

**Sons Of The American Legion
Detachment Of Wisconsin**

Spring Detachment Executive Committee Minutes, April 25th, 2015

Opening

Call to Order: Saturday April 25th, 2015 Detachment Commander Gary F. Lubich (121) called to order the Detachment Executive Committee Spring meeting at 1:30 p.m. @ the Fletcher-Pechacek Post 121, River Falls, Wi.

Posting of the Colors: With the Colors being in place, a right-hand salute was rendered to the U.S. flag.

Invocation: Invocation was given by Acting Detachment Chaplain, Michael L. Lawler (437).

POW/MIA Empty Chair Ceremony: A ceremony honoring our POW/MIA was conducted by Detachment Commander Gary F. Lubich (121) and Acting Detachment Chaplain Michael L. Lawler (437).

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag: The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Detachment Vice Commander Mike A. Kollmansberger (075).

Reciting of the S.A.L. Preamble: Reciting of the S.A.L. Preamble was led by Detachment Vice Commander Christopher M. Sherman (071).

Roll Call of Detachment Voting Officers: Taken by Detachment Adjutant David R. Faust (245)

Detachment Commander	Gary F. Lubich	(121)	Present
Detachment Vice Commander	Mike A. Kollmansberger	(075)	Present
Detachment Vice Commander	Shawn Grothe	(243)	Excused
Detachment Vice Commander	Robert Sirovina	(537)	Present
Detachment Vice Commander	Christopher M. Sherman	(071)	Present
Detachment Chaplain	Bradford W. Catura	(449)	Excused
Detachment Sergeant-at-Arms	Gary Masnak	(434)	Present
Detachment Sergeant-at-Arms	Mike Pook	(449)	Excused
National Executive Committeeman	Daniel R. Daily	(434)	Present
Alternate National Executive Committeeman	Patrick N. Gryskiewicz	(093)	Excused
Past Detachment Commander	Daniel R. Daily	(434)	Present
Past Detachment Commander	Steven L. Meyer	(220)	Absent
Past Detachment Commander	Russell B. Severson	(313)	Absent
Third District Commander	Ray A. Dzieciol	(534)	Present

Roll Call of Detachment Non-Voting Officers: Taken by Detachment Adjutant David R. Faust (245)

Detachment Adjutant	David R. Faust	(245)	Present
Assistant Detachment Adjutant	Michael L. Lawler	(437)	Present
Assistant Detachment Adjutant	Gary Lee LeRoy	(294)	Present
Detachment Judge Advocate	Chad M. Lawler	(437)	Present
Detachment Historian	Kelly R. Powers	(121)	Present
Department S.A.L. Chairman	Michael F. Wagoner	(052)	Excused

Guests to the D.E.C.:

Past Department Auxiliary President Diane Sirovina (unit 192) would be giving a Josh Dog Story under the Children & Youth Report.

Dan Toland Mayor of the city of River Falls gave greetings and welcome to the Detachment and stated that he appreciated the S.A.L. for their fine support and efforts directed to all of our Veteran's and the city of River Falls.

Nancy Hove Sherriff of Pierce County gave greetings and welcome to the Detachment thanking the Detachment for their efforts and noted that she has known Commander Lubich for a long time as they were cousins.

Reading of the previous meeting minutes: Presented by the Assistant Detachment Adjutant Gary Lee LeRoy (294) Motion by Vice Commander Christopher M. Sherman (071), seconded by Third District Commander Ray Dzieciol (534), to accept the minutes from the Fall Detachment Executive Committee as published and distributed. Discussion, none Motion carried.

Official Correspondence: Presented by Detachment Adjutant David R. Faust (245) reported there were no new official correspondence to report.

Detachment Officer Reports

Detachment Vice Commander – Christopher M. Sherman (071) – Districts 1, 7, 10

Reported as for districts 1-7-10 currently there are a total of 8 goose Eggs; 2 in the First District, 5 in the Seventh District and 1 in the Tenth District. In the 1st District Menomonee Falls is expected to send in membership soon. He will continue to work on the others. Four weeks ago Mr. Sherman was advised by the Legion First District Vice Commanders to proceed with the S.A.L. First District structuring but he would need to contact the District Legion Judge Advocate Ted DeMicchi for his input to the requirement to make this happen. Mr. Sherman was instructed by Mr. DeMicchi that at a minimum a Commander, Adjutant and Finance Officer would be required. At a meeting of Squadrons on April 18th 2015 the following were elected as First District S.A.L. Officers: District Commander Mike Pook Brookfield (449), District Finance Officer Christopher M. Sherman Pewaukee (071), District Chaplain Brad Catura Brookfield (449) and District Vice Commander Paul Fuller Orfordville (209). Louie Anich Mukwonago (375) was appointed District Adjutant.

