## APEX AMERICAN LEGION POST 124 MEMBERSHIP MEETING AGENDA 7 July 2025

- Guest Speakers: Sandra Edens (Women Veterans)
- Order of Business
  - Roll call to determine if quorum is present (quorum is 9)
  - Reading of minutes of previous meeting
  - Introduction of guests and prospective/new members:
  - Committee Reports
    - Americanism (Mike D):
    - Finance (Tim M.):
      - Motion to approve finance report subject to audit.
    - Membership (Dennis): Goal.
    - Oktoberfest (J.D.):
      - Next meeting: 10 July 1830, Downtown Depot
    - Legislative (Sandra):
      - Service Dogs Assisting Veterans (SAVES) Act
        - Too many veterans are left without the critical support they need to recover from the visible and invisible wounds of war. For those living with physical disabilities, PTSD, or other service-connected conditions, the lack of access to trained service dogs represents a major gap in care.
        - The American Legion recognizes the profound impact service dogs have on veterans' lives, assisting with daily tasks, such as retrieving items, opening doors, and providing balance support. Service dogs can detect and respond to medical emergencies like seizures or panic attacks.
        - Legislation proposes a five-year pilot program for the VA to award grants to nonprofit organizations to provide trained service dogs to eligible veterans, cover the cost of training, and provide life-long veterinary insurance.
        - Contact their congressional representatives to advocate for the passage the SAVES Act
      - Find Legislative actions: https://www.votervoice.net/mobile/AmericanLegion/home
    - Service (Brandon):
    - Historian (Gary):
    - Public Affairs (Lee):

- Website (Phil)
- Chaplain (Lashonda): Be The One
- Balloting on applications:
- Sick call:
- Post Everlasting:
- Old business
  - Adopt-A-Highway (Tim): 16 Aug. from 9 to 10
  - 4<sup>th</sup> of July event (Jim): Went well.
    - Always looking for more volunteers for the Color Guard. If you're interested, see Jim. We will be conducting more training in the upcoming months.
  - Brews and Banter (Josh): Changed the venue to Highcraft Brewery in downtown Apex. New business cards are available. This month it occurs tomorrow
  - NCAL Annual Convention: 18-21 June, 3415 Wake Forest Rd, Raleigh, North Carolina, 27609.
    - Pretty much a waste of time, though they are aware that we need to attract more younger veterans
    - Some information about "Be the One"
    - Awards for post from District

• Business Cards: We have new cards printed with the updated meeting location.

• Membership:

- Be on the lookout for new members...look for: Bumper Stickers, Hats, Military Service-related T-shirts.
- Points to remember: Dues for Rotary-\$275 per quarter, Masons-\$300 per year
- Nation's largest service advocacy group. (GI Bill, PACT Act, VA health care, to name a few)
- Have an "elevator speech" at the ready. We'll work on that as an organization too. We are ALL responsible for recruiting
- New Business and Correspondence
  - Assist with West Haven apartment residents.
  - National Commander USA 250 Challenge
    - Physical complete 250 miles (walk, bike, etc., pickleball, strength training, kayaking
    - Wellness 250 hours yoga, meditation or other mindfulness, Be The One (250 buddy checks)
    - Community Service 250 hours of volunteering, teaching flag etiquette, or 250 care packages to deployed troops, retire 250 flags

- Can also register for \$30 and receive a shirt in red, white or blue with proceeds going to Veterans and Children Foundation
- Vehicles for Veterans summer Campagne (Carl)
- Apex Night Out event Oct. 7<sup>th</sup> 4:30 to 7 (Touch A Truck)
- Eagle Scout Project (Barry): Status
- Holiday Party (Sandra): Theme is "Winter Wonderland."
  - I could use 2-3 more people to help with the planning/organizing.
- Flag Retirement (Keith): Will happen July 12 at 10 AM
- Lowe's Beer Den: Thurs @1300
- Next Meeting: 4 Aug
- The good of the American Legion
  - Post phone number is: 919-414-4665
  - Sandra is a notary. She will notarize documents for AL members free of charge.
  - We have two licensed attorneys in our Post who are willing to help members with basic estate planning issues (Will, Power of Attorney, Medical Power of Attorney)
  - Our Post collects can tabs (soda, beer, green beans, dog food, ANY can tabs) to benefit the Ronald McDonald House. Bring your tabs to the meeting!
- Post 124 Meetings
  - Regular post meetings are the first Monday of each month at 7pm.
  - Executive committee meetings are third Monday of each month at 7pm
  - Brews and Banter is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 6:30, Highcraft Brewery, 112 N. Salem St (downtown Apex) This just so happens to be tomorrow.
  - Oktoberfest meetings are the Thursday after the membership meeting.

## **POST 124 UPCOMING EVENTS 2025**

- 8 July: Brews and Banter (1830), Highcraft Brewery, 112 N. Salem St. (downtown Apex).
- 10 July: Oktoberfest Meeting (1830), Train Depot
- 10-12 July: NCAL Legion College, 3415 Wake Forest Rd, Raleigh
- 12 Jul: Flag retirement (10 to 12:30) at Apex Fire Station #2.
- 4 Aug. Next monthly meeting
- Adopt-A-Highway (Tim): 16 Aug. from 9 to 10