

THE AMERICAN LEGION  
MARY ELLEN PIOTROWSKI POST 94 SUN CITY WEST AZ  
MEMBERSHIP MEETING

NOVEMBER 7, 2019

1. CALLED TO ORDER: Opening ceremonies performed per ritual; meeting called to order at 1000.
2. ROLL CALL: All officers present except Senior Vice Commander Coyle (E) and Trustee Benjamin. (E).
3. MINUTES: Dated October 3, 2019, approved as distributed without change.
4. SGT-AT-ARMS: Jim Wheeler was introduced and welcomed by all for his appointment. Former Sgt-at-Arms, Dennis Fossey, thanked, for his service.
5. GUEST SPEAKER: Patricia Hooper is one of four founders of "Task Force Omega, MIA/POW Recovery". It was started in 1983 in Virginia. In 1987 they moved their headquarters to Arizona; where it remains. Dedicated to the recovery of all MIA/POW's from all conflicts, with Vietnam their main focus. She has put together a ledger that has biographies on a wide range of personnel from; civilians, foreign nationals who served with us, POW's, MIA's KIA's, prisoners, AWOL, deserters, the Golf War, WW II, and Korea. A well-respected document. Her stepson is MIA.
6. OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:
  - a. Senior Vice Commander: No report
  - b. Finance Officer: The Pancake Breakfast (PCB) raised \$5,153.00, for our post. We will have the final figure by the next meeting. The finance report is on file with the Adjutant subject to review.
  - c. Adjutant: Currently we have 262 paid members or 70.5 % of our goal. Next membership target in 65% by Nov 8<sup>th</sup>, and 75% by Dec 6<sup>th</sup>. Executive Board meeting minutes for Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> has motions approved by the board that is of interest to all, they are posted on our Website please take time to read them. Be and stay informed.
  - d. Service Officer: Mike is staying active and supplies the post with a monthly report on activities. Just a sample; he put in 49 hours in October, it included suicide counseling. Mike is willing to help with your problems contact him. Mike Laing's contact information is [gunner85361@gmail.com](mailto:gunner85361@gmail.com), 623-210-2538 and is on our website. He has an update on Blue Water Sailors requirements.
  - e. Chaplain: Jack Coyle is healing after the operation on his arm. Good news Marty Spargo is back in rehab, (still on dialysis) located at 94<sup>th</sup> and Thunderbird, call before visiting. Judy Dally, Sheila Galloway are healing. Please keep Margy informed of member health issues. Use the website to report them.
  - f. Trustees: Tom Metzger is POC for the speaker program if you know someone who needs to be heard, let him know. He has four Name Tags (Badges) if you ordered one please pick it up. Can order more let him know.
7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:
  - a. Junior Shooting Sports Program (JSSP); no report.

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- b. PPC Berger is rewriting the Post by-laws, to make specific changes to article #2, that deals with Trustees. The proposed changes; do we need Trustees and if yes, how best to utilize them. The Exec Board will try to find a solution, and report to the membership. Contact her with your ideas.
  - c. George Cushing will talk about Legion Legislative Priorities at the Dec 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting.
  - d. PPC Berger thanked all who made the Pancake breakfast (PCB) a success.
  - e. Invitations to our Christmas Luncheon are in the mail and email. Return with your meal selection asap.
  - f. PPC Bogatko, no report on Veterans Rehab.
  - g. Volunteers are needed to make the program of Veterans visiting Veterans work. The Wood Mark in Sun City an Independent and Assisted living facility is our first possibility.
8. NEW BUSINESS:
- a. Girl state winners will receive their awards at the school, on Nov 19<sup>th</sup> at 1400. All are welcome to attend.
  - b. January 2020 will have a Legion Training class no date at this time.
  - c. The National BBQ Compaction event will be held in Sun City West, it is a five-day event; March 5 to the 8<sup>th</sup> 2020. The cost is \$500, with volunteers to help. We have the opportunity to have a spot with cover. Approved by the Exec Board, needs an OK from the General Membership, and many volunteers. Day one; setup, day two, three and four, help at the cover, day five break down and stow equipment. **THE MOTION WAS MADE SECONDED AND APPROVED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE BBQ CHALLENGE, NOT TO EXCEED THE ENTRY FEE OF \$500.**
  - d. James Walton Home open house is on 11/10 from 1-3 PM. Contact Commander for phone no. Need to RSVP.
  - e. December 14, 2019, we will place wreaths on the graves at the National Cemetery at Cave Creek. As part of, the Wreaths Across America program. For start time and parking, contact Trish Carlisle. POC
  - f. Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day activities in El Mirage on Dec 7th with a Winter Fest Parade, we can participate, need volunteers, contact Tom Metzger.
  - g. Transportation to meetings; either “need” or” provide” check the website or contact Commander.
  - h. There is a shuttle from the VA Clinic in Surprise to the VA Hospital on Mon, Wed, and Thur. It leaves at 0730 and stays until finished with the last appointment. Contact the clinic for more information.
9. FOR THE GOOD OF THE LEGION:
- a. Dedicated transportation for VA Appointments is available, but need to make a request in advance through the VA.
  - b. Frank Adelman can send you a list of transports available assembled by the VA and DAV, he just needs your email address. His contact is [saba1201@cox.net](mailto:saba1201@cox.net), 623-546-9975 and on our website.

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- c. Some furnished transportation by the VA or a contractor has limited hours. In some cases, they have left patients at there appointment. Ask your provider if this is the case with them.
  - d. Honor Guard/Rifle Squad is scheduled to participate in the Veterans Day activities at Sunland Cemetery in Sun City. It is an annual event for them. A luncheon follows the activities. Everyone welcome.
10. Closing prayer offered by Chaplain Hunter.
11. Commander Leighton closed the meeting at 11:50.

JAMES M HELLER  
ADJUTANT