

## Next Meeting is 23 November 2025 at 10:00AM at Zekelman Holocaust Center

### Minutes of the 19 October 2025 JWV Post 135 Meeting at ZHC

Post Commander Schenk called the meeting to order at 10:03 AM.

Also in attendance were Alan Agauas, Larry Berry, Michael Breshgold, Steven Haas, Thomas Lebovic, Sidney Lichter, Richard Polk, and Howard Smith.

The minutes of the 24 August 2025 meeting were approved without reading as they were previously sent to the membership.

Lichter stated that he is now in charge of the JWV Resolutions Committee and those resolutions will be out soon. Berry noted that he had been on that Committee “for years” and requested that those Resolutions should be sent to the Committee members at least 60 days before they are to be released.

PC Schenk, having previously distributed the JWV-MI Department minutes of 24 August 2025 reviewed their highlights, 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 30 September 2025, the Post remains solvent with no known liabilities even after our recent donation to the JWV-MI--Kaye scholarship fund. Haas noted that our solid financial health was historically aided by the fundraising efforts of former Post Commander Stan Eisenberg (z”l). Berry intends to deposit our penny donations in the near future.

PC Schenk noted recent Post appreciation communications to him from the Naval Academy and Fisher House. He also noted that donations to the latter are currently being matched. There is a Red Wings – Veterans event coming up in early November of unknown cost. “Stand by.” The Savannah Bananas (a Harlem Globetrotters-like baseball team) are expected to be here the weekend before Yom Kippur in 2026. We may want to look into attending.

Annual dues notifications will go out soon. One year’s dues = \$65. You should be aware that the discount for paying 2 or 3 years in advance is being reduced. Schenk noted that JWV-USA is having serious financial difficulty.

Since the last Post meeting, several of us attended the Mandenberg funeral (he was a recently “found” WWII MIA serviceman) on 14 September and a Zussman Memorial Plaque dedication at Shaarey Zedek on 14 October (at which Post Member Don Wagner received an Aliyah).

The next 60 days are the JWV busy season.

- 1 Nov – Veterans Shabbat at CSZ. Be there NLT 10:45 AM, processional at 11:15, Lt.Col. Nick Israel (of Post 474) to speak
- 4 Nov - Heroes (that’s us) Appreciation B’fast @ 0900-1030 – West Bloomfield Middle School – REGISTRATION REQUIRED. JWV will have a table of handouts (0730 set up)
- 7 Nov – Veterans Shabbat at Temple Emanuel (DC Weiss to speak)
- 9 Nov – Detroit Veterans Day Parade (details forthcoming) and ZHC Anniversary Dinner (we have some free seats. Call PC Schenk if you want one or two)
- 11 Nov – Veterans Day, 1100 at Hechtman 6700 Bldg; also brunch at Birmingham Community House to support St. Anne’s Meade (\$50 fundraiser)

- 12 Nov – Farmington/Farmington Hills Optimists Vets' Day b'fast - The Pines Restaurant (37777 11 Mile Court). 0730. Speaker: Larry Berry re: The Ritchie Boys

23 Nov – Next JWV Meeting(s) - Speaker TBD.

21 Dec – JWV Hanukkah Party – Probably Temple Shir Shalom, but definitely NOT ZHC

Purple Heart Day – 7 August 2026 – Tracking recipients. Breshgold is our lead.

PC Schenk reminded us to let our potential next of kin know where we have our DD214. It will be needed for, at least, a flag on our coffins. There has been no change since the August meeting in our roster memberships numbers. We still have members whose dues are in arrears. If you have the slightest doubt if that is you, you can check this out by contacting JWV-USA or Schenk or Berry via e-mail or phone. Upcoming birthdays were reviewed.

PC Schenk mentioned a potential fundraiser at Red Robin restaurants. It would be truly painless for us. We agree with the restaurant on a date and we get 20% of the sales. Lebovic agreed to research the mechanics. <https://redrobin.force4good.com/>. Schenk then mentioned again that we should subscribe to receive the JWV-USA newsletter by e mailing [cbrown@jwv.org](mailto:cbrown@jwv.org) as the publications will soon stop being mailed to us.

### **The Honor Guard needs Members to Honor our Dead!**

The JWV-MI – Kaye Foundation (scholarship) is now funded and will be providing up to two scholarships per year at \$2,500 each. There will be a future article on this in the Detroit Jewish News.

Alan Agauas then discussed a proposed “Adopt A Veteran Adopt a Grave” program that he would like to see run locally. It would use local volunteers, including JWV members and family members (teens/young adults?) of deceased servicemembers/veterans to clean up specific graves, especially around Memorial Day as well as to research family military histories. He is looking for our liaisons to synagogues and other Jewish organizations to approach their contacts about asking whether there is interest in volunteering for this.

Finally, PC Schenk mentioned that the Department leadership indicated to JWV-USA that we have absolutely no interest in a merger with Ohio and/or Indiana.

There being no further business, Commander Schenk adjourned the meeting at 10:53 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Steve*

Steven Haas, Adjutant  
JWV Post 135