

**Sons of The American Legion
Detachment of Wisconsin**

Pre-Convention Detachment Executive Committee Minutes July 12, 2024

Opening

Call to Order

Friday July 12, 2024 Detachment Commander Allen Watry (038) called to order the Detachment Executive Committee meeting being held at Appleton, WI at 1:30 pm.

Posting of the Colors

Invocation

POW/MIA Empty Chair Ceremony.

Blue Star Banner Ceremony

The Pledge of Allegiance

Reciting of the S.A.L. Preamble

Welcome by Detachment Commander Allen Watry (038)

Roll Call of Detachment Officers

Taken by the Detachment Adjutant David Faust (245). Voting Officers:

Detachment Commander	Allen Watry	(038)	Present
Detachment Vice Commander	Steven R. DuBois	(143)	Present
Detachment Vice Commander	Christopher Dannenmann	(434)	Present
Detachment Vice Commander	Jeremy Mason	(015)	Present
Detachment Vice Commander	Rich Ruland	(481)	Present
Detachment Chaplain	John L'Huillier	(434)	Present
Detachment Sergeant-at-Arms	Rick Helms	(070)	Excused
Detachment Sergeant-at-Arms	Ray Dzieciol	(534)	Excused
National Executive Committeeman	Christopher Sherman	(071)	Present
Alternate National Executive Committeeman	Patrick N. Gryskiewicz	(093)	Present
Past Detachment Commander	David Fuller	(209)	Excused
Past Detachment Commander	Robert Sirovina, Jr.	(434)	Present
Past Detachment Commander	Christopher Sherman	(071)	Present
1st District Commander	Randy Timms	(375)	Present
2nd District Commander	Dave Hodgson	(522)	Present
3rd District Commander	Ray Dzieciol	(534)	Excused
4th District Commander	Richard Wojciechowski	(537)	Present
6th District Commander	John Hoeft II	(234)	Present
10th District Commander	Rick A. Talford	(291)	Excused

Roll Call of Non-Voting Detachment Officers

Detachment Judge Advocate	Christopher Dannenmann	(434)	Present
Detachment Historian	Mike Pook	(375)	Present
Detachment Adjutant	David R. Faust	(245)	Present
Detachment Assistant Adjutant	Christopher Sherman	(071)	Present
Detachment Assistant Adjutant	Randy Timms	(375)	Present
Department S.A.L. Chairman	Michael A. Hellquist	(021)	Present

Introduction of Guests

The following guests were introduced:

- Terry Harris from Kansas, SAL National Vice Commander
- Joseph Navarrete from New Mexico, Leading Candidate for SAL National Commander

Reading of the Previous Minutes

Detachment Assistant Adjutant Christopher Sherman (071).

A motion was made by 1st District Commander Randy Timms (375) to approve the minutes of the April 27, 2024 Detachment Executive Committee meeting as published. The motion was seconded and passed.

Official Correspondence

Detachment Adjutant David R. Faust (245) reported no correspondence.

Detachment Officer Reports

Detachment Vice Commander – Steven R. DuBois (143) Districts (10, 11, 12) reported on the membership gains in the 10th, 11th, and 12th districts which included three new squadrons: 431 Three Lakes in the 11th; 221 Osceola and 269 Cushing in the 12th. There is also interest in 12th district to formerly organize.

Detachment Vice Commander – Christopher Dannenmann (434) Districts (1, 3, 4, 5) along with District Commanders. In addition to the attached report, 1st District Commander Randy Timms reported the NNOK (No Next of Kin) Ride raised \$23,000 for the Steve Lund Unclaimed Veterans fund.

Detachment Vice Commander – Jeremy Mason (015) Districts (2, 6, 9) reported on the membership gains in the 2nd, 6th, and 9th districts which included a new squadron at 477 St. Nazianz. The 2nd district also had the distinction of having the most squadrons at 20, and having everyone of them at or above 100%.

Detachment Vice Commander – Rich Ruland (481) Districts (7, 8) along with District Commanders. Rich reported that he has been battling some health issues that have limited much of his activities.

Detachment Chaplain – John L'Huillier (434) reported that sent cards and correspondence to Legion family members, attended Legion family funerals and memorials, and participated in community and Legion family events and contributed as a volunteer.

Detachment Historian – Mike Pook (375) reported on the history book he is working on completing. He encouraged everyone to continue to forward stories and pictures.

National Executive Committeeman – Christopher Sherman (071) reported on the Spring NEC meeting. Our own Chris Dannenmann was one of six students selected at large to attend the pilot SAL University class. Our own Past National Commander David Faust was one of the principal instructors. Fundraising for the Child Welfare Foundation has surpassed \$10 million cumulatively. Resolutions were received and filed for Allen Watry and Chris Sherman for future National Vice Commander roles. Chris participated in Badger Youth Camp, NNOK ride, and will be part of WALLECA (Wisconsin American Legion Law Enforcement Career Academy) in a couple of weeks.

Alternate National Executive Committeeman – Patrick N. Gyskiewicz (093) had nothing additional to report.

