4Jan2024 American Legion Post 49 Membership Meeting Minutes

Commander John Barkley called the 4Jan2024 American Legion Post 49 membership meeting to order at 1907 after a Certificate of Appreciation was presented to Doug Landers, Owner of South Haven Wolverine Ace Hardware, for his generous donation to support the Medal of Honor monument construction for Medal of Honor Recipient Jim “Doc” McCloughan..

Order of Business

Adjutant Roll Call: **Cmdr. John Barkley**, **1st Vice Cmdr. Earl Lash,** 2nd Vice Cmdr Jim Addessi**,** Adjutant Bob Dargis, Finance Officer Sean Russell**, Judge Advocate Jason Turner, Sgt. at Arms Sieg Freitag,** Chaplain Larry Girard**,** Service Officer Steve Hamilton**,** Service Officer Marty Welker, Historian Jim McCloughan, **Trustee Bruce Thatcher,** Trustee Patrick Whitlatch, **Trustee Willie Reinhardt,** Trustee Chuck Aubrey**, Trustee Rich Ely**, Trustee Guy Cherry, **Ordnance Officer Mike Andruch,** Member Jim Montgomery, **Member Josh Gunnison, member Jason Mayer, member Dan Gomez.**
Quorum (of at least 5 AL members) **present**

Introduction of guests and prospective new members: None.

Award Presentation: Doug Landers prior to meeting start.

Meeting Minutes Membership Mtg minutes dated 7Dec2023 reviewed/**approved** as published on Motion of **Earl Lash**, properly seconded, on voice vote.

Committee reports

1. Finance.

-Account status:$199,335.13 including $15,417.77 CDs 2Jan2024 vs $230,174.06 26Nov
-Quickbooks: $12,373.93 loss Nov2023 vs $19,689 loss Nov2022 and $17,258 loss Nov2021
-Dec2023 Stock value $4,340.25.
-Finance Report approved on motion of Jason Turner, properly seconded, on voice vote.
-SAL current total funds available: $19,907.
-Aux current total funds available: $30,000 + $6,418.87 CD 28Dec

2. Adjutant

-Membership status of 7Dec: 29 new, 43 PUFL, 344 renewals, 416 total of 634 members = 65.62%, 65% 15Nov. goal, 75% 13Dec. goal. 4 new PUFL members were “sponsored” by Jim and Judie Montgomery.
-No update reported and no new member paperwork circulated this meeting..

3. Service Officers report

-Susan Schlaact from Aux has been representing a veteran and has coordinated final 2 week payments by Post 49 for a homeless veteran hotel room, ending 14Jan2024.
-Service Officers report approved on motion of Jason Turner, properly seconded, on voice vote.

4. Club Facilities and Operations Committee

-Ice Breakers Sat 3Feb- currently Sieg Freitag, Ron Sinkler and John Barkley signed up for 1130 start and need parking help. Breakfast Sunday 4Feb volunteers include Bob Dargis, Jason Mayer, Sean Russell, Jim Addessi and John Barkley.
Ice Breakers costs estimated at $600 dollars for Chili cook-off, advertising and (three) trolley support.

5. AL Events

-Draft list of 2024 Holidays and Observances shown below for review
-Wreaths Across America - ceremony at Arlington went well. Hope to have more wreaths/people at Lakeview next year and will select different area of the cemetery to start placement.

6.SAL Events Quilt auction is TBD.

7. Aux Events

-"During a regular AL Post 49 luncheon hosted by Post 49 Auxiliary Chaplain Vicki Olson for South Haven nursing home veterans, seven quilts and small Christmas trees were presented by Vicki Olson and Post 49 Auxiliary members Dayla McMullen, Diane Cabiness and Sue Schlaact.The quilts were artfully created in patriotic red, white and blue colors by Dayla, founding member of the local Cozy Quilters, and her group who meet at the Hope Reformed Church to make quilts for local seniors and foster home residents in Van Buren and Berrien counties." This description and pictures were submitted to MI AL Magazine and a similar story, pictures appeared in SH newspaper.

-Need current periodicals (magazines) for local nursing homes. Drop off prior to mtg.

-Friday fish dinners resume 16Feb.

-Planning $10,000 in donations

Old Business

-Law Officer and Firefighter of the year submissions 8Jan2023, Teacher of the Year 1April2023.

Other/New Business

-$250 Donation request to South Haven “Surge” baseball, currently sponsoring 3 teams, more than 30 SH grade school players approved on Motion of Bruce Thatcher and properly seconded, on voice vote.

-$400 donation recommendation for Heidi Rupley, Lincoln Elementary School Teacher for classroom support approved on motion of Earl Lash and properly seconded, on voice vote.

-Proposal from Sieg Freitag to cut down pine tree in front of building to enable additional parking received approval on motion from Earl Lash to solicit/report 3 quotes.

-Maintenance items. Smoke eater filters require changing. New exterior padlocks purchased/installed, Wheels replaced on both chair racks.SAL Charter reported to be in need of repair.

-Renting Tiki Bar area for additional revenue (when other Post spaces rented) received support after discussion, given space can be found/allocated to regular Post members during rental event.

