

MINUTES
OF THE
46th NATIONAL CONVENTION
OF THE
SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION



Reno, Nevada
August 18 – 20, 2017

**SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
PRE-CONVENTION MEETING
AUGUST 18, 2017**

The Pre-Convention Meeting of the National Executive Committee of The Sons of The American Legion was called to order by National Commander Jeff C. Frain (AZ) at 10:00 am, Friday, August 18, 2017 at the Reno-Sparks Convention Center, Reno, Nevada.

With colors being in place a right-hand salute was rendered. National Chaplain Richard A. Ellwein (MT) was called for the invocation.

Following the POW/MIA ceremony, National Vice Commander Joseph A. Korba (NJ) led the Pledge of Allegiance and National Vice Commander William D. Kelly, Jr. (FL) led in the Preamble to the Constitution of the Sons of The American Legion. Following the Preamble, the displaying of the Blue Star Service Banner was performed.

National Commander Jeff C. Frain (AZ) then called for National Adjutant Brian J. O’Hearne (MA) to call the roll of National Officers.

Present were: (E=Excused)

National Officers

Jeff C. Frain (AZ)	National Commander
Joseph A. Korba (NJ)	National Vice Commander – East
William D. Kelly, Jr. (FL)	National Vice Commander – South
Michael L. Lawler (WI)	National Vice Commander – Central
Kenneth L. Yanke (CO)	National Vice Commander – Midwest
Joseph B. Keiser (NV)	National Vice Commander – West
Brian J. O’Hearne (MA)	National Adjutant
Harold E. Thompson, Jr. (NE)	National Assistant Adjutant Emeritus
James “Ed” Sheubrooks (FL)	National Assistant Adjutant
Robert Avery (NY)	National Assistant Adjutant
David Ridenour (IN)	National Assistant Adjutant
Anthony W. Wright (PA)	National Assistant Adjutant
Scott Williams (VA)	National Assistant Adjutant
Scott J. Thornton (OH)	National Assistant Adjutant
Richard A. Ellwein (MT)	National Chaplain
Michael Kane (PA)	National Historian
Joseph Paviglianti (NY)	National Judge Advocate
Danny J. Poole (MI) - E	National Sergeant-At-Arms
Lyle G. Larson (KS)	National Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms
Vacant	National Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms
Raymond P. Giehll, III (IN)	National Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms
Brian K. Waters (PA)	National Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms
Matthew Chebro (GA)	National Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms
Charles E. Treat, II (AZ)	Aide To The National Commander

Past National Commanders

Kevin L. Collier (AK)
Michael Seaton (CA)
Robert McBride (OH)
J.R. Stillwell (IL)
Robert Faust (CA)
Charles E. Gannon (MD)
David P. Stephens (IN)
Douglas P. Bible (MN)
David R. Faust (WI)
Eugene L. Sacco (CA)
Roland D. Matteson (AZ)
Joseph M. Mayne (MN)

John T. Dietz (KY)
Byron J. Robichaux (LA)
Clifford A. Smith (MA)
Michael J. Deacon (IA)
William L. Sparwasser (MD)
Earl R. Ruttkofsky (MI)
Raymond P. Giehl, Jr. (IN)
Thomas E. Cisna (IL)
James K. Roberts, III (FL)
Christopher J. Huntzinger (PA)
Michael W. Moss (CO)

National Executive Committeemen Delegates

Alabama (N), Alaska (N), Arizona (B), California (B), Colorado (N), Connecticut (N), Delaware (N), Florida (N), France (N), Georgia (B), Hawaii (N), Illinois (B), Indiana (B), Kansas (B), Maine (B), Massachusetts (A), Michigan (A), Minnesota (A), Mississippi (N), Missouri (B), Montana (B), Nebraska (A), Nevada (N), New Hampshire (B), New Jersey (B), New Mexico (B), New York (B), North Carolina (N), Ohio (B), Oregon (N), Pennsylvania (B), South Carolina (N), Utah (B), Vermont (A), Virginia (N), Washington (N), Wisconsin (B) and Wyoming (B).

