SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION DETACHMENT OF TEXAS DETACHMENT CONVENTION 2023 AUSTIN, TEXAS

Call to Order

By order of the Commander and pursuant to the constitution and by-laws, Article IV, Section 1, of the Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Texas, I, Kevin Winkelmann, Detachment Adjutant, do hereby call all members of the Detachment of Texas to convene on Friday July 14, 2023 at 2:00 pm, Saturday July 15, 2023 at 9:30AM and Sunday July 16, 2023 at 9:00AM at the Renaissance Hotel in Austin, TX

Hotel Locations
THE AMERICAN LEGION
THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Renaissance Hotel 9721 Arboretum Blvd. Austin, TX 78759 512-343-2626 RATE---\$115.00 PER NIGHT

<u>AGENDA</u>

You will find the agenda enclosed. All meetings will be held at the Renaissance Hotel (room to be determined) along with all Committee meetings. Please review the enclosed schedule times for Committees.

COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

Please see the attached remarks from Detachment Commander Guillory

ADJUTANT'S NOTES

Please make sure all Officers, Chairman and District and Squadron Commanders address changes are reported as soon as they occur. This includes e-mail addresses. Please e-mail me all correspondence if possible. Again, this year, we have started pre-registration for all delegates and members to the Detachment Convention. Please review the enclosed registration form and return it, filled out with your payment to the Department of Texas, to Kevin Winkelmann, Detachment Adjutant. Pre-registration will be \$25.00 and on-site registration will be \$35.00. Under 18 will be \$10.00. Also, please remember to fill out your paperwork for your delegate strength to receive your votes for the Detachment Convention. Look at our website for the form or find it in this newsletter. Your voting strength is determined by your Squadron's membership, 30 days prior to the Detachment Convention. This date will be June 14, 2023. Finally, a note on membership transmittals. Please make sure all transmittals are filled out correctly and includes payment for your members in the form of a check, money order or a cashier's check. NO CASH!!! Also, please keep a copy for your records. Our next meeting will be the Detachment Fall Conference in Austin, TX the weekend of September 22-24, 2023. The location of the

meeting will be the Austin Southpark Hotel. Their phone number is 512-448-2222 and the room rates are \$123.00 per night. Please make your reservations as soon as possible. Finally, election of new officers are upon us. Please remit your Squadron, District or Division Certification of Officers as soon as you can. This will help with the process of getting your cards quicker.

FINANCE

ATTENTION: PDC's, Detachment Officers, Committee Chairmen, District Commanders I plan to send the confirmation email for Detachment Convention during the month of May or early June. If you plan to attend the convention and wish to receive your call-in at the convention, you must confirm by the second Sunday in June. Otherwise, you will not receive your check until August. This is a 3-day convention. You must answer roll call each day and attend your assigned committee meeting to receive your call-in. See you in Austin

Steve Slaughter, Detachment Finance Officer Home 817-946-4506 E-mail smslaughter@sbcglobal.net

INTERNET

We are seeing very good response from the redesigned website. The website is a tool for you to use to make your job a little easier. We have most forms and up to date info on coming events posted. If there is something you would like to add to the website, please let me know. We can post your newsletters, coming events and pictures from your events. Right now we are really looking for pictures of the local events from around the Detachment. If you have an event and have pictures of the Commander or other Detachment guests, please send them to me so I can get them up on the website. We will also soon be adding pictures of all of the Detachment Officers and would like pictures of all the District Commanders. If you hold an event that you would like to have the pictures posted, please include what the event was, the date of the event and the names of the people pictured. We have all the room in the world, so send all the info and pictures you can and let's show the nation what Texas is doing. Also remember we still have our Facebook page and is there for you to use.

Please send all of this information to webmaster@laketexomadesigns.com.

