

**Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Wisconsin
55th ANNUAL DETACHMENT CONVENTION
Saturday July 13, 2024**

Opening

Call to Order

Saturday July 13, 2024 Detachment Commander Allen Watry (038) reconvened the Detachment Convention being held in Appleton, WI at 9:00 am.

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)	Present
Detachment Sergeant-at-Arms	Ray Dzieciol	(534)	Excused
National Executive Committeeman	Christopher Sherman	(071)	Present
Alternate National Executive Committeeman	Patrick N. Gryskiewicz	(093)	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 Talford	(291)	Present

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

Past Detachment Commanders Present:

- David R. Faust (245)
- Patrick N. Gryskiewicz (093)
- Christopher Sherman (071)
- Robert Sirovina Jr. (434)

Past Detachment Commanders Excused:

- Gary F. Lubich (121)
- David Fuller (209)

Remarks by Department President Maggie Geiger

Remarks were given by Department President Maggie Geiger.

Roll Call of Squadrons and Delegate Counts

Based on none of the elected offices being contested Past Detachment Commander Robert Sirovina, Jr. (434) made a motion to dispense with reading delegate counts and explaining election procedures and just have a roll call of squadrons present. The motion was seconded and passed.

Roll Call of Squadrons by Detachment Adjutant David Faust (245).

The following Squadrons were present:

District	Squad. No.	City
1	021	Kenosha
1	071	Pewaukee
1	209	Orfordville
1	294	Hartland
1	375	Mukwonago
2	015	Juneau
2	036	West Bend
2	189	Watertown
2	243	Plymouth
2	288	Cedarburg
2	522	Hubertus
3	245	Cross Plains
3	481	Madison
3	501	Madison
4	416	Greendale
4	434	Oak Creek
4	537	Milwaukee
6	033	Neenah
6	070	Oshkosh
6	075	Fond du Lac
6	234	Omro
6	454	Mt. Calvary
7	052	La Crosse
7	100	Sparta
7	284	Holmen
9	038	Appleton

9	055	Hortonville
9	106	Seymour
9	258	Little Chute
10	291	Augusta
11	093	Tomahawk
12	108	Clear Lake
12	143	Saint Croix Falls

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

Detachment Commander Allen Watry (038) asked all Past Detachment Commanders to stand and be recognized.

Those that were listed as present during the roll call were recognized.

Detachment Commander Allen Watry (038) then asked all Past National Vice Commanders to stand and be recognized.

David Faust (245) and Patrick Gryskiewicz (093) were recognized.

Detachment Commander Allen Watry (038) then asked all Past National Commanders to stand and be recognized.

David Faust (245) was recognized.

Election Balloting

Past Detachment Commander Robert Sirovina, Jr. (434) made a motion to suspend the rules and instruct the Detachment Adjutant to declare all nominated Detachment Officers and National Convention Delegates as elected, followed by a resumption of the rules. The motion was seconded and passed.

Detachment Adjutant David Faust (245) then declared all nominated Detachment Officers and National Convention Delegates as elected.

Report from Districts on National Convention Delegates:

1st District: Mike Pook (375)

2nd District: Jeremy Mason (015)

3rd District: Seán Patchin, Sr. (501)

Remarks by National Commander of The American Legion (WI)

Remarks were given by National Commander of The American Legion (WI).

Convention Committee Reports and Awards

Americanism

Shawn McCrary (075)

Mission: to foster and perpetuate a true spirit of Americanism through the teaching and promotion of American values.

- \$8,045 value for Badger Boys/Girls State
- \$97,866 in value for Color Guards
- \$64,675 in value towards Scouting

- \$6,720 in value for Junior Shooters
- \$83,298 in value for Legion Baseball
- \$23,148 in value for sports teams
- 2,468 Flags Presented
- \$63,054 of value in Flag programs
- \$9,963 in value towards Blood Drives
- 18,249 Community Service Hours and \$35,118 in donations.
- Value of \$646,277 towards your communities

GRAND TOTAL AMERICANISM

- 54 of 61 Squadrons Reporting
- 35,323 Volunteer Hours and \$90,682 in donations
- \$1,273,663 in total value for Americanism programs

AWARDS:

RAYMOND FAUST PLAQUE for Best Blood Program

Honorable Mentions:

- Squadron 15 Juneau
- Squadron 38 Appleton
- Squadron 91 Oconomowoc
- Squadron 189 Watertown
- Squadron 522 Hubertus

2nd Place:

- Squadron 115 Elroy

1st Place:

- Squadron 243 Plymouth

MARY ANN NELSON PLAQUE Best Community Services Program

Honorable Mentions:

- Squadron 21 Kenosha
- Squadron 51 West Salem
- Squadron 375 Mukwonago
- Squadron 501 Madison

2nd Place:

- Squadron 189 Watertown

1st Place:

- Squadron 243 Plymouth

ROBERT WILCOX PLAQUE Best Americanism Program

Honorable Mentions:

- Squadron 38 Appleton
- Squadron 51 West Salem
- Squadron 375 Mukwonago
- Squadron 416 Greendale

2nd Place:

- Squadron 294 Hartland

1st Place:

- Squadron 243 Plymouth

Children and Youth

Robert Sirovina, Jr. (434)

Mission: to support programs and activities that are dedicated to the well-being of the children and youth of Wisconsin.

Squadrons contributed to:

- Child Welfare Foundation
- Special Olympics
- Ronald McDonald Houses
- Children's Organ Transplant Association
- Veteran's Children Foundation
- \$13,775 in donations to other Children & Youth programs and 1,330 Volunteer Hours

Operation A.L.F.

- Helping American Legion of North Dakota
- Helping American Legion Auxiliary of Colorado
- Deployments:
 - Milwaukee-128th Air Refueling Wing
 - Milwaukee-157th MEB & 357th Signal Co
 - Neenah-395th Ordnance Co
- Sent individual dogs on request to children of deploying service members
- Over 350 Operation A.L.F. dogs distributed
- Shipments:
 - Kathleen Murphy, Nassau County, NY, sent sample for possible county-wide project
- Donations
 - SAL Squadron 375, Mukwonago, \$1,000
 - ALA 2nd District WI, \$500
 - TAL Post 539, Green Bay, WI, \$300
- Misc. Operation A.L.F. Information
 - The Auxiliary is allowing us to use their discounted shipping program, big savings on our outbound shipping costs
 - Sent request to supplier for pricing & availability for next shipment

GRAND TOTAL CHILDREN & YOUTH

- 25 of 61 Squadrons Reporting
- 2,066 Volunteer Hours and \$19,392 in donations
- \$88,582 in total value for Children & Youth programs

AWARDS:

Squadrons with \$1.00 or more per capita:

- Squadron 243 Plymouth
- Squadron 294 Hartland

- Squadron 375 Mukwonago
- Squadron 434 Oak Creek
- Squadron 522 Hubertus
- Squadron 537 Milwaukee
- Squadron 547 Lublin

CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION Highest Per Capita Donations

2nd Place:

- Squadron 243 Plymouth

1st Place:

- Squadron 75 Fond du Lac

DALE E. DAILY PLAQUE Highest per Capita to Operation A.L.F.

Honorable Mentions:

- Unit 263 New London Auxiliary
- 2nd District American Legion Auxiliary
- American Legion Riders Districts 4 & 5
- 1st District Sons of The American Legion

1st Place:

- Squadron 375 Mukwonago

LILLIAN PRIEST PLAQUE Best Children and Youth Program

Honorable Mentions:

- Squadron 15 Juneau
- Squadron 294 Hartland
- Squadron 416 Greendale

2nd Place:

- Squadron 375 Mukwonago

1st Place:

- Squadron 243 Plymouth

Constitutional Amendments

Christopher Dannenmann (434)

Resolution DC-2024-01 Changes to Constitution and Bylaws 2024 was presented. Steven DuBois (143) made a motion to adopt the resolution and the ensuing changes to the Detachment Constitution and Bylaws. The motion was seconded and passed.

Finance

Tom Petrie (189)

Finance Chairman Petrie mentioned we have a balance of approximately \$7,000.00, but is expecting around \$2,000.00 yet for stipends and expenses related to this convention.

History Book

Mike Pook (375)

Detachment Formation

1962 Department formed a committee, Don Priest of Post 434 Oak Creek was named Chairman.

1968 First Detachment Convention was held. Nick Volenec of Squadron 245 Cross Plains was elected as first Detachment Commander.

Membership Milestones

1979 Surpassed 1,000 members
2000 Surpassed 2,000 members
2008 Surpassed 3,000 members 90 Squadrons
2022 Surpassed 4,000 members 110 Squadrons

Members serving Nationally

1974 John Webster (84) Assistant National Sergeant-at-Arms
1978 John Webster (84) National Sergeant-at-Arms
1979 John Webster (84) National Chaplain
1982 Dennis Stockfisch (406) National Vice Commander
1985 David Faust (245) National Vice Commander
1988 David Faust (245) National Commander
1993 Tom Knox (449) National Vice Commander
1993 Tom Glander (52) National Sergeant-at-Arms
2008 Michael Lawler (437) National Historian
2010 Pat Gryskiewicz (93) National Vice Commander
2015 Michael Lawler (437) National Chaplain
2016 Michael Lawler (437) National Vice Commander

AWARDS:

DILLMAN Plaque for the BEST SQUADRON HISTORY BOOK.

