

**SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
DETACHMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
FALL CONFERENCE—SEPT. 2012
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 15, 2012 at 9:30AM and, if necessary, Sunday September 16, 2012 at 9:00AM in the Amphitheater Room at the Omni Southpark Hotel in Austin, Texas.

Meeting and Hotel News

Where: Amphitheater Room, Omni Southpark Hotel, 4140 Governor's Row, Austin, TX
512-448-2222. Room rates are \$90.00 per night plus tax. All room reservations must be made by August 31, 2012

When: Saturday, September 15, 2012 @ 9:30AM
Sunday, September 16, 2012 @ 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 Alvis 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 2012 Detachment Convention are enclosed. Please read them and bring all corrections to this meeting in September. We hope to be having the leading candidate for National Commander as our guest. Please note, the Mid-Winter Conference will be held January 18-20, 2013 at the Omni Hotel. We will be having a special guest in for this meeting. More-info in the next newsletter. The next Detachment Convention will be held in Irving, Texas the weekend of July 10-14, 2013.

MEMBERSHIP

Please see the attached letter from membership Chairman Gary Paul

Finance

Remember, all reimbursements must have an attached voucher signed by the Commander and the Finance Officer. If you have any questions, my contact information is listed below:

Steve Slaughter, Detachment Finance Officer

Phone: 817-946-4506

E-Mail -smslaughter@sbcglobal.com

Awards Banquet

The awards dinner will be Friday, September 14, 2012 at Post 83 in Austin, down the street from the hotel. More information later via email and the website. Cost will be \$12.00 per person and the dinner will be Chicken and Beef Fajitas. Dinner will start at 7:00 PM with the awards presentation starting starting around 8:00 PM. Entertainment will follow the closing of the awards program. This award program is subject to change due to the availability of the Post.

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 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

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 Jeff Alvis. All items must be in letter form or by e-mail, if possible. Adjutant Winkelmann can be reached at 281-541-8642 cell, 832-548-1728 home, 713-896-4775 fax or e-mail at knwink@msn.com. Commander Alvis can be reached at 903-263-8018 or e-mail at maverickawards@nwemail.net Please follow these new rules so that all issues can be resolved.

Detachment Historian

Attention SAL Historians in Texas:

I am Thom Skelley, your new Detachment Historian. I need all Squadrons, Districts and Divisions Historians to send me pictures of your special events and conventions. For those that do not know, there is a National History Contest. It is open to squadron, District and Detachment levels. Help me let the other Detachments know everything in Texas is bigger and better than anywhere else. I would like to see the highest number of entrants coming from Texas. You can forward any picture, along with a description and names of persons in the pictures directly to me through the mail or email. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or if you need my address to send your pictures. My email address is thomskelley@elp.rr.com or you can use the direct link to my email or the Detachment of Texas, Sons of The American Legion.

Thom Skelley
Detachment Historian

FALL DEC

Opening Session-----9:30AM

Call To Order-----Commander Alvis

Post Colors-----Sgt-At-Arms Fernando Guajardo

Invocation-----Chaplain Kolwyn Palasota

Moment Of Silence

Pledge Of Allegiance-----Division 1 Commander Steve Davis

Preamble-----Division 2 Commander Jerry Beard

Roll Call-----Adjutant Winkelmann

Reading of Minutes-----Adjutant Winkelmann

Special Introductions-----NEC Chatham

Committee Meetings (Immediately following recess of meeting)-----Location TBD

Break For Lunch

PDC Caucas-----11:30 to 12:30

General Seesion Resumes-----1:00 PM

COMMITTEE REPORTS

NEC-----Milton Chatham

Internet-----Gary Winters

Legislative-----Santiago Betancourt

Americanism-----Blair Sanders

VA & R-----David Blair

Children & Youth-----Tracy Wood

CMN/CWF-----Dan Paul

Public Relations-----Richard Grimes

Marketing-----Jeff Saul

Convention City-----Jimmy Don Dixon

Boys State-----Travis Arreaga

Awards-----Jonathan Poe

PUFL-----Robert Sonnier

Internal Affairs/Membership-----Gary Paul

Finance-----Bill Kuehner

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

GOOD OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Benediction-----Kolwyn Palasota