-4th district meeting at Dorr on Sunday 7Jan. Lunch planned for 12 noon and business meeting at 1300..

-Flag in front of building reported by Josh to be worn and ready for replacement. Josh also suggested Flags Unlimited as a possible source for replacement flags.

Sick call

Please keep member Post 49 AL member Tom and LWF member Don Alsboro (currently at South Haven Nursing Home) in your thoughts and prayers..

Communication & Donation Announcements (to/from AL) .

Donation thank you from “98 Fund” and “Gold Star Fund” received.

Next meetings

-Membership Mtg 1900 1Feb

-Club Operations Com.1530, Exec Com. Mtg 1600 25Jan

Memorial to a departed post member None.

For The Good of The American Legion.

-Michigan Military and Veterans Hall of Honor, 165 Lodge Lane, Kalamazoo, MI 49009

-AL Department Deadlines for 2024

January 2024

January 1st- Baseball registration opens on baseball.legion.org

January 8th- Law Officer of the Year submission deadline

January 8th- Firefighter of the Year submission deadline
January 21st- District Oratorical Contests deadline
January 22nd- Brewer/Wilson Scholarship submission deadline
February 2024
February TBD- JSSP Targets due to the Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) - must be postmarked on or before this date to be eligible for scoring
February 4th- Zone Oratorical Contests deadline
February TBD- JSSP Second round postal match competition targets mailed out by CMP
March 2024
March 1st- Eagle Scout of the Year Award submission deadline
March 2nd -Oratorical State Contest at location the Michigan Historical Center in Lansing
April 2024
April 1st- Teacher of the Year submission deadline
May 2024
May 1st- Boys State Application submission deadline
May 10th- Student Trooper Application submission deadline
May 17th-19th- National Oratorical Contest at Hillsdale College in Hillsdale, MI

-2024 Holidays and Observances

Jan: Monday Jan 1 New Year's Day, Monday Jan 15 Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Feb; Thursday Feb 1 National Freedom Day, Friday Feb 2 Groundhog Day, Saturday Feb 3 Ice Breakers, Wednesday Feb 14 Valentine's Day, Monday Feb 19 Presidents' Day
Mar: Sunday Mar 10 Daylight Saving Time starts, Sunday Mar 17 St. Patrick's Day, Monday March 25 National Medal of Honor Day , Friday Mar 29 National Vietnam War Veterans Day, Saturday Mar 30 AL Post 49 Children's Easter Party, Sunday Mar 31 Easter.
Apr: Tuesday Apr 23 Passover, Thursday Apr 25 Take our Daughters and Sons to Work Day,
May: Wednesday May 1 First Day of Military Appreciation Month, Sunday May 5 Cinco de Mayo, Monday May 6 National Nurses Day, Tuesday May 7 National Teacher Appreciation Day, Wednesday May 8 Victory in Europe Day, Sunday May 12 Mother's Day, Wednesday May 15 Peace Officers Memorial Day, Saturday May 18 Armed Forces Day, Wednesday May 22 National Maritime Day, Monday May 27 Memorial Day
Jun: Thursday Jun 6 D-Day, Friday Jun 14 Army Birthday, Friday Jun 14 Flag Day, Sunday Jun 16 Father's Day, Wednesday Jun 19 Juneteenth.
Jul: Thursday Jul 4 Independence Day, Saturday Jul 27 National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day,
Aug: Sunday Aug 4 Coast Guard Birthday, Wednesday Aug 7 Purple Heart Day, Operation Injured Soldier Friday Aug 16 1700-1930 Dinner and Saturday Aug 17 12 Noon Salute on S Pier, Monday Aug 19 National Aviation Day
Sep: MondaySep 2 Labor Day, Sunday Sep 8 National Grandparents Day, Wednesday Sep 11 Patriot Day, Tuesday Sep 17 Constitution Day and Citizenship Day, Wednesday Sep 18 Air Force Birthday, Friday Sep 20 National POW/MIA Recognition Day, Sunday Sep 29 Gold Star Mother's Day
Oct: Sunday Oct 13 Navy Birthday, Monday Oct 14 Columbus Day, Wednesday Oct 16 Boss's Day, Saturday Oct 26 Post 49 Halloween Children's Party, Thursday Oct 31 Halloween
Nov: Sunday Nov 3 Daylight Saving Time ends, Sunday Nov 10 Marine Corps Birthday, Monday Nov 11 Veterans Day, Sunday Nov 24 Larry Carlson Memorial Dinner, Thursday Nov 28 Thanksgiving Day, Friday Nov 29 Native American Heritage Day
Dec: Saturday Dec 7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, Friday Dec 13 National Guard Birthday, Saturday Dec 21 National Wreaths Across America, Saturday Dec 21 Post 49 Children's Christmas Party, Wednesday Dec 25 Christmas Day, Thursday Dec 26 Kwanzaa (first day), Tuesday Dec 31 New Year's

Commander John Barkley conducted the closing ceremony and declared the meeting adjourned at 2005 hours.

Respectfully,
John Barkley for Adjutant Bob Dargis,American Legion Post 49