



Sons of the American Legion
Squadron 291
Minutes of the General Meeting
September 4, 2024

Meeting called to order at 1910 hrs.

The Colors were saluted-

Benny Hallock (Historian) offered an opening prayer

POW chair cover was presented by Mike Morrissey

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Tim Sullivan

Tim Sullivan led the reading of the Preamble to the SAL Constitution

Meeting was held at the Post

We have a quorum of general members

Call to Order - Tim Sullivan, Cmdr.

Adjutant conducted the roll call.

A quorum was present, fifteen members besides a qualified presiding officer constituting a quorum. Roll Call List is attached. (Sign-in listing of members - attached)

Tim Sullivan made the following comments during roll call:

We are looking forward to an exciting year and working on our website to enable you to purchase shirts etc.

August 11 we were able to get disabled veterans out on paddle boards.

Commander's Remarks - Tim Sullivan, Cmdr.

Cmdr. greeted all in attendance.

Rules for the post will be posted on the Legion website.

Paul Mesmer past detachment CMDR. and past Post 291 CMDR. was present.

Continue to be faithful to our charities and accomplishing our membership goals.

Adjutant's Report – Don Allen, Adjutant

A motion was passed to dispense with the reading of past minutes. Meetings are recorded in order to produce the monthly minutes. Copies of the minutes are posted on the Squadron website and placed on the sign in table at the meeting. The recordings are erased upon completion of the minutes.

Chaplain's Report – Randy MacDougall, Chaplain absent Benny Hallock lead the report Reported the following:

Ryan Fenley (SAL) and Tom Smitty Smith (SAL) passed away

Health matters:

Praying – Brad Semonell (Super Sgt. Legionnaire & SAL) - get well soon.

Membership Report – John Long 1st Vice Cmdr.

Continuing to have a good month - The individual names (8) will be read.

See attached August 8, 2024 to September 4, 2024 report. For local area individuals who qualify to become a SAL-we would like to encourage them to join. The name of each new member was read during the meeting. John Long asked the individuals who were present to comment on their own and father backgrounds. A motion was passed to approve to (induct) bring these fine men into the Squadron. We would like in the future to share a story of your dad forthcoming on the website.

Dues not paid by 30 June - membership is forfeited (Const. Art. VII). Starting July 1 dues will increase from \$135 to \$155 and if you need a reprint card cost will be \$10.

Squadron Activities – Art Jimenez 2nd Vice Cmdr.

The fishing trips will be forthcoming and if the boat is not filled with disabled veterans, then will fill in with other vets (able to accommodate 35 fishermen). The fishing ¾ trips (father/child) will be led by Benny Hallock. Future event 9-11 (TK Burgers will be present at the 9-11 and bounce house for the kids (event from 12 to 4 pm) in addition will place banners up for the fallen heroes and Tom Petty tribute band. We need volunteers to help with the 9-11 event in addition will have hats to draw on. Fairways of Honor (Fairwaysofhonor.com) was a success thank you to Benny Hallock and all volunteers. Boat Parade Dec. 18 to 22 this year and will need volunteers and donations items. Donation of \$55 per person which will include food for the Boat Parade individual seating. In lieu of the December monthly SAL meeting we will have a dinner for the SAL's.

Finance Report – Todd Clucas, Finance Officer

The Squadron has as of July 31, 2024 approx. \$132,000 (comprised of general checking \$25,500, events account \$1,000 and \$105,500 in money market which includes a CD at Chase Bank). Financially in great shape. Looking for donations!!! We currently bank at Chase Bank.

District 29 / Detachment of California / National Report -Tim Sullivan

Paul Mesmer commented that we have a new state CMDR. and a new National CMDR.

Donations Report -Bill Finster 3rd Vice Cmdr.-

See attached report. The committee did meet this month. A motion was passed to approve the attached donations. Each donation was read. We donated over \$225,000 (including Post fees) this past year. We plan on expanding our donations.

Technology – Tim Sullivan indicated the website (sons291.com) will continue to be improved.

You will be able to enter the website to purchase various items and other new features. We plan on having the capability to share a story regarding your dad this feature will be forthcoming. Training for our software program will be forthcoming for our board members Tim Sullivan, Rene Alvarez and Mike Morrissey. We are exploring a webstore to sale items for additional resources.

Concierge Program – Tim Sullivan - Many of you have been volunteering and still need your help going well- Will be trying to improve the experience for the guests. Please sign up on our website to volunteer.

Fund Raising Committee – Tim Sullivan Cmdr. - working on new and different fund-raising events. If you know of sponsors for the fishing trips, please inform us.

Old Business

Continue to support the Legion

Benny Hallock has for sale SAL merchandise for hats, blue and red shirts, other shirts and blankets. Shirts and merchandise orders are being accepted.

New Business

Various new ideas will be forthcoming.

Looking Ahead

The next SAL general meeting 2 October, 2024 at the post.

No cap drawing this month.

Closing Prayer –Benny Hallock (Historian) led the closing prayer

Prayers to all

The meeting was adjourned at 1955 hrs.

