



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



**Newsletter No. 251**

**azalpost96.com**

**July 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 Scalcio

**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 Scalcio 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 August 22 at AZ Traditions***

***NO JULY MEETING!***

***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 July 11 at the Commander's home***

***Voiture 1154 Promenade on 1000 Saturday July 6 at the Post 145 meeting room***

***Marty Schwab Memorial Breakfast 1000 Sunday July 21***

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

***ALR Chapter 96 will be meeting after the Post meeting on August 22 at AZ Traditions***

***THERE WILL NOT BE AN AUGUST EDITION OF THE POST 96 NEWSLETTER***

**COMMANDERS CORNER**



It is now June and we have entered the hot weather of the year. Please, keep cool as best as you can.

American Legion Department of Arizona held their annual conference June 19 through 23 2024. George and I attended and had attended classes that would be information to us all. One of the classes I had attended had guest speakers Patrick and Teri Caserta (parents of Brandon) and they brought to us the events that lead to their son's death in 2018. Brandon Caserta, while in the Navy, was despondent due to harassment and hazing, which lead to his suicide. I will not tell the gory details, but his death lead to The Brandon Act passed and signed in 2021. The act changed how anyone can ask for mental help and get

it. That brings up the Legion's effort of "Be The One" campaign. If you see someone who needs help, talk to them. All it takes is to save one, then another, and so on. There is no shame in needing help.

Our Department Conference went well. Manny Beltran is our new Department Commander. Let us all support him through the year. The Area "B" Vice-Commander is Jesse Fernandez, The National Executive representative for Arizona is Andy Jaime and alternate is Ken Queen.

When July 1 hits, we will have entered the new fiscal year of 2025. Time to pay dues. You can renew online and then print your new card. Let's all endeavor to pay by December 31.

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

## **FROM THE FIRST VICE-COMMANDER**



### **The Importance of Being the One**

On Memorial Day Rod Hage and I were participating in a fund raiser at the Lowe's store at Lake Pleasant and Happy Valley Rd in Peoria for DAV Star 24. (It should come as no surprise to anyone that many American Legion members also belong to other veteran service organizations.) The Lowe's store had set up a nice memorial display in the parking lot near the entrance. While we were there, we noticed a Lowe's employee stop by the memorial stand there and then kneel for a while with his head bowed. He was a younger man, probably late twenties and as he stood up, we could see he was weeping and in emotional pain. We left our fund raising, approached him and with his permission hugged him. He said, "We lost too many brothers." We talked with him and learned he is a Marine who had been deployed to the Middle East a couple times and had watched some of his fellow Marines suffer wounds and death. As we comforted him, we also learned that he was on VA disability for PTSD. We also learned that he had a fellow veteran roommate who wasn't very sympathetic to his suffering. We helped him through his hard time, and he went back to work.

At this time, this young Marine probably wasn't suicidal, but he was suffering. Being the One is much more than just being there when someone is contemplating suicide. Being the One is being there for each other. Being there when our brother or sister is in pain, whether physical or psychological, and offering support and guidance. Being the One is also educating one another that PTSD and other mental health problems are just as real as physical injuries, so our brothers and sisters don't act without compassion as this Marine's roommate. Our support may be as simple as letting someone know you care, or it may be more involved such as referring them to someone else that can help more than we can. Helping may be convincing a fellow veteran that asking for help is not weakness. Remember 988 then press 1 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline is always available to help those in mental distress. Another way you can help is by being informed. The American Legion offers a free 90-minute zoom class, "Columbia Protocol" which will educate you on

signs that someone is suffering mental distress and may need suicide prevention help. I encourage all to take this class. We may never eliminate veteran suicide, but we may be able to lower the rate of it.

Let us show each other we care. BE THE ONE!

