

**SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
DETACHMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MID-WINTER CONFERENCE
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 January 19, 2013 at 9:00AM and Sunday January 20, 2013 at 9:30AM in the Amphitheater at the Omni Hotel in Austin, Texas.

Meeting and Hotel News

Where: The Amphitheater, Omni Hotel, 4140 Governors Row, Austin, TX 78744
512-448-2222. Room rates are \$90.00 per night plus tax.

All room reservations must be made by December 29, 2012

When: Saturday January 19, 2013 @ 9:00AM

Sunday, January 20, 2013 @ 9:30AM

Agenda

You will find the agenda for the meetings enclosed

Commander's Comments

Please the attached letter from Detachment Commander Jeff Alvis

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 Fall DEC are enclosed. Please read them and bring all corrections to this meeting in January. As of this printing, we have no special guest coming to this meeting, however we have special guest speakers. The next Detachment Convention will be held in Irving, Texas the weekend of July 10-14, 2013. Our special guest for that date will be either Sons of The American Legion National Vice Commander Mike Duester or Sons of The American Legion National Commander Chris Huntzinger. Please make plans to be at the Detachment Convention

Finance

Remember, all reimbursements must have an attached voucher signed by the Commander and the Finance Officer. I plan to send out my emails to confirm your plans to attend the Mid-Winter DEC over the Christmas weekend. If you wish to receive your call-in at the meeting, you must reply within one week. If you do not receive the email from me, please send me a note of your plans to smslaughter@sbcglobal.net or call me at 817-946-4506. Remember to receive a call-in you must be a

Detachment Officer, Detachment Committee Chairman, District Commander or a Past Detachment Commander. You must answer roll call on Saturday and Sunday and if you are assigned a committee, you must attend the committee meeting. If you have any other questions, my contact information is listed below:

Home - 817-946-4506

E-Mail - smslaughter@sbcglobal.net

Steve Slaughter, Detachment Finance Officer

Internet

If you have information on events, benefits, etc. happening at your home post, please e-mail the information or a flyer to me so I can post it on the web site and get the word out across Texas.

Gary Winters

Webmaster

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 or Department Advisor, John Schendel. All items must be in letter form or by e-mail, if possible. Adjutant Winkelmann can be reached at 281-541-8642 cell, 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 we do not create more issues at Department Headquarters. Failure to follow these rules will only delay your answers and create more controversy. Also, Department Headquarters has relocated to a new building but the mailing address will stay the same for your membership transmittals and other paperwork you send in. Please remember, the SAL Detachment of Texas, now has an office to use when you are in Austin. Please see Dept. Adjutant Bill West for entry to this office. There is a computer set up in the office for your use also.

MID-WINTER CONFERENCE

OPENING SESSION, SATURDAY JANUARY 19, 2013-----9:00 AM

CALL TO ORDER-----COMMANDER ALVIS

POST COLORS-----SGT-AT-ARMS GUAJARDO

INVOCATION-----CHAPLIN KOLWYN PALASOTA

MOMENT OF SILENCE

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE-----DIVISION 3 COMMANDER RODRIGUEZ

PREAMBLE-----DIVISION 4 COMMANDER SKELLEY

ROLL CALL-----ADJUTANT WINKELMANN
READING OF MINUTES-----ADJUTANT WINKELMANN

SPECIAL INTRODUCTIONS-----NEC CHATHAM

GREETINGS FROM SPECIAL GUEST AND SPEAKERS

GREETINGS FROM DEPARTMENT COMMANDER DAN CORBIN AND DEPARTMENT
PRESIDENT MARTI PETERS

COMMITTEE MEETINGS (Immediately following recess of meeting)-----LOCATION TBD

BREAK FOR LUNCH, PDC CAUCUS-----11:30 to 12:30

GENERAL SESSION RESUMES-----1:00 PM

COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

NEC-----MILTON CHATHAM

PUFL-----ROBERT SONNIER

INTERNAL AFFAIRS/MEMBERSHIP-----GARY PAUL

FINANCE-----BILL KUEHNER

ADJOURN UNTIL 9:30 AM SUNDAY MORNING

RECONVENE, SUNDAY JANUARY 20, 2013-----9:30 AM

POST COLORS-----SGT-AT-ARMS GUAJARDO

CALL BACK TO ORDER-----COMMANDER ALVIS

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE-----DIVISION 1 COMMANDER STEVE DAVIS

PREAMBLE-----DIVISION 2 COMMANDER JERRY BEAIRD

ROLL CALL-----ADJUTANT WINKELMANN

COMPLETION OF COMMITTEE REPORTS, IF NECESSARY

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

GOOD OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION, ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION-----CHAPLAIN KOLWYN PALASOTA

