



AMERICAN LEGION

POST 96

PO Box 7096
Surprise, Arizona 85374-0101



Newsletter No. 168

azalpost96.com

August 2017

Commander: Andy LaCour 623-910-1503
Sr. Vice-Commander: Mike Elliott 623-533-4377
Jr. Vice-Commander: Jerry Pontius 623-582-6677
Finance Officer: George Van de Langeryt 623-547-6668
Adjutant: Jim Aiello 623-546-4675
Executive Committee:
 Nancie Scalercio, Andy LaCour, Mike Elliott
 George Van de Langeryt, Jerry Pontius

Post Officers

Chaplain: Joe Urshan 623-584-4653
Sergeant-At-Arms: Jim Becker 714-310-9863
Judge Advocate: George Van de Langeryt 623-547-6668
Service Officer: Vacant
Membership: Ed Foerster 602-881-0233
Photographer: Dave Willis 623-628-7662
Newsletter: George Van de Langeryt gvan8888@aol.com
Past Commander: Nancie Scalercio 623-826-3488

The Surprise Post 96 Newsletter is the official publication of the Post.

IMPORTANT NOTICE!

Next Post 96 Officers meeting on Wednesday August 2 at 1600 at Arizona Traditions Classroom

Next Post 96 Business Meeting August 17 at 1900 Social hour 1800

Meetings held at Arizona Traditions Neighborhood Center.

17221 N Citrus Rd., Surprise 85374

Next American Legion Riders Meeting Saturday August 12 at 1800

Sands Chevrolet Surprise Conference Room

Happy Birthday to the US Coast Guard on August 4.

COMMANDERS CORNER

August - Hot Humid Rainy. Just why the Good Lord gave us air conditioning. It'll be over shortly, so suck it up.

Man, things go quickly when you're in the driver's seat. July's meetings are over and August is upon us. The Executive Board is meeting next week at Arizona Traditions Classroom, our previous meeting room. All are welcome to attend. Questions, suggestions, etc. are not only welcome but needed if we want to progress into future. Problems are also welcome. But don't drop them and run, make sure you bring a possible solution as well as that will start discussion.

From my perspective, meetings went well and I hope peace & tranquility will reign.

News: Past Commander Nancie Scalercio has gracefully accepted the lead for two projects.

First - renaming the post to "Joseph Q. Johnson American Legion Surprise Post 96." To honor the "Baby of Bataan". Authorized by the motion and affirmative vote at July's Meeting. There are some

National regulations that we have to follow to get the new name in place.

Second - establish an Auxiliary. Nancie has received information from national to that end. Result is that there is no minimum number of members required to start the auxiliary. Therefore, it's pretty much a done deal. Nancie will report to the membership, time permitting, or will report to me and I will present her report.

Jim Aiello had a medical issue, but has recovered well and will be back maybe in time for the regular August Membership Meeting DARN!!! Dave Willis had a fall and now is being scheduled for a knee replacement.

That's it from the Commander.

For God & Country,
 Andy LaCour, Commander
 Legion Rider

FROM THE SR VICE-COMMANDER

I am a little tardy in getting my newsletter article ready for George, but, some of us, George, Andy, and I, went to the State American Legion

Convention and a 100% Membership awards was given to our Post.

I congratulate everyone who had put efforts into bringing more members in. One way to help get the word out for membership is to wear your cover and/or shirt everywhere. You would be surprised at how many ask what the American Legion is all about. I did that when Gail and I visited California recently. I at least was recognized for my service and accumulated hours to report as support for our Post. From the time, I left my door (in this case, it was hotel door) to the time I return counted as reportable hours. Because I am a rider, I get to report my hours there too. I was also prepared to give out an application to become a member. I guess my point can be taken from Ed Foerster; Recruit! Or from the riders; recruit - recruit - recruit!

Mike Elliott, Sr. Vice-Commander
Legion Rider

FROM THE JR VICE-COMMANDER

Welcome all Ladies and Gents, there is not a lot going on in these hot months other than our monthly meetings. Big news! We will be changing the name of our Post to honor Joseph Q. Johnson, the Baby of Bataan.