For God and Country,  
Arnold "Arnie" Kohl, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander

## **FROM THE SECOND VICE-COMMANDER**



Hello Brothers and Sisters,

I am sitting in lovely and somewhat cool Vail, Colorado as I write this. It is so incredibly beautiful here, if you love the mountains as I do. I prefer them over the ocean and beach any day! I used to live in the mountains, but it's been a while and I forgot how hot the sun is at this altitude, but it doesn't compare to the heat of our wonderful city of Surprise, in the summer.

I left Surprise for Vail on the day the weather report said it would be 114° F and I'm glad I did but feel for all of you still in the heat, so I wanted to provide some reminders of staying safe in the heat.

1. If you are out and about, remember there are Heat Relief Sites throughout Maricopa County from May 1 - September 30. Look for this sign...



2. Carry around water with you and stay hydrated.
3. Wear appropriate lightweight, light-color, and loose-fitting clothing.
4. Wear a hat or carry an umbrella.
5. Apply sunscreen, at least, 30 minutes prior to going out.
6. When you know it is going to be a very hot day, choose to stay indoors with air conditioning as much as possible.
7. Check on your family, friends, and neighbors to be sure they are keeping cool.

I wanted to share the Heat Relief Sites Map with you but there are 256 locations! You can Google 2024 Heat Relief Network and it will bring up the map or go to <https://hrn.azmag.gov> and search by address,

city, or zip code for all you need to keep cool in this blistering heat.

For God and Country,  
Kelly Donlevy, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander

### **FROM THE FINANCE OFFICER AND JUDGE ADVOCATE**



National is raising dues by \$5. That means \$34 of your \$40 dues go to National and State leaving the Post only \$6. That is a problem and the Post is going to have to raise dues SOON! I urge you to pay quickly to avoid any dues increase. You can now pay for 1, 2 or 3 years and avoid any increase, but you must pay online.

Sorry to say we have 21 members dropped for 2025 for non-payment of dues. We now have 163 paid members.

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**



Loving God, We greet this Fourth of July with grateful hearts as we call to mind the vision of freedom and justice for all upon which our country was built.

Amen.

For God and Country,  
Chaplain Joe Urshan

### **SICK CALL**

George Cushing is recovering at home from a stroke. George is a past Commander of Post 96. Cards and letters may be sent to George at 20089 N. Pinewish Court, Surprise, AZ 85374-4625

Rod Hage's mother is in rehabilitation, after a hospital stay, recovering from a fall. Please keep her in your prayers.

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

### **POST EVERLASTING**

Howard L. Lindner went to Post Everlasting on May 23, 2024. Howard was 81 years old and a 51-year member of the American Legion. He served in the USN during the Vietnam conflict. Services were held on May 28 in Woodstock, IL

### **FROM THE FUND RAISING CHAIRMAN**



Happy July brothers and sisters!

Last month I posted about our Memorial Day fundraiser, and it was a good weekend. Not too hot like the days are now. So, I wanted to give you a final tally on how much we actually brought in. We collected \$3137.30!

Our next fundraiser is not until November 8-10, Veterans Day weekend, so mark your calendars and save a couple hours to serve other Veterans with us. We would love to see some new faces out there.

In the meantime, do your best to stay cool out there in this heat.

For God and Country,  
Kelly Donlevy, Fundraising Chair

### **MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

We start the new Legion Year with 163 members and all hope to see that grow. Our goal, set by Department, is 170.

The winner of the Membership Drawing at the June 27 meeting is Eddie Jenness who, fortunately, was present to win. Congratulations Eddie your 2025 dues are PAID! 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 July 6 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**



The Riders of American Legion Post 96 like to focus on two things in order of importance: Safety #1 and Recruiting #2.

Having witnessed a near fatal motorcycle crash recently during a fundraiser for another motorcycle accident victim, thought it appropriate to post these facts and to remind us all to focus on motorcycle safety. There has been a string of serious motorcycle accidents in our area recently.



6,218 motorcyclists were killed in traffic crashes in 2022, which represents 15% of all traffic fatalities.