Department S.A.L. Chairman – Michael A. Hellquist (021) did not have anything to report at this time.

Without objection, all of the above reports were received and filed.

Detachment Commander Allen Watry (038) then passed the gavel to Detachment Vice Commander Christopher Dannenmann (434) to preside over the Commander's Report.

Detachment Commander – Allen Watry (038)

See attached report.

National Executive Committeeman Christopher Sherman (071) made a motion to approve the Detachment Commander's reports as given and submitted. The motion was seconded and passed.

Detachment Vice Commander Christopher Dannenmann then passed the gavel back to Detachment Commander Allen Watry.

Detachment Subcommittee on Resolutions – Detachment Subcommittee on Resolutions Chairman Christopher Dannenmann (434) reported on no new resolutions to be before the Detachment Executive Committee. There will be a constitutional amendment resolution taking place during the convention on Saturday.

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

Appointments

Election Judge

Detachment Commander Allen Watry (038) appointed Bob Seide (038) to act as the Election Judge for the election of officers and national convention delegates.

Motion by Detachment Vice Commander Christopher Dannenmann (434) to accept the appointment. The motion was seconded and passed.

Convention Committees

Detachment Commander Allen Watry (038) announced the following Convention Committee Chairmen:

- Americanism – Shawn McCrary (075)
- Children and Youth – Robert Sirovina, Jr. (434)
- Constitutional Amendments – Christopher Dannenmann (434)
- Finance – Tom Petrie (189)
- Legislative – Steven R. DuBois (143)
- Membership – Christopher Sherman (071)
- National Security – John Hoeft II (234)
- Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation – William Olcott (258)

Motion by Detachment Chaplain John L'Huillier (434) to approve the appointments. The motion was seconded and passed.

New Business

There was not any new business presented.

For the Good of the Sons of The American Legion

Squadron 375 Mukwonago presented three - \$300 checks totaling \$900 for two veterans funds and an Auxiliary program.

Closing

Benediction

Retirement of the POW/MIA Chair Cover

Commander's Charge

Retirement of the Colors

Adjournment

With no other business, Detachment Commander Allen Watry (038) declared the Spring Detachment Executive Committee meeting adjourned at 2:31 pm.

Detachment Assistant Adjutant
Christopher Sherman (071)



Vice Commanders Report

Districts - 1, 3, 4, 5

Name: Christopher Dannenmann

Date: 28 April 2024 – 13 July 2024

110% Goal - Membership Report Date: 07/04/24

Districts 1,3,4,5 numbers in your area – Goal TOTAL	1,854
Number of Squadrons in your area as of last D.E.C.	41
Total area membership as of the last D.E.C.	1,885
Number of “Goose Egg” Squadrons in your area	None
Number of Squadrons at current goal (110%)	7
Number of Squadrons at 100% or more	26
Number of Squadrons at Final goal	26
Number of new Squadrons as of last D.E.C.	0
Contacts made to your Squadrons since last D.E.C.	64

County, District, Department / National events attended since the last D.E.C.

NVC Robert Bristo – Central Region – Quarterly Conference Call	Ongoing
WALCAA Constitution & Bylaws Committee	Updated
Detachment Officers Monthly Zoom Call	Ongoing
Districts 1, 3, 4 & 5 District Commander’s Call & E-mail conversations	Ongoing
<i>Lions Club Leader Dog for Blue Brigade Recipient Marvin Northway</i>	<i>Ongoing</i>
Graduate of the SAL University Pilot Program	05/03/2024
ALA Fourth Dist. Spring Conference	05/11/2024
Memorial Day Remembrance Ceremony-Oak Creek WI	05/27/2024
Flag Day @ Oak Creek Town Square	06/14/2024
Badger Youth Camp, Camp Lakotah, Wautoma, WI	06/22/2024
ALF Dogs delivered to 128 th ARW for summer deployment	07/09/2024

Notes:

Flag Day, June 14, 2024, Drexel Town Square, Oak Creek, WI

Squadron 434 in conjunction with the City of Oak Creek and Post 434 Honor Guard, conducted the annual Flag Day Ceremony as well as the Unserviceable Flag Ceremony. Department Commander Karl Stuvengen was the honored guest speaker. He was joined by the Mayor, Dan Bukiewicz, as well as Miss Oak Creek, Carly Doome. The American Legion Band performed under the direction of Dr. Thomas Gamboa. I served as the Master of Ceremonies.

Badger Youth Camp, July 21-22, 2024, Wautoma, WI

Held indoors due to inclement weather. C&Y Education Program: SAL Pillars, Ideals, Flag Education, History, Honor, Duty, Service, Commitment to God and Country, Veterans Q&A, Veterans experiences, stories, and lessons learned and a mock Unserviceable Flag Ceremony.

