



**AMERICAN LEGION NEWPORT HARBOR POST 291**  
**215 15<sup>th</sup> Street, Newport Beach, CA 92663**  
**GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, August 8, 2018**

Meeting called to order at 1900 hours

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 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 type="checkbox"/> Anne Borren, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Skipper Tim Bercovitz, Sgt-at-Arms | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rich Whittlinger, M.a.L. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sandy Schneeberger 3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jesse Garcia, Service Officer      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robert Wright, M.a.L.    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jess Lawson, Jr. Past Comm          | <input type="checkbox"/> Open, 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:** Anne Borren, Sandy Schneeberger, and Rob White

**Honored Guests:** Bob Brower.

The Commander announced that Bob Brower was honored as Legionnaire of the Year at the Department's Convention.

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

**Auxiliary** – Debbie Schubert, President – Discussed the things the Auxiliary does for families before, during and after soldiers are deployed. They do birthday and Christmas parties for the kids. She mentioned the date of their next General Meeting. They are hosting a Wine Tasting event on September 20<sup>th</sup>; the cost is \$25. Their Blood Drive is on October 8<sup>th</sup>; they do two blood drives a year.

**SAL** – Jeff Gottfredson, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander: Announced the purpose of the Sons is to raise funds and support the veterans. Their first fund raiser raised over \$50,000. In September they are going to be taking veterans with PTSD out deep sea fishing. Announced they contributed \$5,000 to Habitat for Humanity to build two homes for veterans. Encouraged all members with sons and grandsons to get them involved with them.

**ALYC** – Doug Green, Commodore: – The Yacht Club is the on the water extension of the Post. The Yacht Club members pay a membership fee that is in addition to the Post's membership fee. Announced that there is an off-shore regatta happening this weekend. There is a fishing tournament coming up on the 18<sup>th</sup>. There will be a 3-day event to Catalina Island in September. Announced the upcoming Sailing for the Visually Impaired that they put on with the Women's Sailing Association of Orange County will be on October 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Post Color Guard** – Commander Brian Fleming –He mentioned that their two main purposes are to provide military funeral ceremonies for veterans who have served honorably in the United States Military, and to provide support services for community events with numerous variations of Color Guard teams. They average 80 – 90 services per year. Announced that 8 members of the Color Guard team will be going to Minneapolis to compete at the 100<sup>th</sup> National Convention at the end of August. He mentioned they will be defending their title as the National Commander’s Color Guard.

Color Guard member Kevin Van Otterloo spoke about the POW/MIA Ceremony that is performed every time we meet. He stated the reason for performing this ceremony is to insure that we never forget our POW/MIAs, and to repatriate them by returning their remains to the USA.

**Skipper Tim Berkovitz** spoke about Sailing for Vets, a program to help veterans, current military, and first responders cope with traumatic stress. Announced that on August 18<sup>th</sup> another group will be taken out.

**Bar & Restaurant** – Jon Reynolds – Discussed the advantages of being a member of the Post as a Legionnaire. Encouraged people to take advantage of the amenities offered by the Post. Announced that on every other Thursday night there is Jazz and Blues on the Bay in the west patio. There is also bands on Saturday afternoon in the summertime, and on every Sunday. Mentioned there is a new site for the Post at al291.com.

The Commander announced that we rent out the Post for special events. He mentioned the Christmas Parade event and that reservations are required. He stated we have 44 employees in the kitchen/bar, and the restaurant prepares great food. He discussed Burn Your Own burgers and hot dogs on our BBQs all day and evening.

**Executive Board Meeting Minutes:** Gene Anderson, Adjutant, read the August 2<sup>nd</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 July 11<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 June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018 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 made several general comments. He mentioned that both the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Commanders are absent tonight. The Commander mentioned that we are currently largest active Post. He reminded the new members that they need to sign the membership cards they received tonight in order for them to be active. He reminded them that they need to have it with them at all times when they are at the Post. Reminded everyone that shoes are always required when they are at the Post, this includes children. He mentioned that the health department comes in on their own schedule, so we always need to be ready when they show up.

He discussed the WWII/Korean War event. There were 330 people in attendance. He thanked all the volunteers that assisted with this event. He mentioned that many of them showed up at 9:00 AM for a 12:00 luncheon. They use this time to talk with one another. He discussed other events held at the Post including the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, and the Viet Nam Party. He mentioned that Labor Day is coming up.

