

**Sons Of The American Legion
Detachment of Illinois**

**2021 FALL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA
Farmer City Post 55
October 16, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER

Detachment Commander Trout called the meeting to order at 1300 Hours.
The colors were in place, hand salute rendered.
Detachment Chaplain John Nemanich gave the prayer.
4th Division Commander Paul Garrett led the Pledge of Allegiance.
Commander Trout led the POW/MIA Ceremony.
Detachment Sgt-At-Arms Haddick placed the POW/MIA flag
5th Division Commander Madson led the Preamble.

ROLL CALL

Detachment Adjutant Jeff Van Horn called the roll. Only the voting member of the Divisions and Districts are listed. Detailed roll call available upon request.

Blank=present, E=excused, A=absent

Detachment Officers:

Commander Trout
Sr Vice O'Connell - E
NEC Ray
ANEC Hayse
Adjutant J. Van Horn
Asst Adjutant Ray
Asst Adj Gort
Finance Officer Tharp
Judge Advocate Stillwell
Parliamentarian Cisna
Chaplain Nemanich
Historian Stander
Service Officer Vance-E
Sgt-At-Arms Haddick

Commanders Sgt-At-Arms:
L. Woodburn-E & Vozar
Sr Vice Sgt-At-Arms:
Strossner-A
Division Sgt-At-Arms:
2-Haddick
4-L. Woodburn-E
5-Dilday-A & Wylie-A
Commanders Aides:
Schoo & Madson
Sr Vice Aide Jacobs-A
Webmaster Sense-A
PUFL Stillwell

Division Officers (voting member):

1st Commander Kraemer
2nd Sr Vice Vozar
3rd Commander Slevin Sr.
4th Commander Garrett
5th Commander Madson

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District Officers (voting member):	14 th Not Certified
2 nd Not Certified	15 th Not Certified
3 rd Absent	16 th Absent
4 th Absent	17 th Not Certified
5 th Not Certified	18 th Excused
7 th Absent	19 th Commander
8 th Sr Vice	20 th Not Certified
9 th Commander	21 st Absent
10 th Commander	22 nd Sr Vice
11 th Senior Vice	23 rd Commander
12 th Excused	24 th Commander
13 th Commander	25 th Absent

PNC's: Stillwell, Reis-A, Cisna

PDC's: Stander, Stillwell, Slevin Sr., Cisna, Tharp, Williamson, Ray, Hunter, Geary, Shipley, Hayse, Gort

Advisors: 5th Division & 2nd Division

Department Officers: Commander, Sr Vice, Adjutant, Treasurer, SAL Clerk

JUDGE ADVOCATE COMMENTS

Detachment Judge Advocate Stillwell discussed who is eligible to make motions, etc. during the DEC.

MINUTES OF DETACHMENT CONVENTION

Motion by 19th District Commander Shipley to accept the minutes of the Detachment Convention as printed, subject to audit, with second, the motion passes.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Sgt-At-Arms Haddick introduced the guests. Department Commander Fischer brought greetings, discussed the recent Membership Revival held in Decatur, his history and challenged us all to *Embrace the Challenge*. Department Sr Vice Commander Payton spoke briefly about the Revival and his history. Department Adjutant PNC Conatser spoke about the Legion Family working together. He also stated that dual members must "choose their cap" at the appropriate time and encourages participation at all levels no matter which cap you wear.

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

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No Resolutions were submitted before the start of the DEC, except for the Hospitality Resolutions. Commander stated if any Resolutions are presented during DEC, the Judge Advocate plus two appointed members will become the Committee.

FINANCE REPORT

Detachment Finance Officer Tharp asked if there were any questions regarding the printed finance report. He then discussed importance of filling out expense report form correctly and timely. He also stated that during his tenure as Finance Officer, the Detachment has made donations to over 40 different places and encouraged us to "limit" our donations to our main causes. Motion by 10th District Commander Geary to accept, subject to audit, with the second, motion passed.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT & SQUADRON ACTIVITIES & #1 PINS

2nd Division Senior Vice Commander Vozar presented the #1 Pins:

He awarded those winners to the following:

Division Winner 2nd Division at 53.57%

District Winners:

1 st Division	4 th District at 66.67%
2 nd Division	10 th District at 68.79%
3 rd Division	16 th District at 55.1%
4 th Division	19 th District at 54.2%
5 th Division	24 ^{3rd} District at 28.54%

IPDC Stander motioned to accept the report, with the second, passes.

DIVISION COMMANDER'S REPORTS

1st Division Commander Kraemer reported that all but 2 District's were certified, and 11 Squadrons not certified.

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2nd Division Sr Vice Commander Vozar stated the 10th District is leading the Detachment in membership. He has been making District & Squadron visits, filling out the Squadron Visitation form. Adjutant Van Horn commented that Vozar has done a great job filling out the form.

3rd Division Commander Slevin Sr., has been working on getting his District's certified.

4th Division Commander Garrett had no report.

5th Division Commander brought up some upcoming events/fundraisers happening in the Division. He discussed the training that has been held and scheduled.

STANDING COMMISSION & COMMITTEE REPORTS

NATIONAL CONVENTION COMMITTEE REPORTS ARE AT END OF THE MINUTES

Americanism Commission

Commission Chairman Hayse delivered the report:

The Americanism Commission met via zoom on October 10th at 4:00pm . In attendance were Chairman Paul Hayse, members Ken Root, Jeff Haddick, with Bill Geary and Tommie Cisna being excused. Guests were Commander Jeff Trout, Adj. Jeff Van Horn, John Nemanich, Mike Vozar, Phillip Shipley, and Chris Shoo.

Chairman Hayse opened the meeting with John Nemanich saying prayer. Chairman Hayse read Joshua 1:9 and welcomed all attending the meeting.

Chairman Hayse gave a report from N.E.C. stating the goals for 2022.

1. promote flying flags for heroes and distribute information to all squadrons Through N.E.C. as well as National American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary and through possible website promotion and sponsorship

2. To increase Squadron participation in American Legion Baseball, Boys State, Oratorical, and Youth Law Cadet Programs by 10%.

