

Final
Delaware Veterans Post # 1
General Membership Meeting
December 3, 2025

The meeting was called to order by Commander Jerry Herman at 19:30 hours. All cell phones were silent, and hats removed.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was rendered by all attendees.

The Commander stated that he was moving out of order from the normal meeting agenda and called on Election Chairman Chip Roop.

Chip asked for all election ballots to be turned into the committee members that are moving through out the hall. Once all the ballots were collected the Commander asked the committee to retire to count the ballots.

At this time the Commander called on Toys for Tots Committee Member Florie Henry. Florie asked the Marine representative to come forward at which time she presented him with a donation from DelVets in the amount of \$12, 800.00. The Sgt. Thanked the Post for their continued generosity and stated that the donation along with all the toys that were collected would benefit many this year.

The Commander moved back to the regular meeting agenda.

Previous General Membership Meeting Minutes – The Commander asked the Secretary to read the minutes from the previous General Membership Meeting on November 5th, 2025.

The Commander stated that he would not accept a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes.

The Secretary read the minutes, and the floor was open for questions or corrections.

Hearing none, a motion was made by Jim Biddle to accept the minutes as read, seconded by Harvey Freville, passed by a voice vote.

Previous E-Board Meeting Minutes 11/18/25 – The Commander asked the Secretary to read the minutes from the November 18th, Regular E-Board meeting.

The Secretary read the minutes from the meeting.

The Commander opened the floor for questions:

Ed Brinkman noted one correction under old business regarding the start date for two members that were suspended from playing the weekly raffles. The start date is currently January 1st and it should be December 18th, 2025.

The Secretary noted the correction.

Hearing no other questions or concerns, a motion was made by Ron Gower to accept the minutes as read, seconded by Gerry Stauffer, passed by a voice vote.

Special Executive Board Meeting, November 10th, 2025

The Secretary read the minutes from the meeting. This meeting was called to discuss a path forward regarding the weekly raffles and the shortage of money.

The floor was open for questions. Hearing none a motion was made by Joe Rodriguez, seconded by Gerry Stauffer, passed by a voice vote.

Treasurers Report – Bill Conaway reviewed the monthly financial report for October. Bill stated that the Post had a total income of \$38,319.21. Our total cost of goods was \$14,581.30 for a gross profit of \$23,737.91. Our total expenses were \$36,039.76. Our net income for the month was \$-12,099.35. Year to date we are at a negative \$20,438.30.

There were no questions from the floor.

Bob Morris made a motion to accept the report as read, seconded by Frank Dobson, passed by a voice vote.

Committee Reports

- **Vice Commander – John Pastor – No report**
- **Executive Board – Ed Brinkman – Ed stated that any member with a concern can attend an EBoard meeting. Ed asked that you contact him so you can be placed on the agenda.**

Ed requested that all E-Board members for 2026 to please meet in the back of the hall to elect a Board President for 2026.

- **Finance Committee** – Bob Morris – Bob stated that all our accounts are balanced for the month of November.

Bob stated that all the paperwork needed for the unclaimed property claim has been submitted and we are now waiting.

- **Home Inc.** – Bob Onorato – Bob reported that Home Inc. had a meeting to review all the Post licenses as well as the current financial situation of the Post. They would like to work on ideas to assist with this.
- **By Laws Committee** – Mark Schilling – No report
- **Bar Committee** – Brian Thomas/Jay Henry – No report
- **Chaplain** – Sam Waltz – No report – The Chaplain noted the passing of Sue Beeson, wife of Post member Jon Beeson. The services will be held next Tuesday.

Rick Rambo noted the passing of Anna Lopez who was a Past Commissioner for Veterans Affairs as well as Past Commander of Post #2. Rick noted that she was very instrumental in helping Veterans and Veterans Causes.

Joe Rodriguez noted that she was a strong advocate for Veterans issues and was a contributor for the State Board especially between Post #1 and Post #2.

- **Veteran Affairs** – Rick Rambo – Rick reported that we are now the Delaware Department of Veterans Affairs. The new website is vets.delaware.gov. Biographies for the new Secretary are on the tables.

Rick stated that when we apply for Grant in Aid, we should focus on promoting social media as opposed to facility maintenance.

Rick stated that he is always available to assist when needed.

- **Entertainment** – Vince Vandenbrak – John Descioli reporting for Vince stated that Vince is not present and there is no report.

- **Rentals** – John Descioli - John reported that there are 21 events in the hall this month.