At this time National Commander Jeff C. Frain (AZ) declared the 2017 Pre-Convention of the National Executive Committee regularly convened.

National Adjutant O’Hearne (MA) was called for the reading of the 2017 SAL Spring NEC Meeting minutes.

Ronald E. Roberts (MS) advised minutes need to be corrected throughout minutes where motions are being made and re-worded correctly for 2017 SAL Spring NEC meeting minutes.

Commander Frain recognized Rev. Thomas C. Glander (AL). Glander made a motion to accept the 2017 SAL Spring NEC meeting minutes with corrections noted. Motion seconded by Fr Gary P. Gummersheimer (IL). Following no discussion, motion carried.

At this time Paul Brown (CA), SAL Liaison, was called to the podium.

Mr. Brown (CA) announced that your Fall NEC reservations are due in by September 28th. I’m looking forward to a great year. John Kerestan has done this job for a long time and he’s the expert on this subject matter and I eventually will too, so please be patient with me.

This concluded Mr. Brown’s comments.

At this time Commander Frain (AZ) called for Chairmen Reports.

Don Culver (KS), for Mark Tansel (IN), Internal Affairs Commission brought forward SAL Resolution 1 – Pre-Convention NEC 2017 – Titled: Sons of The American Legion Trophy and Awards Manual and Review Authority.

John Jennings (FL), Resolution Chairman, read SAL Resolution 1 – Pre-Convention NEC 2017 – Titled: Sons of The American Legion Trophy Awards Manual and Review Authority. Mr. Jennings (FL) made a motion to accept SAL Resolution 1 – Pre-Convention NEC 2017 as read with said correction, seconded by David Bishop (NY).

Ron Roberts (MS) asked how much will this manual cost? Mr. Paul Brown said it will be minimal cost. National Adjutant O’Hearne stated any funding will have to come through our Finance Commission to be approved.

Commander Frain (AZ) entertained a motion to accept the Internal Affairs Commission Report, accepted by Robert Brown (GA), seconded by Gary Nelson (NJ).

Joe Roberts (AZ), for Seth Rippe (NE), Membership Commission brought forward SAL Resolution 3 – Pre-Convention NEC 2017 – Titled: Creation of Triple Nickel Ribbon.

John Jennings (FL), Resolution Chairman, read SAL Resolution 3 – Pre-Convention NEC 2017 – Titled: Creation of Triple Nickel Ribbon. Mr. Jennings (FL) made a motion to accept SAL Resolution 3 – Pre-Convention NEC 2017 – Titled: Creation of Triple Nickel Ribbon, seconded by Phillip A. Cook (NH).

Commander Frain (AZ) entertained a motion to accept the Membership Commission Report, accepted by (~indiscernible~), seconded by Dennis Henkemeyer (MN).

William Hill (MD), Chairman, Finance Commission brought forward SAL Resolution 2 – Pre-Convention NEC 2017 – Titled: Transfer of Funds from the Sons of The American Legion Reserve Fund and SAL Resolution 4 – Pre-Convention NEC 2017 – Titled: National Convention travel reimbursement for National Executive Committeemen of the Sons of The American Legion. SAL Resolution 4 was recommended to be held for further review at the Fall NEC Meeting and referred back to the Internal Affairs Commission.

John Jennings (FL), Resolution Chairman, read SAL Resolution 2 – Pre-Convention NEC 2017 – Titled: Transfer of Funds from the Sons of The American Legion Reserve Fund. Mr. Jennings (FL) made a motion to accept Resolution 2 – Pre-Convention NEC 2017 – Titled: Transfer of Funds from the Sons of The American Legion Reserve Fund, seconded by Michael Lawler (WI).

Fr Gary Gummersheimer (IL) pointed a few corrections on wording, so noted. Fr Gummersheimer also asked when the funds would come out. Answer – since it would be coming out of the reserve fund it wouldn’t be part of the budget and doesn’t make a difference when it’s given.

