



**Minutes of Meeting of January 3, 2026
Bailey's Bar and Grille, Townsend, MA**

View Our Chapter Website at www.screamingeaglesne.org

Attending: Present: President Bob Morrissey (via Zoom), SAA William "Blink" Blankenburg, George LeBlanc and his guest Brenda Fitzgerald, Ed O'Reilly, Don Miller and guest Linda Magee, Greg d'Arbonne, Bill Frowein (82nd), new member Charles W. Ellis, and recording clerk/Zoom Administrator Cathie Clark.

A prayer was offered by Don Miller and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

The Meeting was called to order at 1:45 PM.

Sick Call: VP Tony Payne couldn't make it because he had a therapy session. He was hoping to get home on time for the Zoom thing. Former President Tom McCall advises they successfully sold their home property and are out straight preparing it for the new owners. Their new location now has the foundation and deck in place, but there is a rush to get it framed in before more snow falls. End-March to early April it should be ready and he hopes to be able to attend the March meeting. He wishes everyone the best. John Mastro has a military function so couldn't be here. Dave Josselyn's spouse has had a change in meds and he didn't want to leave her alone. Kevin Richardson is 2% away from being bedridden. Ranger Rob Botschifter has a lot of health issues he's dealing with, and that's why he's not able to make today's meeting. He wanted to convey his good wishes and New Year wishes to everybody present. Matt Callahan had a commitment with his daughter today and couldn't make it.

Minutes: The last Meeting Minutes were from November. They were circulated and read prior to the meeting, and voted upon and accepted. A compliment was voiced about the document, which is appreciated.

Treasurer's Report: Kevin was not present, but had emailed his report to Bob, who related the details to us. A motion to accept was made, seconded, and passed.

Membership: Charles W. Ellis is present and advises that his membership application has been approved. Welcome! We wish Taylor Larimore a very happy 102nd birthday on January 25!

101st Airborne Division Association
New England Chapter

Meeting Minutes – January 3, 2026

Page 2 of 4

Old Business:

SENE Laptop: This was the first time we are using the new Dell laptop and we experienced some first-time setup delays. Cathie started an audio recording so the meeting start was not delayed too much after lunch was completed. There were problems hearing President Bob in SC, so a motion was made that we buy external speakers (if that will help). An iPhone was logged into to the Zoom and located halfway down the table to enable those at that end to hear everything. Consensus was that this arrangement was not good enough. Nobody knows the price of external speakers and HDMI cables. Greg says he has some old ones he will try to bring to the next meeting. A question was made about Zoom settings being tweaked, but nobody thinks that is a cause of the problem. Nevertheless, a motion was made to purchase speakers at an unknown price, it was seconded and passed.

Snowbird: It is still not too late if you want to go to Tampa, Florida for the Snowbird reunion. Maybe two weeks, and then that's the cutoff. You can still go down there, but then you're going to have to pay the full rate at the hotel. That's if you can get a room.

Officer Elections. As reported last month, The following Officers will carry forward for another term, expiring October 14, 2027:

President — Robert Morrissey
Vice President — Anthony Payne
Adjutant/Treasurer — Kevin Farrell
Sergeant-at-Arms — William Blankenburg

The website has been updated accordingly. If any of them find they need to resign, they should let us know. Thank you for your service to the Chapter!

New Business:

Communications/Postage Stamps: SAA Blink is having difficulty staying in contact with our members. When we send out an email to the membership he gets very little response. It's the same two or three people that reply. He now asks if he can buy a roll of first-class postage stamps from the post office and mail out notices like special events, the cookout, or some kind of ceremony or some event to do with the 101st Airborne Division. There was a discussion with members contributing their experiences using mailing methods like postcards, etc. Charles has used postcards and they are cheaper than first-class. Bill Frowein says if you use first-class postage stamps, you will get the piece back from USPS if undelivered with a notification that the addressee is deceased, moved, or whatever his status is. All agreed that would help keep our

101st Airborne Division Association
New England Chapter

Meeting Minutes – January 3, 2026

Page 3 of 4

roster updated. We may only send out a letter once or twice a year, not more. Motion was made to spend \$75 on a roll of first-class postage stamps, it was seconded and passed.

Cookout 2026: This is a unique year. It's the 250th birthday of our nation, and a lot of events are going to be taking place, including at ClearPath. Gary Soldato doesn't want to commit to any particular date yet, which is understandable. Blink will try to see him in the next week or two, and figure out at least a tentative timeframe for our next cookout, and hopefully it can be at ClearPath.

Upcoming Events: All-American Week at Fort Bragg for the 82nd Airborne Division. Plus, the Pathfinder Association is having their reunion during All-America Week. At the same time, the 101st is having Week of the Eagles at Fort Campbell, Kentucky. We tried to contact the Pathfinders, but haven't gotten a response. It is possible they didn't get enough people who wanted to come to that event. Bob and Blink are planning on going out to Fort Campbell for Week of the Eagles May 18th through 22. We don't know the prices on what the banquet's going to be and everything else. National will be sharing it when they get the info. They'll let everybody know. But that's the approximate time frame, 18th through 22 or 23. And once again, at Fort Bragg, it's the same thing for the 82nd.

Next Meeting: Our next meeting is Saturday, March 7, 2026 at Bailey's, at noon. The Meeting Notice is posted on Members Only, please note a change in start-time to 11:30.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:21 PM.

Airborne All The Way!"

Respectfully submitted,
SAA William Blankenburg