3. Increase entries for scrapbook and history books by 25%.

On Saturday October 2nd, 2021, a delegation of American Legion Family members led by the Sons of the American Legion and National Commander Michael Fox placed flags on the graves of Veterans at Lincoln Memorial Gardens in Whitestown, IN. Five buses left Sheridan in Indy and made the 20-minute trip to the cemetery.

Although a rainy day the weather held off during the ceremony emceed by Charles E. Treat II National Americanism Chairman. National Commander Fox and American Legion

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Auxiliary President Kathy Daudistel placed a wreath and were accompanied by the Zionsville Police Department Honor Guard.

Those attending each placed flags on two graves of Veterans interred at the cemetery

The moving ceremony was planned by PNC David Stevens and his committee.

What Commander Fox is wanting is for every Son to place two flags on Veterans graves, make it ceremonial, take pictures, count the number of flags placed, post the number of flags placed and upload photos to www.flyingflagsforheroes.com.

For the American Legion Americanism Commission held in Bloomington, IL on October 9th at 10:00am Ken Root reported they received preliminary brochures for the essay and oratorical contest. The Essay contest cover is now going to include the Riders. There is a big push to get schools involved. They want to see one candidate from each District. Promote Oratorical Divisions should have their contest completed no later than January 8th. National and Illinois contests will be in person, no zoom. There is a resolution for contest time to be six to eight minutes and subject matter topics to two.

In the shooting contest there was not much participation. Alabama has a resolution to host a future contest. The Boy Scouts are working on a new Badge. We were given names and addresses of speech teachers in Illinois.

A resolution in Colorado on proper ways to dispose of flags is in the making, when it is done the flag code will be updated.

On Religious Emphasis John Nemanich spoke on promoting The Chaplains Award and maybe to change the rules to include repeat award winners.

No flag alliance report.

Boys State Mike Vozar reported Boys State will be held June 11-17 there are brochures at the Legion HQ also on the website.

Under Awards Promoter Phillip Shipley reported the applications were mailed out.

Under Legacy Scholarship Chris Shoo gave the attached report.

National winners, Legion Baseball the Idaho Bandits become back-to-back American Legion World Series Champions beating Hawaii.

Oratorical, an Iowa youth wins the oratorical finals with a \$18,000 scholarship. Patrick Junker of Waukee followed by youths from Illinois and Tennessee.

Under new business Commander Trout said that we need someone to head up the flags for heroes.

Chairman Hayse made his closing remarks, closing prayer was given and the meeting adjourned at 4:47.

American Legion Rider Committee Meeting Notes Department Headquarters
October 30, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 P.M. by Chairman, Joe Lampert
Joe Lampert (Chairman)

Ed Stash – excused
Bill Seward

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Mike Edmonds – excused Roy Smith (Vice Chairman) Chad Woodburn (Nat'l Rep) John Reece (sitting in)

1st Division 2nd Division 3rd Division 4th Division 5th Division Dept. Staff 2nd Division

The 2022 In-State Legacy Run dates have been set:

May 22/23 (4th & 5th Divisions) and June 5/6 (1st, 2nd & 3rd Divisions). Helmets will be mandatory!

There was discussion about having a Legion Riders Summit.

We will be updating the Department Bylaws to follow the guidance of National Resolution 19, pending its approval.

Tentative routes for the National Legacy Run are:

2021 Ft. Smith, Ark □ Oklahoma □ Texas □ New Mexico □ Phoenix

2022 Salt Lake City □ Montana □ Wyoming □ Black Hills □ Iowa □ Illinois □ Milwaukee

Department Commander, Roy Weber and Sr. Vice Commander, Wayne Fischer visited the meeting and thanked the Riders for what they do. The Commander discussed his project for the year, Illinois Disaster Relief Fund.

The next Haven Run is scheduled for May 1-2.

The TLW American Legion Rider of the Year Award was presented to Roy Smith from Chapter 914, Louisville.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:15 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted, Joe Lampert
ALR Committee Chairman Department of Illinois

Legion Riders National Convention Report

November 30, 21

Chris Schoo

The 2021 Legacy run started in Fort Smith Arkansas and ended in Phoenix AZ. There were 125 riders attended with National Commander Bill Oxford and National Auxiliary President Nicole Clapp. The ride collected \$705,000 over the 5 days.

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The floor was opened up to other donations for a total of \$1,150,000. Some of the larger contributions came from IL, \$20,600; Virginia, \$15,000; California, \$28,000; Michigan, \$21,000; North Carolina, \$95,000; Minnesota, \$174,000.

Motion by Hayse to accept the report, with the second, passed.

Children & Youth Commission

Chairman Ray read the report:

Commander Trout has requested this year that all squadrons continue their support of all American Legion Children & Youth programs as well as support of nation-wide programs such as The Children's Miracle Network and the Children's Organ Transplant Association.

However, of special interests this year, Commander Trout would like to see an increased involvement in the Special Olympics program held each June in Normal, Illinois on the Illinois State University Campus. He would like to see an increase in not only monetary donations but also of goods and in-person volunteering during this event. This year's Olympics will be held in June 2022 if possible.

Detachment Children & Youth Goals

- To establish and distribute a Detachment of Illinois Children & Youth Mission Plan
 - To raise funds for The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation to reach \$1 per member (Approximately \$ 15,000.00)
 - To increase the funding and awareness of "The Illinois Special Olympics"
 - To increase the number and quality of the Children & Youth Articles for the SAL Update!
-

A reminder that the fundraising goals for the Detachment this year are easily obtainable.

We are striving once again to make a total donation to all C & Y and other Legion programs that is **10%** larger than the total donations made during the past membership year! Keep pushing these programs and making those donations!

Our local squadrons typically raise and donate an average of \$25,000 – \$30,000 per year for all Children & Youth programs; and have done so consistently for the last decade. Together with

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your added support and contribution, we can begin topping that number and expanding our outreach to additional areas of need.

