



????????????????

(A Centurions Newsletter)

Volume 2, Issue 2



July 2017

---

---

## FROM THE PRES

*Joe Dhuey*



I hope everyone had a great 4<sup>th</sup> of July and that you have plans this summer to get out of this heat. Just know that, while you're enjoying the summer, your Centurion Boards are hard at work (OK, we are trying to be hard at work). We had a pretty lofty slate of goals for this year, which put a lot of balls in the air for us. Fortunately, we are starting to bring closure to some of these goals and I wanted to give you an update on what's been done. I'll apologize upfront, but this one will be lengthy.

### **ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE CENTURIONS**

As you may have experienced, we have various entities in "our group" being referred to as Centurions, but it is not entirely clear what each entity is or what it does. My hope is to put some clarity to this matter for you:

1. Centurions of Southern Arizona Charitable Foundation (501 (c)3 Non-Profit):
  - a. We refer to this entity as our **Charity/Event Group**
  - b. This is our fundraising arm and the group that oversees our main Annual Event and any other fundraising efforts we decide to take on during the year.
  - c. This group maintains the Centurion staff (Kermit & Cindi) and provides the administration for the Charity/Event Group and our Membership Group.
  - d. This group is the recipient of the funds raised and the group that determines how the money raised is distributed to the various charities throughout the community.

- e. A part of this group is our Charity Selection Committee. This committee recommends who the recipients will be from year to year.
- 2. The New Centurions (501(c)7 Non-Profit):
  - a. We refer to this entity as our **Membership Group**
  - b. It is the social component of our group and this entity puts on the Monthly Meetings, Steak Fry, Lobster Fest, etc.
  - c. All the Centurion Members reside in this group
  - d. The Membership Group is independent; however, there is a Support Services Agreement between the Membership and the Charity/Event Groups. This Agreement spells out our relationship, which basically says the Membership Group will do whatever is necessary to raise money and work the Annual Event in exchange for administrative services provided by the Charity/Event Group.
- 3. Centurion Foundation (501 (c)3 Non-Profit):
  - a. We are going to refer to this entity as **The Foundation**
  - b. This is generally where the confusion came in and the question was --- how is this different from the Charity/Event Group. The simple answer is that it is not different in terms of structure, but it is different in terms of purpose. The Charity/Event Group and The Foundation worked together to truly define the purpose of The Foundation and how it will function within our "Centurion" Organization. The Charity/Event Group distributes money through fundraising efforts. The Foundation will focus more on long-term planning and will be raising money through donations, gifts, estate planning strategies, etc.
  - c. In essence, what we did was formalize our own Foundation. The Centurion Foundation is a separately registered charitable organization with its own approved tax-exempt status. Having our own Foundation will allow our esteemed organization greater flexibility in terms of raising and distributing charitable assets. It will not dilute from The Centurions' May Event and mission. On the contrary, we hope it will help increase our brand and community awareness, as well as the net proceeds given to the beneficiaries of our annual May Event. The Foundation has created an investment fund which one can utilize for estate planning, gifting and bequeathing opportunities. A couple of the long-term goals are to have enough resources to help with the expense side of running the May Event as well as honor potential charitable wishes stemming from the Membership and Community.
  - d. The Foundation will be reaching out to you, our Members, with more information about their purpose and how you can participate. In the meantime, please keep them in mind for your estate planning and building up their legacy fund.
  - e. Although The Foundation has its own approved tax-exempt status, their Bylaws have been modified to where the Charity/Event Group provides some oversight. It is truly part of the Centurion family.

### **CHARITY/EVENT GROUP & MEMBERSHIP GROUP BYLAWS**

We are working on "cleaning" up the language in our Bylaws/Rules for both entities. Fundamentally, the Bylaws that we have in place currently work, but it was a conglomeration of various sets of Bylaws that we had used over the years. There were some inconsistencies in the wording from one section of the Bylaws to the next. Thanks to our own

Dan Hochuli who agreed to undertake the task to clean them up. I think we are on Version 153 (just joking - it is actually only 8 or 9) at this point, but we are close. The Membership Board will be meeting this month to finalize the Membership Bylaws and Membership Rules and they will be sent out to the group for approval.

Then we will take on the Charity/Event Bylaws ---- right Dan???

### **GROUP SURVEY**

As you will recall, we sent out a survey to all categories of membership in the last couple of months. We put together a committee of Centurions from our various membership categories to develop the questions. We had an excellent response with about 60% of group participating. THANK YOU.

Jake Walker (Thanks Jake) is compiling the results and will provide an Executive Summary to the committee. Our goal is to determine what needs to be done to strengthen our organization. We will be getting back to you with our findings and action items. I appreciate your patience and support on this.

