

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

Midwinter Detachment Executive Committee Minutes January 20, 2024

## Opening

### Call to Order

Saturday January 20, 2024 Detachment Commander Allen Watry (038) called to order the Detachment Executive Committee meeting being held in La Crosse, WI at 3:04 pm.

### Posting of the Colors

### Invocation By NECMan Christopher Sherman (71)

### 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). Commander Watry especially welcomed first time attendees.

## 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)	Excused
Detachment Sergeant-at-Arms	Rick Helms	(070)	Present
Detachment Sergeant-at-Arms	Ray Dzieciol	(534)	Absent
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)	Excused
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)	Absent
4th District Commander	Richard Wojciechowski	(537)	Present
6th District Commander	John Hoeft II	(234)	Excused
10th District Commander	Gary F. Lubich	(121)	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)	Excused

## Introduction of Guests

The following guests were introduced:

Commander Watry introduced Guests Bob Shappell, American Legion National Executive Committee for Wisconsin who then introduced Dan Wiley, National Executive Committee from Kansas. Dan is a Candidate for National Commander. He is also a member of Squadron 36 in Kansas.

Guest - State American Legion Rider Director Corey Doehrmann and Assistant Director Brad Heller. Districts are involved in planning events. If you have things being planned, let the Riders know so they can assist. Spoke of requirements to be a Rider. Wisconsin Riders are structured under Districts, rather than County. June 28-30 will be the State Run. Encourage squadrons to participate at the posts in your area. Fall ride to Camp is set for September 12-15. Brad Heller – welcome to LaCrosse!

Commander Watry welcomed Department Commander Karl Stuvengen. 45 years as an SAL member!

## Reading of the Previous Minutes

Motion by Chris Sherman to accept the minutes as published. 2<sup>nd</sup> By Pat Gryskiewicz. Approved

## Official Correspondence

Detachment Adjutant David R. Faust (245):  
None presented.

## Detachment Officer Reports

**Detachment Vice Commander** – Steven R. DuBois (143) Districts (10, 11, 12) along with District Commanders.  
See attached report.  
Without objection the report was received and filed.

**Detachment Vice Commander** – Christopher Dannemann (434) Districts (1, 3, 4, 5) along with District Commanders.  
See attached report.  
4<sup>th</sup> District Commander Wojciechowski (537) gave his report.  
1<sup>st</sup> District Commander Timms (375) gave his report.  
Without objection the reports were received and filed.

**Detachment Vice Commander** – Jeremy Mason (015) Districts (2, 6, 9) along with District Commanders.  
See attached report.  
2<sup>nd</sup> District Commander Hodgson (522) gave his report.  
Without objection the reports were received and filed.

**Detachment Vice Commander** – Rich Ruland (481) Districts (7, 8) along with District Commanders.  
See attached report.  
Without objection the report was received and filed.

**Detachment Chaplain** – John L'Huillier (434)  
No report provided.

**Detachment Historian – Mike Pook (375)**

See attached report.

Mike Pook (375) reported the Detachment won 2<sup>nd</sup> place at National Convention and squadron 375 won first place for the yearbook. Looking forward to creating a new book for next national.

Without objection the report was received and filed.

**National Executive Committeeman – Christopher Sherman (071)**

See attached report.

National Commander Challenge - \$1.00 per member for each of these programs: for Children & Youth, Operation Comfort Warriors, American Legion Boys State program and sponsor a blood drive.

Without objection the report was received and filed.

**Alternate National Executive Committeeman – Patrick N. Gyskiewicz (093)**

See attached report.

Basket Raffle this weekend. Raised \$1,465.00. Proceeds will go to the Troop & Family Support Fund.

Without objection the report was received and filed.

**Department S.A.L. Chairman – Michael A. Hellquist (021)**

No report provided

**Detachment Commander – Allen Watry (038)**

Detachment Commander Allen Watry (038) turned the gavel over to Detachment Vice Commander Christopher Dannenmann (434) for the purposes of receiving the Detachment Commander's Report.

Detachment Vice Commander Christopher Dannenmann (434) then called on Detachment Commander Allen Watry (038) for the Detachment Commander's Report.

Detachment Commander Allen Watry (038) gave his report, which is also attached.

National Executive Committeeman Chris Sherman (071) made a motion to approve the Detachment Commander's reports as given and submitted. The motion was seconded by Detachment Sergeant-at-Arms Rick Helms (70) and passed.

Detachment Vice Commander Christopher Dannenmann (434) then returned the gavel to Detachment Commander Allen Watry (038)

Assistant Detachment Adjutant Randy Timms (375) provided a brief report on yesterday's activities.

