



AHWATUKEE AMERICAN LEGION POST 64

APRIL 2019

<http://www.americanlegionpost64.com/>

CHECK OUT THE POST WEBSITE. INFORMATION INCLUDED:

**Photos, Newsletters, Uniforms, Veterans' Benefits, Congressional Contacts, Items of Interest,
Links to other Veterans' Websites, Flag Etiquette, and Much More !**

THE NEXT POST 64 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING WILL BE WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, 2019, AT ARC 3:00 PM.

1. COMMANDER'S COMMENTS: (From Commander Pete Meier)

We just finished our quarterly adopt-a-street clean-up. A big thank you to Bob Smithson, Jay and Christy Hendrix, Roger and Deb Munchbach, Roddy Charlton and Pete Meier. This enables us to have free signage and advertising from the city of Phoenix. Our street segment is from 48th St. and Elliot, west on Elliot to Equestrian Trail. Next clean-up will be in July.

There are two signature events coming up. We will be doing our "Evolution of the Flag" program at a Daughters of the American Revolution meeting on April 16. Our other major event will be the Ahwatukee Easter Parade on Saturday, April 20. As you know, we lead the Easter Parade with our Color Guard, but in addition to that we fly approximately 30 deceased veterans' flags. They look very impressive going up 48th St. stretching from curb-to-curb. For this we need some volunteers. Dress would be dark slacks and a white shirt. You need to be able to march a mile carrying a burial flag. After the parade, hot dogs, cold drinks, and music will be at ARC. Volunteers please contact Color Guard Commander Dave VonTersch at 480-753-4166 or djvontersh@q.com. Show your patriotism and come and march with us in the Easter Parade. Don't forget our regular meetings on the third Wed. of the month at 3pm at ARC. All are welcome to attend.

2. HONORING OUR MEMBERS WHO HAVE PASSED: (from Chaplain Rebecca Schmidt)

Our Post 64 monthly meeting on May 15, 2019, (3pm at ARC), will include a Memorial Service to honor our Post's veteran members who have passed over the last two years. Refreshments follow. All are welcome. For more info, please call Post 64 Chaplain Rebecca Schmidt (480-983-1578).

3. MEMBERSHIP: (from First Vice Commander Bob Smithson)

As of March 2019: Total active (223); Total paid-to-date (201); Expired (8); Yet to renew (14); New (11); Transfers in (10); Transfers out (1); Drop outs (2). Our goal was set at 195 paid members. We exceeded that and are at 103% of goal. Please give yourselves a pat on the back for a 'Well Done' in attaining 100%! Also, from the Post Officers a big "Thank You" and a hearty appreciation to the members who "Paid Up" in a timely manner.

If you have not renewed yet go to www.legion.org/renew. It's the fastest way to renew. You can mail your dues into the Post, but do so ASAP because time is running out for you to be counted into our Post for 2019. The address is 5001 E. Cheyenne Dr., Phoenix, AZ 85044.

4. MINUTES FROM THE MARCH 20 MEETING:

Forty members and guests were in attendance.

Membership is now at 100%. Thank you to First Vice Commander Bob Smithson for his dedication to being the Membership Chairman.

Street Clean-Up will be Sat. March 30 at 8 am. Meet in the Safeway parking lot at Elliot and 48th St.

Sign-up sheets were in the back of the room for street clean-up on March 30 and carrying burial flags or assisting with the Easter Parade on April 20. On Saturday, April 13, at 8:00 am, the burial flags will be mounted on poles. Join us at the storage room in Building B at ARC if you would like to help.

Dave VonTersch also needs volunteers for the Evolution Program for the DAR on April 16. Call or email him to let him know you will help. A few of the Color Guard members need to leave ARC by 9 am with the equipment. The rest can leave later, to arrive at Dobson Ranch Golf Course by 10:30. The Evolution Program is scheduled to start at 11:00 am. It will be held after the DAR business meeting, (which actually begins at 10:00 am).

PLEASE CHECK THE CALENDAR AT THE END OF THE NEWSLETTER FOR ALL OF THE COLOR GUARD ACTIVITIES.

Order forms for Pavers to be placed in the Blue Star Memorial at 48th St. and Warner are available at the ARC front desk. Prices are \$50 and \$60. Special Guest Wayne Chatfield spoke on his qualifications as a candidate for Area B Vice Commander 2019-2020.

