



American Legion
Joseph Q. Johnson Post 96
PO Box 7096
Surprise, Arizona 85374-0101



Newsletter No. 250

azalpost96.com

June 2024

Commander: Mike Elliott 623-533-4377
First Vice-Commander: Arnold Kohl 602-692-0659
Second Vice-Commander: Kelly Donlevy 602-299-5007
Finance Officer: George Van de Langeryt 623-547-6668
Adjutant: (Acting) Arnold Kohl
Chaplain: Joe Urshan 623-584-4653
Judge Advocate: George Van de Langeryt
Executive Committee:
Mike Elliott, Arnold Kohl, Kelly Donlevy
George Van de Langeryt, Nancie Scalercio

Post 96 Officers

Newsletter: George Van de Langeryt gvan8888@aol.com
Sergeant-At-Arms: Kirsten Dube 623-694-2473
Membership: Mike Elliott & George Van
Fundraising Chair: Kelly Donlevy 602-299-5007
Service Officer: Rodney Hage msgtrod@hotmail.com
VA Hospital Coordinator: Rodney Hage 478-501-6625
Photographer: Paul Satkowski 207-706-6250
Historian: VACANT
Past Commander: Nancie Scalercio 623-826-3488
ALR Chapter 96 Director: Eddie Jenness 480-584-1145

The Surprise Post 96 Newsletter is the official publication of Joseph Q. Johnson Post 96

IMPORTANT NOTICE!

NEXT Post business meeting 1800 June 27 at AZ Traditions

17225 N Citrus Rd., Surprise, AZ 85374

We meet in the Traditions Neighborhood Center 18265 Traditions Loop Rd E

PLEASE – ASK THE GATE GUARD FOR DIRECTIONS

Post Officer's meeting 1600 Thursday June 6 at the Commander's home

Voiture 1154 Promenade on 1000 Saturday June 1 at the Post 145 meeting room

Marty Schwab Memorial Breakfast 1000 Sunday June 16

Richi's Diner - 15609 W Bell Rd #100, Surprise, AZ 85374

ALR Chapter 96 will be meeting after the Post meeting on June 27 at AZ Traditions



The elected officers for 2024-2025 Legion Year.

George Van de Langeryt, Finance Officer, Michael Elliott Commander, Arnold Kohl First Vice-Commander and Kelly Donlevy, Second Vice-Commander

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE UNITED STATES ARMY ON JUNE 14

COMMANDERS CORNER



I was recently asked if the American Legion supports the Missing in American Project (MIAP.org). I am happy to answer that, yes; the American Legion does support MIAP. This was decided only months after Missing in America Project was started in 2007. May 9-10, 2007 a resolution was passed:

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

May 9-10, 2007

Resolution No. 24: Identify, Honor And Inter Unclaimed Cremated Remains Of Veterans

Submitted by: Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission

WHEREAS, The American Legion is an organization of war veterans who have dedicated themselves to the service of the community, state and nation; and

WHEREAS, Veterans have served our country and, as such, deserve to be buried with honor and respect; and

WHEREAS, Since July 17, 1862, veterans have been buried with honor in National Cemeteries; and

WHEREAS, Unclaimed cremated remains of veterans are languishing on the shelves of funeral homes and crematoriums; and

WHEREAS, The mission of the Missing In America Project (MIAP) is to locate, identify and inter the unclaimed cremated remains of veterans through the joint efforts of private, state and federal organizations; to provide honor and respect to those who have served this country, by securing a final resting place for these forgotten heroes; and

WHEREAS, MIAP does not retain the human resources to adequately fulfill the mission it has started and would like The American Legion's help and support; and

WHEREAS, Local Legionnaires can assist in locating and identifying the abandoned cremated remains of veterans across the nation and obtain the documentation on cremated remains left unclaimed

at funeral homes in their local area; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 9-10, 2007, That The American Legion support the mission of the Missing In America Project in locating and identifying the unclaimed cremated remains of veterans and securing a final resting place for these forgotten heroes.

The Missing in America Project is a very important way of us, as Veterans, to help those who have served but have not been claimed by family. Donations are always welcomed, just go to www.miap.us/donate. Missing in America Project is a Non-profit Corporation (a 501(c)3).

