“PAWS IN SERVICE”

FOR OUR VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES

PRESIDENT’S NOTES

JUNE 2017

Do you believe this year is over, I want to each of you for an amazing year!!!

It was an honor to serve with The American Legion Commander Danny Bough and Sons of the American Legion Detachment Commander Mike “Bubba” Tally. We had a great time traveling together; it is all about being the Legion family.

Hope everyone had a good time at my homecoming on May 20th. Thank you for an amazing year. Thank you all that attended!!!

I want to thank the District’s and Unit’s that sent me invitation for my official visit this year. Unfortunately I did not receive an invitation from District 2 or 6 to attend their meetings.

I want to thank the following Units for your generous donation to my special project “Soldier’s Best friend” 35, 2, 93, 75, 107, 117, 59, 52, 26, 91, 62 Juniors, District 6 and District 2 and a special thank you to Past National President Betty Calder. Thank you unit 131 for your $4000.00 to team a veteran & dog, also for the 18 dog bowls to SBF. All you ladies are AWESOME!!!!

DEPARTMENT CHAIRMAN PLEASE BRING YOUR BRIEFCASE TO STATE CONVENTION IN JUNE AND THEY CAN BE PASSED ON TO THE NEXT CHAIRMAN.

GO TEAM ARIZONA

Jan Cushing
Department of Arizona President
2016-2017

President Jan's Schedule

May 5-9, 2017	Dept. Leadership National Conference	Indianapolis, IN
May 16, 2017	Official Visit Unit 62	Peoria, AZ
May 19, 2017	Dept. Commander Bugh Homecoming Post 41	Phoenix, AZ
May 20, 2017	Dept. President Jan's Homecoming Post 1	Phoenix, AZ
May 25, 2017	Install New Officers at Unit 1	Phoenix, AZ
May27, 2017	Phoenix State Home Luncheon	Phoenix, AZ
Nay 30, 2017	National Memorial Cemetery of AZ	Phoenix, AZ
June 2-10, 2017	Girls State (U of A)	Tucson, AZ
June 17, 2017	Phoenix State Home Luncheon	Phoenix, AZ
June 21-25, 2017	State Convention (Carefree Resort)	Care Free, AZ

AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND

June 2017

A big **THANK YOU!** to those units that reported successful AEF fund raisers and for those reports of units that chose not to participate in this program, but reported anyway.

If you'd like to get started on next year's fund raisers, look back on the past AEF bulletins, or try this one, suggested by Mary Dubay, National AEF Vice Chairman. She offers several variations of a wine raffle. One version: "Ask Legion Family members to donate a bottle of wine for the raffle. You might even ask local restaurants and community supporters if they have some wine they'd like to donate." After collecting the wines, place them in groups (reds, whites) that are prizes. ". . . sell ickets for the price of a single bottle of good wine, such as $15 to $20. Depending on how many bottles of wine you collect, first prize could be 50 bottles of wine, second 25, third 10, etc." "Be sure that you follow all federal, state, and local laws when planning this raffle event. And, siince it does include alcohol, make sure you're clear that this is not a family-friendly event and that you observe any liquor laws for your area."
Be sure to check May's ALA In the Know eBulletin for other ways to have this type of event.

Again, thanks for supporting the Auxiliary Emergency Fund this year. It was this chairman's pleasure to serve the Department as your AEF chairman.

WITH PAWS IN SERVICE

Rebecca Faris,
Chairman
PO Box 3122
Kingman, AZ 86402-3122
rebfar@npgcable.com
928-757-8590

Ruth Patterson, Member
new2yuma@roadrunner.com

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

AWARDS AND TROPHIES

ATTENTION: IF YOU OR YOUR UNIT RECEIVED A PLAQUE AT THE STATE CONVENTION LAST JUNE PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU BRING IT BACK TO THE CONVENTION THIS YEAR SO THE WINNER WILL RECEIVE IT.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION

JAN CUSHING, DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT

AMERICANISM
JUNE 2017

I cannot believe how fast this year has gone by and we are heading for Department Convention again. It has been a pleasure to serve as your Department Americanism Chairman and I am proud of what has been accomplished in the state of Arizona. Everyone did a terrific job, and I know that you will continue to support our veterans and their families. We live in a wonderful country and are able to enjoy our freedom because of the brave men and women who serve this country. Let's continue to show them the respect they deserve.

I would like thank all the Units that took time to complete their annual report form and returning them to me. Several narratives were submitted and I look forward to announcing the winners at the Department Convention.

Are you coming to Convention??? Are you bringing your Unit or District Colors??? Please remember to bring a white blouse, navy blue or black pants/skirt and shoes. Also, plan to be at the meeting hall on Friday at 7:30 a.m., and make sure you are at the meeting room on Sunday morning to retrieve colors. Please confirm times on the meeting itinerary.

See you at Convention and have a safe and happy summer!

