

The American Legion Talks

Volume VXV, Issue 10

Sipe-Peterson Post 44 - Scottsdale, Arizona

October 2000

Commander's Corner

Mike Zingarelli
Post Commander

2001!

The Hawaiian Luau was a huge success. Thanks to Joanne, Michael and Shelly. In appreciation of your support they put out a great meal. They did work hard all summer for us.

Our VJ day and POW/MIA recognition day was great. Our guest speaker, Senator Tom Smith is a PUFL member of this Post. His speech touched many hearts. I thank him for taking time out during his busy campaign schedule.

Some of what he said is that we are losing 1000 WWII veterans a day across the nation and we should give these vets a hug or a thank you. The Honor Guard from Lukes Air Force Base performed and they too were great. Post 44 donated \$1,000 to the WWII Memorial Fund. We will continue to support and collect any donations for this fund. ❖

OCTOBERFEST

Sunday, October 8 – 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Bratwurst, Knockwurst, Polish Sausage,
Potatoes, Sauerkraut
Good Beer – Good Music
850 marks or \$6.95

Auxiliary News

Anne Stirling
Auxiliary President

OOPS! In September's newsletter we accidentally re-printed one of my previous articles. That gives me more to talk about in this article.

I would like to begin by thanking all of you for your support during our Christmas in July event. I would like to especially thank Bill Clark for preparing the great food. We raised two-thirds of the money needed to send our 18 girls to Girls State.

Joyce Arent is our Department President, and her special project this year is "Breast Cancer Awareness." Did you know one in eight women are diagnosed with breast cancer? If you do not have regular mammograms... why not? It is never too late to start getting them. PLEASE GET YOUR MAMMOGRAMS! Encourage family and friends to get one also. Remember that early detection is the key.

October 28 is **National Make A Difference Day** Unit 44 has registered to support the Thomas J. Pappas School, with the Make A Difference Day organization at their web site:

www.nationalmakeadiffernceday.com

We will be collecting items to help fill the school's "Wish List," which is posted on the Post 44 bulletin board and web site. Cash donations are also welcome either for the school or to obtain specific items from their wish list.

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POST 44 CALENDAR

(calendar updated regularly at www.post44.org)

October, 2000

2	M	1900	Auxiliary E Board Meeting	21	R	1200	Merchant Marines
2	M	1900	SAL Meeting	22	F		Veteran's Recognition Day - AZ State Fair
7	R	1900	AZ Rangers Meeting	25	W	1900	Knights of Columbus
8	S	1300	OctoberFest	26	R	1900	Legion Meeting
11	W	1900	Knights of Columbus	31	T	1630	Halloween Party
16	M	1900	Auxiliary Meeting				
				*	F	1830	Dance / Sing with "John the Piano Player"
*	W	1330	Bridge	*	S	1830	Dance / Sing with "John the Piano Player"

Halloween

Tuesday, October 31 – 4:30 pm to 10:00 pm

Prizes for “Best Halloween Dress”

- Chicken in a Casket (Fried Chicken)
- Top Sirloin Steak
- Basket of Bones (BBQ Ribs)

Your choice only \$5.00!

POST EXECUTIVE BOARD

- Commander..... Mike Zingarelli
- Sr. Vice Commander John Dunleavy
- Jr. Vice Commander Bob Smith
- Finance Officer Norm McLeod
- Chaplain Jim Bartsch
- Historian Dr. Don Schaller
- Sergeant at Arms..... Warren Moyer
- Service Officer Charles A. Latchem

Executive Committee

Walter Deveney – Dale Lutt – Pat Dowling

Robert Turner – Jerry Sherman

Trustees

Bill Moser, Jerry Lennemann, Lum Houser

Judge Advocate

Neil Sundeen

Finance Committee

Jim Waters – Norm McLeod – John Dunleavy

Club Committee

- Jerry Lennemann – Robert Procknow – Dale Lutt
- Children & Youth Robert Lucke
- District 12 Jim Stoltenberg
- Boys State John Russell
- Memorial Day Dale Lutt
- Communications Chairman..... Mike Gannon

<http://www.post44.org/>

Chaplain’s Call

Jim Bartsch
Chaplain

Here is one suggestion for beginning each morning in a very positive way:

Get into the habit of saying “thank-you.” You could even begin with God, no matter what your belief is. **“THANK GOD, I’M ALIVE TODAY.”** If you are out for an early morning walk, greet other walkers with a smile and a **“Good Morning.”** Then offer “thanks” for the morning, whether there is sunshine, clouds, or a chance of rain. How about a “thank-you” to any or all around the house – please don’t forget your wife! Also, the dog who sometimes your only friend.

Somehow we have lost the ability to smile and say “thank-you.” We take our lives for granted that we become the “pride of the universe, totally forgetting that it is usually “Others” who make us a livable or even lovable person. Relax and have fun and say “thank-you” many times a day and see what happens in your relationships. You might be very surprised!

Don’t forget to keep in me mind, as I still make home or hospital visits to our Members.

