



**THE AMERICAN LEGION
MESA POST, UNIT, SQUADRON AND CHAPTER 26**

" CHATTER "

SEPTEMBER -- OCTOBER 2011

VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT: www.mesapost26.com

OFFICE/NOTARY HOURS

Monday-Friday8 AM to Noon
Closed Sat, Sun.All Major Holidays

Dept Web site www.azlegion.org
National Web site www.legion.org
E-mail mesapost26@qwestoffice.net
Newsletter EditorKristine Marler

KITCHEN HOURS

Wednesday-Sunday 9 AM – 8 PM
Monday and Tuesday – Closed

505 W. 2ND AVE., MESA, AZ 85210 OFFICE: (480) 964-8792 LOUNGE: (480) 834-9769

COMMANDER'S REPORT

By Kristine Marler

INFORMATION

Recently a couple of individuals had accused several of the bartenders of tainting their drinks. The accused bartenders voluntarily submitted to polygraphs and passed. Thereby, the bartenders have been exonerated from any wrongdoing and the allegations made have been unfounded, as this **IS NOT** going on at the bar, and the accusers are being dealt with accordingly.

Well, we start another year and the following individuals have been elected to work you, the Members. I personally wish to thank you for reelecting me to the position of Commander for another year, as it is an honor to serve the Post in this capacity.

- Commander: Kristine Marler
- Sr. Vice Commander: Santiago Bautista
- Jr. Vice Commander: Don Suffield
- Sergeant-at-Arms: Glen Hampton
- Executive Committee: Randy Dubbs
Don Joy (2 years)
- Club Committee: Dave Garner
Chris Keenen (3 years)
Buck Schaal

We have added pull tabs to our menu of entertainment in the lounge, along with the Sweepstakes machines and to date they have been doing well. The pull tabs and Sweepstakes machines have helped the Post out over the summer in paying some of our bills, so let us keep playing these games to build up a surplus for unexpected repairs and bills down the road.

The Department Fall Conference will be held from October 28th to the 30th at the Carefree Resorts and Villas located at 37220 Mule Train Road in Carefree, Arizona. If anyone is interested in attending the Fall Conference, please let me know in the office and I will put you on the pre-registration list. If you are interested in reserving a room at the Conference, they are \$99 per night and reservations need to be made by October 1 to receive the \$99 rate, and I have more information in the office.

For God and Country.

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER'S REPORT

By Santiago Bautista

For 2011-2012 our membership quota is 922 and to date we have 442 paid members, or 47.94% of our goal for 2012 and only need 480 to reach 100%.

For God and Country.

JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER'S REPORT

By Don Suffield

I was honored being elected as your new Junior Vice Commander for this year.

I wish to thank all who attended the 4th of July celebration at the Post. The Auxiliary and Post members prepared the feast. Whiskers prepared the hamburgers and the Brats and he had John Bobish, Norm Thompson and Ken McCarville, and organized by Bill Chitwood. Great job! Bob and Cheri Johns decorated the Post for the 4th of July. I want to thank the bartenders, Reyne Westphal and Wayne Holz, for keeping those at the party happy! Pam McCarville and Helen sold the raffle tickets, which raised \$261 for the Child Welfare Fund and Sally Kellett donated the prizes. Thank you all. Thanks again to all for the fun and support that day.

Labor Day is September 5th and there will be a "chili cook off". We need at least 15-20 entries with a \$5 entry fee, which will be used for the prizes. Details are posted. Please sign up and come out to sample different chili recipes.

For God and Country.

* * *

TAPS

We have lost the following members, who will be missed from our ranks:

Joe Totusek	Richard Reynolds
Richard Pearson	Robert Arnold
Welton Crosby	Amos Horstmann
Adam Rivera	Lawrence Nelson
Jeff Gurko	Mike Ux
Floyd Wilson	Thomas Schoemig
George Stachowiak	John Davis
Charles Perry	Lloyd Tucker

ODE TO A COMRADE

When the call to arms was sounded
You went and gave your best
And now our heavenly Father's called you
For peace and eternal rest.

Goodbye dear friend and comrade
Your passing makes us sad
But, knowing God has called you
Somehow that makes us glad.

Dear God, receive our comrade
Whom we give to you today
Bestow your blessings on his soul
And guide him on his way.