As a precursor, one finding from this survey that was very clear is that we need to improve our communication to the group. We will be working on this and may be coming back to you for ideas on what would be most effective to accomplish this goal.

### **TMC FOUNDATION/TMC**

Yes, another Foundation (LOL). In the fall of last year, we signed a Collaboration Agreement with the TMC Foundation. We recognized the mutual benefits of a relationship and of a collaboration between our two organizations. The obvious connection was to work together to make our May Event more successful and to create a win/win for both organizations. However, the long term goal is to have our relationship go well beyond just the May Event. We have two iconic entities in Tucson and we are working on how we can create a synergy between our organizations to help strengthen both of our brands in the community.

To this end, LaMonte Hunley and I have been meeting once a month with Michael Duran, VP & Chief Development Officer of TMC. The initial meetings were more driven toward the May event, but now that this is behind us, we are going to get into more specifics of how we can work together beyond the event.

At our June meeting at the Horseshoe Grill, Michael and Donna from TMC spoke to the group about the Friends of the Foundation Program that is being made available to the Centurions. The TMC Foundation recently sent out a mailing explaining this program in more detail. Please give Donna a call with any questions.

### **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE & POINTS STRUCTURE**

Dan Hochuli is our Membership Chair this year. Thank you Dan for your leadership. He is taking the Membership Chair/Committee role in a little different direction. He is revisiting all the processes that have been in place over the years and expanding them. Basically, Membership will go well beyond just finding new members for our group, although that is a big part of what

they will do. Membership will be working year round to help with communications and to improve the comradery in the group.

Our immediate need right now is NEW MEMBER NOMINATIONS. Please do your part to get involved and strengthen our group.

Tony Poe agreed to head up a committee for us (thanks Tony and committee members) to review our point structure and to bring everything current through 2016. If you are an active member, you should be hearing from someone on the committee to reconcile your outstanding points, so we are all in agreement moving forward.

### **ETC.**

We have a few other items on the burner, but the ones discussed above are the major items. I'll be reporting on some of these other items in the future.

### **NAME THE NEWSLETTER**

As you can see in our header, we have a question mark where the name should be. That's because currently we are "nameless". We are reaching out to you to help name our Newsletter. I'm sure somewhere in our group there is some creativity in coming up with a name that encapsulates the essence of who we are.

As such, you will have until August 15<sup>th</sup> to submit your ideas. Please forward them to Cindi at [cindi.ward@thecenturions.com](mailto:cindi.ward@thecenturions.com) or call the Centurion Office at **324-1709** with your entries. We will gather all entries and select a top 5 or so for vote out to the group.

The winner will get a \$100 gift certificate to Flemings, so get the creative juices flowing.

### **CALL TO ALL MEMBERS**

As you can tell, we have many irons in the fire. We have a great opportunity to lay the foundation for our future and to truly broaden our reach into the community. To do this effectively, it will take the efforts of many. I'm asking you to help in these efforts. If you have any interest in running a committee, being on the Board, running an event or getting involved in any way, we want to talk to you. Don't wait to be asked – we are not mind readers. It may not happen immediately, but certainly we'll get you involved to the point of either considering you for something now or for grooming you to one day take on that desired role. We have a lot of talent in our group and we need to all work together to bring our organization to the next level.

Thank you for indulging me and, again, I apologize for the length of this portion of the newsletter. We have some good stuff going on and we should all be proud of our organization!!

FBG aka Joe

# “IT’S A WRAP”

LaMonte Hunley



What “An Oz-Some Experience” it was gentlemen. We created a high level of enthusiasm, creativity and a fun experience for our guests. The costumes were plentiful and the love was in the air.

A big thank you to all Venue Leads for taking on the leadership role and leading your teammates. A special thank you to the following members: “Jay Hanson, Robin Winters, Sam Ross, Jake Walker, Joe Dhuey, Chris Kemmerly, Steve Shepherd and Eric Jacobson.”

Now let’s see how we did. Gentlemen we “KICKED SOME MAJOR BUTT”.

## Our Attendance:

The attendance was strong and even throughout the night. Take a look at the attendees from opening to closing.

6:00 to 7:00 pm	1827	9:00 to 10:00 pm	205
7:00 to 8:00 pm	2066	10:00 to 11:00 pm	46
8:00 to 9:00 pm	666	11:00 to 12 midnight	10
MVP Suites 132		Unknown 12	
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>4964</b>		

Thanks George Stewart for this report. The attendees were spread out over the ballpark. There were no major incidents or issues. Just Happy, Happy People!