You all know about our Riders annual Spaghetti Feed on November 4 at Traditions to raise funds for ALLECA. Price is only \$10 per person and that is a good deal for an evening of fun and good food as well as raffles for cash & prizes throughout the evening.

Sandy and I will be doing our annual summer trip to Marine Corps League National Convention in Overland Park Kansas this year. After that, we will proceed to our good friends in Iowa and on to Minnesota visiting old friends and relatives.

Happy Days to All,
Your Junior Vice Commander,
Jerry Pontius

FROM THE FINANCE OFFICER AND JUDGE ADVOCATE

We are looking forward to a good year. Our membership is up, our fundraising is doing great and our Riders are growing. We need to get our Auxiliary up again; Past Commander Nancie Scalercio is working on that.

Nancie is working to find out what we need to do to name our Post after Joseph Q. Johnson, the Baby of Bataan. If you have not done so, read his fascinating book, 'The Baby of Bataan'. You can get it on Amazon.

The third Sunday Military breakfast hosted by Marty Schwab. We have been chowing down at the Toast Restaurant in Sun Village but we are not happy there. The Toast service is not great and the cost is high. In August, we are going to Boots and Bourbon, great food and great service. Come and join us.

We have a few issues regarding our by-laws that will need some work. Looks like a revision will be done this year. If anybody needs a copy of the current version, let me know and I will email it to you. If you need a printed version, I will bring you one at a regular business meeting. Let me know.

Update on the Veterans Memorial Hall. The property the Hall is purchasing is zoned residential and we are required to get it re-zoned to commercial before we can close escrow. This is proving to be a tedious and expensive effort. We have appealed to the City Council about this. At the City Council meeting on August 1, 1800, our cause is on the agenda for discussion. Post members are invited to attend the meeting. Wear your cover if you do.

Semper Fi!

George Van de Langeryt
Finance Officer & Judge Advocate
Past Commander & Legion Rider

FROM THE CHAPLAIN

Attitude of Gratitude.

Be content with your life and have a gratitude of happiness. What gains a man who has great wealth but has lost his way with God?

For God and Country,
Chaplain Joe Urshan

SICK CALL

Dave Willis fell at home, again, and injured his leg. He is looking at knee replacement surgery soon. His wife Jan, is well on the road recovering from her foot surgery.

Jim Aiello got very sick while on vacation in Utah. Even had to cancel a cruise. He is doing much better and will return to the Valley in August.

Karen Van de Langeryt has rotator cuff surgery in June. She is finally out of the sling and doing well but still in pain.

If anyone is ill in your family, please contact our Chaplain. He will pass the word around.

POST EVERLASTING

Joseph J. Lebin

He was 95 years old WW II Army Air Force Veteran. Had a heart problem, went to Post Everlasting on August 16, 2016.

FROM THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

You can renew online at Legion.org. Use a credit card to pay your \$40 dues and you will be able to print a temporary membership card. Better yet, pay your dues at a meeting, see the Finance Officer.

Member renewals are coming in fast and furious. Save a stamp and bring your renewal to the Post meeting on August 17, give it to the Finance Officer. Good reason to attend a meeting!

Your 2017 membership card is good until December 31 but please don't wait to renew. You have your notice from National so why not renew now.

A "Road Runner" stamp on your membership card that means you are an Early Bird who paid before December 31. Charter members have an "Eagle" stamp on their card.

Have you moved, changed your phone number or email address? If so, please call Ed at 623-975-1522 or email at foerster20404@COX.NET. Give us the new information and we will update the records so you will continue to get your Legion Magazine and the Post Newsletter mailed or emailed to the proper address.

Thank You & Semper Fi!
Ed Foerster, Membership Chairman

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Tuesday August 1 – 0900 Veterans Memorial Hall Meeting. Surprise Ford Conference room.

Wednesday August 2 – Senior Day at Fry's, Bashas' and Albertsons. 10% discount on your groceries.

Wednesday August 2 – 1600 Post 96 Officers Meeting at Arizona Traditions, in the Classroom.

