



JEWISH WAR VETERANS
of the United States of America
Scottsdale, AZ Post 210
January 2020 Newsletter



The February meeting will be **Sunday, the 16th** 10 AM, at the State Veterans Home, 4141 N. S. Herrera Way, just North of Indian School Road, Phoenix. PH: 602-248-1550. Refreshments at 9:30 AM, free to all members and guests.

Our speakers for February will be Detective Michael Hillman the liaison with the Jewish Advisory Board of the Phoenix Police Department and Jimmy Wasson Director of Security at the Martin Pear Valley of the Sun JCC in Scottsdale

COMMANDERS
MESSAGE



What a great meeting we had in January. Judge Romley filled our room with knowledge and inspiration about how we are helping our Veterans residing in the city of Phoenix. Rick Romley is also a great example of what a caring, knowledgeable and intelligent person can do with his or her life. A special thanks to Mel Brody for arranging the visit of his friend. To those who could not attend the meeting, we had several guests and members who we usually do not see. Thanks to all who attended

When Berle Clark heard about what JWV does for the Veteran community, he made a very generous donation to the Post. Berle is not a Veteran. But he is proud of how the Jewish Veterans are serving the community. Thank you Berle and thank you ROSATI'S PIZZA, 4041 E. Bell Road.

Looking forward to seeing you. Until then,

שלום Michael Chambers, Commander, JWV,
Scottsdale Post 210

Good morning everyone welcome to the Jewish War Veterans, Scottsdale Post 210 meeting. The meeting started with the opening of the Alter and then the Chaplain gave the opening prayer. We then said the pledge Allegiance to the Flag.

Michael then asked Mel to introduce our guest speaker, Rick Romley. "It's my honor and privilege to recognize our speaker Rick Romley who I have known for many years. He is recognized as national leader and served four terms as a Maricopa County attorney from 1989 to 2004 and was appointed as interim Maricopa County attorney on April 16th 2010. He was responsible for administrating one of the largest prosecuting attorney's offices in nation and was responsible for the civil presentation of all county government. He has testified before the United States



Senate and the United States House of Representatives on the issues of violent crime, terrorism, drug trafficking, youth violence, public corruption and victims rights. For these efforts Rick was the recipient of over a 100 awards including the National Leadership Award presented in Washington DC in 1997. Since leaving office, Rick started his own firm which specializes in strategic consulting, investigations issues, resolutions and legal representation for select clients. He was asked by former Secretary for Veterans Affairs to come to Washington D.C. and be his personal advisor to oversee the data loss of personal information for over

26 million Veterans and to enhance the VA security protocol and infrastructure. Mr. Romley selected clients have also included the Arizona attorney general, Maricopa County Pinal County, Mesa Police Department and Tri West Healthcare. In August of 2016 Mr Romley was appointed as a Veterans Court Judge, continuing a hundred-year Arizona family tradition. Rick and his wife Carol, live in Scottsdale, Arizona. They have three sons Darin, David and Aaron. Rick joined the United States Marine Corps as a youth and served as a combat infantry squad leader Vietnam until wounded in 1969. Rick has received numerous commendations including the Purple Heart. In 2001 he received two additional national awards for service in defense of our country. Life's Presidential Unsung Heroes Award and America's Outstanding Disabled American Veteran of the year. Judge Romley was inducted into the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame in 2007. I would like you to meet our speaker Judge Rick Romley”.

Thank you Mel, I didn't expect to sit here while you read that whole thing Well good morning everyone. First of all let me say it's a pleasure to be here, I haven't spoken before a Jewish War Veterans Unit for some time some time. I generally don't give too many speeches since I've been out of office, but now I'm known for everything from the Hall of Fame to the the National Cemetery Committee.

I worked very closely with the Jewish Community in the late 90's and early 2000's. We had a large movement of white supremacist move into the Valley and we took on those individuals, in fact, we had an investigation going and we literally stopped an individual who had plans to blow up over 20 community sites and including Synagogues, Black Community Centers, we apprehended him and all the bomb makings that were there. His name was Michael Bloom and he went to prison for that. Let me take a moment and give you a little bit of background. I'm sure most of you have heard that we now have a Veterans Court in Arizona. It's not universal, not every Court has a Veterans Court. It's a Specialty Court but I truly believe in it.

When I was Maricopa County Attorney you learn that there are extenuating circumstances. you know misconduct by individuals and you know some of those served in the military. Sometimes they come home and they have major challenges we all know about the suicide rate the depression that is PTSD (post-traumatic stress disorder) sometimes a very difficult transition may have



anger management issues and it usually manifests itself in domestic violence. Those types of things are the idea of what the Veterans Court is, to bring in specialized services to those Veterans and try to get them tied into those services to try to get them to address whatever the particular issue is. We work extraordinary close with the VA hospital and they have a tremendous amount of programs that are available to Veterans.

