BADEN AMERICAN LEGION POST 641, 271 STATE STREET, BADEN, PENNSYLVANIA 15005

Website: www.badenpost641.org Email: legionbaden@comcast.net
District website: aldist26.org

Minutes of July 28, 2026

First Vice Commander Karl Ludwig called the meeting to order.
The colors were presented, and the POW/MIA Chair and Helmet were in place.
Chaplain Kurt Larson offered an opening prayer.
The Pledge of Allegiance and Preamble of the Constitution of the American Legion were recited.
Tom Stachura reported that all meetings are recorded on a digital recorder.

	Officers	**Executive Board**	**Delegates**
Commander Pete Poninsky	A	A	
1st Vice Commander Karl Ludwig	P	P	P
2nd Vice Commander Randy Gleason	P	P	
Treasurer Dannielle Ripper	P	P	
Adjutant Tom Stachura	P	P	P
Chaplain Kurt Larson	P		
Historian Linda Davis	P		
Sgt at Arms Dan Gilarno	P	P	P
Service Officer Randy Gleason	P		
Judge Advocate Gerry States	P	P	P
Charles Jackson		P	
George Fleming		P	P

First Vice Commander Ludwig recognized Past District 26 Commanders Jeff Olson and Past District 26 Commander George Fleming..

The minutes of the previous meeting of June 23, 2026, were previously sent via email. Motion was made by Luke Dennis and seconded by Gerry States to accept the minutes as presented. Approved with no nay votes.

Members present: Karl Ludwig, Randy Gleason, Jeff Bach, Jerry Fisher, Dan Gilarno, Lanny Reinard, Gerry States, Tom Stachura, Ken Pingatore, Rick Raich, George Fleming, Eric Holsinger, Steve Kusnir, Kurt Larson, Joe Schulmeister, Charles Jackson, Dannielle Ripper, John Kaefer, Don Wagner, Ray Litzinger, Terry Wagoner, Jim Janicki, Linda Davis McGown, Bob Zalenski, Bob Santo, Ralph Todaro, Don Morrissey, Luke Dennis, Greg Wilson, Luke Dennis and Jeff Olson.

First Vice Commander Karl Ludwig presented Eric Holsinger with his cover for attending 5 meetings.

First Vice Commander Karl Ludwig presented Luke Dennis a plaque for his company being selected Employer of Older Workers for 2026.

Initiation of New Members: Tom Mosholder
Guests-None.
Correspondence:
*Thank you from Landon Paul for sponsoring his for Elmer Hafer American Legion State Police camp. File
*Upper Beaver Valley Veterans Service Center requesting financial support. It was commented that we support the Ambridge Center. File
*Baden Auxiliary thanking our post for hosting an appreciation dinner for the Auxiliary and SAL units. File.
*Scouting American requesting sponsorship donation. Motion made by Gerry States and seconded by Dan Gilarno to support the scouts for $365, the same as last year. Approved. Jeff Olson said to hold off until he can verify this sponsorship.
*Borough of Baden thanking us for our participation in Celebrating America 250. File.
*Baden Memorial Library requesting support for the wine and cheese event scheduled for October 24th from 4PM to 7PM at the Conway VFD Banquet hall. Jeff Olson said that the Library does not get funding from the School District. Motion made by George Fleming and seconded by Kurt Larson to take a full page at the cost of $300. Approved.
*Riders Advocating Against Child Abuse is hosting a night at the races on October 17 here at our post. Request is for a donation. Motion made by Luke Dennis and seconded by Gerry States to support this event for $200. Approved with no nay votes.
*Wreaths Across America requesting purchase of wreaths. Kurt Larson said the event will take place in December. We have contributed to purchasing wreaths previously in the amount of $500. Motion made by Kurt Larson and seconded by Don Wagner to continue our support of $500. Approved with no nay votes.

FINANCE
Dannielle Ripper presented the financial Report for July 2026

Income	$23,695.06
Expense	$24,817.49

Dannielle reported that Rent was not posted on this report as it was received after the report was presented.

Bar Bingo	06/18	$1189.00
	06/25	$1167.00
	07/02	$1311.00
	07/09	$1169.00

Dan Gilarno requested more information on the delegate account expense, which Dannielle answered.

Motion to approve the financial statement made by George Fleming and seconded by Ray Litzinger, subject to audit. Approved with no nay votes.

Activities (Jeff Bach)- Jeff and his wife put together a trip to Flight 93 Memorial. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board. The event date is Friday, September 11th. Space is limited.

Community Service (Dannielle Ripper). Dannielle reported that we need to turn in hours for CPR.

Americanism-Ben Gingerella/Gordy Klinsic-no report.