1st Place:

- Squadron 243 Plymouth

Legislative

Steven R. DuBois (143)

The American Legion Legislative Agenda for the 118th Congress

Mental Health & Suicide Prevention

- Suicide remains a top issue in the veteran community. The suicide rate among veterans is nearly double that of civilian counterparts.
- The Legion also established the “Be The One” program. We encourage all Americans to “Be the One” who is willing, ready, and able to have a difficult conversations about suicide and other mental health issues.
- It is imperative that we simultaneously destigmatize mental health assistance, while increasing access.
- The American Legion encourages Congress to robustly fund VA’s suicide prevention outreach budget and peer support programs.

Military Quality of Life

- Increase access to child care for military families
- Increase appropriations to address servicemember food insecurity
- Increase funding to renovate military housing

VA Healthcare Modernization

- Ensuring VA is equipped to meet the unique needs of a diverse veteran population.
- Requires that VA fully leverage all healthcare modalities.
- Ensure a seamless transition between them.

- Modernizing electronic health records.
- While the means by which care delivery may change, VA should continue to deliver the best care anywhere to our nation's veterans.

Alternative Treatments

- Data shows that recently nearly 3 million veterans experienced an illicit drug or alcohol use disorder, with more than 90% not receiving treatment.
- More must be done to ensure veterans have access to the effective treatments they desire.
- This includes expanding research and access into alternative treatments and emerging therapies. Legislation supported by The American Legion includes TBI and PTSD Treatment Act (H.R. 105).

PACT Act Implementation and Oversight

- Since the implementation of the Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act, VA has screened more than 5 million veterans for toxic exposure.
- The average time to complete a PACT Act-related claim is 157 days.
- It is imperative that VA fully leverage the resources made available in the PACT Act to assist in the continued modernization of technology systems hiring more people to ensure claims are adjudicated in a timely manner.
- The American Legion urges Congress to provide the necessary oversight and funding to ensure VA has the resources to properly implement this legislation.

Guard & Reserve GI Bill Parity

- National Guard and Reserve accrue GI Bill benefits when called to federal active duty.
- If activated under state orders, no benefits accrue.
- We believe every day in uniform counts and benefits should always accrue.

Safeguard Veterans Benefits

- Veterans are facing a growing threat from predatory actors aiming to exploit veterans by offering to help them obtain the benefits rightfully earned through military service.
- These predatory actors range from claims companies charging exorbitant fees to lawyers seeking sizable portions of VA disability benefit payments.
- The American Legion urges Congress to pass legislation to:
 - Restore criminal penalties for persons or companies that represent or charge veterans fees to file
 - Prepare or prosecute initial VA claims without VA accreditation
 - To oppose any legislation that would allow unaccredited parties to become legal representatives without completing the accreditation process.
- The American Legion's advocacy role remains focused on safeguarding the well-deserved benefits of those who have served.
- Legislation supported by The American Legion includes Veterans Benefits Improvement Act (H.R. 1530).

Concurrent Receipt

- More than 50,000 military retirees with combat-related injuries qualify for both DoD retirement pay and disability compensation from the VA.
- If disability rating less than 50%, retirement pay is reduced by VA compensation.
- Forces many retirees to forfeit retirement pay to get full VA compensation.
- We urge Congress to allow disabled veterans to concurrently receive retirement pay and disability compensation.

GI Bill for Honorable Service

- For most VA benefits, a veteran's character of discharge or service must be "under honorable conditions."
- However, education benefits require an "honorable discharge."
- We urge Congress to allow access to VA educational assistance to veterans with general under honorable conditions discharges

Improving the Military TAP

- The American Legion urges Congress to direct the modernization of Transition Assistance Program (TAP) delivery using technology and performance data to ensure the DOD delivers a successful program.
- The creation of a mobile application, providing servicemembers with an extensive toolkit of on-demand transition-related content would improve participation and increase the benefit of transition resources available.
- Delivering effective transition assistance will ensure a veteran's proper reintegration from active duty to civilian life and reduce negative experiences. Improved TAP instruction will support our servicemembers in finding education, employment, and entrepreneurship opportunities and send successful citizens back to our communities.

Pay the Coast Guard

- U.S. Coast Guard must work without pay during government shutdown.
- The only military branch to do so, because they are not DoD but Homeland Security.
- Congress needs to protect Coast Guard personnel same as other military branches.

