

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

Fall Detachment Executive Committee Minutes October 25, 2014

**Opening**

**Call to Order:** Saturday October 25, 2014 Detachment Commander Gary F. Lubich (121) called to order the Detachment Executive Committee Fall meeting at 12:45 p.m. at Detachment Headquarters, Portage Wisconsin

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

**Invocation-** Detachment Chaplain Bradford Catura (449) provided the opening prayer.

**POW/MIA Empty Chair Ceremony:** A ceremony honoring our POW/MIA was conducted by Detachment Commander Gary F. Lubich (121), Detachment Chaplain Bradford Catura (449).

**The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag:** The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited.

**Preamble:** The Preamble to the Constitution of the Sons of The American Legion was recited.

**Roll Call of Detachment Voting Officers: Taken by the 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 D. Grothe	(243)	Excused
Detachment Vice Commander	Robert C. Sirovina	(434)	Excused
Detachment Vice Commander	Christopher M. Sherman	(071)	Present
Detachment Chaplain	Bradford W. Catura	(449)	Present
Detachment Sergeant-at-Arms	Gary Masnak	(434)	Present
Detachment Sergeant-at-Arms	Mike Pook	(449)	Present
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 the Detachment Adjutant David R. Faust (245)**

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

**Guest to the D.E.C.:** None

**Reading Of the Previous Minutes:** Presented by the Assistant Adjutant Gary Lee LeRoy (294)

Motion by Mike Pook (449) to waive the reading of the previous convention meeting minutes, seconded by Daniel R. Daily (434), by point of order motion was stated to waive the reading of the minutes and not to accept as published, motion was amended to state accept the previous convention meeting minutes as published, motion carried.

**Official Correspondence:** Presented by the Adjutant David R. Faust (245)

Received letter from Joe Phillips Scholarship recipient (2010) thanking the Detachment for the Scholarship award. Mr. Phillips is now a graduate of UW-Eau Claire and is certified to teach music to students K-12. He cited that the scholarship helped him secure his education and obtain a job in Black River Falls school district where he is teaching students in music and also will be extending support to all the other individuals that he will be teaching thanks to the Detachments support.

#### **Detachment Officer Reports:**

**Detachment Vice Commander** – Christopher M. Sherman Districts (1-7-10) went to Beloit for an awards ceremony, received 200 Josh and assembled the kits for distribution, received calls from Twin Lakes and Genoa City for visits to their Squadrons.

Motion by Daniel R. Daily (434), to accept the report, second by Bradford W. Catura (449) motion carried.

**Vice Commander** – Shawn D. Grothe (243) Districts (2-11-12), Report was submitted and read as follows, Squadrons as of last D.E.C. 20, total membership 550, goose eggs 15, Squadrons at current goal 5, Squadrons at 100% 0, Squadrons at final goal 0, new Squadrons 0, Squadron contacts as of last D.E.C. 8. Attended Sheboygan County Vets Memorial Anniversary (5 days), Sheboygan County Counsel meeting (1 day), Squadron is trying to organize a Legion Family Clean the World event, will be contacting all the Goose Egg Squadrons.

Motion by Christopher M. Sherman (071), to accept the report, second by Gary Masnak (434) motion carried.

**Vice Commander** – Robert C. Sirovina (537) Districts (3-4-5) Report was submitted and read as follows: Robert and his wife PDP Diana Sirovina, joined DVC Chris Sherman, Assistant Adj. Michael Lawler, Janice Lawler, NEC-man Daniel R. Daily, at Post 71 to assist in Josh dog assembly and took 30 kits home for distribution.

First newsletter was sent out to Districts 3-4-5 earlier this month it included Squadron information form with return envelope, information on the GI Josh Dog program, membership goals, Commander Lubich special projects and goals and a request for each Squadron to update and submit their Constitution and By-Laws.

All 100% flag ribbon and certificates were distributed. Received calls from two Squadrons asking about the Josh Dog program. He will continue to make contacts with Squadrons as is necessary especially those that are not meeting membership goals. He is planning to attend District Legion meetings and Squadron meetings as time allows.

**Third District Commander**- Ray A. Dzieciol (534) Third District is doing well, Squadron 59 is up to 148% and still growing, 151 and 433 are expected to hit 100% soon several other Squadrons are very close.

Motion by Mike A. Kollmansberger (075), to accept the reports, second by Bradford W. Catura (449) motion carried.

