



**AHWATUKEE AMERICAN LEGION POST 64**

**JUNE 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 !**

**1. CONDOLENCES:**



To the family of Dale Cockerill who passed away on April 21, 2019. Dale was a Vietnam Era Veteran of the US Air Force, and a member of the American Legion for 2 years.



To the family of Frank Schweller who passed away on April 29, 2019. Frank was a Korea Era Veteran of the US Air Force, and a member of the American Legion for 9 years.

**ALSO TO THE FAMILIES OF:**

--Thomas Sammons who passed away on February 1, 2019. Thomas was a Vietnam Era Veteran of the US Army and a member of the American Legion since 2007.

--Thomas Stirrup, a Korea Era Veteran of the US Army and a member of the American Legion since 2007.



At the May 15, 2019, meeting, Chaplain Rebecca Schmidt, Asst. Sgt-at-Arms Roddy Charlton, and John Boyer conducted a Memorial Service for members who have transferred to Post Everlasting during the last 2 years. We are hoping to make this a yearly event.

## 2. THINKING OF YOU: A SHOUT OUT AND “HELLO”:

To James Basinger; to Commander Pete Meier’s wife Sigi; to Second Vice Commander Doug Patterson; and to all of our members who live outside of Arizona.

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

2019 Totals to date: Total roster (221); Total paid (206); Not paid (8); Expired (7); Transfers out (2); Transfers in (10); New (12); Drop outs (2); Deceased (11).

The goal of 195 paid members has been exceeded. We are now at 106% of our goal. Again, thanks to all the dedicated members who showed that they care about the past, present, and future veterans.

Looking ahead for the next Legion year that starts 1 July 2019, renew early and renew online if you can at [www.legion.org/renew](http://www.legion.org/renew).

As you know, the membership contest that rewards the member that recruits 5 or more new members was won by Roger Munchbach who recruited 8 new members. He will receive his award in July.

## 4. MINUTES FROM THE MAY 15, 2019, MEETING:

26 members and guests were in attendance.

First Vice Commander Bob Smithson reported that we have exceeded our membership goal for 2018-2019. His detailed report is above under # 3.

The Post Budget for 2019-2020 was presented and approved.

Color Guard Commander Dave VonTersch reported on all upcoming events over the summer. Please turn in any unserviceable flags before June 14 for inclusion in the “Flag Retirement Program”. We will have new flags available for purchase at the June 14 event. They will be the same flags which are available in the ARC Gift Shoppe. See the calendar at the end of the newsletter for all scheduled Color Guard events.

Mary Williams reported that on July 4, 2019, there will be a BYOB Hot Dog Dinner to benefit Support the Troops. Tickets are \$10 per person. The Post Color Guard will present Colors.

Chaplain Rebecca Smith reported on recent deaths and sick call. She conducted a Post Memorial Service as reported earlier in this newsletter.

Nominations and Elections for next year’s officers and chairmen were completed as listed below.

### NEW POST 64 OFFICERS AND CHAIRMEN FOR 2019-2020

COMMANDER	PETE MEIER	602-690-3361	<a href="mailto:petemeier@cox.net">petemeier@cox.net</a>
FIRST VICE COMMANDER	BOB SMITHSON	480-496-0705	<a href="mailto:busibob@aol.com">busibob@aol.com</a>
ASSISTANT MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN	KEN DEMBIEC	480-206-3098	<a href="mailto:singingdebbie@hotmail.com">singingdebbie@hotmail.com</a>
SECOND VICE COMMANDER	DOUG PATTERSON	602-791-6843	<a href="mailto:dpatterson27@cox.net">dpatterson27@cox.net</a>
ADJUTANT/HISTORIAN	ROGER MUNCHBACH	480-705-9527	<a href="mailto:munchaz@msn.com">munchaz@msn.com</a>
FINANCE OFFICER	JAY HENDRIX	480-831-9121	<a href="mailto:jayhendrix@cox.net">jayhendrix@cox.net</a>
CHAPLAIN	REBECCA SCHMIDT	602-292-8401	<a href="mailto:rebccacinaz@aol.com">rebccacinaz@aol.com</a>
SERVICE OFFICER	ED MANGAN	602-501-0128	<a href="mailto:emangan3@aol.com">emangan3@aol.com</a>
SGT-AT-ARMS/COLOR GUARD CMDR.	DAVE VONTERSCH	480-753-4166	<a href="mailto:djvontersch@q.com">djvontersch@q.com</a>
ASST. SGT-AT-ARMS/COLOR GUARD COMDR.	RODDY CHARLTON	480-993-6980	<a href="mailto:wrcinaz@aol.com">wrcinaz@aol.com</a>
PUBLIC INFORMATION	BRENDA SMULL	303-301-4429	<a href="mailto:bsmull@me.com">bsmull@me.com</a>
REFRESHMENT CHAIRMAN	ALICE MAYNARD	480-244-6539	<a href="mailto:amaynard2007@yahoo.com">amaynard2007@yahoo.com</a>

## 5. PUBLIC INFORMATION AND OUTREACH:

Many thanks to Brenda Smull for accepting the task of helping us to reach out to our community. She continues to mention us in her blog. The link to her Memorial Day posting is

[brendasmull.com/2019/05/16/march-to-may-remembrance/](http://brendasmull.com/2019/05/16/march-to-may-remembrance/)

This article was also submitted to the Ahwatukee Foothills News.