Attached please find a copy of the SAL National Children & Youth Committee report that outlines our national impact as well as specific information on COTA, CWF, and The American Legion Veterans and Children's Foundation who received a generous donation of \$500,000.00 from the National SAL. This donation will hold in the foundation's goal of raising \$7 Million dollars in the next 5 years.

Illinois, **KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!**

Donations may include the following:

- The American Legion Child Welfare Fund
- Sons of the American Legion, SAL Scholarship Fund
- Special Olympics
- Premier Boys State and Illini Girls State
- Children's Organ Transplant Association
- The American Legion Veterans and Children's Foundation

Respectively submitted:

Detachment C & Y Committee 2021-2022

"The mission of the Sons of The American Legion Committee on Children & Youth is to formulate, recommend and implement plans, programs, and activities of The American Legion. The Committee's responsibility is to promote the care and protection of the children of veterans; improve conditions for all children and youth with due concern for maintaining the integrity of the family home; prevent social and physical ills of children and youth where possible, utilizing services and cooperating with sound organizations and agencies for children and youth; maintain a balanced program that provides for their physical emotional, intellectual and spiritual needs; and such other purposes as maybe assigned to it by The American Legion and the Sons of The American Legion National Executive Committee; and to assist The American Legion Children and Youth Program in carrying on for God and Country."

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Children and Youth Committee

Opening:

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm on October 1, 2021 in
the Circle East Room of the Sheraton Indianapolis City Centre Hotel by
Chairman James A. Noble (NJ) .

The opening prayer was given by Matt Thalasinis, Det. Chaplain (NJ). The Pledge was led by Terry Harris (KS). The Preamble was led by Chris Sherman (WI).

Roll Call:

Chairman: James A. Noble (NJ)	Members: John Lawrence (LA)
- EXCUSED	
Secretary: <u>Robert J. Avery (NY)</u>	<u>Christopher Sherman</u>
(WI)	
<u>National Assistant Adjutant</u>	<u>Terry Harris (KS)</u>
Liaison: (none assigned)	<u>John Mejia (CA) -</u>
EXCUSED	

Past National Commander

Guests: Sean Deiter (PA), James Coates (NY), Matt Thalasinis (NJ), Dale Kane (NY), Henry Cleveland (VT), Gabe Cinquegrana (NY), John Wright (CT), Allen Watry (WI), Butch Ray (IL), David Page (NJ), Dominic Inzerma (NJ), Bernie Kessler (OH), Paul Hayse (IL)

Reports of Members:

Chairman Jim Noble (NJ) welcomed all attending today's meeting and introduced the members of the Committee.

Chairman Jim Noble noted that total donations last year for Children and Youth programs were \$722,706. Hours totaled 112,140 which is a value of \$3,200,461.

Emails will be going out monthly to the National Vice Commanders to be forwarded to the Detachments in their regions, including a reminder regarding Children and Youth month which is April. Committee goals will include working with the Detachments to raise the bar on our monetary donations and in publicizing their activities that highlight Children and Youth programs. The current Children and Youth Manual will be reviewed for possible updates if needed.

Chris Sherman (WI) reported on the Children's Organ Transplant Association (COTA). For over 30 years The American Legion Family has donated \$1.5 million to the organization.

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Allen Watry (WI) reported on the National Convention Youth Room. Allen is the Chairman for the Milwaukee Convention next year. We will continue to build upon the accomplishments of the past two years of activities for our younger members.

Terry Harris(KS) reported on CWF. He had the opportunity to work the booth at this past National Convention to raise money. For many years the SONS have been the top supporter of the program. We are nearing \$9 million in donations. Terry also reported on the National Emergency Fund. This program has been around since 1969 with all donations going to members and Posts suffering from calamities such as hurricanes.

Sean Deiter (PA) reported on the Veterans and Children Foundation. Since its creation in 1925, The American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation has delivered over \$30 million in financial assistance for disabled veterans, military families and young people who lost parents in service to our nation. Income from the foundation investments is used to fund Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation programs and Temporary Financial Assistance, which provides funds to minor children of active duty or American Legion members.

New Business:

The Committeemen were assigned regions and will be on their respective conference calls.

East: James Noble; South: John Lawrence; Central: Chris Sherman; Mid-West: Terry Harris; West: John Mejia. Members will report on the various Children and Youth programs and activities and then report back at the Committee's monthly conference calls. The Children and Youth Committee Calls will take place on the second Monday of each month at 7:30 PM Eastern Time. All are welcome to participate in the calls.

Resolutions:

None

For the Good of the Sons of The American Legion:

Paul Hayse (IL) noted his Detachment is selling left-handed flag cap pins with proceeds going to Children and Youth projects in Illinois.

Ray reported that the Detachment received thank you letters from Jarek & Joshua Slavin for their scholarships they received from the Detachment.

Special Olympics was discussed and a "want list" for both Winter & Summer will be available soon.

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Motion by Ray to accept the report, with the second, passed.

Finance Commission

Commission Chairman Stander delivered the report:

Finance Committee meeting 10/10

Meeting called to order at 7:47 PM

Committee members in attendance

Chair Phil Stander Vice Chair Tommie Cisna Jimmy Hunter Garret Slevin and Paul Hayse ,

Advisor Bill Flanagan

Guests: Commander Trout, VC Kevin O'Connell, Jeff Vanhorn, Wayne Madson, and Eugene Gort.

Americanism Chairman Paul Hayse requested and motioned for up to \$250 from overage for 1000 4" X 6" Flags

Second Cisna and was passed.

Jeff Van Horn recommended that Finance officer Tharp send out a notice to all Committee Chairmen which would include the funds that are available to their perspective committee.

Cisna Motioned to Adjourn

Hunter 2nd and passed

Meeting Adjourned at 7:59

Finance Officer stated Past NEC Melone submitted Detachment Convention receipts after the Close of Books. It was stated that these receipts will be covered out of Overage but in the future, all receipts submitted after Close of Books will be denied.

