



AMERICAN LEGION NEWPORT HARBOR POST 291
215 15th Street, Newport Beach, CA 92663
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, January 9, 2019

Meeting called to order at 1905 hours

The Colors were advanced.

Invocation: Ken Wilson

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:

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| <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 st 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 nd 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 rd 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ken Wilson, Chaplain | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kevin Van Otterloo, 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:

Honored Guests: Martha Huff, Bob Brower, Dan Ferrari, Barbara Hallett, and Josh Cheadle (2018 Boys Nation President).

Reports from Legion Family Members & Other Guests:

Josh Cheadle (2018 Boys Nation President from Post 291) made a presentation of his experiences while attending Boys Nation and being elected President.

Auxiliary – Debbie Schubert, President – She mentioned their mission is to support the veterans and all their programs. They have various fundraisers to support veterans and their families. They have two troop shipping a year and they ship 100s of boxes. She mentioned that they have collection boxes just outside the doors to the main hall. Announced they are having their first general meeting of the year on January 16th. She discussed the ways the ladies can join the Auxiliary. She discussed the way high school kids can get their volunteer hours completed by volunteering with them. She announced that on January 24th they are having a wine tasting event in the main hall, and on February 4th is their first of two blood drives this year. She mentioned that Girls State will begin on February 14th, and the Sweethearts Ball is on February 16th. On February 23rd is their annual Fashion Show.

SAL – Jeff Gottfredson, 1st Vice Commander – He mentioned that their program is the largest in the country with just under 1,600 members. Their responsibilities are to serve the veterans. They run the concierge/security program at the Post. He mentioned their event on Flag Day event which is held for the kids in the area of the Post. He mentioned they hold 3 or 4 fishing trips for veterans with PTSD. They pay for everything but the fishing license. He discussed the success of their Christmas Boat Parade event. He mentioned they are planning an event for Desert Storm veterans during August. He stated they gave two \$1,000 scholarships to students, and they are looking to increase the number. They are for students attending Fullerton, UCI and Saddleback. They are planning to hold a fundraiser in the coming months. He invited the veterans to have their kids and grandkids join them.

Yacht Club – No presentation was made.

Post Color Guard – Commander Brian Fleming – He recapped how they did last year; they did a total of 82 events. They brought in \$11,385 in donations. 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. Mentioned they are prepared for the upcoming year.

Bar & Restaurant – Jon Reynolds – He mentioned the menu that is served at the Post. He mentioned the Post is located right on the bay and it's a great place for members to bring their family and friends to enjoy themselves. The Post has an outstanding bar and kitchen, and you can rent the place for weddings, celebrations of life, and other parties. He encouraged people to use the facilities at the Post. He mentioned there are a lot of events coming up. He stated it is a family friendly place. He encouraged people to talk with him if they are interested in using the facility.

Executive Board Meeting Minutes: Gene Anderson, Adjutant, read the January 3rd 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 3, 2019 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 3, 2019, 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, and he welcomed the new members to the Post. He discussed the overall membership at the Post; approximately 4,000 veterans and 7,700 total members. He mentioned that we have different rules and policies than other Posts due to our size. He stressed that everyone should read the policies. He mentioned that we have no life guard on duty, so the parents need to watch their children when they are on the beach. He also stated that we have a strict rule that everyone, including children, must always wear shoes. Everyone must also abide by the rules. He confirmed that people should not feed the birds. When you get up from the table always cover it so the birds won't take your food. Overall the Post is running very well. He mentioned the limited parking at the Post. He mentioned that the Post membership card must be signed to be activated and must always be carried when at the Post. He discussed the SONs role of proving security at the parking lot and front entrances to the Post, and that its intent is to keep everyone safe at the Post safe. He stated that entrance to the Post requires your signed membership card; you will not be admitted if you only have your parking card. He commented that if you follow the rules everything will be alright. He reminded the new members that we don't allow outside food at the Post due to Health Department rules. You can bring birthday cakes to the Post. He mentioned that the kitchen is closed on Mondays, but we have "Burn Your Own;" this is not "Bring Your Own." Burgers and hot dogs can be purchased at the bar. Tuesday is Line Dancing and Taco/Mexican night. The Hootenanny music is on Tuesday afternoon under the big top. Wednesday is meeting night. Thursday is Family Dinner night with special dishes. Friday night there's dinner followed by a band. Bands play on Saturday (when it is warm) and every Sunday.

The Commander finished by talking about the Christmas Boat Parade, Christmas and New Year's Eve events.