RETIREMENT OF THE COLORS-----SGT-AT-ARMS GUAJARDO

ADJOURNMENT-----COMMANDER ALVIS

FALL DETACHMENT EXECUTIVE MEETING AUSTIN, TX--SEPTEMBER 15, 2012

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2012

Meeting was called to order at 9:38 AM by Commander Alvis . 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 9:43. Roll call was then asked for. All officers were present except for 3rd Division Commander Rodriguez and Dept. Advisor Schendel. All Chairmen were present except for CMN/CWF Dan Paul. Districts present were 1C, 2C, 3, 4C, 5, 6C, 7C, 9C, 10C, 11C, 12, 13, 14C, 15C, 16C, 17, 19, 20, 21C and 22C. Squadrons present were 17, 36, 37, 50, 71, 76C, 81, 84, 101, 121C, 163C, 165, 179, 200, 208, 223, 231C, 267C, 297C, 321, 361, 393, 430, 447, 453, 472C, 517C, 554, 569, 575, 598C, 618C, 654, 817, 828 and 838. A quorum was established. Following roll call, Commander Alvis asked for the reading of the minutes. Motion was made by David Dew, 2nd by Gary Winters to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Motion passed

Commander Alvis then asked for NEC Chatham to bring forward and special guest. NEC Chatham came forward to introduce Joe Gladden, candidate for National Commander of the Sons of The American Legion for the year 2013-2014.

Mr. Gladden came forward to bring greetings and his remarks to the floor. Following his remarks, Commander Alvis asked Ed Magers to come forward to introduce Boys Stae Counselor of the Year, Mark Mayer.

Department Commander Dan Corbin came before the body to bring greetings and give his remarks to the body. He thanked the Detachment for our hard work and continued support of The American Legion Family.

Department of Texas Internal Affairs Director Mike Simon came forward to bring greetings to the body and also presented a signed baseball from the champion team of The American Legion Baseball tournament.

Department Auxiliary President Marti Peters came to the floor to bring greetings. President Peters spoke on behalf of The American Legion Family and how great is working with Commander Corbin and Commander Alvis. She then presented National American Legion Auxiliary President Peggy Thomas. President Thomas brought greetings to the floor and spoke on behalf of the National Organization. She stated the her main program for the year would be helping the Homeless Veterans

NEC—Past NEC McPeters came forward to give his report. He talked briefly about the National Convention. He also gave some brief remarks concerning other National issues. A full report is attached to these minutes. Joe then made a motion to accept his report, 2nd by Milton Chatham. Motion passed.

INTERNET—Chairman Gary Winters came forward to give his report. Talked about news releases and also spoke about the Detachment having a Facebook page and other important announcements that are available to everyone's use. A full report is attached to these minutes. Motion made by Gary Winters, 2nd by Jimmy Don Dixon to accept the report. Motion passed.

CONVENTION CITY— Co-Chairman Jimmy Don Dixon and Ed Magers came forward to give their report. Mid winter Conference is January 16-20, 2013 at the Omni in Austin. The next Detachment Convention will be held in Irving, TX, July 10-14, 2013. Later dates and locations to be announced. Full report is attached. Ed Magers made a motion 2nd by Robert Sonnier to accept the report. Motion passed.

Commander Alvis then recessed the meeting at 10:45

Commander Alvis called the meeting back into session at 12:40

BOYS STATE— Chairman Travis Arreaga came forward to give report. The dates are either first or second week of June. Legion night will be determined. This year will be the 75th anniversary of Boys State. Numbers are increasing. Attendance is projected to be 850 next year. A lot of changes were made to the program to increase attendance. He stated that he will be attending the National Convention in Indy for Boys State. A full report is attached. Chairman Arreaga made a motion to accept 2nd by Ed Magers. Under discussion it was stated that a video is in the works and the cost related to Boys State. Also under discussion the cost of dues for 2 years was brought up. Motion accepted

LEGISLATIVE— Chairman Santiago Bentancourt gave report. He talked about the National Convention this past August and what the Legislative Commission discussed. Discussed the veterans highway, an ongoing project and its completion date. He also spoke about the cost associated with this highway and that no cost will be charged to the Detachment. He will be meeting with various political officials in Washington, and attending conferences there to better inform the body. A full report is attached. Santiago made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by Ed Magers. Motion passed

AMERICANISM— Chairman Blair Sanders gave his report. His report included comments on the Junior Shooting Sports program. He also spoke to the body about various donations and hours served from various Squadrons. The committee's main focus for the year will be the junior shooting sports program. Motion made by Blair, 2nd by Milton Chatham. A complete report is attached to these minutes. Motion passed.