Linda Hubbs Chairman
Debbie Aguirre Committee Member

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."
Helen Keller
1880 - 1968

CHAPLAIN REPORT

JUNE 2017

LADIES IT IS THAT TIME OF THE YEAR WHEN WE ARE ALL EXCITED TO REPORT WHAT WE HAVE DONE AND WHAT WE HAVE ACCOMPLISHED. ALL I CAN SAY IS THAT THE DEPT OF ARIZONA HAS THE BEST GROUP OF WOMEN IN THE WORLD.

THROUGH OUT THE YEAR I HAVE SENT PASSAGES ENCOURAGING YOU TO BE KIND , UNDERSTANDING AND TOLERANT OF EACH OTHERS SHORT COMINGS. I HOPE THAT IN THE FUTURE YOU WILL KEEP ALL OF THESE IN MIND. BY DOING SO WE WILL GROW STRONGER AND BE ABLE TO DO MORE FOR OUR VETERANS, COMMUNTIY, CHILDREN AND YOUTH.

WHAT IS A VETERAN?

A "VETERAN " -WHETHER ACTIVE, DISCHARGED, RETIRED OR RESERVE-IS SOMEONE WHO AT ONE POINT IN HIS/HER LIFE WROTE A BLANK CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO "THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA" FOR AN AMOUNT OF "UP TO AND INCLUDING HIS /HER LIFE"

WITH THIS BEING MY LAST REPORT AS CHAPLAIN MAY I SAY:

MY WISH FOR YOU IS THAT THIS LIFE BECOMES ALL THAT YOU WANT IT TO BE.

YOUR DREAMS STAY BIG AND YOUR WORRIES STAY SMALL.

YOU NEVER NEED TO CARRY MORE THAN YOU CAN HOLD

AND WHILE YOU ARE OUT THERE GETTING WHERE YOU'RE GETTING TO

I HPOE YOU KNOW SOMEONE LOVES YOU AND WANTS THE SAME THINGS TOO.

YEAH THIS IS MY WISH !!!! (PINTEREST)

LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ALL AT CONVENTION

JENNIE MOLINA truelepa@gmail.com (520)220-8460

DEPT OF AZ CHAPLAIN

Community Service

June 2017

PAWS in SERVICE

Thank You Thank You Thank You to the Units who submitted reports! The hours Unit members worked, the miles driven and the money raised or in-kind money was astonishing. With the dedication of Unit members, we could not of provided the assistance to others in the Community that was provided this year.

For those Units who did not send in a report this year, this Chairman hopes that your Unit will next year.

It has been a pleasure to serve as the Community Service Chairman this year. This Chairman and Onita Davis have enjoyed serving as the Community Service Team this year.

REMEMBER: When out in the community, wear your Auxiliary attire. We want the community to know who we are!

Barbara White, Chairman
602-908-2980
Barbarawhite99@gmail.com
1616 W Nopal Dr
Chandler AZ 85224

Onita Davis, Member
520-229-1064
ovunit132@gmail.com

CREATIVE ARTS
MAY 2017

A big thank you to all the Units that have sent their reports in so far. I am sure I will receive reports from all the Units by the middle of May. Don't forget narrative is due May 15th. To each of you I know you have been busy doing something for the Creative Arts program. Please put it on paper or e-mail me and tell me what you are doing or what you have done. If you sent money to Department for Creative Arts program thank you very much, but don't forget to let me know how you raised that money.

Remember, Poppy funds may be used for the Creative Arts Program. Please send contributions to ALA Department of Arizona, 4701 N. 19th Ave. Suite 100, Phoenix, AZ. 85015.

REMEMBER TO KEEP THOSE PAWS IN SERVICE.

Creative Arts team:
Prescott, Sally Fine, Chairman mightyfine123@gmail.com

Phoenix, Margaret Ellis maggylou@cox.net

Tucson, Kathy Szakonyi N3SAD@aol.com

CHILDREN & YOUTH

PAWS IN SERVICE

JUNE, 2017

Greetings Ladies,

We are almost there, looking at the end of another great year. My committee and I again, would like to thank you for all your hard work this year. Your donations, ideas and time have been reflects in your Children and Youth reporting. Awesome Job Arizona.

We are looking forward to seeing you at Convention.

Remember our Children are our future...

For God and Country

Shirley Cannon -Johnson - Chairman

1734 E. Alicia Dr.

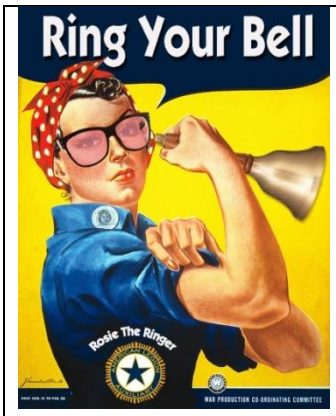
Phoenix, AZ 85042

Committee Members

Stacy Mayberry

Carla Solarez

Public Relations: June 2017



Email (questions, comments): Marge Christianson; ALADeptAZpr@gmail.com
Facebook Page: "Jan Cushing, AZ ALA Dept President"

- **Department generated posts about Jan's travels and mission activities**

Facebook Page: "ALA Department of Arizona Public Relations"

- **Department generated posts about community engagement of interest to units, districts & the public**

Facebook Group: Ring Your Bell Arizona ALA

- **Units, Districts generated posts about community engagement stories of interest to each other and department. Entries should focus on how the public was engaged in what you did, what you learned, etc. Also "Ring Your Bell" central for the contest. Request membership today!**

Ring Your Bell Contest is OVER!