Blood Donor-Jeff Olson-July 13 was last event and 54 appointments opportunities , 26 signed up. The goal was 41 units and 28 was achieved. Next event will be on August 4th.

Children and Youth-Jeff Olson- Legion baseball resulted in Baden getting 2nd place in the county. Regionals were on July 11th and Baden took 2nd place. Jeff thanked coach Ritchie for his development of our team. Junior league was not in the regionals, by choice. Jeff updated the Children and Youth book and sent to Tom Stachura

Homeless Vets-Jeff Olson – no report.

Keystone Boys State (Christ Atsidas) – No report. Tom Stachura said we sent 4 to KBS.

State Police Week- (Christ Atsidas) – No report. Tom Stachura said we sent 3 to this event.

Emblem and Poppy-Randy Gleason/Bob Pudo- Randy reported the next event will be Veterans Day and help is always needed to raise money from Poppy donations.

National Cemetery-Kurt Larson-No report.

Essay-Jim Janicki-No report. Jim said he is stepping down as Essay chairman.

POW/MIA -Rick Raich-US Air Force Staff Sgt Don Worley who was killed during the Vietnam War was accounted for on June 22, 2026. Worley and 18 others were assigned to Lima Site 85 radar site on a remote mountain peak. The site was overrun on March 11. Worley and 11 other Americans were killed in action and unable to be recovered.

Post Golf War Vets (Terry Wagoner)-no report.

Legislative-Gerry States -Gerry discussed the gaming machines and that this issue is now up for discussion in legislature. If it goes through, this will impact any income through profits and non-profits.

Membership-Tom Stachura-

Tom reported that the 2027 dues have been mailed to all veterans. Tom said that he has a stack piling up on his desk.

New

Name	Address	Service	Recommended by
Thomas Bova	Beaver Falls	Army	Dan Gilarno
Charity Demas	Freedom	Army	Jerry Fisher

Motion made by Randy Gleason and seconded by Jim Janicki to approve the members. Approved with no nay votes.

Transfer-None

Sons of the Legion-Gerry States-George Fleming said that the SAL is selling a monthly calendar at $5 plus they have other tickets available. Support is appreciated. SAL is still purchasing Hospice Blankets for supply at an area facility.

Post Home-Luke Dennis- Luke said August is a busy month. August 1st is the Gold Star Bike run, August 8th is the Home Association picnic(the canteen will be closed) and August 22nd is the Wing Cook off. This event will be a bike and car cruise and bands are available.

Oratorical-Luke Dennis-Closed

Scouting-Steve Kusnir- Steve said the scouts have normal activities. Flag retirement is scheduled for September 8th at 6PM. Jeff Olson said he will announce this at his district scout meeting.

Post Service Officer's report-Randy Gleason – Randy reported that his brother has been approved for Veterans benefits. CBOC, in Center Twp, is online for January or February 2027. $1.2 billion in infrastructure has been approved for remodeling. Fraud alerts are out advising Veterans what to look for in deception. Do not let personal information out for any purposes. Our chair lift is currently working. Randy said that on legion.org, information on the Star Act(take of veterans act, fully explains this information. Randy said that there is a lot of legislation information and you can get this in detail on congress.gov/bill.

Sick Call, Relief, and employment – Jeff Olson said that two deaths occurred recently, Dan Davies of Wampum and Dave McGlochin's wife. Jerry Fisher also added Joe Wachtel.

Unfinished business-None

New Business –Gerry States motioned that our old snow blower has been repaired many times and is now beyond repair and we need to purchase a snow blower. Gerry motioned that we spend not more than $1000. Seconded by Ray Litzinger. Approved with no nay votes.

Good of the American Legion-

Tom Stachura said that there will not be a regular post meeting in August, as this will be our installation dinner. The dinner will start at 5:30 on August 25th. The cost for dinner will be $25, and a signup sheet is on the bulletin board. Cutoff date is August 15th.

Jerry Fisher said the Veteran breakfast is August 5th at 8AM and is free.

Karl Ludwig reported on all the 5 awards received at the Legion Convention.

Hat Fund

$100	**#321**	**Paul Shickline**	**Not registered.**
$100	**#156**	**Gordon Klinsic**	**Not registered.**
$100	**#305**	**John Dewitt**	**Not registered.**
$ 44	**#125**	**Grady Radella**	**Not registered**

First Vice Commander Ludwig asked for a moment of silence.

MEMORIAL TO DEPARTED POST MEMBERS:

Kurt Larson recited a prayer for our departed members.

CLOSING:

Sergeant at Arms retired the POW/MIA flag.

Closing Salute to the Flag.

Meeting closed at 8:10

Next regular meeting date: Tuesday, August 25, 2026, at 5:30PM, Installation Dinner

Respectfully Submitted

Thomas R. Stachura, Adjutant