August 2, 1776 - In Philadelphia, Pennsylvania most of the 55 members of the Continental Congress signed the parchment copy of the Declaration of Independence.

August 2, 1876 - Wild Bill Hickok is murdered in Deadwood, South Dakota holding Aces and Eights, the dead man's hand, in a game of poker.

August 4, 1790 – Congress authorized the Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton's proposal to build ten cutters to protect the new nation's revenue. Officially, this is recognized as the birthday of the US Coast Guard.

Happy Birthday Coasties!

Friday August 4 – International Beer Day. Enjoy your favorite brew. A day to celebrate and savor the world's most popular alcoholic beverage. Raise a glass of beer today to toast both breweries and bartenders. It is truly a global celebration, enjoyed by people over 50 countries around the world.

Saturday August 5 – International Hangover Day – always follows International Beer Day, wonder why?

Saturday August 5 – 1000 40&8 meeting at Post 12 in Wickenburg. Pulled pork lunch for \$5 served from 1130 unto 1530. All are welcome to join us in Wickenburg for a great lunch!

August 6, 1945 - The first Atomic Bomb was dropped over the center of Hiroshima at 8:15 am, by the American B-29 bomber Enola Gay. The bomb detonated about 1,800 ft. above ground, killing over 105,000 persons and destroying the city. Another estimated 100,000 persons later died as a result of radiation effects.

Monday August 7 - Purple Heart Day - National Purple Heart Day honors the men and women who have been wounded or killed in military service.

August 9, 1945 - The second Atomic bombing of Japan occurred when an American B-29 bomber headed for the city of Kokura, but because of poor visibility chose a secondary target, bombed Nagasaki. About noon, the bomb detonated killing an estimated 70,000 persons and destroying about half the city.

Saturday August 12 – 1800 American Legion Riders Chapter 96 meeting - Sands Chevrolet Conference room.

August 14, 1945 - VJ Day - Victory over Japan Day

August 16, 1977 - Elvis Presley died at Graceland in Memphis, Tennessee. He was 42 years old.

Thursday August 17 – 1800 American Legion Post 96 meeting at Arizona Traditions in the Neighborhood Center. Happy hour followed by meeting at 1900.

Saturday August 19 – 0900 NWVVA meeting at Sunland Memorial Park, 15826 Del Webb Blvd., Sun City.

Sunday August 20 – 1000 Military Breakfast. The location is changing! We will now have breakfast at Boots & Bourbon, 14051 W Grand Ave, Surprise, AZ 85374. Join fellow veterans for chow.

District 11 Meetings. Sunday at 1400.

September 10, 2017	Post 62
November 12, 2017	Post 12
January 14, 2018	Post 29
March 11, 2018	Post 61
May 6, 2018	Post 62



FROM THE EDITOR

Please visit our advertisers and thank them for supporting Post 96. We are full with business cards, although, I can squeeze in one more vertical card. They are very unusual.

Richi's Diner, a new advertiser, offers veterans a 10% discount. Don't forget to ask for it!

We have a new advertiser this month: Firehouse Subs, located at 13820 W Bell Rd #11, Surprise, AZ 85374. This is just east of Litchfield on Bell Rd. They supplied the great sandwiches we enjoyed at the June meeting. Tell them you are belong to the legion and get a free medium drink.

Post 96 members are invited to submit articles of interest to our membership. Photos must identify all persons shown. PLEASE, get articles to me by the 20th of the month.

If you would like to be added to our email distribution list, please contact me with your email address. You do not have to be a Legion member, we are happy to distribute our newsletter to anyone interested.

George Van de Langeryt
Past Commander & Newsletter Editor
gvan8888@aol.com

City offers tips to stay safe during Monsoon 2017

Surprise, AZ June 15 marked the start of the North American Monsoon; and with a chance for thunderstorms in the forecast this week, Surprise reminds you to get prepared and stay safe!

Monsoon, June 15 through September 30, is a season characterized by increased thunderstorm and lightning activity, high winds, dust storms and flooding. Having a plan of action and knowing what to do in each of the weather conditions can help save your life.

