

Joe Foss American Legion Post 97

General Membership Meeting Minutes



Date: Oct 9, 2023

Time: 19:00

Location: San Tan Valley Veteran Center, 5764 E Hunt Highway Florence, AZ

In Attendance

Officer Attendees: Cmdr Kathy Pascoe; Adjutant Dave Long; Jr Vice Paul Burgert; Sr Vice George Peck; Chaplain DC Brown; Finance Sarah Bennington; Service Ofc Don Baer; Sgt at Arms John Reily; Member at Large Mark Houle; Historian Mark Sullivan

Absent Officers: Amberlynn Newell

Absent Members at Large: 2 Vacant

Attendance: 10 Officers, and 33 total members.

OPENING – The meeting was called to order at the San Tan Valley Veteran Center home of the Joe Foss American Legion by the Commander at 1900 hours. Chaplin Tye gave the opening prayer, followed by the POW/MIA resolution, Pledge of Allegiance and the reading of the Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion.

A roll call was conducted by Commander Kathy Pascoe of which enough officers were present for a quorum.

SPECIAL GUEST: Elvis Brey, US Army, Author

NEW GUEST: Keith Harris USN, Norris Mitchell US Army

MINUTES – September

Motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting was made. A 2nd was made to accept. Motion was passed without discussion.

Committee Reports

Finance Report - Sarah Bennington

Bldg	\$ 25.20
Post	\$2047.68
Event	\$ 494.03
SAL	\$ 17.00
Total	\$2583.91

- Motion to accept the Finance report was made and passed.

Membership Report - George Peck

- 102 members with 4 pending, total 106, 52.2%
- New 2024 Goal 174

Americanism - John Meyer

- 2 schools requested veteran speakers
 - Elsworth elementary, Combs
- Blood drive
- Venture crew going to work haunt 14 October

Chaplain's Report - DC Brown

- Keep our service members in our prayers, Israel and MidEast issues.
- Losing members hurts, please check up on friends, reach out and buddy check
- Keep chaplains informed if you need help!

Service Officer's Report - Don Baer

- 32 scheduled appointments
- 9 Walk-ins
- 36 Veterans assisted
- 9 Open Claims
- 27 outgoing, 16 incoming calls
- 20 Voicemails
- 20 emails
- 97.5 Hours worked
- 314.8 Miles driven
- 3 new Post members
- **Operation 2 days a week**
- **Walk-ins Monday and Tuesday**

American Legion Riders - Paul Burgert

- ALR will be working with Pinal County Sheriff's office
 - Shop with a Sheriff - \$500 to help a family shop for toys
 - (HOPE) Helping Out Pinal Everyday - year long program to help Pinal families
- Sept 23 breakfast ride, 2 riders, went well.
- Starting up committee for Holiday Bazaar, anyone is welcome to be part of committee
 - Holiday Bazaar - December 9, 10am - 1pm; \$25 per vendor table
- 14 October Bike Blessing and show here at the Veteran Center

Auxiliary – Carol Coleson

- Auxiliary has grown to 28 members, 6 new this year
- Director completed Legion College
- 21.5 hours of vet service hours, 81 hours of community service
- Attended district 4 meeting
- Will be helping with Veterans day breakfast

Sons of the American Legion – John Meyer

- No new updates

Old Business

- Members at large, need 2 more, will address and possibly vote in at the next meeting.
- Johnson Ranch Veterans Day - Nov 9, Speaking engagement, need a veteran for the outreach - **DC Brown and Tye Logan volunteered**
- Pancake breakfast on Veterans Day
- **Tye Logan, Member at Large;**

New Business

- None

Post Home / Vet Center

- Cooling Center closes Oct 31
- Haunted House - need help food build Saturday mornings at 7am
- Blood Drive Oct 28
- Nov 18 Larry Moore, post everlasting
- Nov 30 Larry Moore intermittent - Cave Creek National Cemetery

Good of the Legion

- Oct 14, Pinal County HOHP Veteran Stand Down
- Oct 14, Black Sheep Bike Blessing at the Veteran Center
- Nov 11, Veteran Stand-down in Coolidge
- Nov 11 0900 flag raising at Anthem HOA

- Honor Guard, practice is 14 October
- Fall conference, Contact the Post Commander or John Meyer, good way to learn how to get involved.

- Jr Shooting - looking for volunteers for the air rifle teams, need coaches

Next meeting will be 13 November 2023

Meeting Adjourned – by Commander Kathy Pascoe at 20:19 hours.

CC: Members of the Joe Foss American Legion Post 97