



Westfield River Valley Detachment 141 71 N. Elm Street Westfield, MA 01085-1619 Phone & FAX 413- 562-4850

Meetings 2nd Monday of every month www.mclwrvr141.com

Minutes of Monthly Meeting 13 April 2026

OPENING CEREMONY: The Sergeant-at-Arms secured the quarters at 1901 hours, posted the Colors and led the detachment in the Pledge of Allegiance; the Chaplain read the opening prayer after which the Sergeant-at-Arms declared the meeting open for official business. Eleven regular members, and ten associate members were present.

Membership: none at this time.

MINUTES: Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted unanimously. Motion made by Brian Dupee, seconded by Aldo Mancini.

Correspondence: Kinley Cekovsky had her last surgery on her wrist. She is in a cast and doing ok. Tom Purnie was at the 40 & 8th dinner. He can only stay awake a few hours a day and his heart is working at 20%. His wife is also not well but she is doing the best she can.

Sick or In Distress: Thank you from Westfield State University for donation to veteran frames for graduates.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS (those not listed had nothing to report or were absent or excused):

Commandant: A busy month coming up. Department meeting out East is on April 18th for one day. The Vietnam Veterans Chapter 219 ceremony went well and many were in attendance. Kinley played trumpet for the event. We did a good job representing the Vietnam veterans. The June division conference is in Springfield this year. It would be good to see many at the conference this year (more to follow next month). Geisslers is coming up May 9,10,11 for flag pin sales. Sign up sheets are on the glass case at the barracks to help. The roof was finished today April 13 2026 for the barracks.

Jr. Vice: Subaru is working on getting us the car again for the golf tournament. \$5,000 has been pledged so far for the event. Joe and Dan will be going to Mestek and Wall E computer for donations soon. Letter has been made for mailing to last year's players to try and get the teams signed up early this year. Dan will try to meet with Kleeberg as well this year. Trying to get more major donors for this year. The golf tournament is August 15th at Southampton Country Club. If you need sign up sheets or donation letters please see Dan.

Jr. Past: May 25th is Memorial Day parade in Westfield. Let Chris know if you will be able to ride or walk this year as Keith will be in Easthampton for the VFW. April 25th there will be a ceremony at



Apremont park (on Rt 10 outside Barnes 104th base) at 11AM. April 24th next to the Armory in Springfield will be a WWI ceremony if interested contact Keith for more details. There is a wake/funeral tomorrow April 14th with rituals at 5:45pm at Czelusniak Funeral Home in Northampton.

Paymaster: Rene Cote motioned to accept subject to audit and Keith Buckhout seconds. Accepted.

Chaplain: Please bring baby items instead of food for the VA to our September meeting for Brianna and Zach who are expecting their first baby in October.

Armorer: rifles are accounted for and cleaned upstairs.

Young Marines: Waiting to hear about the golf tournament help and will be reaching out for help for breakfasts.

Web Sgt: Emails and postings are updated regularly. Scholarship is hard to find. Will work on deleting the old documents and posting just the newest version of the scholarship application.

Flag Service: Set up date for ceremony. More to follow. Brandon Cekovsky sorted flags upstairs for service hours. Colleen was cleaning up the barracks. Any organization can use the ceremony incinerator as long as the Sportsmans club knows about the ceremony.

Scholarship: Bill Federman missed the meeting. There were 4 scholarships and all four were deserving and in hardship. In new business we will ask for another \$1,000 for the fourth scholarship. Kevin Scarbrough daughter (former recipient) is taking an internship in Florida this summer.

Veteran's home: Joe visited for a few hours and things are going well. Looks nice and the new building should be open in the fall of 2026. They will be having weekly burger burns in the summer so we are keeping with art and bean bag toss. 18 June at 5:30pm starting at 6pm will be the next time for us to go to the recreation center with the veterans.

Westfield Veterans Council: 2026 veterans day will be held inside the middle school. There will be a new award handed out at the ceremony if you would like to add anyone to the list of veterans being considered to reach out to Julie Barnes. April 20th 11AM at Parker Park will be Patriots Day ceremony and April 25th 11AM there will be a ceremony on Rt 10 Apremont Park at 11AM.

Building Committee: Aldo and Robert looked upstairs with Aldo's sons and they recommended 6-8 2x4 lights LED. The drop ceiling will need chandelier type lighting and prices will be at the next meeting for these updates. The flag room looked to have a leak in the ceiling so all insulation needs to come down and new insulation needs to be installed. Prices will be at the next meeting for this as well. The work will be done for free since Aldo's sons were recipients of scholarships from the Marine Corps League. The boiler is not working at the moment. Bolangers will be out to look at it. Hopefully it will be a quick fix and a service.

Golf Tournament: Meeting again May 2 at 10:30 AM after breakfast. Please bring donations for raffle to the barracks this year. We will be keeping all items (except gift cards) at the barracks upstairs this year.

POW/MIA: History book is ongoing. The accounting agency in the Philippines reparation ceremony in March marked 100 Disinternments removing bodies for identification and to honor ww2 unidentified personnel. ID occurred for 76 ww2 and 19 Korean war veterans. Tables and posters are being worked on. 17 new, 1 in process at Hadley Applebee's and one pending at the Northampton Fire Department. A table



will be placed in September at the Southampton Senior Center.

New Business:

Carrienne will send out an email about Westfield State University graduation keynote speaker. Please attend the Marine Corps League if you can attend.

The 4th scholarship application showed hardship and was very deserving. Keith motioned for \$1000 to be moved to the scholarship fund to allow the scholarship program to give out the extra award. Paul seconds and approved.

Verizon phone bill went up to \$93.65. Spoke to them and this was the best they could do. Will reach out to others to see if anyone has a better option before voting on this new price.

Good of the League:

Thank you to everyone who attended the 40&8 dinner. 48 tickets were sold. The cook did a wonderful job and sodas were left at the barracks as a thank you for use of the space. The theme was Christmas in April and the barracks looked great. It was a state event so thank you to all who attended to make it well attended.

The barracks are always available for use by members. Please let Chris know if you need use of the space. Please see Chris for membership pins and ribbons. 20 year pins are still sold out and will keep trying to get some in.

Calendar cards are in. Pulls in November. Please pick up at the barracks. There is a sign out sheet to take however many cards with you to sell.

Associate of the year award and Meritorious award given: Bev Bishop.

Thank you to Paul and Chuck for all the cooking breakfast and meetings.

Currently out of challenge coins. Something new needed with design, perhaps 250 years of American design.

We need a new Scuttlebutt editor. Bill will help but Roger can no longer work on Scuttlebutt so we need a new editor. There is lots of writing but this is a huge part of what the Marine Corps League does so please help if you can. Let Chris know if you are available to take it.

CLOSING CEREMONY: The Sergeant-at-Arms retired the colors at 20:06 hours and the Chaplain gave the closing prayer. The closing statement was read and the proceedings were declared adjourned until the next scheduled detachment meeting, on Monday, May 11, 2026.

Brianna Torrey, Adjutant

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Marine Corps League