



AMERICAN LEGION NEWPORT HARBOR POST 291
215 15th Street, Newport Beach, CA 92663
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES –APPROVED--
Wednesday, 14 September 2022

Meeting called to order at approximately 1900 hours

The Colors were advanced.

Invocation: Ken Wilson

Pledge of Allegiance: Commander Evin Planto

POW/MIA Ceremony: Kevin Van Otterloo

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

ROLL CALL:

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Evin Planto, Commander | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Diane Torrianni, Judge Advocate | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kevin Van Otterloo, M.a.L. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brian Fleming Jr., 1 st Vice | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hal McNaughton, Finance Officer | <input type="checkbox"/> Eric Schroeder, M.a.L. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ray Ricard, 2 nd Vice | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Skipper Tim Bercovitz, Sgt-at-Arms | <input type="checkbox"/> Nick Giordano, M.a.L. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cindy Baker, 3 rd Vice | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cory Vigil, Service Officer | <input type="checkbox"/> David Zamudio, M.a.L. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jon Reynolds, Jr. Past Comm | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ken Wilson, Chaplain | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mike Schubert, M.a.L. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard Reyna, Adjutant | <input type="checkbox"/> Gary Mathieson, Historian | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dennis de Rosia, M.a.L. |

Meeting has Quorum

Excused: G. Mathieson, E. Schroeder, N. Giordano, D. Zamudio

Honored Guests:

Luca Fasulo, Boys State Delegate

Judy Leonardi, American Legion Baseball

Reports from Legion Family Members & Other Guests:

Auxiliary – Dana Johnston, 2nd Vice President

- Online Renewal Available
- Sept. 21st New Member Introduction Meeting
- Oct. 10th Aux Blood Drive
- Oct. 23rd Bunko Party

Sons of the American Legion – Tim Sullivan, Commander

- 9/11- Patriots Day Review
- Spoke about Community Involvement
- Upcoming overnight fishing trip
- Supporting Veterans and SUP
- Planning for X-Mas Boat Parade
- Flag Day- June 14th

American Legion Yacht Club – Tommy Wheeler, Commodore



American Legion Yacht Club



Membership:
Up to 860 changing daily.

Events
Sundowners Series completed
Model Yacht Series completed
Sunday Harbor Cruise 8/7—15 attendees
Burial at Sea 8/9—11 boats participated
Ocean Series Race #2 8/14
Saturday evening Social - approximately 50 members attended
August New Member Orientation 10 new members
Cruise out to Emerald Bay- 15 boats and 65 members
Dive and Snorkel club re engaged

Events coming up
BAC Master Angler Billfish Tournament 9/9-10
Saturday Evening Social 9/10 - 5-7 PM West Patio
Sunday Harbor Cruise 9/11 sold out
BAC Master Angler Billfish Tournament Awards Dinner 9/11
Coastal Cleanup 9/17
Argosy 2 Day Race to Long Beach and Back- 9/17 & 18
Argosy Awards & Pizza Party 9/18
Sundowners Series Awards Dinner 9/25
Great Pacific Air Show 9/30

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AMERICAN LEGION POST 291 HONOR GUARD REPORT



- **Post 291 Honor Guard / Color Guard**
 - 53 events completed in 2022
 - 4 additional pending for the month
 - 22 active members

 - Averaging approx 6+ / services per month

 - National Competition: 2 First Place Trophies And The National Title

General Membership Meeting Minutes: Commander Planto requested the following motion be presented.

- A motion was presented to waive the reading of the Minutes for 10 August 2022 General Meeting.
- M/S/C: Carried Unanimously
- A motion was presented to approve the Minutes for 10 August 2022 General Meeting.
- M/S/C: Carried Unanimously

Correspondence

- None to report

Officer Reports:

14 September 2022

GMM Minutes

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Commander Evin Planto –

- City Audit review in progress
- Attended National Convention
- Upcoming WWII/Korean War Luncheon
- Discussed new purchases in kitchen and HVAC in Main Hall.
- Seawall Project Update

Adjutant Richard Reyna –

No Report

1st Vice Commander Brian Fleming Jr. –



The graphic features a blue background with a white central banner. The banner contains the text "AMERICAN LEGION POST 291" and "1ST VICE REPORT" in red. Below the banner, the text "Current Post Membership = 4,237 Legionnaires" is displayed in black. Further down, membership statistics for 2023 are listed, including a goal of 4,151 and a current count of 2,145. The graphic is decorated with three American Legion seals: one on the left, one on the right, and one in the bottom left corner.