Motion by Stander to accept the report, with the second, passed.

National Security

Adjutant Van Horn stated the report was available in the hand-outs and asked if there were any questions or additions to be made. Shipley discussed Police School briefly.

National Security Commission shall be the coordinating and cooperating body with The American Legion Department of Illinois, National Security Commission and with The American Legion Auxiliary Department of Illinois National Security Committee for any and all mutual programs. It shall study the needs of the United States in armament, personnel, and military affairs generally. It shall encourage, promote,

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and coordinate a public awareness campaign to advise The American Legion Family and the general public of the responsibility of us all not to rest until the fate of all American military personnel still listed as missing in action from all wars and conflicts is resolved. This commission will see to it that these brave men and women are not forgotten.

The SAL National Security Commission met via a ZOOM meeting on Tuesday October 5th, 2021, at 7 PM.

ATTENDANCE:

1st Division Ken Root

2nd Division Bill Geary Vice Chair

3rd Division Zach Van Horn

4th Division Mike Vance Chairman

5th Division Wayne Madson

Ex Officio Phil Shipley

Also in attendance : Jeff Trout Detachment Commander and Jeff Van Horn Detachment Adjutant.

Following opening remarks, there was discussion of presenting National Security topics during District and Division meetings without a political twist or perceived strong personal bias. Past experiences have shown that this can prove difficult as some topics can be volatile and controversial. The recommendation from the Department of Illinois is to go the National American Legion website and look under the National Security tab and select from topics on that page especially those that are hot topics of the National Commander. Adjutant Van Horn posted the website on screen for all to see. There was also discussion of A Strong National defense or National Security tying in tightly with each of the other Pillars of the American Legion especially Americanism, Veterans Affairs and Children & Youth. It was mentioned that first responders and health care professionals are to be honored as well especially in the light of the pandemic for the past 18 months. The Buddy Check program was discussed as being vital and extremely important for Afghanistan veterans in particular as well as other groups like Viet Nam veterans.

Phil Shipley stated that he has a meeting upcoming on the Youth Police Academy and would present information on the program as it is available.

A plan was made for hosting a Blood Drive at the Marion American Legion Post in March during Commander Trout's Homecoming and DEC. Wayne Madson volunteered and was appointed as the Contact for the Marion American Legion and the Red Cross.

During Commander Trout's remarks he asked everyone to be thinking of suggestions for stops on the American Legion Family Caravan in January focusing on Squadrons that may be in need of assistance or deserving of a pat on the back.

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Motion by Geary to accept the report as printed, with the second, passed.

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Legislative Commission

Chairman Madson delivered the report.

Legislative Committee met via Zoom on October 6 at 8 p.m. Present from 3rd Division Phil Shipley, Chairman Wayne Madson, Detachment Commander Jeff Trout, Detachment Sr. Vice Commander Kevin O'Connell, Detachment Adjutant Jeff Van Horn, and Detachment Finance Officer Robert Tharp.

On October 2nd I attended the Legion's Legislative Committee meeting in Bloomington. We learned that the Illinois Veterans Commission has a representative from all veterans' organizations except the American Legion. It was addressed to Commander Wayne, and he will be checking on this.

There were 11 bills re-approved by the American Legion for the 102nd Illinois General Assembly. Those are as follows:

SB0091 State Veterans Homes Admissions
HB2378 Property Tax Surviving Spouse
HB2391 Property Tax Surviving Spouse
HB0163 School Code Dependent Tuition
HB0390 Veterans Service Dogs
HB0407 Local Government – Tech
HB0409 Local Government – Tech
HB0583 Income Tax Veteran Caregiver
SB0059 DFPR – Waive Active Military Fee
HB2250 Innovation Technology – Tech
SB0521 Raffles – Fire Protection Agency

This Legislation bills have passed:

HB1815 Veterans Ailments Task Force
HB3255 Veterans Service Officer
HB3716 Vets – IDOT Seasonal Employment
HB1915 Vehicle CD – Fold of Honor Plates
HB2776 DFPR – Military Licensing
HB0035 Veterans Bill of Rights
HB2894 Veterans Gardening Day
HB0848 Lottery Scratch-Off
HB3865 Vet AFF Services Disclosure
SB0505 Military CD – Active-Duty Death
SB2089 Flags at State Parks

Motion by Madson to accept, with the second, passed.

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Leadership & Training Commission

Chairman Madson delivered the report.

On October 6th at 7pm SAL Leadership & Training held a zoom meeting. In attendance 1st Division Jimmy Hunter ,2nd Division Jeff Haddick, 4th Division Tommie Cisna, 5th Division Wayne Madson, Detachment Commander Jeff Trout, Detachment Sr Vice Kevin O'Connell, Detachment Adjutant Jeff Van Horn , Detachment Finance Officer Robert Tharp. Training sessions had been held at Squadron 644 Fairview, Squadron 28 Lawrenceville, and have one scheduled Squadron 485 at Dupo. Also, this past month the Legion invited the SAL to attend there District and Division Officers training. Phil Shipley assisted in Fairview, and Tommie Cisna assisted with me in Lawrenceville and will be in Dupo. Before our DEC in Leroy, we will have training for our officers. If you have a Squadron that would like to have Leadership Training, please contact myself or your Division committee member. The more we train makes our organization stronger for the future.

Motion by Madson to accept the report, with the second, passed.

Veteran's Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission

Chairman Schoo read the report.

The meeting was called to order at 7pm by Chairman, Chris Schoo.

Glenn Kraemer	1st Division
Phil Stander.	2nd Division
Al Burnett	3rd Division(excused)
Butch Ray(VC)	4th Division(excused)
Chris Schoo(C)	5th Division
Bruno Williamson	D Danville(excused)
Jeff Trout	Detachment Commander
Kevin O'Connell	Detachment SR. Vice
Wayne Madson	Poppy Promoter
Michael Vance	Detachment Service Officer

Bruno's Report.

VAVS rep/deps in the Detachment has not changed. Per VACO they show Illinois as not having any rep/deps.

