

Judge Advocate Robert Wright – Nothing to report.

Service Officer Jesse Garcia – He discussed the upcoming Vietnam event being held in April.

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 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander Mike Schubert, and invited to stand. Next, the new members were invited to the front of the Hall.

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: The Commander spoke about a letter from the National Commander that identified Post 291 as one of six King Size Posts. Mike Schubert spoke about the UCI's sailing classes that are held at the City facility just to the west of the Post, and that the Post would reimburse Post members 70% of the cost of the class with proof of completion and receipt of payment. Rees Lloyd, Post of member in good standing, spoke about the "Sailing for Veterans with Stress" project being started by Skipper Tim Bercovitz, and mentioned that February 15, 1973 is the day our POWs came home from Vietnam.

Skipper Tim Bercovitz: said the closing prayer.

Retired the MIA/POW Flag.

Meeting Adjourned at 2053 hrs.

Respectfully submitted,

Gene Anderson  
Adjutant, Newport Harbor Post 291 American Legion