

American Legion Post 39  
Gilbert Arizona  
General Meeting Minutes  
March 19, 2024

Meeting convened at 1800 by Commander Banaszewski, a quorum was present and officer roll call was taken, with 10 board members in attendance and a total of 37 members/board members.

**Guests:**

- **Billy Banks – Autism Awareness/East Valley Special Olympics**
  - **30 years of employment as an Autistic**
  - **Funds help them fund their services for Autistic people**
  - **April Event – East Valley. Servers are Austistic. Offering Post 39 a Table at this event.**
  - **They need help with their finances; offering a percentage of donations received for this help.**
  
- **John - Gilbert High School Chess Club (already in the Budget) 9 Tourney's won.**
  - **Flagstaff in May for State Title – Lodging, Meals, etc. need to be covered.**
  - **Boys and Girls on Team**
  - **Asking for \$350. Legion donating \$500 (approved by E-Board)**
  
- **Steve Chico Aguirre - National Executive Committeeman – running for another term.**
- **Katie Wojahn – Chair of Department of AZ Children/Youth – Award to Michael**

**Minutes:**

- February 2024 Minutes:
  - Motion to accept, seconded, no discussion, voted and passed.

**Commander, Frank Banaszewski:**

- Recognize the Vietnam War Veterans.
- District Meeting – pleased with District Commander.
  - Donated \$20,000 to Fisher House.
- Certificate of Achievement for Membership – Chris Ellis
- Politics in the Post – First Amendment – we believe in the 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment, however, it can not be done during a meeting or while you're representing the Post. We need to remain neutral as the American Legion is lobbying Congress for programs which represent our people.

**Sr. Vice, Chris Ellis:**

- New members – 14; Transfer – 3
  - Motion to accept these folks, seconded, no discussion and passed.
- To Date: Members: 970
- 107.3% for this year (total)

**2nd Vice Andy Duncan:**

- Kitchen Calendar:
- Kitchen/Legion/Post; Profit for previous month; \$
- Plumbing/Drain –
- Working with Finance Committee on Budget for the Club

- Hired a person to work Kitchen M-W-T each week.

**Finance Officer/Treasurer, Rob Heibult:**

Balances - \$ (post/legion) 201K Investments

- Post turned \$
- Club profitability for Jan 2024
- Post - \$13,700 Revenue for 2023
- Fry's Program
- See Reports
- Need 3 quotes on Oven/Stove. Apply for Grants, pay for Stove/Oven through Investments and pay it back with Grants if awarded.

**Service Officer, Rick Shoemaker**

- **No report**

**Chaplain, Jim Paplaczyk:**

**HEALTH & SICKNESS**

- Pam Anders is awaiting next steps in her treatment.
- Linda Fiore's husband Dale is off critical list and re-habbing in a facility
- Legionnaire Jim Meier passed away on March 8th. Memorial service will be sometime in the fall.

**IMPORTANT DATES**

MEDAL OF HONOR DAY 25 March	V-J DAY 2 September
NATIONAL VIETNAM WAR PATRIOT DAY -	11 September
VETERANS DAY 29 March	USAF BIRTHDAY 18 September
EASTER SUNDAY 31 March	US NAVY BIRTHDAY 13 October
NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER 5 May	DAY OF THE DEPLOYED 26 October
ARMED FORCES DAY 21 May	MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY 10 November
MEMORIAL DAY 27 May	VETERANS DAY 11 November
D-DAY 6 June	THANKSGIVING 28 November
FLAG DAY 14 June	PEARL HARBOR DAY 7 December
US ARMY BIRTHDAY 14 June	USNG BIRTHDAY 13 December
INDEPENDENCE DAY 4 July	CHRISTMAS 25 December

**MONTHLY INVOCATION**

Father, We ask that you would bring healing and restoration to all relationships. May your love and grace abound, bringing reconciliation and unity. Help us to communicate effectively and to understand each other's needs and desires. **Amen**

Jim Paplaczyk, Post 39 Chaplain jrpany50@gmail.com (630) 408-8210

**Color Guard, James Wagner:**

- Back in Business
- Need new members to join
- James Wagner will be new leader of Color Guard.