Protect the American Flag

- Amend the U.S. Constitution to prohibit the physical desecration of the U.S. flag.
- Further, pass the Flag Code Modernization Act of 2021.

Legion.org/action

Membership

Christopher Sherman (071)

Membership status:

- We have 126 Squadrons in 123 Different Cities and Villages
- We are in 55 of 72 Counties, adding Manitowoc and Waushara Counties this year.
- We are in all 12 Districts
- We are at 4,694 Total Members for 106.7% of goal
- National Goal is 4,398
- New All Time High!

100 % Membership

- 91 Squadrons – that's 75% of Squadrons achieving 100%
- 43 Counties are at or above 100%
- 10 Districts as well

All Time High Membership

- 47 Squadrons – more than one-third have achieved this.

Renewals

- Renewal Rate 91.4%
- 84 Squadrons with 90+% Renewal Rate

Squadron Triple Nickel

Requires:

- 5 new members
- 85% or better renewals
- 105% or better total membership

- We had 30 Squadrons achieve this.

Central Region

- Wisconsin is in 1st place.

Central Region – Robert Bristo (MN)			
Detachment	Goal	Actual	Percent
WISCONSIN	4,398	4,694	106.73%
MICHIGAN	26,236	27,431	104.55%
WEST VIRGINIA	2,593	2,658	102.51%
OHIO	31,690	32,006	101.00%
ILLINOIS	13,716	13,826	100.80%
MINNESOTA	11,435	11,509	100.65%
INDIANA	37,244	37,163	99.78%
KENTUCKY	2,399	2,168	90.37%
Totals:	129,711	131,455	101.34%

Nationally

- The Central Region is in 4th place. Nationally, we have achieved a new all time high and are closing in on 400,000 members.

Nationally – Don “JR” Hall (MD)			
Region	Goal	Actual	Percent
SOUTHEAST	49,454	51,969	105.09%
WESTERN	34,454	35,929	104.28%
NORTHEAST	143,078	145,648	101.80%
CENTRAL	128,711	131,455	101.34%
MIDWEST	25,414	25,342	99.72%
Totals:	382,111	390,343	102.15%

ONLINE RENEWAL STATUS

- This is turned on for ALL squadrons.
- We must have current Squadron Info.
- Without it, only Detachment and National per capita portions will be collected. The squadron will be out any monies they collect above that.
- Of our 126 squadrons, only 57 have updated their info in the last 18 months.
- That leaves 69 with outdated info.
- We have 13 squadrons whose last update was over a decade ago.
- Without updated info, Department won’t know where to send the membership dues either.
- <https://wisal.org/squadron-info/>

JACK KEY PLAQUE First Squadron to reach 110%

Squadron 385 Verona – 7/18/2023. Currently at 128.6%

ARMIN TEWS PLAQUE GREATEST PERCENTAGE INCREASE

Honorable Mentions with 150+%

- Squadron 75 Fond du Lac
- Squadron 218 Hayward
- Squadron 220 Soldiers Grove
- Squadron 487 Cable
- Squadron 521 Fox Lake

2nd Place:

- Squadron 105 Shullsburg – 290 %

1st Place:

- Squadron 33 Neenah – 317 %

Squadron Membership Awards – 100% Squadrons

B = 100% by Legion Birthday (March 15-17); A = All Time High; 5 = Triple Nickel (5 New, 85% Renew, 105%)

Dist.	Squadron ^B (BD) ^A (ATH) ⁵ (555)		
1	21 Kenosha ^{B A 5}	3	59 Stoughton
1	24 Lake Geneva ^{B 5}	3	84 Monroe ^{B A}
1	48 Beloit ^B	3	105 Shullsburg ^{B A 5}
1	91 Oconomowoc ^{B A}	3	220 Soldiers Grove ^{B 5}
1	171 Union Grove	3	245 Cross Plains ^B
1	196 Delafield ^{B 5}	3	313 Black Earth ^{B A}
1	293 Silver Lake ^A	3	385 Verona ^{B A}
1	294 Hartland ^{A 5}	3	433 Barneveld ^B
1	375 Mukwonago ^{B A 5}	3	481 Madison ^B
1	494 Caledonia ^B	3	491 Cazenovia ^A
1	544 Twin Lakes	3	501 Madison ^{B 5}
			534 McFarland ^{B A 5}
2	1 Germantown ^{B 5}	4	18 Milwaukee
2	15 Juneau ^{B A}	4	27 South Milwaukee ^B
2	19 Hartford ^{B A}	4	120 West Allis ^{B A}
2	36 West Bend ^{B A 5}	4	416 Greendale ^A
2	67 Lake Mills		
2	145 Random Lake ^{B A}	6	33 Neenah ^{B A 5}
2	157 Horicon ^{B A}	6	70 Oshkosh
2	189 Watertown ^B	6	75 Fond du Lac ^{B 5}
2	215 Pardeeville ^{B A}	6	234 Omro ^B
2	243 Plymouth	6	306 Green Lake
2	261 Greenbush ^{B A}	6	454 Mt. Calvary ^{B A 5}
2	270 Theresa ^{B A}	6	477 St. Nazianz ^{B A}
2	271 Poynette		
2	288 Cedarburg ^{B 5}	7	51 West Salem ^{B A 5}
2	305 Johnson Creek ^B	7	65 Rome ^B
2	347 Lomira	7	73 Neillsville
2	355 Grafton ^B	7	100 Sparta ^B
2	387 Franklin ^B	7	115 Elroy
2	521 Fox Lake ^{B A 5}	7	116 Coon Valley ^{B A}
2	522 Hubertus ^{B A 5}	7	118 Thorp ^A
		7	172 North Freedom ^B
		7	284 Holmen

