Post 38 Membership Minutes
5/4/2026

Meeting called to order @ 1830 hrs

Roll Call of Officers and Committee Members: Jarrod Coulter (Commander), Jonathon Reid (1st Vice), Wayne Senneke (2nd Vice), Stephanie Zinser (3rd Vice), Bob Johnson (Chp), Dave Baumann (Adj.), Jan Hoffman (PPC), Wade Van Ryzin (FO), Frank Billings (SaA). Excused –Bill Trombley (SO).

Guests, new members, and dignitaries recognized – Guests, new members, and dignitaries recognized – Mark Toll (Past Dept. SaA), Leigh Splitt (Unit 38 President), Linda Breitzman (ALA Past Unit President), Rose Heinz (Unit 38 Secretary), Marian Brown (ALA Membership), Chris VanRyzin, Cindy Hoffman, Robin Billings, Eric Stadler (Commander, Scarlet Guard).

New members/Guests – John Olen (new member), Kenton Craddock.

Member Attendance: There were 56 members and 11 guests/dignitaries in attendance.

Executive meeting Minutes/Report for the 4/27/2026 Executive meeting. Minutes held for general membership.
Post meeting Minutes for the 4/6/2026 Post meeting: The minutes will be filed with corrections as noted.

Service Officer's Reports:

Veteran referrals: No requests.

Funeral Honor Guard: April 2026 – 4 funerals, 28 personnel and 64 manhours. Need new members. See Rick Eisenach/Joe Jackson.

Camp American Legion: Go to https://www.campamericanlegion.org/how-to-apply or call camp to make a reservation. Need more involvement from the Post members. Spring work May 11-15 & May 18-22. Need volunteers.

1st Vice Commander's Report:

Membership: 533/538 – 99.07%. If you have sent in your renewal there is a lag time between renewal and processing.

Member booklet presented.

The new membership year starts July 1st. Cards will be at all Post meetings if you would like to renew before or after the meeting. Dues for 2026 are $60.

Buddy Checks: Buddy Check calls continued ad-hoc by volunteers

- Active Members list downloaded and placed in Google Sheets
  - Will highlight grouping per volunteer names when volunteers are established.
  - Call script is on the modified Members list to concentrate everything onto one document
  - Buddy Checks are not membership or fundraising calls; they are check-ins
- 988 Crisis Line for urgent assistance (dial 988)

2nd Vice Commander's Report:

Policies and Procedures Committee: No Update

Fox Valley Veterans Council:

a. April 2026
   - **i.** 36 Cases Paid = $18,615.22
   - ii. 13 Veterans Receiving Other Assistance
b. In need of Case Workers to support veterans in need.
c. Mission of Honor
   - i. For War on Terror veterans
d. Old Glory Honor
   - i. Veterans with service dates prior to 1975

Badger Boys: Inactive

Baseball: 2 Junior teams this year. Planning on having 1 team for Fall Ball starting in August. Regionals are July 17th, hoping to have a game here during the Department Convention. Planning on having a Legion Family night at the ballpark on July 7th.

Scouts:

a. Boy Scouts
   i. No new events
   ii. Questioning if we have any events or ideas that the scouts could participate to earn money for the troop.
b. Girl Scouts –
   i. Flag Training May 2, postponed.

Wayne Senneke to assume Liaison. We currently have Troop 9 as our Post 38 Troop. We currently also have Pack 3077 out of Greenville, and Pack 3177 out of Greenville. They are looking to help out at the Post.

Oratorical: Inactive.

