

**SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
DETACHMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
FALL CONFERENCE—SEPT. 2024
AUSTIN, TX**

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 Executive Committee to convene on Saturday September 21, 2024 at 9:00 AM and, if necessary, Sunday September 22, 2024 at 9:00AM in the Amphitheater Room at the Austin Southpark Hotel in Austin, Texas.

Meeting and Hotel News

Where: Austin Southpark Hotel, 4140 Governors Row, Austin, TX 78744 512-448-2222

Room rates are \$125.00 per night plus tax. All room reservations must be made by Aug. 19, 2024

When: Saturday, September 21, 2024 @ 9:00AM

Sunday, September 22, 2024 @ 9:00AM (If Necessary)

Agenda

You will find the agenda for the meetings enclosed.

Commander's Comments

Please see the enclosed letter from Detachment Commander Alva for his notes and words of encouragement.

Adjutants Notes

Please make sure all Officers, Chairman and District and Squadron Commanders address changes are reported to me as soon as they occur. This includes e-mail addresses. Please e-mail all correspondence if possible. All Squadrons and Districts need to make sure their certification of officers is turned in as soon as possible. This will help with our mailings. The minutes from the 2024 Detachment Convention are enclosed. Please read them and bring all corrections to this meeting in September. Please note, the Mid-Winter Conference will be held on January 18-19, 2025 at the Austin Southpark Hotel. We will be having a special guest at this meeting, possibly more than one. More info in the next newsletter. The next Detachment Convention will be held in Austin, Texas over the weekend of July 11-13, 2025.

Finance

Greetings everyone. I plan to email our officers, Committee Chairman and PDC's around the end of August to request your confirmation for Fall DEC. Please respond by Tuesday August 27TH. I need to have the list to Bill West shortly after that. If you have not received my email by Labor Day weekend, please contact me at 817-946-4506 or smslaughter@sbcglobal.net. Any confirmations after Labor Day weekend will be paid after the meeting. So, reply as soon as you see my email.

Steve Slaughter, Detachment Finance Officer

Phone: 817-946-4506

E-Mail -smslaughter@sbcglobal.com

Awards Banquet

The awards dinner that normally happens this weekend will be held Saturday September 21, 2024 starting at 5:00 PM and the location is Post 83 in Austin

Internet

Greetings! The new year brings new opportunities to improve over the last. We have a great tool available for you to use. Send us the flyer to events your Squadron or District is hosting, and we will post it for you and advertise it across the state. If you have pictures or events you have hosted, send them with a description of who, what, where etc. and we will post them all.

Gary Winters—Internet Chairman

Public Relations

Please remember to take advantage of the Sons of The American Legion-Detachment of Texas Facebook page and the SAL web page, saltexas.org, to promote your Squadron's events and activities. You can forward the information to Gary Winters at thumper.mia231@yahoo.com and he will get them posted. Also, please forward your pictures and stories of these events to me so I can document the year and share with others all that we do with the Sons.

Jerry Ventura
Public Relations Chairman
Raul Garcia
Detachment Historian

Department Headquarters Policy

There have been some changes at Department Headquarters that we all need to observe. From this day forward or until further notice, these are the new policies that have been mandated. If anyone or any Squadron has complaints, concerns, issues or needs information concerning membership or any other matter, all comments and/or questions must go through the Detachment Adjutant, Kevin Winkelmann, or if he is not available next through Detachment Commander George Alva. All items must be in letter form or by e-mail, if possible. Adjutant Winkelmann can be reached at 817-994-7394 cell, 832-548-1728 home or e-mail at knwink@msn.com. Please follow these rules so that all issues can be resolved.