**Committee and Commission Reports**

Assistant Detachment Adjutant Randy Timms (375) provided a brief report on yesterday's activities.

**Programs Committee – Gary F. Lubich (121)**

**Americanism – Mark Pape (294)**

See attached

**Children & Youth – Robert Sirovina, Jr. (434)**

See attached

**National Security** – John Hoeft II (234)  
See attached

**Veteran’s Affairs & Rehabilitation** – William R. Olcott (258)  
See attached

Without objection the reports were received and filed minus any resolutions.

**Finance Commission** – Tom Petrie (189)  
See attached report.

Tom Petrie (189) presented the budget.

Motion to accept the proposed budget and submit to Department Legion was made by Detachment Sergeant-at-Arms Rick Helms (70) and seconded by National Executive Committeeman Chris Sherman (71) and passed.

Without objection the rest of the report was received and filed.

**Internal Affairs Commission** – Jeremy Mason (015)

**Legislative** – Steven R. DuBois (143)  
See attached report.

**Membership** – David Fuller (209)  
See attached report.

**Officer Development & Policy** – Christopher Sherman (071)  
See attached report.

**Public Relations** – Ray Dzieciol (534)  
See attached report.

**Convention Credentials, Resolutions, and Rules** – Jeremy Mason (015)  
See attached report.

Without objection the reports were received and filed minus any resolutions.

**Detachment Subcommittee on Resolutions** – Detachment Subcommittee on Resolutions Chairman Christopher Dannenmann (434) gave his report.

Chris Dannenmann – two resolutions were discussed yesterday at length. One is changing language in the Constitution and ByLaws to align with National, and the other is concerning 100% membership pins. The resolutions are attached.

Motion to accept as submitted, resolution #1 to submit the Constitution and ByLaws changes to State Convention was made by Detachment Vice Commander Steven DuBois (143) and seconded by National Executive Committeeman Chris Sherman (71) and passed.

Then motion by Detachment Vice Commander Steven DuBois (143) to forward resolution #2 concerning 100% membership pin and seconded by Detachment Historian Mike Pook (375). Motion approved.

## **Unfinished Business**

None brought forward.

## **Appointments**

Detachment Commander Allen Watry (038) made the following appointments:

- Request to appoint Robert Sirovina (434) to the Washington Conference as our representative. Motion by National Executive Committeeman Chris Sherman (71) and seconded by Detachment Vice Commander Rich Ruland (481) Approved.

## **New Business**

None presented.

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

District 1 presented a check for \$140.00 for the ALF dog fund.

There was one unclaimed item from the basket raffle. Motion by National Executive Committeeman Chris Sherman (71) and seconded by Detachment Sergeant-at-Arms Rick Helms (70) to give the Aaron Rodgers picture to Hartland for the Operation Support Homeless Veterans Sleepout basket raffles. Approved.

Hartland squadron has been doing the Operation Support Homeless Veterans Sleepout event for 4 years and have raised a total \$195,000.00. Their 5<sup>th</sup> year will be on February 9-10 of this year will once again sponsor the event.

## **Closing**

**Benediction** – By National Executive Committeeman Chris Sherman (71).

**Retirement of the POW/MIA Chair Cover** By Detachment Sergeant-at-Arms Rick Helms (70)

**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 5:00 pm.

Detachment Assistant Adjutant  
Randy Timms (375)



## Vice Commanders Report

Districts - 1, 3, 4, 5

Name: Christopher Dannenmann

Date: 16 October 2023 – 16 January 2024

### 95% Goal - Membership Report Date: 01/13/24

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.	1,602
Number of “Goose Egg” Squadrons in your area	1
Number of Squadrons at current goal (95%)	14
Number of Squadrons at 100% or more	13
Number of Squadrons at Final goal	13
Number of new Squadrons as of last D.E.C.	0
Contacts made to your Squadrons since last D.E.C.	38

### 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	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>	Ongoing
Okauchee Lake (399) Formation meeting	10/26/2023
Post 434 Unserviceable Flag Ceremony	11/05/2023
Wreaths Across America Placement, Wood National Cemetery	12/16/2023
Wreaths Across America Removal, Wood National Cemetery	01/12/2024

### Notes:

#### Badger Youth Camp, July 2024, Wautoma, WI

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.

#### Lions Clubs International, Leader Dog for the Blind ([leaderdog.org](http://leaderdog.org))

We, the Oak Creek Lions Club and I, have been working with Blue Brigade Jacket Recipient and Past 4<sup>th</sup> 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 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 Midwinter Conference.

