

Executive Committee  
2011—2012

Alfonso Aranda  
*Commander*

Manny Lugo  
*Senior Vice Commander*

Oscar Herrera  
*Junior Vice Commander*

Robert P. Hernandez  
*Past Commander*

Richard Lucero  
*Post Adjutant*

Henry Daley  
*Finance Officer*

Gregorio Aguirre  
*Post Service Officer*

Angel Juarez  
*Post Chaplain*

Richard Pompa  
Roy Vega  
Edmund Lovett  
Jose Saucedo  
Louie Garcia

*Executive Officers*

*[Vacant]*

*Judge Advocate*

Andy Vidales  
Dan Straight  
*Trustee*

George Quihuis  
*Sgt. At Arms*

Anita Velasquez  
*Ladies Auxiliary President*

Robert Velasquez  
*Legion Riders Commander*

Richard Farinas  
*S.A.L. Commander*

James Ormsby  
*Club Manager*

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP  
MEETING**

*1st Thursday of the month at  
7:00PM*

*715 S. 2nd Avenue  
Phoenix, AZ 85003*

*Ronda Room (602) 262-9243*

*Office (602) 253-8131*



Tony F. Soza - Ray Martinez American Legion  
Thunderbird Post 41, June 2012 Newsletter



FROM THE DESK OF  
COMMANDER ALFONSO A. ARANDA

**Commander's Greetings...**

To the Members of Post 41 who voted I thank you for making that effort. Also I thank you for re-electing me as your Commander for 2012-2013. I will put my best effort forward. Always in the best interest of our Post 41 and that of the American Legion.

Memorial Day was a great success, without your help it would not be possible. The breakfast at the Post was well attended, The service at Saint Anthony and the ceremonies held at Saint Frances Cemetery are always heartwarming.

The formal joint, American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary Officer Installation, I felt was also a great success. This is only the second year we have had a Formal Installation and it has improved, we included the Son's of the American Legion installation this year. Thanks to Past Commander Robert Hernandez for all his hard work.

Note: June 21st thru 24th is the Department of Arizona Convention. Hope to see you there.

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

POST COMMANDER ALFONSO A. ARANDA

**From the Executive Committee**

Fellow legionnaires, as one administration year comes to an end another year begins. This past year's Executive Board was presented with many challenges. Most notably and of most importance of these was the repair of the Fuentes Hall roof. This became our top priority. The Post Commander and the Executive Board reviewed the repair costs and proceeded with a course of action. Through fundraisers and the generous financial contributions by our members, the business community and other organizations, the roof repairs were completed. Many of our members contributed their time and work. They replaced ceiling and floor tiles, painted the walls and helped in the clean up. The Ladies Auxiliary, the S.A.L., and the Legion Riders contributed financial support, their time and help. We thank all of you.

When challenges of this magnitude arise, it is important for all members and Legion families to work together in a spirit of unity and cooperation. It is in this spirit that we must conduct ourselves. This will enable us to better serve our veterans, their families and the community. The Post Executive Board is to be commended for a great job in managing the affairs and business of the post.

This was my first year on the Executive Committee. It was gratifying and a learning experience for me. I look forward to serving another year. I thank the other members of the Executive Committee for all the work they did this year. Thank you to all the members for your support.

Sincerely,

Louie Garcia  
Executive Committee

**From the Public Relations Officer/Past Commander..**

I would like to report that Past Commander Danny Bugh has been elected into the position of District 12 Commander for 2012 - 2013 and I have accepted the position of Arizona Department Historian.

Post 41 continues to be well represented at all levels of The American Legion. With John Aldecoa and Henry Daley at Department we will now have three from our post. Mr. Daley is also at District as is Angel Juarez, so we will also have three at the District.

I maintain the Association Information Manager (AIM) database. The American Legion Auxiliary has elected to utilize a different database, so I rely on the administration in place to keep me updated. I am attempting to minimize and hopefully eliminate any duplicate mailings, there should only be one newsletter to each household.

Our Honor Guard will be having duty at the National Cemetery during the month of July.

I would like to extend my gratitude to our Past Commanders for continuing to provide me with pictures and documents for use in the history of our post.

ROBERT P. HERNANDEZ  
PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER

**From the Ladies Auxiliary...**

As newly elected Auxiliary President, I'd like to thank all of you for your support and together hope we will have a prosperous year. Our new officers for 2012-2013 are: Vice President, Mary Torres; 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Margie Romero; Secretary, Patricia Thomas; Treasurer, Alice Castellanos; Chaplain, Mary Cordova; Historian, Donna Baca; Sgt-at-Arms, Esther Garcia; Executive Committee, Cecelia Reyes, Maria Perkins and Benita Chacon; Jr. Past President/Parliamentarian, Anita Velasquez.

Our biggest event in the planning is a Black & White gala to celebrate the Auxiliary's 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. So take out the bling and be on the look out for that special date. Also, please join us on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. There will be food and activities for the family, plus come out and hear our new Auxiliary/Grant Park children's choir. This will be their first performance, so come out and cheer them on.

