

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION DETACHMENT OF TEXAS DETACHMENT CONVENTION 2025 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 11, 2025 at 1:00 pm, Saturday July 12, 2025 at 9:30AM and Sunday July 13, 2025 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---\$119.00 PER NIGHT

CUTOFF, June 17, 2025

AGENDA

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 Alva

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 \$30.00 and on-site registration will be \$40.00. Under 18 will be \$5.00. 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 11, 2025. Finally, a note on membership transmittals. Please make sure all transmittals are filled out correctly and include 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, of September 19-21, 2025. The location of the meeting will be the Austin Southpark Hotel. Their phone number is 512-448-2222 and the room rates are

\$127.00 per night. Please make your reservations as soon as possible. Finally, the election of new officers is 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. We will be having a special guest at our meetings that weekend so please reach out to them, be friendly and stay cool.

FINANCE

ATTENTION: PDC's, Detachment Officers, Committee Chairmen, District Commanders
I plan to send the confirmation email for the 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 a 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 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 it is there for you to use.

Please send all 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 and/or 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 Alva 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 Alva can be reached at 210-269-7951 or email at texdetcdr2425@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 11-----1:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER-----COMMANDER ALVA

POST COLORS-----SGT-AT-ARMS HUNTER FRALEY

INVOCATION-----CHAPLAIN ED PARNELL

**MOMENT OF SILENCE, RESOLUTION FOR POW/MIA FLAG, RESOLUTION FOR
BLUE STAR BANNER AT ALL MEETINGS-----COMMANDER ALVA**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE-----2ND DIVISION COMMANDER JOSEPH THOMAS

PREAMBLE-----1ST DIVISION COMMANDER LEWIS ELAM

ROLL CALL-----ADJUTANT KEVIN WINKELMANN

READING OF MINUTES-----ADJUTANT KEVIN WINKELMANN

APPOINTMENTS TO CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE-----COMMANDER ALVA

GREETINGS TO THE CONVENTION-----NEC JON KINGSTON

INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUEST-----NEC JON KINGSTON

**PRESENTATION OF OUR SPECIAL GUEST-----JOSEPH NAVARRETE
NATIONAL COMMANDER, 2024-2025
DETACHMENT OF NEW MEXICO**

**FIRST READING OF CREDENTIALS-----JUDGE ADVOCATE ROLF AUSTIN
OR CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE**

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAW CHANGES-----JUDGE ADVOCATE ROLF AUSTIN

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS (IF NECESSARY) -----COMMANDER ALVA

NEC REPORT-----NEC JON KINGSTON

COMMITTEE MEETINGS-----3:00 TO 3:30

- A) CWF
- B) Boys State
- C) Convention City
- D) Internet
- E) VE & E

COMMITTEE MEETINGS—3:30 TO 4:15

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

COMMITTEE MEETINGS—4:15 TO 5:00

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

RECESS UNTIL 9:30 AM SATURDAY MORNING

SATURDAY JULY 12, 2025

LEADERSHIP CLASS BY DETACHMENT ADJUTANT KEVIN WINKELMANN AND ALT. NEC BILL KUEHNER

The class will be open to all members; however, it is highly recommended that all District Commanders attend this class due to the nature of information directed to the District Commanders. The class starts at 8:00 and last until 9:15

CALL TO ORDER, 9:30 AM—COMMANDER ALVA

INVOCATION—CHAPLAIN ED PARNELL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE—4TH DIVISION COMMANDER KEN DORSETT

PREAMBLE—5TH DISTRICT COMMANDER TIM WEBB

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 ROY ALVA'S FINAL REPORT

IF THE TIME REACHES 4:00PM AFTER COMMANDER ALVA'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 13, 2025

CALL TO ORDER, 9:00 AM-----COMMANDER ALVA

INVOCATION-----CHAPLAIN ED PARNELL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE-----VA & R CHAIRMAN JEAN MAXWELL

PREAMBLE-----NEC JON KINGSTON

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, DETACHMENT OF TEXAS 2025-2026

