

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

Spring Detachment Executive Committee Minutes April 16th, 2016

**Opening**

**Call to Order**

Saturday April 16th, 2016 Detachment Commander Mike Kollmansberger (075), called to order the Detachment Executive Committee being held at State Headquarters in Portage, Wisconsin with the proper opening ceremonies at 12:30 PM.

**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 Detachment Chaplain Rev. Braford W. Catura (449).

**POW/MIA Empty Chair Ceremony**

A ceremony honoring our POW/MIA was conducted by Detachment Commander Kollmansberger (075).

**The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag Detachment Vice Commander Ray Dzieciol (534).

**Reciting of the S.A.L. Preamble**

Reciting of the Preamble to the Constitution of the Sons of The American Legion was led by Detachment Vice Commander Christopher Sherman (071).

**Roll Call of Voting Detachment Officers**

**Taken by the Detachment Adjutant David Faust (245)**

Detachment Commander	Mike A. Kollmansberger	(075)	Present
Detachment Vice Commander	Christopher Sherman	(071)	Present
Detachment Vice Commander	Robert Sirovina, Jr	(434)	Excused
Detachment Vice Commander	Shawn Grothe	(243)	Present
Detachment Vice Commander	Ray Dzieciol	(534)	Present
Detachment Chaplain	Braford W. Catura	(449)	Present
Detachment Sergeant-at-Arms	Gary Masnak	(434)	Present
Detachment Sergeant-at-Arms	Robert Breutzmann	(018)	Excused
National Executive Committeeman	Daniel R. Daily	(434)	Excused
Alternate NECman	Patrick Gryskiewicz	(091)	Present
Past Detachment Commander	Russell Severson	(313)	Absent
Past Detachment Commander	Daniel R. Daily	(434)	Excused
Past Detachment Commander	Gary Lubich	(121)	Present
1st District Commander	Mike Pook	(449)	Present
3rd District Commander	Ray Dzieciol	(534)	Present
6th District Commander	Brian Stenz	(075)	Present

**Roll Call of Non-Voting Detachment Officers**

Detachment Judge Advocate	Chad Lawler	(437)	Excused
Detachment Historian	Mike Brezmer	(075)	Excused
Detachment Adjutant	David Faust	(245)	Present
Detachment Assistant Adjutant	Gary Lee LeRoy	(294)	Present
Detachment Assistant Adjutant	Michael L. Lawler	(437)	Excused
Department S.A.L. Chairman	Michael Wagoner	(052)	Absent

**Guest to the D.E.C.**

Commander Kollmansberger welcomed Squadron members from Hartland (294) and Orfordville (209).

### **Reading Of the Previous Minutes**

Presented by Detachment Assistant Adjutant Gary Lee LeRoy (294)

Motion by Detachment Vice Commander Christopher Sherman (071) to accept as published the previous Mid-Winter DEC meeting minutes, seconded by Detachment Vice Commander Ray Dzieciol (534), discussion none, motion carried.

### **Official Correspondence**

Presented by Detachment Adjutant David Faust (245), there were none to be reported.

### **Detachment Officer Reports**

**Detachment Vice Commander** – Detachment Vice Commander Christopher Sherman districts (1-6-10) reported within the First District there still three goose eggs they are: Delavan (095), Twin Lakes (544) and Sommers (552) in addition a few squadrons that need some members are: Hartland (294) – 54, Lake Geneva (024) – 5, Dousman (405) – 1 and Elm Grove (449) – 20 First District is at 93.70%. Hartland (294) turned in 46 new or renewal memberships to Detachment Vice Commander Sherman.

#### **Sixth District Report**

There are no goose eggs in the Sixth but members are needed by the following Oshkosh (70) – 3 current, Briggsville (329) – 3 current. Sixth District is at 103.8%. I attended the Sixth District S.A.L. meeting in Green Lake and asked the members the same question as First District about Districts or Zones and they voted to be called Districts. I attended the American Legion Oratorical contest and later the Sixth District Children & Youth Banquet. **Sixth District Sons of the American Legion-** S.A.L. Sixth District Commander Brian Stenz (075) noted that he is still having hard times with contacting Squadrons and personnel. Green Lake (306) is finishing construction of a new Post building the next District meeting will be in Sept. (9-11) an event is going to be planned to draw attention to Green Lake's new facility. Commander Kollmansberger noted that he did have the opportunity to get a sneak peek of the Post at Green Lake. Detachment Vice Commander Sherman, extended congratulations to Mike Pook and Brad Catura (449) for establishing the Josh Dog program at the new Fisher House at the Zablocki VA facility with a starting number of 35 Josh's.