The fatality rate for motorcyclists was 22 times more than the passenger car occupant fatality rate in 2022, per 100 million vehicle miles traveled.

35% of all motorcycle riders involved in fatal crashes in 2022 were speeding, compared to 22% of all passenger

car drivers. Motorcycle riders 21 to 24 years old involved in fatal crashes had the highest speeding involvement at 51% in 2022.

Of the 2,254 motorcycle riders who died in single-vehicle crashes in 2022, 42% were alcohol-impaired.

Motorcycle helmet use increased among motorcycle riders from 64.9% in 2021 to 66.5% in 2022. Similarly, among motorcycle riders with passengers, helmet use increased: 52.1% in 2021 and 58.3% in 2022.

We continue to keep our eyes open for good servant leadership potential members to join our Riders group. Riders who want to help and serve, and have some fun as well.

Eddie Jenness, ALR 96 Director  
alr96.president@gmail.com

## **July Calendar**

**Wednesday July 3** – 0900-1000 - Veterans Coffee Hour at Surprise Funeral Care, 16063 W Bell Rd, Surprise, AZ. Every 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month, Veterans are invited to a free coffee hour, compliments of Dignity Memorial.

**Wednesday July 3** – Senior Day at Fry's, Bashas' and Albertsons. 10% discount on your groceries.

**Thursday July 4** - Independence Day, known colloquially as the Fourth of July, is a federal holiday in the United States commemorating the Declaration of Independence, which was ratified by the Second Continental Congress on July 4, 1776, establishing the United States of America.

The Founding Father delegates of the Second Continental Congress declared that the Thirteen Colonies were no longer subject (and subordinate) to the monarch of Britain, King George III, and were now united, free, and independent states. The Congress voted to approve independence by passing the Lee Resolution on July 2 and adopted the Declaration of Independence two days later, on July 4.

**Saturday July 6** – 1100 40&8 Voiture 1154 Promenade at  
Arrowhead Valley Apartments  
20025 N 81<sup>st</sup> 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>

**Tuesday July 9** – 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.

**Thursday July 11** – 1600 Post 96 Officers meeting at Mike Elliott's home. This is moved a week later because of the July 4 holiday.

**Saturday** – 0900 NWVVA meeting Sunland Memorial Park. NO JULY MEETING OF THE NWVVA.

**Sunday July 21** - 1000 Marty Schwab Memorial Breakfast at Richi's Diner, Bell & Reems. All veterans and family are invited to this informal gathering.

**Thursday August 22** – 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. NO JULY POST 96 MEETING.

**Thursday August 22** – About 2000 American Legion Riders Chapter 96 meeting after the Post 96 business meeting at AZ Traditions. This is a temporary change.

**July 27, 1953 – Korean War Armistice Day** - The Korean Armistice Agreement, signed on July 27, 1953, was the culmination of many months of bickering between officials from the United States, North Korea, South Korea, China, the former Soviet Union and United Nations forces.

### SAVE THE DATE

**August 19, 2024** – Post 96 has flag retirement duty for the NWVVA at Sunland Memorial Park.

**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



### The Meaning Behind the 13 Folds of Old Glory

What is the Meaning Behind the 13 Folds of the U.S. Flag?

The flag-folding ceremony represents the same religious principles on which the United States was originally founded.

The first fold of our flag is a symbol of life.

The second fold is a symbol of our belief in eternal life.

The third fold is made in honor and remembrance of the veteran departing our ranks, and who gave a portion of his or her life for the defense of our country to attain peace throughout the world.

The fourth fold represents our weaker nature; as American citizens trusting in God, it is Him we turn to in times of peace, as well as in times of war, for His divine guidance.

The fifth fold is a tribute to our country. In the words of Stephen Decatur, "Our country, in dealing with other countries, may she always be right, but it is still our country, right or wrong."