**Vice Commander** – Mike A. Kollmansberger (075) Districts (6-8-9), Squadrons as of last D.E.C. 16, total membership 418, goose eggs 9, Squadrons at current goal 7, Squadrons at 100% 0, Squadrons at final goal 0, new Squadrons 0, Squadron contacts as of last D.E.C. 8. Post 88 Mattoon is interested in starting a Squadron. Mike attended Fond du Lac, Calumet and Winnebago County meetings, Sixth District meeting, and National Flag day ceremony in Fond du Lac. Attended the Wisconsin Remembers Veterans fund raiser. Fond du Lac Squadron held a fund raiser for the Old Glory Honor Flight with the aide of the Post Auxiliary and netted \$4500 to \$5000. Mike will be attending the Manitowoc Post revitalization.

Motion by Bradford W. Catura (449) to accept the report, second by Christopher Sherman (071), motion carried.

**Chaplain** – Bradford W. Catura (449) reported that in the last three months has sent 4 get well cards, 5 condolence cards and attended two funerals. He attended the First District joint installation in Mukwonago and the First District POW/MIA Silent march in Lake Geneva.

Motion by Mike A. Kollmansberger (075) to accept the reports, second by Ray A. Dzieciol (534) motion carried.

**Historian** – Kelly R. Powers (121) has been following Commander Lubich around and has noticed a great improvement of inter action on his part with others at many of the function they have attended presenting the Sons of the American Legion to others and the American Legion Family.

Motion by to accept the report by Ray A. Dzieciol (534), second by Christopher M. Sherman (071), motion carried.

**National Executive Committeeman** - Daniel R. Daily (434) Noted when he arrived at Post 71 to help assemble Josh Dogs kits, he was asked by DVC Chris Sherman if he would be a guest speaker at a Legion Event and asked him to get his uniform cap. When he entered the room NEC Daily was met by a room full of seated GI Josh Dogs including the head table.

NEC-man report that National S.A.L. Commander Moss's theme is "Building Bridges to the Future". This can be accomplished by membership recruitment, retaining members, reaching out to lost members. Commander Moss's projects are The American Legion Endowment fund for \$90,000, the National Emergency fund for \$50,000 and Child Welfare foundation \$400,000. He encourages squadrons to assist with the Missing in America Project, which identifies the remains of fallen veterans that are sitting on shelves at funeral parlor to give them a proper burial. Under legislative the Washington conference will be held in February of 2015 and the wreath laying will be the 22<sup>nd</sup> with visits to the Korean and Vietnam memorials. National Security will be providing information to the Detachments and Squadrons to keep everyone informed. Public Relations stressed on continuing to promote all the programs of the S.A.L. It has been recommended to change the commission's name to Media and Communication Commission to keep up with the times and emphasis towards social media areas such as Facebook, Twitter and Youtube. Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission urged to get out and help the Veteran. Americanism Commission stressed the importance of consolidated report being in on time.

An overview of was given on COTA (Children's Organ Transplant Association) Resolution 3-2014 regarding the format commissions will use for determining annual award winners. Child Welfare Foundation this year for the central region is \$1.00 member. Talks were held on 4x4 goal which is four million dollars raised for National Emergency Fund, Child Welfare Foundation, Legacy Scholarship fund, Operation Comfort Warriors, Soldiers Wish from the American Legion Family and four million combined members in the American Legion Family.

Resolutions voted on:

RES 1-2014 to endorse Kenneth Yanke (CO) for National Vice Commander – received and filled.

RES 2-2014 to endorse Steve Ward (KS) for National Vice Commander –received and filled.

RES 3-2014 judging criteria for Americanism and Children and Youth awards-approved.

Motion by Daniel R. Daily (434) to accept his report, second by Mike A. Kollmansberger (075) motion carried.

**Alternate National Executive Committeeman-** Patrick N. Gryskiewicz (093) No report.

**Department S.A.L. Chairman** – Michael F. Wagoner (052) noted that this Legion appointment is one that he will enjoy and understands where the S.A.L. Detachment is coming from being a dual member and is a Past Detachment Commander. A&G testing would like to increase the number of participants for testing. Other items discussed by the Legion D.E.C. were Junior shooter sports, oratorical (Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> 2015), Badger Boys State, Scouting, Youth Government Day are the high profile programs that the S.A.L. has been involved in and should continue to do so as the Legion is recognizing the Detachments involvement. In addition the American Legion Riders which consist of Legion, Aux and S.A.L. members is growing stronger.

Motion by Daniel R. Daily (434) to accept his report, second by Christopher M. Sherman (071), from discussion it was noted that the S.A.L. might consider further support of the Badger Girls State program also, motion carried.

Commander Gary F. Lubich (121) turned the podium over to Vice Commander Christopher M. Sherman (071) for the purpose of his report.