Written by Pablo Cortez, Past Commander of Post 26

NEW MEMBERS

The Post extends a hearty welcome to the following new members:

David Denboer
Patricia Gorden
Kenneth Dembiec
John Ryan
Garry Kline
Cary Lenzon
Thomas McCarville
Mark H. Lowe

William Close
Adam Behrends
James Harnisch
Michelle Pitt
Gary Kremer
Joe Lopez
Allison Hightower

TRANSFERS

The Post extends a hearty welcome to our new transfers, as well.

William Brumme
James Gallagher
Samuel Chupp
Paul Russ
William Hennis

Martin Brumme
Loren Beed
Eldon Robbins
Manuel Dominguez, Jr.

* * *

AUXILIARY REPORT

By Rose Ficklin, President

Our membership meetings are on the third Thursday of the month at 7 PM, except for the months of June through August. Our September general membership meeting, which usually begins at 7 PM, will start earlier this time, as we have many items to discuss.

We are revising our register and we need an emergency contact person on your membership listing, plus we need a current address and phone number.

The following individuals were elected for 2011-2012:

President:	Rose Ficklin
1 st Vice President:	Doris Johnson
2 nd Vice President:	Madie Gallagher
Treasurer:	Kristine Marler
Historian:	Amanda Romero
Chaplain:	Marcey Sweeney
Sergeant-at-Arms:	Lori Birkliid
Executive Committee (2):	Shari Branson Pam McCarville

At the September meeting there will be the first reading of the proposed changes to the Bylaws and Standing Rules read to the membership and to be voted on. These changes affect you, the member, so I would love to see all your smiling faces at the meeting.

We have challenged Unit 35 of Chandler to a membership challenge. The Unit with 50% or more paid members filed with Department by October 22nd wins and the losing Unit has to entertain the winning Unit at their November meeting. All dues need to be into us by October 15, 2011 for this to count. Please help and be an Early Bird.

Bar Bingo will resume on October 3rd with a price change. It will be \$1 per sheet for games 1-9 and \$5 a sheet for the

coverall, game 10. The proceeds go to the Poppy Fund for veteran services.

Anyone wishing to attend the Fall Conference this year at Carefree Resorts from October 28th to the 30th, please contact me.

For God and Country.

SAL COMMANDER'S REPORT

By Bill Chitwood

Our meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:30 PM for anyone who is interested in attending these meetings.

The following were elected officers for the 2011-2012 year:

Commander: Bill Chitwood
Sr. Vice Commander: Jerry Jones
Jr. Vice Commander: Mike Stroup
Sergeant-at-Arms: Ken McCarville

The Department Fall Conference will be from October 28th to the 30th at the Carefree Resorts and Villas located at 37220 Mule Train Road, Carefree, Arizona. If anyone is interested in attending, please contact the Post Adjutant to be put on the preregistration list, and she also has the information about the rooms.

For God and Country.

LEGION RIDERS

By Jim "Big Dog" Armstrong, President

The 1st Monday of the month at 6:30 PM is our regularly scheduled meeting date.

Our 2011-2012 officers are as follows:

President: Jim Armstrong
Vice President: Larry Tice
Secretary: Debbie Jones
Treasurer: Kim Tice
Sergeant-at-Arms: Todd Sherman

For God and Country.

ADJUTANT'S REPORT

By Kristine Marler

Just a friendly reminder that the dues for everyone is below:

Dues are as follows:

Legion -- \$30.00
Auxiliary -- \$25.00
Auxiliary (Under 18) -- \$5.00
ALR -- \$20.00
SAL (Regular) -- \$25.00
SAL (Dual) -- \$10.00
SAL (Under 21) -- \$10.00

IF YOU HAVE MAILED IN YOUR DUES AND HAVE RECEIVED YOUR CARD, BUT STILL RECEIVE ANOTHER NOTICE FROM NATIONAL REGARDING YOUR DUES, JUST THROW IT AWAY, AS YOU FELL BETWEEN TWO MAILING CYCLES. I HAVE TO SEND THE DUES TO DEPARTMENT, WHO, IN TURN, FORWARD THEM TO NATIONAL, SO IT MAY TAKE SEVERAL WEEKS TO GET EVERYTHING RECORDED AT NATIONAL.

