# **Constitution of the Sons of The American Legion**

# Squadron of Goetz-St Louis Post 522

# 3590 North Shore Drive, Hubertus, WI 53033

(262-623-6776)



Preamble:

Proud possessors of a priceless heritage, we male descendants of veterans of all Wars, associate ourselves together as "Sons of The American Legion" for the following purposes:

To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a true spirit of Americanism; to preserve the memories of our former members and the associations of our members and our forefathers in all Wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our friendship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness; to adopt in letter and spirit all of the great principles for which The American Legion stands; and to assist in carrying on for God and Country.

### Article I

Name

## <u>Section 1.</u> The name of this organization shall be Sons of the American Legion Squadron of Goetz-St Louis Post 522

Article II

Nature

<u>Section 1.</u> Sons of the American Legion Squadron of Goetz-St Louis Post 522 is a civilian organization. Membership therein does not affect nor increase liability for military or police service.

<u>Section 2.</u> The squadron shall be A-Political and shall not be used for the dissemination of partisan principles nor for the promotion of the candidacy of any persons seeking public office or preferment.

Section 3. The squadron shall be absolutely non-sectarian.

<u>Section 4.</u> Each member shall perform his full duty as a citizen according to his own conscience and understanding, in accord with the law.

#### Article III

Organization

<u>Section 1.</u> This squadron is organized as a subordinate body of The Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Wisconsin, and under the sponsorship and jurisdiction of Goetz-St Louis Post 522, The American Legion.

<u>Section 2.</u> This squadron shall be governed by such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by The National Executive Committee of The American Legion, by such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the Detachment Headquarters, approved by the Department Executive Committee of The American Legion, and by such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by its sponsoring Post of The American Legion, not inconsistent with those of The National Organization.

<u>Section 1.</u> All male descendants, adopted sons and stepsons of members of The American Legion, and such male descendants of veterans who died in service during World War I, World War II, the Korean War, The Vietnam War, Lebanon, Grenada, Panama, The Persian Gulf War and The War on Terrorism, as set forth in Article IV, Section 1 of the National Constitution of The American Legion, or who died subsequent to their honorable discharge from such service, shall be eligible for membership in the Sons of The American Legion.

#### Article V

Officers

<u>Section 1.</u> The Officers of this Squadron shall be a Commander, First Vice Commander, Second Vice Commander, Adjutant, Finance Officer, Sergeant at Arms, Chaplain, and Historian/Media Officer, all of whom shall be elected at the Annual Meeting of The Squadron.

### Article VI

**Executive Committee** 

<u>Section 1.</u> Between Squadron meetings, the administrative power of The Squadron shall be vested in The Squadron Executive Committee, which shall consist of all Officers for the current year, Immediate Past Commander, and one at-large member who must be approved by majority of Executive Committee Members. At-Large member's term will expire after annual election of officers.

Article VII

Dues

<u>Section 1.</u> The Annual Membership Dues of this Squadron shall be decided yearly, payable before 31 December of preceding year.

Article VIII

Amendments

<u>Section 1.</u> This Constitution is adopted, subject to the provision of the National Constitution and the Detachment Constitution of which this Squadron is a subordinate member. Any amendment to the National or Detachment Constitution which is in conflict with any provision hereof shall be regarded as automatically repealing or modifying the provisions of this Constitution, to the extent of such conflict.

<u>Section 2.</u> This Constitution may be amended at any regular Squadron meeting by a 2/3 vote of the members attending such regular meeting providing that the proposed amendment shall have been submitted in writing and read at the immediate proceeding Squadron meeting and provided further, that written notice shall have been given to all members at least seven days in advance of the date which such amendment is to be voted on, notifying said members at such meeting a proposal to amend the Constitution is to be voted upon.

NOTE: Only members in good standing will be privileged to participate in the business of a meeting, vote, or hold office.

By-Laws of the Sons of The American Legion Squadron of Goetz-

Louis Post 522, 3590 North Shore Drive, Hubertus, WI 53033

262-623-6776



Article I

Membership

<u>Section 1.</u> Applications for membership shall be made in writing on blanks approved by the Executive Committee.