Gary Winters Webmaster

DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS

As everyone should know by now, we now have our office at Headquarters back up and running. It is there for every member's use. We will be sending out the newsletters in email form this time plus regular mail delivery. Hopefully, we can accomplish some good results and will get further input at the Fall DEC in September. As always, if there are questions, concerns, issues and/or complaints, all correspondence must go through Detachment Adjutant Winkelmann first, or if he is not available, next through Detachment Commander Guillory or Department Advisor Henry Creech. All items must be in letter form or be emailed if possible. Adjutant Winkelmann can be reached at 817-994-7394 cell or email at knwink@msn.com. Commander Guillory can be reached at 409-550-9354 or email at clitton87@yahoo.com. Please adhere to these rules so as not to create more controversy. If you plan to use our office at Department Headquarters, please inform Department Adjutant Bill West or IA Director Mike Simon upon arrival.

AGENDA

OPENING SESSION, FRIDAY JULY 14	2:00 PM
CALL TO ORDER	COMMANDER GUILLORY
POST COLORS	SGT-AT-ARMS JENNINGS
INVOCATION	CHAPLAIN ED PARNELL
MOMENT OF SILENCE, RESOLUTION FOR POV BLUE STAR BANNER AT ALL MEETINGS	V/MIA FLAG, RESOLUTION FOR COMMANDER GUILLORY
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE1ST DIVISIO	ON COMMANDER JEFF PERKINS
PREAMBLE2ND DIVISIO	ON COMMANDER ROY FOWLER
ROLL CALLA	ADJUTANT KEVIN WINKELMANN
READING OF MINUTES	ADJUTANT KEVIN WINKELMANN
APPOINTMENTS TO CREDENTIALS COMMITT	EECOMMANDER GUILLORY
GREETINGS TO THE CONVENTION	NEC JON KINGSTON
INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUEST	NEC JON KINGSTON
PRESENTATION OF OUR SPECIAL GUEST NATIONAL COMMANDER, 202 DETACHMENT OF INDIANA	· · · ·
FIRST READING OF CREDENTIALSJ	UDGE ADVOCATE ROLF AUSTIN R CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE
CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAW CHANGESJ	UDGE ADVOCATE ROLF AUSTIN
COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS (IF NECESSARY)COMMANDER GUILLORY
NEC REPORT	NEC JON KINGSTON
COMMITTEE MEETINGS4:00 TO 4:30 A) CWF	

A) CWF
B) Boys State

- C) Convention City
- D) Internet
- E) VE & E

COMMITTEE MEETINGS----4:30 TO 5:15

- A) Legislative
- B) PUFL
- C) VA & R
- D) Public Relations
- E) Marketing
- F) Campaign Committee

COMMITTEE MEETINGS----5:15 TO 6:00

- A) Americanism
- B) Children & Youth
- C) Awards
- D) Finance
- E) Internal Affairs/Membership

RECESS UNTIL 9:30 AM SATURDAY MORNING

SATURDAY JULY 15, 2023

LEADERSHIP CLASSES

- A) DISTRICT AND DIVISION COMMANDERS, 8:00-8:45AM
- B) ALL MEMBERS, 8:45-9:30AM

CALL TO ORDER, 9:30 AM------COMMANDER GUILLORY

INVOCATION-----CHAPLAIN ED PARNELL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE-----4TH DIVISION COMMANDER KEN DORSETT

PREAMBLE-----3RD DIVISION COMMANDER GEORGE ALVA

ROLL CALL-----ADJUTANT KEVIN WINKELMANN

LIAISON REPORT------HENRY CREECH, DEPARTMENT ADVISOR

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

CREDENTIALS—2ND READING BY COMMITTEE BOYS STATE CONVENTION CITY INTERNET

LEGISLATIVE
PUFL
VA & R
PUBLIC RELATIONS
AWARDS
AMERICANISM
CHILDREN & YOUTH and CWF
MARKETING
VE & E
FINANCE
INTERNAL AFFAIRS/MEMBERSHIP
CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE—IF NECESSARY

