

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 Burgerl	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 Axiliary 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