Have a great day – God Bless You❖

Service Officer Report

Charles A. Latchem
Service Officer

I have not met all of the Legionnaires of Post 44 by a long shot, so allow me to introduce myself through the Post’s outstanding newsletter. Having worked for the US Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) for 28 years, the last two decades in the VA legal office, I have come to know a fair share about some of the benefits VA offers to qualified applicants. When John Fears, Director of the Carl T. Hayden VA Medical Center her in Phoenix, and staff organized an “Adopt-A-Post” program, it offered an opportunity for us to “give back” to the veteran community through assisting people with basic, entry-level type questions.

Please keep in mind that I am not acting as an official representative of VA, nor are results guaranteed. I’m doing this in a purely personal capacity, based on acquaintance with VA benefit issues in a general sense.

It is a pleasure to have been appointed to serve as the Post 44 Service Officer and I look forward to hearing from you.

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Chef Bill's Kitchen

Bill Clark
Club Manager

(480) 941-9053

October Menu Specials

Sunday 10: 00 am to 1:00 pm

- Breakfast, "as you like it"

OCTOBERFEST

Sunday, October 8th from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm!
Bratwurst, Knockwurst, Polish Sausage, potatoes,
sauerkraut for only 850 marks (\$6.95)

OCTOBER EVENING MENU

Mondays

- Fried Chicken + "Chef's Choice" \$ 4.00

Tuesdays

- Top Sirloin Steak \$ 5.00

Wednesdays

- Our Famous Filet Mignon \$ 7.00

Thursdays

- "Chef's Choice" (Entrée Varies) \$ 3.50

Fridays

- Famous Fish Fry (5pm to 8:30pm)... \$ 6.95

Saturdays

- Prime Rib \$ 7.95

Other menu items available!
Reservations Requested.

Our Auxiliary Officers now include Marion Kirwan as Secretary and Pauline McLeod. We still have some Committee Chairmanships open. The American Legion Auxiliary programs are very important. In order for us to offer the best benefit that we can be to our Veterans, children and community, it is important that we have members volunteer for these chairmanships.

AUXILIARY HIGHLIGHTS

- October 22 is Veteran's Recognition Day at the Arizona State Fair.
- The American Legion Family Fall conference is scheduled for November 17-19 in Lake Havasu City. Unit 44 may be recognized with a National award but we do not have the details yet.
- Marion Kirwan is our new Poppy Chairman and reports that all of the Poppy Plates are up to date, Please contact Marion to get a Poppy Plate and support our Veterans programs.
- District 12 meetings have begun on the Third Sunday each month. Watch the calendar for specific dates and locations.
- Unit 44 has ordered 31 American Legion produced videotapes that explain what a Veteran is to children. We will be distributing them to local schools.
- One of our Junior Members is pictured in the July/August issue of *National News*, check out page 31!

Thomas J. Pappas Wish List

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

FOOD STORAGE ROOM

CLOTHING ROOM (size 6X and above)

Check the Post Bulletin Board or call me at 480-481-7661 for specific items that have been requested. ❖

MONTHLY EUCHRE TOURNEY!

Saturday, October 14th starting at 1:00 PM at VFW Post 3513. Bring a friend!

Our September 9th tourney at the Elks had 15 participants, all having a great time! Winners with a score of 81 were Joe P & Judy while Danny & Bev tied for Second Place with Bob T & June G with a close 80 points.

CALLING ALL GOLFERS!

Thursday mornings at 7:30 am
Rio Salado Golf Course
The Post 44 "Pros" are looking for a little competition!

Non-members welcome also, so bring a friend!
Call Bob Procknow at 480-675-9989

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When you have a question for me, please write it down, sign it and include your VA claims number or Social Security number along with your address and phone number. Leave the paperwork at the Post 44 office in a sealed envelope addressed to me and I will pick them up from there.

History Remembered

Dr. Don Schaller
Post Historian

Survival – Competition – History

What do these issues have to do with Post 44? In my view the Second and Third are critical to the First. As a newcomer to Post 44 (4 or 5 years ago) I sensed that the attitude of the Post and it's members leaned toward the Veterans of the ground troops and Air Forces of World War II. There was the makeup of the Executive Board and the contents of the fine display case at the Post entrance. The Post membership built it to the seventh largest in Arizona. Posts in Glendale, Peoria, Downtown Phoenix, Apache Junction, Tucson, and Mesa are larger in terms of total members.

However, the ground rules for long range survival of Legion Posts are changing. These changes are due to aging, the passage of time, and the number of armed conflicts that have occurred since World War II. Those members and their families who heard State Senator Tom Smith at the recent commemorative meeting were startled at his report that World War II veterans across the country were dying at the rate of 1100 per day. Confirmation of this can be viewed by a perusal of the daily obituary columns in local newspapers.

Further, a review of Post 44 membership, by the conflicts that our members served in, reveals that of the almost 1200 members about 580 served in Korea, Vietnam, Granada and Desert Storm. About 520 members, or 43%, served in World War II.