8	10 Wausau ^B	10	291 Augusta ^{B A}
8	54 Marshfield ^{B A 5}	10	324 Osseo ^B
8	339 Almond ^B	10	432 Hammond ^{B A}
8	391 Fremont ^{B A 5}	10	550 Brackett ^{B A 5}
9	11 Green Bay ^B	11	90 Ashland ^{B A}
9	38 Appleton ^{B A 5}	11	431 Three Lakes ^{B A}
9	44 Wabeno	11	480 Presque Isle ^B
9	55 Hortonville ^{B A 5}	11	547 Lublin ^{B A 5}
9	60 Kimberly ^{B A}		
9	106 Seymour ^{B A}	12	12 Spooner ^{B A 5}
9	258 Little Chute ^{B A 5}	12	108 Clear Lake ^B
		12	143 Saint Croix Falls ^{B 5}
10	61 Prescott ^{B A}	12	218 Hayward ^{B A}
10	80 New Richmond ^{B A 5}	12	221 Osceola ^A
10	98 Cumberland ^{B A 5}	12	269 Cushing ^{B A}
10	168 Glenwood City ^B	12	487 Cable ^B
10	240 Baldwin ^{B A}		

Membership Superfecta

100% by Legion Birthday, All-time High, Triple Nickel

Dist.	Squadron		
1	21 Kenosha	8	54 Marshfield
1	375 Mukwonago	8	391 Fremont
2	36 West Bend	9	38 Appleton
2	521 Fox Lake	9	55 Hortonville
2	522 Hubertus	9	258 Little Chute
3	105 Shullsburg	10	80 New Richmond
3	534 McFarland	10	98 Cumberland
6	33 Neenah	10	550 Brackett
6	454 Mt. Calvary	11	547 Lublin
7	51 West Salem	12	12 Spooner

The following Districts Achieved Triple Nickel status:

Averaged 5 new members per squadron

District achieved 85% or more renewals

District achieved 105% or greater of goal

- District 2 – 116 New, 96.7% Renewal, 114.2% Membership
- District 3 – 83 New, 95.8% Renewal, 106.7% Membership
- District 6 – 67 New, 88.7% Renewal, 121.7% Membership
- District 8 – 53 New, 91.2% Renewal, 118.6% Membership
- District 11 – 25 New, 100.9% Renewal, 122.8% Membership
- District 12 – 85 New, 90.0% Renewal, 155.4% Membership

The following Detachment Vice Commanders Achieved Triple Nickel status:

Averaged 5 new members per squadron

Achieved 85% or more renewals
Achieved 105% or greater of goal

- Jeremy Mason – Districts 2, 6, 9. 218 New, 94.8% Renewal, 112.7% Membership
- Steven R. DuBois – Districts 10, 11, 12. 146 New, 93.06% Renewal, 116.1% Membership
- Rich Ruland – Districts 7, 8. 100 New, 89.7% Renewal, 105.8% Membership

Membership Top Recruiter

JOHN E. WEBSTER MEMBERSHIP SERVICE AWARD

For the member who obtains the most new or re-instated members over the last year as of May 31.

- George G. Schroeder of Hawley-Dieckhoff Squadron 33 Neenah
For recruiting 18 new members and reinstating 2 previous members.

National Security

John Hoeft II (234)

Mission: to manage program areas such as Civil Defense & Emergency Preparedness, Family Support Network, Foreign Relations, Operation Comfort Warriors, POW/MIA advocacy, Temporary Financial Assistance, and Troop Support.