Josh dogs total approx. 167 spread out over the State in possession of the Detachment Commander and 3 Detachment Vice Commanders that are available to distribute. Approx. 100 have been distributed to Denise Rohan that was used at deployments out of Air Guard units. There are inquiries for possible other deployments in other areas of the State.

Mr. Sherman attended the Jr. Shooter Sports function held at Brookfield (449) that went well and fostered interest from Mukwonago (375) who is interested in holding their own program.

Motion by National Executive Committeeman Daniel R. Daily (434) seconded by Detachment Vice Commander Mike A. Kollmansberger (075) to accept the report. Discussion – none. Motion carried.

Detachment Vice Commander – Shawn Grothe (243) – District 2, 11, 12

No report

Detachment Vice Commander – Robert Sirovina (434) – Districts 3, 4, 5

Detachment Vice Commander Sirovina's report was read for the record: Newsletters were sent to all Squadrons in 3rd, 4th and 5th Districts. They included information on the Detachment Commander's project, membership info, and articles on the G.I. Josh program. Another one will be going out in early May to encourage Squadrons to send in their Consolidated Reports.

3rd District has done a great job of membership with all but 3 Squadrons at or over 100%. 4th and 5th Districts are doing well. Contacts were made with the two Squadrons in 4th District that are behind and I will continue working with them to see if we can get more memberships in. Attended a meeting of Post 192 in Franklin to present them their charter and Legion Family 192 invited me to attend their bingo night at Zablocki VAMC. Josh went along for some photo-ops with the veterans. Still has 20 G.I. Josh's at my house waiting for someone to request them.

Noted he had one outstanding G.I Josh story to report. Please see the attached report.

Motion by Detachment Vice Commander Christopher M. Sherman (071) seconded by Detachment National Executive Committeeman Daniel R. Daily (434), to accept the report for file record. Discussion none - Motion carried.

Detachment Vice Commander – Mike A. Kollmansberger (075) – District 6, 8, 9

Reported he has 16 Squadrons which currently have 398 members in out of 413, there is one goose-egg left and has brought in one new Squadron Green Lake. Worked on the revitalization of Princeton Post and the Plymouth Post. Spoke at the Fond du Lac County Legion and will be attending the 6th District Conference tomorrow.

Motion by Detachment Vice Commander Christopher M. Sherman (071) seconded by National Executive Committeeman Daniel R. Daily (434), to accept the report. Discussion none - Motion carried.

Detachment Chaplain – Bradford Catura (449)

Chaplain Brad Catura's was read for the record: In the last 3 months since we met in Baraboo at the Mid-Winter Conference, I have sent out 1 get well card, 4 condolence cards and attended 3 Funerals. I also conducted my first Protestant Church Service at Mid-Winter on Saturday evening, as well as help conduct the Sunday morning Four Chaplains Memorial Service. On a personal aside: I was very disappointed by the poor showing of Detachment Officers at both services. Are we only paying lip service to God? I would however like to give a special thank you to Shawn Grothe, Mike Pook and Travis Demler for their assistance at the Saturday service. Condolence cards were sent to the families of the following:

2/6 Barry W. Baumann, member of SAL squadron 449; 2/22 Dorothy Hulbert, mother of PDC Denise Rohan; 3/26 Henry Masnak, veteran, member of Post 434, and father of Gary Masnak Detachment Sgt. at Arms; 4/23 Bob Lemke, veteran, member of Post 38, and 9th District Commander.

I attended the following funerals: 2/21 Jim Powell, former Wauwatosa Fire Dept. Captain and a member of SAL squadron 449; 3/1 Dennis F Stockfish, veteran, Past National Vice Commander of the Sons of The American Legion, past Detachment Commander, Past Detachment Adjutant and Detachment Finance Officer; 3/27 Marlin J Rainer, veteran and member of SAL squadron 449;

I sent out the following get well card: 2/18 to Liu Zhen, mother-in-law of Sean Patchin, Past Detachment Vice Commander.

Motion by seconded by Detachment Vice Commander Christopher M. Sherman (071) Detachment National Executive Committeeman Daniel R. Daily (434), to accept the report for file record. Discussion none - Motion carried.

