**4 JUNE 2026 American Legion Post 49 Membership Meeting Minutes**

**Upon Opening Ceremony, Commander Dargis called the meeting to order**

**Order of Business**

**Adjutant Roll Call: ATTENDEES in BOLD: Cmdr. Bob Dargis,** 1st Vice Cmdr. Earl Lash, 2nd **Vice Cmdr Jim Addessi, Adjutant Dan Thompson, 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 Dan Gomez,** Trustee Willie Reinhardt, **Trustee Chuck Aubrey**, Trustee Rich Ely, **trustee Bruce Thatcher, Mike Andruch, Past Cmdr. John Barkley**, Dan Lundgren, **Ordnance Officer Jim Neely, Dan Zwar,** Member Amanda Jones, Member Jim Smith, SAL Member Paul Middleton
"Is quorum (of at least 5 Legion members) present?" **YES**

**Reading/approval of last meeting minutes** - **7 May 2026- Motion to approve by Jim Adessi, seconded and approved**

**Swearing In of New Post 49 Officers**

Commander Bob Dargis, 1st Vice Commander Jason Turner, 2nd Vice Commander Jim Adessi, Adjutant Dan Thompson, Chaplain Larry Girard, Finance Officer Sean Russell, Sgt at Arms Seig Freitag, Service Officer Jason Mayer, Historian Jim McCloughan, Judge Advocate John Barkley, Trustee Rick Ely, Trustee Amanda Jones,

**Awards/ Certificates:**

Women's Veteran Appreciation Certificate Presentation to Trustee Amanda Jones

**Committee Reports**

**1. Finance.**

-Account status: $ 134,998.31 vs $137,029.05 April 2026 vs $172,946.79 May 2025
-Quickbooks: $-12,850.47 vs $ -8,815.54 March 2026 vs $- 2,431.51 April 2025
-Finance Report motion for approval. **Motion by C. Aubrey, seconded and Approved**
-SAL funds available: $25,303.76
- Aux funds available: $16,000 + ( CD $6000) $3240 for Rummage Sale

**2. Adjutant**

-Membership report as of : May 16, 2026: 57 New, 48 PUFL, 555 Renewals, for 660/655 = 100.76 %, Goal for May 13, 2026 is 100%, -Circulate new member applications and **consider a motion to approve new members and Adjutant's report. Motion by Aubrey, seconded and approved**

**3. Service Officers report:**

-Thank-you from Family of Jim Nesta for Honor Guard support
- Transported Vet to Wyoming VA Clinic
- Provided service to 2 Vets, one with a house fire requested assistance, another vet requested help with electric bill

**4. Club Facilities and Operations Committee**

-Report by Heather Hahn as to status on cooler repairs (waiting on supplier)
-Open Dates for dinner 7/31 and Breakfast 8/30 need to be filled
***-Light up the Lake, July 3: Committee Report from Dan Thompson:***

1-Parking $20, Legionnaires free- Paul Middleton lead on parking
2-Open to public at noon- suggested donation $5
3-No reserved seating, unless occupied, unoccupied blankets and chairs will be collected
4- No liquids in or out, cups empty at pail at door
5-All Bags subject to search
6-Kitchen available for sales until SAL starts serving at 5 PM
7-Extra Bartenders at Main Bar and Tiki Bar
8-Porta Potties being ordered

9-Volunteers in bright shirts, with staff on back

***10Volunteers needed, 2 shifts 2-6 PM , and 6-10 PM, 2 at door, 1 lower level east, 1 gate Tiki Hut, 2-police back, pick up trash, 2 clean up after fireworks, 2 help at kitchen ( noon to 5pm)***

***Total per shift not counting parking,/ kitchen and clean up after total per shift 6,***

***PLEASE NOTE:***

***We need volunteers, signup sheet below bulletin board in Club Room , and being circulated with Aux, and SAL***

**- Breakfast prices**: Should we raise from $10 adults, $5 Kids to $12 and $6? **Motion to approve: Bruce Thatcher, seconded and motion approved to raise price to $12 for adults, and $6 for kids** ?Effective June 21, per suggestion of Sean Russell.