Ken Yanke (CO) also suggested a few corrections on wording, so noted. William Sparwasser (MD) asked how much in the reserve fund. Commander Frain (AZ) said there was about \$1.5 million in the reserve fund. These funds will be disbursed to TFA. No further questions or comments at this time.

Commander Frain (AZ) entertained a motion to accept the Finance Commission Report, accepted by Ron Moore (FR) and seconded by Bill Kelly (FL).

Commander Frain (AZ) entertained a motion to accept the Sub-Committee on Resolutions Report, accepted by Gary Nelson (NJ) and seconded by John Wright (CT).

PNC William Sparwasser (MD) made some key points about the ADHOC Strategic Planning Committee and adding an additional member to the committee. PNC Charles E. Gannon (MD) was approved as the additional member, seconded by Rev Thomas Glander (AL).

PNC Joseph Mayne (WI) said this has been in place since the Spring of last year and things missing since last Spring. Instead of revising this process replace those that are performing. PNC Sparwasser (MD) said replacing is not the answer. We have to “dumb” this system down so we can get what we need to get this accomplished.

Mr. Brown stated the reason to add an additional person is to get more fire power on the committee. This concluded this discussion.

Old Business

Commander Frain (AZ) called for any old business; no old business was presented at this time.

New Business

Commander Frain (AZ) called for any new business; no new business was presented at this time.

For the Good of The Sons of The American Legion

Commander Frain (AZ) called for Good of The Sons. PNC Deacon asked if the wives could be made Distinguished Guest. It was stated a Resolution would be needed. Ron Moore (FR) wanted to recognize the Sons supporting the Legacy Run. This concluded any Good of the Sons.

In closing, National Chaplain Richard A. Ellwein (MT) gave the benediction.

Following a right-hand salute, National Commander Frain (AZ) declared the Pre-NEC Meeting adjourned.

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION 46TH NATIONAL CONVENTION AUGUST 18, 2017

National Commander Jeff C. Frain (AZ) called the 46th National Convention of the Sons of The American Legion to order at 1:00 p.m., on Friday, August 18, 2017, at the Reno-Sparks Convention Center in Reno, Nevada.

With the Colors in place, a right hand salute was rendered.

The National Color Guard team from the Detachment of California posted the colors of our Country. The colors were posted.

National Commander Jeff Frain (AZ) called on National Chaplain Richard Ellwein (MT) to give the invocation.

Following the POW/MIA ceremony, National Sergeant-at-Arms, Brian K. Waters (PA) led in the reciting of The Pledge of Allegiance.

National Vice Commander Ken L. Yanke (CO) led in the Preamble to the Constitution of the Sons of The American Legion.

Commander Frain recited Resolution NC02-03 from the 32nd National Convention that calls for the displaying of the Blue Star Banner.

At this time, National Adjutant Brian O’Hearne (MA) conducted the reading of the call to National Convention.

The National Constitution of The Sons of The American Legion hereby called by the National Commander the 46th National Convention of The Sons of The American Legion held August 18-20, 2017 in the Reno-Sparks Convention Center, Reno, Nevada. The purpose is for the National Convention Session in accordance with the uniform code of procedure for National Convention will convene at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, August 18, 2017. The 45th National Convention will be convened for the following purposes:

- To complete all business for the Sons of The American Legion for the fiscal year 2016-2017.
- To vote on all Resolutions which are properly presented to the National Convention of The Sons of The American Legion.
- To consider and/or make amendments to the Constitution and/or By-Laws of the National Constitution of The Sons of The American Legion.
- To elect a National Commander and Five (5) National Vice Commanders in that sequence for the ensuing year 2017-2018. Elections will take place on Sunday, August 20, 2017.
- Representation in the National Convention shall be allotted in accordance with provision of Article V of the National Constitution of The Sons of The American Legion, which is stated in Article V, Section 3 and Section 4.

National Commander Jeff Frain (AZ) then called for National Adjutant Brian O’Hearne (MA) to call the roll of National Officers.

