



POST COMMANDER'S REPORT

Greetings Fellow Legionnaires,

The first thing I'd like to say at the start of 2011 is "Thank You!" More members have been supporting our Post than I've seen in some time. We need participation from everyone to survive and grow. Keep up the good work!

During the last quarter, we had a golf outing, Thanksgiving dinner and SAL's pig roast. All were successful, and I'd like to thank everyone for their hard work.

In the upcoming months, you're going to see more big events, raffles and drink specials in the clubroom. Please look out for flyers and check our calendar. Another golf outing is currently being planned for the spring. We've also applied for our license to Arizona Lottery which will allow us to sell scratch offs and pull tabs.

As you can see, we have a lot to look forward to, and I hope for your continued support. Remember, our general meeting is the second Monday of every month at 6:00 pm. I'd love to see you there!

For God and Country
Bill Creel,
Commander Post 61



AUXILIARY PRESIDENTS REPORT

Greetings Ladies,

Hope everyone had a safe and happy Holiday. Visiting friends and family near and far. Hats off to Helen and Jim Swartz for supplying a ham dinner for our Post 61 family on Christmas day. As we go into the New Year we go with new friendships and ideas. We have a few things in the works such as Girl State candidates, thanks to our Chairman Awanda Gaines. We also have a Four Chaplains Ceremony planned with the aid of our own Chaplain Martha Bork. Please read her blurb for time and place. March 12th will be our thank you lunch and initiation of new members. Check your mail for invites. This year we will do something a little different. Angel and Gino Gnauden suggested a salad lunch with everyone bringing their favorite salad dish. Sounds like a great idea. So please join in the fun. We will need an RSVP by March 5th so we can have a final count. Please contact me at 623-512-9581 with any questions. Do to increment weather our yard sale will start again in March. Watch the calendar for all events. Remember it is on our web site at ALPost61.org under Auxiliary.

For Service not self
President
Beth Burke

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SENIOR VICE COMMANDER'S REPORT

As of December, membership is at 70% of our goal of 641. Remember as of January 1st 2011 everyone will have to show their card in the club room to participate. As the National Commander, State Commander and our Commander have said "Recruiting one new Member is our Priority".

**For God and Country
Jim Swartz
Sr. Vice Commander**

AUXILIARY VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Attention Ladies Auxiliary Members:

"Keep our Auxiliary strong through Membership". Membership renewals are coming in everyday. Thank you to all members who help in achieving positive results for 2010-2011. Our goal is 100% and we continue to encourage each member to send their dues if not yet paid for this year. Our next membership goal date is January 15, 2011 and once again each of us can help our Unit reach 100% for the year 2010-2011.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS: THE NATIONAL DEPARTMENT OF THE AMERICAN LEGION LADIES AUXILIARY HAS INFORMED US THAT THE DUES FOR RENEWAL WILL BE INCREASED. THEREFORE, YOUR 2011 DUES WILL BE INCREASED FROM \$22.00 TO \$26.00. NEW MEMBERS DUES BEGINNING THIS YEAR WILL BE \$26.00. THE LAST INCREASE IN OUR UNIT DUES WAS NEARLY SEVEN YEARS AGO AND WHILE WE UNDERSTAND THESE MAY BE CHALLENGING TIMES FOR ALL OF US, WE ARE LEFT WITH NO CHOICE BUT TO INCREASE THE DUES NEXT YEAR.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS OF UNIT 61. It is very important you let us know if you have moved or are planning to move so we can update our records. Without a good address all communication including the "Avondale Legionnaire" cannot be sent to you. Please contact President Beth Burke (623-512-9581) if you need to update your membership information.

**For God and Country,
Mary Hays, Sr. Vice President, Ladies Auxiliary Unit 61
Membership Chairman**

JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER REPORT

Hello from the Jr. Vice Commander

I hope everyone had a safe and happy holiday. This is a start to the New Year and we have a lot going on. Please check your Newsletter Calendar for upcoming events. To succeed with our events we need members to Volunteer. I want to thank the members that have stepped up to the plate to make our dinners a success. But we still need help of others. We don't want to burn out the current help.

Please feel free to bring any new ideas to the club room. We have some open nights on the weekends and I'd like to get some suggestions on some meals. Any suggestions would be greatly appreciated.

**For God & Country
Jr. Vice Commander**



Special Notice

**Please join us for the Four Chaplain's program
Sunday February 5, 2011**

If you have never seen this program, it is very touching. Hope to see you there.

**Auxiliary Post 61
Chaplain
Martha Bork**

FINANCE OFFICER'S REPORT



All Post 2010 Membership Cards will not be accepted after Dec. 31, 2010 for using the Club Room. The 2011 Post membership cards are \$30.00 and can be renewed by mail or see the bartender at the Post. Anyone who would like to help by volunteering their time or by making cash donations to Children and Youth programs would be greatly appreciated. Everyone needs to be aware of and help enforce our Smoking Rules at the Post. All members need to help with the conservation of Post utilities as all of the Post utility fees have and will be increasing in the future. The Hall can be leased out on a Saturday night for a reception, wedding or a birthday to any member or nonmember. See the Club Steward. The Post General Fund appreciates the financial help received from the Bingo Fund, the Club Fund and Hall lease fees for other Bingo games at the Post. Member donations would be appreciated in support of all American Legion Programs like Boys State, A.L.L.E.C.A., and American Legion Baseball. The Post as well as every member is continuing to have tough times with the economy but your support at the Legion Family social events is needed. Check our calendar.