Retire The Colors-----Sgt-At-Arms Fernando Guajardo

Adjournment-----Commander Alvis

IF ALL BUSINESS IS NOT COMPLETED BY 4:00PM SATURDAY, THE MEETING WILL RECONVENE AT 9:00 AM SUNDAY MORNING

**DETACHMENT CONVENTION
HOUSTON, TEXAS
JULY 13-15, 2012**

FRIDAY JULY 13, 2012

Meeting called to order by Commander Slaughter at 10:00AM. 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 the Adjutant for the roll call. All officers were present except for Vice Commander Division 4, Historian Crowder and Asst Adjutant Arreaga. All chairmen were present except for Americanism Sanders, CMN/CWF Dan Paul and Boys State Gonzales. Districts present were 1C, 2, 4C, 5, 6, 7C, 9C, 10,11,12C, 13, 14C, 15, 16C, 17, 20 and 22C. Squadrons present were 36, 37, 71, 76, 81, 84, 163, 165, 179, 181, 200, 223, 231, 245, 267, 297, 321, 339, 363, 379, 430, 453, 472, 516, 517, 522, 554, 569, 573, 598, 618, 654, 817, 828 and 838. It was stated that a quorum was present. Commander Slaughter then called for the reading of the previous minutes. A motion was made by Milton Chatham, 2nd by Gary Paul to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Motion passed.

Commander Slaughter then made some appointments to fill out some officers and Chairmen. Commander Slaughter appointed Jim Kehler, Chairman of the Credentials Committee with Connie Waddell and John Poe as members. Commander Slaughter then appointed Travis Arreaga as Boys State Chairman. Larry Black made a motion to accept these appointments, 2nd by Milton Chatham. Motion passed.

22nd District Commander Torres came forward to bring greetings to all members present for the Detachment Convention. PDC David Dew then came forward to bring the response to the greeting.

Judge Advocate Winters came forward to give the rules of credentials committee. The rules were read to the body for discussion. JA Winters then read a resolution for information purposes only. JA Winters then read the first reading of the credentials to the body.

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

Adjutant Winkelmann then gave some brief notes to the body. The meeting then was recessed at 10:48 AM until Saturday morning.

SATURDAY JULY 14, 2012

Commander Slaughter called the meeting back into session at 9:45AM. 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 Crowder. All chairmen were present except for Boys State Gonzales. Districts present were 1C, 2, 4C, 5, 6C, 7C, 8C, 9C, 10C, 11C, 12C, 13C, 14C, 15, 16C, 17, 20C, 21C and 22C. Squadrons present were 21, 33, 36, 37, 50, 71, 76, 81, 83, 84, 96, 163, 165, 179, 200, 208, 223, 231, 245, 267, 297, 321, 379, 430, 447, 453, 472, 516, 517, 521, 522, 554, 569, 573, 578, 586, 593, 598, 618, 654, 817, 828 and 838.

Commander Slaughter then asked NEC McPeters to bring forward our special guest, National SAL Commander Jim Roberts from the Detachment of Florida. He brought greetings from the National Organization and gave the body his remarks

NEC—NEC Joe McPeters gave the report of the National Meetings in Indianapolis, IN. A copy of this report is attached to these minutes. Motion made by Joe to accept the report, 2nd by Robert Sonnier.

BOYS STATE—Member Brad Pack came forward to give the report. He stated that there were 837 delegates showed up with 807 delegates passing the course. It was stated that Mark Mayer was elected the Boys State Volunteer of the Year and will receive a PUFL membership and the award plaque. Robert Jackson will receive an Honorary Award as Boys State Volunteer of the Year and will receive a plaque and his name on the awards plaque. A complete copy of his report is attached to these minutes. Brad made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by Larry Black. Motion passed.

CONVENTION CITY—Chairman Juan Torres gave his report. Most information given was for the National Convention in Houston for 2013. A copy of his report is attached to these minutes. Motion by Juan to accept his report, 2nd by Gary Winters. Motion passed

INTERNET—Chairman Gary Winters gave the report. He stated that the Detachment now has a facebook page and is available for all to use. He also stated that membership and legislative reports are being put up on the facebook page He asked that more information be sent to him to be put on the internet. A copy is attached to these minutes. Motion by Mr. Winters to accept the report, 2nd by Milton Chatham. Motion passed

CREDENTIALS—Judge Advocate Winters and Credentials Chairman Jim Kehler gave the 2nd reading of credentials

RESOLUTIONS—Judge Advocate Winters gave a small report on the constitution and by-laws. He also read one resolution to the floor for information purposes only.