John wanted to thank Chip Roop and Bill Frank for freshening the paint up in the hall.

- **WACS** – Lauren Cullumber – Diane Onorato reporting for Lauren. Diane wanted to thank all who participated and supported the coat drive for Child Inc. With \$500.00 in WAC funds and Post members we were able to provide 80 winter coats as well as sherpa lined hoodies, hats, gloves, socks and underwear with a retail value of \$7,645.00.

Diane noted that last night was the WAC's annual Christmas Auction. We had delicious apps and desserts and many generous attendees. All auction items were donated. The profit was \$1,708.01. This was our best year at the auction.

After the holidays the WAC's will be looking forward to a cook off in February, WAC-Y bingo and St. Patrick's Day in March.

- **Kitchen** – Andie Chernekoff – Andie stated that the Deli night was a success and thanked the kitchen crew for a great job.

The kitchen will be supporting both the children's Christmas Party as well as the adult Christmas party.

Pizza and Wings will be returning in 2026.

Andie stated that we need volunteers, especially cooks.

- **Pool** – Bill Conaway – No report.
- **Sports** – Sam Minutola – Not present, no report
- **Grounds** – Bill Carpenter – No report
- **In-House Committee** – Chip Roop – Chip stated that a new water meter will be installed next week by the water company.

- **Membership** – Jim Biddle reported:

1st READS PRESENT

Associates

None

Veterans

Robert F. Oswald

NOT PRESENT –

Veterans

Rebecca L. Gargan – USAF

Associates

2nd READS PRESENT

Associate

Veterans

Youssef M. Moussa – USMC

James J. Diamond - USMC

NOT PRESENT

Robert G. Taggart – USAF

Kevin M Brackney – USA

- **Progressive Raffle** – Art Chernekoff – No report
- **Honor Guard** – Vince Knoll – No report

Scholarship – Mike Phillips – Mike stated that applications are available.

- There will be a pancake breakfast on Sunday between Christmas and New Years.
- Mike stated that there will be a Roadhouse night on February 10th or 17th.

- Mike stated that a generous donation was made to the Scholarship fund by Bill and Martha Demko.
- **Baseball** – Mike Buono – Not present, no report.
- **Swim Team** – Stephanie Coho – Not present, no report.
- **Public Relations** – Florie Henry – No report.
- **Welcoming Committee** – Bill Redefer - asked all first reads to please meet in the far corner of the hall after the meeting.
- **Facilities Management** – Harvey Freville – No report.

Old Business – Joe Rodriguez stated that last month he agreed to table his motion regarding disciplinary rules for the weekly raffles. Joe stated that since there was a special meeting regarding the matter and a path forward decided upon, he is now withdrawing the motion.

New Business – None

- **Good of the Order** –
 - The letter of thanks from the Gauger – Cobb middle school is displayed in the Post game room.
 - Jim Brannon stated that those stealing from the weekly raffles should be thrown out of the Post. This is a disgusting act and should not be tolerated.
 - The golf outing scheduled for May is shaping up. Our number one sponsor is Dick's Sporting Goods as well as Concord Pets. It was noted that there would be a car available to win for a hole in one.
- **50/50** – Lee Mitchell won \$145.00; Post received \$145.00 from ticket purchases. Lee donated his winnings back to the Scholarship Fund.
- At this time the Commander called on Chip Roop, Election Chair to read the results of the Post elections.

Post Officers

Commander – Mark Schilling

Vice Commander – John Pastor

Secretary – Vince Knoll

Treasurer – Sean McLaren

Treasurer Elect – Kristy Chester

E-Board

Ed Brinkman – 2025 – 2026 – President 2026

Bob Morris – 2026 - 2027

Bob Onorato – 2026 - 2027

John Squire - 2026

Jim Hague - 2026

State Board

Joe Roriguez

Bill Frank

Rick Rambo

Roger Lee

Home Inc

Harvey Freville

Frank Dobson

Bob Bostedo

Rich Delitta

Gerry Stauffer

Member of the Year

Mark Parsons

Motion to raise dues

Passed

Chip wanted to thank the nominating committee – Chip Roop, Joe Barnes, Rich Delitta, Bill Frank

The Commander asked the Chaplain to recite the DelVets prayer.

Taps were sounded.

Motion was made by Harvey Freville to adjourn the meeting, Jim Brannon seconded the motion, passed by voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 20:45.

Respectfully submitted by the Secretary Mark Schilling