IF COMMITTEE REPORTS ARE NOT COMPLETE BY 12:00, WE WILL BREAK FOR LUNCH TILL 1:30

COMMITTEE REPORTS CONTINUE SQUADRON, DISTRICT AND DIVISION COMMANDER REPORTS

ELECTION OF DELEGATES TO THE NATIONAL CONVENTION

DETACHMENT COMMANDER CLIFTON GUILLORY'S FINAL REPORT

IF THE TIME REACHES 4:00PM AFTER COMMANDER GUILLORY'S REPORT, WE WILL RECESS UNTIL SUNDAY MORNING. PENDING PARTICIPATION, THE 5-STAR PROGRAM CLASS WILL START AT 4:15 PM. IF TIME PERMITS AND NO 5-STAR CLASS IS HELD, WE WILL CONTINUE WITH REGULAR ORDER OF BUSINESS PENDING APPROVAL OF THE BODY

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

GOOD OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

RECESS UNTIL SUNDAY AT 9:00AM

SUNDAY JULY 16, 2023

CALL TO ORDER------COMMANDER GUILLORY

INVOCATION------CHAPLAIN ED PARNELL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE------ALTERNATE NEC BILL KUEHNER

PREAMBLE	
ROLL CALL	ADJUTANT KEVIN WINKELMANN
PRESENTATION OF 5 STAR AWARDS (IF NECESSARY)
FINAL REPORT OF CREDENTIALS	JUDGE ADVOCATE ROLF AUSTIN
	OR CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE
ELECTION OF OFFICERS	JUDGE ADVOCATE ROLF AUSTIN
INSTALLATION OF NEW OFFICERS, D	ETACHMENT OF TEXAS 2023-2024
CLOSING OF MEETINGNEWLY	ELECTED DETACHMENT COMMANDE
BENEDICTION	CHAPLAIN ED PARNELL
RETIREMENT OF COLORS	SGT-AT ARMS ZACH JENNING
POST DEC MEETING IMMEDIATI	ELY FOLLOWING CLOSE OF

MID-WINTER CONFERENCE AUSTIN, TX---JANUARY 21, 2023

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 2023

Meeting was called to order at 9:01 AM by Commander Guillory. Colors being in place, a righthand salute was given. Following the pledge to our flag, the prayer and the reading of the preamble, the meeting was called into session at 9:12. Roll call was then asked for. All officers were present except for Department Advisor Creech. All Chairmen were present except for Public Relations(E), CWF, VE & E (E), Internet (E and Boys State. Districts present were 2, 4, 5C, 6, 7C, 8C, 9C, 10C, 11C, 12C, 13, 14C, 15C, 16C, 19C, 20C, 21C and 22. Squadrons present were 17, 36, 43, 120, 143, 179, 208, 245, 283, 297, 309, 321, 430, 447, 453, 516, 522, 554, 560, 573, 593, 618, 624, 654 and 817. A quorum was established. Following roll call, Milton Chatham made a motion to dedicate this Mid-Winter Conference in honor of Robert Sonnier who passed away the past week, second by George Alva. Motion passed. Steve Slaughter made a motion to purchase a Texas flag from the State of Texas that flew over the Texas Capitol and present it to Jan Sonnier, second by Ed Parnell. Motion passed. Motion made by Jon Kingston, second by Tom Arista to pay the per diem that Robert would have received and present that check to Jan Sonnier. Motion passed. Motion made by Rich Huntley, second by Ray Hartline to pay the call-in for the new 7th District Commander to this Mid-Winter Conference. Motion passed. Commander Guillory then asked NEC Kingston to come forward for the Purpose of introduction. Jon then introduced Candidate for National Commander J R Hall, from the Detachment of Maryland, to come forward. J R Hall then spoke to the body and extending greetings to all from the National Organization. His comments were well received, and the body appreciated his comments. Commander Guillory then asked for the reading of the minutes. Motion was made by Milton Chatham, 2nd by Tom Arista to waive the reading of the minutes. Motion passed

Prior to any committee reports, 3rd Division Commander Alva put on a presentation concerning duties and responsibilities of Squadron Officers and the members.

NEC---Commander Guillory then asked for NEC Kingston to come forward to give his report. He reported on the Fall NEC. A full report is attached these minutes. Motion by Jon, 2nd by Rich Huntley to accept the report. Motion passed.