#### **Tenth District Report**

There is one goose egg in the Tenth: Somerset and a few Squadrons need to increase membership: Maiden Rock (158) – 10 current and Glenwood City (168)- 1 current. Tenth District is at 84.92%. I have worked with Past Detachment Commander Gary Lubich on membership in Tenth District. THANK YOU GARY.

#### **First District Report**

I have been busy attending many events this quarter starting with the First District S.A.L. meeting held in Mukwonago (thanks to Squadron 375 for hosting this meeting). I asked a question to the members if we should be known as Districts or as zones etc. the members voted to be known as Districts. The members also voted and approved the Constitution and By-Laws for the First District S.A.L and gave those to First District Legion Commander Tom Strey. I would also like to congratulate First District S.A.L Vice Commander Dave Fuller for all the work he has been doing to get Squadrons Info. I have also attended meetings and events at Hartland (294), Brookfield (449) (Elm Grove),and Orfordville (209). **First District Sons of the American Legion-** S.A.L. First District Commander Mike Pook (449) noted that most all was covered by Vice Commander Sherman but did note that the First District will be holding Armed Force Day Road Rally Poker Run May 21<sup>st</sup> 2016 9:00am to 5:00 pm, fliers are available. First District Officers were elected basically remaining the same as before.

I have been working with S.A.L. Detachment Commander Mike Kollmansberger on membership in other Districts as well. Motion by Detachment Vice Commander Ray Dzieciol (534) to accept his report, second by Past Detachment Commander Gary Lubich (121) motion carried.

**Detachment Vice Commander** – Detachment Vice Commander Robert Sirovina, Jr. (434) Districts (4-5-11)

Motion by Detachment Vice Commander Ray Dzieciol (534) to accept Detachment Vice Commander Robert Sirovina's (434) report as written and be filed by the Detachment Adjutant, second by Detachment Vice Commander Shawn Grothe (243) discussion none, motion carried.

**Detachment Vice Commander** - Detachment Vice Commander Ray Dzieciol (534) (3-7-12) reported the S.A.L. Third District is going strong, has been working on getting the 7<sup>th</sup> District S.A.L. up and running. Will be traveling to Richland Center, La Crosse and then Mauston May 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>.

Motion by Detachment Vice Commander Christopher Sherman (071) to accept the report, seconded by S.A.L. 1st District Commander Mike Pook (449) discussion none, motion carried.

**Detachment Vice Commander** – Detachment Vice Commander Shawn Grothe (243) Districts (2-8-9)

Motion by Detachment Vice Commander Ray Dzieciol (534) to accept Detachment Vice Commander-Shawn Grothe's (243) report as written and be filed by the Detachment Adjutant, second by Past Detachment Commander-Gary Lubich (121) discussion none, motion carried.

**Detachment Chaplain-** Detachment Chaplain Rev. Bradford Catura (449) reported:

In the past three months since meeting at Midwinter Conference, sent out condolence cards to the following: may they rest in peace.

William Dyke, Past Department Judge Advocate

Gary T. Bressers, Past Squadron Commander of Squadron 449

Rev. Dr. Ted Kelly, the AL National Chaplain

John Schmitt, 15 year member of Squadron 449

Marie Sanborn, Mother-in-law of Dept. Commander Dale Oatman

The family of: Raymond P. Giehl, Sons National Asst. Sgt.-at Arms

Recently attended three funerals

Donald Priest, PDVC and Officer of Post & Squadron 449

Donald W. Hensch, Newsletter Editor of Post 449

Also sent a get well card to Laura Gryskiewicz, mother of S.A.L. Alternate NECman Pat Gryskiewicz.

As my Chaplain's project this year, has been raising money to purchase GI Josh Dogs to the Fisher House of Wisconsin as part of "Operation-Comfort the Children" and was pleased to report that on Tuesday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> he and his wife presented 16 Josh Dogs to Curtis Peck, the Executive Director of the Fisher House Foundation of Wisconsin, and Jennifer Kiefer, the House manager. Fundraising efforts continue to be underway to purchase more dogs so that we would always have a supply on hand to deliver to the Fisher House as the dogs go home with the children.

Motion by Detachment Vice Commander Ray Dzieciol (534) for acceptance of the report, seconded by Detachment Vice Commander Christopher Sherman (071) discussion, none motion carried.

**Historian** –Detachment Historian Mike Brezmer (075) none

**National Executive Committeeman** – National Executive Committeeman Daniel R. Daily (434) in Mr. Daily's excused absence Detachment Adjutant Faust reported the National Executive meetings are coming up in a few weeks. Mr. Faust, National Chaplain Mike Lawler and Detachment Judge Advocate Chad Lawler attended the Washington Conference and found them to be very informative. American Legion National Commander Dale Barnett addressing Congress was very interesting, the largest hearing room was used it was standing room only and all the annexes and ante rooms and hall ways were also used for standing room only the crowds were so large. Some of the impressive topics were National Security, a lot of impressive high tech work in recovery efforts for POW/MIA's a new lab is opening in Hawaii for this effort in the past personnel were working out of old Army Barracks.

