

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

DECEMBER 5, 2019

1. CALLED TO ORDER: Opening ceremonies performed per ritual. Meeting called to order at 10:00.
2. ROLL CALL: All officers present except Chaplain Hunter (E), and Trustee Benjamin (E).
3. MINUTES: Dated November 7, 2019, approved as distributed without change.
4. GUEST SPEAKER: George Cushing; George has held officer positions at every level, including, National Vice Commander of the Western Region. He will talk today on, Legion Legislation Priorities, and the role of Resolutions. The American Legion is who it is through Resolutions, starting at the lowest level, and working to the National Executive Committee, who brings them to the floor for a vote. Judi Beischel is National Executive Committeeman, and it will be her tasks to bring all Resolutions forward. Working issues today start with Suicides Prevention, through homeless Veterans, and the renovation of His Post "Post one: through cooperation with the City of Phoenix together are building Forty (40) apartments as a start to help with the homeless problem. He finished with the growing problem of a lack of Women Doctors to address women's issues in the services today.
5. OFFICER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:
 - a. Senior Vice Commander: Thanked everyone for the cards and calls after his operation. He feels it helped his recovery. His committee continues to reach out to Post 0100, and delinquent Post 94 members. The Honor Guard has Honors each Monday and two Thursdays during January. Flags up on RHJ on Dec 5th and down on Dec 12th. Contact Ron Ripley if you can help.
 - b. Adjutant: Membership is increasing at a good rate thanks to Sr Vice Commander Coyle and his committee members. Presently we have 308 renewed and transferred members or 82.23% of our goal. The Legion Act will help us to continue to grow, each one of us should carry a membership Application.
 - c. Financer Officer: The Pancake Breakfast, PCB, was another success - our cost \$1,793.94; we earned \$5,778.00. The current financial report on file with the Adjutant subject to review.
 - d. Chaplain: Hunter is out with a cold and Adjutant Heller filling in. Please continue prayers for Marty Spargo, with our help he hopes to attend a meeting soon. Jim Marshall had a heart attack two stents installed, doing better. Taylor Culin, Billee's husband, is hospitalized with an unknown problem, and Judy Dally, Ken

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Dally's wife's problems are ongoing. We need to continue our prays and keep them in our thoughts. We are asked to keep the Chaplain informed of any sick or hospitalized members. George Welsh has passed no funeral arrangements yet.

- e. Service Officers' contact number is 623-210-2538.
- f. Trustee Riedmann: no report
- g. Trustee Metzger is POC, for the El Mirage Holiday Parade has four convertibles lined up and nine volunteers. The parade is on Dec 7th more info to come.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- a. Post Bylaws Review: PPC Berger is POC. The proposed changes will be included in this month's Mail Call. This will allow everyone ample opportunity to review the bylaws and proposed changes prior to discussing the proposed changes at the January meeting. We will vote to approve or reject the proposed changes at our February membership meeting.
- b. Christmas Luncheon: Ron Ripley is POC. Presently there are 94 not including Fire Fighters and their guest.
- c. An assistant Treasurer/Finance Officer is needed. Contact Finance Officer Adelman; he is retiring.
- d. Bob Hasbrouck POC for the Children and Youth Committee, picked up two additional committee members; PPC Berger and Richard Garcia; Charles Fridinger will assist.
 - i. Girls state presentation was on Nov 19th.
 - ii. Boys State has two volunteers to help manage the program.
 - iii. The oratorical program needs someone to manage this program.
- e. Pearl Harbor Remembrance is on Dec 7th at Wesley Bolin Memorial Park; 1600 W Washington, Phoenix. We will lay a Wreath. Commander is driving, Trish Carlisle, go with, can take more. Leaving 0830.
- f. Legion training in January, sign up sheet at January meeting.
- g. Sgt-at-Arms escorted Trish Carlisle to the podium, to receive an award for being our selection as Post 94, Patriot of the Year for 2019/2020.
- h. No update on the Sun City West, National BBQ Competition. More info as the date gets closer; it is scheduled for March 2020.
- i. PPC Berger is POC, for VA Workshop. Our last one was in 2016. Not well attended for many reasons. This one there will be hands-on help, for enrolling in the VA Health, and includes help/information for popular VA programs, including Service Officers, local and State. It is not limited to just the VA. Local programs

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will be represented also. A sign-up roster is available, we need all who showed support by raising your hand to sign the roster. This is needed to assign positions.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. The Sunshine Message, (a new program) letting all know a member needs our thoughts and prayers. We help, by letting the Commander or Chaplain know there is a member or spouse in need.
- b. The finance committee members will meet at a not determined date and time, to do a six (6) month review of the current budget and a forecast for the rest of the year, and initial planning for the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year, if you have ideas about what the Post should be doing now is the time to start the ball rolling We also need ideas on how to raise additional funds. Contact the finance officer with your ideas. As everyone knows we are in need of a new Finance Officer due to retirement.
- c. Pancake Breakfast (PCB) needs a new chair, looking for someone to stand-up, remember you are not alone.
- d. At the April 2020 Membership Meeting, we will be selecting Post Officers who will help guide our Post over the next year. If you would like to further serve, contact any PPC; Berger, Bogatko, Stern, and Reilly. Open positions are,
 - i. Junior Vice Commander
 - ii. Finance Officer
 - iii. Judge Advocate
 - iv. Publicity Contact
 - v. Three Year Trustee
- e. If you are not enrolled in the VA Health Care Programs, you should be. It makes no difference how you feel about the VA, sign-up. You may need them in the future, and you cannot get a VA ID Card unless you are signed up. Commander Leighton is drafting a letter with all the benefits, expect it in the January E-News. You can sign up at the VA Clinic on Grand Ave.
- f. There are three/four Veteran Angle Trees in and around the Sun Done Plaza. Each tree has tickets filled out by our Veterans with a wish. The tickets are color-coded; each color represents a different Organization that caters to Veterans. Directions are on each tree. Corte Bella Vets, volunteers to deliver the gifts. A big thank you to the Ripley's, for the use of their truck.

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- g. PPC Berger with the help of Chuck Gale from the Corte Bella Vets helped manage the Paper Drive (Paper Towles and Toilet Paper) funds derived (\$430) are used to reduce dues payable to District 11.
 - h. Finance Officer Adelman also has a load of paper products collected at the recent Pancake Breakfast and clothing donated by the Sun City Posse.
8. GOOD OF THE LEGION:
- a. Meeting attendance: 41 Members, 3 first time attending, and 1 guest.
 - b. Finance Officer Adelman picked up a load of clothing donated by the Sun City West Posse; shirts, pants and some jackets. All for Veterans in need.
 - c. Be sure to check out the display board – paper and pen are available.
 - d. Have a SAFE, HAPPY and JOYFUL holiday season.
9. Benediction offered by acting Chaplain Heller
10. Commander Leighton closed the meeting at 11:50.

JAMES M HELLER
ADJUTANT