

American Legion BMI Post 40 General Meeting

19 Aug 2026

Meeting opened by the Post Commander, Larry Magana, at 5:59 pm.

Roll Call: (Y) (N)

Commander: Larry Magana (Y)	Judge Advocate: Glenn Grenner (N)
1 st Vice Commander: Mike McCrimmon (Y)	Historian: Jerry McGee (Y)
2 nd Vice Commander: Marcia Montgomery(Y)	1 st Trustee: Leo Flores (Y)
Adjutant: Cecil Bridgewater (Y)	2 nd Trustee: Richard Milano (Y)
Finance Officers: Steve Schweter (N)	3 rd Trustee: Jack Coffey (Y)
Sergeant-at-Arms: Jeffrey Becker (Y)	Communications: Barb Nelson (N)
Chaplain: Richard Troutman (Y)	Building Manager: John Zambito (N)
Past Commander: Jeff Campbell (Y)	

Opening Remarks

The meeting opened with discussion of several major upcoming post activities, including:

- Red Friday: A reminder that on Fridays, members are encouraged to wear a red shirt in support of deployed service members.
- A major post event tied to NFL Sunday football kickoff.
- Planning for September 11 and September 13 activities.

Larry introduced Department Commander Victor “Doc” Moss and 1st Vice

Old Business

Sewer Project Update and Post Facility Impact

- The post is still waiting for final sewer approval from the city. According to the update, the city is in the final stage of approval for the sewer tap-in.
- Payments up to date have reportedly been made.
- Once approval is received, the contractor will be contacted and will conduct one final survey.
- Expected work timeline: The work is projected for mid- to late September.
 - The contractor will likely be on-site for about a week.
 - Operational impact during the sewer work:

- The post may need to be closed on the final connection day due to no water. The parking lot side involved in the work will be inaccessible. The area will be trenched and dug up extensively. This project was described as the biggest near-term facility issue for the post.

Smoker Project Completion and Testing

- The smoker is now 100% complete as of the day before the meeting. Minor cosmetic work may still be happening, but it is fully operational. During the first test fire, the smoker maintained 250 degrees for over an hour and a half

New Business

September 13 Town Hall with Leading National Commander Candidate

- A major event is scheduled for September 13, 2026, from approximately 12:00 to 1:30 PM. The leading candidate for National Commander, identified as Matt Schuman of Arizona, will visit the post for a town hall.
- Key points about the visit:
 - Other posts in the area will be invited.
 - The event is intended to be more open and informal than a standard post meeting.
 - Members are encouraged to attend, ask questions, and “bend his ear” on national issues.

NFL Sunday Kickoff and Riders’ Event Planning

- The post is also preparing for an NFL Sunday football kickoff event on September 13.
- Planned components include: A potluck, Raffles, likely a large turnout, and a busy day for the post

September 11 Dinner and Barb/Marsha Coordination

- A dinner is planned for the September 11 observance. Barb Nelson will be doing the dinner. The post will likely need additional help supporting the meal.

Post Identity, Veteran-Focused Improvements, and Historical Wall

- Larry explained several changes he has made or is making to the post to emphasize its identity as a veterans’ organization rather than merely a rental venue. Changes and additions already made include:
 - Flags displayed inside the hall
 - An MIA table in the bar area, described as intended to be permanent

- Moving the sign-in book to a more visible place near the bar so it cannot be missed
- His philosophy: The hall belongs first and foremost to the members and veterans. Rentals are secondary and are meant to help generate some extra revenue, but are not the core purpose of the post
 - Historical display plans: An empty wall in the hall is being considered for a historical wall. He has already begun researching the post's early history, including the first commander, first adjutant, and any available photos. The hallway currently contains plaques and honors that many people do not see, and he wants to move or highlight those accomplishments more prominently in the main hall

Henderson Service Office Update

- Richard provided an update on service. In the previous month, the office served 134 people. Staff recorded 286 hours
- So far in the current month, they have logged 186 hours and served 97 people
- Community and veteran support activities mentioned:
 - A Purple Heart breakfast was held at the post and went very well. Approximately 29 people attended
 - Richard and Clyde went to Post 60 in Laughlin on the 17th. They helped serve 12 veterans
 - A free barbecue lunch is scheduled for September 16 at Parkway Assisted Living on Lake Mead. Time: 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Members interested in attending were asked to give Richard their names so food can be planned accordingly
- Thanks were also exchanged for the recently improved air conditioning.

Department Commander Remarks

- He wants to visit more posts and strengthen attendance and engagement across the department.
- Talked about the National Convention next week, and traditionally the President/Vice President and the VA Secretary often speak.
- Commented about National Commander Candidate visit on Sept 13th. Matt Schuman is potentially the youngest National Commander in history. This was our opportunity to ask hard questions and learn his positions on Legion issues
- Talked about his philosophy, "Do One Thing". If 100 people each do one thing, the organization is far more effective than one person doing 100 things.

- He is looking for someone with finance, budgeting, or math experience to serve on the department finance committee.
- He encourages members to attend the national convention at least once if possible.
- He talked about a resolution to clarify and expand eligibility for Auxiliary membership.
- He reviewed policy discussion centered on the Take Care of American Veterans Act. This bill bundles together 62 unresolved veteran-benefit bills.
- Reviewed interpretation about Guest and Sons of the American Legion (Sal) members. SAL may be treated differently regarding post access and revenue.
- Talked about the sign-in book and how important it is to ensure we are following the guidelines to protect our post against problems of unrelated business income.
- Jeff Campbell asked about Baseball and committee leadership. They are going to review offline.

Post Improvements

- Several material improvements and donations were discussed:
 - A company in Los Angeles is expected to donate new tile flooring. The commander plans to review flooring samples and bring them back to the board for a color decision.
 - The company also offered a stand-up printer from its warehouse
 - A new TV has already been donated, and another is coming. Possible new use of TVs: A TV may be installed in the main room so people can watch games away from the bar if they prefer a quieter or less smoky environment

Commander closed the meeting at 6:50 PM

Cecil Bridgewater
BMI Post 40 Adjutant