

The American Legion
General Membership Meeting
October 21, 2025

OPENING	<p>The meeting was called to order at Mulberry Memorial Post 72 on Tuesday October 21, 2025 by 1st Vice Commander David Bryant at 7:00pm. Colors were saluted and Pledge of Allegiance recited. The POW/MIA empty chair covering was presented. The preamble was read. Chaplain offered the opening Prayer.</p>
	<p>Adjutant conducted Roll Call:</p> <p>Post Commander: Randy Ables – Absent 1st Vice: David Bryant – Present 2nd Vice: Jim Dearth - Present 3rd Vice: Gloria Murphy - Present Financial Officer: Dan Gramman - Present Chaplain: Able Santos - Present Historian: Charleston Murphy – Present Adjutant: Stephanie Bryant – Present Sergeant-At-Arms: James Ogletree--Present Veteran Service Officer: Don Bires—Absent Judge Advocate: Kevin Humphries--Present Executive Committee: David Waterman – Present Wayne Johnson – Present Donnie Mims--Present</p> <p>Membership Present</p> <p>Adjutant Stephanie Bryant reported a quorum is present at this meeting.</p>
MINUTES	<p>Adjutant Stephanie Bryant read the minutes for the previous General Membership meeting dated September 16 Doug Law motioned to accept the minutes as read seconded by Kevin Humphries motion passed.</p>

Adjutant Stephanie Bryant read the minutes for the previous EC meeting dated October 14 | Charleston Murphy motioned to accept the EC minutes as read | seconded by Nancy Thomas | motion passed.

Officer Reports:

Finance: Report read for October 21 see attached

- \$305 in outstanding checks

Steve Laveck motioned to accept the Finance Report as read | seconded by Nancy Thomas | motion passed.

CMD: Absent--NTR

1st Vice:

- NTD but acknowledged long hours put in by 2nd Vice Commander Jim Death getting our septic system fixed and coordinating with Home Depot for the back room clean up and painting.

2nd Vice:

- Thanked Doug Law for donating Jimmie John's sandwiches to all the Home Depot and Legion volunteers when the back room got cleaned out and painted.

3rd Vice: Noted important updated Calendar events

- October 24 --Legion Dinner
- October 31 --Halloween Son's hosting Dinner
- November 1 Update—Casino Night is being postponed until February
- November 5—Birthday Bash for Bob Molle Motown performing
- Reminder every 1st Friday is Monthly Birthday Celebration
- November 11 is Veteran's Day—hosting a dinner for Veteran's & Active Duty
- Barnyard Bing November 20 Puerto Rican cuisine food

Chaplain:

- Gail Winks passed away on October 16. Sending sympathies to Family.

Veteran Service Officer: Absent-no report

Adjutant:

- No correspondence at this time. Post 72 membership is at 50% at this time. Would love to get to 60% before Fall Conference. File your renewal if you haven't done so yet!

Historian: NTR

Boys State: Doug Law made motion to provide \$1,485 to send 3 boys to Boy State Program in June 2026. (\$495 per boy attending.) Seconded by Dave Waterman | Motion Passed
Doug Law also went over his duties for School Medals and Scholarships. Encouraged members to let him know if anyone has a family member that is an eligible senior.

Judge Advocate: Had been asked to review possibility of hosting Queen of Hearts at the post. His contacts in state attorney's office informed him that Polk County will not allow games of chance. Polk County has set more strict rules than state standards. ---Also, looked into options to help with our dumpster overflowing. Received 3 options to discuss with Commander when he returns.

Executive Members: NTR

Unfinished Business:

- Betty Ables: Encourage new members to come support Legion Dinners. Always need more volunteer support.
- Charleston Murphy acknowledged rumors that Post 72 Leadership wants to make the post an Open Post.

Charleston encouraged members to not spread rumors and squash the rumors when they hear them.

Wayne Johnson motioned to suspend the meeting to welcome and initiate new transfer | seconded by Doug Law | motion passed.

Vetted and welcomed New Transfer, Robert Bankhead, U.S. Marine Corps.

Doug Law motioned to reconvene the meeting | seconded by Lynn Price | motion passed.

New Business:

--Gloria Murphy, 3rd Vice Commander, approached about recent theft (donation food was taken); please do not take something if it is not yours.

--Scott Mays, representing the Riders. Riders had a freezer donated and also have a refrigerator coming but will need help to find a location for it. --Trying to encourage membership growth and coordinate more rides to steal more plaques from other posts.

For The Good Post:

--Doug Law went over a list of local Veteran Day events and encouraged member participation in local events.

--Nancy Thomas acknowledged recent passing of multiple Department of Florida American Legion Members. On September 30, the Northern Area and the 4th District lost their membership chairman. As well as a past 4th District Commander, who's Father is a member of Post 72. The 6th District also lost a past commander recently. Encouraged everyone to keep the Families of these members in our thoughts and prayers.

	1 st Vice Commander conducted Post Everlasting in honor of the passing of Gail Winks, USN.
CLOSING CEREMONY	Chaplain offered Closing Prayer. POW flag retrieved and salute to the colors.
ADJOURNMENT	Meeting was adjourned – Date: October 21, 2025 at 8:01pm