LEGISLATIVE—Chairman Santiago Betancourt gave the report. He spoke on his trip to the Washington Conference and the fulfillment and great strides that this trip did for the Detachment. He also spoke on the Veterans Highway, US Highway 62. He asked the body for help in raising \$10,000.00 towards funding the highway cause. The Bastrop fire was reported to the floor and the committees help in retrieving destroyed medals from a WWII veteran. A complete copy of his report is attached to these minutes. Santiago made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by Santiago Betancourt. Motion passed.

PUFL—Chairman Sonnier came forward to make the report. Mr. Sonnier reported that there are 113 members signed into the PUFL program. It was also stated there is \$33,902.47 in the account. Robert made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by Milton Chatham . Motion passed

VA & R— Chairman David Blair gave the report. A copy of his report is attached to these minutes. He gave a complete consolidated report from all reporting Squadrons. He also gave out certificates of appreciation to the following Squadrons for the Ride 2 Recovery event. It was also reported to the body that Rick Trzcinski has been nominated for Volunteer of the Year for the national Organization David made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by Steve Davis. Motion passed

PUBLIC RELATIONS—Richard Grimes gave the report. He stated that the Bastrop Fire report document is not quite complete but will be shortly. He also talked about setting up the program for the Detachment Commander's schedule for the year. A complete report is attached to these minutes. Richard made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by Gary Winters. Motion passed.

AWARDS—Chairman Bill Johnson gave the report. The following winners are:
MEMBER OF THE YEAR----- DENNIS D. CRABILL SQUADRON 179
DUAL MEMBER OF THE YEAR-----HENRY W. BASDEN SQUADRON 361
ADJUTANT OF THE YEAR-----GARY WINTERS SQUADRON 231
ADVISOR OF THE YEAR-----
MOTHER OF THE YEAR-----JAN SONNIER UNIT 364
SAL BOYS STATER OF THE YEAR-----MARK MAYER SQUADRON 453
Chairman Johnson made a motion to accept his report, 2nd by . Motion passed.

Commander Slaughter then called for the midday break. He recessed the meeting at 11:50AM

Commander Slaughter called the meeting back into session at 1:36 PM

AMERICANISM—Chairman Blair Sanders gave the report. A complete report is attached to these minutes. Blair reported that there were Squadron reports turned in. Award winners for best report form; Large Squadron Dallas 453, Medium Squadron new Boston 488, Small Squadron Big Lake 253. Best district report was District 16. Mr. Sanders made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by Brad Pack. Motion passed

MARKETING—Jeff Saul, Chairman, gave the report. A complete report is attached to these minutes. Jeff made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by Joe McPeters. Motion passed.

CHILDREN & YOUTH/CMN & CWF—Chairman Bill Kuehner, Children & Youth, and CWF/CMN Chairman Dan Paul, gave the report. Bill reported that there were 72 reports turned in. Best Squadron report is Round Rock Squadron 447, Best District report is District 10, A complete report is attached to these minutes. The hat was passed for CWF and we collected \$275.27. Bill made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by Larry Black. Motion passed

FINANCE—Chairman Jimmy Don Dixon gave the report. A complete report is attached to these minutes. They reported that there were changes to the upcoming 2013 budget. This new budget was read to the floor. Motion made by Jimmy Don, 2nd by Thom Skelly to accept the report. Motion passed.

INTERNAL AFFAIRS/MEMBERSHIP—Chairman Gary Paul gave the report. He reported that the Detachment now stands at 6556 with goal at 6641. He asked that we work hard for the 100% goal to attain by National Convention. Awards were handed out at this time. Chairman Paul then handed out 100% certificates. A complete report is attached to this meeting. Gary made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by Brad Pack. Motion passed

Department Liaison John Schendel presented Dept. Finance Officer Walter Ivie to the floor for purpose of information. He brought the body news concerning the form 990 and the involvement of the IRS and The American Legion.

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT—Chaplain Kolwyn Palasota gave a small report on various members of the Detachment that are in either bad health or are having problems. Motion by Kolwyn to accept his report, 2nd by Buck Jones. Motion passed.

HISTORIAN REPORT— None, not present

DEPARTMENT LIAISON—Dept Liaison John Schendel came forward to give his report. He spoke on various items specifically Constitution and By-Laws, National Convention, Legislative work in the Detachment, membership and the work we do with The American Legion, all the work from the various committees that the Detachment does throughout the year. Motion by Fernando Pacheco, 2nd by Gary Paul to accept the report. Motion passed

SQUADRON, DISTRICT AND DIVISION COMMANDER'S REPORT—A motion was made by Robert Sonnier, 2nd by Jeff Saul to dispense with these reports. Motion passed. However, it was stated that if any Commander wanted to read their reports, they could come forward and present their report. All reports are to be turned in to the Detachment Adjutant to be filed in the minutes.