The idea behind Veteran's Court is that as the Veteran has committed a crime. Let me back up a little bit not all criminal activity qualifies for Veterans Court usually it's those in which there is not serious injury or death or sexual misconduct like with children or rape we don't handle those types. We are seeing a huge number of Veterans coming into court that have a tremendous amount of problems. We work with the DEA (Drug Enforcement Administration) to get those Veterans in the service program, be on board with it, and if that Veteran successfully completes the program, the state will take that into account and try to keep them in the program. Hopefully they will complete the program and never come back to court.

A couple of examples of things that I've seen on the bench at Veteran's Court was an individual that had several tours in Afghanistan and Iraq, he was really struggling with a severe case of PTSD. He called the court and he literally said that he had a gun and he was ready to take his life. I spoke with him for some time, combat Veteran myself and knowing the struggle of knowing someone connected and I was able to talk with him bring him down a little. I immediately contacted the Veteran representative from the VA and they immediately took care of him. There are approximately 20 Veteran's every single day that take there life across the country. We try to reach out to these individuals and give them a helping hand. In the end though it is up to them. Another situation is more joyful. This individual has been married numerous times and came

back from deployment and he had a drinking problem. We put him through a number of different programs, for violence and the loss of control. I called the Court to order and I asked for the family to come



forward, I really wanted to see what was going on. I wanted to know whether or not the program really made a difference. The wife said "I can't thank you enough for giving me my husband back."

The new politicians go for the media sound bite but they don't do it very often unless it's a real big major investigation they don't follow through with it as well quite frankly the elected officials were very close mouth about it. I'm telling them gang crimes are part of my testimony. Michael Bloom was up for early release from prison, when I heard that I told my staff to go to the prison and have them find out what's really being said inside the cell. They found that all he talked about were dirty Jews and nig-ars. He did not get out.

A Question? Is there a Veteran's Court in the Northeast part of the state? We don't have one on the reservation. The community needs the tribal council's to get the VA to provide the resources.

Michael then thanked Judge Rick Romley.

Michael began the rest of the meeting by saying tha our member Stan Rosen was able to attend our board meeting and we presented him with his Quilt of Valor

We have a department meeting coming up February 9th, at the Veteran's Home, and will be taking nominations for officers We also will be discussing a constitutional amendment.

Moving on to new business, we are having our Super Bowl party on Sunday February 2. We need volunteers to help serve the Veteran's. We have between 40 and 50 Veteran's come to watch the SuperBowl. We provide the pizzas and we have snacks and sodas for them. During halftime we do bingo. Some of the Veteran's can't hold a bingo card and we help them play. It is extremely rewarding.

Rochel Hayman, in my roll as NEC, I'm going to the National Convention representing the Department of the Southwest so I will not be at next meeting. I'm trying to get appointments with our congressmen and Senators for when I'm there. If anybody has any ties in with a representative here maybe you could help me get these appointments. Please be in touch with me after the meeting. We are working on JWV legislative priorities. Helping homeless Veteran's, Suicide Prevention, and burn pits as well as support of the Deborah Sampson Act, helping to to focus on women's Medical Care at the VA and in the military.

Jonathan Sorrell says that Herman Bernal, a member of Quilts of Valor has throat cancer. We are sending him our prayers, for a speedy recovery.

Jonathan's Walk will be held on Sunday January 26th at Chaparral Park in Phoenix. We will have an informational table there with the Cub Scouts.

Michael then had the Chaplin give the closing prayer and the Officer of the day close the alter. We then Saluted the Flag.

Some Words of Wisdom

By
David Woodland

CONTINUITY

To paraphrase Benjamin Franklin, "Without continual growth, improvement, achievement, even success, have no meanings". Judge what you have, but keep moving forward, opening doors, and discover new ways and whys, and get to know curiosity as a faithful friend. Continuity works because growth has no limits using intelligence, imagination, and awe filled wonder.

Change is chance if you want it that way. Let change grow and continue with improvement. Failure is the chance to begin again; continuity is the chance to grow.

Interruption generally has an adverse effect on continuity, but may give a person the clearer view of the past, and new ideas for the future. Lack of continuity often is fueled by what may be missing: Zeal, ability, success, optimism, planning, knowledge, and self faith. Know when continuity may be a path to darkness, but approach positive opportunities to continue. Value the continuous relationships of all things personal, family, friends, learning, and life.

EDUCATION

Education is the road to the future, the bridge over the gaps of time, the passport of entry to what's to come. Those who prepare today, build the future, inhabit the future, and govern the future. Preparation is education, knowing the past, seeing the needs, eliminating doubt.

Recognition of these ingredients and finding more, is a constant process. Education itself is a open container with no limitations. We learn from successes, learning even more from failures. Recognize the value of persistence, as education is wasted unless realized as the core value. The firm foundation of useful education is that of persistence and determination. Our future well could be populated with a corps of educated derelicts. Use it, or lose it.