Detachment Historian – Kelly R. Powers (121)

Reported, that he has taken over 6000 pictures of Commander Lubich at events, over the past months while accompanying him about the state. Commended Commander Lubich for his efforts in support of the military servicewomen who are in need. Motion by Detachment Vice Commander Christopher M. Sherman (071) seconded by Detachment Vice Commander Mike A. Kollmansberger (075), to accept the report Discussion - Motion carried.

National Executive Committeeman - Daniel R. Daily (434)

Reported that the Month of April is children and youth month. Since 1988, The Sons have contributed more than 6 million dollars to the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation. The Sons have given more than any other part of the Legion family. 2014 alone, we gave \$1,174,933.00 and 166,825 hours of service to all Children and Youth programs

March 17th-Wisconsin is number 12 nationally with 88.57 percent membership also 3rd in Central Region

March -received call from Dr Lange (Josh Dog) and asked if the program could use our video , made for us by Mike Rohan, in their national advertising and web site. I spoke with Mike Rohan and he gave approval of using video and also advised he is in process of editing another video that we can use.

April 2- number 11 nationally on membership with 91.262 percent membership also 2nd in Central Region Motion by N.E.C. man Daniel R. Daily (434) seconded by Detachment Vice Commander Christopher M. Sherman (071), to accept the report. Discussion – Detachment Historian Powers paid compliments to Mr. Daily and Mr. Sherman for their dedicated work with the Josh Dog program. Motion carried.

Alternate National Executive Committeeman – Patrick N. Gryskiewicz (093)

No report

Department S.A.L. Chairman-Michael F. Wagoner (052)

No Report

Detachment Commander – Gary F. Lubich (121)

Detachment Commander Gary Lubich (121) then turned the gavel over to Detachment Vice-Commander Christopher M. Sherman (071). Detachment Vice-Commander Christopher M. Sherman (071), then called on Detachment Commander Gary Lubich (121) to give his report.

Commander Lubich noted it has been a very busy year so far. As the latest attended the Past Commanders dinner at LaCrosse he was glad they planned to stay the night as it was snowing. Went to Ripon for the State Oratorical contest once again they encountered snow. Attended the funeral of PDC PNVC Dennis F. Stockfish in Menomonee Falls. Attended the 10th District Spring Conference at Cumberland.

Motion by Detachment Vice Commander Mike A. Kollmansberger (075) seconded by Third District Commander Ray A. Dzieciol (534) to accept the report. Discussion –none. Motion carried.

Detachment Vice Commander Christopher M. Sherman (071) returned the gavel to Detachment Commander Gary Lubich (121).

Committee and Commission Reports

Resolutions Committee-Chad M. Lawler (437) there was one resolution presented that was reviewed by committee in regard to the endorsement of Seán Patchin Sr. (385) for the high office of Detachment Commander. The Committee recommended he resolution be received and filed.

Motion by Detachment Vice Commander Mike A. Kollmansberger (075), seconded by Detachment Vice Commander Christopher M. Sherman (071) to accept the report Discussion - Motion carried.

Programs Committee-Kelly R. Powers (121)

Americanism-Chairman Mike A. Kollmansberger (075) reported the Jr. Shooting Sports clinic held at Post 449 March 7th 2015 went very well. It was noted the program ran well and others that visited are showing interest on how to get the program running at their Post or Squadron. Jerry Lauby Department Americanism chairman showed interest in how the S.A.L. ran the program.

Children & Youth Chairman Christopher M. Sherman (071) reported there was discussion on how many Josh Dog should be kept on hand by the Detachment, it was thought that approx. 200 should be maintained and ideas were discussed on finding ways to sustain the costs by donations. Forms are being developed by the Detachment Adjutant for donations which will include the Josh Dog Program.

