



Sons of the American Legion  
Squadron 291  
Minutes of the General Meeting  
April 3, 2024

Meeting called to order at 1911 hrs.

The Colors were saluted-

Randy MacDougall offered an opening prayer

POW chair cover was presented by Chuck Herbour

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.

Doug Nye past Post Cmdr. and Evan Planto Post Cmdr. came in late to the meeting.

Paul Mesmer past detachment Cmdr.-State was 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.

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:

The following individual passed away: Rene Alvarez mother passed away and Bob Biddell (SAL and Legioner) passed away

Health matters:

Praying – Brad Semonell to 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 March 6, 2024 to April 3, 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 background. 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). A motion was passed to raise dues starting July 1 from \$135 to \$155 and if you need a reprint card cost will be \$10.

Squadron Activities – Art Jimenez 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Cmdr. absent – Tim Sullivan presented

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 Halleck. Possible Chili Cookoff event. Future events golf tournament May 25 (Fairways & Honor), flag day (June 14-hot dogs will be served) and 9-11 (In and Out Truck will be present at the 9-11 event) events. We need sponsors and prizes for the golf tournament and the website is Fairwaysofhonor.com. Currently 1/3 sold out for the golf tournament golfers. In July 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary for the post.

Finance Report – Todd Clucas, Finance Chmm.

The Squadron has as of February 29, 2024 approx. \$172,000 (comprised of general checking \$57,000, events account \$10,000 and \$105,000 in money market which includes a CD at the Chase Bank. Financially in great shape. Looking for donations!!!

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

National convention in August 2024 and State convention is in Visalia, California June 27 to June 30, 2024. Paul Mesmer past detachment CMDR.-State commented on the last meeting held in March. Discussed internal affairs matters (child protection and other by law changes)

Donations Report -Bill Finster 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Cmdr

See attached report including the year-to-date donations. The committee communicated by an in person meeting this month. A motion was passed to approve the attached donations. Each donation was read. We donated over \$120,000 and a facility fee of \$130,000 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 Halck has for sale SAL merchandise for hats, blue and red shirts, other shirts and blankets.

New Business

Various new ideas will be forthcoming.

Looking Ahead

Raffle for 2 covers was held.

The next SAL general meeting May 1, 2024 at the post

Shirts and merchandise orders are being accepted.

The current board was nominated for their position on the board. Board second nominations were held and exiting board members are the only nominations.

Election will take place on May 1, 2024.


Closing Prayer – Randy MacDougall

Prayers to all

The meeting was adjourned at 2000 hrs.

The next General Meeting will be held Wednesday May 1, 2024 at 1900 hrs. Post location

Submitted by,



Don Allen  
Adjutant

Distribution:

Squadron Executive Committee

Squadron Appointed Positions

Squadron Advisors

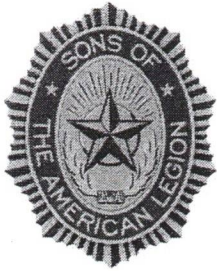
Attachments:

Roll Call List

Sign-in listing of attending members

April Membership Report

April 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: April 3, 2024

Meeting Start Time: 1911

Meeting End Time: 2000

Executive Committee (Voting):

		Present	Excused	Absent
Commander	Tim Sullivan	P	E	A
1st Vice Cmdr.	John Long	P	E	A
2nd Vice Cmdr.	Art Jimenez	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, Historian & Judge advocate	Rene Alvarez	P	E	A
3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice Cmdr. Donations	Bill Finster	P	E	A

Post Supervisory Committee (Non-voting):

Post Advisor	Evin Planto	P	E	A
Post Advisor	Cory Vigil	P	E	A



Sons of the American Legion  
Squadron 291  
Membership Sign-in for General Meeting  
3 April 2024

- |                             |                         |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. RAY CRAMPTON             | 21. CHRIS McDONOUGH     |
| 2. Steve KOSCH              | 22. MIKE McDONOUGH      |
| 3. M. MOSSLER               | 23. KEVIN KELLY *       |
| 4. R. FORNANN               | 24. STEPHEN VALDER      |
| 5. Ron Mellen               | 25. Scott Kelens        |
| 6. Steve Knutsen            | 26. Mike Farina         |
| 7. <del>Chuck Harbour</del> | 27. RYAN KWIATKOWSKI    |
| 8. Don Haha                 | 28. PAUL NATALE *       |
| 9. MIKE PASKERIAN           | 29. STEVE McNichols     |
| 10. Dennis Sijgs            | 30. Brent Noblitt       |
| 11. JOE DORRANI             | 31. Randy Trost         |
| 12. Ron Schwabke            | 32. Chris McWhinger     |
| 13. Randy McDougall         | 33. Jim Blakemore, D.C. |
| 14. Allen Jensen            | 34. Don an              |
| 15. PAUC MESMER             | 35.                     |
| 16. DAVE THEIL              | 36.                     |
| 17. Robert Carr             | 37.                     |
| 18. Don Blaustein           | 38.                     |
| 19. RT Green                | 39.                     |
| 20. Brian McDONOUGH         | 40.                     |

