

OFFICERS 2025-2026

## Donald Schenk Commander

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Michael Breshgold Sr. Vice-Cdr.

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## **Jewish War Veterans of the USA Post 135**

Website: www.jwv-mi.org Phone Number: (248) 855-5085

Next Meeting is 19 October 2025 at 10:00AM at Zekelman Holocaust Center.

No meeting in September.

## Minutes of the 24 August 2025 JWV Post 135 Meeting at ZHC

Post Commander Schenk called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. Also in attendance were Alan Agauas, Larry Berry, Michael Breshgold, David Cuttner, David Feldman, Ted Gittleman, Paul Gould, Sidney Lichter, Richard Polk, Joseph Salzman, and Lee Schostak. The minutes of the 20 July 2025 meeting were reviewed and approved (Lichter motion; Gould second) without reading as they were previously sent to the membership.

PC Schenk reviewed the JWV-MI minutes of 20 July 2025 noting that DC Weiss would ask for approval at the JWV-MI meeting scheduled to commence at 11:00AM. QM Berry provided a financial update, noting that as of 31 July 2025, the Post remains solvent with no known liabilities.

PC Schenk offered a recap of the JWV-USA National Convention held 17-21 Aug 25.

- Financial Situation—Budget report; there was no current status of revenue and expenses
  - Revenue: \$1,186,000Expenses: \$1,484,500Budget Shortfall: \$298,000
- Membership Situation—No numbers but lots of complaining about rosters
- NC/NVC Election—Scott Stevens (TALO); Selina Kanowitz (NJ)
- C&B Changes—only selected Bylaws changes relating to JWV-USA governance
- 2025 Resolutions—Nothing Significant to Report so watch JWV-USA website. Lichter did report a resolution to support a Congressional Gold Medal for the Richie Boys as a late addition.
- NC Remarks at Banquet: get on sound financial footing (building lease, development; clean up rosters, revitalize/modernize *Jewish Veteran*); strategic plans with actionable goals; geographic departments; fight antisemitism; revitalize support to currently serving and veterans.
- Ethan Gross (Post 510) received the Judge Lawrence Gubow Award
- An unidentified Michigan student received a scholarship from the JWV Foundation DC Weiss expected to expand on the convention during the department meeting.

Near-term activities (thru November):

- IMPORTANT INTERMENT--14 Sep 25 at 11:00AM at Beth El Memorial Park, Livonia
  - WWII MIA USN Ensign Eugene Mandeberg (22 December 1921-15 August 1945)
  - o Requesting maximum participation; Winter Parade Uniform
- Veteran & Community Resources Event in Madison Heights, 15 Sep 25
- Community-wide Observance of 7 Oct 23 attack on Israel scheduled for 5 Oct 25
- Dedication/Placement of Zusman (z"l) Memorial Plaque at Shaarey Zedek (14 Oct 25, Yizkor)
- November (Veterans Day activities 4-11 Nov 25)...order your JWV cap ASAP!
- Potential Fundraising at Red Robin
- PC Schenk provided an update on membership (54 Members; 12 Patrons). Upcoming birthdays in September: Dennis Loy (1); Steven Haas (9); Art Sollish (16); Larry Berry (21); Paul Gould (24)
- PC Schenk reminded all to sign up for JWV Newsletter (contact JWV-USA Director of Operations Brown to get on the list; email her at cbrown@jwv.org).
- PC Schenk provided an update on the JWV-MI—Kaye Foundation noting IRS approval of tax-exempt status as a public
  charity and that the Foundation board would meet in September to develop the strategy for application, selection, and
  distribution of scholarship grants for 2026.
- PC Schenk encouraged members to join our Honor Guard to perform the *mitzvah* of honoring our dead especially since the most recent funeral had but three Honor Guard attendees.
- The following items were brought up from the floor:
  - Paul Gould provided an update on the three Fernquist brothers whom he assisted in their applications to West Point. He
    also encouraged adopting Jewish organizations and volunteered to assist at Temple Israel.
  - David Cuttner reported on recent participation in 100<sup>th</sup> birthday of COL (USA, Ret) Frank Cohn who was not only a Holocaust survivor but also served in Korea and in Vietnam where he was Cuttner's commanding officer.

There being no further business, Commander PC Schenk adjourned the meeting at 10:50 AM.

Schenk Commanding