During any major storm event, the safest place to be is indoors. If you are at home, turn off all unnecessary power equipment and refrain from using landline phones. Make sure your home is equipped with flashlights, batteries, bottled water and non-perishable food items.

Dust storms and rain events can decrease visibility and increase road hazards when driving. If you are in your vehicle during a storm, slow down and pull off to the right side of the road as far as possible and turn off your engine and lights. Be sure to take your foot off the brake pedal.

Never drive through flooded intersections or washes! Even shallow flowing water has enough power to sweep your vehicle off the road or stall your engine. If you approach a flooded intersection, safely turn your vehicle around and find an alternate route.

Monitor weather reports and listen for potential flood warnings in your area. When flooding is imminent, knowing where to find sand and bags is essential to protecting your home and family. Sand and bags are provided free of charge to Surprise residents at multiple locations throughout the city; you will need to bring your own shovel to fill the bags. [Sand and bag locations](#)

To report downed trees, roadway debris or clogged storm drains, contact the Public Works department at 623.222.6000; crews will be on call and available to provide assistance during major storm events.

Visit surpriseaz.gov/monsoon for a complete list of monsoon safety tips and resources

SUNDAY MORNING MILITARY BREAKFAST

It started on Sunday August 21, 2015 by Navy veteran and Legion Fundraising Chairman Marty Schwab and will be every third Sunday from now on.

All veterans, spouses, kids and guests are welcome. This is an informal gathering, not a meeting; there is no agenda, no minutes and no officers. We are getting together as veterans to enjoy each other's company. Just bring your stories, jokes and smiles. Casual attire, please be comfortable. Join us at 1000 for great food at the Boot & Bourbon Bar & Grill, 14051 W Grand Ave, Surprise, AZ 85374. This is near, and in back, of Trader Joes. We were having problems with the Toast Café and decided to go elsewhere. Boots will give veterans a 10% discount.

Next Military Breakfast is August 20! Come join us!

Free seminar on Living Trusts versus Wills

Most American adults do not have a Living Trust, a Will or any estate plan in place. For many who do, they can fall sadly out of date for various reasons. If you want to make sure your financial and healthcare wishes are fully honored (whether or not you are physically able to carry them out yourself) and protect your loved ones from the real delays and costs of probate on your estate, we invite you to a free seminar that will educate you on options that give peace of mind to you and your family.

This interactive seminar taught by Bob Mariner from Generation Living Trusts will cover the following topics in an easy-to-understand, informative way:

- Wills vs. Living Trusts and other important estate planning documents
- The perils of probate after you die, 'living probate' and 'multiple probate'
- The dangers of Joint Tenancy and of placing others on your accounts (TOD/POD)
- How to protect yourself against Conservatorship and Guardianship
- Does your disabled loved one require a Special Needs Trust?
- How large estates can reduce estate taxes
- How to protect yourself even if your estate's value is below the probate limit
- How to know if your living trust is out of date

In this educational seminar, there will be no sales and you will not be required to share any contact information.

There are three upcoming classes to choose from:

- August 9
- September 5
- October 4

All classes will be held from 10-11:30 a.m. at Surprise City Hall, 16000 N. Civic Center Plaza, in Conference Room 150.

For information or to register, please contact Ruby Sitea at 623-222-3242 or ruby.sitea@surpriseaz.gov

Elks Pledge \$4 Million to End Vet Homelessness

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is strengthening community and non-profit partnerships to better serve Veterans. The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America (BPO Elks) today announced that it has committed \$4 million over a 4-year period to help end Veteran homelessness.

This partnership and pledge embodies the mission of MyVA, launched last year to transform VA by putting Veterans in control of how, when and where they wish to be served. In order to achieve transformation, the Department has been reaching out to community partners working to meet the needs of Veterans.

As a part of this partnership, the Elks will work with VHA staff on pilot programs in the cities of Washington, Chicago and New York City. In addition, the organization is calling on the group's 800,000 members across the country to support efforts to support homeless Veterans in their communities. The Elks have a strong tradition of service to VA. In this fiscal year alone, approximately 1,300 Elks members volunteered more than 117,000 hours of service at VA facilities nationwide.