#### 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 1<sup>st</sup> Dist. Commander Randy Timms and I are wearing examples of this embroidery. This is for embroidery only. Cost = \$22 per garment, paid in advance.



## Vice Commanders Report

Districts - 1, 3, 4, 5

### Dist. 1: (81.56%)

- 021 Kenosha – 129.17%
- 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 in progress
- 10/26/2023 Informational meeting w/ Post 399 Commander re: New Squadron Formation in FY 2024

### Dist. 3: (98.57%)

- 10/16/2023 Fall (Video/Google/Zoom) Conference
- 084 Monroe – 105.56%
- 105 Schullsberg – 250.00%
- 245 Cross Plains – 103.45%
- 313 Black Earth – 106.06%
- 385 Verona – 121.43%
- 481 Madison – 102.45%
- 501 Madison – 105.41%
- 534 McFarland – 100.00%

### Dist. 4: (69.29%)

- Shooting Sports will be the District Commander’s Project.
- Shooting Sports committee appointment will be from Squadrons 537, 416 and 434. Details to follow.
- District 4 Spring Conference date TBD.
- 10/15/2025 Entered Post/Squadron 537 Chili Cook Off (lot of Chili left over, didn’t win, but ‘they’ ate all of mine).
- 10/27/2023 Squadron 434 Gun Raffle
- 10/29/2024 Chili Cook-Off @ Oak Creek Community Center (lot of Chili left over, didn’t win, but ‘they’ ate all of mine).

### 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](mailto:gsauncog@gmail.com) (414) 531-0464

### Membership average = 67.35%

09/10/2023 Submitted: SAL Resolution \_\_\_\_ - Fall NEC 2023

Title: Endorsement of Christopher Sherman (WI) for National Vice Commander

Origin: Detachment of Wisconsin

09/10/2023 Submitted: SAL Resolution \_\_\_\_ - Fall NEC 2023

Title: Endorsement of Allen Watry (WI) for National Vice Commander

Origin: Detachment of Wisconsin



## Vice Commanders Report

Districts - 1, 3, 4, 5

11/11/2023 Veterans Day Celebrations: 434, 516, 437

11/12/2023 Shared Condolences with PDC Ted DeMicchi for the Loss of his wife Susan.

11/14/2023 Visitation: Legion Vice Commander Jim Johnson's mother Ruth.

11/25/2023 Shared Condolences with TAL DVC Jim Johnson for the loss of his Brother.

11/28/2023 WALCAA CBL Zoom meeting

12/16/2023 Wreaths Across America @ Wood National Cemetery

12/19/2023 Post 434 Auxiliary Meeting

12/2023 – 01/2024 Various C&BL and Resolution(s)

01/12/2024 Wreaths Across America clean-up @ Wood National Cemetery

Respectfully Submitted,

Chris Dannenmann, DVC

16 January 2024





Vice Commander Mason’s Report

Good Progress on Membership for District 2, 6, 9 at 83.22% behind our goal of 95% by Jan 1st

This year has been filled with communication to the American legion family and supporting our initiative to drive squadron growth:

Date	Item/Event
9-Sep	Honor Flight - Milwaukee
12-Sep	Detachment Teleconference
14-Sep	American Legion Meeting Post 15
17-Sep	Strategy Meeting With Cmdr Watry
18-Sep	Meeting with 2nd district American Legion Commander
18-Sep	Meeting with 6th district American Legion Commander
18-Sep	Meeting with 9nd district American Legion Commander
30-Sep	American Legion Family funeral
10-Oct	Detachment Teleconference
12-Oct	American Legion Post 15
21-Oct	Fall DEC
28-Oct	District 2 Fall Conference
29-Oct	District 6 Fall Conference
1-Nov	American Legion Post 15 Spaghetti Supper
9-Nov	American Legion Meeting Post 15
14-Nov	Detachment Teleconference
04-Dec	District 6 SAL meeting
11-Jan	American Legion Meeting Post 15

Every time I could share our Impact by the numbers it sparked after meeting conversations as they want to get involved and support our program. This could not be done without the dedication of our entire team a big thank you to all of us for embracing the vision of one American legion family and continuing this trend. Additionally, I have volunteered to participate in any freezing for a reason fundraising event to continue to raise awareness for veterans in distress.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeremy L Mason, DVC



## Vice Commander Ruland's Report

I have the 7th and the 8th Districts.

There are some goose eggs that I need to find out what is going on.

Unfortunately, I have not travelled so far this year due to some medical issues and that my brother passed away. He was an S.A.L Member. I plan on checking on the Squadrons that have the goose eggs hoping to get some answers.

