



**American Legion  
Fallen Heroes Mandarin Post #372  
(904) 297-8344  
www.alpost372fl.org**



**September 11th, 2025**

## **General Assembly Meeting Minutes**

**A General Assembly meeting was convened at 1900.**

**The meeting was opened with Prayer conducted by Chaplain Mike Montenara. Opening ceremonies were conducted in accordance with American Legion traditions.**

**Commander asks for a moment of silence for those serving and who served defending our country from all wars and conflicts.**

**Commander requests names of any one sick or in distress: George Herd, Carl Zuber, Bob Sussan & wife, Becky Murphy, Bob German, Carlton German Carlton, Daniel Hicks, Becky Murphy, Chuck Hurd, Evert Perry.**

**2 guests were present: Timothy A. Gagouon, James E. Mumford Jr.**

**14members in attendance**

**A roll call of officers was conducted. Quorum achieved.**

**A motion was made by Joe Maltese, Second by Dan Taszarek to accept the minutes of the August General Assembly. The minutes were accepted. A motion was made by Mike Montenara to suspend the reading of the August Executive meeting. Second by Barry Listky. Motion passed.**

**Correspondence: 1. WWIA Wounded Warriors in Action foundation, Apollo Beach FL., sends a poster highlighting September Prevention Month Poster to post on bulletin board. Also Poster: Adaptive Outdoor Sporting Program. 2. Stamps for the Wounded has an updated mailing address. By USPS, Stamps For The wounded P.O. Box 297 Dunn Loring VA 22027-0297 or by**

**UPS and/or FedEx Stamps For The Wounded 6023 Gallows Road #297 Dunn Lorin VA. 22027.**

**3. American Legion Department of Florida asking for financial support of the Disaster Relief Fund. Donations made on line at [www.floridalegion.org/aid](http://www.floridalegion.org/aid) or mail checks to American Legion Attn. Disaster Relief 1912 Lee Road Orlando FL 32810.**

**4. Luncheon Honoring Military Veterans and First Responders, Saturday 13. 2025 at 11:30am in the Duval room.**

**5. District 5 Disaster Relief Chairperson there are 600 buckets to be picked up at post 283. Each post is challenged to fill 40 buckets and return them to post 283, and several other posts in our area. Member Alan Painter volunteered to pick up buckets and lids on 9-14-2025 during the post 9/11 ALR ride. A list of requested items was passed out at the meeting.**

**Commander reminds members to check in their spam file for any missed e-mails. Also Commander states several members reporting E-mails from him asking for gift cards. Commander Dan Hemsall states this as a fraudulent attempt to scam members. Do not respond to these e-mails.**

### **Officer Reports**

**Commander Dan Hemsall reports on**

**1st Vice Commander Steve Sullivan reports he is collecting empty cans for the post building fund. All members are encouraged to collect aluminum cans and turn them over to Steve. He will transport crushed cans to the recycler. As the membership chairman he reports he is in the process of learning how to process membership and has no other report.**

**2nd Vice Commander Jon Riddle reported on the upcoming 9/11 ride to benefit Project VetRelief. He stated there has been positive feedback from local Media outlets: First Coast News, 104.5 WOKV/Action News Jax, ALLEvents Website, Finnoexpert Events. As well as from the American Legion National website promoting the event. Several veterans in the local area have reached out to Jon about receiving benefits from Project VetRelief. He then talked about the post having a certified Project VetRelief contact. The Early Bird/Christmas party will be forming a committee to discuss details necessary for a successful event.**

**Finance Officer Paul Arambula absent approved; report given by Executive Committee member Karen Tracy; she provided the monthly financial report. A motion to accept the Finance Report pending audit was made by Joe Maltese and 2nd by Jon Riddle. Motion passed**

**Chaplain Mike Montenara: no report.**

**Judge Advocate: Bob Sussan absent excused: report given by Commander Dan Hemsall, By-laws were approved by Department. The Constitution was**

not approved, however several grammatical errors were corrected and resubmitted to the Department Judge Advocate.