FALL DEC

Opening Session-----9:00 AM

Call To Order-----COMMANDER ALVA

Post Colors-----SGT-AT-ARMS FRALEY
Invocation-----CHAPLAIN PARNELL
Moment Of Silence
Pledge Of Allegiance-----DIVISION 3 COMMANDER JELLISON
Preamble-----DIVISION 2 COMMANDER THOMAS
Roll Call-----ADJUTANT WINKELMANN
Reading of Minutes-----ADJUTANT WINKELMANN
Special Introductions-----NEC KINGSTON
Committee Meetings (Immediately following recess of meeting) -----LOCATION TBD

COMMITTEE REPORTS

NEC-----JON KINGSTON
Internet-----GARY WINTERS
Legislative-----MILTON CHATHAM
VE & E-----ED PARNELL
Americanism-----KEVIN BAKER
VA & R-----BRET KLEPSIES
Children & Youth-----RICK CARRIGER
CWF-----TIM WEBB
Public Relations-----JERRY VENTURA
Marketing-----RAY HARTLINE
Convention City-----DAVID OWENS
Boys State-----ZACHARY JENNINGS
Awards-----LEWIS ELAM

PUFL-----KEVIN WINKELMANN

Internal Affairs/Membership-----ROY FOWLER

Finance-----KEN DORSETT

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

GOOD OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Benediction-----CHAPLAIN PARNELL

Retire The Colors-----SGT-AT-ARMS FRALEY

Adjournment-----COMMANDER ALVA

**IF ALL BUSINESS IS NOT COMPLETED BY 5:00PM SATURDAY, THE MEETING WILL
RECONVENE AT 9:00 AM SUNDAY MORNING**

**DETACHMENT CONVENTION
AUSTIN, TEXAS
JULY 12-14, 2024**

FRIDAY JULY 12, 2024

Meeting called to order by Commander Fowler at 2:00 PM. Following the posting of the colors, the pledge, prayer and preamble were asked for. The Commander then called the meeting to order. The Commander then asked for all Squadron Commanders to stand and be recognized. He also asked for all Squadron Commanders that were here for the first time to stand and be recognized. The Commander then asked the Adjutant for the roll call. All officers were present except for Historian Moore, excused. All Chairman were present except for Membership Guillory and Legislative Chatham. Districts present were 3C, 4, 5C, 6, 7C, 9, 10C, 11C, 12, 13C, 14, 15C, 16C, 19C, 20C, 21C and 22. Squadrons present were 17, 36, 37, 43, 62, 93, 95, 120, 127, 143, 179, 198, 208, 231, 245, 275, 283, 291, 297, 321, 430, 447, 453, 472, 490, 511, 522, 554, 573, 593, 618, 654, 817 and 838. It was stated that a quorum was present. Commander Fowler then called for the reading of the previous minutes. A motion was made by Ken Dorsett, 2nd by Gary Randall to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Motion passed.

Commander Fowler then made some appointments to fill out some officers and Chairmen. Commander Fowler appointed Jean Maxwell, Chairman of the Credentials Committee, with members Shannon Boyce and Paul Thornton. Motion by George Alva, 2nd by Ed Parnell to accept the appointments. Motion passed. Commander Fowler then appointed Eddy Seeger as acting Detachment Historian. Motion by Rolf Austin, 2nd by Ed Parnell to accept the appointment. Motion passed.

Commander Fowler then asked NEC Kingston to come forward to introduce our special guest, JR Hall, National SAL Commander, from the Detachment of Maryland.

American Legion Auxiliary President Holly Heatly came before the body to bring greetings and say thanks to the SAL for all of their hard work.

Commander Fowler then read the full list of committees and meeting times. He asked that all District Commanders help with missing members of the various committees.

Adjutant Winkelmann then gave some brief notes to the body. The meeting then was recessed at 2:30 PM until Saturday morning.

SATURDAY JULY 13, 2024

Commander Fowler called the meeting back into session at 9:38AM. Following hand salute to the colors, prayer and pledge, the meeting was called to order. Roll call was then taken. All officers were present except for Historian Moore. All chairmen were present except for Membership Guillory, Americanism Huntley and Legislative Chatham. Districts present were 3C, 4C, 5C, 6, 7C, 9C, 10C, 11C, 12C, 13C, 14C, 15C, 16C, 20C, 21C and 22C. Squadrons present were 17, 36, 37, 43, 62, 89, 93, 95, 120, 122, 127, 172, 179, 198, 208, 231, 245, 275, 283, 291, 297, 319, 321, 353, 424, 430, 447, 453, 472, 490, 511, 533, 554, 573, 593, 597, 618, 624, 654, 817 and 838.