For God and Country,
Mike Elliott, Legion Rider, Post 96 Commander

FROM THE FIRST VICE-COMMANDER



Time to Make the Donuts

The first Friday in June, this year June 7, is celebrated as National Donut Day. The first National Donut Day was declared in 1938 by the Salvation Army to honor the volunteers, or "Dough Lassies," who made and served doughnuts to troops fighting during the First World War

When the United States entered World War I, the United States requested the American Red Cross provide refreshments at railroad junctions, both at home and abroad, for the military on troop trains. Both the American Red Cross and the Salvation Army quickly responded. By the end of 1917, the American Red Cross had 85 canteen depots, 15 station restaurants and 430 smaller canteens. The Canteen Service also served allied soldiers from France and Great Britain. In France, American Red Cross canteens were serving meals every month to nearly a million men in transit or on leave in Paris. Approximately 55,000 women volunteered with the Red Cross during WWI.

Women with the Salvation Army also volunteered to join the front-line support of the American Expeditionary Force. They were issued gas masks, helmets and .45 cal. Revolvers, but what they needed the most were things much harder for the Army to

supply rolling pins, cookie cutters, flour, and sugar. The "Donut Lassies" as the Salvation Army women were known were ingenious and improvised to make things work. One Donut Lassie Purviance wrote in a letter home, "Well can you think of two women cooking. In one day, 2,500 donuts, eight dozen cupcakes, 800 pancakes and 255 gallons of cocoa, and one girl serving it. That is a day's work."

American Red Cross Donut Dollies also served during WWII with their clubmobile program, which served American and Allied troops on the frontlines in Great Britain and throughout Europe. During WWII, 86 Red Cross workers lost their lives as a result of their service.

American Red Cross workers also served during the Korean War beginning in November 1950. 899 Donut Dollies served in South Korea from 1953 to 1973.

American Red Cross women also served during the Vietnam War as part of what was now called, Red Cross Supplemental Recreational Activities Overseas program.

The women who served during these conflicts were selfless, brave and resilient. Their service brought a touch of home to the frontlines and compassion and comfort when service members needed it most. While nurses treated physical injuries, Donut Dollies tended to psychological wounds. Thank you to all the Donut Dollies and Donut Lassies who serviced so heroically and honorably.

I will be presenting a more in-depth Donut Dollie slide show at the next Veterans Coffee at Sunland Memorial Park on June 12 at 0900 Hrs. I hope you can be there to enjoy the companionship of other veterans, plus coffee and DONUTS.

Flag Day

Flag Day is celebrated on June 14 in the United States. It commemorates the adoption of the flag of the United States on June 14, 1777, by resolution of the Second Continental Congress. The Flag Resolution stated, "That the flag of the thirteen United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation."

The United States Army also celebrates its birthday on June 14. The Continental Congress adopted the

American continental army after reaching a consensus position in the Committee of the Whole on June 14, 1775.

In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation that officially established June 14 as Flag Day. On August 3, 1949, National Flag Day was established by an Act of Congress.

Happy Birthday to the U.S. Army

For God and Country,
Arnold "Arnie" Kohl, 1st Vice Commander

FROM THE SECOND VICE-COMMANDER



For God and Country,
Kelly Donlevy, 2nd Vice Commander

FROM THE FINANCE OFFICER AND JUDGE ADVOCATE



Sorry to say we have 21 members delinquent in dues. No chance of becoming a 100% Post unless they pay up quick. Some are only one-year members who never come to meetings.

You get out of the Legion, and any other organization, what you put into it. If you do not attend meetings, how can you decide it is not for you? Come and at least see what you are missing.

Our finances are in good shape to support our budget. Kelly did an outstanding job with the Memorial Day Weekend Fundraiser. The final numbers are not in yet but they raised over \$3000.

Semper Fi!

