

Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Wisconsin

Detachment Executive Committee Pre-Convention Meeting Minutes, Friday July 19th 2019.

Opening

Call to Order

Friday July 19th, 2019 Detachment Commander Christopher M. Sherman (071) called to order the Detachment Executive Committee Pre-Convention meeting at 1:00 p.m. at the Madison Marriott West, Middleton, 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 Detachment Chaplain John L'Huiller (434)

POW/MIA Empty Chair Ceremony

A ceremony honoring our POW/MIA was conducted by Detachment Commander Christopher Sherman (071), Sgt.-at - Arms Ray Dzieciol (059) and Detachment Chaplain John L'Huiller (434).

Blue Star Banner was placed.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Detachment Vice Commander Allen Watry (038).

Reciting of the S.A.L. Preamble

Reciting of the S.A.L. Preamble was led by Detachment Vice Commander David Fuller (209).

Opening of the D.E.C.- Commander Christopher Sherman (071) officially declared the annual 51st (Pre) Convention D.E.C. open.

Commanders Welcome- Christopher Sherman (071) welcomed the members of the Detachment, Squadrons and guests.

Roll Call of Detachment Officers (Voting)

Taken by Detachment Adjutant (PNC) David Faust (245).

Detachment Commander	Christopher Sherman	(071)	Present
Detachment Vice Commander	Robert Sirovina	(434)	Present
Detachment Vice Commander	Allen Watry	(038)	Present
Detachment Vice Commander	David Fuller	(209)	Present
Detachment Vice Commander	Rich Ruland	(481)	Present
Detachment Chaplain	John L'Huiller	(434)	Present
Detachment Sergeant-at-Arms	Mark Lipke	(075)	Excused
Detachment Sergeant-at-Arms	Ray Dzieciol	(059)	Present
National Executive Committeeman	Patrick Gryskiewicz	(091)	Present
Alternate NEC man	Kelly Powers	(121)	Excused
Past Detachment Commander	Mike A. Kollmansberger	(075)	Absent
Past Detachment Commander	Gary Lubich	(121)	Present
Past Detachment Commander	Daniel R. Daily	(434)	Present
1st District Commander	Joe Probst	(294)	Present
3rd District Commander	Ray Dzieciol	(059)	Present
4 th District Commander	Christopher Dannenmann	(434)	Present
6th District Commander	Mark Lipke	(075)	Excused
10 th District Commander	Gary Lubich	(121)	Present

Roll Call of Detachment Officers (non-Voting)

Detachment Judge Advocate	Michael L. Lawler	(437)	Excused
Detachment Historian	Joe Bromley	(071)	Absent
Detachment Adjutant	David Faust	(245)	Present
Detachment Assistant Adjutant	Gary Lee LeRoy	(294)	Present
Detachment Assistant Adjutant	John L’Huiller	(434)	Present
Department S.A.L. Chairman	Jeff Puddy	(075)	Present

Introduction of Guests

Department Adjutant-Amber Nikolai gave greetings to the Detachment congratulated the membership and Commander Sherman on the huge accomplishments the Detachment achieved this past year in membership and facilitating the “Josh Dog” and other programs. that her fourteen-year-old son is now a S.A.L. member attached to the Oshkosh Squadron (70). Adj. Nikolai praised the officers of the Detachment on keeping up the great communications with the Department and to continue to lead by example, thanked the Detachment for their assistance and donations to some remodeling at State Headquarters. Adj. Nikolai introduced Department Assistant Adjutant-Mike Rohan who has been helping out with many items at headquarters on a volunteer basis and asked Mr. Rohan to say a few words.

Department Assistant Adjutant-Mike Rohan noted that he is also a 30 plus year-chartered member of the S.A.L. from the (333) Sun Prairie Squadron. Thanked the detachment for their support and donations to (PNC) Denise Rohan during her campaign and that Denise took the 10 Ideals and the 5 Star programs and completed them to learn more about what the Sons of the American Legion is about.

Department Chaplain – Mathew Harn

S.A.L. Past National Commander – JR Stillwell from the State of IL.

S.A.L. National Vice Commander – Mike Kriste

Reading of the previous meeting minutes

Motion by Detachment Vice Commander Ray Dzieciol (059), seconded by (PDC) Gary Lubich (121), to accept the minutes from the previous Executive Committee meeting as published and distributed, discussion – none. motion carried.

Disposal Official Correspondence

Adjutant Faust reported there were none.

