

APEX AMERICAN LEGION POST 124 MEMBERSHIP MEETING AGENDA

2 June 2025

- Guest Speakers:
- Order of Business
 - Roll call to determine if quorum is present (quorum is 9)
 - Remember to list any volunteer hours on sign in sheet
 - Reading of minutes of previous meeting
 - Introduction of guests and prospective/new members:
 - Committee Reports
 - Americanism (JD):
 - Finance (Tim M.):
 - Motion to approve finance report subject to audit.
 - Membership (Lee): Goal was 181.
 - Oktoberfest (J.D.):
 - PEC voted to increase the budget for Oktoberfest to \$35,000.
 - Next meeting: 5 Jun 1830, Downtown Depot
 - We need to move forward on soliciting sponsors for Octoberfest
 - Legislative (Sandra):
 - ***Shipbuilding and Harbor Infrastructure for Prosperity and Security (SHIPS) for America Act***
 - America's maritime infrastructure is plagued by aging military and commercial vessels, dropping shipbuilding capacity, billions in maintenance backlogs for ports and waterways, a shortage of qualified mariners, and a plummeting sealift capacity.
 - This crucial domain has been overlooked for too long. The AL is clear that the US needs sustained investment in our national security to reduce the chances of armed conflict.
 - By the Numbers:
 - The United States has a merchant fleet of 185 ships. China has 7,838.
 - In 2023, the US built 0.1% of the world's ships. China built 50.7%.
 - The US's goal for sealift capacity is 85%. It is currently 59% and dropping.
 - America's sealift capacity was USTRANSCOM's number 2 readiness concern in 2021. It is now the top concern.
 - As of 2023 the US had just 5 shipbuilding orders in shipyards. China had 1,700.
 - Congress should pass the SHIPS for America Act now.
 - Find Legislative actions:
<https://www.votervoice.net/mobile/AmericanLegion/home>
 - Service (Keith):
 - Historian (Gary):

- Public Affairs (Phil):
- Balloting on applications:
- Sick call:
- Post Everlasting:
- Old business
- Adopt-A-Highway (Tim): 17 May. 6 people participated. Collected 2 bags of trash.
- Memorial Day Ceremony (Barry): 26 May. Went well.
 - Additional ceremony was conducted at Spring Arbor that afternoon.
 - Thank you to all who helped and participated.
 - 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): Changing the venue to Highcraft Brewery in downtown Apex. New business cards are in the works.
- NCAL Annual Convention: 18-21 June, 3415 Wake Forest Rd, Raleigh, North Carolina, 27609

Our delegates are: Sandra Edens, Lee Harris, LaShonda Harris, Tim Muhs, and Barry Bloch.

 - Alternates are: Mike Sayers, Phil Prinzi and David Blair
- Business Cards: We have new cards printed with the updated meeting location. Please get rid of any old cards and keep a stash of the new cards.
- 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--\$300per 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
- Elections: Congratulations to our new (and returning) officers.
 - Commander: Lee Harris
 - 1st Vice: Dennis Schmidt
 - 2nd Vice: Josh Herald
 - Adjutant: Phil Prinzi
 - Finance Officer: Tim Muhs
 - Historian: Gary Ward
 - Chaplain: LaShonda Harris
 - Service Officer: Brandon Baker
 - Sgt at Arms 1: Carl Helton

- Sgt at Arms 2: Jim Speidel
 - Judge Advocate: Barry Bloch
- Eagle Scout Project (Barry): PEC approved working with Ankit Kantheti for his ES Project. He will be making a moveable sign we can use outside the Lodge for our meetings.
- 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 12th
- Lowe’s Beer Den: Thurs @1300
- Next Meeting: 7 Jul
- 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 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:30, Highcraft Brewery, 112 N. Salem St (downtown Apex)
 - Oktoberfest meetings are the Thursday after the membership meeting.

POST 124 UPCOMING EVENTS

2025

- 5 Jun: Oktoberfest Meeting (1830), Train Depot
- 10 Jun: Brews and Banter (1830), Highcraft Brewery, 112 N. Salem St.
(downtown Apex).
- 18-21 June: NCAL Annual Convention, 3415 Wake Forest Rd, Raleigh
- 4 Jul: Color Guard will raise the flag to kick off the Apex parade. More info to follow.
- 7 Jul: Membership meeting