- We hope it has inspired you to look at things with rose-colored glasses
- Member pride is the foundation of a powerful force
- Thank you for your contest participation
- We had fun and hope you had some too
- Winner will be announced at Convention

We will have a slideshow at convention of photos posted or sent in. We also hope to introduce the new website at convention! See you there……

Thank you!

Marge Christianson
Public Relations Volunteer & Chair
Department of Arizona
ALADeptAZpr@gmail.com

Shannon Mead
Public Relations Volunteer & Committee Member
Department of Arizona
ShannonMead@live.com

HISTORIAN

JUNE 2017

"Dedicated Historians Leave Paw Prints behind for Tomorrow"

The American Legion Auxiliary has been dedicated to serving veterans military and their families for nearly 100 years. Auxiliary members exemplify service not self through countless volunteer hours, programs, and conferences, along with an increased presence in Washington D.C. Although things have changed since the American Legion Auxiliary was founded in 1919, the one thing that remains the same is members unwavering commitment to honor those who serve.

Our history of mission outreach is impressive! Check out our story and why it's an exciting time to be part of the world's largest women's patriotic service organization.

ALA DECADES OF MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Check out the Video at www.ALAforVeterans.org/About/History

Join us at the Carefree Inn and Resort for the Department of Arizona Convention June 22-25, 2017. Join us to celebrate our ALA members as they claim the awards for the various programs.

HISTORY UNIT AWARDS

Helen Blakeslee Memorial Plaque to Units with membership of 150 and under.

Betty Kent Plaque to Units with membership of 151 and over

HISTORY DISTRICT AWARD

The Rasmussen District History Plaque. Any District in the Department of Arizona may receive this plaque.

The Junior History awards will also be announced.

Patricia Lugo, Department Historian 2016-2017

JUNIOR ACTIVITIES

JUNE 2017

PAWS IN SERVICE

Junior Spring Conference was held at Earl E. Mitchell Post 29, on April 22-23, 2017. Elections were held to elect the officers for the coming year. Elected to serve as Honorary Junior officers for the year 2017-2018 were Emily Quigg, President, Aliya Coleman Vice President, Jasmine Perry Historian, Dayza Hernandez Chaplain, and Stashanique Stewart Sergeant at Arms. Alexis Coleman was appointed to serve as Secretary.

A representative of each unit present gave a report of their activities during the year. An award ceremony was held to award the Patches that were earned, Department Leadership Chairman Ginger Cox presented leadership certificates to the juniors that completed the Junior Leadership course.

I want to thank Unit 29 President Debi Hammons and Post Commander Robert Dee Hicks for their hospitality this year.

Juniors, I would like to invite you to Department Convention that will be held on June 22-25, 2017, at Carefree Inn and Resort in Carefree, Arizona. We plan to introduce the Honorary Junior officers and announce the winners of the Junior awards.