<u>Section 2.</u> All applications for membership shall be acted upon after approval of Finance Officer and Commander.

Article II

**Nomination and Election of Officers** 

Section 1. At the regular meeting in March, the Commander shall appoint a nominating committee of three members who will, acting together, present at the regular meeting in April, a list of one or more candidates for each office required to be elected under the Constitution of this Squadron.

<u>Section 2.</u> At the conclusion of the report of the nominating committee, any Squadron member may present the name of any other Squadron member for nomination to any office for which such Squadron member is not nominated by the nominating committee, and upon said nomination being seconded, the same shall be considered as though contained in the report of the nominating committee after said report has been accepted and adopted by The Squadron.

<u>Section 3</u>. Those officers shall be declared elected who have by secret ballot received a majority of the votes of the Squadron members in good standing present at the annual meeting.

<u>Section 4</u>: The newly elected officers and members of the Executive Committee shall take office at the next regular meeting; at which time they shall be installed by proper authority.

Article III

**Duties of Officers** 

<u>Section 1.</u> Commander: The Commander shall be the executive head of this Squadron with full power to enforce the provisions of this Squadron's Constitution and By-Laws, and the policies and mandates of the National and of the Department Committees of the Sons of the American Legion, and of the Executive Committee of the Squadron.

<u>Section 2.</u> First Vice Commander: The First Vice Commander shall act as representative of the Commander on all matters referred to him and shall specifically be responsible for membership. He shall perform such other duties as are usually incident to the office.

<u>Section 3.</u> Second Vice Commander: The Second Vice Commander shall likewise act as representative of the Commander on all matters referred to him and he shall specifically be responsible for Squadron patriotic activities. He shall perform such other duties as are usually incident to the office.

<u>Section 4.</u> Adjutant: The Adjutant shall be charged with the administrative duties required in carrying out the policies and mandates of the National and Department Committees of the Sons of the American Legion, and of the Executive Committee of the Squadron. He shall be responsible for timely recording, publishing, and distributing minutes of all regular and special meetings of Squadron 522 and its Executive Meeting. He shall perform such other duties as are usually incident to the office. The Adjutant is not an elected position. He is appointed by the Commander.

<u>Section 5.</u> Finance Officer: The Finance Officer shall be the custodian of funds of the Squadron. \$500 can be dispersed by the Commander and/or Finance Officer without a squadron vote. A detailed justification shall be reported at next regular meeting. Finance Officer shall be charged with the receiving and disbursing of funds of the Squadron and shall make reports upon the condition of the Squadron treasury when called for by the Commander or the Executive committee. He shall perform such other duties as are usually incident to the office. The Finance Officer is not an elected position. He is appointed by the Commander.

<u>Section 6.</u> Sergeant-at-Arms: The Sergeant-at-Arms shall be charged with the responsibility of preserving order at all Squadron meetings and he shall be given the custody of the Squadron Colors. He shall perform such duties as are usually incident to the office

<u>Section 7.</u> Chaplain: The Chaplain shall perform such divine and non-sectarian services as may be necessary, adhering to such ceremonial rituals as may be prescribed by The National Membership and Post Activities Committee of The American Legion.

<u>Section 8.</u> Historian/Media Officer: The Historian shall collect from year to year all records and data of value and interest to all the Sons of the American Legion, and shall compile during his term in office, a complete history of the year's activities. He shall also serve as Squadron Media/Publicity Officer, establishing media contacts and creating official press releases, as appropriate.

#### Article IV

**Executive Committee** 

<u>Section 1.</u> The Squadron Executive Committee shall fill any vacancy in the membership of the Committee occurring between annual Squadron meetings for the remainder of the unexpired term.

<u>Section2.</u> Any Officer or Executive Committeeman may be removed for inefficiency by the Executive Committee, a majority vote of said committee being necessary to affect such removal. An Officer or Executive Committeeman, unless excused, who absents himself for three or more consecutive Squadron or Executive Committee meetings can, on due investigation by the Executive Committee, be held to be sufficient proof of inefficiency, warranting such removal.

