

Charles A. Woodford

American Legion Post 2007

May 18, 2026

The Post Annual Meeting immediately followed the Post Annual Dinner. The meeting was called to order at 1900 hours by the Commander, Jim Page.

Roll of Post officers was called. Officers and Executive Committee members were present, except the excused absence of Finance Officer Steve Duff, Sergeant at Arms Gary Stacy and Executive Committee Members Mary Monett, and the absence Executive Committee Member Robert Thomas.

The Commander asked if there were any changes to the previous meeting minutes. No changes were noted, with the exception of correcting the spelling of Steve Duff's name under "For the Good of the Legion" agenda item.

The **Membership Report** was given showing the Post with 137 of 151 paid members for a 2026 membership renewal rate of 90.73%. We need 14 new members or delinquent members to renew their membership before July 1 to achieve 100% membership. It was noted that we had 8 members pass away over the past year.

Finance Report – No Report due to the absence of the Finance Officer.

Poppies – The Commander reported poppies were distributed on May 9th at the Belleville Lowes, collecting over $700 for veteran programs.

Veteran Affairs – The next VAC meeting will be held May 26th at 7 p.m. at 19 Public Square in Belleville. The Commander and Kori Bookman will be attending. If anyone has an issue they wish them to bring up to the commission, let them know.

Community Patriotic Observances – We will attend the Swansea Memorial Day Celebration to be held at the Swansea Moose Lodge on May 25th. Ceremony starts at 1430, be in place by 1400. We need volunteers to hold the American flag and a Bugler. Rich Gaebel volunteered for flag duty and Andrew Dunham volunteered to be the Bugler. We will also be having a Flag Retirement ceremony at Messinger Cemetery on June 13, 0900-1200.

Honor Guard – No Report

Americanism – No Report

Boy Scouts – No Report

Constitution and By Laws – No Report

Gifts to the Yanks/Visiting Vets – No Report

Children and Youth – No Report

Oratorical – No Report

Boys State – No Report

Other Committees

1. Annual Dinner – No Report
2. Buddy Checks – No Report
3. Communications – The Commander stated that Todd Herzog submitted a Member Communications Report prior to the meeting. Todd was asked if there were any critical issues the membership needed to know. Todd stated no.
4. Blood Drive – No Report
5. Community Service – No Report

Sick Call – Ben Brown is in hospice according to a March conversation with his wife, Joyce, as he is suffering from congestive heart failure. As of April 24th, Louis Evans is recovering from hip surgery. Don Parrone has had heart surgery and in March it was said that he is in rehab. Pat Robison was in a car accident and suffered sprains. Howard Bateman can no longer drive but has a DAV driver, and his daughter, to help him get to and from appointments, etc.

Unfinished Business

1. The Post link on the VAC website now lands on the Post's Facebook page.
2. The Commander still has some Post polos for pick up.
3. We are still waiting on word from Steve Duff concerning our own tax-exempt EIN number.
4. There's been no follow up on combining our Honor Guard with VFW Post 1739's team. The VFW is down to a three-member team. No decision has been made.
5. The Adjutant stated the Post website will be going inactive in June due to excessive hosting cost of over $400 for the year.

Correspondence

1. The Adjutant stated we received notices for:
   a. Call to Convention for the Depart of Illinois on May 31st at Post 365 in Collinsville.
   b. Call to Convention for the 5th Division on June 7th at Post 446 in Centralia.
   c. 5th Division Homecoming Weekend June 6th – 7th in conjunction with the convention.
   d. Gifts to the Yanks Raffle tickets sponsored by the Sons of the American Legion with a book of 12 tickets, requesting either $5 per ticket or 3 for $10 to be returned by July 1, with the drawing on July 11.

New Business

1. The Commander stated he had a request for funds from Zac Andersen, a scout from Troop 53, for his Eagle Scout project at Messinger Cemetery. He will be building two picnic tables for the pads. Todd Herzog motioned to provide 50% of material costs for the project. There was no second. Todd then amended his motion to a donation of $250. Andrew Dunham seconded. Membership approved.

Post Elections

A motion was made by Rich Gaebel, and seconded by Jim Nickles, to suspend the remaining regular meeting agenda for the purpose of accepting nominations for the election of our 2026-2027 Post officers. Members in attendance concurred.

1. Call for nominations for Post Commander – nominations for Commander were received by mail, nominating Jim Page. He accepted. Rich Gaebel then nominated Todd Herzog. Todd respectfully declined. The required call for nominations was made three times with no further nominations. Nominations were then closed.
2. Call for nominations for Senior Vice Commander – nominations for Senior Vice Commander were received by mail, nominating Charles "Chip" Barbour. Chip accepted the nomination. The required call for nominations was made three times with no further nominations. Nominations were then closed.
3. Call for nominations for Junior Vice Commander – nominations for Junior Vice Commander were received by mail, nominating Pat Robison. Pat accepted the nomination. The required call for nominations was made three times with no further nominations. Nominations were then closed.
4. Call for nominations for the 3-year Executive Committee member – nominations for 3-year Executive Committee member were received by mail, nominating Jim Nickles. Jim accepted the nomination. The required call for nominations was made three times with no further nominations. Nominations were then closed.

Being no other members than the one individual per position, the Commander called for a vote. All nominations were approved by the members in attendance with no descensions. The Commander invited the members to attend the next Executive Committee meeting in June to experience the proceedings prior to taking office in July.

A motion to restart the regular meeting agenda was made by Rich Gaebel and seconded by Jim Nickles. Members in attendance concurred.

Memorial to Departed Members – It was reported that Jim Wilson had passed away. He was an Army veteran and an 8-year Legion member. A moment of silence was held in his honor.

For the Good of the Legion

1. A reminder was given of the Messinger Cemetery cleanup on May 23rd, 0900 to 1200. Flags would be placed in preparation of Memorial Day.

30/30/30 results for a third of the $76 collected went to Barb Page who donated her $25 winnings back to the Visiting Vet program.

The Pot of Gold name was pulled with Timothy Bates listed. He was not present, so the $146 pot will roll over. The pot for the next meeting on June 22nd will be $172.

Next regular Membership Meeting will be held on June 22nd at 1900. Executive Committee Meeting will be held at 1815.

The Annual Meeting adjourned at 1944 hours.