Motion by Detachment Vice Commander Christopher Sherman (071) to accept the report, second by Detachment Vice Commander Ray Dzieciol (534) motion carried.

**Alternate National Executive Committeeman**- Alternate NECman Patrick Gyskiewicz (091) no report.

**Department S.A.L. Chairman** – Department S.A.L. Chairman Michael Wagoner (052) no report.

Detachment Commander Mike A. Kollmansberger (075) turned the gavel over Detachment Vice Commander Shawn Grothe (243) for the purpose of his Detachment Commander's report.

**Detachment Commander** – Detachment Commander Mike Kollmansberger (075) reported that he has been very busy visiting Post, Squadrons and Districts meetings. He urges and challenges members to go to attend the Post, County and District meetings in their area. Detachment Commander Kollmansberger is pleased to pass on many good and positive comments from others on the attendance of the Sons of the American Legion at the Mid-Winter conference from other Legion members. Some members were very impressed with Detachment Sergeant-at-Arms Gary Masnak (434) in his presentation of the POW/MIA Ceremonies at the event. One new Squadron has been pulled in which is Squadron 90 in Ashland. Detachment Commander Kollmansberger will be visiting the Third District and the Fourth District. With Internal affairs, has been a lot of behind the scenes work done by members for Constitutional By-Laws and the Web site. Motion by Detachment Vice Commander Christopher Sherman (071) to accept the report, second by Past Detachment Commander Gary Lubich (121) discussion, none motion carried.

Detachment Vice Commander Shawn Grothe (243) turned the gavel back over to Detachment Commander Mike A. Kollmansberger (075).

#### **Detachment Committee and Detachment Commission Reports**

**Detachment Resolution Committee**- Detachment Chairman Chad Lawler (437) no report.

**Detachment Programs Committee** - Detachment Chairman Christopher Sherman (071). Acting Chair Robert Ames Reported:

**Children and Youth** – A count was taken on the Josh Dogs that are on hand

**Child Welfare**- Detachment Commander Kollmansberger is challenging Squadrons to donate \$1.00 per member for The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation.

**Veterans Affairs**- At Camp American Legion the 139<sup>th</sup> Engineering Company has started to cut the road into the new land acquired at Camp.

**National Security**- Reminded members with the events of today be aware of what is going on around you.

Motion by S.A.L. 1st District Commander Mike Pook (449) to accept the Detachment Programs Committee report, seconded by Detachment Vice Commander Ray Dzieciol (534), discussion: it was asked if any scholarships were received. Detachment Adjutant David Faust reported none at this time, motion carried.

**Detachment Finance Commission** – Detachment Finance Commission Chairman Tom Petrie reported he asked Department for final numbers on the last budget but was told nothing could be disclosed as the budget was still under audit. Josh Dog donations Chris Sherman \$35, Bob Sirovina \$70, Squadron (449) \$1005, Squadron (243) \$20. Other donations Mid-Winters Commanders project raffle table \$1037, Squadron (294) \$1000, Squadron (243) \$50 total of \$2087. Child Welfare Foundation, Squadron (243) \$10, NEF Squadron (243) \$10, Denise Rohan Squadron (243) \$10. Mr. Petrie reviewed list of Detachment Officers and Chairmen that eligible to receive a stipend and reminded the members that they need to fill out the form and turn it in before leaving the meeting. Motion by to accept Detachment Finance Commission report by Detachment Sergeant-at-Arms Gary Masnak (434), second by Detachment Vice Commander Christopher Sherman (071), discussion, motion carried.

**Internal Affairs-** Acting chair Rich Ruland (481)

**Legislative-** the revised Constitution and By-Laws were reviewed for the pending changes as required, the DEC committee recommends that the membership as whole review these before forwarding to Department.

**Membership** - reported that a 5 member ad-hoc committee was recommended to be formed to discuss and resolve the membership goose eggs issue. It was discussed to possibly align the membership reporting year with the National organization year.

**Officer Development & Policy**-none

**Public Relations-** Shawn Grothe (243) noted that the Web-Site is progressing.

Motion by 1st District Commander Mike Pook (449) to accept the Internal Affairs report with \*separate action on the add hock comm. for goose eggs, membership year alignment and Constitution and By-Laws seconded by, Detachment Vice Commander Christopher Sherman (071), discussion none, motion carried.