George Van de Langeryt
Finance Officer & Judge Advocate
Past Commander & Legion Rider
AZ Veterans Hall of Fame – Class of 2018

FROM THE CHAPLAIN



God created us in His own image to have an abundant life. He did not make us as robots to automatically love and obey Him. God gave us a will and freedom of choice. We choose to disobey God and go our own willful way. We still make

this choice today. This results in separation from God.

Amen.

For God and Country,
Chaplain Joe Urshan

SICK CALL

Commander Mike is looking at shoulder surgery soon.

Please inform Chaplain Joe if you or your family are having medical problems. The Post will pray for you.

POST EVERLASTING

Rev. John H. Draper went to Post Everlasting on 1/22/24. John was a self-employed Chaplain for several organizations. He is a 14-year member of the American Legion. John was a regular at our fundraisers. He was born 7/9/45 and was 78 years old.

FROM THE FUND RAISING CHAIRMAN



Another Memorial Day fundraiser is over and done and we had a great turn-out this year! Not only did quite a few members step-up but we had plenty of fun hanging out together. We also “broke in” a couple new members and had a member show that couldn’t sign up but made it out to help us.

Thank you, Nina Olsen, for the last-minute signup and David Samaniego for not only showing up unexpectedly but staying to help for about 7 hours over 2 of the days!

I truly appreciate those that go over and above by helping more than one day or staying for 4 hours on one day, y’all are invaluable. Fortunately, it wasn’t as hot as expected and a consistent slightly cool breeze made it much more enjoyable to be there.

I want to thank all of you from the bottom of my heart for investing your time and making this fundraiser a success. Your dedication to helping our brothers and sisters enabled us to raise over \$3,000.00! The exact amount will be given at the next meeting after depositing it in the bank and amount confirmed. Our Post is truly privileged to have each of the following members as part of our team:

Arnold Kohl Bob Cornfield David Samaniego
Eddie Jenness John Chlopek Michael Hood
Nancie Scalercio Nina Olsen Phil Ellis
Russ Harlan Tom Frizzell Tom Roark

A special thank you to my husband, Rob Donlevy, as well, who was not able to be at the fundraiser but always helps me load the truck, makes sure I have all I need and am well fed, plus, counts the money which he hates, LOL.

An extra-special thank you to Ruby and Maizey, Arne’s granddaughters, who volunteered and were not only a joy to talk with but waved their flags high to draw people’s attention.

For God and Country,
Kelly Donlevy, Fundraising Chair

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

As of May 29, we have 60 pay the post, 60 pay online and 36 PUFL’s. Total is 156. Our goal is 183 so we have 85.25% paid! We have 21 members who have not paid yet! Does not look like we will hit 100% this year. Too bad Ed Foerster is not our Membership Chairman, he would get 100%.

The winner of the Membership Drawing at the May 23 meeting is Thomas Furrey who, unfortunately, was not present to win. It pays to attend meetings.

It is easy to pay online. If you use a credit card, we do not mail your membership card because you can print your own online. However, if you want one, let George know and he will mail it to you.

Have you moved, changed your phone number or email address? If so, please contact Mike or George. 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.

Mike & George

From the VA Hospital Coordinator / Service Officer

No report submitted.

Rod Hage
The American Legion Post 96 Service Officer
DAV Chapter 24 Service Officer

Commander, DAV 24
Commander, NWVVA

Voiture Locale 1154 Report



Our next Promenade is scheduled for 1000 June 1 and we will meet again at Post 145. Yeah, it is a drive but the meeting room is very comfortable.

Interested in the 40&8? Please talk to any of our members in Post 96.

Nancie Scalercio, Past Commander
Voiture Locale 1154 Fundraising Coordinator

American Legion Riders Report



No report this month

Eddie Jenness, ALR Chairman
alr96.president@gmail.com

June Calendar

Saturday June 1 – 1100 40&8 Voiture 1154 Promenade at
Arrowhead Valley Apartments
20025 N 81st Ave
Peoria, AZ 85382

This is a Zoom Meeting join:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89838520005>
Meeting ID: 898 3852 0005
One tap mobile: +16694449171, 89838520005# US
Find your local number:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kd8wtzNeLJ>

June 2, 1918 - The German 28th Division attacked American troops on the Paris-Metz Road, hitting the American 2nd Division, including the 4th Marine Brigade. The Marines opened fire with deadly accuracy, helping hand German troops a setback that set the stage for Marine victory at Belleau Wood, which would soon follow.

