5 FEB 2026 American Legion Post 49 Membership Meeting Minutes

After the opening ceremony was conducted, Commander Bob 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 Josh Gunneson, Trustee Dan Gomez, **Trustee Willie Reinhardt**, Trustee Chuck Aubrey, Trustee Rich Ely, Ordnance Officer Mike Andruch**, Past Cmdr. John Barkley,** Aux President Mary Fitzgerald,**Aux Member Linda Teeter, Aux Chaplin Vickie Olson, SAL Paul Middleton, SAL member Dave Wiatrowski,, Member Jim Neeley, Member Bruce Thatcher,**
"Is quorum (of at least 5 Legion members) present?" - YES

Introduction of guests and prospective new members None

Reading/approval of last meeting minutes - **22 DEC 2025 Motion by Earl Lash,** properly seconded and approved

Draping Ceremony was conducted for deceased member Phil Novak.

Certificates of Appreciation Were presented to Jim Neely and Sieg Freitag

Committee Reports

1. Finance.
Per Sean Russell
-Account status: $15,895 vs -$34,031 Nov 2025 & -$26,825 Dec 2024
-Quickbooks: Total Funds Available; Total Funds Available; $202,939 vs. $217,854 Dec 2025, & $162,867 Jan 2025
-Finance Report motion for approval. **Motion by Earl Lash, properly seconded and approved**
-SAL funds available: Approx $33,643 total including $10,000 CD
- Aux funds available: $34,306 (including $10k set aside for ADA improvements) plus $6,786 CD.
-Club Operations Committee recommendations:
Kitchen cleaning project, Sunday 1-31, 3:00 pm to Saturday Feb 7, 8:00 am, cost split three ways AL, AUX and SAL,(approx 2k each) Volunteers needed to move items back into kitchen Feb 7

2. Adjutant
-Membership report as of Jan 30, 2026,: 34 new, 48 PUFL, 512 Renewals, 594 / 655 = 90.69 % with goal of 90% by 11 MARCH 2026.
.- Motion by John Barkley to approve Adjutant's report, properly seconded was approved

3. Service Officers report:
-Jason Mayer reported recent contact and communication re: Berrien County Veteran while Steve Hamilton reported providing rental housing to a relative of his who is a Veteran, who may need some additional help from the post.

4. Club Facilities and Operations Committee
-Cal review for February
-Review of Quotes for kitchen deep clean and painting per Linda Teeter, volunteers needed to remove and replace
-Hall builders proposal bathroom ADA compliance buildout, April, 2 weeks, Restrooms to be partially out of commission some of that time. Paid for by AUX. $28,000.

- Additional possible project by Hall at same time to replace front door and add ADA compliance power operator at a proposed cost of $14,800. On motion of Earl Lash, properly seconded, membership approved this contract proposal..
- Additional cooler repair needed, approximate cost $15,000 to $20,000. Heather to obtain a quote from Pro temp and other refrigeration contractors for this project.

- Recent plumbing repairs were made, Bar sink repaired, Kitchen hand washing sink replaced, Kitchen Sink drains replaced.

5. AL Event

- None on immediate horizon

6. **SAL Events:**

- Dan Lundgren, along with Jason Mayer and Mary Fitzgerald, will undertake cleaning and reorganizing the storage room. 14 FEB SAL dinner 5-7 pm for Mardi Gras, 25 March Saint Patrick's dinner.

7. Aux Events

Friday Fish Fry to commence 20 Feb

Old Business

Other/New Business

Bruce Thatcher presented and discussed possible proposal for Rifle Raffle.

Willie Reinhardt asked if we could map the sprinkler system. Check again in spring.

-**Fund raising status:**

Responses thru 27Nov2025 for Donations to Post 49 (With 2024 $8,000 donation)								
Donations From			**All**	**AL**	**Aux**	**Sal**	**KOC**	**Other**
Donations For								
	ADA-E	Amount, $	**$88,676**	$80,331	$150	$7,695	$500	
		Amount, %	**93%**					
	ADA-I	Amount, $	**$4,255**	$2,655	$1,100	$0	$500	Fishing Charter
		Amount, %	**4%**					
	Gen.	Amount, $	**$2,828**	$2,378	$350	$100		
		Amount, %	**3%**					
Total $s			**$95,760**	**$85,364**	**$1,600**	**$7,795**	**$1,000**	
Total percent $s			**100%**	**89%**	**2%**	**8%**	**1%**	

Sick call: Dan Farmer, Mike Andruch (just out of surgery), Dan Gomez, Glenn Higgs and wife.

Next meetings

-EXEC meeting 26 FEB 2026 at 4:00 pm

-MEMBERSHIP meeting 5 March 2026 at 7:00 pm

-Monthly Commander and Adjutant Zoom meetings are being held on the first Tuesday of the month, at 1400 hrs.

2026 Military Holidays and Observances

February: Feb 2 - Groundhog Day, Feb 3 – Four Chaplains Day, Feb 14 - Valentine's Day, Feb 18 - Ash Wednesday, Feb 19 – Coast Guard Reserve Birthday

March: Mar. 3 – Navy Reserve Birthday, Mar 6 - Employee Appreciation Day, Mar 8 - Daylight Saving Time, Mar 13 – K-9 Veterans Day, Mar 17 - St. Patrick's Day, Mar 25 – Medal of Honor Day, Mar 29 - Palm Sunday, Mar 29 – Vietnam Veterans Day

April: Apr 1 - Passover Eve, Apr 5 - Easter Sunday, Apr 5 – Gold Star Spouses Day, Apr 14 – Air Force Reserve Birthday, Apr 23 – Army Reserve Birthday, Apr 23 - take our Daughters and Sons to Work Day

May: May 1 – Silver Star Banner Day, May 5 - National Teacher Appreciation Day, May 6 - National Nurses Day, May 7 - National Day of Prayer, May 8 - Victory in Europe Day, May 8 – Military Spouse Appreciation Day, May 10 - Mother's Day, May 13 – Children of Fallen Patriots, May 15 - Peace Officers Memorial Day, Day, May 16 – Armed Forces Day, May 25 – Memorial Day

June: Jun 6 – D-Day Anniversary, 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.

Closing ceremony

Commander Dargis conducted closing ceremony and meeting was adjourned at 7:05 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Bob Dargis for, Daniel Thompson
Post Adjutant