

American Legion B.M.I. Post 40 General Membership Meeting

19 February 2025

Meeting Start: 1800 hours

Opening Ceremonies Completed

Remarks:

- 1) Victoria, Auxiliary President:
 - a. Quilts of valor this summer and nominations are open.
 - b. Getting ready for Girls State. Two girls currently with an allotment for four. Any additional requests for sponsorship get with members of the Auxiliary.
 - c. April 27th will be an American Family Day; Riders will do hotdogs and burgers for the event. Open to military families, veterans, posts and units. Great turn out last year and expected to be the same this year. Raffle baskets and ice cream are big on the order list.
 - d. Poppy Tea May 18th to raise money for Poppy Fund. Raffle baskets as well.
 - e. Boulder City Veteran's Home has requested that if anyone is interested in assisting with bingo, they host it 2-3 times a month. Some members can't physically play and would love the help and the company. If you reach out directly to the veteran's home, talk to Fanny.
- 2) Jeff Campbell, Post 40 Commander:
 - a. Always looking for volunteers and monitors for hall rentals and general events hosted.
 - b. There is a marine in rehab who is getting tired of TV. Looking for someone to come out and share stories.
- 3) Final thoughts before the Auxiliary departs:
 - a. Nothing at this time.

Roll Call

Commander, Jeffrey Campbell – Present

Finance, Robert Peddicord – Present

First Vice, Brandon Lepp – Present

Sergeant at Arms, Jeff Becker – Present

Second Vice, Marcia Montgomery – Present

Communications, Barb Nelson – Present

Chaplain, Richard Troutman – Present

Historian, Jerry McKee – Present

Trustee, John McCown – Present

Past Commander, Tom Lynch – Present

Trustee, Jack Coffey – *Excused*

Past Commander, John Towsley – *Excused*

Trustee, Richard Milano – Present

Quorum Established? Yes

Motion: Approve minutes from 15 January 2025 General Membership Meeting, pending revisions of the articles that were missing; bar management, bartenders, and a couple events.

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Seconded: Yes

Motion Passed: Yes

Hails and Farewells: Jim Landers, US Navy, hailed and this is his first meeting. An old member of Post 40 transferred out to Michigan and became the commander there; she appreciates any information we can give her to help her succeed there.

Committee Reports

- 1) Membership: 684 members through 2025; Just under 91% of National's yearly goal. 6% increase from last month. Regional, State of Nevada averages 84.41%, 2% higher than other states in the region. Nationally, we are 19th in membership percentages. We are 6% higher than the national average for renewed memberships expected this month.
- 2) Kitchen: Running smooth. The Veteran's home is getting out when they can for breakfast and dinners. Always looking for volunteers.
- 3) Finance: Killing it on membership. Nice return from ALR on the raffle. Food post receipts continue to be very healthy. Bar/beverage (4610) shows 10,000 made, cost (5610) close to 10,000, but that's a couple months together. The big topic is insurance. The new premium was due on the 16th, and we met that. We changed to an annual premium instead of financing monthly to save thousands (23% finance fee) in the long run. \$7,597 compared to roughly \$10,000 on a monthly premium. The new policy also includes additional protection for volunteers if something were to happen. So, more coverage for less money. We had two different quotes from different companies, and this was the better option financially and coverage-wise.
- 4) Chaplain: Last month we started a verse of the month. As a protestant chaplain, I (Richard) have done this in the past. The key word this month is Love. Love is something all of us need, experience, and give. The fellowship of the pre-meeting gathering is an example of that. 1st Corinthians 13 is the verse of the month.
- 5) Building Superintendent (notes from the Commander): Found a minor leak in the modular, efforts will be made to rectify. A couple of the lights have been replaced with LEDs and do not require ballast. Other lights will be replaced as needed. We are looking into getting the parking lot re-stripped.
- 6) Communications: Still need help with communications. There were computer problems this month, so the calendars were not printed on time. Pictures are welcome from past events to get posted on the website and Facebook. Help includes updated the sign out front and any type of advertising that needs to be done.
- 7) AL Riders: Slow time of year due to weather. In two days is the fish fry, fourth Friday is the pork chop dinner. Next month the third Friday will be corned beef and cabbage and the fourth will be the fish fry.

Unfinished Business:

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- 1) The Oratorical was held February 1st and was a huge success again; 6 participants. This year we worked the timing down and it ran very efficiently. The winner of this year's Oratorical was the same as last year, a son of our post Alex Hettey. Girls State got their second member from a participant of this year's Oratorical as well.
- 2) Celebration of Life last month was a huge success and had a great turnout. We hope next year's list will be a lot shorter.
- 3) By-law review. This is the first reading, and will be up for a vote. We looked over suggestion forms and sign in sheets that have been out for 45 days. 1 suggestion submitted but was already included, so no suggested changes at this time. Vote for new by-laws as written? Unanimous vote for yes, and the motion carries. It will be brought back for a second vote next month before being ratified.

New Business:

- 1) X An issue with renewals shows that additional notifications are sent out after people pay, and it seems to have gotten worse. We got three double payments. People who were marked as deceased last year are still getting renewal notices. If you have a 2025 card when you receive a notice, do not send in money.
- 2) Started getting requests for school rewards for JROTC. Currently we have 2 cadets getting awards from mid-April to late May and we expect more to come. Anyone interested in presenting and giving a speech please let us know.
- 3) Elections are in May, and we are accepting nominations as of now. Nominees need to accept.
- 4) Boys and Girls State is coming up and we will still pay our \$1,000 donation for Girls State, but there are still issues for Boys State and are pending that donation.
- 5) Warmer weather is coming, and we want to address the shed out back to go through it and do spring cleaning. We are also looking to upgrade the smoker out back and host more smoke events.
- 6) Richard's report from the Service Office: from the first of February to today, 108 service hours, 57 veterans and 14 dependents, and 35 corporate hours. JD, Ron, and Richard Tyson were introduced. If anyone is interested in being on their board or a service officer let him know.

For the Good of the Legion:

- 1) Jim Stewart, National Executive Committee and Department Finance Officer, gave an introduction speech for the National Commander, Jim LaCoursiere Jr.
- 2) The National Commander gave a speech on two things. He was honored to be here with us today and appreciated the joint meeting with the Auxiliary and Riders. First, he relayed his focus this year to maintain our focus to "Be the One." I can either look at you, or I can see you. I can talk to you, or I can speak to you. I can hear you, or I can listen to you. Second is the quality of life for our veterans and our families. To get out to medical

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facilities, bases, schools. We want to hear and see from the youth and the veteran's for what we can do for them. We are America's voice for our military families. Help us help you let people know who we are. Special thanks to Post 40, Nevada, God, and Country. He gave the Commander (Jeff) his personal license plate and challenge coin, then departed.

- 3) Travel to Nellis AFB this weekend (Sunday) may be limited due to a protest, so avoid if possible, during 1300-1700 at the main gate.
- 4) Air Force Band at the end of March is coming to town and you can get free tickets.

The meeting was adjourned with closing ceremonies at 1853 hours with nothing further to discuss.

Respectfully submitted,

///signed///

Brandon Lepp, 1st Vice Commander