Present were: (E=Excused)

National Officers

Jeff C. Frain (AZ)	National Commander
Joseph A. Korba (NJ)	National Vice Commander – East
William D. Kelly, Jr. (FL)	National Vice Commander – South
Michael L. Lawler (WI)	National Vice Commander – Central
Kenneth L. Yanke (CO)	National Vice Commander – Midwest
Joseph B. Keiser (NV)	National Vice Commander – West
Brian J. O’Hearne (MA)	National Adjutant
Harold E. Thompson, Jr. (NE)	National Assistant Adjutant Emeritus
James “Ed” Sheubrooks (FL)	National Assistant Adjutant
Robert Avery (NY)	National Assistant Adjutant
David Ridenour (IN)	National Assistant Adjutant
Anthony W. Wright (PA)	National Assistant Adjutant
Scott Williams (VA)	National Assistant Adjutant
Scott J. Thornton (OH)	National Assistant Adjutant
Richard A. Ellwein (MT)	National Chaplain
Michael Kane (PA)	National Historian
Joseph Paviglianti (NY)	National Judge Advocate

Danny J. Poole (MI) - E
Lyle G. Larson (KS)
Vacant
Raymond P. Giehll, III (IN)
Brian K. Waters (PA)
Matthew Chebro (GA)
Charles E. Treat, II (AZ)

National Sergeant-At-Arms
National Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms
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Past National Commanders

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Joseph M. Mayne (MN)
John T. Dietz (KY)

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James K. Roberts, III (FL)
Christopher J. Huntzinger (PA)
Joseph Gladden (MD)
Michael W. Moss (CO)
Kevin L. Collier (AK)

National Executive Committeemen Delegates

Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, France, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

Commander Frain (AZ) declared the 46th National Convention of the Sons of The American Legion Convened.

Commander Frain said this has been the highest in CWF this year because of you. We are still almost 200,000 ahead of last year. I want to thank all of you for all your hard work.

At this time called on National Convention, Chairman, Jim Stewart (NV) to the stage.

Mr. Stewart (NV) welcomed everyone to Nevada and wished all a good time in Reno and the best for this Convention. Mr. Stewart also announced they are selling convention pins and hosting a dinner. This concluded his remarks.

Commander Frain made Jim Stewart (NV) a Distinguished Guest.

At this time Commander Frain (AZ) called all PNC's to the stage and asked everyone to thank them for all their hard work and dedication. PNC Mike Seaton (CA) presented Commander Jeff Frain (AZ) with his Distinguished Guest Badge.

At this time the Sergeant-At-Arms escorted, PNC, David Rehbein (IA), The American Legion, for his remarks.

PNC Rehbein (IA) spoke about the 100th Anniversary of The American Legion that will take place in Minneapolis, Minnesota. We currently have in place over 2,500 local posts that have created a spot on the Centennial Website. Make sure you check the website to make sure you're on it along with your charter date. We also created a database of the WWI Memorials around the country and right now we have 1,100 that have been identified, but we know we have more but we need your help finding them.

PNC Rehbein (IA) also said there's a Centennial Media Kit available for your use to help you and your post celebrate this anniversary. Use this kit to help tell the story in your community of who and why The American Legion are. This concluded his remarks.

At this time Commander Frain (AZ) made PNC David Rehbein (IA) a Distinguished Guest.

At this time Internal Affairs Committee Chairman, Robert Newman (IN), SAL Sub-Committee Chairman, George West (NH), and Internal Affairs Director, Jack Querfeld (IL) were escorted to the stage.

Chairman Robert Newman (IN) announced he's a member of the SAL. Mr. Newman said the Sons have blazed a strong trail this year, this includes your membership was another outstanding year, recruitment was higher this year and an increase in Squadrons. Last year the Sons provided \$594,000 in donations to CWF. This bringing the total to over \$7.5 million the Sons has raised over the years not to mention all the volunteer hours and efforts to our veterans. Mr. Newman thanked the Sons for all their hard work and all the extra hours you've given. This concluded his remarks.

