



SARATOGA NATIONAL CEMETERY HONOR GUARD ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the General Membership Meeting May 20, 2025

The meeting opened with a salute, the Pledge of Allegiance, a prayer, the reading of the POW/MIA statement, and the reading of the Association's mission statement.

There were 25 attendees at this meeting. The meeting began at 4:00 PM at the American Legion Old Saratoga Post 278 in Schuylerville.

Roll Call

OFFICERS

Cmdr – Robert Sellar – Present
Adjutant – Mark Joly – Present
Quartermaster – Jim Rhoads – Present
Chaplain - Norm Schultheiss – Present

Vice Cmdr – Gary Squires – Present
Finance Officer – Jay Ogden – Absent
Ordnance – Ernie Dreimiller – Present
Sergeant-at-Arms – Art Knorr – Present

TRUSTEES

Gary Squires - Present
Ernie Dreimiller – Present
Joe Valerio – Absent

SQUAD LEADERS

Mon – Glenn Duffy - Present
Tues - Frank Merrill – Present
Wed – Dick Noonan – Present
Thurs - Ted Mosher – Present
Fri - Gary Squires – Present

Approval of Minutes of the September General Membership Meeting

As all association members who have an email account were sent the March 2025 General Membership Committee Meeting minutes, the minutes were not read during this meeting. As there were no additions or corrections, the minutes are approved as distributed.

Introduction of New Members

No new members to introduce.

Officer Reports

Vice Commander: Just a reminder that May 24th is the Memorial Day ceremony at the cemetery. July 9th is the Deceased Member Memorial.

Adjutant: No report.

Finance: In the Finance Officer's absence, the Commander provided the following from the end of April Finance Report – there are \$55,198.52 available funds from all sources.

Chaplin: The Chaplin thanked the members who attended the service for Robert Garland and Robert Flowers.

Quartermaster: The Quartermaster reported they have been keeping up with special requests within a three-day window.

Trustees: Nothing to report at this time.

Ordinance: The Ordnance Officer, Ernie Dreimiller, provided his report of repairs. Currently, there are 14 rifles in service. The squad room kit is totally full. The written report is with the Adjutant.

Color Guard: The Commander reported he knows there is a Color Guard that will be at the ceremony on Saturday. Bob was not sure about the June 14th Saratoga Ladies golf outing.

Squad Leader Reports

Monday Squad: Nothing to report.

Tuesday Squad: Nothing to report.

Wednesday Squad: Nothing to report.

Thursday Squad: No report at this time.

Friday Squad: Nothing to report.

Agenda Discussion Items

1. Officer Elections

John Shahay reported that there are two open positions, Adjutant and Trustee. Dave Seymour's name has been put forth for Trustee. As there were no other names put forward at this meeting, John recommended that one vote be cast by the Adjutant for Dave Seymour for Trustee. The Adjutant cast one vote for Dave Seymour for Trustee.

John reported there were no names put forth for the Adjutant position. However, Catherine P. Gaynair-O'Hara is interested in the position. Once she qualifies to run for elected office per the By-laws, she would like to do so. The Adjutant appointed Catherine as the Assistant Adjutant and requested that this appointment be approved by the General Membership at this time. Bob Sellar made a motion that Catherine be approved as Assistant Adjutant. Norm Schultheiss seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Amended By-laws Officer Signatures

The Commander asked that the officer sign the first page of the amended By-laws that were changed to conform to the new Constitution. The amendments were previously approved by the membership.

3. Memorial Day Flag Placement

Memorial Day flag placement begins at 10 AM. Our association is responsible for Section 2.

4. Registering as a Federal Contractor

The Commander has been working for over a month in an effort to register as a federal contractor to possibly receive \$50 from an Army grant for every Army veteran we perform military honors for.

5. Recognition Award Program Update

The Commander asked if the program is still being used. Don Boone stated the program is still active. Contact Don or Frank Merrill to request recognition for someone.

6. Saratoga Ladies Golf - June 14th fundraiser in Hadley. A flyer is posted in the squad room

Open Agenda Discussion Items

A. Monday Golf – Don asked that anyone that wants to participate once or often, contact him. They play a scramble. Monday afternoon at 2 PM. (dboone555@outlook.com)

B. The Traveling Wall – The Healing Wall will be at La Salle June 6th and 7th.

C. Upcoming Activities:

- 1) There will be another Patriot Flight in October
- 2) The Vietnam War service that was at the cemetery went well. There were a good number of young people who participated in placing flags at each grave.
- 3) VA dinner in July for the cemetery volunteers (plus 1) at the Stillwater American Legion. More information to follow.
- 4) The Wreaths Across America wreath pick-up went well. Prices are going up for next year.

50/50 Drawing: There was no drawing.

The meeting closed with a prayer and a salute. The meeting ended at 4:57 PM.

The next **Executive Committee Meeting** will be **Tuesday, June 17, 2025 at 7:00 PM.**

The next **General Membership Meeting** will be **Tuesday, July 15, 2025 at 4:00 PM.**

Both meetings will be at the American Legion Old Saratoga Post 278 in Schuylerville.

Future dates to remember:

- Monday, June 16, 2025, Flag Disposal Ceremony at 9:00 AM
- Wednesday, July 9, 2025, Deceased Member Memorial 3:00 PM