"We're so excited about partnering with the Elks on this important issue impacting far too many Veterans," said VA Secretary Robert A. McDonald. "As we move closer to our goal of ending Veteran homelessness, partnerships like these will be critical to ensuring that all Veterans have access to safe and affordable housing."

"Our goal is to provide the tools and support necessary for homeless Veterans to transition successfully into healthier and more stable lives," said Mary Morgan, Director of the Elks National Veterans Service Commission. "Most Americans agree that Veteran homelessness should not exist, but few people know how they can help."

For more information about VA's homeless initiatives, visit <http://www.va.gov/homeless/>. For more information about the Elks' service to Veterans, visit <http://www.elks.org/vets/>.



Honoring Wounded Heroes

PRESENTS

Wounded Heroes Charity Golf Tournament

Saturday, September 9th, 2017

McCormick Ranch Golf Club

7:15 am Shotgun - Registration Starts 6:15 am

Playing & Sponsorship Options (circle one)

Single Player	Foursome	Hole Sponsorship	Hole Sponsorship/Foursome
\$175	\$700	\$250	\$900

Golfer _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Golfer _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Golfer _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Golfer _____ Phone _____ Email _____

ENTRY FORMS MUST BE IN BY SEPTEMBER 2nd, 2017

**Entry Fee Includes: Green Fee, Cart, Range Balls, Tee Package, Team
Photo and Post Tournament Lunch**

Post Tournament Lunch, Scoring and Raffle will be held at:

FRASHER'S SMOKEHOUSE

3222 E. Indian School Rd. Phoenix AZ 85018

Find us on Facebook: AZHeroesToHometowns / www.azheroestohometowns.org

Kathy @ kathy@azheroestohometowns.org

Larry L. Wilder Ltamer16@aol.com

WILDER & WILDER INC.
MAILING SERVICES

"Concept to Customer - Design, Print, Mail - We Give You Choices!"

Office: 602-993-6343 • Cell & Text: 602-577-6343

508 E. Helena Drive • Phoenix, AZ 85022

Our family owned Life Celebration® Home provides:



Camino del Sol
FUNERAL CHAPEL & CREMATION CENTER
12078 Camino del Sol, Suite 100, Surprise, AZ 85374
(602) 584-6299 • (602) 670-4200
www.camindelsol.com


- Personalized service
- Options for every budget
- Beautiful chapel
- Serene memorial gardens
- Traditional, cremation and forward out-of-state Services
- Advance planning

Liberty Mutual INSURANCE

14815 West Bell Road, Suite 106
Surprise, AZ 85374
Toll Free (888) 212-4023 x 57594
Tel: (623) 584-3100 x57594
Fax: (866) 772-8947
Mobile: (623) 262-8747

Diane Mendoza
Sales Representative
Auto - Home - Life - Annuities
Email: diane.mendoza@libertymutual.com

JOE BROWN
Associate Broker
JoeB.Long Realty.com



LONG REALTY
SINCE 1923
WEST VALLEY

A Berkshire Hathaway Affiliate

CELL (623) 256-2525
EMAIL JoeB@longrealty.com

14245 W. GRAND AVE., SUITE 1, SURPRISE, AZ 85374
Independently Owned & Operated

Referrals Appreciated - Post 96 Member

John R Smith
623-764-0936

West Sun Tech

A/V repairs. Tv wall mounts. Microwave repair.
A/V installation and instruction. VCR/DVD cleaning.

8638 W Fargo Dr., Peoria AZ 85382

RICHI'S DINER
AMERICAN FAMILY DINING

15609 W. Bell Rd Suite 100 | Surprise, AZ 85374
ORDER BY PHONE: 623-556-1733
MON-SAT 7AM TO 9PM | SUN 7AM TO 2PM



Enjoy your 7th meal on Richi's (\$6 Value) Valid one per customer. \$5 Minimum Purchase. Not Valid with any other offer or promotions.

10050 W. Bell Rd. • Suite 32
Sun City, AZ 85351
(Sun Shadow Square)
Fax: 623-876-1358

Computer-Aided
Custom Designs with
"Digital Goldsmith"

John Wallick JEWELERS

www.JohnWallickJewelers.com 623.972.1000

9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday and 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturdays. We are closed on Sundays.