Lexis Nicole Escudero
Junior Activities Chairman

Karon Quigg
Committee Member

ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

1700 W. Washington St., Suite H, Phoenix, AZ 85007
Toll Free; 1-800-352-8404 Internet: www.azleg.gov

53rd Legislature First Regular Session 2017

DISTRICT	ROOM	PHONE	REPRESENTATIVE	ASSIST #	ASSISTANT
15 - R	208	926-4916	**Allen**, John	6-3061	Sierra Orozco
24 - D	330	926-5829	**Alston**, Lela	6-3510	Mary Peralta
29 - D	337	926-3130	**Andrade,** Richard	6-5515	Valeria Howard
6 - R	114	926-4129	**Barton**, Brenda	6-4106	Andrea Allen
7 - D	117	926-5172	**Benally,** Wenona	6-3257	Brandon Benally
26 - D	126	926-5187	**Blanc,** Isela	6-3680	Ricky Dozal
27 - D	335	926-3132	**Bolding,** Reginald	6-4154	Nikki Finch
25 - R	309	926-3128	**Bowers,** Russell	6-3685	Shannon Rivington
20 - R	113	926-4173	**Boyer**, Paul	6-3674	Jackie O'Donnell
28 - D	124	926-5156	**Butler,** Kelli	6-4390	Jasmine Snipes
1 - R	304	926-3124	**Campbell**, Noel	6-3207	Weston Sims
19 - D	339	926-3014	**Cardenas**, Mark	6-3101	Kat Clark
15 - R	303	926-5503	**Carter**, Heather	6-3506	Sandy Kelley
29 - D	318	926-4862	**Chávez,** César	6-3065	Timothy Wilson
24 - D	333	926-3108	**Clark,** Ken	6-3510	Mary Peralta
10 - R	121	926-4850	**Clodfelter,** Todd	6-3505	Roslyn Taliaferro
5 - R	302	926-3126	**Cobb,** Regina	6-3307	Carissa Cortez
16 - R	312	926-3160	**Coleman**, Doug	6-3697	Kim Gammill
8 - R	341	926-5162	**Cook,** David	6-4640	Becca Farmer
7 - D	323	926-4846	**Descheenie,** Eric	6-3065	Timothy Wilson
10 - D	118	926-5178	**Engel,** Kirsten	6-3265	Gabriella Hernandez
18 - D	125	926-4870	**Epstein,** Mitzi	6-4390	Jasmine Snipes
19 - D	338	926-3134	**Espinoza,** Diego	6-3405	Leslie Rodriguez
12 - R	225	926-5735	**Farnsworth**, Eddie	6-4630	Jan Mullenaux
4 – D	322	926-3098	**Fernandez,** Charlene	6-3169	Michael Diaz
11 - R	129	926-3122	**Finchem,** Mark	6-3049	Carolyn Berta
9 - D	321	926-3138	**Friese,** Randall	6-3062	Paula Peyerl
2 - D	325	926-3424	**Gabaldón**, Rosanna	6-3101	Kat Clark
3 - D	332	926-3278	**Gonzales**, Sally Ann	6-3190	Melissa Valdez
12 - R	119	926-4868	**Grantham,** Travis	6-3991	JeDebra Henson
2 - D	115	926-4840	**Hernandez,** Daniel	6-3265	Gabriella Hernandez
14 - R	342	926-5154	**John,** Drew	6-4640	Becca Farmer
20 - R	306	926-3102	**Kern,** Anthony	6-3186	Jennifer Johnson
23 - R	131	926-3095	**Lawrence,** Jay	6-5344	Susan Nelson
11 - R	226	926-3106	**Leach,** Vince	6-3487	Sue Adams
22 - R	224	926-4178	**Livingston**, David	6-4433	Barbara Phillips
30 - D	116	926-5158	**Martinez,** Ray	6-3257	Brandon Benally
17 - R	223	926-4481	**Mesnard**, J.D.	6-3164/6-5534	Susan Hite/Dan Nichols
13 - R	313	926-5894	**Mitchell**, Darin	6-4392	Abby Selvey
5 - R	310	926-4844	**Mosley,** Paul	6-5555	Shawna Phillians
30 - D	329	926-4864	**Navarrete,** Tony	6-3405	Leslie Rodriguez
18 - R	112	926-3140	**Norgaard,** Jill	6-3671	Tracey Gardner
14 - R	122	926-4852	**Nutt,** Becky	6-3991	JeDebra Henson
21 - R	345	926-4854	**Payne,** Kevin	6-3200	Amanda Strickland
9 – D	324	926-4848	**Powers Hannley,** Pamela	6-4154	Nikki Finch
27 - D	320	926-3073	**Rios,** Rebecca	6-3067	Cindy Narvaez
21 - R	316	926-3104	**Rivero,** Tony	6-4608	Tina Fairbanks
4 - D	334	926-4842	**Rubalcava,** Jesus	6-5515	Valeria Howard
3 - D	331	926-4171	**Saldate**, Macario	6-3190	Melissa Valdez
26 - D	123	926-4858	**Salman,** Athena	6-3680	Ricky Dozal
13 - R	222	926-4139	**Shooter,** Don	6-4552	Nancy Boyd
8 - R	204	926-3012	**Shope**, Thomas "T. J."	6-3335	Patty Wisner
1 - R	308	926-4838	**Stringer,** David	6-5660	Karin Smith
28 - R	344	926-4860	**Syms,** Maria	6-3200	Amanda Strickland
6 - R	130	926-5219	**Thorpe**, Bob	6-3060	Meg Reilly
22 - R	205	926-3297	**Toma,** Ben	6-3055	Jennifer Burns
16 - R	207	926-4467	**Townsend**, Kelly	6-3551	Jackie Wright
25 - R	120	926-4856	**Udall,** Michelle	6-3505	Roslyn Taliaferro
23 - R	111	926-4480	**Ugenti-Rita**, Michelle	6-3547	Christopher Klugman
17 - R	110	926-3092	**Weninger,** Jeff	6-4226	Iris McMahon

JUNE LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Dear Legislative Chairmen:

I want to take this time to thank all of you for your efforts in making this program a vital part of our organization. We have received many year-end reports showing that you have been diligent in contacting our legislators directing them to take steps in providing the best care of our veterans and active military personnel.

I hope that you and or your successor will continue to work this program to its fullest extent. We cannot afford to take any backward steps. To do so would be to the disadvantage of those we serve.

Both Judy and I look forward to seeing you at convention. Be sure to read our year-end report in the Book of Reports, which you will receive at convention. Once again, we offer our sincere appreciation of all your efforts.

Sincerely,

Sharon L. Doran, Legislative Chairman

Judy Hatch, UAV Chairman

American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Arizona Membership 2016-2017

June 2017

Congratulations Rockers! You will be hearing the Rocker theme song at Convention at the end of the month when plaques and awards are presented.

A big woop, woop to these 100% plus Units:

Unit 66 – 102.34%
Unit 132 – 101.41%
Unit 39 – 101.91%
Unit 58 – 107.01%

Of course, there is still time since our next milestone is Department Convention with 100% plus. Please do not hold membership and keep those transmittals coming in.