Chairman George West (NH) said the Sons are a program of The American Legion and explained the purpose of the SAL Sub-Committee. Mr. West said our committee has been blessed to be able to work with the Sons, Brian O'Hearne (MA), John Kerestan (IN) for his 30 years of knowledge and look forward with working with Assistant Direct Paul Brown (CA). Mr. West said we are amazed every year of your accomplishments. This concluded his remarks.

At this time Commander Frain (AZ) made Mr. Newman, Mr. West and Mr. Querfeld Distinguished Guests.

Commander Frain (AZ) had the Sergeant-At-Arms escort Collin to the stage. Commander Frain presented Collin with a commander pin and made him a Distinguished Guest.

At this time The American Legion Leading Candidate for National Commander, Denise Rohan (WI) was escorted to the stage.

Leading Candidate Denise Rohan (WI) said everyone has been asking me "Are you ready"? I've been contemplating on the 51 departments of been able to visit in the last two years. During my travels I've learned so much about your programs and history lessons I've learned from our veterans. I continue to learn about the footprint we're leaving on our nation. So I continue to think, "Am I Ready"? I have to ask if you're ready to continue to join forces as part the of nation's largest veterans service organization. Are you ready to "purple up" and take care of our families? The American Legion Families are taking care of our nations families with your hard

work, dedication and continued donations to the CWF, TFA, Family Support Network, Josh Dog Program and the countless other programs you support. I'm confident you are all up to the challenge of putting our families first. I ask you as leadership to help with increasing our retention rate, continue with the 100% Family Ribbons, celebrate Veterans Day and post it on social media, I'm asking our departments to continue with our Reconnect Program, and an increase in the number of people that have taken the American Legion Extension Institute Training.

I'm looking forward to working with your Leading Candidate Danny Smith (NE) as we accomplish all of our goals together and I hope you have a very successful convention. This concluded her remarks.

At this time Commander Frain (AZ) made Leading Candidate Denise Rohan (WI) a Distinguished Guest and gave her a Commander coin.

At this time The American Legion 2nd Leading Candidate for National Commander, Brett Reistad (VA) was escorted to the stage.

2nd Leading Candidate Reistad (VA) thanked everyone for the opportunity to address the Sons. Mr. Reistad spoke about the history of The American Legion and how we became who we are today. The focus will be on our Centennial and I've adopted the theme "Celebrating Our Legacy". This gives us an opportunity and full advantage of opening our doors to our families, communities, veterans and media. As a retired police officer I to put a secondary focus emphasis on our Law and Order Program. I'm an advocate of The American Legion as well as a dual member. We are a strong team when we work together. This concluded his remarks.

Commander Frain (AZ) made 2nd Leading Candidate Brett Reistad (VA) a Distinguished Guest and gave him a Commander coin.

National Commander Frain (AZ) called his National Vice Commanders, National Chaplain, National Historian and National Commander's Aide to the stage to make them Distinguished Guests.

At this time Commander Frain (AZ) called David Lee (NY) to the stage for the Legislative and Rules Convention Committee report.

Mr. Lee (NY) reported, the Legislative and Rules Convention Committee met on Friday, August 18, 2017 for the purpose of reviewing the standing rules of the Convention. As a delegate to the 46th National Convention, Mr. Lee (NY) made a motion for the acceptance of the Standing Rules of the National Convention and is accepted as published, motion was seconded by Robert Brown, Georgia. Motion carried.

At this time Dennis Boland (FL), CWF President and Meagan Sweet (IN), Assistant Director, C&Y was escorted to the stage by the Sergeant-At-Arms.

Mr. Boland said it has been an honor to give these children a second chance at life and that's what the Sons do for this program and organization. We gave 8 grants for over 80% of your 10 grants requested.