- Rifle Raffle, need to sell tickets, Drawing held SEPT 5 at 6 PM
- Poppie day proceeds $9,000 +

**5. AL Events**

- 5 June, pizza night
- 6 June Volunteers will be at Michigan Maritime Museum to work with kids games (Dan Thompson)
- 7June-**HonorGuard** for Army Veteran Terry Tatsch 1300 on 7June 2026 at the First Congregational Church, 651 Phoenix St The bus will leave the Post at 1230.
- 14June-**Honor Guard** support for the Flag Day ceremonial destruction of US flags (confirmed with Troop leader Bob Linderman) 1130, followed by Army Birthday celebration at 1200

**-Motion to approve Rodney Tolbert as a delegate to Convention by Jim Adessi, seconded and approved**

- 16 June-**Honor Guard** for Navy Veteran Thomas Olson 1100 16June2026 at Lakeview Cemetery.The bus will leave the Post at 1030.
- 19 June, Hillsdale Post 53 Legacy Ride 6/19 evening- Taco Night, 6/20 Breakfast
- June 25-28, Department Convention in Battle Creek, 2 delegates nominated by Jason Turner are: Rodney Tolbert and Earl Lash. **Motion to Approve.**
- **3 July, light up the Lake, SAl to BBQ**
- 18 July **Honor Guard** funeral for David Fenske at McDowell Cemetery 1300 (A second possible at 1100 at Taylor Cemetery)
- 20July, Michigan Vet's Golf Assoc.State Championship, 930 am opening ceremony at Harbor Shores Golf course, **Color Guard** requested, flags only (so far)
- 31 July, Pizza night AL
- **15 Aug, Salute to Veterans at South Haven Pier, noon 1200**
- 4Sept- **Honor Guard** for Marine Veteran James W Knapp 1100 4Sept 2026 at Lakeview.The bus will leave the Post at 1030
- Sept 5 Gun Raffle drawing at 6 PM
- OCT 9 , Veterans Resource fair at post 49 4-7 PM , status Toni Kennedy - Steve Hamilton point of contact

**6**. **SAL Events:**

-Plans for cooking July 3 Light up the Lake start time 5PM

-BC Vet Hospital Trivia night Columbus Day October 12, 2026

**7. Aux Events:**

**<u>Old Business</u>**

- White Adirondack chairs to be ordered and paid for, not yet available. Red and blue have been placed on the lower level, proving very popular with guests. - **Motion to Approve purchase of 10 white Adirondack Chairs, 10@ $160 each = $1,600, when available. Motion by C. Aubrey, seconded and approved**

**- Thank You to Jim Neeley for putting together all the Blue and Red Adirondack chairs!**

**<u>New Business</u>**

-Mike Andruch nominated Jim Neeley to take over as Ordinance Officer- not an elected position, accepted by Jim Neely. Thank You Jim for Stepping into this much needed position. **Thank You Mike for all your years of serving as Ordnance Officer!**

- Earl Lash has filed a formal complaint against Commander Dargis with Adjutant Thompson.

Under the existing procedure, a committee of three persons not involved in the matter have been appointed to investigate the charges.

- Discussion regarding honoring South Haven VFW member cards at Post 49. Motion by C. Aubrey, seconded and approved to honor South Haven cards on a reciprocal basis. Commander Dargis will coordinate with VFW Commander

**Sick call**: Dan Farmer, Liz Aubrey recently released from Hospital, Larry Girard.

**Communication & Donation Announcements** (to/from AL).

**Next meetings**

-25 June 2026, 4:30 pm Club Op and Exec Comm Meeting now combined
- 2 July 2026, 7:00 pm Membership meeting
-Monthly Commander and Adjutant Zoom meetings are being held on the first Tuesday of the month, at 1400 hrs.

**2026 Holidays and Observances**

**JUNE**
Jun 14 – Flag Day & Army Birthday, Jun 21 Father's Day, Jun 23 – Coast Guard Auxiliary Birthday, Jun 27 – National PTSD Awareness Day,
**July:** Jul 4 – Independence Day – 250th anniversary, Jul 27 – Korean War Veterans Armistice Day
**August:** Aug 4 – Coast Guard Birthday, Aug 7 – Purple Heart Day, Aug 14 - VJ Day, Aug 15 - Salute to Veterans, Aug 16 - National Senior Citizens Day,
**September**: Sept 7 - Labor Day, Sept 11 – Patriot Day – 25th anniversary, Sept 18 – Air Force Birthday, Sept 19 – POW/MIA Recognition Day, Sept. 27 – Gold Star Mother's and Family's Day
**October**: Oct 13 – Navy Birthday, Oct 26 – National Day of the Deployed, Oct 31 - Halloween
**November:** Nov 3 - Election Day, Nov 10 – Marine Corps Birthday, Nov 11 – Veterans Day, Nov 21- Larry Carlson Memorial Thanksgiving Dinner, Nov 26 - Thanksgiving Day
**December**: Dec 7 – Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, Dec 13 – National Guard Birthday, Dec 20 – Space Force Birthday, Dec 20 – National Wreaths Across America Day, Dec 25 - Christmas Day, New Years Eve - Dec 31.

With no further action to come before this meeting, the Closing Ceremony conducted by Commander Dargis and **Meeting adjourned at 8:37 PM**

Respectfully Submitted
Daniel Thompson
Post Adjutant