A Leadership Training class and Initiation of new members will be scheduled in the very near future. I encourage all members to attend the Leadership Training class. Dates will be announced at our General meeting. Just a reminder, General meetings are on the first Thursday of each month at 7:00pm. There

is a lot to learn and do, so please join us.

A special thanks to the wonderful people who have been coming out for menudo on Sundays. We appreciate your support, but most of all; we enjoy seeing you here with your families.

I wish to extend an apology to the Auxiliary membership for the release of the addresses that occurred last month. I assure you that it was done without the knowledge of the administration. I can reference the National Auxiliary handbook where it states that it is not an acceptable practice.

We are planning to have a Food Handlers class for those who are helping or will be helping in the kitchen and who have not had a chance to get their health card. It is to our advantage that all helpers have their health cards. We need to have a minimum of 30 people to sign-up for this class. It will most likely be on a Saturday morning. If interested, please sign up with Erma Lopez. **THANK YOU VETS**

ERMA LOPEZ  
UNIT 41 PRESIDENT  
2012 thru 2013

**Sons of the American Legion Squadron 41**

Once again here we are in the middle of summer, and the beginning of triple digit days. We want to thank all our friendly customers that come to our Friday's Fish Fry, for you are the ones that help us raise funds for our yearly community projects. These past few months have been very helpful in raising money to meet our goals.

We gave in donations over \$1,300.00 to help our community from school scholarships, Boy's State, Child & Youth Foundation, Boy's & Girl's Club, and our Grant Park Fight Back Program.

We hope you will continue to support, all of our American Legion Post 41 functions, for in a great way you will be helping all the Post 41 families.

In closing in this newsletter we want to also congratulate all of our in coming elected officers that will be taking office after this year's conference. Louis Barragan, Robert Velasquez, Manuel Velasquez, Joe S. Perez, Angel Juarez, Armando Arias Jr., Michael Chacon, Jerry Olivas, Joe Caswell, Frank (Jay) Canez, and Joe Rivera.

Thank you and may the good Lord keep you all safe.

From the desk of the Son's of the American Legion

**Cub Scout Pack 119....**

The American Legion Post 41 now has a Cub Scout Pack. In fact, we were able to get the same number we had when Post 41 started a troop in the 60's – we are the American Legion Post 41 Cub Scout Pack 119. Commander Alfonso Aranda with the support of the Legion Executive Committee Members reinstated the pack this past May with the assistance of Jose Rodriguez, Senior Executive at Boy's Scouts of America and Wayne Chatfield, Boy Scout Representative for the American Legion.

Commander Aranda is the Charter  
Organization Executive Officer

Mark Gustin is the Chartered  
Organization Representative

***Pack Committee Members***

Chair – Mark Gustin

Membership – Patricia Thomas

Treasurer - Vivian Gonzales Hernandez

Fundraising – Donna Baca

Historian/Public Relations - Robert Hernandez

Training – Christina and Louie Padilla

Scout Masters – Mike Weber & Angel Juarez

Den Leaders – Christina and Louie Padilla

We currently have 9 boys in the pack but growing with every meeting. There are many fun activities planned. At the end of June, the cub scouts will attend a 3 Day Camp at Heard Scout Pueblo. Activities include archery, BB guns, crafts, swimming and games. They will also participate in the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Watermelon Bust. Some future activities include learning flag etiquette from our Post 41 Honor Guard, swimming at Grant Park, community service and camping in the fall.

We are very fortunate to have Christina and Louie Padilla join our Pack. They are expert Scout leaders and have volunteered to run the den packs.

If you have any boys interested in becoming cub scouts, please attend the Cub Scout Pack 119 meetings held on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month at 6pm in the Fuentes Hall or talk with any of the committee members. Cub scouts are boys in 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Or if you would like to volunteer or

or have any fun activity ideas, you're welcome to join us.

The parents, leaders, and Post 41 are working together to achieve the 10 purposes of Cub Scouting:

1. Character Development
2. Spiritual Growth
3. Good Citizenship
4. Sportsmanship & Fitness
5. Family Understanding
6. Respectful Relationships
7. Personal Achievement
8. Friendly Service
9. Fun & Adventure

Preparation for Boy Scouts



## June

Albert Salas 7 year member

### **“Food For Thought”**

Past Commander Danny Bugh came across this article and asked to share with our membership;

#### **WHERE DO WE FIT IN ??**

Some work to keep their post strong,  
While others lag - they just belong,  
Some volunteer and do their share,  
While others rest and never care.

At meeting time, some always show,  
While there are some who never go!

Some always pay their dues ahead;  
Some get behind for months instead.  
Some never - do their best; some build, some  
make;

Some never do – Just sit and take.

Some drop behind, just let things go,  
And never help their post to grow.

Some drag, some pull, some don't some do.

