

American Legion BMI Post 40 General Meeting

15 July 2026

Meeting opened by the Post Commander, Larry Magana, at 6:00 pm.

Officer attendance was insufficient for an official Meeting; an informational meeting was held instead

Roll Call: (Y) (N)

Commander: Larry Magana (Y)

1st Vice Commander: Mike McCrimmon (Y)

2nd Vice Commander: Marcia Montgomery(N)

Adjutant: Cecil Bridgewater (Y)

Finance Officers: Steve Schweter (N)

Sergeant-at-Arms: Jeffrey Becker (N)

Chaplain: Richard Troutman (Y)

Past Commander: Jeff Campbell (Y)

Judge Advocate: Glenn Grenner (N)

Historian: Jerry McGee

1st Trustee: Richard Milano(Excused)

2nd Trustee: Marcia Montgomery (N)

3rd Trustee: Jack Coffey (N)

Communications: Barb Nelson (N)

Building Manager: John Zambito

Recognition of Volunteers

- The meeting opened with a special focus on appreciating volunteers who contribute to the Riders and Post operations.
 - Bettina: Recognized for her consistent and prompt willingness to assist, including helping move clothes last week.
 - Nancy: Manages the Fourth Friday monthly event for veterans from the veterans home and is highly engaged with both Riders and Post activities.
 - Victoria: President of the Auxiliary; very active in post events planning and support. Her husband accepted the appreciation letter in her absence.
 - Alex: Young volunteer who has been helping regularly for about a year, just graduated high school, and will attend college. The Riders presented him with a \$2,000 scholarship check.

Infrastructure Update: Sewer Project

- Current Status:
 - Three bids were considered, and one was accepted.
 - City is conducting a second review; approval is needed to begin.

- Once cleared, work may start within three days, and the project should take 5–7 days.
- Parking will be limited to the back lot during construction.
- Water will be available except for a final 24-hour period during final connection.
- Finances:
 - \$80,000 project; \$40,000 rebate expected (total out-of-pocket: \$40,000, previously unanticipated rebate benefit).

Upcoming Events and Initiatives

- September 13, 2026: Anticipated visit from the leading candidate for National Commander for a town hall event involving all district posts.
- Event Committee Formation:
 - Goal to increase and diversify post events without overburdening any single group.
 - A new committee will collaboratively generate ideas and execute events.
- House Rules:
 - Drafted and submitted for board review to ensure clarity on conduct for members and guests.

Recruitment and Membership Efforts

- Outreach to 13 local reserve units at the Reserve Center in Sloan to promote Post and Legion membership.
- Targeting recruitment of at least 1% (approx. 50) of the 4,500 Reserve and National Guard personnel in the area.
- Considering incentives for new members, a novel approach among local posts.

Membership Dues:

- Recent state-level dues increase proposal was voted down 2:1 at convention.
- No current dues increase for any posts; Post 40 already previously met the required increase.

Regular & New Activities

- Red Friday Initiative:
 - Every Friday to honor deployed service members; members in red attire receive custom bottle openers.
 - New 5:00 p.m. toast (bell will be rung; donated by Pete Korn and Norco Post 328), inspired by practice at Norco, CA post.

- Band Audition & Monthly Live Music:
 - Four-piece acoustic band auditioned for board members with plans for affordable monthly live music if approved (\$150–\$200/session).
 - Aims to encourage more member participation and socialization.

Special Events

- Group Cruise Scheduled for February 2027:
 - Trip package includes transportation to/from Long Beach, all-inclusive drinks, and options for upgraded suites.
 - Open invitation extended to other posts to join (“Las Vegas Legion Cruise”).
 - Parking available at M Resort; flyer and travel agency contact provided at meeting check-in.

Facilities Project: Smoker Construction

- Smoker build (started January 2026) nearing completion.
- Roof completed and delivered; final installation work slated for upcoming Saturday.
- Project expected to be “99% done” after this weekend.

Closing & Chaplain’s Prayer

- Meeting closed with a prayer, commending volunteerism and honoring award recipients.
- Final dismissal and thanks to the attendees.

Commander closed the meeting at 6:25 PM

Cecil Bridgewater
BMI Post 40 Adjutant