\* COVER WINNERS



# Sons of the American Legion Newport Harbor Squadron 291

## Membership Report 2024.04.03

Membership (2024)	1,636
2023 Not Renewed	351
New members – 2024.04.01	12
Goal	1,764
Goal %	93 %

### New Members 2024.04.01

Roger	Bartholome
Jud	Crary
Michael J.	Farina
David	Greenberg
Joshua	Grohs
David	Heinle
Scott	Kellems
Brian	McDonough
Paul	Natale
Stanton A.	Sharpe
Paul	Shoenberger
Jim	Symes

## April Donations

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

**To:** chrishg975@outlook.com; ckm4loans@hotmail.com; jclevelandis@hotmail.com; coastalpeter@yahoo.com; wmfinster@yahoo.com

COMMUNICATED BY EMAILS AMONG THE COMMITTEE

**Date:** Sunday, March 31, 2024, 4:25 PM PDT

Hello donation Committee,

Sorry for the delay in getting this out to you all this month. I was away on vacation in Mexico this last week with my family. Could you review the 3 proposed donations for April and get back to me by Tuesday.

I hope you are all having a Happy Easter with your families.

Should you have any questions please let me know. Thank you all for your help on these donations.

Take care

Bill

### 1. Veterans Relief Foundation

VRF is the paddle board non profit that works with veterans in wheel chairs and gets them out on the water to paddle on the bay. We have donated too VRF 2 and a half years ago. I spoke to Bobbie Friedman from VRF on 3/28/24 and they are growing and the need is there. Our donation in 2022 was for \$5,000.

**Suggested donation \$5,000**

### 2. American Legion Child Welfare Foundation

The Foundation was established in 1954, The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation was developed as a repository of funds from donors who wished to contribute to the betterment of children in this country. Many of the children require specialized care. To overcome their obstacles, they need help from donors and The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation. We donated to them last year on 4/5/23 \$2,000.

**Suggested donation \$2,000**

### 3. American Veterans Assistance Group

AVAG is a community of veterans in each manufactured housing community involved with the Veterans Affordable Housing Program (VAHP). The purpose of AVAG is to thank and reward our veterans for their service to our country 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. We donated to them last year on 4/5/23 \$2,000

**Suggested donation \$2,000**

2024 YTD Donations  
SALS POST 291

APPROVAL DATE	RECIPIENT	AMOUNT	DATE	CHECK #
2024.01.03	Walt Wagner Assistance Grants	\$10,000.00		
2024.01.03	Fischer House of So Cal	\$5,000.00	2024.01.04	
2024.01.03	Newport Beach 1st Marines 1st Battalion Foundation	\$25,000.00	2024.01.04	
2024.01.03	Drew Hoeer Go Fund Me	\$1,000.00	2024.01.04	
2024.02.07	March Madness Ruck March for Veterans Suicide Awareness	\$1,000.00		
2024.02.07	Celldogs.org	\$2,000.00	2024.02.07	625
2024.02.07	OC Boy Scouts of America	\$1,500.00	2024.02.07	626
2024.02.07	Jonathan & Jackson Hewitt	\$300.00	2024.02.07	624
2024.02.07	Laguna Beach Police Foundation	\$2,000.00	2024.02.07	627
2024.03.06	CHOC Follies	\$2,000.00	2024.03.06	633
2024.03.06	Hero's Hall	\$2,000.00	2024.03.06	634
2024.03.06	Shea Center	\$3,000.00	2024.03.06	635
2024.03.06	A Million Thanks	\$1,000.00	2024.03.06	636
	Veterans Relief Foundation	\$5,000.00		
	American Legion Child Welfare Foundation	\$2,000.00		
	Americans Veterans Assistance Group	\$2,000.00		
	<b>Approved</b>	<b>\$55,800.00</b>		
	<b>Pending</b>	<b>\$9,000.00</b>		
	<b>Grand total</b>	<b>\$55,800.00</b>		