We will be trying a new method of making nametags for new members right at the meetings. We currently have nametags made and waiting for Arnold Boliek, Dan Chong, Tom Hills, and Don Taylor. We can leave it at the ARC front desk for you--call Roger Munchbach to arrange.

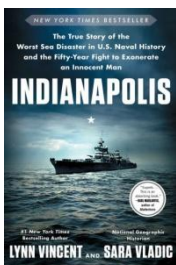
Condolences to the friends and families of Patrick Murphy and Thomas Pahl who both passed away this month. Patrick was a friend of Post member David Eggert and a veteran of the Marine Corps. Thomas was a friend of Post member Roger Munchbach and a veteran of the Army.



March 15, 2019, was the 100th anniversary of the founding of the American Legion, and Post 64 celebrated after the meeting.



The March meeting was dedicated to the 1195 crew members on the USS Indianapolis CA-35 when it was torpedoed on July 30, 1945. John Boyer gave an educational and moving presentation about the disaster, the victims, and the 316 survivors. John is a survivor family member. His cousin, Lloyd Peter Barto, was one of the crew members who was rescued after four days in shark infested waters.



The book *INDIANAPOLIS*, written by Lynn Vincent and Sara Vladic, was published in July 2018. On March 2, 2019, John met the authors at the Tucson Book Fair. Also present at the book fair was USS Indianapolis survivor, Adolfo "Harpo" Celaya, from Florence, AZ. All 3 people signed John's copy of the book. Mr. Celaya received a Certificate of Meritorious Service from Post 64. By the way, he is a member of American Legion Post 84 in Sacaton.





John has also been in contact with another Indianapolis survivor, Dick Thelen, who lives in Michigan. He sent pictures of the program and a Certificate of Meritorious Service to Mr. Thelen.

5. REMEMBER WHEN (Installment #3 reviewing the first 25 years of Post 64): *Earlier installments are available online in the newsletters*

JUNE 1997 TO JUNE 1998

Department Commander was Bobby Reyes. Post Commander was Roger Munchbach. Unit President was Julie Chedester.

July 4, 1997, was the first time that the Post 64 Color Guard presented Colors at ARC for the Independence Day Celebration. They also started posting Colors for their monthly meetings, which were still held at 7 pm on the third Wednesday of the month.

Members participated in the 5K Alzheimer's Walk on September 27, 1997.

On November 11, 1997, the Post participated in the Veterans Day program at Valley of the Sun Cemetery in Chandler as guests of Chandler Post 35.

For Thanksgiving 1997 the Post and Unit bought holiday meals for six families in cooperation with Mountain View Lutheran Church in Ahwatukee.

On December 17, Post 64 held its first ever "Holiday Party". Everyone was asked to bring desserts to share. They provided gifts for one Christmas family through Department Headquarters.

On February 21, 1998, the Post Color Guard presented Colors for the opening of AZ Senior Olympics at ASU.

On April 3, 1998, members of the Post and Unit attended Patriotic Day at Akimel Middle School for the first time. It was their 4th annual program. The Colors were raised in the outdoor amphitheater by the Color Guard from East Mesa Post 83.

The April 11, 1998, Easter Parade was the first time that the Post 64 Color Guard led the annual parade. They wore their first official uniform shirts on that day. It was also the first time that they carried the burial flags of local veterans mounted on special poles following the Color Guard. Color Guards from Post and Unit 1 and Post 29 were further back in the parade. The first ever "hot dog feed" was held on the ARC patio, hosted by Post and Unit 64, following the parade.

Ahwatukee's 25th Anniversary was commemorated at ARC on April 25, 1998. Post 64 had a table display at the event.

Poppies were distributed at Fry's and Safeway on May 23, 1998, raising \$350. The Color Guard participated in Memorial Day services at Valley of the Sun Cemetery in Chandler as guests of Chandler Post 35.

School Awards were presented to Marcia Jones (Mountain Pointe High School), Brian Haller (Centennial Middle School), Lora Pittman (Akimel Middle School), and Tyler Barratt (Altadena Middle School).

Boys and Girls State citizens from Desert Vista High School were Zachary Wagner, Alison Stover, Theresa Sullivan, and Caitlin Dahill; from Mountain Pointe High School Krystal Klein; and from Seton Catholic High School Meaghan Brown and Sophia Acord.

Department Convention was held in Sierra Vista, AZ, from June 18-21, 1998. Membership ended the year at 148.89% (67 of 45).