Mike Simon then approached the podium for the purpose of bringing greetings and praise to the body. He spoke about all the good things that the SAL do for The American Legion Family.

Commander Fowler then called NEC Kingston to the podium for the purpose of introduction. National Commander JR Hall, from the Detachment of Maryland, was brought to the podium for his remarks. National Commander Hall then addressed the body and brought greetings to the Detachment.

National Vice President Southern Division Cristine Trahan came forward to bring greetings to the body and extend the best wishes from the National Organization of The American Legion Auxiliary.

NEC---NEC Kingston came forward to give his report. He reported on various items from the past NEC meeting in Indianapolis this past May. Also reported on other items from different Detachments and what is going on in the National Organization. Jon made a motion to accept his report, 2nd by Ken Dorsett. Motion passed

DEPARTMENT LIAISON---Advisor Creech gave his report. A full copy of his report is attached to these minutes. Motion by Rich Huntley, 2nd by Ed Parnell to accept the report. Motion passed.

CREDENTIALS---Max Maxwell came forward to give the report. The first report of Credentials was read to the body for information.

BOYS STATE---Chairman Arreaga not being present, Zach Jennings gave a small report on Boys State as he was one of the participants this past year. He presented a slide presentation including various comments on the Boys State program and his time there in Austin. Zach then made a motion to accept his report, 2nd by Anthony Jarrett. Motion Passed

CONVENTION CITY---Chairman Elam came forward to give his report. He stated that everyone needs to be aware of the meeting dates and cut off dates for the hotels at the various DEC's and Conventions. Motion by Lewis Elam, 2nd by Squadron 511. Motion passed

INTERNET---Chairman Gary Winters gave the report. He asked that more information be sent to him to be put on the internet. He stated that the page for our parents and grandparents is not being used. A complete copy of his report is attached to these minutes. Motion by Gary Winters to accept the report, 2nd by John Jellison. Motion passed.

RESOLUTIONS---Judge Advocate Austin gave a small report on the constitution and by-laws and stated that all of the resolutions are administrative. He also read all the turned in resolutions to the floor. Motion by Chairman Austin to accept the report, 2nd by Gary Randall. Motion passed.

LEGISLATIVE---Chairman Chatham was not present, and no report was given. However, one of the committee members stated that the report will be mailed.

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

VA & R--- Chairman Bret Kleespies came forward to give the report. He stated that the small Squadron winner was Squadron 275, medium Squadron went to Squadron 208 and the large Squadron winner was Squadron 453. He gave the total hours and monies donated to the body. Bret then made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by John Jellison. Motion passed. Motion made by Gary Randall, 2nd by JB Thomas, to accept the resolution to support the YMCA/Pantry. Motion passed.

PUBLIC RELATIONS---Chairman Ventura came forward to give the report. A complete report is attached to these minutes. Committee member Wolf spoke to the body on how to get noticed for doing the work by proclamation and news in the paper. Motion by Jerry, 2nd by Ed Parnell. Motion passed.

AWARDS---Chairman Ed Parnell gave the report. The following winners are:
MEMBER OF THE YEAR-----NATHAN BURKE, SQUADRON 618
DUAL MEMBER OF THE YEAR-----ROLF AUSTIN, SQUADRON/POST 618

ADJUTANT OF THE YEAR-----DAVID BLAIR, SQUADRON 36
ADVISOR OF THE YEAR-----T DANIEL TOMPKINS, POST 120
ANN HARTLINE/MAMIE HUGHES MOTHER OF THE YEAR---TAMMY FOWLER, POST 573
SAL BOYS STATER OF THE YEAR-----JAKE HAYES, SQUADRON 376
DAVID DEW VA & R OF THE YEAR-----NONE PRESENTED

Motion made by Ed Parnell, second by Lewis Elam to accept his report. Motion passed.

AMERICANISM—Chairman Rich Huntley came forward to give the report. He stated that the Americanism results were incredible for the number of reports received. He then announced the Squadron Americanism winners who were small Squadron was Dallas 275, medium Squadron Willis 618 and large Squadron was Dallas 453. The district winner was the 5th District. He then reported the total results for the year. Rich then made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by George Alva. Motion passed.