DEPARTMENT ADVISOR— No report given. John Schendel is not present due to illness.

AWARDS— Jonathan Poe came forward to give his report about the awards programs. He approached the body with comments about what needs to be filled out with the awards forms. It was stated that the best way to fill out the form is to be typed. Also how long to keep forms available for review. A full report is attached. Jonathan made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by Santiago Betancourt. Motion passed.

VA & R— Chairman David Blair gave the report. He reported to the body donations and hours served from various Squadrons. He explained to the body about what the committee's true agenda is what the committee is responsible for. The committee's main focus for the year is Pets 4 Vets program which donates trained animals to Veterans. Motion made by David Blair 2nd made by Gary Winters. Full report attached. Motion Passed.

CHILDREN & YOUTH— Chairman Tracy Wood gave his report. He reported on the educational efforts and the needs for elementary schools. He then asked Brad Pack to come

forward to give more info concerning what the C & Y committee is doing and what they are responsible for. They want to focus more on CWF donations, more CMN donations and donations in general especially Josh Dogs. CMN/CWF member Wayne Thomas came forward to present the CMN/CWF report. He reported to the body concerning CMN and CWF donations for the upcoming year. He also told the body about the banner that can be obtained for a \$1.00 per member from your Squadron. Their focus for the year is the raffle, selling tickets and making donation to CWF. Full report attached. Wayne made a motion to accept the CMN/CWF report, 2nd by Gary Winters. Tracy made motion to accept the C & Y report, 2nd by Jimmy Don Dixon . Motion passed

MARKETING-- Chairman Jeff Saul came forward to give his report. Reported on the inventory of items in possession for sales to our members. Reported on the monies turned in from this meeting and from July. He also told the body of what supplies need to be ordered with quantities. Motion made by Chairman Saul, 2nd by Jimmy Don Dixon. There was some discussion concerning the new pin design, the funds collected and where they were deposited. Motion passed.

PUBLIC RELATIONS--Chairman Richard Grimes came to give report on the PR committee. Reported that the Commander's agenda is complete and ready to put on the website. Also stated that the data base for newspapers and radio contacts are 95% complete and will be emailed out as soon as complete. This is the list for all contacts. It is requested that all correspondence from Squadrons to the list of contacts be forwarded to the committee chairman. Richard Grimes made a motion to accept report. 2nd by Gary Randall, motion passed.

PUFL— Chairman Robert Sonnier gave his report. He discussed that we have over \$32,000.00 in the account. 118 members, 68 regular pay members 50 provided by the detachment. Some members do not have their laminated cards. Those that transferred the credit will appear in the next year. He gave detailed information about the various PUFL accounts and the efforts to make it self-sufficient and self-sustaining. There is a full report is attached. Chairman Sonnier made a motion to accept his report. 2nd by Santiago Betancourt. Motion passed.

INTERNAL AFFAIRS/MEMBERSHIP— Chairman Gary Paul came forward to give his reports. He presented the 100% ribbons and various awards by the various districts. A full report is attached with details. He also discussed the membership updates as well as uncertified squadrons, that need to be certified. A full report is attached. Weekly updates will be posted online Motion made by Chairman Paul, 2nd by Gary Winters. Motion passed.

FINANCE—Chairman Bill Kuehner came forward to give his report. The budget was dispensed for review and it was stated that the budget has been submitted to the Department for acceptance. It was reported that the budget was approved. A full report is attached. Motion made by Chairman Kuehner, 2nd by David Dew to accept the report. Motion passed.

CHAPLAIN- No report

UNFINISHED BUSINESS—The flag cases were brought up for discussion. No progress on the new cases as of this date. Concerning the trip for the Detachment Commander to the Washington Conference, it was stated that there were not enough funds available at this time.

NEW BUSINESS— PDC Ed Magers made a motion to purchase 2 new computers plus a power

point projector. 2nd by Gary Randall. All funds to be taken from the Reserve Account. Motion passed

GOOD OF THE SAL— There were many announcements made about squadron functions. The Department Commander's homecoming was announced. Adjutant Kevin Winkelmann gave his closing remarks.