**For God and Country;
Rick Dollahan
Post 61 Finance Officer**



BINGO CHAIRMAN REPORT

Enjoy a Tuesday night at Post #61 Bingo with minimal cost, a visit to the food table, good times and possibly leave with more money in your pocket than you came in with.

Anyone age 18 or over can play Bingo on any Tuesday. The games start at 6:45 PM so stop over around 6:00 PM and enjoy some of the refreshments and snacks supplied by the Auxiliary. Drop by any Tuesday and see Rick from 6:00 PM to 9:15 PM, see how our Bingo program is run and meet the Post #61 Family members currently working. Volunteer workers can be anyone who has current Post #61 membership in the Legion, Auxiliary or S.A.L. and is at least 18 years old. All that you need to do is work one Tuesday a month of your choice from 6:00 PM to 9:15 PM. The Bingo games are open to the public. Minimum amount to play Bingo is \$ 10.00 and for \$ 17.00 you can play all night (17 games) plus the Power Ball. The \$ 1,000.00 coverall game, two quickies and the Power Ball are offered every Tuesday night. We have increased several game prizes. The Bingo program supports many of the Post #61 activities and pays for several of the Post's expenses throughout the year.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED ANY TUESDAY TO WORK - SEE RICK

For God and Country;

Rick Dollahan

Post 61 Bingo Committee Chairman

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Commander Witting would like to thank everyone for their help in making the Pig Roast on Dec 18th a very successful Fund Raiser. The S.A.L. membership cards are still \$ 20.00 for the 2011 year. The 2010 cards will expire on December 31, 2010 and can be renewed by mail or by contacting the bartender at the Post. The S.A.L. membership needs your help in making this a good year. We still need help from the S.A.L. members in Squadron #61 to assist in putting on our monthly dinner(s) which in turn will benefit our local Children and Youth Programs. The S.A.L. has a monthly meeting on the third Monday of every month, at 6:30 PM at Post #61. S.A.L. Commander, Steve Witting, invites all current Squadron #61 members to attend the meeting. We will have a varied menu for the following months so check with the Post for the current meals scheduled. On the 3rd Saturday of every month we will have a Steak Fry or similar type meal and on the 3rd Friday of every month we have a Fish Fry. We will have raffles later in the year. If you have a friend or know someone that may be eligible for membership have them fill out an S.A.L. application. If you have any questions be sure to ask the

Commander or myself at the Post.

S.A.L. Adjutant - Rick Dollahan





Joke of the Quarter

Just before our first long deployment...

Just before our first long deployment, two Navy buddies and I were talking about the stress of leaving our families.

A senior officer, a veteran of many deployments, overheard our conversation and offered the following advice:

“You must be sensitive to your wives' emotional needs,” he said. “Never, ever, whistle while you pack!”

Letter from the Swartz Family

Thanksgiving was another success! We served about 400 meals which included take out, deliveries, Fire and Police Departments, and Volunteers. We thank all the people who helped, including the Mayor of Avondale for helping serve food.

We ask all our Members to patronize the businesses that helped make this happen, Fry's, Safeway, In & Out Burger, Bill Johnson's, Mimi's Café, Denny's, (2) Village Inn's, Sam's Club, Costco, Buffalo Wild Wings, Hickman Farms, Club House Grill, and Walgreens.

Again, The Swartz Family thanks the American Legion “Family” for allowing us to do something special for the less fortunate and our Community.

The Swartz Family

Calendar of Events

January 2011

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
					1 New Years Day Food starts @ 11:00	2 K of C Bingo 6:45pm Post Breakfast 9am-11am
3 AML AUX Meeting E-Board 6:00pm Regular 7:00pm	4 Post 61 Bingo 6:45pm	5 VFW Bingo 6:45pm	6 Post E-Board Meeting 6:00pm	7 Fish Fry (Post) 5:30pm	8 Dinner (Post) 5:30pm	9 K of C Bingo 6:45pm Post Breakfast 9am-11am
10 Post General Meeting 6:00pm	11 Post 61 Bingo 6:45pm	12 VFW Bingo 6:45pm	13	14 Fish Fry (Aux) 5:30pm	15 Dinner (Post) 5:30pm	16 K of C Bingo 6:45pm Post Breakfast 9am-11am
17 SAL Meeting 6:30 pm	18 Post 61 Bingo 6:45pm	19 VFW Bingo 6:45pm	20	21 Fish Fry (SAL) 5:30pm	22 Dinner (SAL) 5:30pm	23 K of C Bingo 6:45pm Post Breakfast 9am-11am ALR Meeting
24	25 Post 61 Bingo 6:45pm	26 VFW Bingo 6:45pm	27	28 Fish Fry (ALR) 5:30pm	29 Dinner (ALR) 5:30pm	30 K of C Bingo 6:45pm Post Breakfast 9am-11am
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February 2011

