



SARATOGA NATIONAL CEMETERY HONOR GUARD ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the General Membership Meeting September 16, 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 16 attendees at this meeting. The meeting began at 4:01 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 – Absent
Chaplain - Norm Schultheiss – Absent

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 – Present

SQUAD LEADERS

Mon – Glenn Duffy - Present
Tues - Frank Merrill – Present
Wed – Dick Noonan – Absent, Pat Festa representing
Thurs - Ted Mosher – Absent
Fri - Gary Squires – Present

Approval of Minutes of the July General Membership Meeting

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

Introduction of New Members

There were no new members in attendance.

Officer Reports

Vice Commander: Gary Squires had nothing to report.

Adjutant: No report.

Finance: In Jay's absence, the Commander, reading from the Finance report for the month ended August 31, 2025, there was a beginning balance from all sources of \$52,905.88 and an ending balance of \$52,215.94 available funds from all sources.

Chaplin: No report.

Quartermaster: The assistant to the Quartermaster, Jack Grande, reported that they continue to outfit new members and make exchanges for current members. Things are going well.

Trustees: The semi-annual audit was completed on July 21st at the cemetery. No discrepancies were found.

Ordinance: The Ordnance Officer, Ernie Dreimiller, reported that the TACOM three-year certification was completed in July. On August 30th, the yearly rifle evaluations by the gunsmith were completed. The new rifle safe was installed by Scott Lamb's crew. He thanked Bob Sellar and Glenn Duffy for doing the legwork for the review and purchase of the safe. Gary Squires was also part of the search for the new safe.

Ernie continued his report, stating there have been no reported incidents that he knows of. There are fifteen rifles in service at this time. He also brought a copy of the rifle evaluation sheets for the membership to look at. If anyone has any questions or comments, Dennis and he will try to answer them.

The report is filed with the Adjutant.

Color Guard: No report at this time.

Squad Leader Reports

Monday Squad: Nothing to report regarding the squad. Glen then went on to recommend that some kind of water-absorbing product be purchased for the safe that can be used during the inclement weather.

Tuesday Squad: Nothing to report regarding the squad. Frank then went on to talk about the poorly trained Army personnel who are sent to perform MFH.

Wednesday Squad: Pat Festa said there was nothing to report regarding the squad.

Thursday Squad: No one from the squad was in attendance to make a report.

Friday Squad: Nothing to report.

Agenda Discussion Items

1. Special Guest – Scott McGregor

Bob Sellar reported Scott called to cancel due to being sick.

2. Organization 25th Anniversary Pins

Bob Sellar asked the members for their feelings about producing a 25th Anniversary pin to be distributed to members. One member cautioned that although it was a good idea, he pointed out that the funds of the organization should be considered before going ahead with the pins. Another member asked about possibly getting a 25th Anniversary challenge coin. Bob recommended that the purchase of the pins or coins be put on hold at this time, while the costs can be investigated.

Open Agenda Discussion Items

- A. Red, White, and Brew** – The event is at the MVP Arena from 2 to 6. There will be an information table for the association with Don Boone and Ernie Driemiller in attendance. Anyone else interested in representing the association at this event can contact Don Boone for more information.
- B. The Way We Were Car Show** – Sunday, October 12th there will be an association information table at the car show. Anyone interested in participating at the table can contact Don Boone.
- C. Color Guard for a Retirement Ceremony** – A request for the Color Guard to present the colors at a retirement ceremony being held at the American Legion Post 1450 in Clifton Park. It was decided that the Commander will call the contact for this request and discuss that we don't present the colors for individuals.
- D. Army Grant Update** – Bob Sellar provided information regarding his continued efforts to complete the application process and provide additional information upon review of the original application. He believes he is near the end of the process. If finally approved, it would be up to the membership to decide how many services we would submit for payment from the grant.
- E. Bus Decals** – The bus will not be available next Tuesday. The branch decals on both sides of the bus will have the Space Force emblem added.

F. VA Appreciation Dinner – will be held on Sunday, October 19th from 2 PM to 5 PM. Anyone interested in a free meal, call Jason Goman at 518-626-5506 or email him at Jason.goman@va.gov. There is no “plus one” for this dinner.

50/50 Drawing: There was \$61 collected, with \$31 to the winner, Jack Grande.

The meeting closed with a prayer and a salute.

The meeting ended at **4:58 PM**.

The next **Executive Committee Meeting** will be on **Tuesday, October 21, 2025, at 4:00 PM**.

The next **General Membership Meeting** will be **Tuesday, November 18, 2025, at 4:00 PM**.

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

Future dates to remember:

- Tuesday, October 14, 2025, Flag Disposal Ceremony 9:00 AM
- Tuesday, November 11, 2025, Veterans Day Ceremony 11:00 AM