Article V

**Standing Committees** 

S<u>ection 1.</u> Upon nomination of the Squadron Commander, the Executive Committee shall annually appoint such standing committees as it shall deem advisable for the benefit of the membership of the Squadron as a whole.

### Article VI

Meetings

<u>Section 1.</u> The annual meeting of this Squadron shall be held as the regular meeting of May in each calendar year.

<u>Section 2.</u> The regular stated meeting of this Squadron shall be held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each and every month.

<u>Section 3.</u> Special meetings shall be called upon a majority vote of the Executive Committee or upon the written request of ten Squadron members.

<u>Section 4.</u> Every member shall furnish to the Adjutant his address, to which all notices and documents may be sent, and the same shall be held to have been duly sent to or served upon a member if mailed to such address so furnished. In default of an address having been furnished by a Squadron member, any notice or documents will be held to have been duly served upon such member five days after the same shall have been deposited at a local Post office.

<u>Section 5</u>. Notice of all special meetings of The Squadron shall be mailed to each Squadron member 7 days previous to the holding of such meeting.

<u>Section 6.</u> The notice of special meetings shall state the object and purpose thereof and no business shall be transacted at such special meeting except for such business as is contained in the notice thereof.

<u>Section 7.</u> The Executive Committee shall meet for organization and such business as may come before it within ten days after the annual election on the call of the Commander. Thereafter the Executive Committee shall meet at the call of the Commander at least every three months and as often as said Commander may deem necessary. The Commander shall call a meeting of the Executive Committee upon the written request of five members of the Committee.

Article VII

Quorum

<u>Section 1.</u> Ten members, besides a qualified Presiding Officer, shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Squadron.

<u>Section 2.</u> Three members of the Executive Committee besides a qualified Presiding Officer shall constitute a quorum for the legal transaction of business.

Article

VIII

Finances

<u>Section 1.</u> All funds of this Squadron shall be deposited by the Finance Officer in a bank approved by the Squadron Executive Committee. Withdrawals shall only be made upon draft or check signed by the Finance Officer. Legion Post 522 Finance Officer shall have full access to checking account and bank statements, and he will provide back-up coverage to Squadron Finance Officer if necessary.

Article IX

**Rules of Order** 

Section 1. The procedure at all Squadron meetings shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order

#### Article X

#### Amendments

<u>Section 1.</u> These By-Laws are adopted, subject to the provisions of the National By-Laws and the Detachment By-Laws, of which this Squadron is a subordinate member. Any amendment to the National or Detachment By-Laws which is in conflict with any provision hereof shall be regarded as automatically repealing or modifying the provisions of these By-Laws to the extent of such conflict.

<u>Section2.</u> These By-Laws may be amended at any regular Squadron meeting by a 2/3 vote of the members attending such regular meeting, provided that the proposed amendment shall have been submitted in writing and read at the immediate proceeding Squadron meeting, and provided further, that written notice shall have been given to all members at least seven days in advance of the date when such amendment is to be voted upon, notifying said members that at such meeting a proposal to amend the By-Laws is to be voted upon.

These Constitution and By Laws of The Sons of The American Legion Squadron of Goetz-St Louis

Post 522, are hereby ratified effective as of the <u>th Day of</u> <u>20</u>, by order of the membership.

Chris Vesche, Commander The Sons of The American Legion Squadron 522, Department of Wisconsin

Mike Vesche, First Vice Commander The Sons of The American Legion Squadron 522, Department of Wisconsin

Fred Schmitt, Second Vice Commander The Sons of The American Legion Squadron 522, Department of Wisconsin

Adam Freund, Adjutant The Sons of The American Legion Squadron 522, Department of Wisconsin

Rob Lawein, Finance Officer The Sons of The American Legion Squadron 522, Department of Wisconsin

Stephen Vesche, Chaplain The Sons of The American Legion Squadron 522, Department of Wisconsin