Education has been described as a function to teach us to think with intensity, and to think critically, have intelligence and proper character, having this the goal of well functioning education. Knowledge is power, education is the premise of progress. Aristotle said "The educated mind demonstrates the ability to entertain a thought without accepting it".

LEARNING

To attempt to define learning is a nebulous trial.

We indulge ourselves with formal education, seeking to acquire what has been formalized and predigested. This becomes the framework of learning, and to many, that we believe we know. Without realizing, this is only the basis of a lifetime of continuing our body of knowledge. Let it be said that learning is the fuel of knowledge.

We often learn by processing everyday needs, correcting errors, changing situations, adapting to new rules of behavior, and adjusting to the ever rising tides of life. The signs on the roads to success, direct you to preparation, indulgence to work, and learning from previous successes and failures.

Do your best to make learning a conscious effort, knowing that changes in all situations require decisions, immediate or not, resulting from what has been learned. Time, most often your friend, often is the the impetus of change, so prepare with learning of that which may change.

Do not get trapped by the arrogance of success, believing what you learned yesterday will be enough for today.

A LITTLE HUMOR

Teacher: "Kids, what does the chicken give you?"

Student: "Meat!"

Teacher: "Very good! Now what does the pig give you?"

Student: "Bacon!"

Teacher: "Great! And what does the fat cow give you?"

Student: "Homework!"

Reaching the end of a job interview, the Human Resources Officer asks a young engineer fresh out of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, "And what starting salary are you looking for?" The engineer replies, "In the region of \$125,000 a year, depending on the benefits package." The interviewer inquires, "Well, what would you say to a package of five weeks vacation, 14 paid holidays, full medical and dental, company matching retirement fund to 50% of salary, and a company car leased every two years, say, a red Corvette?" The engineer sits up straight and says, "Wow! Are you kidding?"

The interviewer replies, "Yeah, but you started it."

A football coach walked into the locker room before a game, looked over to his star player and said, "I'm not supposed to let you play since you failed math, but we need you in there. So what I have to do is ask you a math question, and if you get it right, you can play." The player agreed, and the coach looked into his eyes intently and asks, "Okay, now concentrate... what is two plus two?" The player thought for a moment and then he answered, "4?" "Did you say 4!?" the coach exclaimed, excited that he got it right. At that, all the other players on the team began screaming, "Come on coach, give him another chance!"

WELFARE

Please don't forget Ahuva Chamber 623-256-1573 our Sunshine Lady. If someone knows anyone who is ill or in the hospital PLEASE notify her so that the Post can respond.

Member Jeanine Koror, puts together gift bags for the residents at the Veterans Home. These are composed of small item that are free from hotel stays or anything you want to donate. They cannot contain mouthwash or razors. Contact Jeanine at 480-948-2171 or cell 602-376-2359

Don't forgot to take advantage of big savings. Register at **VETTIX**. It is a great inexpensive way to see sporting events, concerts and other venues that come to town. All you have to do is send in proof of military service ie: DD 214 and follow their registration process, Go to www.vettix.org

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 5 - Moshe Apelas
- 12 - Susan Conwisar
- 20 - Harold Lampear
- 23 - Murray Landy
- 25 - Lee Andrews
- 31 - Millie Ragowin

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 3 - Shirley Hertzof
- 6 - Jeanine Koror
- 12 - Jay Simons
- 14 - Ron Burksbaum
- 16 - Annette Andrews

POST OFFICERS

- Michael Chambers, Commander
623-256-0658
- Fred Lipovitch,
Senior Vice Commander
(602) 293-3550.
- Junior Vice Commander
Bill Lamb
928-457-0046
- Judge Advocate
Mel Brody
480-473-9076
- Stan Rosen, Sergeant at Arms
480-451-2139
- Steven Troy, Adjutant
623-594-5022
- Juli Altman, Quartermaster
480-262-3191
- Officer of the Day
David Woodland
480-922-0165
- Jonathan Sorrell, Chaplain
602-402-8884

Past Commanders

- Rochel Hayman 602-218-0353
- Michael Chambers 623-256-0658
- Bernie Kaplan, 602-765-3520
- David Woodland, 480-922-0165
- Juli Altman, 480-262-3191
- Robert Sutz, 602-596-2911
- Mel Brody, 480-473-9076
- Ernest Michael
- Harold Epstein
- Sinclar (Cookie) Albert
- Carl Spigel
- Arnold Gross
- Robert Sutz
- Ed Grodsky

Honorary Past Commander

- Jonathan Sorrell
- Don Simmons,
- Philip Epstein

CONTACT NUMBERS

- Steven Troy , Editor & Publisher
623-594-5022
- Mel Brody, Publicity
480-473-9076
- Ahuva Chamber *SunShine Lady*
623-256-1573
- Bernie Kaplan, Post Affairs
602-765-3520

*The Jewish War Veterans invites any qualified veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States of America to become a Member in the oldest veterans organization in the Nation!!!
If you are not a qualified veteran, you can join as a Patron Donor and support the organization.*