National Security- Bob Ames

Veterans' Affairs & Rehabilitation-Chuck Cook no report

Past Department Auxiliary President-Diane Sirovina (unit 192) shared a story of outreach with the Josh dog program about a 3 ½ year old child from the area who's daddy is a sub mariner stationed in Washington state. As he was about to be deployed the girl was developing separation anxiety why daddy was leaving. It so happened that grandpa had a garage of Josh Dogs here in Wisconsin so one was sent to the young lady. The mother April before giving the girl the Josh Dog took it the daycare center on base and asked what would be the best way to present Josh Dog to the girl. The base day care never heard of the Josh dog Program so then April read them the Josh book and explained the program to the best of her knowledge to the teaching staff of the daycare. April made friends with one of teachers whose husband was just deployed and her two children were quite at ends and confused about daddy leaving. The Josh Dog was given to the teacher she was impressed to the effect Josh had on her children so much so that she presented The Josh dog program to the base day care management. The day care center management was so impressed 10 more Josh Dogs were ordered and sent from Wisconsin for placement in their three pre-school class rooms. Before the Josh Dogs even arrived on base April was called by the daycare center telling her that wanted to expand the program even further but there was no American Legion presence on base. The issue was forwarded to the director of Fleet Family Services for resolve it was decided that all three bases in the area would like to have the Josh Dog program installed. At this point the American Legion Auxiliary National Children and Youth chairman Diane Duscheck (Wi.) was contacted and plans are being made to meet with Mary Davis (WASH) National VA&R chairman in the state of Washington to discuss the Josh Dog and other programs of the American Legion Family that may be useful during deployments. Also it will be discussed to establish an American Legion presence if so allowed on base to aide and help family members of deploying personnel as needed. Diane Sirovina's granddaughter finally received her own Josh Dog.

Finance Commission- Acting Chair Gary Lee Leroy (294)

Reviewed and discussed the upcoming budget year. Reviewed the drafted donations sheet that was prepared. It was discussed that the next budget should be in place and done at the Detachment Post Convention DEC at to be presented to Department at their Fall DEC meetings in early September. To keep the three Scholarships in place that the Detachment is obligated too, provide officer stipends and general operation of the Detachment it is the recommendation of the committee to increase membership dues by \$1.00 per member. The adjutant would be instructed to prepare a resolution if required.

Motion by Detachment Vice Commander Chris Sherman (071), seconded by Third District Commander Ray A. Dzieciol (534) to accept the report. From discussion the dues increase was discussed and it was asked that the acceptance of the report be amended to exclude acceptance of the dues increase at this time, second by Third District Commander Ray A. Dzieciol(534) with drawn

Vice Commander Chris Sherman (071), amended acceptance of the report to include separate action on the dues increase, seconded by Third District Commander Ray A. Dzieciol (534) Motion carried.

Motion by National Executive Committeeman Daniel R. Daily (434), seconded by Detachment Vice Commander Mike A. Kollmansberger

Kollmansberger (075), for the acceptance of the recommended 1.00 dues increase from discussion it was noted this would need to be passed at the next Convention due to the rules of the Detachment if passed it would go into effect Jan. 1 2016, and a resolution would be drafted. Motion carried.

Internal Affairs Commission- Michael Lawler (437)

Legislative-Travis Demlar (243) there is DNR legislation in the works which allow veterans to receive bear and other hunting licenses.

Membership-Michael L. Lawler (437) reported the Detachment is at 96.3% it needs to reach 105%, get one new Squadron and along with the 85% renewals the Detachment would be in the running for the Triple Nickel award. There are several candidates in line for new Squadrons Green Lake is one. Vice

Commanders are working on the goose eggs in their areas. Currently the Detachment is 13th nationwide, 4th in the Central Region and the Central Region is in 3rd out of the five Regions.

Officer Development & Policy- training modules are being placed on the website. Constitution & By-Laws are still being resolved between the Department and the Detachment. Discussions were held on a mid-winter Commanders training pending funding and scheduling requirements.

Public Relations- Michael L. Lawler (437) reported that the web site is being worked on to make it more friendly and responsive. Note to send articles and pictures to the National Update, Badger Legionnaire and local publications county, district and post publications.

Motion by Detachment Vice Commander Mike A. Kollmansberger (075), seconded by Detachment Vice Commander Christopher M. Sherman (071), to accept the report. Discussion – it was noted that Camp American Legion is in the process of securing an additional 300 acres for Camp from the DNR that could possibly be used by disabled vets for hunting. Motion carried.

Conclusion of Business

Convention Rules of Order- chair Kelly Powers reported the committee met and recommends the adoption of last years (2014) Rules of Order to Convention for the 2015 Convention.

Motion by National Executive Committeeman Daniel R. Daily (434), seconded by Detachment Vice Commander Mike A. Kollmansberger (075), to accept the report and Rules of Order to Convention Discussion - none Motion carried.

Resolutions, Motions & Petitions- Chad M. Lawler (437) Third District submitted a resolution backing Sean Patchin Sr. (385) for the office of Detachment Commander, resolution was read and the committee recommended that it be received and filed.

Motion by National Executive Committeeman Daniel R. Daily (434) seconded by Detachment Vice Commander Christopher M. Sherman (071), to accept the report and the receipt and file of the resolution. Discussion –none. Motion carried.