**Committee Reports:**

- **House Committee (Andy) Eric Wilcox – list on Fridge**
  - Prices – Kitchen Fee's \$175?
  - Meals – each meal up by \$1.00
  -
- **Building Committee** (Frank Banaszewski); No update
- **Queen of Hearts**; \$4,565.60 (30 cards remaining). Dollar per ticket. Two Jokers – when second Joker is found, the board will be reset.
- **Tech (Rick Kroll): First Saturday of month doing Video's for any Committee. Facebook Business page started, as well as Instagram.**
  - Facebook page has 100 followers
  - Community can access our Facebook Business Page
- **Bingo:**
- **Gilbert Days:**
- **Un-Silence Project (Ken, Christina, Katrina) –**
- **50/50 (Julio Beatrice):**
- **Flags for First/Second Graders, (Fred Meyer)** Frank talking to Boy Scouts. They'll be involved.
- **Boys State, (Doug Adamson)** 5 kids this year. \$1500. If you have a child that's a Junior in High School, we'll take care of them first.
- **Christmas for Kids, (Eric Wilcox) -**
- **Veterans Advisory Board, (Mike Bailey)** No update
- **Packages for Troops, (Julio Beatrice) – Oct – Nov.** Looking to do 125 packages.
- **Semper Fi Association, (Ken Skwartz) – Sat May 4, Kentucky Derby Day (food, etc.)**
  - **Cinco de Mayo May 5.**
  - **Glock TUP, (Lawrence Harper) –**
  - **First Responder Dinner for all First Responder's.**
- **ROTC, (Frank Banaszewski)** No update, schools usually reach out in March. Frank will post on Facebook.
- **Audit Committee – Finance Officer cannot lead this group**
- **Veterans Business Council, (Jimmy Paplaczyk)** no report
- **Finance Committee, (Rod Heibult)**

### Old Business:

- ByLaws and Constitution – Rachel going through changes (2<sup>nd</sup> Reading)

### New Business:

- **Video's – pushing.**
- **Fixing our Building – what order, quotes. Show progress.**
- **Volunteer Meeting – people who want to volunteer. Bring in all entities.**
- **ByLaws and Constitution (Rachel) – amending. Semper Fi adding them to Post. By Feb Gen Mtg.**
  - Statutory Representative. Judge Advocate should be this person.
  - Raised the amount from \$5K to 10K without E Board approval.
  - Adjutant will maintain minutes from all entities.
  - Outlining the Incident Report process. Rachel to send to Mitch; Mitch to send to E-Board.
  - July 2024 (after Convention) Legion Dues are \$50.00
- Legionaires donated \$2500 to In Your Boots. Approved another \$2500 – Total of \$5000.
  - Donated \$30K to Fisher House this year.
  - Entities now donating
  - 4/14 when we deliver to Fisher House
- **Goal Board – to show status of Fund Raising efforts.**
- Consolidated list of things coming up at the Post. (Rachel)
- **ByLaws update (Rachel) read proposed changes (1<sup>st</sup> Read).**

### Good of the Legion:

- July 1, 2024 National Dues goes up \$5.00
- American Legion (Be the One) – not a membership program. Is a four-year old program stated by American Legion for Suicide Prevention. Blue Cross/Blue Shield part of this. Purpose is to not get caught up with 22 per day, etc., start with one! Dept of Az stood up last week.
- Fund Raisers –
- Volunteer Board in Post
  - Kitchen, Color Guard, etc.
- Advisory Board (Rick) for VA (SE)

### Adjourned at 1925 by Commander Banaszewski

### Nominee's for Post Officer and E-Board Positions: (First Vote)

#### Officers:

<b>COMMANDER</b>	<b>Frank Banaszewski</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Vice</b>	<b>Chris Ellis</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice</b>	<b>Ken Skwartz (considering)</b>
<b>Finance Officer:</b>	<b>Rod Heibult</b>

**E-BOARD:**

**George Robles**

**Lawrence Harper**

**James Wagner**

**Mitch Ellis**

**Jimmy P**

**John Haines**

**Jason Muchow**

**Mary Bernheim**

**David Bernheim**

**Richard Shoemaker**

**Julio Beatrice**

**Ray Spaulding**

**Cynthia Hernandez**

**Jacob Leon**