



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



February 13, 2025

General Assembly Meeting Minutes

**A General Assembly meeting was convened at 1900.
The meeting was opened with Prayer conducted by Chaplain Mike Montenera.**

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 Montenera, Bob Sussan & wife, Becky Murphy, Katherine Nichols, Miguel Garcia, Bob German, Barry Litsky

2 visitors are present. 11 members in attendance

Past Commander was Recognized; Dan Hemsail, Past Commander Alan Painter.

A roll call of officers was conducted. Quorum achieved.

A motion was made by Karen Tracy and second by Mike Montenera to accept the minutes of the January General Assembly. The minutes were accepted.

A motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the January Executive Committee Meeting was offered by Mike Montenera and second by Dan Taszarek . The reading of the minutes was waived.

Correspondence: 1. Thank you card from Stamps For The Wounded. Thank you post 372 members for sending 1000plus cancelled stamps to cheer up hospitalized or out-patient Veterans. 2. Jacksonville International airport has restored nearly all Disabled Veteran parking privileges.

New and /or transferred members. 1 new and 21 transferred members. New Charles Cheshire, new Christopher Riddle. From Post 138FL Joseph Traina, from Post 1000 NJ Jerry Rubinowitz, from Post 400AD Marla Albertie, Howard Mallon, Willam Miller, Ronald Orosz, Belrose Bennett, Michael

Lachiana, Ernest Bastien, Bettie Colon, Barry Kohimann, Jerome Losey, Richard Minnucci, Michael Traina, Harry Kramer, William Milby, William Halstead, Louis Katz. from Post 400 Bruce Camps, Deborah Mullins, Robert Lease, Scott Forbes, Mark Madden, Nick Tirri, Robert Albritton, Andrei Parlade, David Donaldson, Sandr Greenwell, Rudolph Cole, Jerry Hillman. A motion was made to approve membership of all candidate requests by Mike Montenara 2nd by Dan Taszarek. All candidates were voted into the post.

Officer Reports

Commander nothing to report at this time

1st Vice Commander/Membership Dan Hemsail: reports, the membership report as of 2/13/25, 251 Department of Florida Goal,197 renewals, 18- 400 transfers, 30- AD transfers, 20- PUFL, 6- new members, 271 Total members

2nd Vice Steve Sullivan absent excused

Finance Officer Paul Arambula provided the monthly financial report. A motion to accept the Finance Report pending audit was made by Dan Hemsail and second by Dan Taszarek, the report was accepted subject to audit.

Paul Arambula made a motion to donate \$1000 to Northeast Florida Fallen Heroes Foundation, to be used to set up a checking account and funds to be used as needed. A second was made by Karen Tracy. The motion passed
Chaplain Mike Montenara: no report.

Judge Advocate: Bob Sussan absent excused no report.

Sergeant-At-Arms: Daniel Taszarek no report.

Service Officer Absent excused Barry Litsky nothing to report

Historian Frank Nichols, continue to send in photos and articles 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.

Commander Craig Bernat reports on the new property: 1 easement approval from 1 adjoining property is pending. Once obtained, St Johns Water Mgt. States we can proceed with clearing property. Clearing property is still in planning stages due to financial restraints.

Executive Committee member reports;

Mark Shelton Absent excused no report

Alan Painter no report

Joe Maltese Absent excused no report

Barry Litsky Absent excused no report.

Karen Tracy reports on post coin sales. Coins available at most meetings for \$15 each. Karen states she will post Draft of New Constitution and new By-Laws on the front page of the website. These are to be reviewed by members to be able to vote on at the next general meeting.

Judge Advocate: Bob Sussan Absent Excused no report

Program & Committee Reports

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

Americanism: Dan Hemsail no report
Oratorical: Dan Hemsail no report
American Legion Riders; Annual ALR ride April 6, 2025 date to be changed due to conflict with Unity ride., All State Unity ride April 6th, 2025. ALR summit February 13-16, 2025. July 5th is a Scavenger Hunt ride. More details later.
Sons of American Legion: 29 members goal 34 at 85.29%
Audit committee nothing to report.
Blood Drive Position is open nothing to report
Boys State Alan Painter: Reports Post registration of \$495 was paid. Post will conduct interviews to select citizens for the Program December thru February. Will need location and judges to help out.
Canceled Stamp program: Nothing further to report
Children & Youth: Position open nothing to report
Law & Order awards: May 3th 2025 tentative date for Law and Order Award presentation.
School Medals/ Teacher of the year Alan Painter; nothing to report
Legion Baseball: Registration opens January 1st - May 31, 2025. Nothing to report
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation (VA&R) position open nothing to report
Service Officer: Absent excused Nothing to report

Old Business

New home update; Waiting to obtain one easement.
Post Fundraising, bricks, mugs, aluminum cans. Coins. Corporate sponsorship
Constitution and Bylaws to be posted on the homepage of the post website, requesting all members to review so they can be read at the next general assembly meeting.
Volunteering at Jumbo shrimp games nothing to report.
Flagpole Dedication at Florida Tackle scheduled Saturday March 8th, 2025. assemble for orientation at 1330 ceremony at 1430. Dinner and music following. Dress code white shirt black pants.
Foundation update. Application has been assigned to an IRS agent. Post will donate \$1000 for operations as needed.

New Business:

Fireside chat at Commander's house Craig and Judy Bernat March 15th 1630. Ham BBQ sandwiches will be provided. BYOB and bring a dish to share. All events are posted on the website calendar www.alpost372fl.org.
Post Fundraising. A thermometer fundraising gauge sign to be placed on property for \$345. Discussion followed on the design of the sign and who would be making and installing the sign.
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.

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 990 form for the Annual report with Sunbiz.

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

Comrade Karen Tracy had this to report:

Jacksonville Elks "Honor Our Veterans" event on February 22, 2025 9:15-1pm. Veterans to receive information on benefits and resources available for Veterans. Resources available for Veterans from the following organizations. FDVA, UF Health, VFW, DAV, YMCA, Vietnam Vets COH, JAX National Cemetery, American legion and many more. Location: Jacksonville Elks :odge #221 1855 West Road, Jacksonville Fl 32216.

A prayer was conducted by Chaplain Mike Montenara.

Closing ceremonies were conducted and the meeting was closed at 1943 hours.

Presented by Frank Nichols Post 372 Adjutant

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