CLOSING OF MEETING-----NEWLY ELECTED DETACHMENT COMMANDER

BENEDICTION-----CHAPLAIN ED PARNELL

RETIREMENT OF COLORS-----SGT-AT ARMS HUNTER FRALEY

**POST DEC MEETING IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING CLOSE OF
MEETING**

MID-WINTER CONFERENCE AUSTIN, TX---JANUARY 18-19, 2025

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18, 2025

Meeting was called to order at 9:30 AM by Commander Alva. Colors being in place, a right-hand salute was given. Following the pledge to our flag, the prayer and the reading of the preamble, the meeting was called into session at 9:36. Roll call was then asked for. All officers were present except for Sgt. At Arms Fraley. All Chairmen were present except for Internet Winters. Districts present were 1C, 2C, 3C, 4C, 5C, 6, 7C, 9C, 10C, 11C, 12C, 13C, 14C, 15C, 16C, 19C, 20, 21C and 22. Squadrons present were 12, 36C, 43C, 77, 88C, 89, 92, 120C, 127, 143C, 172C, 179, 198C, 208C, 245, 283, 291, 297, 319, 321C, 430C, 447, 453C, 472, 522, 573C, 593, 597C, 618C, 654, 655C and 817. A quorum was established. Following roll call, National American Legion National Vice Commander Joe, Department of South Carolina, came forward to bring greetings to the body. His words of encouragement were heard and appreciated by all. Detachment Commander Alva then appointed Juan Torres Jr. as Detachment Asst. Sgt at Arms for this meeting. A motion was made by Gary Randall, 2nd by Rolf Austin, to cover his per diem for this meeting. Motion passed. American Legion Department Commander Tom Marty came forward to bring greetings to the body. His tough words and his let's get going was extremely appreciated. Jeff Perkins came forward to give thanks to the body for their thoughts and attending his Daughter's funeral. Commander Alva then asked NEC Kingston to come forward for the purpose of introduction. Jon then introduced Candidate for SAL National Commander 2025-2026, Bill Clancy, from the Detachment of New York, to come forward. He then spoke to the body and extended greetings to all. He spoke to the body for where we are now and what we need to do for the future. His comments were well received, and the body appreciated his comments. Commander Alva then asked for the reading of the minutes. Motion was made by Bill Kuehner, 2nd by Rolf Austin, to waive the reading of the minutes. Motion passed. Past National American Legion Commander Paul Dillard came forward for purpose of presentation of campaign funds for Thom Skelley.

NEC---Commander Alva then asked NEC Kingston to come forward to give his report. Alt NEC Kuehner came with him. He reported on the Fall NEC. Spoke on various resolutions that were presented at the NEC meeting. A full report is attached to these minutes. Bill Kuehner then spoke to the body about an upcoming program called VCF, Veterans Children Foundation. Motion by JB Thomas, 2nd by Gary Randall to accept the report. Motion passed.

Commander Alva then recessed the body for Committee meetings and lunch. Meeting recessed at 11:18 AM.

Meeting was called back to order at 1:05

Rich Huntley came forward to bring greetings and words of wisdom. The body thanked him for his words.

Internal Affairs Director Mike Simon came forward to bring greetings and as always his words are super encouraging, We always love to have him at our meeting.

DEPARTMENT LIAISON---Henry Creech came forward to give his report. He talked to the body about loose ends that need to be tightened up with proper forms and proper paperwork. Squadrons need to follow up with finances and minutes to their Post Adjutant and/or to

Detachment Adjutant. Motion by Jerry Renard, 2nd by JT Thomas to accept the report. Motion passed.

INTERNET—Chairman Winters not present due to family issues, His report was read by Adjutant Winkelmann and is attached to these minutes. Motion made by John Jellison, 2nd by Tim Webb to accept the report. Motion passed.

LEGISLATIVE—Chairman Johnson came forward to give the report. He reported on various items from the Texas Legislation sessions, especially VA Modification Program and other National Programs and upcoming Legislative items. He presented some of those to the floor. A complete report is attached to these minutes. After his report was read, John Jellison made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by Milton Chatham. Motion passed.

VE & E—Chairman Parnell came forward to give the report. Following his remarks, JB Thomas made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by Rolf Austin. A complete copy of the report is attached to these minutes. Motion passed.

AMERICANISM—Chairman Kevin Baker came forward to give the report. He reported on various items brought forward to them including Squadron CSR's. He also spoke on the various events that fall under Americanism and what we need to do as a group to support all of the Americanism program. Gary Randall made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by John Jellison. Motion passed.

VA & R—Chairman Maxwell came forward to give the report. He reported on the various Squadrons who are participating in VA & R related events. He also spoke on the VCF program. A complete report is attached to these minutes. Gary Randall made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by Milton Chatham. Under discussion, it was discussed concerning MIAT.org and how we need to get involved. Motion passed.

CHILDREN & YOUTH/CWF—Chairman Carriger and Chairman Webb came forward to do the report. The committees are working together to jointly handle all projects under their Committees. There will be a raffle starting at the conclusion of this meeting and will be held tomorrow. They also said there are items for sale from the CWF group. Pool tournament will be held immediately after the meeting. A complete report from both Committees is attached to these minutes. Motion made by Tim Webb to accept the report, 2nd by Ed Parnell. Motion passed.

MARKETING—Chairman Hartline came forward to give his report. He noted some accomplishments made by the Marketing Committee. He also stated they are now taking credit cards to pay for various items. Ray made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by Tim Webb. Motion passed.

Ray also spoke to the body concerning the National Commander Campaign Fund

PUBLIC RELATIONS—Wolf Laughing came forward to give the report. Discussions include TEXALPA, CSR and other PR programs. JB Thomas made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by David Gonzalez, motion passed.

CONVENTION CITY—Chairman Owens came forward to give his report. Chairman Owens spoke to the body about the upcoming Department Convention. Reservations should be able to start in March. It was reported that the Department Convention will be held at the same location

through 2030. A complete report is attached to these minutes. Motion made by John Jellison, 2nd by JB Thomas. Motion passed.

