



**AMERICAN LEGION NEWPORT HARBOR POST 291**  
**215 15<sup>th</sup> Street, Newport Beach, CA 92663**  
**GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, September 13, 2017**

Meeting called to order at 1906 hrs

The Colors were advanced.

Invocation: Skipper Tim Bercovitz

Pledge of Allegiance: Commander Nye

National Anthem: lead by Steve D'Arca?

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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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, Eric Schroeder

**Honored Guests:** Dan Ferrari; Bob Brower (District 29 Finance Officer), Walt Wagner, and Ryan Long (Boys Nation Delegate).

**Speakers:**

Sandy Schneeberger, 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Commander, introduced Ryan Long (Junior at University High School) as a Post 291 delegate to Boys State, and as having been elected by the Boys State delegates to represent the California as a delegate at Boys Nation. Ryan Long gave a speech about his experiences at Boys State and Boys Nation.

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

Auxiliary – Cat Katz, President – The Family Night Movie, Moana, is on September 23<sup>rd</sup> on the Patio at 6:00 PM. The Red Cross Blood Drive, is being held on October 9<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 to 4:00. The Children's Halloween Party is on Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 to 3:00. Troop Shipping is on Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM.

SAL – Jeff Gottfredson, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander – Recognized all the new members joining the Post tonight. Discussed the SONS concierge service at the Post. Mentioned the Christmas Boat Parade and the SONS involvement in putting it on.

ALYC – Mike Berdine, Commodore – Spoke about their General Membership meeting. Announced the kick-off was held for the Sailing for the Visually Impaired event being held on October 7<sup>th</sup>. Requested volunteers and people with boats to volunteer. Stated that the Sundowner Races ended on Monday, September 11<sup>th</sup> were very successful. The Announced the Cruise to Two Harbors, Catalina, and the Blue Water Regatta Race are upcoming. The Fishing Tournament is on September 23<sup>rd</sup>. Stated the Yacht Club currently has 982 members. Announced their renewals start in October. Discussed how Legionnaires can join the Yacht Club.

Bar & Restaurant – Commander Nye – 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. Discussed the line dancing event/Taco Tuesday that happens on Tuesday evenings at the Post, and that we have a hootenanny every Tuesday afternoon. Discussed the Friday night dinner dance with a different band every week. Announced that we have a band on Saturday afternoon and that the kitchen is open until 3:00 PM. On Sundays we have a Sunday Brunch with a band. Invited every member to come down and support the Post.

Post Color Guard – Commander Brian Fleming – Announced that they compete at the Department (State Conventions) and the National Conventions. Presented the members of the Color Guard Competition Team, and presented the two trophies that they won at the National Convention; one for “Military Open Class” and one for the “Advanced Retired” and the National Commander’s Color Guard title.

Skipper Tim Bercovitz, Sgt-at-Arms: – Addressed the new members coming in tonight and mentioned they should not wear their covers until they are accepted into the Post.

Executive Board Meeting Minutes: Gene Anderson, Adjutant, read the September 7<sup>th</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 September 7<sup>th</sup>, 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 discussed that the new members must sign their membership card before it is valid. Discussed the use of the parking card.

Rees Lloyd, Post Member: - Spoke about the National Convention. Discussed the resolutions that the Post supported.

- 1) The 21 Second Resolution that calls for all Americans to pause on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of each month for 21 seconds in remembrance of the veterans that have given their lives in defense of the country.
- 2) The Flag Amendment Resolution to protect the flag from desecration.

He discussed the role Commander Nye played in addressing the National Committee and how the delegate assignments were not equitably assigned to Posts. He also mentioned that Commander Nye addressed the audience in regard to the decline in national membership and that they should take into consideration and find out why California Post 291 is actively growing. He finished by mentioning that President Trump spoke at the National Convention.

#### Officer Reports:

1<sup>st</sup> 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 57% renewal rate, and this is for the first two months of the membership renewal period. This is a very phenomenal rate. Since the first of July, including tonight, we have brought in approximately 170 new members.

2<sup>nd</sup> 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 Frank Sinatra Night on September 29<sup>th</sup>. The Halloween Party is on October 27<sup>th</sup>, and Casino Night is November 4<sup>th</sup>. Mentioned that our events are shown on line at AL291.org, and in the Sea Breeze.

3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Commander Sandy Schneeberger – is in-charge of Americanism, Boys State, the High School Oratorical Contest, and the Boy Scouts. She made her presentation earlier in the evening when she introduced Ryan Long, Post 291’s Boys State and National State delegate.

Finance Officer Paul Meye – Mentioned that our Post is divided into two sections; membership and business. Discussed the preliminary numbers for August 2017. See the table below. We have no debts. We are in a very strong financial position. Stated that all guests of members must sign-in for us to be in abidance with our liquor license. Discussed the proper use of the gate card.

Financial Statement Summary as of YTD 9/6/2017

Post 291 Business P&L By Class					YTD AS OF 9/6/2017				
YTD 2017	ADMIN	BAR	REST	BANQUET	TOT REST/BAN	HALL	CUSTOD	MARINA	TOTAL
TOT INC	\$449	\$423,031	\$518,325	\$266,767	\$785,091	\$101,844		\$212,001	\$1,522,416
COGS		\$285,766	\$501,476	\$218,207	\$719,684				\$1,005,450
GROSS PROFIT	\$449	\$137,264	\$16,849	\$48,559	\$65,408	\$101,844		\$212,001	\$516,965
EXPENSES	\$82,223	\$86,698	\$49,986	\$9,518	\$64,408	\$42,464	\$83,573	\$123,310	\$483,209
NET ORD INC	(\$81,714)	\$50,566	(\$38,575)	\$39,042	\$467	\$59,380	(\$83,573)	\$88,691	\$33,757
OTHER INC	\$333,246								
OTHER EX	\$450								
NET INCOME	\$251,022	\$50,566	(\$38,575)	\$39,042	\$467	\$59,380	(\$83,573)	\$88,691	\$366,552
BANK BAL	\$1,070m								
OPERATE ACCT	\$199k								
MBRSHIP ACCT	\$72								
RESERVE ACCT	\$695k								

Commander Nye – Mentioned that wives of members that are deceased, and are not members of the Auxiliary, cannot gain access to the Post based their husband’s membership. They can attend as guests of other members in good standing.

Judge Advocate Robert Wright – Nothing to report.

Service Officer Jesse Garcia – Discussed the Vietnam Documentary being shown on PBS. He also discussed a Christmas fund raiser to provide gifts for the children of the families the Post helps through the Holiday Season. Gift cards are preferred and they can be left in the office.

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

Chaplain William Bennett – Nothing to report.

New Members

1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander Mike Schubert announced that we are bringing in two WWII vets, two that served in Korea, 37 Vietnam vets, four from Lebanon, three from Panama, and ten from the Persian Gulf. 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. The Commander asked each member to find one new member to join the Post.

A motion was made and approved 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: Nothing to report.

Skipper Tim Bercovitz: said the closing prayer.

Retired the MIA/POW Flag.

Meeting Adjourned at 2035 hrs.

Respectfully submitted,

Gene Anderson  
Adjutant