Officer Reports:

1st Vice Commander Mike Schubert – is in-charge of membership for the Post. Mike Schubert announced that we are at 73% renewal. In the next three months we should hit 100%. He mentioned that we were dark in December and that we didn't bring any new members in. Announced that today we are bringing in 75 new members for December and January, and that 40% are post 9/11 veterans. There 26 new members here tonight. He discussed the upcoming Vietnam event that is held at the beginning of April, and that the last remaining Swift Boat from Vietnam will be at the event.

2nd Vice Commander Anne Borren – is in-charge of fund raising and entertainment for the Post. Invited the veterans to come to the Post and enjoy the events. She mentioned there are a lot of events coming up. She mentioned that on this coming Friday it is Sinatra night, and that reservations should be made. Country Night will be held at the first part of February. She mentioned the event flyers that are on the tables. She stated that Casino Night will be held on February 23rd.

3rd Vice Commander Sandy Schneeberger – is in-charge of Americanism, Boys State, the High School Oratorical Contest, and Boy Scouts. She mentioned that she has the opportunity to work with Junior and Senior High students to pass on patriotic traditions. She mentioned that the Oratorical Contest is coming up at the end of January. It is a contest that is a memorized speech. The theme is Americanism. She went on to discuss Boys State. We interview about 50 boys and send about 25 to Sacramento for one week to participate in the "forming of a government" event. Invited members to have their children get involved in Boys State. She mentioned we sponsor the Cub Scouts. She closed by saying she would like to have more involvement by our members in these events.

Finance Officer Paul Meye – is in-charge of Post Operations. He mentioned that the Post is divided into two sections; membership and business. Paul Meye discussed the Post's finances through December 31, 2018. Refer to the table below.

Financial Statement Executive Summary as of YTD 12/31/2018

Post 291 Business P&L By Class									
YTD 2018	ADMIN	BAR	REST	BANQUET	TOTAL REST/BAN	HALL	CUSTOD	MARINA	TOTAL
TOT INC	8,161	628,365	782,324	314,6582	1,096,992	126,398		279,228	2,139,143
COGS		418,926	806,224	278,350	1,084,574				1,503,500
GROSS PROFIT	8,161	209,440	(23,900)	36,318	12,418	126,398		279,228	635,644
EXPENSES	144,700	141,994	102,308	20,905	123,214	72,030	160,944	163,358	806,240
NET ORD INC	(136,539)	67,445	(126,208)	15,412	(110,796)	54,367	(160,944)	115,870	(170,596)
OTHER INC	428,635		1,500		1,500			1,950	432,085
OTHER EX									
NET INCOME	292,097	67,445	(124,708)	15,412	(109,296)	54,367	(160,944)	117,820	261,489
BANK BAL	1m197k		1m168k						
OPERATE ACCT	137k		113k						
MBRSHIP ACCT	50k		102k						
RESERVE ACCT	902k		845k						

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. The Commander spoke for Jesse, and he had nothing to report.

Historian Carmen Williams – is in-charge of the Pictorial History of the Post. He thanked the people that sent him photos of the New Year's Eve event. He mentioned that the photos will be downloaded to our website in the near-term. Mentioned that our website is al291.org and people can go to it to find out about the Post.

Chaplain Ken Wilson – is in-charge of the Spiritual Welfare of Post Members. He stated he is here to assist veterans in need of someone to talk to.

New Members

New members were introduced by 1st 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

The Key Largo Sail Boat Raffle was held. The winner was announced. Two additional tickets were drawn in case the winner declined to take the boat.

Good of the Legion

Richard Reyna announced that the Post is starting the Veterans Yacht Club. The goal of the Yacht Club is to get veterans and their families on the water. He mentioned that he has applications and they are also at the office. He mentioned he is looking for volunteers who want to serve and join the Yacht Club.

Rees Lloyd mentioned we are the biggest and the best Post in the United States. He stated that the veterans in the room have served their country honorably during times of war. He mentioned veterans of this Post can continue to serve with honor our comrade veterans. He recognized the outstanding work by Sandy Schneeberger with Boys State and having Josh Cheadle, Boys Nation President, speak at the Post tonight. He mentioned that all the money that supports Boys State comes from this Post – not from outside sources. He talked about the Post Color Guard team and the outstanding service they do and that they have performed and won the competitions at the State and National conventions. He talked about the Skipper Tim Berkovitz's Sailing for Vets program; the aim is to help veterans with stress.

He discussed the things that symbolize what we are doing at the American Legion. One of the projects is the Defense of Veterans Memorials project with the intent to save the Mohave Desert Cross and the Bladensburg, Md., Peace Cross.

Ken Wilson, Chaplain: said the closing prayer.

Retired the MIA/POW Flag.

Meeting Adjourned at 2043 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Gene Anderson
Adjutant, Newport Harbor Post 291 American Legion