**CONSIDER: Which of these are YOU?**

For nearly a century, The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary and Sons of The American Legion have worked steadfastly, side by side, promoting patriotism and national security while supporting youth and advocating for veterans and active-duty military. The Legion Family also includes American Legion Riders, a program of motorcycle enthusiasts. Members join through a Riders Chapter at an American Legion Post.



### American Legion Extension Institute, ALEI

We encourage every members to learn as much as possible about the history of The American Legion. This will let you know where we've been, where we currently are and where we are going as an organization, as well as lay the groundwork for developing new current and future leaders.

In March of 2012, the Internal Affairs and Magazine Divisions developed an entirely rewritten, online version of the ALEI. The idea of the online course, and soon to be developed booklet form, is to educate and empower the new or inactive American Legion family member. This interactive, multimedia training tool will provide every member an opportunity to learn and discover the rich history, programs, policies, developments, positions and goals of our organization. This 90 minute course composed of 6 modules: History and Organization, Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, Children & Youth with a Course wrap-up and a comprehensive final exam, is developed around the Four Pillars of what The American Legion was founded on. Each of these pillars encompasses a variety of programs that benefit our nation's veterans, its servicemembers, their families, the youth of America and ordinary citizens.

If you are interested in knowing more about The American Legion and how you can become involved, Go to go to [legion.org/alei](http://legion.org/alei) or visit your [mylegion.org](http://mylegion.org) and for a modest fee of \$4.95 for Legion Family members, and \$9.95 for non-Legion Family members, you can become empowered with the knowledge to become a leader in The American Legion. The American Legion is the nation's largest and most influential network of U.S. wartime veterans, families and communities, and The American Legion Extension Institute helps bring all this together in one simple to use program.

### Regular Weekly Entertainment

Don't forget that we have regular entertainment at our post; **Tuesday through Friday** - Happy Hour is 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM. There is a great jukebox with all your favorite tunes. We are Closed on Mondays.

**Friday** we have Mariachi Juarez performing from 7:00 PM till 9:00 PM, DJ following with an occasional live band.

**Friday** we also have Fish Fry sponsored by our Sons of The American Legion, Squadron 41 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM, menu is on the website Special Events tab.

**Saturday** is live music night with some great valley bands, just check the Legion Post 41 website or call the Ronda Room at 602-262-8131.

**Sunday** morning we have breakfast specializing in Menudo, sponsored by The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 41, 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM, menu is on the website Special Events tab.

**Sunday** we also have a Tardeada with a DJ providing music starts at 6:00 PM and ends at 10:00 PM

Don't forget, if you are planning a large get together or party to celebrate some occasion you must arrange your plans with the Club Manager, James Ormsby 480-580-2053. There are some limitations to just how large of a party can be held in the Ronda Room - Remember that the Ronda Room is a membership room first and foremost.

We ask that the children are kept at a minimum, the parties are for adults, and children get bored when there is nothing for them to do but run around the room. **All children under the age of 18 are not allowed in the Ronda Room after 6:00 PM.**

### REMINDER

General meetings are on the first Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM. Please make an effort to attend.

Your participation is very important. The Post operations cannot be successful without the support of the membership.

The American Legion  
Tony F. Soza—Ray Martinez  
Post 41  
715 S. 2nd Avenue  
PHOENIX, AZ 85003-2507

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Permit No. 217  
PHOENIX, ARIZONA

***“FOR GOD and COUNTRY”***

**CALENDAR OF SPECIAL EVENTS**

<i>Wednesday, July 4</i>	<i>July 4th Celebration, 10am to 2pm</i>
<i>Saturday, July 14</i>	<i>Pool Tournament, Tucson MCL</i>
<i>Tuesday, August 7</i>	<i>Hiring Our Heroes, Dept. of Labor Job Fair, Fuentes Hall</i>
<i>Tuesday, September 11</i>	<i>Patriot Day Ceremonies</i>
<i>Tuesday, September 18</i>	<i>USAF 65th Birthday - Ronda Room</i>
<i>Saturday, September 22</i>	<i>Fall Festival Dance, 7pm</i>
<i>Sunday, October 14</i>	<i>Annual BBQ</i>
<i>Saturday, October 20</i>	<i>Honor Guard Benefit Dance</i>
<i>Saturday, October 27</i>	<i>Halloween Dance, 7pm</i>
<i>Wednesday, October 31</i>	<i>Children’s Halloween Party - 6 to 12pm</i>
<i>Friday, November 2</i>	<i>MCL Benefit Dance</i>
<i>Saturday, November 10</i>	<i>USMC 237th Birthday - Ronda Room</i>
<i>Monday, November 12</i>	<i>Phoenix Veterans Day Parade, Celebration</i>
<i>Thursday, November 15</i>	<i>Post 41 Family Thanksgiving Dinner</i>
<i>Saturday, November 24</i>	<i>Reunion of the Barrios Dance</i>
<i>Sat &amp; Sun, November 24th &amp; 25th</i>	<i>Island Jam</i>
<i>Friday, November 30</i>	<i>Early Bird Dinner, 5pm</i>