BOYS STATE—Chairman Jennings came forward to give the report. He reported all updates of Boys State from the Department. Cost this year is \$400.00 per statesman. There are bundle packages available. These updates are attached. Motion by Jerry Renard to accept the report, 2nd by Tom Arista. Motion passed.

AWARDS—Rolf Austin came forward to give the report. He stated that there are forms available for use on the website. He also spoke about all the awards that are available and what comes with each award. All forms must be submitted prior to May 31st. A complete report is attached to these minutes. Tim Webb made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by Jerry Renard. 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 Jon Kingston. Motion passed.

INTERNAL AFFAIRS/MEMBERSHIP—Chairman Fowler came forward to give the report. He reported to the body concerning the status of membership in the Detachment and necessary changes made to the membership report. We are doing very well hitting our goals and just made the 65% goal. The chairman also handed out 100% checks at this time. There were various discussions 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. Roy Fowler then made a motion to accept the report as read, 2nd by Ed Parnell. Motion passed.

HISTORIAN REPORT—Historian Garcia came forward to give the report. He spoke to the body about the Scrap Book and the rules going with it. He will continue to keep putting together the scrap book monthly. Motion by JB Thomas, 2nd by Gary Randall, to accept the report. Motion passed.

Commander Alva then recessed the meeting until 9:01 AM Sunday morning.

FINANCE—Chairman Dorsett 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 Milton Chatham to accept the report as read, 2nd by JT Thomas. Motion passed. It was also stated that the report be put aside for audit.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19, 2025

Commander Alva called the meeting back into session at 9:05 AM. Following hand salute to the colors, prayer, pledge and preamble, Commander Alva called the meeting to order. The roll call was then asked for. All officers were present except for Sgt. At Arms Fraley. Chairman not attending were Internet (E) Districts present were 1C, 2C, 3C, 4C, 5C, 6, 7C, 9C, 10C, 11C, 12C (47th)
Americanism (4th)

13C, ~~14C~~, 15C, 16C, 19C, 20, 21C and 22. Squadrons present were 12, 36C, 43C, 77, 88C, 89, 93, 120C, 133C, 143C, 172C, 179, 198, 208C, 245, 283, 291, 297, 319, 321C, 430C, 447, 453C, 472, 522, 573C, 593, 618C, 654, 655C and 817. A quorum was established. *597 Present*

UNFINISHED BUSINESS---Parliamentarian came forward to announce changes to the By-Laws that need to be made either by order of the National Organization or of their own accord. He then proceeded into the reading of resolutions of Endorsements for Detachment Offices.

NEW BUSINESS—None

GOOD OF THE SAL—Various Squadrons reported on upcoming events. Wolf Laughing spoke to the body concerning respect to body and our guest. John Jellison made a motion concerning using the PUFL card as a form of identification at DEC's and Convention only, 2nd by Ed Parnell. Motion passed. 2nd Division Commander Thomas spoke to the body about helping the VA Hospital. Tom Arista approached the body concerning American Legion Family Day and presented information concerning what to do on the last Saturday in April. Brad Pack spoke to the body concerning the Military YMCA facilities in El Paso. He also spoke about the facility at Fort Cavazos and what we are helping that facility with. CWF Chairman spoke to the body concerning donations raised for CWF this weekend. Lewis Elam spoke to the body on membership on the National level, especially retention.

Being no further business, Commander Alva asked Chaplain Parnell for the benediction. Following the benediction, Commander Alva called for the hand salute to the colors and retirement of the colors. The meeting was then adjourned at *10:21 AM*

**SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
2025 DETACHMENT CONVENTION
ADVANCE REGISTRATION**

NAME _____ SQ. NO. _____

SQUADRON LOCATION _____

NAME _____ SQ. NO. _____

SQUADRON LOCATION _____

NAME _____ SQ. NO. _____

SQUADRON LOCATION _____

NAME _____ SQ. NO. _____

SQUADRON LOCATION _____

NAME _____ SQ. NO. _____

SQUADRON LOCATION _____

**ADVANCE REGISTRATION \$30.00—ON SITE \$40.00
UNDER 18 \$5.00**

Mail to: Kevin Winkelmann
Detachment Adjutant
9235 McDade
Houston, TX 77080

**DEADLINE FOR ADVANCED REGISTRATION IS
JULY 5, 2025**

**ALL SQUADRON COMMANDERS PRESENT AT THE
CONVENTION WILL HAVE THEIR FEE WAIVED. MUST
BRING CERTIFICATION OF OFFICERS AS PROOF**

**DUAL MEMBERS WILL ONLY BE REQUIRED TO PAY
ONE REGISTRATION FEE. MUST SHOW PROOF FROM
THE AMERICAN LEGION TO GET THIS WAIVER**

DISTRICT COMMANDER: _____

DIVISION COMMANDER: _____

Squadron Commander

Squadron Adjutant

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