The next General Meeting will be held Wednesday 2 October 2024 at 1900 hrs. Post location

Submitted by,



Don Allen

Adjutant

Distribution:

Squadron Executive Committee
Squadron Appointed Positions
Squadron Advisors

Attachments:

Roll Call List

Sign-in listing of attending members

September Membership Report

September Donation Report



Sons of the American Legion

Squadron 291

2021 Roll Call List

Executive Committee Meeting (5 members)

General Membership Meeting (15 members + 1 officer)

Date: September 4, 2024

Meeting Start Time: 1910

Meeting End Time: 1955

Executive Committee (Voting):		Present	Excused	Absent
Commander	Tim Sullivan	P	E	A
1st Vice Cmdr. Membership	John Long	P	E	A
2nd Vice Cmdr. Squadron Activities	Art Jimenez	P	E	A
3 rd Vice Cmdr. Donations	Bill Finster	P	E	A
Adjutant	Don Allen	P	E	A
Finance Officer	Todd Clucas	P	E	A
Sgt. at Arms	Mike Morrissey	P	E	A
Chaplain	Randy MacDougall	P	E	A
Parliamentarian & Judge advocate	Rene Alvarez (Non-voting)	P	E	A
Historian	Benny Hallock	P	E	A

Post Supervisory Committee (Non-voting):

Post Advisor	Brian Fleming	P	E	A
Post Advisor	Cory Vigil	P	E	A



Sons of the American Legion
Squadron 291
Membership Sign-in for General Meeting
4 September 2024

1. Peter Martin	21. Bud Mallett
2. RYAN KUWITKOWSKI	22. DAVID FUHRMAN
3. KEVIN	23. Sandy Trost
4. JIM GARNER - PROJECT ITALY WITH	24. DAVID NORTA RUPPEL
5. Jerrell Bays	25. Ren Eggert
6. Chris Kochenbecker	26. Ron Costabili
7. PAUL CANNON	27. James Blakemore
8. MARTY PERWOOD	28. Don au
9. JOE DORDONI	29.
10. Mike Morrissey	30.
11. Anthony Babler	31.
12. DAVE THEIL	32.
13. Robert Carr	33.
14. M. MOSSLER	34.
15. R. FARNAM	35.
16. RAY CRAMPTON	36.
17. Dennis Biggs	37.
18. Gary Amelio	38.
19. Paul MESMER	39.
20. Ra Schwalbe	40.



Sons of the American Legion Newport Harbor Squadron 291

Membership Report 2024.09.04

Membership (2025)	1,873
2024 Not Renewed	1,669
2025 Renewals	197
New members – 2024.09.04	8
Goal	1,764
Goal %	11.6%

New Members 2024.09.04

Jerrell	Bays
Patrick	Connor
Bruce	Diller
Nicholas	Goddard
Andrew	Kempler
David	Northridge
Jack	Paholski
Daniel	Stanley

Caps and badges have been ordered. Badges should arrive this week and the caps in October/November.

Donations For September

From: bill finster (wmfinster@yahoo.com)

To: rce@ix.netcom.com; chrishg975@outlook.com; coastalpeter@yahoo.com; ckm4loans@hotmail.com; jclelandis@hotmail.com; wmfinster@yahoo.com; billfinstersal291@gmail.com

Date: Wednesday, September 4, 2024, 10:49 AM PDT

The donation committee met on August 21, 2024 at Brueggers Bagels @ 8AM. Members present Ray Crampton, Peter Martin, John Cleveland and myself. Chris Graham and Chris Menniger were not present. The 3 proposed donations approved by the committee are listed below.

1. **Warrior Foundation Freedom Station. Located in San Diego, CA**

Warrior Foundation Freedom Station assists four main groups of Warriors:

1. The seriously ill and injured soon to be retired.
2. Those suffering from post-traumatic stress (PTS) and/or traumatic brain injury (TBI)
3. Those undergoing physical or occupational therapy.
4. Warriors who have been medically retired and remain in our community.

Proposed Donation ~~\$5,000~~ 2500

2. **The Ben Carlson Foundation. Located in Newport Beach, CA**

The Ben Carlson Memorial & Scholarship Foundation was formed in the wake of Newport Beach Lifeguard Ben Carlson's final rescue that claimed his life on July 6, 2014. Taking into consideration the things that truly mattered to Ben, the support has enabled the BSMSF to have a long lasting impact in the Newport Beach community and around the world.

I spoke to Kaity Van Amersfort administrator and there main thing is to promote Water Safety. They started the California Water Safety Coalition, which holds annual Safety Summits across the State of California to promote Water Safety.

Proposed Donation ~~\$2,000~~ 2500

3. **Homefront America, Inc. Located in San Juan Capistrano, CA**

Homefront America is committed to always...

- * Do our best to meet the needs of our military families
- * Deliver the highest quality in program services.
- * Listed with care and compassion
- * Inspire others to actively honor those who served our country

* Empower the lives of our military families

* Say "Thank You"

We have donated to Homefront America in 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022 for \$2,500 each year. We donated to them on 6/7/23 for \$4,000.

Proposed Donation \$4,000