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As of yet I have not done anything. I wanted to wait on National Convention to settle down. Which it has.

These are the volunteers that I will be submitting for the Detachment:

Hines:

Brown: Derrick Stinson

Lovell:

Illiana: Bruno Williamson

Marion: Jeff Trout-rep; Chris Schoo -dep

Right now, I'm concentrating on federal VA's.

I will start on Illinois state VA homes when get federal straightened out.

Jeff Trout Talked about the VA's version of the buddy check called, Compassionate Contact Corps. Over the phone you can talk to a vet who needs conversation. CHANDRA.MURDOCK@VA.GOV is who to contact to help.

Glen Kramer added that the Hines VA has no access.

Any post within 50 miles of Great Lakes Naval Base is encouraged to help out recruits and host a diner Thanksgiving and or Christmas.

Hines is celebrating its 100th Year Anniversary on October 24, 2021. We would be honored for our patients, staff, volunteers, and community partners to contribute to our year 2046 time capsule. Please email renee.rouse@va.gov for more information.

A donation for Gift To The Yanks was mentioned and was tabled until DEC 10/16/2021 where the Committee finances can be discussed.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm

The Commission voted to take \$2,500 out of their account to donate to GTTY's.

Motion by Schoo to accept the report, with the second, passed.

Public Relations Commission

Commission Chairman Gort gave the report.

Chairman Gort challenged everyone to take a picture placing a flag this upcoming year and submit it to Ken Root for Flying Flags for Heroes program.

Slevin motioned to accept the report, with the second, passed.

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Commander's Advisory

Committee Chairman Stander gave the report.

Meeting Called to order at 7:00 pm

Committee members present Chair Phil Stander, VC Paul Hayse, Eugene Gort Wayne Madson and Tommie Cisna.

Advisor Bill Flanagan

Commander Trout, Senior Vice Kevin O'Connell Jeff Vanhorn And Jimmie Hunter

It was discussed that Commander Trout is doing a great job. His photo from Indy at the Flags for heroes event was on the National FB page

Bryan Compton sent notice that Fox will attend the Lincoln Pilgrimage

Central Region Vice Commander Vrable will attend the winter DEC

PNC Bob McBride and Leading candidate Chris Carlton will be invited to the winter DEC. Adjutant Jeff Vanhorn will send out the invites.

It was discussed that in support of Commander Foxes Flags for heroes program that we could go to a cemetery near Bloomington to place flags the weekend of the winter DEC. A decision was reached that we would go to a cemetery Saturday after the DEC to place flags.

A motion was made for Paul Hayse to order 1000 4" X 6" flags

Second by Tommie Cisna and was passed.

We also discussed the option of making the Csr and Squadron data form mandatory in order to receive membership cards. After a lengthy discussion it was determined that it would be difficult to enforce either and more research needs to be done.

Paul Hayse motioned to adjourn and Jimmie hunter second Passed

Meeting Adjourned at 7:30 pm

Motion by Stander to accept, with the second, passed.

COMMISSION/COMMITTEE DONATIONS

\$10 in fines to CWF

2nd Division - \$1057.36 to CWF

\$169 in flag pin sales to GTTY

\$14 in flag pin sales to GTTY

2nd Division - \$47 to CWF

974 - \$250 to OCW

974 - \$250 to Special Olympics

974 - \$250 to CWF

974 - \$250 to The Haven

703 - \$1,180 to CWF

27 - \$50 to CWF

\$15 in fines to GTTY

\$59 to GTTY from Paul Garrett

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CORRESPONDENCE

Two thank you letters read during C&Y report. Thank you letter from National American Legion for \$1,597 donation to Veterans & Children Foundation. Letter from National American Legion for \$1,525 donation to National Emergency Fund. Letter from Fisher House for \$400 donation. We received our 100% membership ribbon from the 2019-2020 year.

RESOLUTIONS

Hospitality Resolutions were presented to Post 55 Family Officers.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEMAN'S REPORT

National Pre-Convention NEC Meeting

The meeting was convened at 10:00 AM 27 August 2021 in meeting room 231 of the Phoenix Convention Center. There were 36 NEC and ANEC present for the meeting.

SAL AL Liaison Ken George brought greetings to the 2021 National Convention.

The Convention Resolutions Committee gave their report and outlined all resolutions that would be coming before the convention body. Resolution # 1 to provide a call-in to the NEC for all future National Conventions was motioned, seconded and passed. Resolution # 2 was a resolution to explore separating the SAL from the AL. This resolution was rejected for lack of supporting documentations and returned to the Detachment of Colorado. Resolution # 3 was a candidacy resolution and was adopted and placed on file.

The sub-committee on membership gave their report explaining that the pandemic did have an impact on membership. Nationally the SAL was at 91% on July 28th and only 92% on August 24th.

The Finance Chairman gave his report for FY 21 which is a calendar year budget. He explained that we were coming into our first budget year with the new per-capita increases reflected in the budget. An additional \$1.5 Million is now part of this and all future budgets. On June 30th all books were reconciled showing an income of \$850,000 with expenses of \$115,000 to date. The balance of funds will pay for the National Convention and Fall NEC expenses, and we were told to expect some movement of funds due to IRS guidelines.

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These reports were followed with general discussions on Squadron Consolidated Report Forms and the meeting was adjourned at 10:50 AM in proper form.

National Convention Observations

It was mentioned that The American Legion's "Tango-Alpha-Lima" podcast and reports are a good source of information throughout the year.

There will be a competition to design a challenge coin for the upcoming 50th SAL National Convention. The winner will receive \$500 and two tickets to the 50th Convention Anniversary Banquet. Anyone who has convention memorabilia from past conventions are urged to provide them for a written history as well as a photo wall that will be available to travel to the Detachments after next year's convention.

Our new commander is Michael Fox from the Detachment of California. This year's motto is "Leadership through Action" He asks all of us to Inspire and motivate each other through teamwork. His special project for the year is "Flying Flags for Heroes and wants to post 1 million flags on the graves of our countries veterans that are not interned in a state or national cemetery to honor their services and sacrifice.