The sixth fold is for where our hearts lie. It is with our heart that we pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

The seventh fold is a tribute to our armed forces, for it is through the armed forces that we protect our country and



our flag against all enemies, whether they be found within or without the boundaries of our republic.

The eighth fold is a tribute to the one who entered into the valley of the shadow of death, that we might see the light of day, and to honor our mother, for whom it flies on Mother's Day.

The ninth fold is a tribute to womanhood. It has been through their faith, love, loyalty and devotion that has molded the character of the men and women who have made this country great.

The tenth fold is a tribute to father, who has also given his sons and daughters for the defense of our country since he or she was first born.

The eleventh fold represents the lower portion of the seal of King David and King Solomon and glorifies the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

The twelfth fold represents an emblem of eternity and glorifies God the Father, the Son and Holy Ghost.

The thirteenth and last fold, when the flag is completely folded, the stars are uppermost, reminding us of our national motto, "In God We Trust."

#### What Happens After the Flag Folding Ceremony?

After the flag is completely folded and tucked in, it has the appearance of a cocked hat, ever reminding us of the soldiers who served under Gen. George Washington and the sailors and Marines who served under Capt. John Paul Jones and were followed by their comrades and shipmates in the U.S. Armed Forces, preserving for us the rights, privileges and freedoms we enjoy today.

The source and the date of origin of this Flag Folding Procedure is unknown. However, some sources attribute it to the Gold Star Mothers of America while others to an Air Force chaplain stationed at the United States Air Force Academy. Some sources also indicate that the 13 folds are a nod to the original first 13 colonies.

Source: Marine Corps News | By Laurie Pearson  
Updated May 28, 2024 | Published June 11, 2019

**American Legion**



**Joseph Q. Johnson  
Surprise Post 96**

## Vet Fest 2024

On June 27, 2024 Joseph Q. Johnson Post 96 Service Officer Rod Hage and I participated with the Veterans Administration in the first annual Vet Fest at the Phoenix VA Hospital. There was a very good turn out for the event which featured many resources to assist veterans. There was a table for toxic exposure testing and other tables for veteran housing assistance, grants, DAV and American Legion service officers and many other resources. Rod and I were assisting Veterans Affinity which assists veterans and spouses in obtaining benefits, enrolling veterans in the VA system and conducting veteran coffee hours throughout the Valley. Working together we are able to develop partnerships and assist more veterans with more resources.



Rod Hage and Rider David Samaniego



Michael Welsh, RD Deputy Medical Center Director and a veteran



Doug Leach, Rick Kreiberg and Rod Hage.



Rod Hage with Bryan Matthews Medical Center Director for the Phoenix Veterans Affairs Health Care System.

For God and Country,  
Arnold Kohl, Vice-Commander

## June 27, 2024 General Meeting Minutes

1900 Hours- Commander Mike Elliott opened the meeting. We have 11 Members & 3 Guests

Flag salute

Chaplin Joe Urshan led opening prayer.

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

Commander Mike Elliot read the POW/MIA statement.

Commander Mike Elliot led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Preamble to American Legion Constitution recited in unison.

Commander Mike Elliott declared the meeting open for business.

### **Vice-Commander Arnold Kohl took roll call of officers:**

Commander Mike Elliott: Present

Vice-Commander Arnold Kohl: Present

Second Vice-Commander Kelly Donlevy: Excused

Finance Officer George Van de Langeryt: Excused

Acting Adjutant Arnold Kohl: Present

Past Commander Nancy Scalercio: Present

Sergeant at Arms Kristen Dube: Excused

Riders Director Eddie Jenness: Present

Chaplain Joe Urshan: Present

VA Hospital Coordinator/Service Officer Rod Hage: Present

Fundraising Chair Kelly DonLevy: Excused

Photographer Paul Satkowski: Present

We have a quorum.

