

AMERICAN LEGION - **DRAFT**
ADAMS, HANNA, MOORE MEMORIAL POST 156
Meeting Agenda / Minutes Thursday, April 16, 2026
Convened: 1900 Hrs.

AL Post 156 Monthly Members Meeting

Join with Google Meet

Copy and Paste into URL: meet.google.com/xrr-mwnj-reo

Join by phone

(US) +1 219-973-4206 PIN: 894 915 002#

1900 Hrs. VFW Hall (with virtual link)

1. Opening Ceremony
2. The Commander recognizes any visiting dignitaries
3. Request Approval to Suspend Meeting to Introduce Boy's and Girl's State Candidates – **Meeting suspended.**
4. Introductions of Boys/Girls State Candidates:
 - **Blake Fullerton (Marriotts Ridge), Gordon Phillips (Glenelg), Delight Olasore (Oakland Mills), Surie Zhang (River Hill), Dean Walker(Mt Hebron), Amy Yoo (Howard), Trisha Dhawan(Marriotts Ridge), Jayde Liu (River Hill)**
 - **Motion made and carried to approve funding/sponsorship for all who have applied**
 - **Meeting reconvened.**
5. Any Legionnaires here for the first time please stand and introduce yourself to include Military and Civilian professions:
 - **Gregg Pelowski, USN (ret)**
6. Adjutant: Do we have six members of Post 156: **YES**

Minutes: The minutes of the last meeting are posted on our Web page. Any corrections to the minutes? **The minutes are approved.**

Finance Officer's Report: After the finance officer's report, the commander says, "If there are no questions or corrections, the report will be filed for auditing." **Paid off the Monument pledge in full.**

Officer's Reports:

Commander:

- Welcome and Initiation of any new member: **Gregg Pelowski, USN (ret).**
- **All Event reviewed:**
 - Flag Retirement Ceremony - April 18, 2026 - 9:00 am
 - Salute to 250 Years of Military Service - Belmont Manor, Elkridge, MD, April 19, 2026, 11:00 am
 - 4th District Meeting - April 19, 2026 - 1:00 pm - Post 285 Baltimore, 2324 McElderry Street, Baltimore
 - The Central Maryland "Our Community Salutes" High School Enlistee Recognition Ceremony at Wild Lake High School - April 21, 2026 at 6:30 pm
 - Department Golf Inaugural Four - Person Scramble April 24, 2026
 - 4th District NCR 3rd Annual Bull, Oyster & Clam Roast - April 25, 2026 - 2:00 pm at Glen Burnie Post 40, 500 5th Avenue, Glen Burnie
 - NCR Meeting - May 3rd, 2026 - Post 276 Severn, 8068 Quarterfields Road, Severn - 1:00 pm
 - Howard County Veterans Foundation - Opening and dedication of the Howard County Veterans and Families - May 14, 2026 at 1100
 - District Executive (DEC) Meeting - May 17, 2026 - Post 206 Chesapeake Beach, 3330 Chesapeake Rd - 1:00 pm
- Memorial Day Weekend Events - May 23 - May 25, 2026
 - Poppy Events all 3 days - Please Assist
 - May 23rd - VFW Post 7472 Ceremony
 - May **24th** - St. Johns Episcopal Church American Legion Post 156
 - May 25th (Memorial Day) Harriet Tubman
 - Region District Caucus - June 27, 2026 Post 17 Edgewood, 415 Edgewood Road - 1:00 pm
- Department of Maryland Convention in Ocean City July 14 - 16
 - Shirts are available to order
 - Veterans Day Parade -November 8, 2026

1st Vice Commander:

- Membership: **97% achieved to date. 9 new members added**
 - **Will have table at Belmont Manor event for recruiting and community outreach.**

2nd Vice Commander:

- **Flag Retirement Ceremony: 18 April. Flag preparation start 0900, ceremony start 1030.**
- **Poppy events to be led and organized by Len Leffner. 3 locations: Ace, Lowes, MBBQ**
- **Charity request support to be discussed with committee.**

3rd Vice Commander:

- **District 4 winner, Justin, won second place in the state competition and received a \$2,000 scholarship.**

Adjutant (Including letters received and date of next meeting)

- **Veterans Day Parade – 8 November 2026**
- **Adjutant excused. Minutes recorded by member Wanda Riddle.**

Judge Advocate:

- **Post 156 Officer Nominations. Reviewed the Post slate of officers for the coming year. No positions are currently contested. They are: Greg Jolissaint (CDR), John Spain (1st Vice), Marv Stocker (2nd Vice), Len Leffner (3rd Vice), Paul Turlington (ADJ), Mark Brickman (Finance), Bill Heit (Sgt at Arms), Jonathan Branch (Chaplain), Walt Chahanovich (JAG), Randy Bohn (Historian), Andy Wolkstein (Resource O), Todd Goff (Member at Large), Lorenzo Foxworth (Member at Large) Additional nominees can be made at next month meeting.**

Chaplain:

- **Excused**

Resource Officer:

- **CDR W reviewed the MOAA report that warns against claim sharks. Some states have introduced legislation designed to address unaccredited VA claims agents, some of whom may charge veterans or survivor tens of thousands of dollars for support they aren't legally allowed to provide. More importantly, support that is already available from other VA accredited sources at no cost to the individual.**

Public Affairs Officer:

- **Theme for this year's Veterans Day parade: "Citizen Soldiers – The Cornerstone of our Republic". This theme also drives the submission guidance for the Grand Marshal nominees. Parade website on The Howard County Veterans Foundation page. Grand Marshal nomination form**

can be found there starting 1 July. Submissions close 2 September.

- **“Our Community Salutes” ceremony for those HS students graduating and enlisting in a military service branch. 21 April, 6:30pm. Attendance encouraged.**

Historian: **Requested photography support of those attending events and in particular, Memorial Day weekend, since he will be out of town and unavailable those days.**

Standing Committee Reports

- Honor Flights Report: **After action report on “Lone Eagle” flight involving 47 female Veterans. American Legion members greeted them at the Hilton upon their return from touring the Memorials in DC. Very moving and great turnout.**

Liaison Reports:

- VFW 7472:
 - **Storage space for 156 historical documents arranged.**
 - **Honor Flight coming to VFW for dinner and reception 16 April.**
 - **23 May Memorial Day ceremony and picnic at VFW starting 1100.**
 - **Proposed holding a joint VSO quarterly blood drive at VFW in future.**
- MCL 1084:
- HoCo V:&MF Commission & Joint Military Council:
- Other Special Committees:

Unfinished Business:

- **Motion from CDR 156 to raise rent donation from \$100 to \$125/mth to allow for storage space for Historian documents. Motion seconded and carried.**

New Business:

For the Good of the American Legion:

- **Carol Bohn thanked everyone for their support and caring thoughts over the last three months during her recovery.**

- **CDR W raised awareness about greeting and welcoming new members to the Post when they arrive. Include them and introduce yourself. First impressions are important and lasting.**
 - 1. Importance and effectiveness of buddy checks emphasized.**
- **Corey Reglin donated a wreath for the 250th celebration at Belmont.**

Closing Ceremony

Adjournment for Refreshments: **2015**