National Post-Convention NEC Meeting

The meeting was convened at 2:00 PM 29 August 2021 in the SAL convention hall of the Phoenix Convention Center.

All attending NEC were sworn in after the typical opening and roll call. Comrade Jeffery Gibson, Sr. from the Detachment of Alabama was appointed as the 2021-2022 SAL National Chaplain.

The national appointment sheets were passed out and all were accepted as printed. The Commander then created an "Ad-Hoc" committee called the "Century Committee" (CENTCOM) that will be tasked with developing a new strategic plan to lead the SAL into their next 100 years. In May of 2022, the SAL will celebrate its 90th Birthday and this committee will assist in strong and maintainable growth for the SAL.

Illinois has two members now serving on a national committee or Commission. PDC Paul Hayse for a one-year appointment to the Americanism Commission, and PNC Tommie Cisna on the new CENTCOM. There are five members on this committee with 5 members under the age of 30 to be appointed.

No further business came before this meeting, and it was adjourned in proper form at 2:48 PM.

Fall 2021 National Executive Committee Meeting Session I

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The meeting convened in proper form at 8:30AM 2 October 2021.

Commander Fox along with SAL AL Liaison Ken George read the text from Resolution # 28 passed and adopted in 1938 that states in part that there "...can be no differences between the AL and SAL Constitution & By-Laws" ... This statement was to explain a letter that had been sent out to the NEC dated September 16, 2021 from The American Legion Interna Affairs Commission that the old "Commanders Advisory Committee, the Committee on Committees, and the National Past Commanders Council will cease to exist and be replace with one new committee called the PNC Advisory Board that will be made up of five Past SAL National Commanders.

For individual committee and commission reports, please see the attached minutes from the fall meeting. These will also be available on the IL SAL Website.

The National SAL Commander's special project for the year is "Flying Flags for Heroes and wants to post 1 million flags on the graves of our countries veterans that are not interned in a state or national cemetery to honor their services and sacrifice. A special "Field Trip" was arranged and 4 busses of SAL and other ALF members drove to the Memorial Gardens cemetery in Zionsville, IN. At this location all in attendance were given grave marker flags and asked to place them next to veterans' graves. A short ceremony was held and taps were played in their honor. This was a representation of what Commander Fox would like to see done across this country.

ALA National President Kathy Daudistel brought greetings and highlighted her theme for the year which is to support the over 5.5 million unpaid caregivers to our veterans nationwide. She thanked the SAL for all its work.

Prior to the meeting going into recess for the Field trip and regional caucuses, it was announced that later that afternoon all NEC members were to meet solely with their region's counterparts in a small session NEC to be run by the regional Vice Commanders.

At the Central Region Caucus the need for more timely renewal notices (read, July not October) needed to be sent out from the national HQ. The need for a national PUFL program was discussed as was encouragement to conduct "Buddy Checks" this coming year. The Central Region Monthly Conference/Zoom calls will be held the 3rd Thursday of each month at 6:30 CST.

At the Central Region NEC meeting all were asked to provide a Detachment Flying Flags for our Heroes promoter and get that information to Central Region Vice Commander Jeff Vrable. We were also asked to suggest a very small program or poem that could be utilized during "Flags" events to share with other Detachments.

The Commander thanks all for their past hard work and set goals to once again lead the country in IRA (individual Recruitment awards). He also asked all to push the submission of Squadron Consolidated Report Forms, Squadron Data Reports and

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the fact that dues are due each year by July 1st! He wanted all to continue to charter new squadrons and to remember our members who have fallen on bad times.

Fall 2021 National Executive Committee Meeting Session II

The meeting convened in proper form at 8:15AM 3 October 2021.

Commander Fox introduced a young member (10 years of age) and thanked him for attending the meeting.

The 50th SAL National Convention Committee gave it report letting everyone know that many plans are falling into place for a good time in Milwaukee. Chairman Gladden reminded all of the coin competition, the banquet and the need for photos and other memorabilia.

AL National Commander Paul Dilliard brought greetings and spoke of four Legion rowing teams that recently participated in the 25th Regatta in Cleveland. Each team was made up of veterans that had battle related disabilities. One of these Legion "Boats" went on to win the race.

CWF President Dennis Boland brought greetings and thanks the SAL for their continuous support of the program. He reminded all of us that CWF Memorial cards exist at the cost of \$25 to remember someone special.

The sub-committee on resolutions gave their report The result of each resolution is as follows...

Resolutions:

No. S.A.L. Resolution 1 – Fall, 2021

Title: Recognizing Recipients of the "Marvin P. Nay Outstanding Veterans
Employment and Education Contributor of the Year Award"

Origin: Veterans Employment and Education Commission

Motion:

Jay

Marsden

Second:

Bill Kelly

Discussion: Chairman Cook indicated that this resolution has the approval of the Finance Commission

Action: Motion carried by voice vote

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No. S.A.L. Resolution 2 – Fall, 2021

Title: National Commander Recommendation Committee

Origin: Detachment of Oklahoma

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Discussion: The resolution was returned to Oklahoma by the Internal Affairs
Commission for further review and consideration.

Action: x

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No. S.A.L. Resolution 3 – Fall, 2021

Title: Leadership Selection Committee Formation

Origin: Detachment of Oklahoma

Motion: x

Maker: x

Second: x

Discussion: The resolution was returned to Oklahoma by the Internal Affairs Commission for further review and consideration.

Action: x

No. S.A.L. Resolution 4 – Fall, 2021

Title: Create the "Squadron Commander of the Year Award"

Origin: Membership Committee

Motion: Bill Kelly

Second: Jay Marsden

Discussion: None

Action: Motion carried by voice vote

No. S.A.L. Resolution 5 – Fall, 2021

Title: Funding for 50th Convention Commemoration Committee

Origin: 50th Convention Commemoration Committee

Motion:

Jay

Marsden

Second:

John

Chang

Discussion: It was discussed to add the verbiage Ad-hoc to the 50th Convention Commemoration Committee in the body of the resolution.

