

American Legion Post 39  
Gilbert Arizona  
General Meeting Minutes  
Feb 1, 2022

Meeting convened at 1800 by Commander Gray, a quorum was present and officer roll call was taken, with 25 members in attendance.

**Guests:** Melissa Gutierrez Academy Mortgage. (Member of Post 91). Husband is a Vet and son in currently serving. Helping Vets buy homes.

**Dept Commander Ben Headen, National Commander Candidate Matt Shuman and District 12 Commander Mike Simon.**

**Mike:** *Keeping Membership strong. Ownership to members when they have ideas. Need to get out to the community, wear your Legion Shirt/Hat and push the Legion. Recruit, recruit, recruit. Family = all entities of the post. Track the younger Vets and get them involved. Market the Legion all the time.*

*Rick Mordwinow (Marine) – has a corn roasting truck (food) and would like to set up here on a Saturday. Looking to help other Vets.*

**Billy Ellis** – *membership going down? Not here. Introducing National Commander Candidate Matt Shuman (Post 44) Scottsdale. Wants to be the first person from AZ to be National Commander. Worked as National Legislation for the American Legion – worked with all members of Congress.*

**Matt Shuman** – *running for National Commander. 600,000 vets in AZ. Never has an Arizonian been National Commander. American Legion has always been on Capital Hill fighting for Vets. American Legion currently has 2M members – we need more. Everyone needs to recruit one person (more is encouraged). Do Buddy Checks. Call folks who haven't been to the post lately. Text message blast to all members. Let folks know how much the Legion does and what we support. 71444Shuman.*

*Donations are welcomed. Mattshumann.com*

**Department Commander – Ben Headen.** *Programs are why we are here. Designed to give us purpose. Work as a family. Have passion about belonging to the Legion. Wants to make sure the Legion, who helped him through a funk, is around for his three kids, who also served. 100,000 pounds of food provided to the Indian community during COVID. We never (officially) closed our doors. American Legion has been around 103 years. Lets make sure its around for another 103 years.*

**Minutes:**

- Jan 2022; Motion to accept. Second, Discussed, voted, passed.

**Vice Cmdr Grosch:**

- New members; 7
- Transfer - 5
- Motion to accept all these folks into our Post, seconded, passed.
- 60.4% for renewal. Goal YTD is %

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Cmdr Cusick:**

- Discussed the calendar
- Kitchen report
  - Discussed kitchen report
  - \$655.00 total income
  - \$803.81 Expenses
  - \$148.81 Loss
  - \$644.95 YTD Profit
- Past Saturday – cleaned the kitchen with volunteers. Thank you all.
- Calendar – Laddy still working on it.
- Super Bowl – couple of ideas for party.

**Finance Officer Skwartz:**

- See information attached in today’s packet.

Motion to accept the Finance Report as written, pending audit by Finance Committee. Seconded, No Discussion, Passed.

**Service Officer Wayne Montes De Oca:**

- ABSENT

**Chaplain Adamson:**

**HEALTH & SICKNESS:**

- William (Bill) Herman (Legion) the Post has been notified of Bill’s passing.
- Bobby West (Legion) Bobby passed on 21Nov and was a Viet Nam Army veteran. He was also a 30+ year Legion member and a full military honors funeral was on 29 Nov.
- James Tompkins Sr (Legion) James was a Navy veteran who passed on 20 Nov. His funeral was 04 Dec in Mesa.
- Gene Johnson (Legion) Gene passed on 04 Nov. He was a 39-year Legion member and our Color Guard participated in his Celebration of Life here at the Post.

**SERVICE BIRTHDAYS**

ARMY	JUNE 14	COAST GUARD	AUGUST 04
AIR FORCE	SEPTEMBER 18	NAVY	OCTOBER 13
MARINES	NOVEMBER 10	SPACE FORCE	DECEMBER 19

**NEWS**

- 02 Feb Groundhog Day
- 03 Feb Tri-Care
- 06 Feb Four Chaplains service 1 pm at Post (run by the Auxilliary)
- 12 Feb Super Bowl activities at Post
- 13 Feb Super Bowl
- 14 Feb Valentine's Day
- 20 Feb Post Everlasting 1- 1:30 pm at Post (Doug will honor members who have passed).
- 21 Feb Presidents' Day observed

### POST EVERLASTING

**Dear Heavenly Father, Thank you for reminding me that true joy can be found by having you in my life. Forgive me for letting the struggles of this world steal my joy. I come into your presence today, ready to experience more joy. With your goodness and love right beside me, I can always find reasons to be joyful. Lord, as I see others who are hurting, help me reach out and share the renewed joy I've found in you. AMEN.**

Doug Adamson, Post 39 Chaplain. ([DougDebAz@gmail.com](mailto:DougDebAz@gmail.com); 602-882-8030 cell)

### Color Guard:

- Looking for Color Guard Volunteers.
- Helping Auxiliary during Post Everlasting.
- Early Flag Retirement in March versus April.
- Ammo arrived and was handed to Pete Brown.
- Pig Roast during Super Bowl.

### Committee Reports:

- Queen of Hearts – \$2,227.50
- Bingo –
- Christmas for Kids – Need help for 2022.
- 50/50 – doing good.
- Dog Tag Campaign
- Flags for First/Second Graders – see Fred Meyer. Feb 14, 2022 Patterson Elementary.
- Boys State -

### Old Business:

### New Business:

- Challenge from Squadron 39 to Post to donate \$750 to District 12 Rehab dinner. Motion to donate \$1000 to District 12 Rehab Dinner. second, passed.
- Jr. ROTC Cadet of the Year. Nine Cadets to compete. Veteran Advisory Board will handle. April Counsel Meeting at Town of Gilbert. Asking for \$250 from each Entity to sponsor (\$1000 total).
  - Motion to donate \$500 and ask the Sons and Auxiliary to donate \$250 each. Riders will pitch in \$100. Seconded. Approved.
- Pig Roast Super Bowl weekend. \$10 a plate. All day affair. Help show up around 1330. Have another Bartender.

### Good of the Legion:

- Dog Tag Campaign – \$2000 made so far.
- Audit Committee –
- Audit Fund Raising –
- There will be Boys State this year. (Doug)
- We need the following positions:
  - Sgt at Arms –
  - Historian –
  - Tax Officer – recommended by Finance Officer, Commander has final say. Form 990.
  - Service Officer???
- GET INVOLVED WITH YOUR POST. WE NEED VOLUNTEERS.
- ATTEND THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS.
- Post 39 is a member of the Gilbert Chamber of Commerce. Charity Golf Tourney May 3, Seville CC.
  - Are we interested in putting together a foursome?
- Bingo Machines – We are researching if we want or not. They are bringing in \$6 to 10K per month.
- United Food Bank Letter - \$1700 dollars donated by Post. Supported 165 partners – Children and Elderly. Low-income families always in need. Thank you!!
- E Board meeting last month we spoke of the Bingo Machines. Go to Post 26 and check the machines out. If people like them, we'll form an ad-hoc team to investigate further.
- Trying to get the Fire Suppression System approved by Town of Gilbert. So far, no cost to the post.
- Leslie concerned about money going out and no fund raisers.
- Will McKee (Webmaster). Look at the Web Page and verify email address. Are you using the Legion email?
- Will McKee will provide tech support for members. Set up a time with him if you need help. Will will also make a video tutorial for members.
- Newsletter – haven't posted one in two years. Wants to email blast the Newsletter to all members.

Adjourned at 1924