Scarlet Guard

a. On Sunday, May 24, 2026, all are encouraged to join us as we perform memorial salutes at the Moses Montefiore Cemetery in Appleton at 12:00 NOON and St. Mary Cemetery in Appleton at 1:00 PM to recognize all veterans laid to rest who died while serving in the United States military. Members from the Appleton American Legion Post 38 Honor Guard and the Appleton VFW Post 2778 Honor Guard will assist with these salutes. The public is welcome and encouraged to attend.
b. The Appleton Memorial Day Parade and "Moment of Remembrance" ceremony is scheduled for Monday, May 25, 2026. The 75th Appleton Flag Day Parade is scheduled for Saturday, June 13, 2026. All veterans, as well as any American Legion, Auxiliary, or Sons of the American Legion members are welcome to march with us in these events. For more information contact Eric Stadler at 920.450.6907.
c. Our mission is "To Honor the Colors" and to promote patriotism throughout the community. Missions we support include presenting the colors at local high school varsity football and basketball games, and other sporting events. We also march in parades, and post and retrieve the colors for meetings and conventions.
d. Our roster consists of members from Appleton, Kaukauna, Kimberly, Little Chute, Mountain, Fremont, Wrightstown, Greenville, Freedom, Neenah, and Menasha. People of various abilities are welcome to join. You do not have to march in parades to be a member. Uniforms are provided, except for footwear and a jacket. Membership is open to members of any American Legion Post, American Legion Auxiliary Unit, or Sons of the American Legion Squadron. Contact Eric Stadler (920.450.6907 or eric.stadler1@gmail.com) for more information about joining.
e. Thank you to Fast Signs - Appleton for providing us with a new parade banner and vehicle magnet signs.
f. Patronize our sponsors: Boyle Auto Sales, Maritime Tavern, SDS Painting Company, Verkuilen-Van Deurzen/Valley Funeral Homes, and our honorary sponsor Hank & Karen's Pub & Grill.

b. Contact Eric Stadler (920.450.6907or eric.stadler1@gmail.com) for more information about joining.
c. Thank you to our sponsors: Boyle Auto Sales, Maritime Tavern, SDS Painting Company, Verkuilen-Van Deurzen/Valley Funeral Homes, and our honorary sponsor Hank & Karen's Pub & Grill.
d. Activities of the Scarlet Guard can be found at the Scarlet Guard Post 38 or Scarlet Guard Color Guard

Anyone interested in joining the Scarlet Guard American Legion Color Guard to help with these and other events should contact Eric Stadler (920.450.6907 or eric.stadler1@gmail.com).

* Membership in the Scarlet Guard American Legion Color Guard is open to members of any American Legion Post, Auxiliary Unit, or Sons of the American Legion Squadron. The uniform is provided.
New members are always welcome; contact Eric Stadler for information at 920.450.6907 or email eric.stadler1@gmail.com. Follow and Like the Scarlet Guard Color Guard page on Facebook.

3rd Vice Commander's Report: Club continues to host events. Many things are already planned for 2026. Flags arrived for sale.

Events Committee: Events committee is formed with members from the entire Legion family. Meetings will now be quarterly. Next meeting is on @ 5:30pm. Upcoming events: Brat Fry is starting April 1st. Come and enjoy. Fox Valley Concert Band Spring Concert May 8th @ 7:30pm. Poppy Days May 8th & 9th.

Adjutant's Report:

Bills: No Bills.

Correspondence: Thank you letter from Missions of Honor for our donation. CPR and PDR are done and sent in. Octoberfest Wristband both is set.

Finance Officer's Report:

As of 3/31/2026-Starting balance $33,573.08, 9 withdrawals totaling $9,838.99, 4 deposits totaling $21,647.00. Ending balance of $44,881.09. The membership deposit account had transfers in of $0.00. National withdrawals come to $479.00. National also added $4,195.00 for online renewals. The account started with $512.12 and the ending balance is $4,229.45. Interest added $1.33.

Savings Account #1 has a starting balance of $135,665.69 A dividend of $96.66 was paid. Transfer Deposit of $0.00. Ending balance of $135,762.35.

10 month CD had a starting balance of $30,716.95. Interest of $106.26. Ending balance of $30,823.21.

This gives us a balance sheet value of $215,696.10.

Education Fund/Scholarship: Beginning account balance $11,090.48. Income distribution $0.02, Change in Securities value $195.31. Portfolio Net Change $195.33, ending balance $11,285.81. Investments-Fixed Income - Muni $8,471.95, Money Market Cash $2,814.22, Account total $11,285.81.

There is also $50,253.71 within the Fox Valley Community Foundation. Deductions of $66.56 have been subtracted. Investment gains of $-2,780.36 are included. Unrealized gains of $-2,667.44 included in the report. $1,000.00 in Scholarship funds were deducted. Total Scholarship Account $61,539.53.