Action: Motion carried by voice vote

No. S.A.L. Resolution 6 – Fall, 2021

Title: Creation of Standing Committee and Funding for Century Committee (CENTCOM)

Origin: Ad-hoc Century Committee / National Commander Michael Fox

Motion: By Jay Marsden to amend the 3rd Whereas clause to strike "Past National Commander Advisory Board" and to state the "Sons of The American Legion Oversight Committee of The American Legion Internal Affairs Commission" in the place of.

Second: John Chang

Discussion: The Finance Commission has an itemized document with the cost analysis. Gene Sacco discussed the procedure that resolutions going forward will

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need to have a cost analysis in the body or attached to the resolutions. Action:
Motion carried by voice vote

No. S.A.L. Resolution 7 – Fall, 2021

Title: Donation of \$500,000.00 to the Veterans and Children
Foundation from the S.A.L. Reserve Fund Origin: Veterans Affairs
and Rehabilitation Commission / National Commander Michael Fox

Motion: Bill Kelly

Second: John Chang

Discussion: None

Action: Motion carried by voice vote

No. S.A.L. Resolution 8 – Fall, 2021

Title: Donation of \$130,000.00 to American Legion Baseball from the S.A.L.
Reserve Fund

Origin: Americanism Commission / National Commander Michael Fox

Motion: Jay Marsden

Second: Bill Kelly

Discussion: None

Action: Motion carried by voice vote

No. S.A.L. Resolution 9 – Fall, 2021

Title: Creation of Standing Committee and Funding for
the Century Committee (CENTCOM) Origin: Ad-hoc Century
Committee / National Commander Michael Fox

Motion:

John

Chang

Second:

Bill

Kelly

Discussion: It was discussed to add the verbiage Ad-hoc to the 50th Convention
Commemoration Committee in the body of the resolution.

Action: Motion carried by voice vote

With no further business to come before the meeting it was adjourned in good
form at 11:48 AM

JR Stillwell discussed the 50th Anniversary Committee and asked for pictures, etc.

Ray motioned to accept the report, with the second, passed.

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NEW BUSINESS

Jeff Van Horn for Adjutant -- Motion by Slevin, with the second, passed.
JR Stillwell for PUFL -- Motion Geary to accept, with the second, passed.

First Division Commander Kraemer motioned to get a new printer for Detachment Adjutant to not exceed \$500 out of overage, with the second, passed.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE SAL

PDC Hayse discussed National Commander's Flying Flags for Heroes program. First Division Commander Kraemer brought up a gun raffle from his Division. Chuck Mingee talked about Veterans Suicide. Commander Trout asked Immediate Past Detachment Commander Phil Stander to come up and he presented him with a plaque from CWF for the Detachment's contributions during the 2019-2020 year.

ADVISOR'S REMARKS

None.

50 – 50 DRAWING

Sgt-At-Arms Haddick conducted the 50-50. Paul Garrett won \$59 and donated it back to GTTY.

Closing & Benediction

Chaplain Nemanich said a prayer.
Sgt-At-Arms removed the POW/MIA flag.
The Colors were in place, a hand salute was rendered.
Commander Stander adjourned the meeting at 1557.

Minutes completed by:

Jeffrey Van Horn
Detachment Adjutant

Americanism National Convention Commis- sion Report

October 13, 21

Chris Schoo

It was reported through the CRS reports that \$1,584,632 was donated with 1,193,401 work hours for a value of \$34,590,650 and this was accomplished through the pandemic. This is why the CSRs have to be filled out and Congress sees what we are doing.

Work is still ongoing to reformat the 5 Star and 10 Ideals programs. This is not to change the information but how we get the information out. Changing from a long test on line to post level training as OJT. Let the people see what these mean, get it out of the minds and into their hearts and hands. Squadrons can and need to get more involved in the process to earn the awards.

The Oratorical program needs help getting more participants, we need to get the word out. The money is real and no joke for scholarships; \$18,000 for 1st, \$16,000 for 2nd, \$14,000 for 3rd, with a total of \$138,000 at the national level. There are up to 30 participants and each one will get \$1,500 for the first round.

The National Emergency Fund, created in response to Hurricane Hugo in 1989, has provided more than \$8 million in direct financial assistance to American Legion Family members and posts. By providing this emergency funding, NEF has prevented damaged posts from closing and enabled American Legion Family members to recover from tragedy.

NEF helps those affected by well-known disasters such as Hurricane Katrina and Superstorm Sandy and lesser-publicized tragedies such as flooding in South Dakota or Illinois, or wildfires in the southwest.

The fund provides up to \$3,000 for qualified Legion Family members and up to \$10,000 for posts. The eligibility requirements are:

1. Applicant must have been displaced from their primary residence due to damage sustained during a declared natural disaster.
2. Applicant must provide copies of receipts of items required to meet immediate needs (such as temporary housing, food, water, clothing, diapers, etc.) during the period immediately following the disaster.
3. Membership must be active at time of disaster and the time of application.

Bill Clancy reported on Children and Youth, he talked about youth delivering food with squadrons, virtual egg hunts and food fundraisers. These squadrons were pushing good citizenship and we all need get this message out. We have 5100 squadrons with 360,000 member's to get this done.

A start would be a family play day / open house at the post to get the kids in the door. Have some fun, games, and food with exposing them to the preamble, what the emblem means, what the organization is about, the 10 ideals program, the 5 Star program; have fun but teach.

Mark Nave reported on CWF that \$317,000 was donated by the Sons with \$140,000 of that coming in the last two weeks of fund raising. Out of every dollar that was raised \$.73 cents came from the Sons because the Sons are the driving force for funding the CWF. The past two years \$567,000 was raised during the pandemic.

This year 136 applicants for grants from non-profit organizations were received. Reviews are ongoing for recommendations in 2022 for those who should get the grants. The selection process should be done in September/October during the next NEC.