Thank you Districts for sending in your Idea Award entries. The big winner will be announced at Department Convention.

The membership journey has been full of hard work and has not been easy but this Chairman has appreciated each and every one of you! See you at convention at the Carefree Resort.

Let's Make Membership Meaningful!
Rock Arizona and Raise the Roof in 2016-2017,

Yolanda Bonilla
Membership Chairman
602-989-3321
yodobo@msn.com

American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Arizona

"PAWS IN SERVICE"
MUSIC REPORT
JUNE 2017

It's Convention time!!!

Thanks to all units that turned in music reports. This Chairman especially wants to thank those units that took the time to write a narrative. Your hard work and dedication to bringing music to Auxiliary events and our Veterans is a blessing for the rest of us. This Chairman has truly enjoyed being the Department Music Chairman again this year and looks forward to meeting you at the Convention. Music selections for the Convention Memorial Service are: "Peace in the Valley" and "Precious Lord, Take My Hand." It would be wonderful if many of you would consider singing in the choir for the Memorial Service on Sunday morning at Convention. Choir rehearsal is late Saturday afternoon and will be noted in the Convention schedule.

This Chairman is looking forward to once again playing music and/or singing during breaks and for special recognition by President Jan. Looking forward to a wonderful Department Convention!

Department Music Awards will be handed out at Convention as follow:

:

MUSIC PLAQUES

Frances Aros Memorial Music Plaque awarded to Unit with membership of 151 and over
Millicent Kasun Music Plaque awarded to Unit with membership of 150 and under

Information regarding the above awards can be found on the website: www.aladeptaz.org under Ruling Documents. Click on ALA Department Awards Book and go to page 47. This will list the rules and the scoring for the awards. A typewritten narrative of not more than 1,000 words must accompany the report form.

Monica Rae Stein, Department Music Chairman
11533 E. Kilarea Ave., Mesa, AZ 85209
steinent@cox.net
480.272.1255 cell

NATIONAL SECURITY

JUNE 2017

This is my last bulletin as Department National Security Chairman. I would like to leave you with a few pointers on how to honor the military, their families and the community:

- Wear Red on Fridays to "Remember Everyone Deployed".

- Decorate your community with yellow ribbons as a gesture of appreciation for local service members' military service. Encourage others to do the same.

- Use the mentoring program to Assist military spouses in getting and maintaining employment. Visit www.milspousementor.org and click "JOIN today." Complete the short application form and an eMentor staff member will contact you with a link where you will complete your member profile, please be sure to indicate that you are a member of the American Legion Auxiliary.

- Become more informed about issues affecting a military family's home life, such as PTSD, TBI, domestic violence, financial literacy and other issues.

I look forward to seeing you at convention, June 22-25, 2017 at the Carefree Resort.

Josephine Herrera

National Security Chairman

President’s Special Project
Soldier’s Best Friend

https://soldiersbestfriend.org

Hello!!!!!

It has been this Chairman's honor and pleasure to serve as the President's Special Project Chairman this year.

Remember Soldier's Best Friend as a service area in the future for our veterans.

I look forward to seeing you all at Convention and reading the submitted narratives.

For God and Country,
Robin Reed
President’s Special Project Chairman

Karen Mealey - genverna@live.com
Cleone Magnuson - jazzydoll@cox.net
Jeannie McGaughey - gene.jean.mcgaughey@cox.net
Betty Barbee - poodle-maniac@gmail.com

UAV UNOFFICIAL MINUTES

MAY 7, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chairman Reggie Yates. The opening ceremony was conducted and guests introduced.

Anne Cook from Horse Rhythm reported Foundation. They are a 501 (c) 3, volunteer-operated, non-partisan, fiscally responsible and accountable organization founded by Veterans, to serve Veterans and because of 9/11, First Responders as well. Their program operates between October and May. They are always looking for volunteers to help with their program. They are having a Dinner with Silent and Live Auction. See attached flyer.

John Coats with "Homes for Heroes" gave a presentation on their organization, who gives a home for those who have served. It was started right after 9-11 and they serve all eras of veterans.

Steve Weintraub from "Vet Tix" advised the membership about this organization. They are a 501 (c) 3 and give donated tickets to veterans. It is a nationwide group and by the end of this month they will have distributed one million tickets. There is a small transaction that the veteran pays, to insure usage. When requesting tickets, the minimum is 2. Your guest does not need to be a veteran. They also accept cash donations and 100% of all donated funds goes to purchase tickets. To register for tickets go to www.vettix.org. For more information you can email Steve at sweintraub@vettix.org.