- Operation Comfort Warriors
- POW/MIA Advocacy
- Troop Support
- Notification of local Post
- Civil Defense and Emergency Preparedness
- Foreign Relations
- Temporary Financial Assistance
- Resources at www.legion.org

There was no significant reporting amongst National Security items in the consolidated reports.

NATIONAL EMERGENCY FUND

Squadrons with \$1.00 or more per capita:

- Squadron 192 Franklin
- Squadron 209 Orfordville
- Squadron 243 Plymouth
- Squadron 434 Oak Creek

National Emergency Fund Highest Per Capita Contributions

2nd Place:

- Squadron 434 Oak Creek

1st Place:

- Squadron 192 Franklin

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation and Veterans Employment & Education

William Olcott (258)

Mission: to honor the service of those who have gone before us by supporting programs for veterans in Wisconsin.

Squadrons contribute to:

- VAVS Representatives and Deputies at Hospitals
- VA Hospital visits
- State Veteran's Facilities visits
- \$15,568 to Troop and Family Support
- 2,442 hours and \$109,425 for Homeless Veterans
- 2,952 hours and \$29,721 in other VA&R projects

GRAND TOTAL VA & R and VE & E

- 24 of 61 Squadrons Reporting
- 6,729 Volunteer Hours and \$186,603 in donations.
- \$369,643 in total value to Veterans programs

AWARDS:

THOMAS A. KNOX PLAQUE Best VA & R Program

Honorable Mentions:

- Squadron 375 Mukwonago
- Squadron 416 Greendale
- Squadron 537 Milwaukee

2nd Place:

- Squadron 243 Plymouth

1st Place:

- Squadron 294 Hartland

Detachment Commander's Project

Detachment Commander Allen Watry (038)

Troop and Family Support

This year's Detachment Commander's Project was to raise awareness and funds for Troop & Family Support.

- 10 Squadrons reported activities
- 732 Hours and \$15,568 in donations
- Total value of \$40,082 in support of our Troops and Families

TROOP and FAMILY SUPPORT Highest Per Capita Donations

Honorable Mentions:

- Squadron 218 Hayward
- Squadron 234 Omro
- Squadron 243 Plymouth
- Squadron 534 McFarland

2nd Place:

- Squadron 288 Cedarburg

1st Place:

- Squadron 294 Hartland

Overall Program

Detachment Commander Allen Watry (038)

We had:

- Other Volunteer hours of 28,442
- Other Donations for \$53,119
- 61 Squadrons Reporting

GRAND TOTAL OVERALL

- 72,611 Volunteer Hours and \$405,386 in donations

TOTAL ECONOMIC IMPACT:

\$2,764,531

DON PRIEST PLAQUE Best Overall Programs and Activities

Honorable Mentions:

- Squadron 38 Appleton
- Squadron 51 West Salem
- Squadron 243 Plymouth
- Squadron 375 Mukwonago
- Squadron 522 Hubertus

2nd Place:

- Squadron 294 Hartland

1st Place:

- Squadron 416 Greendale

Roll Call of Squadron Everlasting

Squadron 10 Wausau	John J Steele
Squadron 15 Juneau	Jeffrey Niehoff
Squadron 33 Neenah	Michael J Dart
Squadron 38 Appleton	Dennis C Graf
Squadron 38 Appleton	James W Powell
Squadron 51 West Salem	Michael E Lyga
Squadron 52 La Crosse	Charles J Forer
Squadron 52 La Crosse	Mark T Lesko
Squadron 59 Stoughton	Michael F Lundy
Squadron 59 Stoughton	Alan N Metzler
Squadron 60 Kimberly	Michael G. Muthig
Squadron 65 Rome	Richard R Breyman
Squadron 105 Shullsburg	Donald E Macnaughton
Squadron 118 Thorp	Raymond M Teclaw
Squadron 121 River Falls	Jeffery S Schoeder
Squadron 143 Saint Croix Falls	William L Tretsven
Squadron 189 Watertown	Steven J Sukow
Squadron 189 Watertown	James R Thrans
Squadron 189 Watertown	Steve Wollin
Squadron 220 Soldiers Grove	Roy G Meyer
Squadron 245 Cross Plains	Robert A Dresen
Squadron 245 Cross Plains	James Eller
Squadron 245 Cross Plains	Michael Greaney
Squadron 245 Cross Plains	Roger Hillebrand