## Let’s Talk Money:

The majority of the money is in the bank and most bills have been paid. As such I want to give you some “unofficial” results. With all the revenue sources, which included super raffle, raffle, gambling from BBBST, we had Gross Revenue of \$925,000.00 and Net Proceeds around \$500,000.00 (Before our \$102,500.00 payment to BBBST). Let’s not forget about TMC, after all payouts and bills are paid they will receive a check for \$181,229.00.00. I’m not sure, but gentlemen this could have been our best year ever in terms of revenue for an event. This praise goes out to every member. I’m a strong believer in “TEAM EFFORT” and I was very proud to lead my team on the field for this great event.

I can’t thank each and every one of your efforts enough and I’m sure I will continue to show my gratitude with a big smile and a huge hug.

In signing off I would like to say: Let’s Ease on down the Road to 2018’s Event and give Steve Shepherd the same or better energy and enthusiasm for his event.

Respectfully Yours,

2017 Event Chair  
LaMonte

# Member Profiles

*Don Ledbetter*

## Adam Dellos



I was inducted in October 2015 and sponsored by the myth, the legend, Charlie O'Dowd along with his cohorts Don Ledbetter and Al Michaels.

I grew up with my parents going to many of the Centurions parties as well as hearing of the stories of what The Centurions do for the community every year. When I was sponsored and put in my application to join the group I had zero reservations and jumped at the opportunity to give of my skills and personality to the group and community we serve.

My favorite memory of The Centurions thus far has to be the comradery experienced when camping onsite at the last two years of events. Between the cheeky shenanigans I've involved myself in or started and the professionalism we all have exerted in holding such a large event has been a lifetime of memories in just two short years. Here's to many more brothers. I started Adam D Technology in 2006; we provide I.T. Services to small to medium sized companies around Tucson, all of Arizona and Southern California/Carlsbad/Oceanside area. We are like the GC of technology... We can handle a plethora of tasks asked of us and if we get tasked to do something we are not 100% confident in, we have many resources to pull from to complete the task for the client. We love helping people succeed and grow whilst allowing them to Be Stress Free with Adam D.

I'm a native Tucsonan. I was the only one born in Tucson, the rest of my family is from Binghamton and Endicott, NY. When I create the time, I love to play golf and have been playing since my pops starting teaching me when I was about 7 years old. I've also been playing rugby for Tucson Magpies for just over 10 years and love the sport. In 2015 about 20 fellow ruggers from Tucson and Phoenix went to England and traveled Europe to watch the Rugby World Cup. My goal is to travel to one new country or two new states/cities that I have not visited before, every year. I work very hard for the life I've earned and have been able to meet this goal four years running.

This group has been one of the most prestigious things I've done in my professional career and personal life. Thank you very much for allowing me to be part of the history this group has carved a path in as well as shape the future of what we haven't accomplished yet...Every year gets better and better.

I am heavily involved in Tucson Police and Tucson Fire where I lend my time and my company's resources to assist in many non-profits like 911 Tower Challenge, Tucson Police Officers Association and Tucson Police Foundation. Furthermore, I sit on the board of the Greater Tucson Fire Foundation as Community Liaison where we raise money to provide lifesaving equipment and health/wellness to our Tucson Fire Fighters and Public Safety personnel.

## Stu Goldman



I moved to Tucson in 1976. I got my MBA from The Ohio State University. I previously worked as a Mad Man for Ogilvy & Mather Advertising on Madison Avenue and for Campus Sportswear in my home town of Cleveland. My career in Tucson was founder and president of Allstate Transportation Services, which included taxis, limos, car rental, leasing and brokerage. I also did some log home building on Mt. Lemon in the day.

I joined the Centurions in '78 at the invitation of most dearly departed Dr. Glen Koepke. First event was the Great Train Junction Function, where we repurposed a train depot that had been boarded up for some 50 years! I joined because I was new in town, and wanted to meet some assorted flavors of folks and put down some roots. In addition to party and carry on and dance and act on this strange compulsion to

costume out in a socially acceptable way. I have served on the Board several times, was Social Chairman, and was active in creating party themes, tickets and programs. Now, looking back over 40 years, I realize the enduring value I got from hooking up with this gang. It's that pride I feel from assuming some civic responsibility in this life...finding common cause with a bunch of solid citizens has been such an innocent way of having made a difference for having been alive, and in the process having formed so many of my most cherished and lasting friends and relationships.

I'm a single dude. My hobbies are the keyboards, enjoying and supporting Tucson's music scene, travel, visiting extended family & friends and my Tucson Rotary Club. I used to play golf until I injured myself on the course having fallen off the ball washer.

## Calendar of Events

*Kermit Miller*

Wednesday, August 16 – Cocktails/Membership, Flemings Steakhouse

Thursday, September 21 – Cocktails/Membership, Vivace Restaurant

Saturday, October 6 – Lobster Party, St. Ann's Chapel & Ranch

Wednesday, October 18 – Cocktails/Membership/Rookie Introductions, Contigo at the Westin La Paloma

Thursday-Sunday, October 19-22, Mexico Trip