Rich Ruland, DVC



## 10<sup>th</sup> District Commander Lubich's Report

11-5 breakfast with the vets

11-25 breakfast with Santa

Six Squadrons at 100% or over

Three Squadron at 90% or over

Four Squadron at 80 % or over

One Squadron over 70%

Attended Legion and S A L meetings, handed out certificates to the Squadrons received from last year's state convention

On January 8 I found out that I was nominated for citizen of the year for River Falls

Gary Lubich, 10<sup>th</sup> District Commander

## SAL Chaplain's Report – January 19, 2024

- Sent cards and correspondence to Legion family members.
- Attended Legion family funerals and memorials.
- Participated in community and Legion family events and contributed as a volunteer.

Wisconsin SAL Detachment Chaplain  
John L'Huillier Jr.

**Mid-Winter Officer Report**  
**Commander Watry**  
**Oct -Dec 2023**

Travel/Appearances:

- 17 Events Attended
- Included Natl, Detachment, District and Squadron Level Activities
- 1585 Miles traveled (not including travels to NEC)
- Travels included NEC, DEC, and 6 different Districts

Natl Level Activities:

- Attended Fall NEC in Indianapolis, IN
  - o Natl Convention Committee member and Adjutant
  - o NEC Meetings as a observer
- Participated in National Convention Committee Zoom Meetings in November

State Level:

- Led Detachment Fall DEC
- Attended an Auxiliary Dinner honoring Auxiliary Vice President Carol T. Robinson
- Coordination and ongoing interactions with Department Headquarters
- Continue to provide Detachment email summaries of correspondences and activities from the National Level
- Continue to participate in monthly Wi Legion Family Leadership Zoom Meetings
- Continue to lead Detachment Monthly Zoom Meetings
- Published Fall Detachment NewsLetter

District Level:

- Attended Legion 6<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 11<sup>th</sup> Fall Meetings
- Attended SAL 6<sup>th</sup> District Meeting

Local Level:

- Participated in several Veteran Day Ceremonies include Little Chute and Saukville
- Attended (2) Legion Family Funerals
- Walked in (2) Christmas Parades
- Participated in King Wreaths Across America, presented the Memorial Wreath for the Coast Guard at the Ceremony (stepped up as a fill-in for a no-show).
- Helped Squadron 75 with presentation of donations to King Veterans Home (after Wreaths Across America).
- Continue to be the Squadron 38 Appleton Adjutant and support several local activities

# Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Wisconsin 2024 Midwinter DEC Meeting

## Programs Committee

Gary Lubich.

### AMERICANISM

Mark Pape (294)

Hartland getting Feb 9/10. \$195,000 raised over 5 years. Homeless Veterans coming up. 5th annual mtg. Several other posts/squadrons will be conducting a Freezin for a Reason event.

October 9th, Oshkosh – Viet Nam replicate wall. Sunny View Expo Center off Hy 41

Tom Petrie has flags flown over the capital. They give flags to locations that have torn flags.

Oak Creek – Unserviceable flag ceremony. Flag code and constitution given to all that attend. Young Marines and Boy Scouts are involved. Police depart and city staff as well. Mayor gives a proclamation. Fire Dept attends.

Fund raiser begun to retire and replace flags flying in Mt Calvary.

Feb 2 blood drive at post WOJO – Post 537

Hartland – Pancakes with Santa – very successful.

### CHILDREN & YOUTH

Children and Youth Chair Bob Sirovina Jr. (434) reviewed his submitted report.

Operation A.L.F.

- Shipments:
  - Bea Roeschadl, ALA Unit 67, Lake Mills, WI, 7 A.L.F. for kids of deployed parents
  - Ken Taylor, SAL Squadron 209, Colorado Springs, CO, 1 case \$300
  - Janet Boss, ALA Unit 218, Hayward, WI, 1 case \$300
  - Russ Hansetter, SAL Squadron 106, Seymour, WI 1 case \$300
  - Adam Klapperick, TAL Post 509. Rosholt, WI, 1 case \$300
  
- Donations
  - Joan Erickson, ALA Unit 461, Dunbar, WI, \$250
  - Julie Knapp, ALA Unit 263, New London, WI, \$320
  
- New shipment
  - Requested & received purchase order for 1,000 more A.L.F.

