



**THE AMERICAN LEGION
POST 96
PO Box 7096
Surprise, Arizona 85374-0101**



Newsletter No. 87

alazpost96.com

May 2010

Post Officers

Commander: Ed Foerster 623-975-1522
Sr. Vice Commander: Don Jankowski 623-505-3511
Jr. Vice Commander: VACANT
Finance Officer: George Van de Langeryt 623-547-6668
Adjutant: Eugene Line 623-308-2697

Chaplain: VACANT
Sergeant-At-Arms: Bruce Paakh 623-975-9411
Historian: VACANT
Service Officer: VACANT
Judge Advocate: VACANT
Membership: Ed Foerster
Newsletter: George Van de Langeryt gvan8888@aol.com

Executive Committee:

Ed Foerster, Don Jankowski, George Van de Langeryt, Bruce Paakh, Eugene Line

IMPORTANT NOTICE!

Meeting May 6 at 1900

Arizona Traditions – 17221 N Citrus Rd., Surprise 85374

We will be meeting in the Classroom which is just east of the office.

Tell the gate guard you are attending the Legion Meeting and he will give you a pass.

COMMANDERS CORNER

Our attendance and membership is continuing to grow, we are now at 150 members, or 113.6 %. We hope to see it grow a lot more. If everyone brought in just one new member a year, we could double our membership. Like I have said, our Officers are planning new things for our meetings, we have CASH drawings at every meeting, and if your name is called and you are not here, you do NOT win, you have to be present to win, the prize goes up for the next drawing, beside that, there are the regular raffles too.

We set up the meeting hall at 1800 and then wonder back to the bar behind the Traditions office for a “coke” before the 1900 meeting starts.

So read on, don’t miss out on what’s coming up, remember the **POST IS RUN BY THE MEMBERS NOT THE OFFICERS**, We need your input and your help at the meeting. WE want to hear from YOU. WE ARE ONE TEAM. So come on out to the meetings, we try to keep them short and brief, if you have any ideas, we would like to hear them.

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

Ed Foerster, Commander

FROM THE SENIOR VICE

We had a special guest at the April meeting, Area B Commander George Cushing. He spoke to us about stepping up to become an officer in Post 96. April was the nomination of officers meeting, May elections, installation in June and take office in July. Commander

and Junior Vice Commander positions are open; however, nomination for any office will be open at the

May meeting. This is your Post; all members are eligible to run for an office. Continuation of American Legion Post 96 depends on you!!!! Where else could you run for an office and be eligible to win \$85.00 in the May membership drawing and maybe a prize in the raffle just for coming to the meeting???

Raffle and Membership Drawing

At the April meeting the membership drawing winner was Harold Tull for \$65.00; unfortunately he was not present to win. The May drawing will be \$85.00.

April raffle winners were:

Dan McNamara – bottle of champagne
 George Van – bottle of red & white wine
 Don Jankowski – a Fletcher’s Oil Change

It pays to attend meetings!

Sr. Vice Commander

Don Jankowski

FROM THE ADJUTANT

Remember if you are not at a meeting you can’t win a prize. Members, bring a veteran to our meeting.

ADJUTANT

Eugene Line

FROM THE JUDGE ADVOCATE

THE AMERICAN LEGION’S OPERATION COMFORT WARRIORS finishes FIRST, wins \$250 K

in Pepsi Cola's Refresh Everything Project.

The people (and you the Legion) voted and the troops won. Pepsi has officially announced that The American Legion Operation Comfort Warriors will be awarded a \$250,000.00 grant from the soft drink giant after finishing first in voting during February's Refresh Everything Project.

Internet voters were able to choose which of 729 competing charities would receive grants of \$5,000.00 - \$25,000.00 or 250,000.00. The top three finishers in the \$250,000.00 category are receiving the grants.

Commander Clarence E. Hill "First, I want to thank Pepsi, there are so many people to thank, the American Legion Members, the American Legion Auxiliary, the Sons of the American Legion members and the Legion Riders and all of Pepsi's Global Giving Foundation. This was really a grass roots effort. Most of all, I want to thank our troops, who go into harm's way for us every day. It is their sacrifice that makes it possible for us to enjoy the freedoms we all share."

Since December, 2008, the American Legion family has raised funds for Operation Comfort Warriors, a program dedicated to meeting the needs of wounded military personnel, providing them with comfort items not usually supplied by the government. OCW ensures that patients at Military Hospitals and warrior transition units are given items like sweat suits, DVD's, puzzles, electronic devices, books, calling cards and more. The American Legion pays all administrative costs for the program, meaning 100 percent of the donations, including the grant money will go directly to purchasing items for the troops.

The American Legion, a wartime veteran's organization, was founded in 1919 on the four pillars of a strong national security, veteran's affairs, Americanism, and youth programs. Legionnaires work for the betterment of their communities through more than 14,000 Posts across the nation. For more on Operation Comfort Warriors, visit www.legion.org/ocw.