Wednesday June 5 – 0900-1000 - Veterans Coffee Hour at Surprise Funeral Care, 16063 W Bell Rd, Surprise, AZ. Every 1st Wednesday of each month, Veterans are invited to a free coffee hour, compliments of Dignity Memorial.

Wednesday June 5 – Senior Day at Fry's, Bashas' and Albertsons. 10% discount on your groceries.

Thursday June 6 – 1600 Post 96 Officers meeting at Mike Elliott's home.

June 6, 1944 – D-Day - Anniversary of the World War II Allied invasion in Normandy, France.

June 10, 1898 - The First Marine Battalion, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Robert Huntington, landed at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

The next day, Lieutenant Herbert Draper raised the American flag over Camp McCalla where it flew for the next eleven days. Huntington later sent the flag to Colonel Commandant Charles Heywood informing him (Heywood) that, "[w]hen bullets were flying, ...the sight of the flag upon the midnight sky has thrilled our hearts."

Tuesday June 11 – 0900-1000 Veteran's Coffee Hour at Sunland Memorial Park. All vets and friends are invited for coffee and nibbles. Second Tuesday every month. In the Chapel building at 15826 N Del Webb Blvd, Sun City, AZ 85351.

Tuesday June 11 to June 13 – The holiday of Shavuot celebrates the anniversary of the Jewish people receiving the Torah—the ancient text of history, laws and values that has shaped Jewish ethics and peoplehood, and continues to inspire AJWS's work to build a better world today.

Friday June 14 – Flag Day commemorates the adoption of the flag of the United States on June 14, 1777, by resolution of the Second Continental Congress.

Friday June 14 – Army Birthday - Founded in 1775, the Army is the land warfare service branch of the U.S. Armed Forces. It is the oldest and largest of the seven uniformed services.

Saturday June 15 – 0900 NWVVA meeting Sunland Memorial Park.

Sunday June 16 – Father's Day – Go buy the old man a beer.

Sunday June 16 - 1000 Marty Schwab Memorial Breakfast at Richi's Diner, Bell & Reems. All veterans and family are invited to this informal gathering.

June 20-23 – American Legion Department of AZ – State Convention, Oro Valley.

June 20, 1950 - Eight divisions of the North Korean People's Army crossed the 38th Parallel and invaded the Republic of Korea shortly before dawn. Within three days, Seoul, the capital city of South Korea, had been captured.

10 days later, on June 30, President Harry S. Truman ordered a naval blockade of the Korean coast and authorized the sending of U.S. ground troops to Korea. Two days later, General Douglas MacArthur, the Commander in Chief Far East, formally requested that a Marine regimental combat team be deployed to the area.

Thursday June 27 – 1800 Social Hour, 1900 Business Meeting. American Legion Post 96 meeting is at the AZ Traditions Neighborhood Center. Come for the raffle prizes! Bring a guest.

Thursday June 27 – About 2000 American Legion Riders Chapter 96 meeting after the Post 96 business meeting at AZ Traditions. This is a temporary change.

SAVE THE DATE

November 8-10 - Friday-Sunday Post 96 Fundraiser at Sam's Club

Up Coming, District 11 Meetings

All Meetings on Sunday with Training at 1300 and General Meeting at 1400

Gary Vaughn, District 11 Commander



FROM THE EDITOR

Please help us find new businesses or individuals to advertise in our newsletter. It is only \$5/month (\$60/year) and we give Legion Members a 20% discount.

George Van de Langeryt
Past Commander & Newsletter Editor



Joseph Q. Johnson Post 96 April 25, 2024, General Meeting Minutes

1900 Hrs. Commander Mike Elliott opened meeting.

11 Members present.

5 Guests.

After the opening ceremony Commander Elliott declared the meeting open for business.