Appointments- Detachment Commander Lubich (121) noted that at the last D.E.C. Convention Credentials, Resolutions & Rules Committee chairman was appointed as Kelly Powers (121). He is now making the following Detachment Convention Committee chairmen appointments:

Americanism – Mike A. Kollmansberger (075)

Children & Youth - Christopher M. Sherman (071)

Constitutional Amendments – Chad M. Lawler (437)

Finance – Tom Petrie (189)

Legislative - Travis Delmar (243)

Membership – Michael L. Lawler (437)

National Security – Bob Ames (081)

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation – Chuck Cook (434)

Motion by Detachment Vice Commander Mike A. Kollmansberger (075), seconded by National Executive Committeeman Daniel R. Daily (434), to accept the appointments, Discussion –none. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business

There was no new unfinished business

New Business

Detachment Assistant Adjutant Michael L. Lawler (437) noted that in the past years the Detachment of Wisconsin has been a leader in the Child Welfare foundation donations and the Detachment this year is falling short he urged and challenged members to return to their Squadrons pick up the pace.

Resolutions Chairman - Chad M. Lawler (437) presented the newly drafted resolution SDC-02-04 in regard to the Detachment \$1.00 per member Dues increase. The resolution was read and the committee recommends

adoption. It was noted that this would by the Rules of the Detachment need to be acted upon and approved by the membership at the next Convention.

Motion by Detachment Vice Commander Mike A. Kollmansberger (075) seconded by Third District Commander Ray A. Dzieciol (534) to accept the recommendation and the report. From discussion it was resolved that the amount should be changed to \$2.00 per member, it was felt by the body that this amount would be more beneficial to the operation of the Detachment and the support of its programs.

Original second by Third District Commander Ray A. Dzieciol (534) was withdrawn Detachment Vice Commander Mike A. Kollmansberger (075) amended the original motion to include the amount of \$2.00 per member asking that the resolution be revised, seconded by Third District Commander Ray A. Dzieciol (534) no further discussion, Motion carried.

For the Good of the Sons of the American Legion

Commander Lubich (121) extended thanks to those who have brought items, funds and support for the Soldier from Hudson Wi. That was in need after an extraordinary development in her life.

Get well Cards were passed around for members to sign for Mike Wagoner, Bob Ames and Bob Lloyd.

Seán Patchin Sr. (385) stated that he attended the State Oratorical contest and had the opportunity to be a judge along with (PDC) Michael Lawler. He noted that it was a great experience and urges others to attend and volunteer for the program if they have the opportunity. Michael Lawler (437) stated he was working as Chief of Tabulation , not a judge.

Mr. Patchin also attended the Wisconsin American Legion College, Session 1 The Basics.

Donations – Squadron 385 \$31.10 for Child Welfare Foundation. Squadron 437 \$100.00 for Commanders Project Camp American Legion.

Candidacy Announcements- Travis Demlar (243) for Detachment Sgt.-at Arms, Christopher M. Sherman (071) for Detachment Vice Commander, Ray A. Dzieciol (534) for Detachment Vice Commander.

Final Announcements

Detachment Adjutant Faust

- Membership cards for 2016 will be distributed at King day and bundled with the sponsoring Post's cards. If not picked by the Post they filter down to the District Commanders the County Commanders and then the Post. Again, S.A.L. cards will be bundled with the Legion cards contact your Post Adjutant.
- Convention will be held July 17-19, 2015 in Appleton and Registration Housing forms are available on the table in the back and on-line under the Department web site.
- Consolidated reports are due by June 1st, 2015 remind the Squadrons see the Adjutant after the meeting for copies or use the web site. Last year 30% of Squadrons filled out consolidated reports resulting in 1800 volunteer hour and \$75000 from Wisconsin alone.
- 2018 will be the 50th annual convention for the Detachment of Wisconsin and the 100th for the Department of Wisconsin we need to start thinking of ideas to commemorate these events.

Closing Ceremonies

Benediction

A benediction was offered by Acting Detachment Chaplain, Seán Patchin Sr. (385).

Retirement of POW/MIA Empty Chair

Detachment Sergeant-at-Arms POW/MIA Empty Chair cover Gary Masnak (434)

Retirement of the Colors

With the Colors being in place, a right-hand salute was rendered to the U.S. flag.

Adjournment

With no other business, Detachment Commander Gary F. Lubich (121) declared the Spring Detachment Executive Committee meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Detachment Assistant Adjutant

Gary Lee LeRoy (294)