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	1 Post 61 Bingo 6:45pm	VFW Bingo 6:45pm	3	4 Fish Fry (Post) 5:30pm	5 Dinner (Post) 5:30pm	6 K of C Bingo 6:45pm Post Breakfast 9am-11am Four Chaplains Ceremony 12 noon
7 AML AUX Meeting E-Board 6:00pm Regular 7:00pm	8 Post 61 Bingo 6:45pm	9 VFW Bingo 6:45pm	10 Post E-Board Meeting 6:00pm	11 Fish Fry (Aux) 5:30pm	12 Dinner (Post) 5:30pm Valentine's Dinner & Dance	13 K of C Bingo 6:45pm Post Breakfast 9am-11am
14 Post General Meeting 6:00pm	15 Post 61 Bingo 6:45pm	16 VFW Bingo 6:45pm	17	18 Fish Fry (SAL) 5:30pm	19 Dinner (SAL) 5:30pm	2 K of C Bingo 6:45pm Post Breakfast 9am-11am
21 SAL Meeting 6:30 pm	22 Post 61 Bingo 6:45pm	23 VFW Bingo 6:45pm	24	25 Fish Fry (ALR) 5:30pm	26 Dinner (ALR) 5:30pm	27 K of C Bingo 6:45pm Post Breakfast 9am-11am ALR Meeting 12:30pm
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SUPER BOWL PARTY Feb 6th Food by Squadron 61



March 2011

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	1 Post 61 Bingo 6:45pm	2 VFW Bingo 6:45pm	3	4 Fish Fry (Post) 5:30pm	5 Dinner (Post) 5:30pm	6 K of C Bingo 6:45pm Post Breakfast 9am-11am
7 AML AUX Meeting E-Board 6:00pm Regular 7:00pm	8 Post 61 Bingo 6:45pm	9 VFW Bingo 6:45pm	10 Post E-Board Meeting 6:00pm	11 Fish Fry (Aux) 5:30pm	12 Dinner (Post) 5:30pm Aux. Pat Howard Luncheon 12:00pm	13 K of C Bingo 6:45pm Post Breakfast 9am-11am
14 Post General Meeting 6:00pm	15 Post 61 Bingo 6:45pm	16 VFW Bingo 6:45pm	17 St. Patrick's Day	18 Fish Fry (SAL) 5:30pm	19 Dinner (SAL) 5:30pm	20 K of C Bingo 6:45pm Post Breakfast 9am-11am
21 SAL Meeting 6:30 pm	22 Post 61 Bingo 6:45pm	23 VFW Bingo 6:45pm	24	25 Fish Fry (ALR) 5:30pm	26 Dinner (ALR) 5:30pm 8/40 Annual Luncheon 12:00pm	27 K of C Bingo 6:45pm Post Breakfast 9am-11am ALR Meeting 12:30pm
28	29 Post 61 Bingo 6:45pm	30 VFW Bingo 6:45pm	31			



Post Officers

Commander: Bill Creel

Sr. Vice - Commander: Jim Swartz

Jr. Vice - Commander: Rex Burton

Finance Officer: Rick Dollahan

Adjutant: Mike Apodaca

Service Officer: Don Fortner

Chaplain: Don Fortner

Sgt. at Arms: Marvin Courtright

Executive Committee:

Tony Bruno

Skip Hicks

TBA

TBA

Past Commander: Jim Burke



Auxiliary Officers

President: Elizabeth Burke

Vice - President: Mary Hays

Secretary: Angel Gnauden

Treasurer: Sherry Hall

Chaplain: Martha Bork

Historian: Awanda Gaines

Srg. at Arms: Debbie Witting

Executive Committee:

Joanne Creel

Amy Boblet

Sylvia Evans

Past President: Gino Gnauden





S.A.L. Officers

Commander: Steve Witting
Sr. Vice - Commander: Mike Apodaca
Jr. Vice - Commander: Kyle Witting
Adjutant: Rick Dollahan
Finance Officer: Mike Capuano
Chaplain: Jason Bowen
Sgt. at Arms: Marvin Courtright
Past Commander: Chris Boblet



Legion Rider Officers

Director: Chuck Shellenberger
Asst. Director: Jamie Wehner
Treasurer: Tom Tucker
Secretary: Raven Medina
Chaplain: TBA
Adjutant: John Yarling
Sgt. at Arms: Jason Bowen

New Members and Transfers

Post (New):

Post (Transfers):

Auxiliary (New):

Maxine Wallace
Carol Y. Matakas
Stephanie D. Tresky
Peyton L. Dowhower
Julie K. Daly
Maureen A. Moriarity
Janet A. Bryant

Auxiliary (Transfers):

S.A.L. (New):

S.A.L. (Transfers):