25 NOV 2025 American Legion Executive Meeting Minutes

Post commander: *leads the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance, remove caps*."I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all." *Recover.*

Post commander: Hand Salute, Two

Post commander: "Seats".

Post commander: "I now declare this meeting of Edward W. Thompson Post No. 49 open for business"

Order of Business

Adjutant Roll Call: (Attendees in Bold) Cmdr. Bob Dargis, 1st Vice Cmdr. Earl Lash, 2nd Vice Cmdr Jim Addessi, **Adjutant DanThompson**, **Finance Officer Sean Russell, Judge Advocate Jason Turner, Sgt. at Arms Sieg Freitag**, Chaplain Larry Girard, Service Officer Steve Hamilton, **Service Officer Jason Mayer,** Historian Jim McCloughan, **Trustee DanGomez,** Trustee Josh Gunneson, Trustee Willie Reinhardt, Trustee Chuck Aubrey,Trustee Rick Ely, SAL Commander Brett Novy, **Auxiliary President Mary Fitzgerald,** Club Manager Emily Fitzbaker, SAL Member Dave Wiatrowski, **Auxiliary Chaplain Vicki Olson, AL Member John Barkley** , **Aux Member Linda Teeter,AL Member Jim Neeley**" ,**quorum of 5 Legion members present ?"- yes**

Review/approve Previous Meeting Minutes- 25 Sept 2025 Motion to Approve Sean Russell, seconded and motion passed

Meeting purpose reminder. Review recommendations from committees (including the Club Operations Committee), adopt those recommendations that are judged to be useful for the successful operation and management of the post,and present major recommendations/changes to the general Membership Mtg for member approval.

Introduction of guests

Business

-Account status:Total Funds Available; $108,202.71, vs. $202,487.79 29 OCT 25, & $207,602.79 21 NOV 2024
-Quickbooks: $12,822.22 vs -$40,084.54 Sep 2025, & -$12,687.96 Oct 2024
-Finance Report motion for approval. Motion to approved- Jason Turner, seconded and motion passed
Line of Credit has been tapped for the second payment made to Debest for approximately $33,000.
-SAL funds available: Approx $12,654.73, total incl $10,240.13 CD
- Aux funds available: $29833, (including $10k set aside for ADA improvements) plus $6,744.70 CD
-Club Operations Committee recommendations:
-Cal review for DEC
-Christmas Bonuses for Club manager and bartenders : $250 for those employed less than 3 years, $350 for those employed three or more years and $400 for Emily, club Mgr, Motion by Sean Russell, seconded and motion passed
- Emergency payment to Bar Manager of $1000 to defray costs for family emergency Motion by John Barkley, seconded and motion passed
-Motion for leftover breakfast supplies to be donated to SOHA VFW,Motion byJason T, seconded and motion passed
-Remove Christmas decorations from "cold storage" after this meeting
-upcoming meetings scheduled Combined Exec and Membership meetings- December 23rd- Motion by John B, seconded and motion passed

AL Events

-1Dec Trees for Troops 9AM at Wahmhoff tree farm, Address: 22330 M-40, Gobles, MI 49055
-7Dec Pearl Harbor Day 1300 salute at Post 49,
-13Dec Wreaths Across America, TBD Ceremony followed by 1200 placing wreaths at Lakeview cemetery,
-13 Dec Tom and Jerry party by AUX 6 PM
- 20 Dec Kids Xmas Party Hours, two sessions, first session 11 AM, second session 1230 PM - reservations required
- 25 Dec Closed
-31 Dec- Open to public

SAL Events

-50/50 fund raising raffle in the works, will end Dec 15.
-Working with architect Peterson on indoor ADA Improvements status ?
-Donated $7,500 to ADA-E and included below.

Aux Events

20Dec Children's Christmas Party at Post 49 timing and help requirements

Other Business

-Recent Larry Carlson Memorial dinner not too well attended, many leftovers donated
-Letter of credit approved by Sturgis Bank for control/use by the Finance Officer has been utilized for second payment to Debest for a little over $33,000.
-Fund raising status to date:

Responses thru 26Oct2025 for Donations to Post 49 (With 2024 $8,000 donation)								
Donations From			**All**	**AL**	**Aux**	**Sal**	**KOC**	**Other**
Donations For								
	ADA-E	Amount, $	**$81,676**	$33,331	$150	$7,695	$500	
		Amount, %	**85%**					
	ADA-I	Amount, $	**$4,255**	$2,655	$1,100	$0	$500	Fishing Charter
		Amount, %	**9%**					
	General	Amount, $	**$2,828**	$2,378	$350	$100		
		Amount, %	**6%**					
Total $s			**$88,759**	**$38,364**	**$1,600**	**$7,795**	**$1,000**	
Total percent $s			**100%**	**79%**	**3%**	**16%**	**2%**	