Get the pink piggies back out on the counters, tables, and bars. If you don't have them call headquarters and they can get them for you, lets get the year started right.

**CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE
2021
PHOENIX, ARIZONA**

The Chairman Harold E. Thompson Jr. called the Credentials Convention committee, to order on August 27, 2021 at 11:00 A.M. for the purpose of taking the necessary committee action on convention resolution none was presented.

There is possible of 858 delegates and 47 delegates-at-large for total 905 possible delegate's votes from 55 Detachment. We had 33 Detachment pre-registered with 741 delegate and 46 alternates and 98 guests registered. On Thursday we had 49 Detachment with 883 delegate and 44 alternates and 103 guests registered. On Friday we had 52 Detachment with 896 delegates, 46 alternates and 104 guests registered. At the close of registration Saturday we had 52 Detachment with 896 delegates, 46 alternates, and 104 guests at the 49th National Convention. This year we had 45 less delegates then in 2019.

Member attending the credentials committee meeting was Chairman Harold E Thompson Jr. NE; Tomidan Jordan, CA; Ed Sheubrooks, FL Excused; Matt Christie, IL; Steve Colcord, IA; Thomas Deal, MD; Shawn Davis MN; James Wood III, NH; Robert Avery, NY; Scott Thornton, OH; and Anthony Wright, PA.

Please type your delegate list or please print very clearly for the names tags can be done right the first time and if you have guest please add those name also on the guest registration sheet. Please make sure that you get the Registration sent in on time. If you have some delegate that will not attend please leave a blank line and then list the rest that are not coming to convention. Also only the Delegate Chairman, Delegate Secretary or Department Adjutant is allowed to pick up the entire delegation for your state. Detachments make sure your delegation know where they are to pick up from your state. We had 12 Detachments that did not send in their registration.

ATTN: There were only three Detachments that did not registered. They were District Of Columbia, Mexico, and Philippines

With no further business Scott Thornton, OH moved to closed meeting. Seconded by Robert Avery. NY. Meeting adjourned at 11:04 AM, August 27, 2021.

Credential Chairman Harold E Thompson Jr. As a dully elected Delegate to 49TH National Convention Sons of The American Legion, I move for the accepted of my report.

Respectfully submitted to the Detachment of
Illinois by Matt Christie.
10/5/21

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
NATIONAL CONVENTION 27 AUGUST 2021
PHOENIX, ARIZONA

INTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION

Meeting start was delayed due to acting Chairman having to attend the Pre-NEC meeting.
Meeting was called to order at 10:28 am.

The Chairman read 3 Resolutions that had been acted upon previous to our Convention Committee meeting.

Resolution 1 2018

Travel reimbursement to the National Convention for National Executive Committeeman.

This funding was approved and is in the budget for 2022.

Resolution 1 2021

An endorsement resolution for Juan Torres (TX) for National Vice Commander.

Resolution 2 2021

To form an Ad hoc Committee to study the feasibility of reorganizing The Sons of The American Legion as an organization associated with, but separate from The American Legion.

This Resolution was rejected and returned to the Detachment of Colorado because it did not show any support from The American Legion.

Resolution 5 2021

This resolution was brought before this Committee to correct an inconsistency between the SAL Uniform Code of Procedure for the Organization of National Conventions and the SAL National Constitution and By-Laws.

Article V, Section 2 states that the Call to National Convention should be issued not less than 60 days before Convention. The American Legion has established that 30 days prior is their practice.

A motion was made to accept the Resolution, amending Article V, Section 2 from 60 days to 30 days. Motion was seconded and the vote was in favor to approve the Resolution.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:40 am.

National Convention Finance meeting Aug 27th 2021

Chairman Hill called the meeting to order at 11:00 AM

Roll call was taken

PNC Gibbs and PNC Frain were in attendance as was Liaison Ken George.

Chairman Hill explained that the purpose of the meeting was to go over convention expenses and that at the time there were no expenditures submitted. That the expenditure would be provided at the fall NEC. Typical expenditures could include delegation fees as income.

Hill reminded everyone that the 2022 budget has already been approved and that budgets are approved about a year in advance. At the fall NEC the 2023 budget will be discussed so it can be finalized and approved at the spring 2022 NEC.

The NEC from NY asked where the information can be found for NEC men expenses. Chairman Hill said the past NEC should be able to help and if not to send him an email for that information.

PNC Frain thanked Chairman Hill for his 4 years of service. PNC Frain appointed Hill during his term and asked him to make sure the budget was prepared and transparent and to make sure all blue cap members know how the money is being spent and commended him and his committee on a job well done.

A gentleman from California asked about the surplus funds and how they are handled and made a motion to move funds into the general account. Chairman Hill advised him that this meeting only dealt with convention finances and that his motion could not be acted on for that reason and also that he was not a delegate at the meeting so he could not make a motion at all. The gentleman was not happy and after a bit of back and forth with Ken George included the discussion was dropped.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:20

National Convention V.A.& R. Report

VA & R Convention Commission was called to order at 8:30, Aug. 27 by Chairman Ray.

13 assigned members with 1 absent and 2 excused.

40 total attending. First order of business is to honor one of our own. Out of the thousands of male volunteers in the over 153 VA Medical Centers and Clinics, Gabe Cinquegrana was named VA Voluntary Service Male Volunteer of the year. This is the first time a Son's member has been named.

It was discussed that only 1,163 report forms were received out of a possible 1,163. 136 Squads did not list 20-21 membership and were automatically eliminated. That's 12% out right-off.

The hourly rate assigned to volunteer hours is \$28.54.

Volunteer hours listed came in at \$820,725.

Award winners were announced.

Kirby Kepler Memorial Award for best Squadron VA&R report
Squadron 29 Detachment of AZ

Allen I. O'Brian Memorial Award for best District VA&R report.
Ocean District New Jersey

Earl Webster Memorial Award for best Detachment VA&R
report went to, Detachment of Maryland

Rigsby Volunteer Award went to, James Coates from Squadron
#282, New York