
THE CENTURIONS

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June 2016

From the President

Tony Poe

Welcome to the first issue of The Centurions Newsletter. We have known for a long time that communication within the organization was lacking. Most members have no idea what the Boards of Directors have been doing and many are unclear as to the direction the organization is taking. This newsletter is our attempt to keep members better informed. We plan to publish the newsletter on a quarterly basis. Over the next couple of months we will be making improvements to it and adding content that is both informative and entertaining. Future issues will include historical information about The Centurions, milestones in members' lives, profiles of members and "stupid moments in Centurion history". If you have any suggestions or items you would like to have included please contact Kermit Miller (Kermit.miller@thecenturions.com), Mike Schmidt (mschmidt@anchorwave.com) or Don Ledbetter (donled@cox.net).

One important issue I'd like to discuss to clarify about what some of you may have heard is whether or not we are going to

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Event Update

Joe Dhuey

Once again I want to thank all of you for helping make this year's event a success. Your hard work and dedication is truly appreciated. Because of your efforts we had more than 4500 guests through the gate and while the final accounting is not yet in we anticipate a net income of around \$375,000

What the heck are C3s and C7s?

Kermit Miller

One of the questions I hear often is what is the difference between the C3 and C7 Boards. When we split from Carondelet we had to form a new organization. Following the model of the Conquistadors we separated membership in a social organization from fundraising. The New Centurions was formed as a 501 C 7 corporation with its own Board of Directors. This is a non-profit corporation for social activities. All our meetings and social events are paid for by this corporation and it is solely funded by your dues.

A second corporation, The Centurions of Southern Arizona Charitable Foundation, was formed as a 501 C 3. It too has its own Board of Directors (although some members serve on both Boards). All contributions to this organization are tax deductible and everything related to our fundraising is handled through this entity.

The separation of our social activities and our fundraising provides us with a way to ensure that charitable contributions are used appropriately and not mixed with our social activities.

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associate ourselves with Tucson Medical Center. We have been approached by TMC about forming collaboration. While the Board is adamant that we remain independent we feel that we should at least listen to what TMC has in mind so in July both Boards of Directors (C3 and C7) and Past Presidents will be attending a “meet and greet” with Judy Rich, President and CEO of TMC and Michael Duran, Vice President and Chief Development Officer. Depending on how that meeting goes we may hold further discussions with them but I have to emphasize that no decisions have been made and none will be unless it is decided that collaboration is in our organization’s best interest and we maintain our independence. We will update members as more information becomes available.

Recent Boards of Directors Actions

Kermit Miller

A mission statement for The Centurions of Southern Arizona Foundation was formally adopted at the April meeting. We believe it succinctly captures our reason for being so to speak. You will begin seeing the mission statement on all correspondence and maybe on a banner at our meetings.

“Our mission is to support Southern Arizona charities that provide services to underserved community members in the areas of healthcare, education, and mentorship with an emphasis on improving children’s lives.”

At the June meetings a policy regarding the purchase and serving of alcohol was adopted. When we were a part of Carondelet not much thought was given to our liability regarding alcohol. Now that we have to purchase our own insurance to protect the organizations and their members the Boards decided that it would be wise to minimize our liability as much as possible. In simple terms the policy is that at any event where alcohol is sold (that includes monthly meetings where Life and Senior members are billed) we will have a licensed bartender or hold that event at a licensed establishment. For those events where alcohol is purchased by us and served to our members without charge (e.g. family picnic, event planning meetings, etc.) there is no need for a licensed bartender or to have the event at a licensed establishment. For those interested the complete policy is printed below.

“Alcohol is provided and consumed at most of our scheduled events. This includes monthly dinner meeting, special events such as steak fry, lobster event and also at committee and event meetings. It is important for the organization to determine the risks associated with having alcohol at these events as well as how we can mitigate that risk to both the organization and to the individual members.”

One key distinction as to how much risk the organization has is whether there is an actual or perceived sale and purchase transaction involving alcohol. If it can be inferred that the organization is selling alcohol the exposure is higher. If there is no actual or perceived sale of alcohol the event would most likely fall under the category of “social host liability”.

Since we charge for some events, such as senior/life participants at monthly dinner meeting as well as some special events, these events would have the host liability. Our risk at these events can be mitigated by using hired bartending services or holding these at restaurants or bars that provide and dispense the alcohol. The Centurions also have general liability insurance that should protect the organization and its members in the event of litigation. All of our other events that would not involve possible sale transaction would fall under the social host liability. Arizona Dram Shop statute exempts liability for a social host. A social host would include the organization or a member when there is no charge for the liquor and The Centurions do not have a special license for the event. Under the current interpretation of the Arizona Dram Shop law neither the organization nor an individual member would have liability for damages or injury caused by serving alcohol. Additionally, our insurance policy provides coverage of this type of event. These types of events would not necessitate the need for hired bartending services nor use of a licensed restaurant or bar.”

Also at the June meeting the issue of new membership was discussed. A large number of Active members will be switching to Life or Senior status this year. Members are encouraged to submit nominations for new members to the Membership Committee before the July 30 deadline. We need some high quality people to replace the hardworking, productive members moving to Life and Senior status.

Finally, for the past six months the Boards of Directors have been working on ways to modernize the way we handle membership information. As a result we recently signed a contract with a vendor who will develop a program to process, store and disseminate member information. The program should be up and running within the next 6-8 weeks and should significantly improve the way we do business. More information on the program will be provided in a future newsletter.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JULY 21 AT 6:00 PM
HOSTED HAPPY HOUR
TED KLINE'S HOUSE
4914 E. CALLE JABALI

AUGUST 18 AT 6:00 PM
COCKTAILS AND MEMBERSHIP MEETING
FLEMINGS STEAK HOUSE

SEPTEMBER 15 AT 6:00PM
COCKTAILS AND MEMBERSHIP MEETING
VIVACE'S RESTAURANT