- 1<sup>ST</sup> shipment arrived at Portage 11/16 for 769 dogs
- 2<sup>nd</sup> shipment arrived at Milwaukee 1/2 for 231 dogs
- Misc. Operation A.L.F. Information
  - The Auxiliary is allowing us to use their discounted shipping program, big savings on our outbound shipping costs
  - Asked supplier about drop-shipping for orders, not something they would do
  - Talked to supplier on pricing again, we are receiving best discount

#### Other Activities

- Attended 4<sup>th</sup> SAL District meeting
- Attended meeting at Squadron 537
- Participated in Post 434 Honor Guard for 14 funerals
- Attended SAL National Convention in Charlotte, NC
- Attended Auxiliary National President's Homecoming in Fairbanks, AK
- Participated in ALA Christmas Gift Shop wrapping day & delivery to Post Office
- Attended dinner for ALA Central Division National Vice President

## **NATIONAL SECURITY**

National Security Chair John Hoeft II (234) was not able to attend and did not have a report

## **VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION**

Bill Olcott (258)

Got into 5 schools and taught about the flag. Had Q&A.

Watertown gave all the schools in Watertown, a DVD of flag etiquette.

Flags for 1st Graders – Period costumes are used. Talk about its history and how it has evolved.

Pewaukee does 700 flags near Memorial Day with the scouts.

Chris Sherman spoke about WALLECA

Little Chute fund raiser to work with local schools to change every flag in every classroom.

Senior blue star banner program – give the mother of students heading into the service, a blue star banner.

At Homecoming, very large color guard. Getting active duty involved when possible.

Badger Youth Camp – this year on June 22, 2024

NNOK Ride Fund raising event for No Next Of Kin – Unclaimed Veterans Burial Fund at Department.

Carl Abendroth Appleton – very instrumental in national rodeo. Do a salute to veterans. He is willing to help other squadrons to get a rodeo going.

Mike Pook – volunteers.

If events occur and money is raised – donate it!



# **Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Wisconsin 2024 Midwinter Fall DEC Meeting**

## **Internal Affairs Commission**

Jerme Mason (15)

### **LEGISLATIVE**

Steven DuBois (143) – nothing new to report at this time. Encourage participation in Voter Voice.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

David Fuller (209) was not present.

National Executive Committeeman Chris Sherman (71) stated Wisconsin was in 4<sup>th</sup> place Nationally and first in the Central region.

Detachment Adjutant David Faust (245) also gave a report on membership. Discussed availability of forms and reports that are now on-line.

Oseola turned in their new charter. Elkhorn and Okauchee should be ready to submit very soon

Membership awards received at National Convention.

- The Lawrence Hartline Award for the Detachment that charters the most new Squadrons from July 1st to June 30th. The Detachment of Wisconsin chartered 10 new Squadrons during that period.
- Mike Hellquist of Squadron 21 Kenosha will be receiving a Blue Brigade Jacket for recruiting 30 or more new members.
- Marvin Northway of Squadron 416 Greendale will also be receiving a Blue Brigade Jacket for recruiting 30 or more new members.
- Ribbon for 100% Membership for 2022-2023.
- Ribbon for All Time High Membership for 2022-2023.

### **OFFICER DEVELOPMENT & POLICY**

Chris Sherman (71)

On Saturday from 1PM – 3PM training on starting a squadron. Will also get into forms. Will discuss communications and how to improve at all levels.

### **PUBLIC RELATIONS**

Ray Dzieciol (534) was not present.

General discussion encouraging all squadrons to get involved with their communities. Detachment Historian Mike Pook mentioned that using photo's is a great way to show a community what you're doing.

## 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 13<sup>th</sup> 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.

# Resolution

## SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION, DETACHMENT OF WISCONSIN

Detachment Executive Committee Meeting

Date: January 20, 2024

Resolution No: DEC-2024-02

### **Title: One Hundred Percent Squadron Membership Pin**

**Whereas:** the Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Wisconsin is a growing organization; and

**Whereas:** there is a desire to recognize squadrons that reach 100% in membership each year in a manner that allows for leadership of the squadron to display it on their SAL caps; and

**Whereas:** the Detachment Membership Committee has been investigating this since July of 2023; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

**Resolved:** by the Detachment Executive Committee of the Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Wisconsin assembled on the on this, the 20th day of January 2024 in the City of La Crosse, Wisconsin, that the Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Wisconsin will establish a 100% membership pin that can be worn on the cap of squadron leadership membership goals with the following criteria: 1) the Squadron must achieve 100% of goal by June 1<sup>st</sup> of each membership year; 2) three pins will be given to the Squadron Commander of record when being awarded and the Squadron Commander will determine who to distribute them to within the Squadron; 3) the pins will follow a design by the Membership Committee and will not have a year indicated on them; 4) the Membership Chairman will maintain the inventory of pins and will be responsible for their distribution; and BE IT FURTHER

**Resolved:** that this becomes effective with the 2025 membership year.

- END -