**Commander** – Gary F. Lubich (121), on July 25<sup>th</sup> helped out Post 121 blood drive, Aug. 3<sup>rd</sup> presented colors at the High Ground, Aug. 9<sup>th</sup> worked the Legion (121) booth at the Pierce County Fair, Sept. 6 & 7 worked at Mazomanie Wild West Days and was in their parade, Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> went to Camp American Legion on a AL Riders run, Sept. 27-28<sup>th</sup> attended the 10<sup>th</sup> District Fall Conference in Gilmanton, Oct. 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> went to Indianapolis for the Detachment Commanders workshop at the NEC and Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> visited Eau Claire for Dinner with National American Legion Auxiliary President Janet Jefford.

Motion by Daniel R. Daily (434) to accept the report, second by Mike A. Kollmansberger (075), motion carried.

Vice Commander Christopher M. Sherman (071) turned the podium back over to Commander Gary F. Lubich (121).

### **Committee and Commission Reports**

**Resolution Committee**-Acting Chairman Kelly R. Powers (121) reported there was a resolution submitted (DEC-F14-01) to the endorsement of Michael L. Lawler for National Chaplain, resolution was read to the membership, Committee recommends approval of the endorsement.

Motion by Daniel R. Daily (434) to accept the Resolution as read, second by Mike A. Kollmansberger (075), from discussion it was noted to amend the motion and add the wording of District in the body of the Whereas section, motion to amend carried.

As the committee has been informed of another resolution is being prepared the committee asked that acceptance of the report be table until later after the review of the resolution by the committee.

Motion by Mike Pook (449) to table the resolution's committee report, second by Daniel R. Daily (434), motion carried.

**Programs Committee**- Chairman Kelly R. Powers (121) there will be a Junior Shooting Sports clinic and range at the Midwinter meeting and after Midwinter Post /Squadron 449 also will be presenting the program. Request for funds was being prepared for the purchase of a Blue Star Banner to be used by the Detachment, Department S.A.L. Chairman Michael F. Wagoner offered to purchase the banner for the Detachment making the request not necessary. Request for funds will be prepared for the purchase of Gavels and Flags for Badger Boys State. It was noted that more exposure of members should be present at Badger Boys State. The A&G testing has increased approx. 175% due to electronic testing being available. Under Children and Youth discussed the Josh Dogs and GI Josh Dogs program and that it should be continued. There has been other Detachments asking Wisconsin how to run and make contacts for this program.

Motion by Mike A. Kollmansberger (075) to accept the report, second by Daniel R. Daily (434), motion carried.

Chairman Kelly R. Powers asked if the Resolution Committee could reconvene to attend to the additional resolution that was submitted late. Commander Lubich excused the committee to attend to the resolution.

**Finance**-Chairman Tom Petrie stated by his calculations there still should be substantial funds available however there are expected expenditures for the National delegates from the National Convention to be paid. Members should continue to submit vouchers to the commission for review in December at the closing of the books. The commission is looking at changes that would come in line with Department's finance structure to help make the Detachment's financial structure simpler and fair to all that are required to attend functions and meetings. The Detachment money market account was closed and rolled over to the general account. There a lot of thing going on with the new budgeting process it is expected to be 2 to 3 years before all is resolved and in line it is expected that many changes will be made or needed.

Motion by Mike Pook (449), seconded by Gary Masnak (434), to accept the report, from discussion it was noted that non-budgeted requests could be asked for thru the proper channels from Department. It appears the Detachment budget should be set in place prior to the Legion Finance Commission meeting in September, it was noted that more up front planning should be done, funds that are made specific from the S.A.L. should be sent to Department Headquarters attention Wilma Frazer or Adjutant Dave Kurtz and should identify specifics as to what it is from or designated for It was noted that the many changes ahead are being required by IRS rules and regulations that are being enforced and is not necessarily the wishes of the Department of Wisconsin, motion carried.

**Resolution Committee Continued**- motion made by Mike Pook to remove the tabled report, seconded by Bradford Catura, motion carried. With that being done Chairman Powers asked that his committee members come to the podium for the resolution (DEC-F14-02) about to be presented. The resolution (DEC-F14-02) was read and it pertained to the unique position that the American Legion Family will find itself in in the next few years with Denise Rohan running for National Commander of the American Legion, Diane Duschek running for National President of the American Legion Auxiliary and Michael L Lawler running for National Commander of the Sons of the American Legion. In resolve the Detachment Executive Committee of the Sons of the American Legion Detachment of Wisconsin will be donating to these campaigns: Denise Rohan \$5,000, Diane Duschek \$5,000 and Michael L Lawler \$20,000.

Motion by Gary Masnak (434) for acceptance of the report pending separate action on the resolutions, seconded by Mike A. Kollmansberger (075), motion carried.