Nancie Scalercio
Funeral Arranger
US Navy Veteran



Surprise Funeral Care
16063 West Bell Road
Surprise, AZ 85374
623-546-8002
Fax 623-546-8101
Nancie.Scalercio@DignityMemorial.com
www.surprisefuneralcare.com

ELECTRIC AND GAS GOLF CARS **Club Car** DISTRIBUTORS NEIGHBORHOOD ELECTRIC VEHICLES

SOUTHWEST GOLF CARS INC. **SUN CITY GOLF CARS**

13901 W. CAMINO DEL SOL, SUN CITY WEST, AZ. 85375 11124 YOUNGTOWN AVE. YOUNGTOWN, AZ. 85363
(623) 584-0591 (623) 977-3100
FAX (623) 584-4314 FAX (623) 977-3955
www.swgolfcars.com

FIREHOUSE SUBS

Ed Cunningham
Franchise Owner

Ed.cunningham@FirehouseSubs.com
P: 623-546-4555

Firehouse Subs of Surprise
FirehouseSubs.com • Facebook.com/FirehouseSubs

Serving Arizona For Over 20 Years
All your possessions in your home at your convenience

Licensed • Registered with PORA & HOA
FREE Estimates! Appraisals Available!

f /Gingerssales i /gingerssales

623.670.4432 | gingersales.com
Email: Gingersalesbyjanet1@gmail.com

DILLON'S THUNDERBIRD
8706 W THUNDERBIRD RD
PEORIA, AZ
623.978.5353

DILLON'S ARROWHEAD
20585 N 69TH AVE
BLENDALE, AZ
623.566.8100

DILLON'S @ THE ZOO
18335 W NORTHERN AVE
LITCHFIELD PARK, AZ
623.535.4249

DILLON'S BAYOU
PLEASANT HARBOR MARINA
40202 N 87TH AVE
928.501.2227

#DILLONSKCBBQ

NEED CATERING? 623.208.8677

LAY BACK SUNDOME BARBER SHOP



13563 Camino Del Sol
Sun City West, AZ 85375
623-584-5550
Mon-Fri: 8am - 4pm • Sat: 8am - 3pm

www.YourHealthInsuranceAgent.com
www.ArizonaMedicareQuotes.com

Pellegrini & Associates Health Medicare Life

Bill Pellègrini

8433 N. Black Canyon Hwy. Suite 176 Phoenix, AZ 85021 (623) 581-2204 Fax (623) 972-2205 Toll Free (866) 731-6112

RED LOBSTER
FRESH FISH - LIVE LOBSTER

NOAH CURRY
General Manager

13709 West Bell Road, Surprise, AZ 85374
Phone: 623.556.8161 Fax: 623.556.8162
www.redlobster.com

TEXAS ROADHOUSE

Texas Roadhouse Surprise, AZ
14175 W. Grand Ave.
Surprise, AZ 85374
Phone • (623) 584-8855
Fax • (623) 584-0266
store_surpriseaz@texasroadhouse.com

MOORE AUTOMOTIVE GROUP

mooreauto.com 623.972.2300



Family Owned & Operated

CHRYSLER Jeep SUBARU

8600 W. Bell Rd - Peoria, AZ 85382

O'KEEFE REAL ESTATE

JOHN J. CALDAMONE
OWNER

12221 W. Bell Road Suite 100 Surprise, AZ 85378 Office (623) 583-9003 Fax (623) 583-9369 Email: john@sunridge.phxcoxmail.com

CHEVROLET

DAVID J. GONZALES
Sales Professional

SANDS CHEVROLET
16991 W WADDELL RD
SURPRISE, AZ 85388

phone (623) 455-7777 fax (623) 455-7790 cellular (623) 256-5336 djg7391@cox.net

**Post 96 – The American Legion
PO Box 7096
Surprise, Arizona 85374-0101**

Forwarding Service Requested – August



Have you signed up a *NEW* member for 2018?