Vice Commander Arnold Kohl- Roll call of officers:

Commander Mike Elliott- Present

Vice-Commander Arnold Kohl- Present

Second Vice-Commander/Fundraising Chair

Kelly DonLevy- Excused

Finance Officer George Van de Langeryt- Present

Adjutant Arnold Kohl- Present

Past Commander Nancy Scalercio- Absent

Sergeant-At-Arms Kristen Dube- Deployed

Riders President Eddie Jenness- Present

Chaplain Joe Urshan- Present

VA Hospital Coordinator/Service Officer

Rod Hage- Present

Photographer Paul Satkowski- Present

Adjutant: Minutes for March Meeting- No March meeting (No quorum)

Introduction of guests and prospective members:

Commander Mike Elliott introduced District 11 Commander Gary Vaughan.

Commander Vaughan spoke about Legion support for Scouting and how it was helping in Arizona. He also said how Legionnaire support had helped with refurbishing Camp Geronimo which had fallen into a state of disrepair.

Commander Vaughan also thanked Commander Elliott and Vice-Commander Kohl for assisting with and certifying an officer election in District 12.

Commander Vaughan also talked about:

The Legion Oratorical presentations which took place around the State.

The flag gourmet collection project for casting three bells for the new USS Arizona which is under construction.

Commander Vaughan also reminded us that it is our patriotic duty to participate in our municipal, State, and National elections and he encouraged us all to get out and vote.

Committee and Officer Reports:

Commander Elliott:

Commander Elliott said that Post 96 will be participating in two Memorial Day weekend.

Saturday, May 25 Memorial ceremony and wreath laying in Surprise at the WWII Luke Auxiliary Field #3 which is located by the Surprise Library. Commander Elliott and DAV Star 24 Commander Rod Hage will place the wreath.

Memorial Day, May 27 Memorial Day Ceremony at Sunland Memorial Park in Sun City which is conducted by North West Valley Veterans Association of which our Post is a partner.

Finance Officer Report:

George Van de Langeryt reported that at the start of the period The Post had \$9571 in total funds.

Adjutant Report: None

Membership Report: George Van de Langeryt/Mike Elliott- 59 members paid by check; 59 members paid online; 35 PUFL.

Vice-Commander Report: Vice-Commander Kohl related that Commander Elliott and Service Officer Hage, and he attended ceremonies at the ¾ scale Vietnam Memorial Wall which was displayed at Pleasant Harbor and Lake Pleasant earlier in the month.

Second Vice-Commander Report: Excused

Judge Advocate Report: Post 96 by-laws revisions have been completed and will be forwarded to District 11 Commander.

Past Commander Nancie Scalercio Report: Absent

ALR Report- President Eddie Jenness Report: Post 96 and other Riders escorted the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall to Lake Pleasant.

Working on membership.

Chaplain Joe Urshan Report: Mike Elliott will be having shoulder surgery in the near future.

Bobbie Schwab will be having knee surgery.

Joe Urshan is suffering from Arthritis.

VA Support/Service-Officer Report: Rod Hage reported that he has been giving a VA benefits class every other Tuesday at Luke AFB for servicemen/women who are about to be discharged.

Rod has processed 70 VA claims in the last 30 days for Veterans.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

Officer Nominations:

For Commander: Rod Hage nominated Mike Elliott for Commander. Tom Frizzell seconded the motion. Mike Elliott accepted.

The call was made for other nominations and there were none.

For Vice-Commander: Patrick Boyd nominated Arnold Kohl for Vice-Commander. Rod Hage Seconded the motion. Arnold Kohl accepted.

The call was made for other nominations and there were none.

For 2nd Vice Commander: Rod Hage nominated Kelly DonLevy for 2nd Vice-Commander. Arnold Kohl seconded the motion. Mike Elliott said that Kelly DonLevy said she is willing to accept the nomination.

The call was made for other nominations and there were none.

For Finance Officer: Mike Elliott nominated George Van de Langeryt for Finance Officer. Arnold Kohl seconded the motion. George Van de Langeryt accepted the nomination.

A call was made for other nominations and there were none.

The final officer nominations and election will take place at the May 23, 2024, meeting.

Other new business:

George Van de Langeryt reported that for some reason the Post checks to pay for insurance with CNA Surety had been returned. The Post will be purchasing insurance through another agency.