JUNE 1998 TO JUNE 1999

Department Commander was Julius "Mac" Maklary. Post Commander was Roger Munchbach. Unit President was Debra Munchbach. The Auxiliary started holding their meetings at the Munchbach home on the third Saturday of the month at 1:00 pm.

On July 4, 1998, the Color Guard presented Colors for the party at ARC, and wore their shiny gold ascots, sewn by Renee Roloff, as part of their uniforms for the first time.

Members participated in the 5K Alzheimer's Walk on October 10, 1998.

The Post reached 102.9% of their membership goal in NOVEMBER 1998. The goal was 69.

On November 11, 1998, the Color Guard was part of the Veterans Day ceremony at Valley of the Sun Cemetery in Chandler.

Starting in November of 1998, during Odd Numbered months the Post 64 General Meeting was held at 7:00 pm at ARC, and during the Even Numbered months it was at 3:00 pm.

For Thanksgiving the Post provided holiday dinner supplies for 8 families in cooperation with Mountain View Lutheran Church in Ahwatukee.

During December members went caroling at the Phoenix VA Hospital with the VAVS Representatives. Charlie Roloff presented his "Evolution of the American Flag" Program for the first time at the Holiday party in 1998. Charlie wrote this program and purchased and donated to Post 64 all of the flags and banners used.

On February 20, 1999, the Color Guard presented Colors for the opening of AZ Senior Olympics. The Color Guard led the Easter Parade on April 3, 1999. They presented Colors (their first time) at the 5th Annual Patriotic Day at Akimel Middle School on April 9, 1999. The Post also obtained and presented to Akimel a US flag which had flown over the US Capitol Building earlier in 1999.

On May 29, 1999, poppies were distributed at Fry's and Safeway, raising \$559.00. On Memorial Day the Color Guard participated in ceremonies at Valley of the Sun Cemetery in Chandler.

School Awards were presented to Peter Thatcher (Mountain Pointe High School), Brian Wie (Desert Vista High School), Dustin Moody (Centennial Middle School), Corrine Walker (Akimel Middle School), and Katherine Hickman and Andrew Rico (Altadena Middle School).

Boys and Girls State citizens from Desert Vista High School were JP Benedict, John Hatlelid, Ryan Schmoll, Annie Atkinson, and Stephanie Gauby.

Girls State Citizens from Mountain Pointe High School were Sheryl Seibert and Kristen Wong.

Department Convention was held at the Holiday Inn Palo Verde in Tucson from June 17-20, 1999. Roger Munchbach received his first First Place award for the Post 64 History Book. Membership ended the year at 124.64% (86 of 69).



Why we send gift boxes ...

Thank you so much for my Christmas package. It means so much that strangers would take the time to show such love and care for service members! We have such an amazing country that I am very proud to serve.


USA Thanks again -Lt. Cmdr. Brenda Way, USN, Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti, Africa

Support the Troops
Packing Day 2019
April 11 • 9AM • Main Hall
Everyone is invited to help pack

SHRED-ATHON

April 27, 2019 8 - 11 AM
or until the truck is filled
ARC Parking Lot

Cost: \$2 for each "Banker Box"
about 15x12x10
All profits will go to
Support the Troops program.



April 2019 ***indicates Color Guard						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5 Gold Star Wives Day	6
AMERICAN LEGION CHILD WELFARE WEEK						
7	8	9 Equal Pay Day	10 Executive Committee Meeting 3 pm at ARC	11 Support the Troops packing 9 am at ARC	12	13 ***Prepare Burial Flags for Easter Parade 8 am
			Boys State Applications due to Department			
14	15 Blue Star Paver orders due; Forms at ARC front desk	16 Tax Day (Taxes Due) ***Evolution Program for DAR Dobson Ranch Golf Course 11 am Equipment leaves ARC at 9 am Remainder of group leaves ARC at 10 am	17 ***Post General Meeting 3 pm at ARC	18	19 Good Friday	20 ***Easter Parade Starts at 10 am Arrive at ARC at 7 am
21 Easter	22 Earth Day / World Immunization Week Starts	23	24 Administrative Professionals	25	26 Arbor Day	27 Shred-A-Thon ARC Parking Lot 8-11 am
28	29	30 Mountain Pointe Awards Program 7 pm	UPCOMING EVENTS May 1, 2019 Desert Vista Awards Program 7:15 am May 22, 2019 Middle School Promotions, Times to be Announced			

6. POST CONTACT INFORMATION:

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