**Separate Action** - on the ad-hoc committee for goose eggs, Detachment Vice Commander Ray Dzieciol (534) motioned to accept the formation of the committee with the following members Rich Ruland (481), David Faust (245), Mike A. Kollmansberger (075), Robert Ames (048) and Bob Fuller (209), seconded by 1st District Commander Mike Pook (449), discussion none, motion carried.

**Separate Action** – request for Department to count S.A.L. membership thru the calendar year instead of the administrative year. Motion made by Detachment Chaplain Rev Bradford Catura (449), to accept the request to Department, second by Alternate NECman Patrick Gyskiewicz (091), discussion, motion carried.

**Separate Action** – Constitution and By-Laws, motion made by Detachment Vice Commander Christopher Sherman (071) to accept the changes as written and to be forwarded to Department for approval., seconded by Detachment Sergeant-at-Arms Gary Masnak (434), from discussion several questions arose it was decided that the whole document should be reviewed, page by page by the body so that it was totally understood what the changes are to be. Some issues arose but where noted that they were covered under the Detachment Executive Committee Guidelines. Another item was the validity of a District Commander to Appoint a District officer in his place if was to be absent to the Detachment Executive Committee meeting, motion was made by Detachment Vice Commander Christopher Sherman (071) to include that the District Commander in his absence may appoint another District Officer to represent him at the Detachment Executive Committee meeting allowing that rep to have a vote seconded by Detachment Chaplain Rev. Bradford Catura (449), motion carried. Original motion carried.

**Resolutions, Motions and Petitions** – Chair Chad Lawler (437) none In Chad Lawler’s Excused absence Detachment Adjutant Faust brought up the idea of changing the voting time at convention to better accommodate dual members during the voting time slot, close of nominations would be on Friday with voting latter Saturday, resumes would be posted Friday after meeting until the time of voting.

Motion by Detachment Sergeant-at-Arms Gary Masnak (434) for acceptance of the time change to 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., seconded by Detachment Vice Commander Chris Sherman (071), discussion none, motion carried.

**Unfinished Business**

**Appointments-** Detachment Commander Kollmansberger asked for and made the following appointments for the remaining Convention Commission and Committee chairs.

**Americanism** – Daniel R. Daily (434)

**Children and Youth** -Christopher Sherman (071)

**Constitutional Amendments** –Michael L. Lawler (437)

**Finance** - Tom Petrie (189)

**Legislative** - Chad Lawler (437)

**Membership Chair-** Rich Ruland (481)

**National Security** – Bruce McCormick (434)

**Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation** – Jim Wilhelms (075)

Motion by 1st District Commander Mike Pook (449) for acceptance of the appointments, seconded by Detachment Vice Commander Christopher Sherman (071) discussion none, motion carried.

### **New Business**

Mike Pook (449) representing Squadron 449 as Squadron Commander read and presented a resolution from Squadron 449 in opposition to District boundary changes that 449 would continue to remain in the First District in Waukesha County. This has transpired by the 5<sup>TH</sup> District is seeking to change the District boundary lines encompassing the 449 Post and Squadron.

### **For the Good of Sons of the American Legion**

Past Detachment Commander-Gary Lubich (121) Reported that the River Falls (121) American Legion baseball will be hosting a class 2A baseball tournament July 27-31.

Detachment Commander-Mike A. Kollmansberger (075) noted that the The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation can that was passed around netted \$27.94 for CWF.

Detachment Chaplain Rev. Braford W. Catura (449) reported that the Healing Field event will be held in Germantown September 1<sup>st</sup> thru the 5<sup>th</sup>. For the event they are asking for volunteers to stand round the clock guard at the event and members can purchase flags and donate them for the event.

Detachment Sergeant-at-Arms-Gary Masnak (434) noted that their Squadron is holding a pancake breakfast May 22<sup>nd</sup> for raising funds for Denise Rohan's National campaign.

Rich Ruland (481) noted that Denise Rohan's National campaign needs another \$150,000.

Detachment Vice Commander-Shawn Grothe (243) announced his bid for Detachment Chaplain in 2017

Detachment Commander-Mike A. Kollmansberger (075) once again urged members to attend The American Legion and Sons of the American Legion District meetings, participate in Memorial day functions.

Alternate NECman-Patrick Gryskiewicz (091) reported that his mother Laura Gryskiewicz has returned home after her therapy was completed and she is doing well.

Detachment Adjutant-David Faust (245) noted that with the Convention in Middleton coming up it is expected that some visitors from Illinois will be present. urged the membership to keep up the good work, keep things rolling and be positive.

With no other business Detachment Commander Mike A. Kollmansberger (075) closed the Spring D.E.C. meeting with the proper closing ceremonies. Meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

Detachment Assistant Adjutant  
Gary Lee LeRoy (294)