



Sons of the American Legion
Squadron 291
Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting
5 February 2025

Meeting called to order at 1805 hrs.

Call to Order - Tim Sullivan, Cmdr.

A quorum was present, five members of the Executive Committee constituting a quorum.
Roll Call List attached.

Guests Present

None

Commander's Remarks - Tim Sullivan, Cmdr.

Cmdr. Sullivan greeted all in attendance.

Tim Sullivan will represent the Squadron at the Post meeting Thursday 6 February post Ex-com Meeting. 6 pm

Tim Sullivan will represent the Squadron at the Post meeting Wednesday 12 February Post General Meeting. 7 pm

Adjutant's Report – Don Allen, Adjutant

We have a quorum and a thank you to Rene Alvarez who will be posting the minutes. All the existing board members plan to run again for the new year board positions with the exception of John Long. Rene Alvarez will run for the 1st Vice Cmdr. Membership. John Long will assist in the transition for the new 1st Vice Cmdr. Membership. John Long will arrange a focus group (attending Rene Alvarez & Mike Morrissey) meeting regarding the transition over the next few months. Next month will call for nominations for our board members.

Chaplain's Report – Randy MacDougall, Chaplain

The following individuals passed away:

Passed away- Paul Garcia (Legionnaire) was very supported of the SAL's and accomplished individual.

Health matters: Brad Semonell (Super Sgt. Legionnaire & SAL) - sick get well soon!

Membership Report – John Long, 1st Vice Cmdr.

Looking forward to renew your membership online (button on website is working well)

There are 24 new applicants from November 6, 2024 to January 31, 2025. See attached report. Each applicant's name was read during the meeting. A motion was passed to bring these fine men into the Squadron. Calling on individuals who have not renewed.

You can receive your gate card when you attend a meeting. Dues from \$155 and if you need a reprint card cost will be \$10. Members who overpaid their dues be will refunded.

Squadron Activities - Art Jimenez, 2nd Vice Cmdr.(absent) Tim Sullivan commented

Future fishing day trips may be held on Thursdays for the disabled veterans (co-ordinate with Benny Hallock for time and location). If the boat is not filled then it will be fill in with other vets.

The Xmas boat parade was a success. Website for golf tournament Fairwaysofhonor.com.

Benny Hallock began ordering shirts and hats for the Fairways of Honor golf tournament (need sponsors, donations and raffle items) Possibly sell brick tiles (your name on it) for a fund raiser at the Legion patio? Future events may outsource the Honor Guard to the Boys Scouts.

Finance Report – Todd Clucas, Finance Officer

The Squadron as of December 31, 2024 has approx. \$244,000 (comprised of general checking \$92,000 events account \$66,000 and money market accounts \$86,000 at Chase Bank. Todd Clucas presented the accounts balances for the current month. Tim Sullivan will oversee the accounting periodically. Continue to improve financial reporting. Todd Clucas will be providing additional data to the Post monthly. Included in the money market account is a CD for \$52,000. We have a Zelle option at the bank. We are officially with Chase bank.

District 29 / Detachment of California / National Report

National meeting held in Tampa, Florida this year in August.

Donations Report – Bill Finster, 3r Vice Cmdr.

See attached report including the year-to-date donations. The committee communicated thru email to approved the attached donation report this month. A motion was passed to approve the attached donations. Each donation was read. Possible recurring subscriptions for donations on our website Bill will review for the potential of this donation process. Consider branding a new contribution for vets at our local junior college. Consider increasing veterans entities donations for 2025.

Technology-Tim Sullivan, Cmdr.

Tim Sullivan, Rene Alvarez and Mike Morrissey will learn the WIX software. Training for the WIX software will be on demand. Website is working and will be improved. Cmdr. working on a website to sale various items (fund raising resource) for SAL 291. In the future we will create email addresses for the board members. Mike Morrissey and Tim Sullivan will analyze the email addresses for certain board members

Concierge Program - Tim Sullivan, Cmdr.

Program is performing well- requesting for volunteers -always needed and welcomed. We are ordering more shirts for the volunteers. The front door of the Post will be managed by the Auxiliary.

