

Joe Foss American Legion Post 97

General Membership Meeting Minutes



Date: Jan 13, 2025

Time: 19:00

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

In Attendance

Officer Attendees: **Attended** **Absent** **Excused**

| | | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| Commander | Kathy Pascoe | Historian | Mark Sullivan |
| Sr Vice | George Peck | Sgt-at-Arms | John Reiley |
| Jr Vice | Paul Burgert | Finance Officer | |
| Adjutant | Dave Long | Service Officer | Don Baer |
| Judge Advocate | Keith Harris | Service Officer | Amberlynn Newell |
| Member at Large | Mark Houle | Chaplain | DC Brown |
| Member at Large | Tye Logan | Member at Large | Bob Wallness |

Attendance: 5 Officers, and 30 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 DC Brown 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:

NEW GUEST: Brent Doyle USMC; Dwayne Adkins USA; Ean Adkins USMC; Glenn Suffon Sons of Legion USA

MINUTES – December 2024 minutes

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 -

| | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Joe Foss Post 97 | \$5996.76 |
| Veteran Family Fund | \$120.00 |
| Events | \$142.00 |
| Sons of the Legion | \$477.24 |
| Total | \$6736.00 |

- Motion to accept report made and passed

Membership Report - George Peck

- New 2025 Goal 197
- 104 with 7 pending, 57%

Americanism - John Meyer

- Blood Drive 3 March 2025
- Yellow Ribbon reintegration program at local National Guard
- 29 March, 8th annual fishing derby

Chaplain's Report - DC Brown

- Contact Tye or DC for prayer requests if you need help

Service Officer's Report - Don Baer

2024 Numbers

(Items no longer tracked)

| | | | |
|-------------------|-------------|------------------|---|
| Veterans Assisted | 651 | Outgoing Calls | - |
| Appointments | 588 | Incoming Calls | - |
| Walk Ins | 63 | Miles Driven | - |
| Claims Filed | 213 | New Post Members | - |
| Other Docs Filed | 97 | Buddy Checks | - |
| Pages sent to VA | 2179 | | |
| Hours Worked | 733 | | |

Challenges for 2025

Changes to Sleep Apnea Rating

Changes to How Mental Health claims are evaluated

Changes to Hearing/Tinnitus

Additional Presumptive Condition under the PAC ACT

use of AI to evaluate Claims

American Legion Riders - Paul Burgert

- ALA rider event in Nov
- Dec 7 Shop with Sheriff completed 5 families helped, 1 family helped in Coolidge
- 25 Jan Poker Run

Auxiliary – Carol Coleson

- 91 hrs of community, 297 veteran service
- Visited Tuscon Veteran homes again,
- Also participated in Shop with the Sheriff
- Fundraiser raised \$750
- Had a table at Veterans Stand Down, HOHP
- Donated to 5 PAWS Axuliary Emergency Fund, Fisher House, Honor Flight, Tucson Christmas Gift Shop
- Coffee and Donuts moving to a 5 Feb
- Membership is 31, 75%

Sons of the American Legion – John Meyer

- 10 membership
- Drone program, up and running
- Meetings on first Saturday of month at 10am
- 29 March - Fishing Derby, running it

Old Business

- POW speaker
- Christmas Party
 - Feedback: Santa Claus was the best

New Business

- 25 Jan Post 97 Poker Run
- 22 Feb Resource Fair, Tax Prep
- 19, 25, 26 Feb Senior in Digital Age, 65+
- 3 Mar Blood Drive
- 29 Mar SAL Annual Fishing Derby

Post Home / Vet Center

- None

Good of the Legion

- Motion to create resolution to restructure/allow any descendant into the SAL regardless of gender
 - **Motion Passed with no nays**
- Legion + new app is out and running

Next meeting will be 10 February 2025

Meeting Adjourned – by Commander Kathy Pascoe at 19:55 hours.

CC: Members of the Joe Foss American Legion Post 97