Brenda is also organizing a “Joint Happy Hour” with the Charles Schwab Military Veterans Network. The tentative date is June 13, 2019, at the Wild Hare, 4747 E. Elliot Rd. (Safeway shopping center) from 4-6 pm.

## **6. ROLOFF SCHOLARSHIPS:**

Thank you to Charlie Roloff's daughters for once again donating \$400 toward scholarships presented to graduating Ahwatukee high school students. The Post accepted their challenge (again) to match the \$400. On April 30, Mountain Pointe students Taylor Crook and John Noone received \$200 each and a School Award Medallion. On May 1, Desert Vista students Matthew Valdez and Brianna Ford received \$200 each and a School Award Medallion.

## **7. MIDDLE SCHOOL AWARDS:**

On May 22, School Award Medallions were presented to Caroline Rariden and Dareus Yazzie from Centennial Middle School and Natalie Sterling and Tucker Kirkes from Altadena Middle School. Akimel Middle School declined awards this year.

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

### **JUNE 2001 TO JUNE 2002**

Department Commander was Al Smith. Post Commander was Don Simmons. Charlie Roloff was Post Color Guard Commander and Bob Bowden was his Assistant. During the year, the Post 64 Color Guard presented Colors, the Evolution of the Flag, or other patriotic programs for: the Ahwatukee Senior Association, Arrowhead Middle School, Akimel Middle School, Daughters of the American Revolution, Corpus Christi Catholic Church, AZ Project Challenge, and Foothills Baptist Church.

September 11, 2001, was a sad day for all Americans.

On October 16, 2001, Post 64 participated in the Charity Shopping Day at Robinson's-May. This event heralded the opening of the much anticipated Chandler Fashion Center at Chandler Blvd. and the Price Freeway (now known as AZ 101).

On October 17, 2001, there was a special program hosted by Post 64 for member Leon Grammens. Post Chaplain Dave Seward had done the paperwork to get Mr. Grammens the medals he earned 57 years earlier during WWII. He received 7 medals in all, including a POW medal, and the Air Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster. Leon Grammens entered Post Everlasting in June 2002.

Members went caroling at the Phoenix VA Hospital with the VAVS Representatives.

On March 30, 2002, the Post Color Guard asked the band from Akimel Middle School to join them leading the Easter Parade. As they had since 1998, Post members also carried the burial flags of local veterans mounted on special poles in the now-very-large Post 64 parade entry. Following the parade the traditional hot dog picnic was hosted by the Post at ARC, with the addition of a jazz band concert given by Akimel students.

From May 25-27, 2002, the Post grilled and sold hot dogs at Ace Hardware at 48th St. and Warner Rd. They raised \$608.00.

The Post sponsored two boys from Mountain Pointe High School and three boys from Desert Vista High School to attend Boys State, but their names were not recorded.

School Awards were presented at all of the usual schools, but names were not recorded.

Department Convention was held at the Sheraton San Marcos in Chandler from June 20-23, 2002. The membership goal was an even 100, and was achieved, but the exact number of members was not recorded. (approximately 104)

### **JUNE 2002 TO JUNE 2003**

Department Commander was Joe Aguilar. Post Commander was Bob Fischer. The Color Guard Commander was Bob Bowden. Flag presentations or other flag programs were performed during the year at ARC, the opening of Pony League Baseball, Centennial Middle School, Akimel Middle School, Altadena Middle School, AZ Project Challenge, the AZ State Veterans Home in Phoenix, the AZ State Fair, Daughters of the American Revolution, and the first anniversary commemoration of 9-11 at Mountain Pointe High School.

With the new membership year, Post 64 raised its dues for the first time, from \$20 to \$25. It was decided that the Post would no longer have General Membership Meetings during the summer months of July and August.

On July 4, 2002, the Post Color Guard raised the flag at Monte Vista Park at 48th St. and Knox Rd. before the Ahwatukee Fireworks.

Beginning in September 2002 the Post started its practice of having guest speakers following the General Membership Meeting.

On October 5, 2002, members attended groundbreaking at the US Army Reserve Training Center at Williams Gateway Airport.

Akimel Middle School's Annual Patriotic Day was on April 4, 2003, with the Post Color Guard presenting Colors at the beginning of the program.

The Easter Parade was on April 19, 2003. The Post 64 Color Guard led the parade, with Ahwatukee policemen helping to carry the burial flags this year. The Akimel Middle School Band marched with the Post and then the Akimel Jazz Band gave a concert during the hot dog picnic at ARC after the parade.

May 24-26, 2003, Post members grilled and sold hot dogs at Ace Hardware at 48th St. and Warner Rd., raising \$500.00, and ended the weekend with a Memorial Day service outside the store.

