

**SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
DETACHMENT OF TEXAS
DETACHMENT CONVENTION 2024
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 12, 2024 at 1:00 pm, Saturday July 13, 2024 at 9:30AM and Sunday July 14, 2024 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---\$117.00 PER NIGHT

CUTOFF, June 18, 2024

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 Fowler

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 12, 2024. 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 20-22, 2024. The location of the meeting will be the Austin Southpark Hotel. Their phone number is 512-448-2222 and the room

rates are \$125.00 per night. Please make your reservations as soon as possible. Finally, the 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. We will be having 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 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 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 Fowler 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 Fowler can be reached at 512-240-3175 or email at roytx75@gmail.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 12-----1:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER-----COMMANDER FOWLER

POST COLORS-----SGT-AT-ARMS DUSTIN FOWLER

INVOCATION-----CHAPLAIN ED PARNELL

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE-----1ST DIVISION COMMANDER LEWIS ELAM

PREAMBLE-----4TH DIVISION COMMANDER KEN DORSETT

ROLL CALL-----ADJUTANT KEVIN WINKELMANN

READING OF MINUTES-----ADJUTANT KEVIN WINKELMANN

APPOINTMENTS TO CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE-----COMMANDER FOWLER

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

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

PRESENTATION OF OUR SPECIAL GUEST-----DON J.R. HALL

NATIONAL COMMANDER, 2023-2024
DETACHMENT OF MARYLAND

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 FOWLER

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 13, 2024

LEADERSHIP CLASS BY 1ST DIVISION COMMANDER LEWIS ELAM

The class will be on using MyLegion.org and completing your membership online including Squadrons and Districts. Class starts at 8:00 and last until 9:15

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

INVOCATION-----CHAPLAIN ED PARNELL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE-----2ND DIVISION COMMANDER ROLF AUSTIN

PREAMBLE-----3RD DIVISION COMMANDER JOHN JELLISON

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 FOWLER'S FINAL REPORT

IF THE TIME REACHES 4:00PM AFTER COMMANDER FOWLER'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 14, 2024

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

INVOCATION-----CHAPLAIN ED PARNELL

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

PREAMBLE-----PDC THOM SKELLEY

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 2024-2025

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

BENEDICTION-----CHAPLAIN ED PARNELL

RETIREMENT OF COLORS-----SGT-AT ARMS DUSTIN FOWLER

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

MID-WINTER CONFERENCE AUSTIN, TX---JANUARY 20, 2024

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 2024

Meeting was called to order at 9:30 AM by Commander Fowler. 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 9:42. Roll call was then asked for. All officers were present except for Alt. NEC Kuehner (E). All Chairmen were present except for Legislative (E). Districts present were 2, 3C, 4, 5C, 9C, 10C, 11C, 12C, 13C, 14C, 15C, 16C, 19C, 20C, 21C and 22C. Squadrons present were 12, 17, 36, 43C, 89C, 120C, 143C, 179C, 198C, 208C, 231, 245, 283, 297, 319, 321C, 430C, 447C, 453C, 472, 511C, 522, 554, 573C, 593, 618C, 624C, 654, 817 and 838. A quorum was established. Following roll call, National American Legion Commander Daniel Seehafer, Department of Wisconsin, came forward to bring greetings to the body. His words of encouragement were heard and appreciated by all. American Legion Department Commander Gene Toohy came forward to bring greetings to the body. His tough words and his let's get going was extremely appreciated. Following Department Commander Toohy, Internal Affairs Director Mike Simon came forward to bring greetings. He brought words of wisdom to us concerning our direction toward funding various scholarships. Commander Fowler then asked NEC Kingston to come forward for the purpose of introduction. Jon then introduced the National Vice Commander Southeast, Linwood Moore, from the Detachment of Virginia, to come forward. He then spoke to the body and extended greetings to all from the National Organization and National Commander J R Hall. His comments were well received, and the body appreciated his comments. NEC Kingston then introduced Joseph Navarette, candidate for SAL National Commander 2024-2025, from the Detachment of New Mexico. He then brought greetings to the body and thanked us for everything we do for the organization. He also spoke about his goals for next year as National Commander. Commander Fowler then asked for the reading of the minutes. Motion was made by Jon Kingston, 2nd by Ed Parnell to waive the reading of the minutes. Motion passed.

NEC---Commander Fowler then asked NEC Kingston to come forward to give his report. He reported on the Fall NEC. The Adjutant will forward a copy of the Fall Minutes to the body. A full report is attached to these minutes. Motion by Jon Kingston, 2nd by Ed Parnell to accept the report. Motion passed.

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. Comments were made concerning the \$20.00 registration fee with thank you. Motion by Ed Parnell, 2nd by JT Thomas to accept the report. Motion passed.

INTERNET---Chairman Winters came forward to give his report. He spoke to the body about the various spam calls and to stay away from them. Also concerning facebook page scams. A full report is Motion made by Gary Winters, 2nd by John Jellison to accept the report. Motion passed.

JUDGE ADVOCATE---

LEGISLATIVE---Chairman Chatham not present, member Clifton Guillory 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, 2nd by JT Thomas. Motion passed.

VE & E---Chairman Perkins not present so member Tom Arista gave the report. Following his remarks, Tom made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by Squadron 838. A complete copy of the report is attached to these minutes. Motion passed.