Commander Lubich asked Mr. Lawler come to the podium and say a few words. Michael did comment noting this past year has been an emotional roller coaster for him with Dennis F. Stockfisch moving on and transitioning out of the Detachment Adjutant position, relating that it was like your children leaving the nest for college. He noted that the

Detachment is in good hands with the current officers and it should remain to be a leader. He is confident that he can continue with his desire to support the Detachment at the National level representing the State and Detachment of Wisconsin. Mr. Lawler was very appreciative of the support from the Detachment.

**Internal Affairs-** Michael L. Lawler (437)

**Legislative** – Chair Travis J. Demler (243) was not present however legislative information can be found on [www.legion.org/legislative](http://www.legion.org/legislative).

**Membership** – Chair Michael L. Lawler (437) reported the following recommendations;

**Membership Card Distribution** partner with the Department at the King Pilgrimage to distribute the cards by bundling them with the Post membership cards, which are picked up by the Legion District Commanders, then the Legion County Commander then the Post Commander.

**Sons All Inclusive Membership Application**, develop a S.A.L. membership Tri-Fold brochure complete with applications from each of the four Legion Family organizations, design and cost to be reviewed to submit a request for funds.

**Continuous Year Citation**, develop a process to recognized members for their continuous years of membership, vice commanders would help with the criteria.

**Project 24**, develop a packet to send to the target posts in the remaining counties. Provide the tools to start a Squadron and invite them to Midwinter for charting or further explanations on why to start a Squadron.

**PUFL**, encourage squadrons to submit date of birth data for their members; this would help to get a National level PUFL (paid up for life) program. Squadrons can develop their own program similar to Squadron 52 La Crosse.

**Officer Development &Policy**, recommendations:

**Legion College**, training for the Legion College which includes the S.A.L. will be set up at satellite locations around the State.

**Constitution and Bylaws**, have squadrons submit their current Constitution and Bylaws and a template is being developed on line for Squadrons that do not currently have them in place.

**Squadron Commanders**, It is recommended that in the future there be a Squadron Commanders training session at Mid-Winter.

**Public Relations** – Recommendations,

Communication with the Squadron is in the works to improve the need to communicate information to them, rack cards, web site, newsletters and a possible Squadron manual.

Motion by Daniel R. Daily (434) for acceptance of the Detachment Internal Affairs Commission report, seconded by Bradford W. Catura (449), motion carried.

**Resolutions, Motions and Petitions** – Acting Chair Kelly Powers (121)

Presented resolution DEC-F14-01 as read earlier pertaining to the endorsement of Michael L. Lawler by the Detachment of Wisconsin to the National office of Chaplain.

Motion by Chris Sherman (071) for the acceptance of the resolution, seconded by Dan Daily (434), Motion carried.

Presented resolution DEC-F14-02 as read earlier pertaining to the campaign donations for Denise Rohan \$5,000, Diane Duschek \$5,000 and Michael L Lawler \$20,000.

Motion by Chris Sherman (071) for the acceptance of the resolution, seconded by Mike Pook (449), Motion carried.

**Unfinished Business**

None

**New Business**

Vice Commander Mike Kollmansberger (075) noted in lieu of the S.A.L. District Chairmen, the Detachment Vice Commanders will need to have more travel time and asked this to be taken into consideration by the Detachment

Finance Commission. It was noted by the Detachment Finance Chairman for the remainder of the budget their travel time should still be vouchered.

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

Kelly Powers turned in 10 memberships from (121) to Commander Lubich.

Commander Lubich asked to pass the hat for the National Commanders project for the National Endowment Fund, \$76.00 was collected.

Each Squadron is asked to bring a gift basket for the Midwinter conference raffle. It was noted that the Auxiliary would not be in attendance at the Midwinter conference, ticket sale may be low.

**DEPARTMENT S.A.L.** - Chairman Michael Wagoner (052) commented on goals being set by the Detachment in that it is not only good to recommend projects but be able to follow thru with them. It is important to select and set short term goals that can be achieved which would then lend to achieving long term goals.

Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> the La Crosse County Banquet will be held.

The American Legion Bowling tournament will begin March 21<sup>st</sup> in Bay View. Commander should have a team in place. The American Legion's 100th year is approaching which is a two year event, he asked what the Detachment will be doing for this milestone event and or at least think about it starting at this point.

Past Department S.A.L. Chairman Robert "Curley" Danielson is suffering from prostate cancer.

Kelly Powers reported for Commander Lubich that Mr. Lubich's brother in-law passed away just this last week.

Midwinter Committee's would be held Friday Afternoon and the D.E.C. would be on Saturday Afternoon, so members could attend some of the training sessions which are open for S.A.L. members to attend. There is also a section in the Legion College pertaining to the S.A.L.; the Legion College is to become the template for other States to utilize.

With no other business Commander Lubich (121) closed the D.E.C. meeting with the proper ceremonies.

Detachment Assistant Adjutant  
Gary Lee LeRoy (294)