



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



**May 8, 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 requests names of any one sick or in Distress: George Herd, Carl Zuber, Jim Ramos, Chris Hamrick, Mike Montonera, Bob Sussan & wife, Becky Murphy, Katherine Nichols, Miguel Garcia, Bob German, Billy Deckers mother, Carlton, Daniel Hicks, Becky Murphy.**

**1 visitor was present. 13 members in attendance**

**Past Commander was Recognized; Dan Hemsail, Immediate Past Commander Joe Maltese.**

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

**A motion was made by Joe Maltese and second by Barry Litsky to accept the minutes of the April General Assembly. The minutes were accepted.**

**There was not an April Executive Committee meeting due to the In State Unity Ride.**

**Correspondence: A request from Michaels Distribution Center for Military Appreciation Month was denied, as this is not in our area. Thank you letter from Florida Gun and Tackle club was received with a donation check for**

**\$834 to the building fund. Veterans with pets and an Ohio company asking for money was denied.**

**New and /or transferred members. 0 new and 2 transferred members: Michael J Riordan GA post 0233, Patricia Vannucci post 400AD. A motion was made to approve membership of all candidate requests pending verification of DD214 by Mike Montenara 2nd by Steve Sullivan. All candidates were voted into the post pending verification of proper DD214. 3 members transfer out. James Rudy Deceased, Charles D Carnahan Deceased, Charles O. Willson Deceased.**

### **Officer Reports**

**Commander nothing to report at this time**

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander/Membership Dan Hemsail absent : Commander Bernat reports, the membership report as of 5/6/25 report 116.73% of quota 2nd place in 5th District.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Steve Sullivan reports the aluminum can recover program is in full swing. Any members with crushed aluminum cans (preferably crushed but not necessary) can bring them to any meeting for retrieval by Steve and he will turn them in for a cash donation to our Post building fund, when he has a truck load. Cans currently being .70 cents a pound.**

**Finance Officer Paul Arambula provided the monthly financial report. A motion to accept the Finance Report pending audit was made by Karen Tracy and second by Barry Litsky, discussion about duplicate Brick donation of \$310 to be removed from April report. The report was accepted subject to audit.**

**Chaplain Mike Montenara: no report.**

**Judge Advocate: Bob Sussan absent excused no report.**

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

**Service Officer Barry Litsky nothing to report**

**Historian Frank Nichols, continue to send in photos and articles and/or photos about your Legion community projects for entry into the Post 372 History yearbook. Deadline for entry in This year's History yearbook April 31, 2025. The National contest for History books has been cancelled.**

**Commander Craig Bernat reports on the new property: One final easement approval needs to be updated with current information. Clearing property is still in planning stages due to financial restraints.**

**Executive Committee member reports;**

**Mark Shelton no report**

**Alan Painter no report**

**Joe Maltese no report**

**Barry Litsky reports: Cancelled stamp program, turn in your cancelled stamps to benefit homebound and other veterans.**

**Karen Tracy reports on post coin sales. Coins available at most meetings for \$15 each. Karen states she will be developing a new business plan for the post, it should be ready by the end of May 2025, for review.**

**Bob Sussan Absent Excused no report**

**Program & Committee Reports**

**Americanism: Dan Hemsail thank you for everyone participating and sending donations to make a successful event.**

**Oratorical: Dan Hemsail no report**

**American Legion Riders fireside chat at Lenn & Lisa home May 17th 1630; June 14th Cheer camp, July will have a scavenger hunt, date to be announced. The April 19th ride raised \$300 with 77 registered riders and passengers, supporters. Post 372 ALR has Capture the flag case installed at Monkey's Uncle. So far ALR has captured 7 flags from other posts.**

**SAL reports post 373 losing charter, we should reach out to the members displaced. We are at 34 members, our goal was 34. we are at 100%.**

**Auxiliary: nothing to report**

**Audit committee nothing to report.**

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

**Boys State Alan Painter: One orientation was done on Easter weekend with little turn out. Another orientation will be scheduled.**

**Canceled Stamp program: Nothing further to report**

**Children & Youth: Position open nothing to report**

**Law & Order awards: May 3th 2025 date for Law and Order Award presentation, was conducted. Big thank you from program `Chair Barry Litsky**

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.