AMERICANISM---Chairman Huntley not present so member Kevin Baker came forward to give the report. He reported on various items brought forward to them including Squadron CSR's and 2 resolutions for Boys State and Boys Scout. Kevin made a motion to accept the report minus the resolutions, 2nd by George Alva, Motion passed. JA Austin came forward to read the resolutions. Resolution #1 Boys Scout of the Boys Scout of the Year. Motion to accept Resolution #1 by JA Austin, 2nd by Ed Parnell. Motion passed. Resolution #2 Boys State contribution to their program, motion by JA Austin to accept Resolution #2, 2nd by Ray Hartline. Motion denied.

VA & R---Chairman Kleespies came forward to give the report. Read a report from Squadron 208, 573 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. Bret Kleespies made a motion to accept the report minus the resolution, 2nd by Kevin Baker. Motion passed. JA Austin came forward to read the resolution. JA Austin made a motion to accept the resolution, 2nd by Ed Parnell. Motion failed.

Commander Fowler then recessed the meeting at 12:15 for lunch. Meeting was called back to order following lunch at 1:45 PM by Commander Fowler

American Legion Auxiliary Department President Holly Heatley came forward to bring greetings and extend her best wishes to the SAL for their hard work and dedication. She then introduced her guest, Matt Marin, the Executive Director of the Birdwell Foundation, which helps out with PTSD. He spoke to the body about their mission, what they do and how they help others with PTSD. Main goal is to end the suicide rate among all Veterans.

CHILDREN & YOUTH/CWF--- Chairman Woods and Chairman Boyce along with member Brad Pack came forward to do the report. Brad reported on various items the committee is working on and stated there will be no raffle this year. It was noted that the requested budget is \$2,000.00. Finance will review this request. Pool tournament will be held immediately after the meeting. A complete report from both Committees is attached to these minutes. Motion made by Brad to accept the report, 2nd by Kevin Baker. Motion passed.

MARKETING---Chairman Hartline came forward to give his report. He stated that Marketing had no report at this time.

PUBLIC RELATIONS---Chairman Ventura came forward to give the report. Will revise the SOP for the Detachment of Texas. Also spoke about the designated Hubmaster in each District. Chairman Ventura made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by Tom Arista, motion passed.

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. It was reported that the Department Convention will be held at the same location through 2030. He also read the newly created SOP for the Convention City Committee. A

complete report is attached to these minutes. Motion made by Chairman Elam, 2nd by Tom Arišta. Motion passed.

BOYS STATE---Chairman Jenkins came forward to give the report. He reported all updates of Boys State from the Department. These updates are attached. Motion by Zach Jennings to accept the report, 2nd by Ed Parnell. Motion passed.

AWARDS---Chairman Parnell 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. Ed made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by Ken Dorsett. 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 Ed Parnell. Motion passed.

INTERNAL AFFAIRS/MEMBERSHIP--- Chairman Clifton Guillory not present, Lewis Elam 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 65% goal. 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. He also read an updated copy of the SOP for the Membership Committee. Ed Parnell then made a motion to accept the report as read, 2nd by Kevin Baker. Motion passed.

CHAPLAIN REPORT---Detachment Chaplain Parnell came forward to give the report. A copy of the report is attached to these minutes. Ed Parnell made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by Rolf Austin. Motion passed.

FINANCE---Chairman George Alva 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 George Alva to accept the report as read, 2nd by Squadron 838. Motion passed. It was also stated that the report be put aside for audit.

VE & E Chairman came forward to bring notes of information to the body for the purpose of funding various scholarships and donations.

Commander Fowler then recessed the meeting until 9:00 AM Sunday morning.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, 2024

4th Division Commander Dorsett called the meeting back into session at 9:05 AM. Following hand salute to the colors, prayer, pledge and preamble, Division Commander Dorsett called the meeting to order. The roll call was then asked for. All officers were present except for Alt. NEC Kuehner (E). Chairman not attending were Legislative. Districts present were 3C, 4, 5C, 9C, 10C, 11C, 12C, 13C, 14C, 15C, 16C, 19C, 20C, 21C and 22C. 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---

UNFINISHED BUSINESS---Question on Flag spreaders and it was stated that they are ordered and waiting on delivery. CWF received approximately \$620.00 worth of donations from fines, pool tournament entry fee and other sources.

NEW BUSINESS—Brad Pack made a motion to purchase an ad for NVC Southeast candidate Thom Skelley at a cost of \$75.00, 2nd by George Alva. Motion passed. The Awards Banquet was brought up for a steak and shrimp dinner to be held with proceeds going to the Skelley campaign for National Commander. It was asked for Squadrons/Districts to donate funds to cover the cost of the food. 4th District SAL will donate \$1,000.00 to the cost of the food. Kevin Winkelmann made a motion to raise the Baseball Scholarship to \$1,000.00 from \$500.00 starting in 2025. 2nd by Gary Winters. Motion passed.

GOOD OF THE SAL—Various Squadrons reported on upcoming events. 22nd District Commander Thomas spoke to the body on the Law Enforcement classes and their availability to the body. Thom Skelley came to the podium to discuss SDR's and the importance of getting them in as soon as possible including discussion on membership, retention and new. The National Convention was brought up for information only. Bowling Tournament sponsored by Squadron 208 was discussed. 3rd Division Commander came forward to present a hand carved cane to Detachment Commander Fowler. JA Austin read a resolution for information only and also for supporting our candidate for SE Region NVC Jon Kingston. Adjutant Winkelmann then discussed many Adjutant notes, upcoming events and future dates for meetings.

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