



## Post 552

# American Legion Meeting Minutes

May 15, 2025

Meeting Called to Order: \_\_6:00\_\_\_\_pm

### Officers Present:

Commander	Kent Van Horn	
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice	Mike Hill	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice	Bill Marsh	
Adjutant	Doug Benzel	
Finance Off.	Mark Seamon	
Chaplain	Bill Bartle	
Service Officer	Dave Schmidt	
Sergeant-At-Arms	Jim Vander Ploeg	Absent
Asst Adjutant	Travis Methvin	Absent

Other members: Bill Heard, Brad Johnson and Donovan Morris

Guests: None

Reading of the Minutes: Minutes of the April meeting were approved as posted on our website.

### Committee Reports:

Finance: Checks in the amount of \$800 each were sent to San Diego Military Outreach Mission, Shelter to Soldier and Support the Enlisted Project (STEP). This reflects profits from the Bingo fundraiser. Automatic reinvestment of dividends from QYLD has been activated.

Membership: We have 130 2025 members toward our 149 goal. This is 88.86%. The District average is 87.25% with two posts exceeding 100%.

Boy Scouts: In the absence of Travis, Doug reported that a meeting was held with Tiffany (Scout Troop 271 Leader) on May 14. Kent and Doug were in attendance. The agreement has been signed and Tiffany will forward it to the Council for approval. She expects she will be able to provide us with a Troop flag for display.

Sick Call: Bill Bartle reported that Jerry Henson spent four weeks in ICU and is now resting at home.

Unfinished Business:

**Bingo Fundraiser:** The money swiped at the Bingo event using Square has not yet been located. Both Doug and Ellen Citrano have been working to obtain this. They will meet on May 16 to talk to Square.

**Next Fundraiser:** Bill Marsh said the next fundraiser has not yet been planned.

**CA Convention Delegate Certification:** Doug stated that anyone wishing to attend the June 26-29 convention must be voted upon at this meeting. No volunteers came forth.

New Business:

**Nominations and Election:** Nominations were opened again for Commander, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice. No new nominations were made. The Commander recommended we vote the slate as there was only one nominee for each of these positions. The slate was voted unanimously. The 2026 elected officers are:

Commander—Doug Benzel

1<sup>st</sup> Vice—Bill Marsh

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice—Mike Hill

**Announcement of Appointments:** Doug announced the following appointments for 2026:

Travis Methvin—Adjutant

Bill Heard—Assistant Adjutant

Kent Van Horn—Finance Officer

Bill Bartle—Chaplain

Jim Vander Ploeg—Sergeant-At-Arms

Dave Schmidt—Service Officer

Stephen Burr will act as Sergeant-At-Arms during the absence of Jim.

Good of the Order:

The District Commander, Vic Martin, will conduct the installation ceremony at our June meeting. He will also make a presentation on PTSD following the meeting. The VFW is invited to attend. Bill Heard mentioned that anyone who has suffered effects of Agent Orange exposure in Vietnam can obtain a free medal from the Orange Heart Medal Foundation. Ken Gamble, the President, can be reached at 615-973-5279 or email [kengamble68@gmail.com](mailto:kengamble68@gmail.com). There will be a blood drive by the American Red Cross at the VFW on June 12 from 12:00 to 6:00pm. Brian Compton is working with the Commander to obtain a medal for an outstanding cadet at the Point Loma JROTC. The deck is on track for construction in June. Stephen Burr is obtaining final quotes from the bamboo contractor.

Meeting was adjourned at \_\_6:35 pm\_\_\_\_\_

/s/Signed May 19, 2025

Adjutant