School Awards were presented at the usual schools, but names were not recorded.

The Department Convention was held at the Sheraton San Marcos in Chandler from June 19-22, 2003. The membership goal for the year was 105, but by March 2003 numbered over 120.

On June 23, 2003, member Rudy Verbeeck received a Bronze Star at the office of Sen. John McCain. It was earned in 1945 during WWII.

### **REMINDER !!!**

The next General Membership meeting will be Wed. June 19, 2019, at ARC beginning at 3:00 pm. We then take our Summer Break from meetings. There will not be another General Membership meeting until September 18, 2019. Here's wishing everyone a safe, enjoyable, and restful summer.



**ARIZONA NATIONAL VETERANS' CEMETERY**

**MEMORIAL DAY 2019**

**June 2019 \*\*\* denotes Color Guard**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2	3	4	5	6 Anniversary of D-Day 1944	7	8
BOYS STATE AT NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY AND GIRLS STATE AT UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA						
9	10	11	12 Executive Committee Meeting 3:00 pm at ARC	13 Social Event with Charles Schwab Military Veterans Network at The Irish Here 4747 E. Elliot Rd. 4 to 6 pm	14 Flag Day Army Birthday 1775 US	15
NATIONAL FLAG WEEK						
16 Father's Day	17	18	19 *** Post General Membership Meeting 3:00 pm at ARC	20 DEPARTMENT CONVENTION AT SHERATON GRAND WILD HORSE PASS	21 Summer Solstice	22
23 Coast Guard Auxiliary Birthday 1939	24	25	26	27	28	29 AMERICAN LEGION LAW ENFORCEMENT CAREER ACADEMY thru July 6
FINAL DAY OF CONVENTION						
30	Upcoming Events *** July 4 Independence Day Celebration at ARC 4-7 pm September 18 Next American Legion General Membership Meeting after June 19 (dark for the summer)					



## Steps to Obtain Medical ID

### Veterans

#### Steps to Obtain Your Medical ID:

1. Visit [www.Med-ID.com/VAForm](http://www.Med-ID.com/VAForm) to download your medical ID order form.
2. Discuss your medical condition with your VA clinician, educator, or other healthcare provider and determine what should be engraved on your ID.
3. Your clinician will submit your order.

### Clinicians

#### Steps to Place Your Veterans' Orders:

1. Any VA clinician or other approved healthcare provider may qualify veteran for a medical ID.
2. **Clinician or provider submits the electronic consult to Prosthetics to be completed by a Purchasing Agent.**
3. Prosthetics communicates directly with American Medical ID for payment via secure fax line **713-695-7358**.

#### Medical IDs for Veterans with Personalized Engraving



*\*Sample engravings shown above*

American Medical ID is a small business with FSS contract **V797P-2296D**.

#### OFFICIAL VA DIRECTIVE:

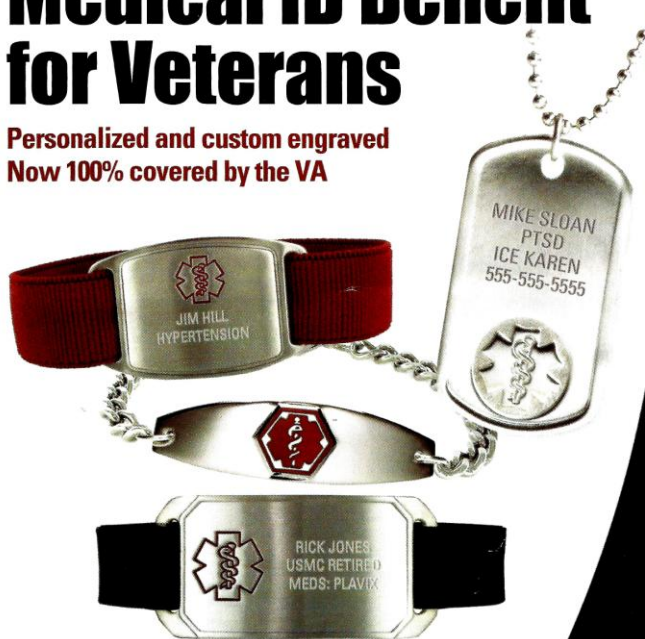
"It is VHA policy that medical IDs must be available upon appropriate request by VA clinicians through Prosthetics, for veteran patients..."

#### QUESTIONS?

Phone **800-363-5985**  
 Email [VA@IdentifyYourself.com](mailto:VA@IdentifyYourself.com)  
 Fax **713-695-7358**  
 Web [www.Med-ID.com/VA](http://www.Med-ID.com/VA)

## Medical ID Benefit for Veterans

Personalized and custom engraved  
 Now 100% covered by the VA



 American Medical ID

### IMPORTANT TO WEAR A MEDICAL ID FOR:

- Heart Conditions
- Hypertension
- Diabetes
- PTSD
- Dementia
- Food/Drug Allergies
- Embedded Metal Fragments

[www.Med-ID.com/VA](http://www.Med-ID.com/VA)