"Mental Health & Addiction Recovery" – Lloyd Vacovsky, Director of Assisted Recovery Centers of America advised the group of his organization and what efforts they are taking to help in the mental health and addiction recovery issues. This program is for everyone, not just veterans. It is located at 10th Street and Indian School Road. For more information contact Mike McNabb, Marketing Director, email: mimcnabbus@yahoo.com, office: 602-264-7897, Cell – 602-826-2553, website: assistedrecovery.com

Jesse Simpson from "Calm, Fit, Complete non-profit organization that is dedicated to enhancing the lives of both veterans and "at-risk" youth from military families, in the form of a transformative mentorship program. Their curriculum teaches some of the most important characteristics of health and wellness to strengthen their members, inside and out. They have six areas of focus:

1. Emotional – Coping effectively with life and creating satisfying relationships.

2. Environmental – Good health by occupying pleasant, stimulating environments that support wellbeing.

3. Physical – recognizing the need for physical activity, healthy foods, and sleep.

4. Intellectual – Recognizing creative abilities and finding ways to expand knowledge and skills.

5. Social – Developing a sense of connection, belonging, and a well-developed support system.

6. Spiritual – Expanding a sense of purpose and meaning in life.

Roll call was taken, a motion was made to accept the minutes, second and approved.

Bob Hysko gave the treasurers report. There is currently a balance of $33,144.01 in the checking account. Motion to accept, second and approved.

Reba Nelson, medical director for the VA reported on her recent trip to Washington D.C. for a meeting with those in charge of the VA medical care. They had a brainstorming session where they discussed what they felt the top priorities for the VA need to be.

The five priorities for the VA are:

1. They need to continue to provide more "Choice" for veterans to have more opportunities to obtain medical care, especially in outlying areas.

2. They need to continue to improve access to medical care. They are looking at eliminating the distance requirement of 40 miles to insure better coverage.

3. Improve the suicide prevention program. The majority of veterans do not use the VA or have stopped using it. We need to get the word out to make sure veterans get information whether they use the VA or not.

4. The need to continue modernizing the VA so they can get information to the veterans in a more timely manner. They are working on using smart phones to log into my healthevet.

5. They need to make sure they are operating as efficiently as possible.

They have established a pilot program in outlying areas, such as Show Low, where they are able to obtain x-rays, MRI's and lab work done locally instead of having to travel all the way to Phoenix for these services. They are working on eliminating the co-pay for veterans.

The issue was brought up about treating veterans with "other than honorable" discharges, especially suicidal. They will be taking care of these veterans that have suicidal tendencies' to help eliminate the current suicide rate. There policy will be "Veterans first".

They have established a contract with CVS to take urgent care veterans and the VA will pay for it. In order to use CVS, you must first call the VA help line and get authorization.

Plans are forthcoming to build a Fisher House in Phoenix. The increasing veteran community in the Phoenix area makes a Fisher House a necessity. Phoenix has over 91,000 veterans residing in the area. Los Angeles only has 90,000.

Friday, May 19th is National Hepatitis C Testing Day. (See attached flyer)

Reggie Yates gave a report from the Board of Directors and some legislative concerns. He encouraged everyone to go to the Capitol and get registered to vote or support/non-support of upcoming legislation on-line.

Terry Araman reported on the Symposium that was held April 19-20 of April. This is an annual program and everyone was encouraged to watch for the next on and try to attend.

Terry also report on SB1203 the Veterans Relief Fund and the Military Family Relief Fund (MFRF). Legislation is pending to extend this fund to 2025 (for Post 9/11 veterans) The third read will be this Monday, 8 May 2017.

A request to join UAV was made by Blinded Veterans of American. Motion to accept was made, second and approved.

Due to the length of the meeting, I had to leave for another meeting being held down stairs in room A101 for Memorial Day. I don't know when the meeting adjourned or what else was discussed. I left the meeting at 12:15.

Respectfully,

Judith Hatch

Judith Hatch

NATIONAL HEPATITIS C TESTING DAY

"Early Detection & Treatment Saves Lives"

Labs will be onsite to draw for all enrolled Veterans

Friday, May 19, 2017

This will be a BIG event! We will have a Guest speaker, Testimonials, Live Music Provided by SAW (Sounds at Work), Refreshments/free popcorn, and a raffle.

Event Location Phoenix VA

For Additional Questions:

Contact the PHX VA Hep C Case Managers

Dawn Corbett, RN (602) 277-5551 ext 7321

Leovina (Juvy) Sylvester, RN (602) 277-5551 ext 3861

Save the DATE!!!

Saturday the 28th of October, 2017

The Horse Rhythm Foundation **2017 We Believe Gala**

Dinner with Silent and Live Auctions

Past Distinguished Guest Speakers:

Benghazi Security Team Survivor, Mark "Oz" Geist

Maricopa County Sheriff, Joe Arpaio

Medal of Honor recipient, Fred Ferguson

with retired DPS Director, Robert Halliday

Our Vision, Mission, & Goals

Horse Rhythm Foundation is a 501c3, volunteer-operated, non-partisan, fiscally responsible and accountable organization. Founded by Veterans, to serve Veterans and because of 9/11, First Responders as well. We recognize and honor the intrinsic value of our Military and First Responder personnel and their families.

HRF's mission is to bridge the gap between the effects of line of duty critical incidents and restoration of wellness. Using education and equine assisted services, we work with individuals or groups allowing the interactions between the client and horse to facilitate emotional and physical healing.

Our mission essential tasks utilize educational tools, equine therapy and self-awareness enabling our clients to develop: self-confidence, self-control, problem-solving, and improved communication to facilitate the transition or return to total wellness, their families, and their lives.