Squadron 245 Cross Plains	Michael M Obrien
Squadron 245 Cross Plains	James R Tetzlaff
Squadron 270 Theresa	Michael K Jatezak
Squadron 270 Theresa	Keith J Polster
Squadron 284 Holmen	Michael A McHugh
Squadron 288 Cedarburg	Henry J Brissman
Squadron 288 Cedarburg	George F Collins
Squadron 305 Johnson Creek	Cliff L Kaiser
Squadron 326 Boyd	John R Shakal
Squadron 336 Onalaska	Bruce B Smith
Squadron 355 Grafton	Tom D Rieck
Squadron 405 Dousman	Victor A Wasemiller
Squadron 416 Greendale	David G Bauer
Squadron 434 Oak Creek	Gary Masnak
Squadron 481 Madison	Ronald J Ruland
Squadron 487 Cable	Jeffrey Feckner
Squadron 522 Hubertus	Gary Pollpeter
Squadron 537 Milwaukee	Ralph J Kuba
Squadron 538 Carlton	James E Cherveney
Squadron 547 Lublin	William J Dehn
Squadron 550 Brackett	Richard A Henning
Squadron 550 Brackett	Randy J Lahr

Remarks by National Vice Commander Terry Harris (KS)

Remarks were given by National Vice Commander Terry Harris (KS)

Remarks by Leading Candidate for National Commander Joseph Navarrete (NM)

Remarks were given by Leading Candidate for National Commander Joseph Navarrete (NM)

Resolutions, Motions and Petitions

No new resolutions to report.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

None

Recess

At 12:04 pm with a salute to the colors, Detachment Commander Allen Watry (038) declared 2024 Detachment Convention recessed at 12:04 pm with a call to reconvene on July 13, 2024 at 1:00 pm.

Reconvene

Saturday July 13, 2024 Detachment Commander Allen Watry (038) reconvened the Detachment Convention being held in Appleton, WI at 1:00 pm.

Installation of Detachment Officers and District Commanders

The installation of the 2024-2025 Detachment Officers and District Commanders was performed by National Vice Commander Terry Harris (KS).

Remarks by Detachment Commander Allen Watry

Detachment Commander Watry outlined our goals for 2024-2025. He stated that these goals are going to require all of us to work together to achieve them.

Work with The American Legion, The American Legion Auxiliary, and The American Legion Riders on program and projects to benefit:

- Our veterans
- Active duty military
- Their families and communities

Raise funds for our charitable projects:

- \$1.00 per member for The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation (CWF)
- \$1.00 per member for the Commander's Project for Troop and Family Support

Membership:

- 105% Membership total.
- 5,000 Members.
- Retain 90% or more of our current members.
- Charter or reactivate 5 squadrons

Consolidated Reports:

Have all squadrons submit a consolidated report.

Commander Watry has every confidence in us to do this!

For the Good of Sons of the American Legion

The Basket Raffle raised \$1,222.00 for Operation A.L.F.

Outgoing Officers Awards

Detachment Commander Allen Watry (038) presented ribbons and year bars to the outgoing Detachment Officers, along with replica models of the Legion Be the One Indy Car.

Closing Ceremony

Benediction

Retirement of the POW/MIA Chair Cover

Commanders Charge

Retirement of the Colors

Adjournment

With no other business, Detachment Commander Detachment Commander Allen Watry (038) declared the 2024 Detachment Convention adjourned at 1:49 pm.

Detachment Assistant Adjutant
Christopher Sherman (071)

Resolution Form

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION, DETACHMENT OF WISCONSIN

Detachment Executive Committee Meeting
(or) **Detachment Convention Assembled**

Date: July 13, 2024
Resolution No: DC-24-01

Originates from: Internal Affairs Commission of the Detachment Executive Committee

Title: Changes to Constitution and Bylaws 2024

Whereas: as with any organization, Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Wisconsin finds from time to time it needs to make changes to our Constitution and By-Laws; and

Whereas: these changes are made to conform with changes made to the National Constitution and Bylaws adopted in October 2022; and

Whereas: other changes are needed to provide clarity and update with current practices; NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

Resolved: by the Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Wisconsin assembled in convention on the 13th day of July, 2024 in the city of Appleton, Wisconsin, that our Constitution and By-Laws with an amended date of October 17, 2019 be amended as follows:

Constitution Article IV – Eligibility, Section 1 which currently reads:

Section 1. 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, and December 7, 1941, to date, 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.

Be modified to read:

Section 1. All male descendants adopted sons, and stepsons of members of The American Legion, and such male descendants of veterans who died in service during the period of April 6, 1917, through November 11, 1918, or any time from December 7, 1941, to date, who served honorably, as set forth in Article IV 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.

and; BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT

Constitution Article IV Eligibility – Sections 3 and 4 which read as follows are deleted since they are redundant with other parts of the Constitution:

Section 3. There shall be no age barrier for membership in the Sons of The American Legion. Male descendants can be a member from birth to death.