A resolution was read for National American Legion Baseball Award. Motion by Rich Huntley, 2nd by John Jellison to approve the resolution. Motion passed.

MARKETING—Chairman Ray Hartline gave the report. He spoke to the body about possibly selling old shirts at a discount rate and also looking for new colors of shirts. He stated that sales are going very well. Ray made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by Gary Randall. Motion passed.

Commander Fowler recessed the meeting at 11:55 for lunch.

Commander Fowler called the meeting back to order at 1:39 PM

CHILDREN & YOUTH/CMN & CWF—Chairman Tracy Wood, Children & Youth and Shannon Boyce, CWF Chairman, gave the report. Report was given by Brad Pack. They gave a brief rundown of all the reports turned in. Award winners are as follows: Large Dallas 453, Medium Carrollton 597, Small Dallas 424 and District 5 as the best district. A complete report is attached to these minutes. Motion by Tracy to accept the report, 2nd by Webb, Squadron 597. Motion passed.

VE & E---Chairman Jeff Perkins came forward to give his report. Various items were dispatched to the body. A complete copy of the report is attached to these minutes. Jeff made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by Curtis Ebarb. Motion passed.

FINANCE—Chairman George Alva gave the report. A complete report is attached to these minutes. Motion by Clifton, 2nd by Ken Dorsett. Motion passed.

NATIONAL CAMPAIGN FUND---Finance Director Hartline came forward to give the report. A more thorough report will be presented at the Fall DEC.

INTERNAL AFFAIRS/MEMBERSHIP—Vice Chairman Lewis Elam gave the report. A complete report is attached to these minutes. He spoke to the body on all of the Detachment achievements accomplished this past membership year. 100% Membership Caps and Pins were presented to all 100% Squadrons. Lewis made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by John Jellison. Motion passed.

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT—Chaplain Ed Parnell came forward to give the Chaplain's report. He reported on all services conducted this past year. Motion by Ed Parnell, 2nd by Lewis Elam. Motion passed.

SQUADRON, DISTRICT AND DIVISION COMMANDER'S REPORT---No reports.

ELECTION OF DELEGATES TO THE NATIONAL CONVENTION

Motion was made by Ed Parnell to pay for all 18 delegates at a cost of \$35 per delegate for a total of \$630.00 plus the 6 guest at \$35.00 for a total \$210.00. Total delegate fees are \$840.00. 2nd by Mac Tosh, Squadron 511. Motion passed.

DETACHMENT COMMANDER ROY FOWLER FINAL REPORT

Commander Fowler gave his final report to the body. He was presented his Past Detachment Commander's pin after his report. A motion was made by Henry Creech to accept his report, 2nd by George Alva. Motion passed.

Regional Membership Director Thom Skelley came forward with National Commander Hall to hand out the Individual Recruitment Awards.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS---None

NEW BUSINESS---Brad Pack brought information to the body about the bike ride to the National Convention for PTSD in the amount of

GOOD OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION---There were many announcements made from the floor concerning the various Squadron and Post events. Chaplain Parnell gave notice that Ann Hartline's sister was involved in a construction accident. Jeff Perkins came forward to describe the upcoming ride to New Orleans for PTSD. Lets work together to help raise more money The American Legion.

2ND READING OF CREDENTIALS---Judge Advocate Austin came forward to present the 2nd reading of Credentials.

