5 MARCH 2026 American Legion Post 49 Membership Meeting Minutes

Following the 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(excused) 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, **Trustee Bruce Thatcher**, Ordnance Officer Mike Andruch (excused) , **Past Cmdr. John Barkley**,, **Jim Neely**. **Kirk Wick Post 53,Paul Middleton.**
"Is quorum (of at least 5 Legion members) present?" **YES**

Meeting Suspended for Briefing by Kirk Wick Post 53 of Hillsdale regarding "Legacy Ride" scheduled for June 19th and June 20th. Highlights include 100 riders expected to raise funds for Michigan American Legion Foundation supporting Wounded and Returning Warriors fund. The 100 riders are expected to arrive for "Taco Night" (6/19)at the Legion and for coffee and donuts on the following morning (6/20). A donation was solicited which will be considered by the membership- Donation was discussed(dinner and breakfast proceeds for 6/19, and 6/20) tabled for future discussion.

Meeting Returned to Normal Business as indicated on the Agenda-

Reading/approval of last meeting minutes - **5 FEB 2026- Motion by Earl Lash, properly seconded and approved**

Awards/ Certificates, Mike Andruch- pending his return

Committee Reports

1. Finance.
-Account status: $-29,299.70 vs $-15,895.87 DEC 2025, & -$14,596 JAN 2024
-Quickbooks:Total Funds Available:$136,190.91 vs $202,939.29 Dec 2025 & $169,376.04 FEB 2024
-Finance Report motion for approval.**Motion to approve by John Barkley, properly seconded and approved**
-SAL funds available: $18,242.47 plus CD $10,311
- Aux funds available: $34,306 (including $10k set aside for ADA internal improvements) plus $6,786 CD
-Club Operations Committee recommendations: See 4., below

2. Adjutant
-Membership report as of Feb 27, 2026: 34 new, 48 PUFL, 532 Renewals, 614 / 655 = 93.74 %
with a goal of 90% by 11 March 2026. The goal was exceeded.
-New member applications to circulate , **MOTION to approve Adjutant's report.-Chuck Aubrey, properly seconded and motion passed**

3. Service Officers report: Rifle Raffle paperwork in progress, Raffle sales start Memorial Day Weekend and Drawing scheduled for Labor Day.Two rifles for prizes, one "Survivor Rifle" on hand and the other "22" waiting for delivery. Funds raised to be provided to ***Operation Injured Soldier.*** Bruce Thatcher provided IRS 1099 (2024) for this organization, which features extremely low overhead costs, providing services to minimum 30% disability or combat injuries.
-Steve Hamilton reported a veteran in rehab needing transportation to Battle Creek, returned needing a hotel room/ dinner.
- Steve Hamilton indicated that June 12th is Female Veterans Day, asking for a female veteran from each county to be recognized, potential candidates discussed but needs to be asked. The goal is to have one female veteran from each County in Michigan to be identified.

4. Club Facilities and Operations Committee
-Cal review for MARCH/APRIL
- Kitchen cleaning project, BIG THANK YOU to Linda Teeter
Total cost $6,105.99 split 3 ways AL, AUX and SAL $2,035.33 each.

- Hall builders proposal for 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 project by Hall at same time to replace front door and add ADA compliance power operator at a proposed cost of $15,955 was approved at last members meeting
-Recent Kitchen hood cleaning completed, some caulk needed for grease trap
-Club Manager position being permanently filled by Heather Hahn
Heather Reported the following for Club Operations
- SAL St Patrick's Celebration- March 14th Time TBD
-TV Update- Monthly, see Heather if need an update
- Hillsdale Post Legacy Ride 6/19 evening- Taco Night Heads Up, 6/20 Breakfast- Heads Up
- Open Dates for dinners 5/29 and 7/31,and Breakfasts 5/31 and 8/30, need to be filled
-Purchasing Passports and Stamps- Backordered- out of stock
- Awaiting quote on Cooler (tomorrow from ProTemp)
- Kitchen Checklist established for organizations using kitchen, please comply with checklist when using kitchen
-Ice Breaker revenue was up $1400, with a profit of approximately $2000
- John Barkley reported that the one day rental of club facilities provided to Al-Van animal rescue charity auction raised $950 for that charity.
-John Barkley also reported that DeBest is scheduling a "walk-around" to ensure work is properly completed. The walk around committee is Chuck Aubrey, Jim Neely, John Barkley, and Bob Dargis.

5. AL Events
-Recent Honor Guard funeral for Rick Young Feb 18

6. SAL Events:
March 14 Saint Patrick's dinner, Time 5-7PM

7. Aux Events
Friday Fish Fry commenced Feb 20, through Lent, Easter Bunny March 28
4,000 poppies to be ordered at cost of $1,520, MOTION TO APPROVE - **Motion by Chuck Aubrey properly seconded and approved**

Old Business

Other/New Business
-Fund raising status:

Responses thru 28Dec2025 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%					
	General	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%**	

Motion made to apply $4255, and $2828 to Front Door

Restoration- by John Barkley, properly seconded, and motion passed

-Additional Business
- Suggested at the Executive meeting that we get rid of/donate broken pool table and we replace it with a high top table and chairs, thoughts/comments, **Motion to approve?-- TABLED**
- John Barkley provided heads-up on need for Legion election nominations in April

Sick call: Dan Farmer, Mike Andruch

Communication & Donation Announcements (to/from AL).

Next meetings
-26 MARCH 2026, 4:30 pm Club Op and Exec Comm Meeting now combined
- 2 April 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

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.

Any further action to come before this meeting ?- No

The closing ceremony was conducted by Post Commander Dargis who adjourned the meeting at 8:54 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Daniel Thompson, Post Adjutant