**Officer Reports:**

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander Mike Schubert** – is in-charge of membership for the Post. Mike Schubert announced that there are 81 new members joining the Post this month and that 38 of them are present. He also discussed the Viet Nam Party and how it has grown over the years. He mentioned that in partnership with the San Diego Maritime Museum we are able to bring up the only surviving Swift Boat from the Viet Nam War.

He announced that after one month we are at 25% renewal. He also discussed the Adult Sailing Classes Program held in conjunction with the Marina Park Community Sailing Center/Sailing Center; they instruct in paddleboarding, kayak, and basic sailing. The Post has a special program for all Post 291 Legionnaires, and that the Post will reimburse Legionnaires 70% of the cost upon their proof of completing the class.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander Anne Borren** – is in-charge of fund raising and entertainment for the Post. The Commander pointed out that upcoming event flyers are on all the tables. Discussed the bands that will be playing in the near future.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Commander Sandy Schneeberger** – is in-charge of Americanism, Boys State, the High School Oratorical Contest, and Boy Scouts. The Commander spoke for Sandy, and discussed the programs that she worked on, including Boys State and the Oratorical Contest. Announced that we sent 27 young men to Boys State this year.

Jess Lawson spoke about Boys State and that it addresses leadership and procedural activities of our government for boys in their junior year of high school. The point of the program is not to be a Republican, Democrat, or an Independent. The issue is to train young men on how the political policies of this Country work. He discussed both Boys State and Boys Nation.

**Finance Officer Paul Meye** – is in-charge of Post Operations. He mentioned that our Post is divided into two sections; membership and business. Discussed the Post’s finances through the end of July 31, 2018. See the table below. He mentioned that the Post has no debts, and that the Post is in a very strong financial position.

**Financial Statement Executive Summary as of YTD 7/31/2018**

Post 291 Business P&L By Class									
YTD 2018	ADMIN	BAR	REST	BANQUET	TOTAL REST/BAN	HALL	CUSTOD	MARINA	TOTAL
TOT INC	5061	373,899	428,824	175,687	604,511	63,365		162,193	1,209,030
COGS		250,006	448,742	153,788	602,530				852,536
GROSS PROFIT	5061	123,893	(19,918)	21,900	1982	63,365		162,193	356,494
EXPENSES	79,653	87,315	58,146	8370	66,516	40,043	94,523	91,391	459,440
NET ORD INC	(74,592)	36,579	(78,064)	13,530	(64,534)	23,322	(94,523)	70,802	(102,946)
OTHER INC	212,240		1,500		1,500				213,740
OTHER EX									
NET INCOME	137,648	36,579	(76,564)	13,530	(63,034)	23,322	(94,523)	70,802	110,794
BANK BAL	1m195k								
OPERATE ACCT	103k								
MBRSHIP ACCT	135k								
RESERVE ACCT	847k								

**Judge Advocate Robert Wright** – is in-charge of the Post’s Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules and Regulations. He had nothing to report.

**Service Officer Jesse Garcia** – is in charge of Veteran's Assistance Programs. He had nothing to report.

**Historian Carmen Williams** – is in-charge of the Pictorial History of the Post. He had nothing to report.

**Chaplain William Bennett** – is in-charge of the Spiritual Welfare of Post Members. The Commander stated that the Chaplain position is vacant, and that he had nothing to report.

### **New Members**

New members were introduced by 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander Mike Schubert, and they were invited to stand when their name was called. Next, the new members were invited to the front of the Hall for a picture.

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**

Rees Lloyd mentioned that Post 291 is the largest and best Post in the United States because it is involved in so many different things. This Post gives everybody here the opportunity continue to serve in an honorable way for honorable causes. He discussed the four pillars of the American Legion. Discussed Sailing for Vets and Equine Therapy with Monte Roberts, the Horse Whisperer. He discussed the Flag Amendment that would amend the Constitution to protect the flag from desecration, and that it is supported by Maj. Gen. Patrick H. Brady (MOH, Vietnam). He discussed saving the Bladensburg, Md. Peace Cross.

The Commander thanked all the people who volunteer at the Post.

### **Good of the Legion**

Nothing to report.

**Skipper Tim Bercovitz**: said the closing prayer.

Retired the MIA/POW Flag.

Meeting Adjourned at 2026 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Gene Anderson  
Adjutant, Newport Harbor Post 291 American Legion