After Adjutant notes, the meeting was recessed at 3:37PM

SUNDAY JULY 14, 2024

Commander Fowler reconvened the meeting at 9:08AM. Following the hand salute to the colors, prayer and pledge, Commander Fowler called the meeting to order. The Adjutant then completed the roll call. All officers were present except for Historian Moore, excused. All Chairmen were present except for Membership Guillory and Legislative Chatham. Districts present were 3C, 4, 5C, 6, 7C, 9C, 10C, 11C, 12C, 13C, 14C, 15C, 16C, 19C, 20C, 21C and 22C. Squadrons present were 12, 36, 37, 43, 88, 89, 93, 95, 120, 122, 127, 143, 172, 179, 198, 208, 231, 245, 275, 283, 291, 297, 319, 321, 353, 424, 430, 447, 453, 472, 490, 511, 522, 554, 573, 593, 597, 618, 624, 654, 817 and 838. A quorum was present

CREDENTIALS---The final report of credentials was read by the Credentials Committee. A total of 249 delegates was reported to the floor. Motion was made by Gary Randall, 2nd by Tom Arista to accept the report. Motion passed.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The temporary/stand in Judge Advocate proceeded into the election. The new officers elected are as follows:

COMMANDER-----GEORGE ALVA SQUADRON 593
1ST DIVISION-----LEWIS ELEM SQUADRON 453
2ND DIVISION-----JOSEPH THOMAS SQUADRON 319
3RD DIVISION-----JOHN JELLISON SQUADRON 245
4TH DIVISION-----KEN DORSETT SQUADRON 430
ADJUTANT-----KEVIN WINKELMANN SQUADRON 654
FINANCE OFFICER----STEVE SLAUGHTER SQUADRON 522
HISTORIAN-----RAUL GARCIA SQUADRON 172
CHAPLAIN-----ED PARNELL SQUADRON 120
PARLIMATARIAN-----ROLF AUSTIN SQUADRON 618

SGT-AT-ARMS-----HUNTER FRALEY SQUADRON 490
ASST. SGT-AT-ARMS---NICOLAZ GATTIS SQUADRON 618
NEC-----JON KINGSTON SQUADRON 321
ALT. NEC-----BILL KUEHNER SQUADRON 297

Installation of Newly Elected Detachment Officers was performed by PDC Thom Skelley.

Kevin Winkelmann made a motion, 2nd by Eddy Seegers, to release the Credentials Committee from their duties. Motion passed

Newly elected Detachment Commander George Alva came forward to speak to the body. He was then presented with his Detachment cover and his badge.

American Legion Department Commander Toohy came to our meeting to bring greetings and best wishes from the Department of Texas.

Following Detachment Commander Alva's announcements, final announcements were made. The Commander then called for the prayer and final words followed by the retirement of the colors. The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 AM.

POST DEC MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 11:20AM by Detachment Commander Alva. Commander Alva read the new appointments for the Committees. A motion was made by Kevin Winkelmann, 2nd by Tim Webb to accept the appointments. Some changes were made. Motion passed. Following some brief announcements by the Adjutant and being no further business, Commander Alva adjourned the meeting at 11:30AM

WHEREAS, The Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Texas will have additional funds due to a dues increase to start in 2025, and part of that dues increase can be used for this program to help our troops and veterans at Armed Services YMCA, Killeen/Ft Cavazos; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Texas, intends to support this program with a yearly donation of \$5,000.00 to the Armed Forces YMCA, Killeen/Ft Cavazos, TX; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, that in the event that an additional Armed Services YMCA starts up at another military base in Texas that the \$5,000.00 will be divided evenly between all military bases that supports an Armed Services YMCA at their base. The entire amount of donation will not exceed \$5,000.00 per year no matter the amount of Armed Services YMCA on these military basis

Resolution Form
SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION DETACHMENT OF TEXAS

Origin: Detachment Americanism Committee

Date: 12-15 July 2024

Title: Creation of The American Legion Baseball George W. Rulon Player of the Year Scholarship

Whereas, The American Legion Baseball program has established scholarships for the all-academic team based on their respective managers nomination; and

Whereas, there is no established scholarship for the George W. Rulon Player of the Year recipient; now therefor be it

RESOLVED, by the National Executive Committee of the Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Texas in convention assembled in Austin, Texas July 12-15 2024 that the Sons of The American Legion establish a scholarship of \$5,000, to be adjusted for inflation, awarded to the George W. Rulon Player of the Year of The American Legion Baseball World Series; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the money for this scholarship come from the Sons of The American Legion National annual budget; and be it finally

RESOLVED, the scholarship commence with the 2025 American Legion World Series.

Approved 7-14-24 - By The Sons