Being no further business, Commander Alvis asked Chaplain Palasota for the benediction. Following the benediction, Commander Alvis called for the hand salute to the colors and retirement of the colors. The meeting was then adjourned at 3:10PM



Jeff Alvis
306 Harper Dr.
Marshall, Texas 75672

November 21, 2012

Members of the Sons of the American Legion and the Mid-Winter DEC,

Greetings Sons of the American Legion. Since becoming Detachment Commander, I have done a lot of traveling. Although I have put many miles on the road, I have enjoyed every minute. There has been some minor controversy, but nothing could ever diminish my respect and admiration for the Sons of the American Legion and its membership. Those who work so hard to make this organization an important part of the American Legion family should be proud. All of us who are members should be proud of what we do. At each opportunity I have to speak, I read off many of the nationwide accomplishments we had in the last year. And those who hear are impressed by our accomplishments. Many of those accomplishments come from the Detachment of Texas. I have included a list from national of those accomplishments. Read them over and be proud to be part of The Sons of the American Legion and the American Legion Family.

We have made both our 25% goal and our 35% membership goal and 3 squadrons to date have made 100% or better. Bryan 159, San Leon 291 and Waco 121 Congratulations, and thank you for the good work. Most of our squadrons are certified, but there is still work to do. To date, 23 squadrons are uncertified. Division and District Commanders should be receiving the list from our Membership Chairman, Gary Paul. Gary works hard to keep it up to date. Use it as a tool. If you get your email you get his report. Call on these squadrons. Some may just need help with the paperwork or have a question needing answered. Some may just feel left out or ignored, give them a call.

Something to Think About.

Our Detachment, The Detachment of Texas, does so much and such good work with 6,641 members, think what we could do with 10,000 members. Last year our renewal rate was 58.46%. That equals only 3,882 members that renewed. The rest, 2,759 members, were new members. If all members renewed, we could add the new members to the 6,641 and we would have 9,400 members from the Detachment of Texas. Wouldn't that be great. Something to think about. Quite often, a phone call will get a member to renew. We could do so much more in our detachment with that number of members. Even with 90% renewals.

Thank you for your good work and 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"



2012 S.A.L. ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation

- 75 REGISTERED (VAVS) REPRESENTATIVES
- MEMBER OF NATIONAL VAVS BOARD
- 362,257 TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS RECORDED WITH 14,384 VISITS AND \$5,085,600 IN CASH AND GIFTS
- \$55,802 DONATED TO FISHER HOUSE WITH 5,233 HOURS
- 10,993 HOURS WITH \$64,466 TO THE FAMILY SUPPORT NETWORK

Children & Youth

- SINGLE LARGEST CONTRIBUTOR TO THE CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION: \$506,264 WITH 26,814 HOURS OF SERVICE
- SPECIAL OLYMPICS - \$149,503 DONATED WITH 15,545 HOURS OF SERVICE
- CHILDRENS MIRACLE NETWORK - \$94,100 IN DONATIONS WITH 6,368 SERVICE HOURS
- \$9,000,959 AND 93,025 HOURS IN SUPPORT OF OTHER CHILDREN & YOUTH PROGRAMS, BRINGING THE TOTAL YEARLY DONATIONS TO ALL C & Y PROGRAMS TO \$9,797,043 WITH 164,926 SERVICE HOURS

2012 MEMBERSHIP

348,905 MEMBERS IN 5,843 SQUADRONS
IN 53 DETACHMENTS

Americanism

- 649 BOYS STATE REPRESENTATIVES AT A COST OF \$167,360
- 8,501 COLOR GUARD APPEARANCES AT A COST OF \$110,258
- 149 AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL TEAMS SPONSORED AT A COST OF \$125,208
- OTHER TEAMS SPONSORED AT A COST OF \$109,936
- \$41,073 IN SUPPORT OF SCOUTING
- \$8,269 IN DONATIONS AND 29,879 SERVICE HOURS TO THE ORATORICAL PROGRAM INVOLVING 488 CONTESTANTS
- 13,963 HOURS AND \$42,776 TO JUNIOR SHOOTING SPORTS
- 18,651 FLAGS PRESENTED AT A COST OF \$45,007
- 4,029 FLAG EDUCATION PROGRAMS AT A COST OF \$19,955 WITH 8,606 HOURS
- 7,255 FLAG RETIREMENT CEREMONIES
- 313,361 FLAGS PLACED AT CEMETERIES & GIVEN AT PARADES AT A COST OF \$86,973
- \$329,066 IN SCHOLARSHIPS WITH 15,117 HOURS FOR EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS
- 289 - 5 STAR / 10 IDEALS PROGRAMS AT A COST OF \$10,590
- VARIOUS COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS AT A COST OF \$918,958 AND 499,563 SERVICE HOURS
- \$41,968 IN DONATIONS TO THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY FUND
- A TOTAL OF \$2,092,795 AND 602,431 HOURS OF SERVICE IN SUPPORT OF AMERICANISM PROGRAMS