The ultimate goal of Horse Rhythm Foundation is to serve as a collaborative community initiative using integrative modalities in a transitional living environment to effect wellness of the mind, body, and spirit.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Carmen Meridith, D.H.Sc., MS, PA-C
President, USAF Retired
carmen@horserhythm.org

Arni Cook, M.Ed.
Executive Secretary, USA, AZARNG
arni@horserhythm.org

Tom Eisiminger, MBA
Executive Director, USA, Retired

Maria Martens,
Executive Treasurer
Gold Star Mother

To find out how you can help you can also contact us at:

(602) 688-7424

www.azwin.org

Project in development:

WARRIOR INSTITUTE OF NEUROWELLNESS

As a pay it forward, Horse Rhythm Foundation was founded as a 501(c)3 in 2011 by,

Sahika Riley, MPAS, PA-C, PhD USAF

More UAV/Unified Arizona Veterans Good of the Order announcements) Wish List for Maricopa StandDown - Women Vets and Childcare sections

1. Arizona StandDown: Thursday & Friday, January 25 & 26, 2018

Location: State Fairgrounds

With Gabe Forsberg & Tammie Smith co-chairing the Women Veterans & Family Section, they have a list

of items needed, see attachment,

Points of contact: Gabe Forsberg at: gabeforsberg@gmail.com

Beth Nehring at: 70wave@gmail.com, 602.363.8546

American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Arizona

"PAWS IN SERVICE"
VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION REPORT

June 2017

On May 15th, this Chairman sent a consolidated report to the National Chairman and Western Division Chairman for the VA&R program.

Thanking those Units who sent their reports to me on or before the due date. Unfortunately, this Chairman did not receive 100% reporting. Hopefully next year, everyone will fill out their report forms. We all do something for a Veteran at least one time during the fiscal year.

Department Awards will be given at Convention, so this Chairman looks forward to seeing you in June at the Carefree Resort.

Don't forget to visit the website, www.aladeptaz.org or www.alaforveterans.org for important information.

Until next month, thank you for all you do for our Veterans!!!

Cindy Queen, Department VA&R Chairman
4718 S. Adelle Circle, Mesa, AZ 85212
cynqueen1953@gmail.com

602-316-7647 (cell) 480-358-6923 (home)

ARIZONA STATE VETERANS HOME – TUCSON
(ASVH-TUCSON)
STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, MAY 8, 2017

Meeting Called to Order 11:10 a.m.

Next ASVH-TUCSON Steering Committee Meeting
Monday, June 12, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. in the Chapel at ASVH-Tucson

Present:
Alice Bever, ALA 132
Fran Johnston, ALA 102, AMVETS, VFW Unit 770
Karen Lipphardt, ALA 132
Sam Nanez, ASVH-Tucson
Mary Shaffer, AZ Elks Assoc.
Terry Soto, ALA 59
Mary Torvik, ALA 109
Kay Willard, ALA 59
Anna Marie Arenas, ALA 59

Please note above the abbreviations for the following:

AL	*American Legion*
ALA	*American Legion Auxiliary*
SAL	*Sons of the American Legion*
AL Riders	*American Legion Riders*
ASVH-Tucson	*Arizona State Veterans Home-Tucson*
VFW	*Veterans of Foreign Wars*
AMVETS	*American Veterans*

MINUTES:

1. Introduction

A. Sam reviewed April meeting minutes with the steering committee. And, reviewed activities scheduled and/or in planning stages from May through June, 2017.

1. POWWOW upcoming on May 13, 2017. Summer hours from 6:00 to 9:00 a.m. Will continue to have POWWOW during the summer up to August. VOLUNTEERS still needed.

B. ASVH-Tucson has a new administrator. Congratulations Robert "Bob" Tunila. Currently there are 117 residents (8 female and 109 male).

D. Delene to continue to provide updates of birthday dates to Anna Marie.

E. American Legion Auxiliary Unit 109 is collecting clothing for Resource Day (one day only Standdown) in June. Summer clothes are needed. Contact Mary at 520-243-9646.

F. Alice Bever, ALA Unit 132 President introduced the unit's new representative Karen Lipphardt to the committee.

2. Recent Donations Received at ASVH-Tucson

A. A special thank you to the Elks for recent donation of $500 in movie theatre tickets for residents. More residents are able to attend. Keep those theatre gift cards coming in. Thank you.

3. Reports by Steering Committee – Scheduled and/or Plans for Future Events/Activities

A. Recurring monthly events

1. Second Monday monthly	Arizona State Veterans Home-Tucson Steering Committee Meeting at 11:00 a.m.
2. Third Tuesday monthly	ALA hosted a Birthday Cake and Ice Cream Social at 1:30 p.m. This is an ALA hosted and scheduled event. Any requests for changes shall be discussed prior to this event through Fran Johnston (520-599-4786)
3. Fourth Wednesday monthly	Bingo hosted by the Elks at 2:30 p.m.
4. Third Thursday monthly	AMVETS hosted Bingo at 5:30 p.m.

Please advise Anna Marie Arenas at 520-404-7646 regarding recurring monthly events at ASVH-Tucson so they are noted in these meeting minutes.