DEPARTMENT LIAISON---Henry Creech was not present due to personal injury so no report was given

Department Commander Gerry Hines came before the body to bring greetings and give her remarks to the body. She thanked the Detachment for their hard work and asked for their continued support of The American Legion Family and everything we do as a family.

INTERNET—Chairman Winters was not present, so no report was given

JUDGE ADVOCATE—Rolf Austin gave the report. This concluded his report. Motion made by Rich Huntley, 2nd by Daniel Stanford. Motion passed

LEGISLATIVE—Chairman Chatham came forward to give the report. He reported on various items from the Texas Legislation sessions and other National Programs and upcoming Legislative items. He presented some of those to the floor. After his report was read, he made a

motion to accept the report including cost reimbursement to Kevin Johnson, serving as a member of the Legislative Committee, 2nd by Ed Parnell. Motion passed.

Mike Simon, Director of Internal Affairs, came forward to bring greetings and offer condolences to the family of Robert Sonnier. He thanked the body for their continued hard work and dedication to The American Legion Family

VE &E---Chairman Skelly not present due to weather related issues. Adjutant Winkelmann gave the report. Kevin read the report from the VE &E Committee. Following his remarks, Rich Huntley made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by Daniel Stanford. Following some discussion from various Squadrons, motion passed. Report is attached to these minutes

AMERICANISM—Chairman Parnell came forward to give the report. He reported on various items brought forward to them. Ed made a motion,2nd by Tom Arista, Motion passed.

VA & R---Chairman Kleespies came forward to give the report. Read a report from Squadron 208 and 179. There were some more reports from various Squadrons and their work they are doing at the local VA Hospitals. A complete report is attached to these minutes. Eddy Seegers made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by Kevin Baker. Motion passed

CHILDREN & YOUTH/CWF— Chairman Woods and member Brad Pack came forward to do the report. Brad reported on various items the committee is working on including the annual CWF raffle. The Pigs were brought up to see what District Commanders had brought to the floor. A complete report from both Committees is attached to these minutes. Motion made by Brad to accept the report, 2nd by Ed Parnell. Motion passed

MARKETING—Chairman Hartline came forward to give his report. He stated that all shirts are in and available for purchase. He is looking for a new vendor and spoke about some upcoming sales. A complete report is attached to these minutes. Jeff Perkins made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by Tom Arista. Motion passed

PUBLIC RELATIONS-Chairman Ventura not present to give the report due to illness

Commander Guillory then recessed the meeting at 11:45 AM for lunch. Meeting was called back to order following lunch at 1:16 PM by Commander Guillory

Gene Touhey, candidate for Department Commander, came forward to bring greetings to the Detachment. He spoke about The American Legion Family and what it means to the Department and the Detachment

CONVENTION CITY—Chairman Elam came forward to give his report. Chairman Elam spoke to the body about the upcoming Department Convention. Reservations should be able to start in March. A complete report is attached to these minutes. Motion made by Chairman Elam, 2^{nd} by Ken Dorsett. Motion passed.

BOYS STATE—Chairman Arreaga not present to give the report

AWARDS—Chairman Alva came forward to give the report. He stated that there are forms available for use on the website. All forms must be submitted prior to May 31st. A complete

report is attached to these minutes. Kevin Baker made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by Ed Parnell. Motion passed.

PUFL— Chairman Winkelmann gave the report. A complete report is attached to these minutes. Kevin made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by Tom Arista Motion passed.

INTERNAL AFFAIRS/MEMBERSHIP— Chairman Tom Arista came forward to give the report. He reported to the body concerning the status of membership in the Detachment. We are doing very well hitting our goals and just made the 60% goal. Eddy then presented some awards (caps and pins) to various Squadrons from 2022. There was various discussion concerning certification of officers and membership submitted on-line. He also asked everyone to keep him informed about any issues you are having with membership, either at National or at the Department level. Tom then spoke abo3zx3 3zut the SDR forms which need to be submitted. then made a motion to accept the report as read, 2nd by Catfish Elam. Motion passed.