Detachment Officer Reports

Detachment Vice Commander – Robert Sirovina Jr. (434) District 4,5,12

Statistics: As of Membership Report 7/3

Districts in my area: 4, 5, 12

Number of Squadrons: 14

Total area membership 2018: 410

Current total membership 7/3: 440

Number of Squadrons 100% or more: 8

Number of Consolidated Reports submitted:

Membership: All Squadrons were contacted by phone or email, some multiple times. All three districts were at 100% or more. Contacted 12th District Commander Don multiple times regarding starting a new squad at Hayward, hope to get in in next year.

Activities Attended:

Deployment ceremony at Lambeau Field in November (dressed as the dog), Deployment ceremony at Sturtevant, Deployment Ceremony at UW Stout, Legion's official visit to Zablocki VA, Legion's National Vice Commander visit to Milwaukee, Auxiliary ALA In the Know Fall Information Meeting, 1st District Legion Fall Conference, 2nd District Legion Fall Conference, 4th District Legion Fall Conference, 4th District Legion meeting, 1st District SAL Spring Conference in Mukwonago, 4th District SAL meeting, Post #171 Union Grove Birthday Dinner, Post #171 Union Grove Legion meeting, Legion Membership Rally & Open House in Portage, Post #206 Orfordville Anniversary Dinner, VA VS Meeting at Zablocki

V AMC, Volunteer at Zablocki V AMC, Other various Legion Family events, Wreaths Across America: While on our visit to Washington we participated at the Ivy Green Cemetery in Bremerton, W A., Assisted Auxiliary with Christmas Gift Shop. In early December we moved 473 gifts to Brookfield Post 449 to be wrapped by 40 volunteers. Moved the wrapped gifts to the Poppy Shop garage at Zablocki to store until delivery. Attended and helped with wrapping and packing.

Commander Sherman and his wife Tina. Helped load and deliver gifts to residents at to Union Grove and Zablocki. The gifts are for long-term hospitalized veterans to give to their families. Could use more help next year too.

V A&R: SAL Hospital Representative: Volunteer one to two days per week when I'm in town, visiting veterans, etc.

Newsletters: I sent out several this year. We found a lot of email addresses in the three districts so more Squadrons got direct information on programs.

SAL Shirts: It took several weeks but we finally got the approval to use the emblem. Orders were submitted to the embroiderer; orders are here today. Order forms are available today. SAL dress shirts or polo's available and Legion Family polo shirts available in men's, ladies and kids' sizes. Payment has to accompany order.

Motion by Allen Watry (038) to accept the report, seconded by Dan Daily (434), discussion – none, motion carried.

Detachment Vice Commander – Allen Watry – Districts 6,8,9

DEC/Conferences:

Was attending 9th District Conference during DEC April 13, 2019, but made Commander Sherman Testimonial that evening, Attended 6th, 8th, and 9th District Spring Conferences. Addressed: Membership and potential for Triple Nickel Status for Detachment, Filing of Officer Report Forms and Consolidated Report Forms, Answered questions on the Josh Dog Program. Attended the N.E.C. meeting in Indianapolis and the first round of the Legion Collage.

Membership/Squadron Activities:

No Goose Eggs in District 6,8, and 9th. All Districts over 100% for the year Four New Squadrons

District 6 - Ripon and Omro, District 8 - Wisconsin Rapids, District 9 - Little Chute.

Helped answer questions and guide Ripon, Omro, and Wisconsin Rapids with the Chartering

Process. Sent a letter to all squadrons of District 6,8, and 9th. Addressed Invitations to Summer Convention. Noted key topics to include, Josh Dog Program and National Dues Increase possibility.

Submitting any last memberships and potential of Triple Nickel Status for Detachment, help with set-up of the Grafton Squadron Golf Outing, while in the area attended a 2nd District ALRA Brat Fry.

Pulled the Post 470 Float in the Saukville Parade, had S.A.L Magnets on the truck. While at that parade talked to ALRA District 2 and Grafton Squadron members.

Attended an ALRA District 2 meeting to share information about the Josh Dog program, donations were received afterwards. Also have received offers to help with the program.

Have information to share about a key program Marshfield is working on which appears to be a key reason for their significant jump in membership.

Met with Oshkosh Squadron regarding how to complete a membership drive. They may try to tie an effort of having a Traveling Vietnam Memorial Wall with the effort. The majority of the discussion was around how to get the name out to the general public and invite the community to join/participate.

Will be appointing someone to develop the S.A.L. 9th District.

Attended King Day on Father's Day and helped march the Detachment Colors.

Personally:

Continue to fulfill the duties of Squadron 38 Adjutant, continue to be a member of the 9th District ALRA and have rode in several parades. Also helped present colors at Legion Baseball Sunday for Legion Baseball in Appleton.