At this time Dennis Boland (FL), President of CWF and Meagan Sweet (IN) presented the following CWF Awards:

Detachment of Nevada for Excellence and Achieving the Highest Per-Capita for 2016-2017

Detachment of Arizona received the CWF Meritorious Achievement Award for Highest Increase Per-Capita 2016-2017

Detachment of Arizona and Indiana received the Garland Murphy Award for 2016-2017

Detachment of Arizona received the US Udie Grant Legacy Award for 2016-2017

Mr. Boland gave all the National Vice Commander's a Diamond Lapel Pin. The Detachment Commanders from Arizona and Indiana were presented with CWF rings. Mr. Boland presented National Commander's Aide, Chuck Treat with a CWF ring. Commander Frain was presented with a CWF ring and a Diamond Lapel Pin. This concluded Mr. Boland's remarks and awards.

Commander Frain made Mr. Boland and Ms. Sweet Distinguished Guests and gave them a Commander's coin.

At this time The American Legion National Commander Charles E. Schmidt (OR), The American Legion National Auxiliary President Mary Davis (WA) and The American Legion Auxiliary National Secretary Dubbie Buckler (IN) were escorted to the stage by the Sergeant-At-Arms.

The American Legion National Commander Charles E. Schmidt (OR) asked if there was anyone in there to be proud of being a member of the American Legion Family. It's been a great year for the Sons with CWF and membership. I salute you for a job well done. Commander Schmidt brings you greetings to this convention and it has been a good year for all of us as an organization.

I was able to ride in with the Legion Riders which was an amazing ride. No matter what event I attended this year the Sons were there supporting the Legion programs and activities. This year we were able to visit the Detachment of France and I hope it allows us to blaze more trails this coming year. Commander said the Sons bring value to this organization. This concluded his remarks.

At this time Commander Schmidt and Commander Frain exchanged gifts. Commander Frain presented Commander Schmidt with a citation of appreciation and made Commander Schmidt and his wife, Linda, Distinguished Guests.

At this time National Auxiliary President Mary Davis (WA) said this is so much fun. President Davis said it's been a wonderful year with the Sons and Commander Frain. Membership has been on the minds of all of this year and congratulations on your membership growth and donations to our Children & Youth Programs. This concluded her remarks.

Commander Frain presented President Davis with a gift, citation of appreciation and made her a Distinguished Guest.

At this time National Auxiliary Secretary, Dubbie Buckler (IN) said it's an honor to be here with you. We appreciate everything the Sons have done and represent as a Family. We need to get everyone that is eligible to join and get them signed up. We will continue with the Centennial Strategic Plan and we have put it out there for anyone to utilize.

Commander Frain made Dubbie Buckler (IN) a Distinguished Guest, presented her with a Citation of Appreciation Award and challenge coin.

At this time Commander Frain made his wife, Patti, a Distinguished Guest.

National Commander Jeff Frain (AZ) declared the 46th National Convention recessed until Saturday, August 19, 2017 to begin at 9:00 am.

The 46th National Convention of the Sons of The American Legion was reconvened at 9:00 am on Saturday, August 18, 2017, at the Reno-Sparks Convention Center, Reno, Nevada.

With colors being in place, a right-hand salute was rendered. National Commander Jeff Frain (AZ) declared the Convention in session.

National Chaplain Richard Ellwein (MT) gave the invocation.

National Vice Commander Michael Lawler (WI) led the Pledge of Allegiance.

National Commander Jeff Frain (AZ) then called on National Adjutant Brian O'Hearne (MA) to call the roll of National Officers, Past National Commanders and Detachments.

Present were: (E=Excused)

National Officers

Jeff C. Frain (AZ)	National Commander
Joseph A. Korba (NJ)	National Vice Commander – East
William D. Kelly, Jr. (FL)	National Vice Commander – South
Michael L. Lawler (WI)	National Vice Commander – Central
Kenneth L. Yanke (CO)	National Vice Commander – Midwest
Joseph B. Keiser (NV)	National Vice Commander – West
Brian J. O'Hearne (MA)	National Adjutant
Harold E. Thompson, Jr. (NE)	National Assistant Adjutant Emeritus
James "Ed" Sheubrooks (FL)	National Assistant Adjutant
Robert Avery (NY)	National Assistant Adjutant
David Ridenour (IN)	National Assistant Adjutant
Anthony W. Wright (PA)	National Assistant Adjutant
Scott Williams (VA)	National Assistant Adjutant
Scott J. Thornton (OH)	National Assistant Adjutant
Richard A. Ellwein (MT)	National Chaplain
Michael Kane (PA)	National Historian
Joseph Paviglianti (NY)	National Judge Advocate
Danny J. Poole (MI) - E	National Sergeant-At-Arms