**Sergeant-At-Arms: Daniel Taszarek; nothing to report**

**Service Officer Barry Litsky had 3 service related calls in the past month. Barry agreed to look into the Certification for Project VetRelief.**

**Historian Frank Nichols, Reports on progress of members sending photos and details of events.**

**Executive Committee member reports;**

**Mark Shelton absent excused no report**

**Alan Painter reports that Boys State Delegate Roman Penland will be scheduled to attend a General membership meeting in the future. He also previously reported our two Alternates, Lucas Quinones and Tyler Burgoon were picked up by another post and were able to attend Boys State as Delegates.**

**Joe Maltese reports on the status of property. Final signature concerning right of way for drainage easement is in the mail. Also talks about lost in the sauce problem circulating around the post. Our mission is to take care of local Veterans and their families. Too much wasted talk about National politics and Department problems which we have no control over. Stick to the basic needs of local (Mandarin Area) residents. Keep feet on the ground not speculation of external problems.**

**Barry Litsky Thanks members for collecting Stamps For the Wounded.**

**Karen Tracy; Reports on Post coins for sale \$15 each. Available at meetings.**

**Bob Sussan Absent Excused no report**

**Program & Committee Reports**

**Americanism: Dan Hemsall No report**

**Oratorical: Dan Hemsall Reports new District Chairperson has contacted all high schools in District 5 informing them about the program.**

**American Legion Riders fireside chat Nothing scheduled for September Sept 14th 2025 Post 372 ALR 5th Annual 9/11 Poker Run; Benefiting Project VetRelief.**

**SAL reports We are at 6 members, our goal 35.**

**Auxiliary: Has a new basket in progress, looking at \$2000 value. Baskets will be displayed at Dicks wings. AUX will be sponsoring a Girls State Delegate in 2026.**

**Audit committee Nothing to report**

**Blood Drive Position is open nothing to report**

**Boys State Alan Painter: Absent Excused nothing to report**

**Canceled Stamp program: Bring in canceled stamps to any meeting for Stamps For Veterans rehabilitation program.**

**Children & Youth: Commander reports on YMCA Trunk or Treat event. Our post has participated in this event several times in the past. A motion was made by Joe Maltese to donate \$200 for candy to be passed out at the event. Jon Riddle second the motion. The motion passed.**  
**Law and Order Barry Litsky reports L&O on hold until 2026.**  
**School Medals Alan Painter reports SM on hold until 2026.**  
**Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation (VA&R) position open nothing to report**  
**Service Officer: Barry Litsky absent no report**

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**New home update; in need of new current surveys and updated building layout. Pending new signatures for the right-a- way.**  
**Post Fundraising, bricks, mugs, aluminum cans. Coins. Corporate sponsorship**  
**The storage unit is full and needs funds for additional space. Cost was \$86 monthly going to \$106.**  
**Social nights New Tuesday meeting at V Pizza on San Jose for Magic Bingo 1800. Shores Pub is Thursday 1800 and stays the same. .**  
**Early Bird/ Christmas party dinner. Will be at Mandarin Moose Lodge Saturday December 6th, more information to follow.**  
**Website Membership- American legion Plus app allows New members to directly join our post. A renewal option will be placed on our website for Post and SAL renewals using Zeffy. New Applicants will have to "Affirm" that they are qualified to join legion with Honorable Discharge and Provide Proof to 1st Vice with Submission of DD214.**

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**A local Dentist offers Pro-Bone Dental care to veterans. Dr. Dawit Adugna of Oceanside Dental. His number is 904-536-2200.**

**The Commander asks if there is anything more for the good of the Legion.**  
**Executive Committee Member Karen Tracy: Mandarin Newsline asking for Veteran stories by Oct 27 deadline.**

**A prayer was conducted by Chaplain Mike Montenara.**

**Closing ceremonies were conducted and the meeting was closed at 2008 hours.**

**Minutes taken by Frank Nichols Adjutant**

Post #372 Legionnaire's General Meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month at 1900 hours. Meeting currently held at Williams YMCA 10415 San Jose Blvd. Jacksonville Fl. 32257.