Motion was made by Rich Ruland (481) for acceptance of the report, seconded by Ray Dzieciol (059), discussion none, motion carried.

Detachment Vice Commander –David Fuller (209)– District 1,7,10

Attended 1st District Legion meeting in Brookfield for Commander Chris. June went to Twin Lakes to do installation of officers.

Pushed to reach the Triple Nickel goal. All three of my Districts made 100% or better.

Rome 109% Somerset 110% River Falls 110% Sparta 117% Onalaska 121 % Brackett 126% Oconomowoc 130% Hartland 132% and Twin Lakes 175% Discussed a few points with Bob Sirovina via phone calls.

Have been elected for a 5th consecutive year as Commander of Squadron 209. Genoa City has a few members looking to transfer to Twin Lakes. While at Twin Lakes I had a conversation with the Legion Commander from Kenosha, he asked me for help in getting their S.A.L. revived, we exchanged contact information and will be in contact at a later date.

Presently I am getting things in order to retire in January 2020.

Motion by Ray Dzieciol (059), seconded by Patrick Gryskiewicz (093) to accept the report. discussion – none, motion carried.

Detachment Vice Commander –Rich Ruland (481)– District 2,3,11.

Membership in Districts

2nd ended up at 106.74% with 11 Squads 100% or over. 3rd at 99.74% 10 Squads 100% or over.

Sq 151 was a disappointment out of 25 members only 11 has paid. I have talk to them many times for help But they seem they stopped caring. This is sad but I'll keep trying to help them get back. 11th at 98.40% one Squad at 147.06%.

I have attended all my Squadron meetings. Squadron 59 Of Stoughton Has been having problems with the post over some incidents that was Out of hand. Detachment Commander Chris ask me to check what was going on. I then went to the post to have a meeting with the post commander and the two S.A.L. members in questing to try and fix it and to move on. I talked to the Squadron Commander which he said Things are improved. I have been asked to be the guest speaker at A dinner they are having in honor that when I was Legion Dane County Commander that' helped Form their Squadron. They are at 110.91% in membership.

As Membership Chairman I want to thank all the Squadron's for the work they have done also Detachment Vice Commander's and the District Commander's. We can be Proud that National see's us as a can-do State. Motion by 4th District Commander Christopher Dannenmann (434) seconded by Allen Watry (038) to accept the report, discussion – none, motion carried.

Detachment Chaplain – John L'Huiller (434)

Sent cards and correspondence to Legion family members. Attended Legion family funerals and memorials.

Attended Stars and Stripes Honor Flight at Milwaukee International Airport on May 11, 2019 and delivered prayers for two flights.

Motion by 4th District Commander Christopher Dannenmann (434), seconded by Patrick Gryskiewicz (093) to accept the report, discussion – none, motion carried.

National Executive Committeeman -Patrick Gryskiewicz (093)

Noted that he was unable to attend the spring N.E.C. meetings due to work, however he asked Alt. N.E.C. Kelly R.

Powers to fill in for him which he did. Minutes and information were sent in to the Detachment Adj. for distribution to the appropriate committees.

Attended the most recent deployment in Menominee last weekend. Elected Delegates attending National Convention are required to fill out forms to be submitted for selection to Convention committee's see Mr. Gryskiewicz after the Detachment elections for the form.

Motion by, Detachment Vice Commander Ray Dzieciol (059) to accept the report, seconded by Dan Daily (434) discussion – none, motion carried.

Department S.A.L. Chairman – Jeff Puddy (075)

Reported this year is his 3rd year as S.A.L. Chairman and it has been an honor to serve in this capacity. He was able to be in attendance last weekend at the deployment in Menominee and other previous ones and finds that the enjoyment of the kid's experience is gratifying for the service member. Again Mr. Puddy noted that his years as S.A.L. Chairman has been an honor and if the future would bring another term he would be more than willing to continue.

Motion by 4th District Commander Christopher Dannenmann (434), seconded by Rich Ruland (481) to accept the report, discussion – none, motion carried.

Commander Christopher Sherman (071) turned the podium over to Detachment Vice Commander Robert Sirovina (434) for the purpose of the Commanders report.

Detachment Commander – Christopher Sherman (071)

It has been a busy end to this year. I attended the Seventh District at Sparta Post 100 on Saturday April 20th followed by attending the Second District at Horicon Post, and ended that weekend by attending the Sixth District meeting in Two Rivers.