AMERICAN LEGION POST 291
1ST VICE REPORT

Current Post Membership
= 4,237 Legionnaires

Current Membership Numbers for 2023@ National = 2092 (50.4%)

- **2022-2023 Goal = 4,151 (??)**
- **2059 more needed to reach our goal**
- **Good thru 2022 = 2145**
- **New Members 2023 = 194 2022 = 468**
- **57 more new members this month**

2nd Vice Commander Ray Ricard

- Reviewed upcoming events

3rd Vice Commander Cindy Baker



3rd Vice Cmdr. Cindy Baker

- **Boys State**
- **Boy Scouts**

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Jr. Past Commander Jon Reynolds –

- No Report

Finance Officer Hal McNaughton

- Provided update and review of the Post finances, all is well.

Historian Gary Mathieson

- Excused

Sergeant at Arms “Skipper Tim” Bercovitz

- No Report

Chaplain Ken Wilson

- Encouraged “Buddy Call” support and participation
- Encouraged we all embrace “faith” as we wish for strength and guidance
- Spoke of Chaplain Corner
- Announced he is resigning and introduced his replacement Brad McDermott
- Spoke of and encouraged Veteran “Coffee Talk” Meetings at the Post participation

Service Officer Cory Vigil



Service Officer - Cory Vigil

Veterans Served in August:

A. Items approved or rejected:

1. **AIR FORCE veteran** requested assistance with motel voucher after release from VA Long Beach. Cancer patient. \$716.59 Referred by VOA.
 2. **NAVY veteran** requested assistance with storage for \$330.54. Referred by OC211.
 3. **ARMY veteran** requested assistance with rent for \$1000.00. Veteran is a Post member in good standing.
 4. **USMC veteran** requested assistance with DMV registration for \$184.53. Referred by US VETS.
 5. **USMC veteran** requested rental assistance for \$1000.00. Referred by the Tierney Center.
 6. **NAVY veteran** requested Lyft and motel voucher for \$960.75. Referred by the Long Beach VA.
 7. **USMC veteran** requested motel voucher for 7 days in the amount of \$882.00. Referred by the Tierney Center.
 8. **National Guard** requested motel voucher for 3 days in the amount of \$378.00. Referred by MHA Santa Ana.
 9. **ARMY veteran** requested assistance with Toll Road Tickets for \$223.10. Referred by OC211.
 10. **NAVY veteran** requested rental assistance for \$750.00. Referred from the VA Stand Down.
 11. **Veteran** requested rental assistance for \$75.00 for late fee. Referred by the Anaheim VA.
 12. **Army Veteran** requested motel assistance for 5 days until housing is available \$505.80. Referred by the AL HB 133.
 13. **Army Veteran Family** requested burial assistance for \$1000.00 referred by OC211.
- \$8,006.31**

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Service Officer - Cory Vigil

\$1000.00 for the VA Santa Ana Stand Down Food on August 17th, 2022.

\$1000.00 Gas Cards.

\$775.00 VAREP Casino Night Gift Card Raffle.

\$550.00 sponsorship for veteran Casino Night Fundraiser.

2 burial referrals.

Ordered 7 DD-214's.

Referred 8 veterans for disability compensation.

Referred 4 veterans/families for housing.

Referred 2 veterans for employment.

Purchased dog food for 1 veteran service dog.

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Service Officer - Cory Vigil

Monthly Update for Service Officer			for the Sept 8, 2022 E-Board	
6510 Donations	2021 Actuals	2022 Budget	2022 Actual thru Aug 31	% of 2022 Budget thru Aug 31
6519 Honor Guard	2,842.34	2,500.00	245.39	10%
6521 Unrestricted Service Officer Expense	10,000.00	15,000.00	12,572.81	84%
6522 Restricted VEAF expense	84,573.73	100,000.00	58,885.85	59%
6515 Oratorical	-	-	-	0%
6510 Donations other	21,804.50	20,000.00	27,646.85	138%
Total 6510 expenses	119,220.57	137,500.00	99,350.90	72%
4520 VEAF current balance			78,039.09	
Aug Donations Out			3035.26	
Aug VEAF Donations Out			8306.31	

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Judge Advocate, Diane Torrianni

- No Report

Members at Large

- Mike Shubert – Asked for volunteers to assist with a Post 9/11 Event planning and a 100-year anniversary committee for Post 291

Unfinished Business

- No Unfinished Business

Induction of New Members

- Presented by 1st Vice Commander, Brian Fleming, Jr.
 - COUNT: 57 Inductees
 - Motion to approve the new inductees into Post 291, by Cmdr. Planto
 - M/S/C; Motion Carries Unanimously

New Business

- Commander Evin Planto asked for Motion to appoint Brad McDermott as Chaplain.
- M/S/C: Carried Unanimously

Good of the Legion

- None to Report

Ken Wilson - Closing Prayer.

The Meeting was adjourned at 2019 hours.