George reported that the Post annual IRS paperwork had been filed.

Business for the Good of the American Legion: Legionnaire and ALR member Patrick Boyd reported that He and his family will soon be moving to Prescott Valley, and this will be his last meeting with Post 96.

Upcoming meetings and events were mentioned, and it was reported these will be listed in the newsletter.

Closing Ceremony completed.

Membership Drawing: Ticket# 155 Michael Siglar was drawn. Michael was not present so he didn't win the year of free membership.

Meeting adjourned at 2012 Hrs.

Minutes completed by Arnold Kohl Vice-Commander/Adjutant

Joseph Q. Johnson Post 96

May 23, 2024: General Meeting Minutes

Commander Mike Elliott opened the meeting at 1905 Hours.

9 Members & 4 Guests

Commander Elliott: "Face the flag- Hand salute" "Tu"

Acting Chaplain Rod Hage offered opening prayer.

Acting Sgt@Arms Arnold Kohl placed the POW/MIA flag on the empty chair.

Opening ceremony

Vice-Commander Arnold Kohl roll call of officers:

Commander Mike Elliott: Present

Vice-Commander Arnold Kohl: Present

Second Vice-Commander Kelly Donlevy: Present

Finance Officer George Van de Langeryt: Present

Adjutant Arnold Kohl: Present

Past Commander Nancy Scalercio: Excused

Sergeant at Arms Kris Dube: Deployed

Riders President Eddie Jenness: Present

Chaplain Joe Urshan: Sick

VA Hospital Coordinator/Service Officer Rod Hage: Present

Fund Raising Chair Kelly Donlevy: Present

Photographer Paul Satkowski: Present

Minutes:

Adjutant Arnold Kohl read the minutes from the April General meeting to those assembled.

Commander Elliott asked for any changes to the minutes, and none were offered.

Minutes were approved as read.

Introduction of guests:

Commander Elliott Introduced Bobbie Schwab, Gail Elliott, and Karen Van de Langeryt. He also introduced prospective member and ALR member David Samaniego.

Committee and Officer Reports:

Commander Report:

Commander Elliott Reported that Post 96 will be participating in two Memorial Day weekend events in addition to our fundraiser this weekend.

Saturday May 25- Memorial Day at the Park- Ceremony and wreath laying at WW II Luke Auxiliary Field 3 by the Surprise Library at 0830 with DAV Star 24.

Memorial Day May 27- Annual Memorial Day Ceremony at Sunland Memorial Park starting at 0830 with North West Valley Veterans Association, Rod Hage, Commander.

Commander Elliott also reported that the American Legion State Convention will take place June 20-23 in Oro Valley.

Finance Officer Report:

George Van de Langeryt reported Beginning April \$1455 in expenditures. \$167 in May for Liability insurance. Money in accounts as of May 23rd \$7,816 total. \$2013 in Veterans funds. \$5803 in General funds.

Finance Report was accepted.

Adjutant Report: Nothing to report.

Membership Report George Van de Langeryt/Mike Elliott:

155 members paid for 84.7 % of our goal.

Vice-Commander Report: Arnold Kohl- Nothing to report.

Second vice-Commander Report: Kelly Donlevy- Nothing to report.

Judge Advocate report/Newsletter Editor: George Van de Langeryt reported that articles and photos for the June newsletter should be submitted by Sunday May 26. All members are invited to submit articles of interest to the Post and members.

Past Commander Report: Nancy Scalercio Excused

ALR Report: Eddie Jenness- No report

Chaplain Joe Urshan Report: Joe was sick and not present.

Sgt@Arms Report: Kris Dube is currently deployed.

Fund Raising Chair Report: Kelly Donlevy reported that Post 96 will be having a fun raising event May 24-26 at the Sam's Club, 303 and Bell Rd. All members are encouraged to help.

VA Support/Service Officer Report: Rod Hage reported that he hasn't been to the VA Hospital recently. He reported that 55 VA claims had been submitted this month. He reported that the most frequent recent claims have been for Stage 4 cancer. He reported that these claims should have been submitted before this stage and encouraged anyone who is diagnosed with cancer to immediately submit claims. Rod Hage also reported he is still assisting with "Tap" classes at Luke AFB for those exiting active service.