As a result of recognizing the dynamic changes within Post 44, and the stagnation of the shades of brown in the foyer display case, it seemed to the Historian that some kind of adjustment was in order!

Three changes have occurred: First, a Civil War display, Second, a Korean War display and Third, Member Lum Houser installed a lighting system to brighten the foyer entryway to the Post.

The objectives in these presentations included the following:

- Displays that are coordinated, dynamic, informative, and time-limited can be an effective recruiting tool for veterans and their families from all conflicts.
- Artifacts can be loaned or donated. If loaned they would be inventoried, identified, and returned to the owner at the end of the display.
- Artifacts may be simple, combat related or life style related.
- Post 44 is not capable of acquiring items that would create a "war surplus warehouse" within the Post.
- Any artifact loaned or donated must have informative supplemental back-up comments. This means: who, what, where, when and how. An artifact takes on more meaning when its place in history can be explained.

In short, these displays must be appealing, informative and can be extremely variable. As such they become a word of mouth attraction not only for Veterans, but also their parents, wives, children and siblings.

These can become a major recruiting tool for the huge number of younger veterans, which can assure the survival of Post 44 when the majority of World War II and Korea Veterans have marched on.

Signals

Mike Gannon
Communications Chairman

I hope everyone has been enjoying the "make over" of the communication methods that Post 44 is using to get the word to our members. There are still a few changes coming, so look forward to increased use of graphics and photographs in coming issues.

The newsletter goes to print every month, however a more "up to the minute" source of information is our web page:

www.post44.org

Here we try to keep the information current on a daily basis so we hope everyone who has computer access checks the Post web site often. Along with the information it has, you will also find interesting links to other web sites that relate to Veteran issues, government and the American Legion.

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Plus, we offer a few “extras” that not to many other Posts provide:

- Free E-mail – so that members can have a free account at whatever name they choose. It will list the Post 44 web site as well so that you can receive e-mail at: yourname@post44.org
- Free Classified Ads – post your horse for sale, your car, list the side business you operate all for free on the web site! In the ad you can say it is temporary, i.e. a Yard Sale, or something regular such as your Amway or Tupperware business! Make sure you mention you are a member of the American Legion family!

We suggest that our members check these ads and give your business to a fellow Legionnaire when possible, or at least those businesses that help support the cost of the newsletter and web site.

And the real big “extra” --- electronic delivery of this newsletter!

To help reduce the postage and printing costs, we will be happy to send the newsletter electronically to any of our members. Just provide us with your e-mail address, which can be the account you set up at www.post44.org if you wish, and we will send you the newsletter directly to your account. It can be your Post account, personal home account, even the one at the office if you wish... or all three! Just drop us an e-mail and we will set up electronic delivery to the account(s) you specify.

The Post saves a bit on the printing and postage, and you'll have the newsletter before the printed version even gets to the Post Office for delivery!



Show Your Support

(reprinted from September, 2000 newsletter)

An Arizona Republic article (August 8, 2000) stated that at one time the Governor's office was considering cutting back on service to the Arizona State Veterans Home, but with 8,000 veterans in the state, the thoughts were discarded.

A few years ago, the American Legion, along with other veteran's organizations requested and promised to support a car license plate program that would help fund the Home. Arizona issues several styles of plates with a portion of each cost (beyond the normal registration fee for the vehicle) going to the Arizona Veterans Home:

- Veteran (\$25 fee /\$17 goes to the Home)
- Medal of Honor (\$0/0)
- Purple Heart (\$25/25)
- Former POW (\$15/15)
- Pearl Harbor Survivor (\$25/25)
- National Guard (\$25/0)

If all our members supported this program, we could send about \$20,000 to support this cause. If all the veterans in the state followed suit we would be providing tremendous support to our less fortunate Vets.

We never expected 100% of the veterans to participate but we did believe that more would support this well needed program. If you look at the cars parked in our own parking lot, you will see only about a dozen cars with veteran's license plates. The promise we gave to the state is not being fulfilled.

Perhaps you did not realize it, but the Veteran's Home is an Arizona owned and supported building. It is not associated with or supported by the National Veteran Hospitals. We Arizona veterans promised to support this program. An added bonus is the reminder these license plates give to everyone who sees one on the road... that all Veterans deserve their respect and thanks for a “job well done!”❖



Support the Post 44 Sponsors – They Support You!

Post 44 Exchange

Patches, jacket or ball cap	\$ 2.00
Cap, base ball with patch	\$ 6.00
Cap, fore and aft	\$ 25.00
T-shirts, assorted styles	\$10.00
Pins, Post 44	\$ 3.00

Douglas Gray

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Knights of Columbus

Fr. Novatus Council #4426

Meeting - 2nd and 4th Wednesday each month
American Legion Post 44

Dinner at 6:30 p.m. - Meeting after dinner

Assembly - 3rd Wednesday each month
St. Daniel the Prophet Church
1000 N. Hayden Road