Lions Clubs International, Leader Dog for the Blind (leaderdog.org)

The Oak Creek Lions Club, and I, have been working with Blue Brigade Jacket Recipient and Past 4th District Finance Officer Marvin Northway, his son and care givers to apply for and process through Marvin for a Leader Dog since he lost his sight last year. The challenge of blindness is



Vice Commanders Report

Districts - 1, 3, 4, 5

being met by Marvin's courage and tenacity. We hope to have acceptance in the near months. Marvin sends his greetings and wishes for a successful Convention.

Detachment Logo Embroidery

Embroidery is available once we have an order for over 25 shirts. It has been suggested that they all be French Blue and /or Red. Minimum quantity of 25 shirts. **You supply the shirt.** Logo over the left breast and your name over the right breast. Both 1st Dist. Commander Randy Timms and I are wearing examples of this embroidery. This is for embroidery only. Cost = \$22 per garment, paid in advance.

Dist. 1: (104.39%)

- 021 Kenosha – 129.17%
- 024 Lake Geneva – 112.77%
- 048 Beloit – 133.33%
- 091 Oconomowoc – 102.78%
- 171 Union Grove – 100.00%
- 196 Delafield – 105.97%
- 293 Silverlake – 100.00%
- 294 Hartland – 107.14%
- 375 Mukwonago – 110.26%
- 494 Caledonia -100.00 %
- Twin Lakes – 100.00%
- Possible New Squadron(s): Elkhorn (045), Walworth (102), East Troy (188) Okauchee Lake (399)
- Hartland Sq. 294 Cmdr. Mark: Pape "Freez'n for-a-reason Event at Mid-Winter (Dist. 7) Sponsored by La Crosse (052)
- Menomonee Falls Sq. 382 Leadership change is ongoing. Membership recruitment continues for the next FY.
- District 1 (71 - Pewaukee, WI) Approved and submitted corrections and changes to the District 1 C&BL to the Detachment of Wisconsin. The changes to the C&BL were ratified by the Department of Wisconsin and forwarded for establishment into the First (1st) District as the newly Certified C&BL of the First District. The new District Officers were sworn in for 2024-2026.
 - Proposed resolution for continuing training at the District level. I suggested that it be written and submitted at the Spring DEC for consideration of adoption at the Convention. Unrecorded due to Lack of Motion.

Dist. 3: (106.65%)

- 059 Stoughton – 104.00%
- 084 Monroe – 105.56%
- 105 Schullsberg – 290.00%
- 220 Soldiers Grove – 154.55%
- 245 Cross Plains – 103.45%
- 313 Black Earth – 106.06%
- 385 Verona – 128.57%
- 433 Barneveld 106.67%
- 481 Madison – 102.45%



Vice Commanders Report

Districts - 1, 3, 4, 5

- 491 Cazenovia – 100.00%
- 501 Madison – 108.11%
- 534 McFarland – 116.00%
- 04/20/2024 Legion District 3 Spring Conference – Fennimore, WI
 - Possible New Squadron information 'kits' requested by Post 13 - Richland Center and Post 229 – Mount Hope. Each Post has a very active membership according to the Legion member contacts. I will follow up with the to keep the momentum of Squadron formation moving forward.

Dist. 4: (96.07%)

- 018 Milwaukee – 100%
- 027 South Milwaukee – 120.00%
- 120 West Allis – 105.13%
- 416 Greendale – 104.26%
- Shooting Sports shall be the District Commander's Project.
- Shooting Sports committee appointments will be from Squadrons 537, 416 and 434. Details to follow.

Dist. 5: (20.00%)

- **406:** Reinstated w/ two (2) members renewed online for FY 2023-2024
- **Contact:** Gary Saunders, 6610 McHenry Street, Burlington, WI 53105-8711
gsauncog@gmail.com (414) 531-0464

Membership average = 80.41%

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chris Dannenmann".

Chris Dannenmann, DVC
10 June 2024

2024 Detachment Convention Officer Report
Commander Watry
April-June 2024

Travel/Apearances:

- 13 Trips taken, just under 3700 miles traveled. A total of 27 appearances made over these trips
- Travels/Apearances Included
 - o Multiple Legion and Auxiliary Spring District Meetings
 - o Detachment and Department Spring DECs
 - o Joint Testimonial
 - o Memorial and Flag Day Events
 - o Badger Boys State
 - o NNOK Ride
 - o Stu's Cruise (13 appearances on this journey)

Natl Level Activities:

- Attended Natl Convention Zoom Meetings in May, will participate in final one in July
- Continue to be a Scribe/Adjutant for the Natl Convention Committee
- Attended the Central Region Quarterly Zoom Meeting

Local Level:

- Continue to serve as Adjutant for Squadron 38
- Continue to support Post activities/meetings.
- Continue to be a member of 9th District ALRA

Year in Review:

- Over 10,000 miles traveled in my personal vehicles
- This was over 49 different trips
- A total of 78 different appearances during those trips.
- Was able to participate in at least 1 event in every District over the 12 months.
- Looking forward, if re-elected, to continuing the journey we are on. Focus will continue to be on staying connected and engaged so we can provide the positive impact which our Communities, State, and Nation need.