Finance and Budgeting: Budget committee met on April 13th @ 1700 hrs. Donation tracker set up to help track where donations are going. Reviewed the Budget.

Audit: No Updates.

Long Range and Strategic Planning: Committee is formed. Mission Vision Statement made. Posted on the website and FB page. Vernon Noel volunteered to be chairman. Jarrod Coulter, Don Brandt, Eric Jones, & Reive Pullen volunteered. Next meeting will be * at 5:30pm. Will meet quarterly. The next meeting has not been set yet but will be next quarter (Jan-Mar). Will meet quarterly. Looking to set up some various activities over the next few quarters (Bourbon & Blues Event, Board gaming Night, Casino Night, etc…)

4th of July Celebration (July 3rd): Next meeting will be * @ 8:30AM at Parks and Recreation Building located at the Veterans Memorial Park. Event intended to be city and post co-sponsored. Post to sell wristbands/drink tickets and brats. 12k attendance estimated. Expected expenses $7k-$12K. Expected profit $35K. Ideas presented: Sell can koozies, National Guard participation, scouts to help with cleanup/ATVs. Zoom call about this will be on Jan. 9th w/JC coordinator. Lining up sponsors and food trucks. Gold Cross has donated their services. Menasha Corp. will be supplying garbage bins. Looking at POS system (rent or purchase) for event. Prices 250 year t-shirts for sale. Insurance is set up for the event.

Post Chaplain's Report: Post has plots available at Riverside & St. Joes. Forms need to be completed and approved by Commander or Adjutant/Service Officer along with a $250.00 fee. Those interested, contact Deb Debruin for Riverside & Tina LeFebre for St. Joes, or Chaplain Bob Johnson.

Visiting and Volunteer: Volunteers are needed and welcomed.

Deceased:

Recuperating at home or a Nursing Care Facility/Hospital:

Please keep any our sick/ill members in your thoughts and notify Bob Johnson if anyone is recovering from surgery or any other illnesses so we can get them in the newsletter, thank you.

Bob Johnson-Post 38 Chaplain's Office E-mail: rjohnson4116@gmail.com Phone # 920-454-0842

Quartermaster: Stand ordered for 250 Year flag.

Historian: Working on Post history for finishing up the History Display case.

Buildings and Grounds: - The parking lot has taken a beating this winter with potholes, will need to do some repair after the weather warms up. Got 1 quote. Getting 2 more quotes.

- Working on new ASR (plowing) contract.
- The thermostat on the flattop in the kitchen was replaced..
- The ice machine is showing Code E6, High pressure switch open, Commercial Appliance looked at it today but has to do some research to see what exactly that code is. Its still working but not making ice as quickly as before.
- Kitchen suppression system update,

Vorphahl quote is $4576.00 (fire suppression system)

Bricco quote is $1350.40 (electrical contactor installation)

Coenen Mech is $1400 (sheet metal work to accommodate additional baffles)

Getting quote from Van;s.
Total: $7326.40
Membership approved Not To Exceed $5000
Bingo kitchen donations $1500
Short $826.40.

- Jill wants to bring in Vans to check the fire extinguishers and kitchen for a second opinion to see if it really needs to be done.
- The hall is being painted, the projectors, speakers, screens, and lights are installed. Theflooring has been ordered and should all be installed prior to the June 10th Evening with Rocky Bleier.
- We received a $5000 donation to redo parts of the parking lot.

House Committee: Jill has stated that the "SAM" (System for Award Management) number from the government to is a huge success and very helpful. Staffing is an ongoing issue. The next meeting will be April 14th @ 1800 hrs. New shirts for sale. Request was made for new tables in the kitchen. We will investigate options. Looking into options to replace the current POS (point of sale) system due to the fact that the current system does not fulfill the needs of the club. Looking at setting up a van to shuttle people from the Department convention for Friday Fish.

Additional Standing Committees:

Communications: Catherine is looking for Veterans who may be interested in being highlighted in a veterans corner she would like to launch. You are the heart and soul of our Post, and she would like to highlight you! If you have any content you'd like to share, or an articles of interest, please contact Catherine Kutzleb at catherineusnr@live.com.