**Adjutant Arnold Kohl- Minutes.** Minutes for the May meeting was published in the June newsletter.

### **Committee & Officer Reports:**

#### **Commander Report:**

Commander Mike Elliott Reported on the 105 Annual American Legion State Convention which took place in Oro Valley June 20-23. Representing Post 96 Commander Mike Elliott and Finance Officer George Van de Langeryt attended the convention. The following new Department of Arizona officers were elected and sworn into office:

Department Commander: Manny Beltran  
Area "B" Vice-Commander: Jesse Fernandez

NEC Representative" Andy Jaime

NEC Alternate Rep: Ken Queen

#### **Finance Officer Report:**

Commander Mike Elliott read the Finance Officer report which George Van de Langeryt had emailed out.

Commander Elliott asked if there were any changes to the report. Hearing none the Finance Report was accepted.

**Adjutant Report:** Nothing new to report.

#### **Membership Report:**

Commander Elliott reported that we are starting a new Legion year. Post 96 lost 21 members who did not pay dues. As of today we have 163 paid members

Dues are due on Monday, July 1, 2024.

National is raising dues by \$5 and we will soon need to do the same.

National has already sent out 2025 membership cards to PUFL members.

Remember, if you pay online Post 96 will not mail you a new membership card as you can print your own card online. However, if you want one mailed contact George Van de Langeryt, or Mike Elliott.

#### **Vice-Commander Report:**

Arnold Kohl reported that Service Officer and he had attended the first annual "Vet Fest" at the Phoenix VA Hospital earlier today. It was well attended, a great success. There were many areas set up to help veterans with claims, toxic exposure screening, veteran homelessness assistance, etc.

Second Vice-Commander report:

Second Vice-Commander Kelly DonLevy was excused.

#### **Judge Advocate Report/Newsletter Editor Report:**

George Van de Langeryt was excused. Commander Elliott reported that the revised Post 96 Constitution and by-laws have been sent to District 11 Commander to be reviewed and filed. Articles and photos for the July newsletter should be submitted by Sunday, June 30. The July newsletter will be published July 1.

The August newsletter is canceled as George will be in Mexico.

George asks if there is anyone willing to take over the newsletter as it has become too much for him. Any volunteers? You could start with the August issue.

#### **Past Commander Report:**

Nancy Scalercio Report: Nothing to report.

#### **ALR Report:**

President Eddie Jenness- Riders President Jenness report that they are still working on recruiting new riders.

#### **Chaplain Report:**

Chaplain Joe reported that Bobbie Schwab is still awaiting word on when she will be having surgery.

Commander Mike Elliott will tentatively be having shoulder surgery on August 16.

George Van de Langeryt injured his back and is home recovering.

Joe reported that he was tested for cancer and the results came back clean.

Rod Hage was asked how his mother is doing? Rod's Mother fell a week ago and hit her head. She had been in the hospital since then but is now in a rehab facility. After her fall it was discovered, she also had some heart issues and some delusional problems. She is doing better, but not out of the woods yet.

**Sgt@Arms Report:**

Kris Dube Excused

**Fund Raising Chair Report:**

Kelly Donlevy excused.

**VA Support/ Service Officer Report:**

Rod Hage reported that because of caring for his mother since her fall his service hours are less this month.

Vice-Commander Kohl related that even though his hours may be down, Rod has still put in about 60 hours this month as a Service Officer.

Rod reported that he and other service officers and agencies have been working with a veteran who recently lost job and is having some hopefully temporary financial problems. He believes that at this time she won't be requiring any support from Post 96.

**Unfinished Business:**

Because Riders President Jenness needed to leave early, two pieces of New Business were voted on before unfinished business was discussed.

Commander Mike Elliott stated that it was discussed at the June Executive Board meeting to cancel the July 2024 General Meeting.

Rod Hage made a motion to cancel the July 2024 General Meeting.

The motion was seconded by Tom Roark.

Commander Elliott asked 3x if there was any discussion and there was none.