ELECTION OF DELEGATES TO THE NATIONAL CONVENTION

Motion was made by Milton Chatham to pay for all 14 delegates plus four at-large delegate to the National Convention to be held in Minneapolis, MN. 2nd by Joe Franklin. This motion will also include alternate delegates as needed. Total cost will be \$450.00. Motion passed

DETACHMENT COMMANDER STEVE SLAUGHTER FINAL REPORT

Commander Paul gave his final report to the body. He was presented his Past Detachment Commander's pin after his report. A motion was made by Gary Randall to accept his report, 2nd by Milton Chatham. Motion passed. Commander brought his wife, Vicki, to the podium for purpose of special thanks.

Commander Slaughter then presented gifts and awards to the Detachment Officers and Chairmen.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS—Marketing Chair Jeff Saul brought up the fact that the shirts are going to change color each year and would hurt their sales. He stated that changing the officer's shirts should not change but once every 3 years. Under discussion and upon hearing various members, this discussion was ended for no motion or table.

NEW BUSINESS—Chaplain Palasota brought the fact that the flag cases were in bad shape and needed to be replaced. It was stated that the cost would be handled at the Fall DEC and the purchase be made at that time. Legislative Chair Betancourt brought forth the fact we need to look at sending our Detachment Commander to the Washington Conference. Finance has been informed and will look into the cost

GOOD OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Other announcements were made at this time. National Commander Roberts brought forth comments to the floor and thanked us for all of their hard work Commander Slaughter then asked the body for any individual who is running for an office that would like to address the floor.

After Adjutant notes, the meeting was recessed at 4:12PM

SUNDAY JULY 15, 2012

Commander Slaughter reconvened the meeting at 9:03AM. Following the hand salute to the colors, prayer and pledge, Commander Paul called the meeting to order. The Adjutant then completed the roll call. All officers were present except for Chaplain Rogers and Asst Adjutant Arreaga. All Chairmen were present except for Children & Youth Steve Vandall, CMN/CWF Burns (E) and Public Relations Paul Miller. Districts present were 1C, 2, 4C, 5C, 6C, 7C, 9C, 11C, 12C, 13, 14, 16C, 17, 19, 20, 21C and 22C. Squadrons present were 36C, 50C, 71, 81, 83, 84C, 96, 179, 121C, 163C, 165, 179, 181, 208C, 220, 223, 231, 267C, 297C, 321C, 364, 379C, 430C, 453, 472C, 487, 522C, 554, 569C, 573C, 575, 593C, 598, 618, 654, 817C, 828 and 838C. A quorum was present. Buck Jones, from Squadron 430, came forward to give thanks to the Detachment for coming to Odessa.

CREDENTIALS—The final report of credentials was read by Chairman Rick Trzcinski. A total of 256 delegates was reported to the floor. Motion was made by Rick Trzcinski, 2nd by Robert Sonnier to accept the report.. Motion passed.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Judge Advocate proceeded into the election. The new officers elected are as follows:

COMMANDER-----JEFF ALVIS SQUADRON 267
1ST DIVISION-----STEVE DAVIS SQUADRON 81
2ND DIVISION-----JERRY BEAIRD SQUADRON 84
3RD DIVISION-----MANUEL RODRIGUEZ SQUADRON 83
4TH DIVISION-----THOM SKELLEY SQUADRON 598
ADJUTANT-----KEVIN WINKELMANN SQUADRON 654
FINANCE OFFICER-----STEVE SLAUGHTER SQUADRON 297
HISTORIAN-----THOM SKELLEY SQUADRON 598

CHAPLAIN-----KOLWYN PALASOTA SQUADRON 618
JUDGE ADVOCATE----GARY WINTERS SQUADRON 231
SGT-AT-ARMS-----FERNANDO GUAJARDO SQUADRON 472
ASST. SGT-AT-ARMS—DELBERT MANNING SQUADRON 393
NEC-----MILTON CHATHAM SQUADRON 817
ALT. NEC-----DAVID BLAIR SQUADRON 36

Gary Winters made a motion, 2nd by Larry Black, to release the Credentials Committee from their duties. Following the election. National Commander Jim Roberts installed the new officers. After the installation, newly elected Detachment Commander Jeff Alvis addressed the floor with his comments.

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 11:23AM.