Did you know our Facebook page and website are being talked about? That's right we are getting noticed on many levels including at the District and State level. Our content is setting the bar for others to emulate, and that is because of your sharing and liking our content. Keep it up! Check out our Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/appletonpost38) and our website (Johnston-Blessman Post 38 (appleton38.org) for information about happenings at Post 38 and Post 38 Bar & Grill. As always, thank you for your support.

Fundraising: Sweatshirts are for sale again this year. Convention Raffle tickets available.

Constitution and Bylaws: Inactive.

Nomination Committee: Inactive.

Ballot Committee: Mark Toll, Don Traynor, Carl Abendroth.

Activities and Announcements:

Bowling: No Updates.

Blood Donor Program: Red Cross Blood Drive dates – . Book is at all meetings, please update your information. If you are a member and donate, please add to the donor book. Visit the Red Cross website to sign up. 1-800-Red Cross (1-800-733-2767).

Conferences:

9th District Fall Conference: Wabeno Post 44, October 3rd, 2026.

Mid-Winter Conference: January 21-24, 2027 – Madison.

9th District Spring Conference:

County Council: Next meeting is on May 13th, 2026, 6:30 pm.

Golf:

Department Convention: July 15-19, 2026, in Appleton. We will need plenty of help.

The American Legion Family:

SAL: See addendum below. Flying Flags for Heroes project. Placing flags at gravesites. National SAL Campaign. https://www.flyingflagsforheroes.com/ .

The American Legion Auxiliary: May 8 & 9 are Poppy Days. Will be serving a lunch after the Memorial Day Parade.

The American Legion Riders: Schedule upcoming. Ride to DC planned for the July 4th "Sojourn 250" celebration.

Unfinished Business: Tacos will be served before the meeting, prepared by the Club.

New Business: Election results – Jonathan Reid (Commander), Wayne Senneke (1st Vice), Stephanie Zinser (2nd Vice). Vernon Noel (3rd Vice), Frank Billings (SaA), Dave Baumann (Adjutant), Michelle Madden (Chaplain) Ed Domek (MAL – 3 year term), & Dan Madden (MAL – 2 year term). Motion made by Don Traynor, 2nd by Bill Burton to hold the ballots for 30 days, then destroy. Motion carries.

The Post will sponsor a hole and have a 4-person team for the Rocky Bleier golf outing on June 10th. Total cost $1050.

Catherine Kutzleb brought up new sign-in options for the VA. ID.me and Login.gov.

Good of The American Legion:

FVTC has started a Innovation Accelerator Program for Veterans. Click this link for more info. Innovation Accelerator for Veterans | Training & Services | Fox Valley Technical College – FVTC.TrainingWeb.WA
The Post will have a table at the Military Appreciation Night at the Timber Rattlers game on May 26th. 2 volunteers needed. More info to come.
The new Veterans Memorial Park committee is looking for ideas from local veteran organizations for memorials. Looking for Companies in the Valley that have special programs for Veteran's. The American Legion College is online. Go online to register at https://wilegion.org/legion-college/ See Dave Baumann for schedule.

Member drawing $50.00 (no winner so $100.00 for the June meeting)
382 – Lee Polencheck
79 – Ryan Clewell
153 – Raymond Galioto

$25 Drawing – Dave Baumann
Bottle of Bourbon – Pedro Moreno

Meeting adjourned @ 1915 hrs
Next Executive meeting is May 27th @ 1830 hrs.
Next Post meeting is June 1st @ 1830 hrs.
Respectfully Submitted by: Dave Baumann

SAL addendum submitted by Al Watry:

Membership

- Goal of 124
- Currently at 137 (all fully processed)
    - 120 renewals (of 124)
    - 17 new

Squadron Activities:

- Continuing to have many members engaged with:
    - Funeral Honors
    - Scarlet Guard
    - Building and Grounds
    - Legion Baseball
    - Legion Riders
    - Post/Club events.
- Other:
    - Several members helped with the Breakfast with the Easter Bunny
    - One member attending Legion 9th District Spring Conference
    - Will be gathering final data and submitting CSR by May 10th (SAL Due Date to Detachment is June 1st).

Allen J Watry
Sons of The American Legion
SAL Department Commander
Wi Squadron 38 Adjutant
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