Unfinished business: None

New Business:

Election of Post 96 officers for the 2024-2025 Legion year.

Nominations as of now:

For Commander: Mike Elliott

A call was made for any other nominations for Post 96 Commander. The call was made three times, and no other nominations were made.

For Vice-Commander: Arnold Kohl

A call was made for any other nominations for Post 96 Vice-Commander. The call was made three times, and no other nominations were made.

For Second Vice-Commander: Kelly Donlevy

A call was made for any other nominations for Post 96 Second Vice-Commander. The call was made three times, and no other nominations were made.

For Finance Officer: George Van de Langeryt

A call was made for any other nominations for Post 96 Finance Officer. The call was made three times, and no other nominations were made.

Nominations for officer positions were then closed.

Tom Frizzell made a motion that since there was only one nomination was made for each officer position, a unanimous ballot be passed. Rod Hage seconded the motion, and a vote call was requested. No one opposed the motion.

Post 96 Elected Officers for Legion Year 2024-2025 are:

Post Commander: Mike Elliott

Post Vice-Commander: Arnold Kohl

Post Second Vice-Commander: Kelly Donlevy

Post Finance Officer: George Van de Langeryt.

George Van de Langeryt made a motion to purchase a full-page color ad in the State convention booklet for \$300.

Rod Hage seconded the motion. Call for discussion- none. Vote: None opposed.

George Van de Langeryt made a motion that Post 96 donate \$100 to Boy Scouts as they have a fund raising today that donations will be doubled by an anonymous donor. Tom Roark seconded the motion. Call for discussion- None. Vote- None opposed.

Business for the good of the Legion:

Rod Hage- DAV Star 24 Commander related that Star 24 will have Officer installment on Tuesday, May 28th 1000 Hrs. in the basement of the Flagstar Bank, Reems and Grand. All are welcome.

Upcoming meetings and events will be listed in the Post 96 Newsletter.

Acting Chaplain Rod Hage offered the closing prayer.

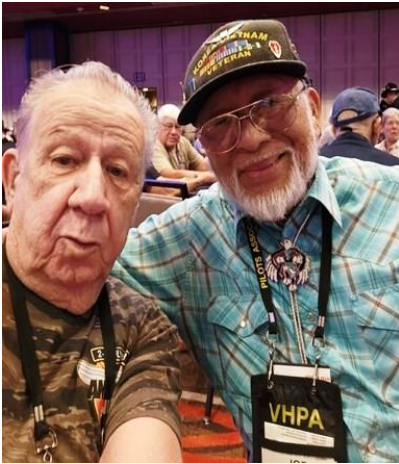
Acting Sgt@Arms Arnold Kohl recovered the POW/MIA flag.

Meeting Adjourned 1955 Hrs.

Membership ticket drawing: Thomas Furrey- Not present.

Minutes compiled by: Arnold Kohl, Adjutant/Vice-Commander





Article submitted by Tom Frizzell

Most of us have either heard of or read stories of the Most Unforgettable Character I've Met. Well I had that experience the week of May 13-18 at the Vietnam Helicopter Pilot Association's 41st annual reunion in Reno, Nevada.

The gentleman I met was invited to sit at my table as he looked lost and wasn't sure of where he was to sit. We naturally started a conversation and boy was I impressed. I first looked at his cap and noticed he was a Master Aviator. I asked him his age and he said I'm 90 and then our conversation really got serious. We spoke for almost hours and here is a synopsis of that conversation.

His name is S. Joe Estores, from Hawaii and retired as a Lieutenant Colonel. He recalls growing up in Hawaii, his father was a member of the US Army band. On December 7, 1941, at barely 8 years of age, he recalls his mom tossing all the kids in their old Packard Car and driving across Hickam Field as the Japanese were bombing the airfield and Pearl Harbor.

Young Joe decided to join the Army and that began a lengthy and often rewarding career in the military.