JUDGE ADVOCATE

Ed Foerster, Pro-Tem

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIR

As of the writing we are at 113.6 % or 150 paid renewals. We only have 3 more members that have not paid their 2010 dues. These members only have to look at their cards and see if it has 2009 or 2010 on it and you know who you are. The bad thing about it is that the 2011 dues renewals will be mailed out July 1st and who wants to pay double? That is why we try to have everyone pay their dues by the end of December. To me it makes sense and saves a lot of phone work on my part and you are not bothered by the phone calls for the dues.

Have you moved??? Changed your phone number or your email address??? If so, PLEASE call Ed Foerster at 623-975-1522 or email him at foerster20404@cox.net with the proper information, he will change the Post roster and inform Department and National with the proper forms so that you will continue to get your Legion Magazine, etc. ALSO, remember if you have an email address, it will save the Post postage and printing expense if we can email your newsletter and not snail mail it. We will not, by law, sell, give away, lease, or let anyone have access to your telephone number and/or email address.

Membership Committee Chairman

Ed Foerster

SICK CALL

No report. If any members have sickness reports please email them to the Chaplain and to the Editor.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Thursday, May 6, Post 96 Meeting 1900 at Arizona Traditions, 17221 N Citrus Rd. Please try to be there! Win a prize!

Thursday, May 13, Officers meeting, in the "social" area 1800 - AZ Traditions

Saturday, May, 15, 0900, North West Valley Veterans Assn. Sunland Memorial Park.

Sunday, May, 16, Dist. 11. 1400 hours Post 61. 35 N. 8th St. Avondale, Az.

Saturday, May, 29, Surprise Memorial Day Parade (see write up)

Monday, May, 31, Memorial Day Services, Sunland Memorial Park. 0830 hours.

Thursday, June, 3, Post 96, 1800 Social, 1900 meeting and Installation of Officers for 2011 at Arizona Traditions

Department of Arizona 2010 State Convention June 17 through June 20

The convention hotel is the Renaissance Phoenix Glendale Hotel. Located at 9495 W Coyotes Blvd., Glendale, AZ 85305.

Post 29 in Glendale is the host Post for this year's convention. They will be hosting lots of events. Please contact Commander Ed for more information.

FROM THE EDITOR

We are emailing the newsletter to all on our email list, if you are not receiving it by email, please send me your name and email address and I will add you. Several

recipients are rejecting the email. Please add gvan8888@aol.com to your approved recipient list.

George Van de Langeryt, Editor

ATTENTION: ALL LEGION MEMBERS

The 4th Annual Surprise Memorial Day Parade will be held on Saturday, May 29 at 0830.

We participated in the original dedication and wreath laying, let's not stop now. PLEASE mark your calendars now and plan to join us. PLEASE email Commander Ed at foerster20404@cox.net or phone him at 623-975-1522 so we can get a head count. The head count has to be submitted by May 8 so please let me know by the next meeting on May 6.

We need a member who has a convertible car to drive the parade and to carry a few members who cannot walk the ½ mile. If you can help with this please give me a call.

The parade goes from the parking lot by the Surprise baseball field, in front of the stadium, makes a "U" turn and then goes into the Library parking lot, by the Memorial, for the wreath laying. The Legion and the Marine Corps League will both lay the wreath.

WE NEED YOU TO TURN OUT FOR THIS, IT IS OUR RECOGNITION DAY. - PLEASE BE THERE!
We had a good turnout last year, let's do it again!

Staging will begin at 0630 but we can probably be there by 0730.

RETIRED VETERANS AND LUKE AFB

There is a new security system being implemented at Luke AFB. All those with military ID cards, including active, reserve, retired and dependent must go to Luke and get their ID Cards registered before July 1, 2010. There are a few locations to do this, one at the Base Exchange next to the food court at the entrance to the BX and another is at the Visitor's Center by Lightning Gate. They are open Monday - Friday from 0800 to 1700 excluding federal holidays.

It is a simple process; they just scan your existing ID card into the computer. They may need to scan your fingerprints depending if they are on your ID. It takes a couple minutes.

Failure to register will result in being refused access to Luke unless escorted. This will be a worldwide requirement for all Air Force bases. Army, Navy and Marine bases are not affected. On July 1 there will be scanners at all the gates at Luke; if your card is not registered you will not be granted entry.

Lowe's & Home Depot 10% Discount

Both companies will give a 10 % discount to all active, reserve, retired or disabled veterans with a valid military ID card. All other military veterans can receive a 10 % discount on Memorial Day weekends, Fourth of July and Veterans Day weekends. You must ask for the discount.

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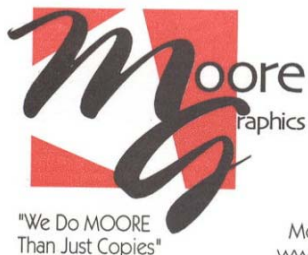
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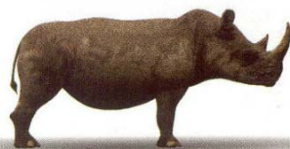
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