Commander Elliott called for a vote, and it was unanimous to cancel the July 2024 General Meeting.

Commander Elliott stated that it was discussed at the June Executive Board meeting for the Post to pay the annual dues for any active-duty member

of the Post. Currently Post 96 has two active-duty members. Rod Hage made a motion for the Post to pay the membership dues for any active-duty members.

Nancy Scalercio seconded the motion.

Commander Elliott asked 3x if there was any discussion.

Hearing none he asked for a vote and the motion was unanimously passed.

Back to Unfinished Business: There was none.

**Returning to New Business:**

Commander Elliott reported that at the August 2024 meeting Post 96 will have an installation of officers.

**Business for the good of the American Legion:**

Vice-Commander Arnold Kohl reported that Scout Troop 194, Located in Marley Park, Surprise Arizona is having its annual Fourth of July Pancake Breakfast 0730-0930 on July 4. Location Marley Park Heritage Club, 15210 W. Sweetwater Ave. Surprise, Az. 85379. Suggested donation \$5. Let's come out and support the Scouts.

Other upcoming events are listed in the newsletter.

Next Executive Board meeting July 11, 1600 Hrs. at Mike Elliott's home.

Next General meeting August 22, 1900 Hrs. at Arizona Traditions Neighborhood center.

**Is there any further business?**

Hearing none, Commander Elliott held the closing ceremony and closed the meeting at 1950 Hrs.

Membership drawing winner: Eddie Jenness.





## Here are a few photos from the 2024 Dept. of AZ Convention in Oro Valley on June 20-23



Commander Mike wait in line to vote. The Commander of each Post lines up to vote. This is repeated for each office voted on.



Commander Mike finally gets to cast the Post vote.



Commander Mike and Gail share a table with Bubbles Gilmore, who was a candidate for Dept. Commander, at the GNUTS Luncheon.



Gail and Mike, Karen and George, attend one of the many meetings.



Commander Jack Coyle of Post 94 receives the 100% Membership Award for his Post. Presented by Dept. Commander Steve Speri

This is the full color page advertisement Post 96 had in the  
Convention Book



**AMERICAN LEGION  
Joseph Q. Johnson  
Surprise Post 96**

**PO Box 7096, Surprise, AZ 85374**



**The members and officers of Post 96 and ALR  
Chapter 96 wish the Dept. of AZ and Oro Valley  
Post 132 a very successful 2024 Convention.**

**Post 96 2024-2025 Officers**

Commander: Mike Elliott

Sr. Vice-Commander: Arnold Kohl

Jr. Vice-Commander: Kelly Donlevy

Finance Officer: George Van de Langeryt

Past Commander: Nancie Scalercio

Chaplain: Joe Urshan

Sergeant@Arms: Kristen Dube

Judge Advocate: George Van de Langeryt

Fundraising Chair: Kelly Donlevy

Photographer: Paul Satkowski

Newsletter Editor: George Van de Langeryt

**American Legion Riders Chapter 96**

**Director: Eddie Jenness**



## **A few photos from the June 27 meeting, thanks to Post Photographer Paul Satkowski.**



Commander Mike draws the Membership Raffle. Winner is Eddie Jenness.



Rider Paul Roark takes notes



Rider David Samaniego



Rider Nina Olsen celebrates a birthday.





Member Travis Cermetisch wife Skylar and daughter Leslie



Leslie Cermetisch chows down



Past Commander Nancie Scalercio and Chaplain Joe Urshan



First Vice Commander Arnie Kohl and the POW/MIA Table

Join Us For



# Troop 194's Annual 4th of July Pancake Breakfast

\$5 suggested donation,  
Veterans eat FREE

7:30am - 9:30am

Marley Park  
Heritage Club

15210 Sweetwater Ave,  
Surprise, 85379





SAVE THE DATE

NOVEMBER 18, 2024  
6:30 AM - 2:30 PM  
STONECREEK GOLF CLUB

PRICE KONG  
CARES

**BEST BY  
PAR**

CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT



**GRAND CANYON COUNCIL, BSA**  
Discover Your Path

**Gage Rossino** | Development Officer  
C 267-733-5873  
[Gage.Rossino@grandcanyonbsa.org](mailto:Gage.Rossino@grandcanyonbsa.org)

