



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 November 26, 2024

Prior to the meeting Commander Gerry States introduced the following individuals:

Guests present: Oratorical contestant Kaitlyn Desrochers.

Commander Gerald W. States 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 Gerald W States	P	P	
1 st Vice Commander Pete Poninsky	P	P	P
2 nd Vice Commander Ben Gingerella	P	P	
Treasurer Dannielle Ripper	P	P	
Adjutant Tom Stachura	p	P	P
Chaplain Kurt Larson	p		
Historian Karl Ludwig	P	P	P
Sgt at Arms Dan Gilarno	P	P	P
Service Officer Larry McGown	P		
Judge Advocate Jeff Olson	P		
Charles Jackson		P	
George Fleming		P	P
Randy Gleason		P	

Commander States recognized Past District 26 Commander George Fleming and Past District and Western Section Commander Jeff Olson.

Commander States presented Mike Prichinello and Lanny Reinhart with their covers for attending 5 Post meetings.

The minutes of the previous meeting of October 22, 2024, were previously sent via email. Motion was made by Luke Dennis and seconded by Charles Jackson. Approved with no nay votes. Commander welcomed Ryan Burglund back to our area and to our Post.

Members present: Karl Ludwig, Randy Gleason, Charles Jackson, George Fleming, Rich Raich, Kurt Larson, Larry Googins, Lanny Reinard, Hartzell, Jeff Bach, John Barber, Mark Vorderbruegger, Don DeMacio, Gene Rees, Ralph Todaro, Bob Zalenski, Mike Prichinello, Don Wagner, Christ Atsidas, Joe Wichryk, Luke Dennis, Ken Pingatore, John Bolas, Terry Wagoner, Jerry Fisher, Bob Pudo, Dan Gilarno and Ray Litzinger.

Initiation of New Members: None.

CORRESPONDENCE:

*Pa Department-request for donation to the hurricane relief fund. Motion made by Chuck Jackson and seconded by Jeff Olson to donate \$300 to the fund. Approved with no nay votes.

*Pa Department-Award deadline dates of December 31st and January 4th. Ordered filed.

*Pa Department-School Award Medal Program. Commander reminded all that we do this annually. File

*Pa Department-Essay and Oratorical contest information.

*Pa Department-How to participate in Pa American Legion Baseball. The commander reminded all that we do sponsor a team annually. It was advised that wooden bats are being used and one of our post's objects to this usage.

*Baden Memorial Library-Thank you for our sponsorship in the wine and cheese event. File

*Thank you from the Military Mission of Beaver County for our recent sponsorship. File

*Inspired Hearts and Hands (Cranberry Twp) request for donation. Filed.

*Pa Department-National Commander 2025 Membership incentive program is available for anyone referring 3 new members prior to June 30, 2025.

*Pa Department-Holiday Hospital Tour will be in Butler on Saturday, December 7th.

*Pa Department-Annual fund-raising dinner will be on January 18th at the Double Tree in Moon Township. We already placed an ad. Dinner is \$25 per person. Motion made by George Fleming and seconded by Dan Gilarno to purchase a table of 10. Motion approved with no nay votes. George Fleming also motioned that we give the Commander and his guest two tickets for the table. Seconded by Dan Gilarno. Approved with no nay votes. Tom Stachura said that if you are going, you prepay the \$25 and once attended, this cost will be reimbursed.

FINANCE

Dannielle Ripper presented the financial report for November 2024

Income	\$23,719.88
Expense	\$14,043.89

Bar Bingo:	10/17	\$	821.00
	10/24	\$	918.00
	10/31	\$	387.00
	11/07	\$	750.00
	11/14	\$	956.00
	11/21	\$	805.00

Dan Gilarno asked about where the rent income is from the Home Association, and it was requested that there be listed on the financial statement a record of this income.

Questions were asked and answered about the funds paid for maintenance.

Dan asked about the reduction in our capital improvements checking account and requested a detailed explanation monthly, so that our membership is on the same page.

Motion to approve the financial report for November, subject to audit made by Luke Dennis and seconded by Randy Gleason Approved with no nay votes.

Activities and Community Service (Pete Poninsky. Pete announced that the Homeless vet's spaghetti dinner at our post will be on December 2nd. The cost will be \$12. Two years ago, we served 101 meals. All proceeds go to the Homeless vets to be presented at the January dinner. Christ Atsidas said the money above the bar also goes to the homeless. Tom Stachura said that community service hours are due.

Americanism-Gordon Klinsic-no report.

Blood Donor-Jeff Olson-November's goal was 36 units and the goal was met. Next event is January 20th.

Children and Youth-Jeff Olson-April is children and youth month, and Jeff would like us to host a suicide and bullying program. Halloween has yet to provide an invoice for the tri folds, so Jeff returned our initial investment. Jeff gave a report on legion baseball and the requirement of using wooden bats. There is a Beaver County Post objecting to this usage and is discussing withdrawal from the program. This will be an ongoing issue. Jeff said that we need to write a resolution. It was suggested that Monaca make the resolution. Jeff further stated that NO POST SHOULD EVER WALK AWAY FROM LEGION BASEBALL.

Homeless Vets-Jeff Olson – Jeff gave a report that a veteran needed a furnace. He is located in Butler and the request came from Robins House. Jeff is concerned about the request and is looking into alternatives.

Keystone Boys State-no report

Law and Order -no report

Emblem and Poppy-Bob Pudo- Bob said it was a good year and thanked his ladies for counting the money and thanked Randy Gleason, Kurt Larson, and Tom Stachura for collecting money. Bob

requested that we send a thank you to WalMart for their help. Bob said that poppies are a big part of our American Legion.