If you have a friend that wishes to join The American Legion or The Sons of The American Legion, have them fill out an application and bring a copy of their military discharge papers to the Post. For the SAL and Auxiliary, if the sponsor is still living, they must be a member of The American Legion or if deceased, the sponsor must have been eligible for membership in The American Legion. To be eligible for membership in the SAL, only the sons, grandsons, adopted sons or stepsons are eligible, not brothers, nephews, etc. For the Auxiliary, the applicant's relationship to the veteran must be a mother, wife, daughter, sister, granddaughter, great-granddaughter, grandmother or the veteran herself.

Just a reminder, the Post meetings are the third Thursday of the month. We extend a hearty welcome to the Legionnaires to attend these meetings, as they can be informative at times.

Just a friendly reminder to all members of the Legion family; if you move, **please notify** the office of your change in address to keep your mail coming in a timely fashion.

* * *

Flag disposal please take to Meldrum's Mortuary at 52 N. MacDonald in Mesa (corner of 1st Street and MacDonald, across from the Queen of Peace Catholic Church).

* * *

KITCHEN HOURS

**9 AM TO 8 PM, WED THROUGH SUN (FALL)
AND 11 AM TO 8 PM, WED THROUGH SUN
(SUMMER)**

* * *

American Legion



Post 26, Mesa

CHILI COOK-OFF CHALLENGE

Labor Day

Monday - September 5, 2011

11:00 am to 1:00 pm

People's Choice Chili Contest

"Celebrity" Judged Chili Contest

\$5.00 Entry Fee

**** Cash Prizes *** Trophies *** Bragging Rights ****

Rules and Instructions will be posted on The Wall, or contact Don Suffield at 480-233-0337

All You Can Eat Samples for \$1.00

Sponsored by American Legion Post 26 and Supported by



Sons of the Legion



Auxiliary



Legion Riders



Saturday, December 3rd

9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Chinese  *Auction*

and

Bake  *Sale*

Sponsored by American Legion Auxiliary, Unit 26

505 West Second Avenue Mesa, Arizona 85210

480-964-8792



Proceeds to Benefit Veteran's Programs

POST OFFICERS

Commander. Kristine Marler
Sr. Vice Commander. . . Santiago Bautista
Jr. Vice Commander. . . Don Suffield
Sgt.-at-Arms. Glenn Hampton
Adjutant. Kris Marler
Finance. Cathy Stuart
Chaplain. Vacant
Judge Advocate. Ole Bjerk
Service Officer. Santiago Bautista

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman. Kristine Marler
Members. Jim Walters
 Santiago Bautista
 Glenn Hampton
 Don Suffield
 Don Joy (2)
 Randy Dubbs

CLUB COMMITTEE

Chairman. Chris Keenen (3)
Members. Buck Schaal
 John Shaproski
 Rick Wilson (2)
 Dave Garner

DEPARTMENT

Judge Advocate. Ole Bjerk

DISTRICT

Commander Jim Ashley
Jr. Vice Cdr. Michael Thelen

AUXILIARY

President. Rose Ficklin
Vice President. Doris Johnson
2nd Vice President. . . . Madie Gallagher
Historian. Amanda Romero
Chaplain. Marcy Sweeney
Sgt.-at-Arms. Lori Birkliid
Secretary. Mary Jo Ficklin
Treasurer. Kris Marler

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Shari Branson Pam McCarville
Sharon Howe Lee Ringler
Marylou Donatella

DISTRICT

Vice Pres Marylou Donatella

SAL

Commander. Bill Chitwood
Sr. Vice Commander. . . Jerry Jones
Jr. Vice Commander. . . Mike Stroup
Sgt.-at-Arms. Ken McCarville
Adjutant. Jim Ashley
Finance. Jim Ashley
Chaplain. John Bobish

SAL Advisor. Jim Ashley

NATIONAL

Alt. NEC Jim Ashley

LEGION RIDERS

President Jim Armstrong
Vice President Larry Tice
Secretary Debbie Jones
Treasurer. Kim Tice
Chaplain Bob VanSteenburg
Sgt.-at-Arms. Todd Sherman
Run Coordinator Steve Boggs
ALR Advisor. Michael Thelen

TELEPHONES

Office. 480-964-8792
Lounge. 480-834-9769
Fax. 480-964-0677
Kitchen. Norma Gerrard

LOUNGE HOURS

8 AM - 11 PM Monday-Saturday
9 AM - 11 PM Sunday

KITCHEN HOURS

Wed thru Sun -- 10 AM to 8 PM
Closed Monday and Tuesday