-Approve Donations previously recommended from template for check writing late Nov-Dec 2025.
Note that the list is a subset of all 2025 donations

American Legion Post 49 Mission Support Spending to Non Profits, Veterans/Families

	Organization	Items covered, Information	2025CY Spending C-Completed P-Proj. 11/25	Address, Misc Comments
1	Direct emergency support of local vet's	Cell phone bills, gas, food/groceries, short term motel lodging	$1,500 C AL $1,000 P AL $170 C AL	Emergency funding for car repairs, gas, ST rent, Heating Oil,food
2	Wilwin Lodge	Lodging and recreation for veterans, families	$1,000 C SAL $500 P AL	Wilwin Lodge, 3383 E Hawley Rd, Custer, MI 49405
3	AL Homeless Veterans	Direct support in temporary shelters	$1,000 C SAL $1,000 P AL	American Legion Department of Michigan 212 N Verlinden Ave, Lansing, MI 48915 ATTN Wanda Ophaug,
4	Fisher House, Battle Creek, MI	MI home for disabled vet's, families	$500 P AL	Fisher House of Michigan, PO Box 130466 Ann Arbor, MI, 48113
5	Primal Outfitters		$1,200 C SAL $600 C Aux $2,192 C AL	$600 dinner profit match + $392 trans. cost for fishing tournament + $1,200 for porta potty contract bill from AL, $600 from Aux and $1,200 donated from SAL
6	AL Veterans and Children Foundation	Supports MI Veterans families in financial hardship and direct support, training for AL Service Officers	$1,000 C SAL $500 P AL	American Legion Department of Michigan 212 N Verlinden Ave, Lansing, MI 48915 ATTN Wanda Ophaug,
7	Tunnels to Towers	Pay home mortgages, upgrades for primary providers killed in service	$636 P AL	
8	American Gold Star Women of Michigan	Providing direct support, support animals	$500 P AL	AGSM Western Mich. Chapter,1606 Eastview Dr.,Niles, MI 49120
9	Wreaths Across America	Purchase/place wreaths 17Dec at Lakeview, other cemeteries	$1,000 P AL	Wreaths Ordered, centrally by Post 49
10	Poppies	Buying poppies for AL Post 49	$1,000 P AL	
11	SH, Glenn, Pullman Schools	Supplies	$500 P AL	Heidi Rupley for Lincoln children school supplies.
12	Service Dogs	Trains emotional assistance dogs to help injured warriors to recovery from PTSD, TBI, mobility impairments.	$1,000 P AL	$600 to Magnum K9 Pets, Sturgis, MI 49091
13	Other Misc	Reserve for remainder of CY	$500 P AL	?
14	Food service for veteran memorial meals served at Post 49		$1,000 C AL $500 P AL	food service for 6 memorial events at post
	Total		$8,136 P AL $18,598 Total C&P AL	

-Motion to approve payments to Wilwin Lodge, AL Homeless veterans, Fisher House, AL Veterans and Children Foundation, Tunnels to Towers, American Gold Star Women of Michitan, SH Lincoln School (Heidi R), Service Dogs, Motion to approve as specified in chart - John Barkley, seconded and motion passed.
-Wreaths Across America checks were provided by John Barkley to Lynne Farmer
-Status on External post improvements, nearly complete, problem with Angle Iron supporting Bar top
-Tom Renner Mtg to develop a City Hall Memorial Park. Review City Hall Project with Membership, layout by 22Jan.
-Other Business to come before the leadership group
- 2 electrical outlets (outside)- tabled till ADA I- design
- Aux ABO- pictures on facebook
- Certificate of Appreciation for recent sizable donation- Preparation by John Barkley, Card by Vickie Olson
- Next Meeting Dec 23rd

Correspondence to/from AL

Sick Call Dan Farmer

Next meetings

-Membership Mtg 1700 DEC 23, 2025.
-Exec Comm Mtg 1700 Dec 23 2025 (note rescheduled/new date)
-Monthly Commander and Adjutant Zoom meetings are being held on the first Tuesday of the month, at 1400 hrs.

2025 Holidays and Observances

Dec: 7Dec Pearl Harbor Day, **13Dec Wreaths Across America**, 13Dec National Guard Birthday, **20Dec Children's Christmas Party at Post 49,** 25Dec Christmas Day, 31Dec New Year's Eve

Any further action to come before this meeting ?

Post commander: “I now declare this meeting of Edward W. Thompson South Haven Post No.49 adjourned.” 5:11 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Daniel Thompson
Post Adjutant