FINANCE—Chairman Roy Fowler came forward to give his report. He talked about various items concerning the Finance Committee. A complete report is attached to these minutes. Motion was made by Roy Fowler to accept the report as read, 2nd by Bill Kuehner. Motion passed. It was also stated that the report be put aside for audit.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22, 2023

Commander Guillory called the meeting back into session at 9:05 AM. Following hand salute to the colors, prayer, pledge and preamble, Commander Guillory called the meeting to order. The roll call was then asked for. All officers were present except for Dept. Liaison Creech (E) Chairman not attending were CWF, Public Relations (E), VE&E(E) and Boys State. Districts present were 2, 4, 5C, 6, 7C, 8C, 9C, 10C, 11C, 12C, 13, 14C, 15C, 16C, 19C, 20C, 21C and 22. Squadrons present were 17, 36, 43C, 120C, 143, 179C, 208, 245C, 283, 297, 309, 321C, 430, 447, 453C, 516, 522, 554C, 560, 573C, 593, 618C, 624, 654 and 817. A quorum was established.

NATIONAL COMMANDER'S CAMPAIGN FUND—Report given by Campaign Chairman Ray Hartline. He stated about available funds as of today, \$16,140.00. He asked that all donations be sent to himself so he can make the deposit. Ray made a motion to accept his report, 2nd by Roy Fowler. Motion passed

UNFINISHED BUSINESS—Adjutant Winkelmann brought the answers to the question concerning Squadrons not certified but have cards on file and if that squadron has a PUFL member. There was some discussion concerning the salary for the Adjutant. Judge Advocate Austin came forward to inform the body of the changes to our By-Laws that have been approved.

NEW BUSINESS—Judge Advocate Austin read resolution of endorsement. Adjutant Winkelmann gave the body information on a 9th District Grant Writing Training class.

GOOD OF THE SAL—Various Squadrons reported on upcoming events. 1st Division Commander Perkins told the body about a bicycle trip from Brownsville to Oklahoma. Route and date will be published at a later date. Commander Guillory provided some encouraging notes to the body. Adjutant Winkelmann then discussed many Adjutant notes, upcoming events and future dates for meetings.

American Legion Auxiliary President Myra Cooper came to our meeting to bring greetings to the body, Also, along with her, American Legion Auxiliary National President Vickie came forward to bring greetings and thanked us for everything the SAL does for The American Legion Family.

Being no further business, Commander Guillory asked Chaplain Parnell for the benediction. Following the benediction, Commander Guillory called for the hand salute to the colors and retirement of the colors. The meeting was then adjourned at 9:58 AM

PNC Kevin.

I wanted to Thank
You and the Detachment of
Texas for the invitation to attend
Your Mid Winter DEC meeting.
Your Mid Winter DEC meeting.
John was a great host and
John was a great host and
everyone we met was very kind,
everyone we met was very kin

Thanks for Everything



Detachment of Texas

Commander's Message May 25, 2023

Are American Legion Posts and Squadrons Still Relevant?

Many industries were affected by the pandemic and The American Legion Posts and Squadrons were no exception. Posts and Squadrons across the country suffered and some were forced to close their doors forever. The American Legion is facing much uncertainty and many are fearful of what it all means for the future of the Legion.

The pandemic was an unfortunate wake-up call leading to the realization that this isn't Grandfather's American Legion Post any longer. Today's membership needs to be diverse, and complex and will have different priorities than those from decades past. Still, with questions surrounding the future of the Post and the Legion itself, some are left wondering: Are Posts and Squadrons still relevant in today's society? I certainly think so-at least, they can be.

The American Legion is abuzz with talk of changing demographics and evolving lifestyles and male-dominated households are no longer the norm. Instead, we see dual-income households, increasingly led by career-driven women, with parents who are equal in decision-making and looking for a comfortable environment for the entire family.

With the aging of the Baby Boomer generation comes the dominance of the even larger Millennial population-a generation looking for activities that fit their time-constrained social lifestyle-a place that welcomes spontaneity.