Section 4. If there are some that are eligible to belong to the Sons of The American Legion, but their home post does not sponsor a Squadron, it will be permissible for these Sons to join the Squadron of another post, until such time as their home post forms a Squadron. They may then transfer to said Squadron, but cannot be forced to make such transfer.

and; BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT

Constitution Article V. Administrative Body be renamed to Article V. Legislative Body and that all references throughout be updated accordingly; and that Section 9 have the word “Newly” inserted so that it reads:

Section 9. In addition to provisions of this Constitution and By-Laws and Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised, the Executive Committee of the Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Wisconsin shall establish Executive Committee Rules to further govern the conducts of its business.

and; BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT

Constitution Article VI. Elections, Section 7. a) remove the reference of the National Executive Committeeman as being an automatic delegate for the Detachment since his is now an automatic delegate as outlined in the National Constitution, so that it reads as follows:

Section 7. National Convention of the Sons of The American Legion Delegates.
a) The current Detachment Commander, the immediate past Detachment Commander, **and** the Detachment Adjutant, ~~and the currently serving Sons of The American Legion National Executive Committeeman~~ shall be automatic delegates to the National Convention of the Sons of The American Legion. All ~~current~~ **members of the** Sons of The American Legion National **Executive Committee** Officers and all Past Sons of The American Legion National Commanders are delegates at large with the Detachment to the Sons of The American Legion National Convention.

and; BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT

Article VII. Finances, Section 6 insert the word “Commission” so that it reads:

Section 6. The Department Adjutant shall provide a financial statement of the Sons of The American Legion general fund activity, from Department Headquarters to the Detachment Adjutant and Detachment Finance **Commission** Chairman, prior to the Detachment Convention, the Spring, Fall and Winter Detachment Executive Committee meetings of the Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Wisconsin for review, and at any other time as circumstances may warrant as determined by the Department Adjutant.

and; BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT

Bylaws Article V. Arrears in Dues, Section 1 change the reference from June thirtieth to June first to conform with the National Bylaws so that it reads:

Section 1. A member, whose dues for the current year have not been paid by January first, shall be classed as delinquent. If his dues are paid on or before February first, he shall be automatically reinstated. If he is still delinquent after February first, he shall be suspended from all privileges. If he is still under such suspension on June ~~thirtieth~~ **first** first of such year, his membership in the Sons of The American Legion shall be forfeited. A member so suspended or whose membership has been so forfeited may be reinstated to active membership in good standing by a vote of the Squadron and payment of current dues for the year in which reinstatement occurs. Provided, however, that the Squadron, Detachment and National organization may waive the provisions hereof, upon payment of dues for the year in which reinstatement occurs, with reference to former members who have been prevented from the payment of dues by reason of active military service.

and; BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT

Bylaws Article VIII. Finances. Section 3. Remove the two-thirds reference so that it reads:

Section 3. The revenue of the Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Wisconsin shall be derived from annual membership dues in a per capita amount established by the annual Detachment Convention delegates, and from such other sources as may be approved by the Executive Committee of the Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Wisconsin, The American Legion, Department of Wisconsin Fundraising, Finance, and Executive Committees. Modification to the Detachment per capita dues for members shall require a ~~two-thirds~~ vote in the affirmative by the annual Detachment Convention delegates. Dues shall be payable in amounts as provided in the Standing Rules.

and; BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT

In the Bylaws, create a new Article IX. Discipline and renumber the following articles accordingly. The new Article IX Discipline shall have three sections as follows:

Section 1. The Executive Committee of the Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Wisconsin may suspend, cancel, or revoke the charter of any Squadron in the Sons of The American Legion, in the event it violates the provisions of this Constitution, subject however to the approval of the Executive Committee of The American Legion, Department of Wisconsin.

Section 2. Upon the cancellation or revocation of the Charter of any Squadron, the property and assets belonging to said Squadron, shall there upon, become the property of the Post of The American Legion to which such Squadron is attached.

Section 3. All disciplinary decisions made by a Squadron Executive Committee shall be reviewed by the sponsoring Post Executive Committee; all disciplinary decisions made by an S.A.L. District Executive Committee shall be reviewed by the corresponding District Executive Committee of The American Legion; and all disciplinary decisions made by the Detachment Executive Committee shall be reviewed by the Department Executive Committee of the Wisconsin American Legion; to be confirmed and approved.

and; BE IT FINALLY

Resolved: that this resolution be forwarded to the Executive Committee of The American Legion, Department of Wisconsin for their review.