POST DEC MEETING

Meeting was called to order at 10:35AM by Detachment Commander Alvis. Commander Alvis read the new appointments for the Committees. A motion was made by Gary Winters, 2nd by Larry Black to accept the appointments. Motion passed.. Motion by Kevin Winkelmann, 2nd by Robert Sonnier. Following some brief announcements by the Adjutant and being no further business, 1st Division Commander Davis adjourned the meeting at 11:30AM

DETACHMENT OFFICERS 2012-2013

COMMANDER

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VICE COMMANDER 2ND DIVISION

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VICE COMMANDER 4TH DIVISION

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VICE COMMANDER 1ST DIVISION

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DETACHMENT OF TEXAS COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2012-2013

AMERICANISM

Blair Sanders Chairman
Gary Randall PDC
Ken Peters 6th District Commander
John Warus 14th District Commander

INTERNAL AFFAIRS

Gary Paul, Chairman
All 4 Vice Commanders

MARKETING

Jeff Saul Chairman
Ron Slater 3rd District Commander
Fernando Pacheco PDC
Vern Bennett 8th District Commander

PUFL

Robert Sonnier Chairman
Kevin Winkelmann
PDC's

AWARDS

Johnathan Poe Chairman
Henry Creech 20th District Commander
Robert Wilkins PDC
Jerry Beaird 7th District Commander

VA & R

David Blair Chairman
Milton Chatham PDC
Connie Waddell 9th District Comm.
Larren Beard 1st District Commander

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Tracy Wood Chairman
Brad Pack PDC
Delver Maney 13th District Commander
Delbert Manning Asst-Sgt-at Arms

BOYS STATE

Travis Arreaga Chairman
Larry Black PDC
Mike Fabry 11th District Commander
Donnie Scott 17th Dist. Commander

CWF/CMN

Dan Paul Chairman
Jim Kehler PDC
John Bell 12th District Commander
Wayne Thomas 4th District Commander

CONVENTION CITY

Jimmy Don Dixon Chairman
Ed Magers-Co Chair PDC
Joe McPeters PDC
Kowlyn Palasota Det. Chaplain

LEGISLATIVE

Santiago Betancourt Chairman
Albert Arellano PDC
John Schendel Dept. Liaison
Milton Chatham 2nd Dist. Commander

FINANCE

Bill Kuehner Chairman
Wesley Jones 16th Dist. Comm
David Dew PDC
Juan Torres 22nd Dist. Commander

INTERNET

Gary Winters Chairman

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Richard Grimes Chairman
Richard Bartholomew PD
Paul Miller 15th Dist. Comm
John Burns 5th District Commander



Jeff Alvis
306 Harper Dr.
Marshall, Texas 75672

Members of the Sons of the American Legion,

Greetings, thank you for choosing me as your Commander for 2012 – 2013. It is an honor and a privilege to serve our great organization and to be part of The American Legion. During the spring, I visited with many of you at the district and division conventions and saw our greatness and areas where we can improve. We have many very fine people in our organization and I am proud to know all of you and hope to visit with as many as possible over the next year. I have had the privilege of seeing and participating in our organization at the highest level and know how great it truly is and that its greatness comes from its membership and programs. Membership in the Sons of the American Legion as part of The American Legion is something to be very proud of.

During the process of selecting committee chairman, PDCs and district commanders to serve on each committee, I chose those who I thought would do the best job on that committee or were members who had always worked to support the Sons of the American Legion in some capacity. Along with the advice of others, I wanted to include as many Members as possible on the committees. Each committee now has a Chairman, a Past Detachment Commander and, where possible, 2 District Commanders. Chairmen should include and involve the other members of his committee to assist with the duties of that committee, including contacting them about attending the DEC and the Convention. Also, each committee member should assist the Division and District Commanders about the concerns of their committee and in getting the consolidated report forms completed and turned in to Detachment.

As Officers, Chairman and Committee members I ask that throughout the year and leading up to the Detachment Convention, talk with each Division, District, and Squadron to promote our activities and programs and report on them at the Detachment Executive Conferences (DEC). Your committee report should include a listing of the activities, fundraisers and programs in which our membership are participating. At the Fall DEC, while giving your committee report, ask each division, district and squadron Commander to send you throughout the year a listing of their activities either by phone, mail or Email to be included in your Spring DEC and Convention report. Working together we can all have a great year and I look forward to talking with all of you soon.

Remember, our obligation is to the Parents and Grandparents of our members who served to keep us safe and to keep us free.

“We get respect by doing our jobs.”

For God and Country

Jeff Alvis
Commander
Detachment of Texas
(903) 263-8018

“By Their Side with Honor and Pride”