

Good morning fellow Legionnaires and Veterans,

I wanted to share a moment with you today that has been troubling me for quite some time; the lack of participation.

We have over **350 members** currently in our post and only a handful are doing our volunteer work that we accomplish during the year. We take donations from two or three sources and then write checks to these causes that benefit veterans and the service they provide.

Those that show up to a meeting or an event are primarily the ones who know what we do. It has been asked time and time again that we have so many members and yet so few give more than just the membership dues. On that note, dues play an important part of how we conduct business in the post. The 45.00 dues is broken down to parts, Department gets a portion, National gets a portion and we get \$16.00 of the remaining money to place in our general fund for administration expenses. This may not seem like much but having a membership that pays dues is a **VITAL** part of participation. **Paying the membership dues also comes with a donation from an anonymous donor; we have the opportunity to get an extra \$1000.00 if we meet our %100 participation quota prior to 31 December 2024.** The extra donation above helps two of our organizations receive extra services, one more veteran assisted if all we do is pay our dues. We know that many are still working and supporting your family, we have all been there. Some just prefer to belong to an organization as this allows you access to other posts during the year. These are all wonderful benefits to belonging to a veteran organization after you have served your country in any capacity.

This coming week, Wednesday to be exact we are having a small meal provided prior to our General Membership meeting, this is provided by members of the Post that graciously donated this food so we could enjoy a little camaraderie and social time prior to discussing what we have been doing as a post. To give you a small hint, **we are planning on a permanent location and land deal in the near future**, you might want to come and find out more. The officers, both elected and appointed, are working hard to make sure we are doing the right things for our Veterans; this is where you all come in. We need you to give us your input, be a part of our post history in the making. We offer rides to those who want to come in person and cannot drive, we offer a **ZOOM link** from your phone or computer if you wish to listen in on our meeting from home. We want to meet you versus being a name on a piece of paper and know who you are? We are ALL part of this wonderful service that we shared and have this distinction of being the **1%** who served...how wonderful is that!

So this is where you come in, step up and do your part, pay your dues online or send a check but please get it in, ZELLE: [finance-officer@eugeneyountpost145.org](mailto:finance-officer@eugeneyountpost145.org); make your check for \$45.00 payable to Eugene C. Yount AZ Post #145. Mail your check to the Post mailing address shown:

**American Legion AZ Post #145 - Eugene C. Yount  
P.O. Box 6341  
Peoria, AZ 85385-6341**

We are 100 current members short of our goal of 100% membership paid...let's get this done, Veterans helping other veterans, our motto, "SERVICE THROUGH UNITY" I would also invite you to come and share an evening with us, we want to meet you and say hello.

**Arrowhead Valley Apartments  
20025 N. 81st Ave, Peoria, AZ 85382**

With this said, we are having a pancake breakfast on 7 December 2024, 8:00 am – 10:00 am at Applebee's on Bell road, tickets are \$10.00 per person, come and buy a ticket and have breakfast, post 145 will be there to assist with this and you get to meet us in this capacity. I personally will serve you breakfast as

your Commander for the post. We have many things that we are doing throughout the year. Come find out how you can assist but please, please get your dues paid. For those who pay, we are having a contest as well; pay dues, receive a ticket for a drawing to have your dues paid next year. If you are a PUFL you may get a steak dinner by the Commander. We do so much and ask so little, help us.

I close with this, so many things we simply cannot do without YOU! Our members are the lifeblood of our post and we want to make sure you are all doing well, times are tough enough and that is why we care about our veterans and their families. Join us and I'm sure you will agree.

Hope to see you this Wednesday evening, 20 Nov 24, 5:15 for dinner and meeting.

Sincerely,

Paul G. Johnson  
Commander  
Eugene C. Yount, Post-145  
The American Legion