Essay-Jim Janicki-no report from Jim. Tom reported that Jim sent all the information to area schools. Tom also said that we do an essay internally and we need a topic. No one commented and Tom said to think about it. Our scholarship money comes from our bingo account.

POW/MIA -Rick Raich-Rick gave his report. Albert Trudeau, Army, He flew a Chinook helicopter, and it went down over water in Vietnam. His body was never recovered.

Legislative-Gene Rees- Nothing is happening currently.

Property-Gene Rees- Gene is working on expanding the upstairs bar area. The air/heating in the back social room is still up in the area. Tom Stachura said that at the County meeting, Carl Curtis said that act 21 has been expanded that total disability income from VA is excluded from income level. Luke talked about what happened to our parking lot today. Luke is not happy with what happened. The work was not done accurately or properly. They are coming back tomorrow to seal the areas of concern. Gerry requested that after the job is done, we formally approved the amount of \$15,200. Luke explained that we have always requested 3 bids, and this was not done. A motion was made by Dannielle Ripper and seconded by Karl Ludwig to approve the request after the sealing is done and inspected by Luke Dennis. Motion approved with 2 nay votes.

Membership-Tom Stachura-

Tom said that our goal is 450 members and that our current membership is 336 or 75%. Tom has a list.

New

Name	Address	Service	Recommended by
James Oleska	Beaver	Marines	Jerry Fisher

Motion made by Luke Dennis and seconded by Randy Gleason to approve the new member.

Approved with no nay votes.

Transfer

Ryan Burglund	Cranberry	Active	Previous member
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Motion made by Karl Ludwig and seconded by Pete Poninsky to approve the transfer. Approved with no nay votes.

Sons of the Legion-Gerry States- Wing bash is in January.

Post Home-Luke Dennis=Luke said the canteen is doing okay and all bills are being paid. Trivia is every other Sunday, and the next one is December 1st. The kitchen is open during the event.

New Years eve will be DJ Andy. The children Christmas party is December 14th, and the Adult party is December 21st(2 to 6). Gerry explained the children's Christmas party and requested the Adjutant to send an email reminder to all members to register.

Oratorical-Luke Dennis- Luke has emailed the forms to all schools. Luke said that we have 2 candidates. We heard from the first one tonight. We are planning to have them speak at the Home meeting in December.

Public Relations- (Linda McGown)- Nothing new. Social media has information on our Post.

Linda requested that any new information be sent to her for dissemination.

Women's Advisory Veterans Committee-Linda McGown. – no report.

Scouting-Steve Kusnir-Kurt Larson said that troop 406 wants to use our flag pit for burning on December 9th. Kurt and Randy will supervise. Kurt will do the cleanup. Some of our flags will also be part of the flag retirement. Jeff Olson stated that he is trying to

expose our programs at all round table discussions. He is also trying to recover a cub scout pack in our area.

Post Service Officer's report-Randy Gleason- Randy said that someone placed flags in our burning pit instead of the flag retirement box. Randy also stated that a proper ceremony will be performed by Troop 406. Randy said that anyone on MyHealthyVet needs to go on and reregister, as the site will change on January 31st. Randy talked about all the services that Rochester VA has to offer. Randy suggested that Rochester VA needs to advertise more about what is offered. Y22 is the 22nd day of each month and the YMCA gives a free pass.

Sick Call, Relief, and employment – None.

Unfinished business-Tom Stachura talked about the Beaver County Nursing home tour and that all is going well, and distribution will be early December. We will be going to approximately 17 nursing homes serving 175 veterans.

New Business – Dan Gilarno motioned to suspend the December meeting and have the treasurer pay all the bills. Second to the motion made by Karl Ludwig. Gerry States said that we will have a gun bash on February 22nd and he needs ticket sellers.

Good of the American Legion-George Fleming said that the Butler VA Hospital tour on December 7th, the Butler Post will have a lunch from 11 to 1PM. All are invited. Randy Gleason said that North County Trails will donate to our nursing home tour. Kurt Larson commented that Wreaths across American will be on December 14th. He will escort a caravan leaving at 10AM. Randy also said that the VVA will donate \$1000 and the Association VVA will donate \$500. All this will go to the Beaver County Nursing Home tour.

Gerry States said that we performed a funeral service for Pat Martin and as a result, Gerry got a call and was informed that a donation is forthcoming.

Jerry Fisher thanked all for the donation to the Military Mission. Jerry said that since we are not meeting in December, he discussed the TET party at the Fez and that he is managing the ticket sales. Jerry said it fills up fast as he requested our Post to support the event. The event is on February 15th. Motion made by Dan Gilarno to purchase a table of 10 at the cost of \$300.

Seconded by Rick Raich. Motion approved with no nay votes. The same rules apply, you pay first and if attended, the cost is reimbursed.

Hat Fund

\$100	#332	Ben Wright	Not registered
\$100	#093	Thomas Simon	Not registered
\$100	#319	Richard Kamzelski	Not registered
\$100	#344	Jerry Semonik	Not registered

Commander States asked for a moment of silence.

MEMORIAL TO DEPARTED POST MEMBERS:

Randy Gleason recited a prayer for our departed members.

CLOSING:

Sergeant at Arms retired the POW/MIA flag.

Closing Salute to the Flag. **Next regular meeting date: Tuesday, January 28, 2025, at 7:00PM.**

Respectfully Submitted

Thomas R. Stachura, Adjutant