David Faust, Allen Watry, Kelly Powers and myself attended the spring National Executive Committee meeting with Allen Watry attending NMI 1 training and myself attending NMI 2 training. I was also honored to be involved with the Camp American Legion Gold Star Family Cabin ground breaking ceremony on Sunday June 9 2019 in Tomahawk WI. I also attended both Frank Kostka and Char Kiesling testimonials. We also just finished with a deployment at the UW Stout field house with 400 soldiers from the 128th Red Arrow group leaving for Afghanistan. We handed out 200 GI Josh dogs and 250 small Josh to all the children whose parents or loved ones have deployed. Commander Sherman made note of the 2018-2019 accomplishments the Detachment of Wisconsin has achieved from the 49 Squadrons reporting from the consolidated reports turned in. The bottom line grand totals were 44,786 volunteer hours, \$129,976 in donations totaling a economic impact supporting the American Legion of \$1,268,871.

In ending Commander Sherman would like to give a BIG THANK YOU to all the Detachment Officers and Committee men who made the last 2 years as your Commander the best he could ask for, without you we would not have been able to accomplish what we did.

CONGRATULATIONS DETACHMENT OF WISCONSIN WE GOT THE TRIPLE NICKLE AWARD.

Motion by Past Detachment Comm. Dan Daily (434) seconded by Detachment Vice Commander Rich Ruland (481), to accept the report, discussion none, motion carried.

Vice Commander Robert Sirovina (434) returned the podium over to Detachment Commander Christopher Sherman (071).

Convention Committee Verification and Appointments

Americanism- Chairman – Kelly Powers (121) members Joe Probst (294), Seán Patchin (535), Allen Watry (038).

Children & Youth Chair – Daniel Daily (434), David Fuller (209), Mike Kalsbeck (*)

Constitutional Amendments Chair–Michael Lawler (437), Chris Dannenmann (434), Robert Sirovina (434).

Convention Credentials Resolutions and Rules – Michael Lawler (437), Chris Dannenmann (434), Robert Sirovina (434).

Finance Chair – Tom Petrie (189), Patrick Gryskiewicz (093), Dan Daily (434).

Legislative Chair – Michael Lawler (437), Chris Dannenmann (434), Robert Sirovina (434).

Membership Chair – Rich Ruland (481), Ray Dzieciol (059), David Fuller (209).

National Security – Allen Watry (038), John L’Huiller (434), Rich Ruland (481).

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Chair – Robert Sirovina (434), Steven Cobb (*), Gary Lubich (121).

Announcement of Elections Judge

Unfinished Business - None

New Business - Commander Sherman presented and read the following Detachment Resolution.

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION, DETACHMENT OF WISCONSIN

Detachment Executive Committee Meeting

Date: July 19,2019

(or) Detachment Convention Assembled

Resolution No: DEC-2019-02

Originated from Past National Commander Faust

Title: Donation to Wisconsin's Candidate for

National Commander of The American Legion

Whereas: From time to time outstanding individuals find themselves in a position to be of great service to The American Legion family; and

Whereas: The Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Wisconsin has such a member who

has proven to be a tremendous leader; and

Whereas: This individual has an opportunity to become the National Commander of The American Legion; and

Whereas: Reverend Daniel J. Seehafer, a 17-year member of Horicon Squadron 157, a Navy veteran, a 23-year paid-up-for-life member of Horicon Legion Post 157, Pastor at St. Stephen Lutheran Church and school in Horicon; and

Whereas: Reverend Seehafer has served as Post, County, and District Commander, Post Adjutant, Department Chaplain in 2006-2007, National Chaplain in 2010-2011, and Department Commander 2016-2017; and

Whereas: He has served on the National Cemetery committee, National Foreign Relations committee, and is currently Chairman of the National Membership and Post Activities Commission; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

Resolved: by the Detachment Executive Committee of the Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Wisconsin assembled on the 19th day of July 2019 in the city of Middleton, Wisconsin, that we donate \$5,000.00 from our net assets account to campaign fund for Reverend Daniel J. Seehafer for National Commander of The American Legion.

Motion by (PDC) Dan Daily (434), to accept the resolution and donation, seconded by 3rd District Commander and Detachment Sgt.-at-Arms Ray Dzieciol (059) discussion – none, motion carried.

For the Good of the Sons of the American Legion - None

Benediction

A benediction was offered by Detachment Chaplain John L'Huiller (434).

Retirement of POW/MIA Empty Chair

Detachment Sergeant-at-Arms- Ray Dzieciol (059).

Retirement of the Colors

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

Adjournment - With no other business, Detachment Commander Christopher Sherman (071) declared the Pre-Conv. Detachment Executive Committee meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Detachment Assistant Adjutant - Gary Lee LeRoy (294)