

THE VERDE VALLEY BUGLE CALL

Post 25 Cottonwood AZ
480 S. Calvary Way



POST
25
COTTONWOOD AZ

THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY



August 2022

Editor: Joe Herman

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Commander- Nancy Hay

1st Vice – Bill Tinnin

2nd Vice – Dede Dexter

Adjutant- James Galzycinski

Finance Officer- Neal McGuire

E-Committee: David Williams, Wayne Boren, Keith Vogler

General Post Announcements

IMPORTANT: Due to recent behavior issues at the Post, Standing Order SO-1 has been approved by the Commander and is now posted on the bulletin board at the entrance to the home. One of the goals of our Post home is to maintain a positive environment where members of the diverse Legion Family and their guests can congregate for comradeship. Members should become aware of the requirements of SO-1 and the consequences for not following them the next time they enter the premises.

At the July monthly Legion meeting a new incentive to improve attendance was approved. Starting on August 15, at the end of each meeting a member number will be drawn for a cash prize. The cash amount starts at \$20. If the member is not present, then the following month the prize will be \$40. The amount increases \$20 each month until won or the prize amount reaches \$100. The amount will stay at \$100 until someone wins it. In order to win, the member has to be in good standing, i.e., dues up to date.

The second and last reading of the Post Constitution and By-Laws will occur at the August 15 meeting. The drafts of those documents can be read or downloaded from the website at <https://alpost25az.org/> (upper right corner).

Commander Update

Terri Streck is in the house. As most of you have seen, Terri is back home where she belongs and recovery is coming along nicely, prayers answered.

Baby Shark races have been moved from Sunday to 3rd Saturday of the month at 6 pm.

August 27th birthdays celebration at 2 pm and mortgage payoff party at 5 pm.

Vice Commander Update

We are still working on the floor fund for the Bar area. We are currently at \$1900. The plan is to remove the carpet and tile and update with new commercial flooring.

Second Vice Commander Update

Dart tournament is scheduled for September 10th. It is open to everyone who plays darts. For the many other weekly recreation and meal events and monthly activities, be sure to check the Post calendar located on our website – <https://alpost25az.org/>. Dede Dexter

Adjutant Update

July 1st thru November 11th is Early Bird Membership time. Jim Galczynski

Riders Director Update

The Riders are sponsoring The Thunder Valley Rally Poker Run on September 17. We would appreciate volunteers to assist with the event. See website for registration <https://alpost25az.org/> Billy Wright

Finance Officer Update

I'm making a request for Volunteers for the Post, any previous work experience can be put to good use, so please provide your interest to new officers. Thank you for the responses. Barb L. please call me 602-432-2240 or 928-634-3004 to schedule an audit; misplaced your number. Neal McGuire

Veteran Service Officer's Update

Arizona: Many a military family driving to and from the coasts on military moves have driven past or through Flagstaff. Fort Tuthill offers a camping resort for military members, retirees and service-connected individuals. Lodging options from lodge rooms, A-frames, cabins to yurts, in addition to RV hook-ups and campground allow for flexibility for families to stay in whichever level of comfort they desire. Rates range from \$50 to \$365, depending on the room size and rank. There are even multi-family A-frames that allow for gatherings. Pet friendly lodging is available. Jamie Galczynski

Military History - WWII

Submitted by David Kauppinen

On Jul 30 1945 the USS Indianapolis (CA-35) was sunk by a Japanese submarine. Only 317 of the 1,195 men on board survived. However, the Indianapolis had already completed its major mission: the delivery of key components of the atomic bomb to Tinian Island in the South Pacific on July 26, 1945 that would be dropped a week later at Hiroshima.

The mission was top secret and the ship's crew was unaware of its cargo. After leaving Tinian, the Indianapolis was given orders to meet the battleship USS Idaho at Leyte Gulf in the Philippines to prepare for the invasion of Japan.

Shortly after midnight on July 30, halfway between Guam and Leyte Gulf, Japanese submarine I-58 attacked the Indianapolis with two torpedoes, sparking an explosion that split the ship and caused it to sink in 12 to 15 minutes, with about 300 men trapped inside. Another 900 went into the water, where many died from drowning, shark attacks, dehydration, or injuries from the explosion. Help did not arrive until four days later, on August 2, when an anti-submarine plane on routine patrol happened upon the men and radioed for assistance.

On August 6, 1945, the United States dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan, inflicting nearly 130,000 casualties and destroying more than 60 percent of the city. On August 9, a second atomic bomb was dropped on Nagasaki, where casualties were estimated at over 66,000. Meanwhile, the U.S. government kept quiet about the Indianapolis tragedy until August 15 in order to guarantee that the news would be overshadowed by President Harry Truman's announcement that Japan had surrendered.



Survivors of Indianapolis on Guam (left) and Capt. Charles Butler McVay III, five days after being rescued (right) in August 1945

In the aftermath of the events involving the Indianapolis, the ship's commander, Captain Charles McVay, was court-martialed in November 1945 for failing to sail a zigzag course that would have helped the ship to evade enemy submarines in the area. McVay, the only Navy captain court-martialed for losing a ship during the war, committed suicide in 1968. Many of his surviving crewmen believed the military had made him a scapegoat. In 2000, 55 years after the Indianapolis went down, Congress cleared McVay's name.

(As a side note, when my wife and I bought our first home in Shelburne Falls, MA in 1974, turns out it was built by Howard Schechterle, Radioman 3rd Class Petty Officer, who was a survivor of the Indianapolis sinking. – David Kauppinen)