Fund Raising Committee - Tim Sullivan, Cmdr. Tim Sullivan will roll out details for future fund -raising events. We will need to investigate the possibility of fund raising from companies in the area.

Parliamentarian & Judge Advocate- Rene Alvarez

Per the request of our state representative our Parliamentarian Rene Alvarez has sent our bylaws amendment to the state which has been approved. A motion was approved to adopt the change to the bylaws not allowing a member to become a board member if they have had a financial crime.

At the next general meeting a vote will be held to approve the amendment.

Historian – Benny Hallock

Benny organized the sale of SAL merchandising for hats and blue and red shirts.

Old Business

We will be following up on inactive members to renew. Donation and financial committees to develop future budgets.

New Business

The next Executive Committee Meeting will be held Wednesday 5 February 2025 at 1800 hrs.

The meeting was adjourned at 1901

Submitted by,



Don Allen Adjutant

Distribution:

Squadron Executive Committee
Squadron Appointed Positions
Squadron Advisors

Attachments:

Roll Call List
November Membership Report
November 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 February 2025

Meeting Start Time: 1805

Meeting End Time: 1901

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
3rd 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

Newport Harbor Squadron 291

Membership Report January 31, 2025

New Members This Period	24
New Members 2025 Year (July 24-June 25)	86
Total Membership 2025	1,466
2024 Members Not Renewed	495
2025 Membership Goal	1,832
Percentage of Goal	80%

New Members

Full Name	Type		Full Name	Type
Chris Arranaga	Regular		Oliver Parker	Regular
Jeff Axton	Regular		Jordan Priest	Regular
Ray Beindorf	Junior		Steve Rice	Regular
Adam Chiles	Regular		William Ridley	Regular
Gary Culp	Regular		Steven Roghair	Regular
Val Darie	Regular		Edward Sweeney	Regular
Jimmy Esquivel	Regular		Peter Tanoury	Regular
James Fowler	Regular		Roger Tirabassi	Regular
Scott Hammond	Regular		Tom Wamberg	Regular
Thomas Kenney	Regular		Scott Winks	Regular
Erik Larson	Regular		Brad Young	Regular
Cody Liske	Regular		Michael Willoughby	Regular

Donations for February 2025

From: bill finster (wmfinster@yahoo.com)

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

Date: Wednesday, January 29, 2025, 1:53 PM PST

The first 5 proposed donations are repeat donations from last year. Please get back to me on your approvals.

1. **Walt Wagner Assistant Grants.** This is annual grants to Military students at Orange Coast College
Proposed Donation \$10,000
2. **Fisher House of So Cal.** Supports four Fisher Houses across Southern California, providing essential resources and assistance to military and veterans families while their loved ones receive care at nearby VA and military hospitals.
Proposed Donation \$5,000 7,500
x 1
3. **Newport Beach 1st Battalion 1st Marines Foundation.** Supports the 1st Battalion 1st Marines at Camp Pendleton. This is a annual donation.
Proposed Donation \$25,000
4. **OC Boys Scouts of America.** This is our annual support of the OC Boys Scouts of America
Proposed Donation \$1,500
5. **Project Healing Waters.** PHW began in 2004 serving wounded military service members at Walter Reed Army Medical Center returning from combat in Iraq and Afghanistan. Dedicated to the physical and emotional rehabilitation of injured and disabled military service personnel and disabled Veterans through fly fishing and associated activities including education and outings.
Proposed Donation \$2,000
6. **Veterans Strong USA.** Tom Fuentes is a USAF Veteran - 86-93. Tom is a legionnaire of American Legion Post 291. Ted founded Veterans Strong USA in 2018 to improve veterans through legislation. In 2023, he refocused the non-profit to provide Equine - Assisted Therapy, becoming certified in the E gala model. E gala Model is a therapeutic approach that uses horses to help people heal emotionally and grow personally.
Tim Sullivan and I met with Ted on 1/22/25 at Ted location in San Juan Capistrano.
Proposed Donation \$5,000
10,000

2025 SALS YTD Donation
Post 291

[illegible]