Since many Posts and Squadrons memberships have many generations of members it can be challenging for Posts and Squadrons to successfully cater to a wide variety of interests. Such an ambition requires striking a balance among programs and services to appeal to a younger generation without alienating lifelong members. It's time for forward-thinking Post and Squadrons to accept this challenge and see it as more of an opportunity-a chance to reinvent themselves to provide what members are looking for. In actuality, it's more of a necessity than an opportunity if American Legion Posts wish to continue to play a significant role in members' lives.

Maya Angelou once said, "I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel." It's difficult to put a price on a feeling... it makes sense, then, that members are more willing to be a part of incredible experiences that create wonderful memories to last a lifetime. The goal is to provide an environment that helps them do just that.

At its core, a Post experience is its brand. While this "brand" has little to do with logos, colors, and typefaces, it has much more to do with every aspect of how a member engages with the Post and a lot to do with creating a unique culture that fosters a sense of community. Posts and Squadrons compete with members for their time. By investing dollars and resources into enhancing the overall Post experience, Posts and Squadrons can create a vibrant and energetic atmosphere where members want to spend their time and invite their friends to join them. Soon the Post becomes a pillar of their social lifestyle and Post and Squadron activities are easily woven into a member's daily or weekly routine.

Creating this experience begins with defining a Post's mission and vision deciding who or what you are as a Post and Squadron and where you want to be in the future. These values should then be embraced by infusing them into every facet of the Post experience, from programs to services to the facilities themselves.

All around the world, we see buildings that speak to the neighborhoods in which they reside and tell a story about those who utilize them. The same can be said for Posts. Whether a Post has been around for 50 years or 100 years, each one has its history, and with that history comes countless memories and traditions that are an essential part of a Post's culture.

As Posts evolve and adapt to modern times, this history mustn't be neglected or forgotten. We need to respond to the needs of our members, both past and present, but we cannot properly define those needs until we fully understand our direction.

Our goal is to develop a vision for the future that embraces changing lifestyle trends and a multi-generational membership with a wide range of interests without losing our storied history. While reinventing sometimes means moving forward and helping your Post evolve doesn't mean you need to start from scratch. Here again, the key is to recognize where you

are now and understand where you want to be in the future, carefully selecting areas of focus that will help achieve the Post's and Squadron's vision.

So...are Posts still relevant in today's society? Some could argue they are more important now than ever before. Forward-thinking Posts and Squadrons have an opportunity to reinvent themselves to fit the modern needs of their members, making Posts not only relevant but essential to the inner workings of a member's lives and family activities. With a great understanding of the Legion's past and present, and exciting visions for the future, which can become a powerful tool for celebrating a Post's history and defining the Post's experience and culture for generations to come.

Constantly trying to make us better,

Clifton Guillory
Commander, Detachment of Texas

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION 2023 DETACHMENT CONVENTION ADVANCE REGISTRATION

NAME_		SQ. NO
SQUAD	RON LOCATION	
NAME_		SQ. NO
SQUAD	RON LOCATION	
NAME_		SQ. NO
SQUAD	RON LOCATION	
NAME_		SQ. NO
SQUAD	RON LOCATION	
NAME_		SQ. NO
SQUAD	RON LOCATION	
	CE REGISTRATION \$25.00- 18 \$5.00	ON SITE \$35.00
Mail to:	Kevin Winkelmann Detachment Adjutant 9235 McDade	

DEADLINE FOR ADVANCED REGISTRATION IS JULY 7, 2023

Houston, TX 77080

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION 2023 DETACHMENT CONVENTION CERTIFICATION OF DELEGATES

Name of Squadron	n	No.	Name	of Town	
to the 2023 Detac	that the following membe hment Convention of the S membership 30 days prior	ons of The	American	Legion, Detachment of	
DELEGATES		<u>ALTERNATES</u>			
NAME	2023 CARD NO	<u>N</u> A	AME	2023 CARD NO	
Delegate Chairn	nan				
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7			_		
8				·	
11					
		T DEDCE		OUADBON	
	OTES TO BE CAST WIT				
PAST DETACHMENT COMMANDERS:					

DISTRICT COMMANDER:			
DIVISION COMMANDER:			
Squadron Commander	Squadron Adjutant		

Each Squadron is entitled to one (1) vote for each 10 members or major fraction thereof