B. Fran advised the committee that ALA Birthday Cake and Ice Cream Social are planned up to July 2017. As a reminder this event is year around. Therefore, we need more volunteers from the American Legion Posts, Units, SAL, or Riders; VFW; AMVETS to schedule with Fran to host the remaining months of 2017.

C. May Events Discussed

May 5	The American Legion Auxiliaries and Department Committee, and the Elks hosted a Cinco de Mayo (May 5) Fiesta for the residents and their families. And, honored the home's nurses. The event was a total success. The new administrator, Mr. Tunila was very impressed and enjoyed the day. Residents were entertained with music by Mariachi Alegre de Tucson. Some of the residents sang with the Mariachis as an added entertainment. Thank you to Mary Torvik, Unit 109 who delivered all the tortilla chips and Mexican pastries (which were a Number 1 hit provided by the American Legion Auxiliary Units). Also, a special thank you to our hosts Mary, Elks; Anna Marie, Fran, and Kay, ALA; and Tommy, Post 68 SAL;
May 13	POWWOW (produce) 60 lbs with a donation of $10
May 14	American Legion Auxiliary 132 will donate roses for the female veterans for Mother's Day. Anna Marie to pick up the order and deliver on Saturday, May 13, 2017 to the home.
May 16	American Legion Auxiliary Unit 59 will host the Birthday Cake and Ice Cream Social.
Mat 17	Walk and Roll at VA – meet at 7:30 at Auditorium. Event is from 7:30 to 9:00 a.m. Need volunteers to wheel residents from ASVH-Tucson so they can also participate. Volunteers to meet at 7:00 a.m. at ASVH-Tucson.

May 19	In celebration of National Nursing Home Week, the ASVH-Tucson will host an open house with vendors. Vendors interested in selling their items please contact Sam Nanez or Anna Marie Arenas. Vending space donation is $15. Vendors to set up by 9:00 a.m.
May 26	Memorial Ceremony will be held at 10:00 a.m. at ASVH-Tucson. Lady Titans Color Guard of Post 66 will preside. Thank you Commander Jeannie Rosengarten and the members.
May 29	Tucson Estates will hold their annual Memorial Day Parade ASVH-Tucson Steering Committee planning to participate in the parade. All organizations participating in the steering committee and all other organizations i.e., American Legion, Elks are welcomed to join. Contact Anna Marie Arenas, 520-404-7646.

D. June Events Discussed

June 10	Elks will host an ice cream social in honor of Flag Day. Boy Scouts will be presenting a flag to each resident.
June 10	Also Standdown is scheduled for June 10 at VA Auditorium. More information to follow.
June 10	POWWOW (produce) 60 lbs with a donation of $10 from 6:00 to 9:00 a.m.
June 16	In honor of Father's Day the ALA will host breakfast burritos for the home's veterans and their family, which will be served at 10:00 a.m., in Bldg. #1 front area by community room. By popular demand the selected burritos will be scrambled eggs and hash browns and mild chorizo with egg and choice of apple or orange juice with salsa of course. Volunteers to set up at 8:00 a.m. Need plates, napkins, and small cups. Mary, ALA 109 will donate flats of eggs; Kay, ALA 59 will donate hash brown potatoes and ketchup; Terry, ALA 59 will make the salsa; Anna will bring shredded cheese and prepare and cook; Mary, Elks will donate juices; and committee will cover main ingredients.
June 20	American Legion Auxiliary Unit 109 will host the Birthday Cake and Ice cream Social

E. Upcoming Events – Planning Stage

Bike Show	Tabled for now as there has been no response. However, Mary, Elks and Karen (new committee member from ALA 132 will contact theirs sources. Mary's (Unit 109) contacts recommended having a show after summer.
July 18	VFW Unit 770 will host the Birthday Cake and Ice Cream Social
Daily	Sam briefly discussed the idea of having the home's sports lounge open for the residents to enjoy refreshments and games, or watch sports on TV and enjoy the lounge. Sort of a place where the residents can group and mingle and have their own place.

E. Upcoming Events – Planning Stage - Continued

September 16 Luncheon plans so far include birria (shredded beef), rice, beans, salsa, and a dessert (not yet determined)

4. Items Needed – Wish List

Sam shared with committee some items which could be used at the home. He also suggested checking out Bears Vintage Thrift at 2395 North Fairview Avenue for ideas.

Bar Signage for the home's sporting lounge (which light up). ALA Units please advise Post Commanders to see if they can these. Anna Marie donated two beer signages (metal) for the sports lounge, which were given to her by a volunteer.

C and D batteries

Fishing poles – full size

Nerf guns with extra balls (Walmart has them) these are used in recreational therapy

New released movies for the movie room.

Regular Monopoly Games (not the special just the regular game) for the home's sport lounge

All board games for the home's sport lounge

Craft supply i.e., water colors, adult coloring books

CD players always requested

Socks and underwear (both boxers and briefs)

Meeting ended at 12:06 p.m.
SUBMITTED BY: Anna Marie Arenas, ALA Unit 59
Dated: May 10, 2017