He took his basic training in Camp Gordon, Georgia. Next stop was Ft Monmouth, NJ where he trained as a Field Radio Repairman. As often occurs, he never worked in his field, so decided to attend OCS, which he did at Ft. Benning, GA Became an Infantry officer and then flight school. He was sent to Korea and was assigned to patrol along the DMZ,

He went from Korea to the European theater where once again he patrolled the skies along the East German border. His drinking buddy was a young 1st

Lieutenant Colin Powell. Who did rather well in his career.

Joe, spent a few tours in Vietnam then returned to teach and evaluate new pilots that were to go to combat.

As the political situation changes so do the needs of the military so Joe was ruffed with many years of service. Now I will include a link to a web page where you can hear Joe tell of all his stories:

https://www.witnesstowar.org/combat_stories/WWII/7602

Many items not in his video portrayal were discussed. My favorite occurred at Camp Carson. He was there for 2 weeks and during that stay 3 soldiers took him under their wing and took him to Pike's Peak, however, my favorite was...

The boys rented a big Cadillac convertible and took young Joe to Pueblo, Colorado to a saloon, (he had no idea what that was). They pulled up to this shanty with horses tied up to hitching posts and entered the building to find dirt floors, now I have to tell you I just handed him my business card and he saw my last name which brought a big smile to his face. There were a few cowboys hanging around the bar. There on the tiny stage was the entertainment for the evening, the great Lefty Frizzell. He never forgot that moment.

Great individual and fun to talk with. We are now friends and send notes back and forth.



A few photos from Post 96 Memorial Day Weekend Fundraiser.



David Samaniego, Karen Van de Langeryt and Kelly Donlevy



Arnie Kohl and his beautiful granddaughters: Ruby and Maizey.



Phil Ellis



Michael Hood and John Chlopek



Tom Frizzell



Rider Nina Olsen



Russ Harlan and Tom Frizzell



Riders Director Eddie Jenness and David Samaniego



Bob Cornfield and Phil Ellis



Tom Roark

A few photos from Post 96 members at the North West Valley Memorial Day Ceremony on May 27 at Sunland Memorial Park.



AZ Veterans Hall of Fame members at the NWVVA Memorial Day Ceremony: L-R: George Van de Langeryt, Larry Leighton, Phil Hanson, Jerry Wojtas, Congresswoman Debbie Lesko, Reggie Yates and Ron Capek.



Past Commander of Post 96 and the NWVVA Nancie Scalercio who sang "God Bless American" and Connie Vlachos who sang the National



NWVVA Commander Rod Hage



Uncle Sam - Joe Delgado and friend



Post 96 and Post 62 Legion Riders



George Van de Langeryt and Congresswoman Debbie Lesko

A few photos from the May 23 meeting, thanks to Post Photographer Paul Satkowski.



Commander Mike
and Vice-
Commander Arnie



Rider David
Samaniego



Arnie sets up the
POW/MIA table.



Riders Director Eddie Jenness and
Vice-Commander Kelly Donlevy



Rod Hage and George Van de
Langeryt



Kelly draws Raffle Winners by the Riders
Table with Nina Olsen, Tom Roark and David
Samaniego



Nobody won!

CALL TO CONVENTION

Call to the 105th Annual Convention of The American Legion Department of Arizona.



By authority of the Department Executive Committee, the 105th Annual Convention of the American Legion Department of Arizona is hereby called to meet in Oro Valley, Arizona, June 20 – 23, 2024.

The Convention business sessions will be held in the Turquoise Ballroom of the El Conquistador Tucson, A Hilton Resort; 100000 N. Oracle Road, Tucson, Arizona 85704

The Annual Department Convention is the legislative body of The American Legion, Department of Arizona. The convention is called for the purpose of setting the programs of The American Legion for the ensuing year, amending the Department Constitution and Bylaws and for the transaction of such other business as may be brought before it.

At twelve o'clock noon of the final day, or at the conclusion of all other business of the Department Convention, whichever occurs first; on Sunday, June 23, 2024, officers for the ensuing year will be elected or ratified. These being the Department Commander, and three Department Vice Commanders, The National Executive Committeeman and the Alternate NEC in that sequence.

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