**for all in attendance and those donating refreshments, plus thank you to set up and clean up crews.**

**School Medals in full swing this month with 12 presentations due/ Teacher of the year Alan Painter; Reports: He will be sending out notices to schools this month.**

**Legion Baseball: Nothing to report Season starts June 1st 2025.**

**Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation (VA&R) position open nothing to report**

**Service Officer: Barry Litsky reports: several contacts this month to help Veterans connect with proper departments for answers.**

Old Business

**New home update; Final easement has been obtained, waiting for deed to process.**

**Post Fundraising, bricks, mugs, aluminum cans. Coins. Corporate sponsorship**

**Constitution and Bylaws will be posted on the homepage of the post website, approved at the March 13th 2025 meeting.**

**Volunteering at Jumbo shrimp games nothing to report.**

**Foundation update. Nothing to report**

**NFL Alumni Football and Cheerleaders Camp. Saturday June 14th 2025 from 8-12pm at Duval Charter School. Last year \$80 to sponsor kids, this year \$1000 from donations from all Post family donations. Our sponsorship goes towards underserved kids who can't afford to go. All Post family members contributed to the total amount. \$1000 sponsorship was approved. All Post families to be event sponsors to get our name on flyers. Set up is 0630-0830. Need assistance in traffic control, signs, and tents, check in kids, water and snacks handouts on the field. Event starts at 0800**

**Banking, we will be changing banks to Vystar after next elections. There are no fees to business and more locations. One being close to new post home headquarters.**

**Zeffy- New fundraising platform that is free to use. Post has been signed up and a link is on the website for donations.**

**Annual 990 filing, Post will need an accountant to prepare a 990 form for the Annual report with Sunbiz.**

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**New Business:**

**Membership drive at Ace hardware was suggested for Memorial Day, however we have been informed they no longer accept outside vendors.**

**Fireside chat atLenn % Lisa home 1600 May 17th All events are posted on the website calendar [www.alpost372fl.org](http://www.alpost372fl.org).**

**Post Fundraising. A thermometer fundraising gauge sign was placed on property for \$345.**

**Cove Independent Living Center– 5 Members visit on April 16th, 2025 1100. Interaction with veteran residents.**

**Storage Unit: We have members who have agreed to fund the project monthly for as long as necessary. We have a quote of \$72 for a 10x10 unit.**

**Nominations of Officers for Legion year 2025-2026 closes tonight. Online voting will be starting May 17-May 24th. Look for an email with instructions to cast your vote.**

**Convention Hospitality Suite: a motion to donate \$50 was made by Joe Maltese and second by Steve Sullivan. No discussion and the motion passed.**

**We need to find a solution to dispose of flags in the storage unit.**

**Veterans Resource Fair- Everlake at Mandarin, 9806 Craven Rd May 17th from 10-3. members agreed to support this event.**

**YMCA Back To School Bash- Saturday July 26th, 10-12. No discussion to donate money was discussed.**

**Legacy Ride- The last night will be stopping in Jacksonville. A suggestion was made to suggest to the organizer to stop at Orleck downtown Jacksonville. no further discussion was made.**

**A Certificate of Service was given to Adjutant Frank Nichols for 2024-2025 service to post.**

**Commander asks if there is anything else for the good of the legion.**

**Frank Nichols said Aldi is opening 800 stores in the next 5 years if anyone is looking for a job. A suggestion for name tags was suggested by member Cal Hopper. Karen Tracy is looking into donations from her Elks lodge of kitchen supplies. Mark Shelton suggested we take a photo in front of the property with the thermometer sign and send it to the Mandarin/Creekside Newslite for their front page.**

**A prayer was conducted by Chaplain Mike Montenara. Closing ceremonies were conducted and the meeting was closed at 2001 hours.**

**Presented by Frank Nichols Post 372 Adjutant**