



Sons of the American Legion  
Squadron 291  
Minutes of the General Meeting  
5 March 2025

Meeting called to order at 1905 hrs.

The Colors were saluted-

Randy MacDougall (Chaplain) 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.

Commander's Remarks - Tim Sullivan, Cmdr.

Cmdr. greeted all in attendance.

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

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

Doug Nye past Post Cmdr. and Paul Mesmer past detachment Cmdr.-State were in attendance.

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

Reported the following:

Passed away- Bruce Abbe (SAL), JK Gauger (SAL) and Greg Boston's son Zacker

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 (12) will be read.

See attached February 1, to March 5, 2025 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 to determine how they qualify for membership. 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 this past 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. absent Tim Sullivan Cmdr. reported

The fishing trips will be forth coming 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. The Boat Parade was a success made approximately \$44,000. Benny Hallock (SAL historian & tournament organizer) commented regarding the 5th Fairways of Honor golf tournament which will be needing sponsors, volunteers, donations and raffle items. The website for Fairways of Honor golf tournament (Fairwaysofhonor.com). The golf tournament will be held on May 24, 2025. Rock March will occur on March 22 for the veterans. Flag day will be held on June 14th in which we promote patriotism.

Finance Report – Todd Clucas, Finance Officer

The Squadron has as of January 31, 2025 approx. \$157,000 (comprised of general checking \$39,000, events account \$13,000 and \$105,000 in money market which includes a CD for \$53,000 at Chase Bank). Financially in great shape. Looking for donations!!! We currently bank at Chase Bank. We have a Zelle option at the bank.

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

Paul Mesmer commented that the SAL Newport is one of the largest squadrons.

Donations Report -Bill Finster 3rd Vice Cmdr. -

See attached report. The committee communicated thru email this month. Each donation was read. A separate motion for each donation was passed to approve the attached donation. We donated over \$250,000 (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. 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. We are 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.

Parliamentarian & Judge Advocate- Rene Alvarez

The amendment in the bylaws was read to the general meeting members regarding not allowing a member to become a board member if they have had a financial crime. The membership in attendance will be voting on this amendment at the next meeting. Board elections will be held in May. Rene Alvarez read all nominations for the existing board to rerun in their positions all accepted their nominations except John Long will not be running and Rene Alvarez will run for 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Cmdr. membership. Rene Alvarez asked for any other nominations in which there were none.

Historian- Benny Hallock

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

Old Business

Continue to support the Legion

New Business

Nominations for board members will be held in April and voting will occur in May.

Looking Ahead

The next SAL general meeting 2 April 2025 at the post.  
No cap drawing this month.

Closing Prayer –Randy MacDougall (Chaplain) led the closing prayer  
Prayers to all

The meeting was adjourned at 1955 hrs.

The next General Meeting will be held Wednesday 2 April 2025 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  
March Membership Report  
March Donation Report



# Sons of the American Legion

Squadron 291

2025 Roll Call List

Executive Committee Meeting (5 members)

General Membership Meeting (15 members + 1 officer)

Date: 5 March 2025

Meeting Start Time: 1905

Meeting End Time: 1955

## Executive Committee (Voting):

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

## Post Supervisory Committee (Non-voting):

Post Advisor	Brian Fleming	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	A
Post Advisor	Cory Vigil	P	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	A



Sons of the American Legion  
Squadron 291  
Membership Sign-in for General Meeting  
5 March 2025

1. Bill First	21. Lewis Wemyss
2. Mike Morrissey	22. <del>Mark</del> Kiley
3. Pat Sullivan	23. Ron Castabill
4. Paul Tacks	24. RAY CRAMPTON
5. David Stenny	25. Gary Amelio
6. Mark Larson	26. Bob Lwin
7. Erik Larson	27. MIKE WILLOUGHBY
8. DAVE LARSON	28. Don Aiken
9. RYAN KWIATKOWSKI	29. Mr. Masler
10. KEVIN	30. Jan Pinleotto
11. Jimmy Esquivel	31.
12. Paul Mesner	32.
13. Joe Carlson	33.
14. Allen Jensen	34.
15. Jack Moroney	35.
16. John Moroney	36.
17. MIKE PASKERIAN	37.
18. Chuck Harbois	38.
19. Steve Knutson	39.
20. Randy MacDossy	40.



# Sons of the American Legion

## Newport Harbor Squadron 291

### Membership Report March 5, 2025

New Members This Period	112
New Members 2025 Year (7/24-6/25)	98
Total Membership 2025	1,629
2024 Members Not Renewed	353
2025 Membership Goal	1,832
Percentage of Goal	89%

### New Members

Name	Membership
Ryan Garvin	Regular
Robert Griffith	Regular
Andrew Jessup	Regular
John Kiley	Regular
David Larson	Regular
Jack Maroney	Regular
John McRoney	Regular
Austin Parkhurst	Junior
Braden Priest	Regular
William Rappard	Junior
Lewis B Wemyss	Regular

JACK MOANEY  
JACK MOANEY

M, Ke Whabee  
WILLOUGHBY

REGULAR

**Fw: March Donation Request.**

**From:** bill finster (wmfinster@yahoo.com)

**To:** wmfinster@yahoo.com

**Date:** Tuesday, March 4, 2025, 4:26 PM PST

**The 3 donation request are all repeats from last year. These have been approved by the donation Committee. Thank You**

**1. Heroes Hall.** A place for the public gather, lean and celebrate veterans. Is a FREE, permanent, year-round museum and education center with exhibitions, performances and education programs that celebrate the legacy of Orange County veterans and others who have served our nation. Located at OC Fair Grounds.

**Proposed Donation \$2,000**

**2. Child Well-Being Foundation.** The American Welfare Foundation is now called Child Well-Being Foundation. The American Legion, CWF board directors voted on October 6, 2024 to change the name of the foundation to one that encompasses the overall needs to the whole child and all aspects of their physical, emotional, mental and spiritual wellbeing.

**Proposed Donation ~~\$2,000~~ \$5000**

**3. American Veterans Assistance Group.** American Veterans Assistance Group (AVAG) is a community involved with the Veterans Affordable Housing Program (VAHP). The purpose of AVAG is to thank and reward our veterans for their services by providing them with a way to connect with one another in a supportive, encouraging living environment and to promote the availability of affordable housing.

**Proposed Donation \$2,000**