**Dave Alexander Scout Service Center**  
9060 E Via Linda, Suite 205  
Scottsdale, AZ 85258



**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 Riche's. (\$6 Value) Valid one per customer. \$5 Minimum Purchase. Not Valid with any other offer or promotions.

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

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

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

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

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.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday and 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturdays. We are closed on Sundays.

**SUNSOLAR SOLUTIONS**

**Robert Donlevy**  
Solar Energy Advisor

602-487-7134  
rdonlevy@sunsolarsolutions.com  
www.sunsolarsolutions.com

8932 W Cactus Rd | Peoria, AZ 85381 | 602-773-6675  
Sunsolar Solutions, Inc | ROC 331679

Our family owned Life Celebration® Home provides:

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

**Camino del Sol**  
FUNERAL CHAPEL & CREMATION CENTER  
13708 Camino del Sol, Sun City West, AZ 85375  
602-584-6299 • 602-584-6299  
www.caminodeelsol.com

**Insurance Auto Home Commercial Business Life**

**Raymond E. Grim Agency**

12213 W. Bell Rd Ste 212  
Surprise, AZ 85378  
Office: 623-876-1793  
Fax: 623-875-8111  
rgrim@amfam.com  
raymondegim.com  
#SurpriseInsuranceAgent

**Pellegrini Associates**  
Insurance Marketing

**Bill Pellegrini**  
Founder & President

P: 602-368-4422      TF: 1-866-731-6112  
F: 602-687-8636      8433 N. Black Canyon Hwy  
bill@pellegriniandassociates.com      Suite 178  
pellegriniandassociates.com      Phoenix, AZ 85021

**CCILI**

**Tom Frizzell**  
Independent Distributor  
Cili By Design  
623-764-5011  
We are your roadmap to Acquaceutical Technology

**KEN'S BUTTONS**

Pin-Backs Magnets

Anime Sci-Fi Fantasy Monsters Comic Books

Ken's Buttons      f Ken's Buttons

MADE TO ORDER - PIN STYLE OR MAGNETIC

**Ken Schwab**  
**602-405-1995**  
Ken7.ks@kensbuttons.com

**VETERANS AFFINITY**  
PROUDLY SERVING THOSE WHO SERVED

**RICK KREIBERG**  
Founder and Executive Director  
Command Sergeant Major, US Army (Retired)

Cell: 714.402.9866  
Email: rick@veteransaffinity.org  
Web: www.veteransaffinity.org

Veterans Affinity

**VETERANS AFFINITY**

VA MEDICAL CARE & BENEFITS  
SENIOR & ASSISTED LIVING  
HOME CARE ASSISTANCE  
COMMUNITY RESOURCES  
VET2VET SERVICES

MISSION: To Assist Senior Veterans with the Care They Need and the Benefits They Have Earned.

COMMITMENT • COMPASSION • CAMARADERIE • CONNECTION

**CHEVROLET**

MARK OF EXCELLENCE AWARD WINNER

**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  
djt7391@cox.net

**Menke**  
FUNERAL & CREMATION CENTER

**Nancie Scalercio**  
FAMILY SERVICE COUNSELOR  
C: 623-826-3488  
nscalercio@menkefuneralhome.com

P: 623-979-6451 | F: 623-979-6845  
MENKEFUNERALHOME.COM

**PLEASE VISIT THESE ADVERTISERS AND TELL THEM YOU SAW THEIR CARD IN THE POST 96 NEWSLETTER!**

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



Forwarding Service Requested – July



**Have you signed up a *NEW* member for 2025?**