Lyle G. Larson (KS)
Vacant
Raymond P. Giehll, III (IN)
Brian K. Waters (PA)
Matthew Chebro (GA)
Charles E. Treat, II (AZ)

National Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms
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Thomas E. Cisna (IL)
James K. Roberts, III (FL)
Christopher J. Huntzinger (PA)
Joseph Gladden (MD)
Michael W. Moss (CO)
Kevin L. Collier (AK)

National Convention Delegations

Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, France
Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts,
Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire,
New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania,
South Carolina, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia,
Washington, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

At this time National Commander Frain made his Mother-in-law and his father Distinguished Guests.

National Vice Commander Joseph Keiser (NV) called on National Commander Jeff Frain (AZ) for his final report.

Commander Frain (AZ) said he stayed up most the night trying to figure out how to say thank you to each any every Detachment and the passion each and every one of you have but there's no other way expect just simply saying "thank you". I've traveled this great nation and met some wonderful people with the Legion, Sons and Auxiliary. I've seen your work and you're all doing an awesome job. Detachments of Indiana and Arizona have both contributed \$100,000 in donations to CWF.

It has been an honor to represent the Sons this year as Commander. In closing, Commander Frain again thanked each and every person. Commander Frain thanked his NVC's for doing it as a team and presented each one with a gift.

We discussed how we were going to do this year and we did it...thank you National Vice Commanders. Commander Frain called Patti, his wife, and Claudia, his mother-in-law to present them with a Distinguished Guest Badge for his father-in-law, Charlie. Commander Frain

thanked Chuck Treat, Commander's Aide for all his support and friendship. This concluded his report.

NVC Joseph Keiser (NV) entertained a motion to accept National Commander Frain's report, accepted by Pennsylvania, seconded by Colorado.

National Commander Frain (AZ) called National Assistant Adjutant Harold Thompson, Jr. (NE) to give the Credentials Report.

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE
Harold E. Thompson, Jr. (NE), Chairman

Mr. Thompson, Jr. (NE) reported the following: There is a possible of 889 Delegates and 46 Delegates-At-Large for a total of 935 possible Delegate votes from 55 Detachments. We had 38 Detachments pre-registered with 663 Delegates, 34 Alternates and 67 Guests. On Thursday we had 47 Detachments with 903 Delegates, 36 Alternates and 78 Guests. On Friday we had 50 Detachments with 916 Delegates, 34 Alternates and 86 Guests. At the close of registration on Saturday we had 46 Detachments with 904 Delegates, 27 Alternates and 93 Guests.

Mr. Thompson asked that the names being submitted be typed or printed clearly so the name tags can be done right the first time and if you have guests please add those names on the guest registration sheet. Please make sure you get you registrants in on time, we had 17 Detachments that came in late. There were 5 Detachments that did not register. They were Arkansas, District of Columbia, Mexico, Philippines and Puerto Rico.

Mr. Thompson, Jr. (NE) reported the following registered:

<u>Detachment</u>	<u>Membership as of 7/19/2017</u>	<u># Delegates</u>	<u># At- Large</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total Registered</u>
Alabama	1,817	7	0	7	7
Alaska	1,396	6	1	7	7
Arizona	6,956	17	2	19	19
Arkansas	525	4	0	4	0
California	11,255	26	3	29	29
Colorado	3,078	9	2	11	11
Connecticut	1,703	6	0	6	6
Delaware	2,227	7	0	7	7
DC	152	3	0	3	0
Florida	17,974	39	2	41	41
France	278	4	0	4	4
Georgia	4,543	12	1	13	13
Hawaii	25	3	0	3	3
Idaho	546	4	0	4	4
Illinois	14,599	32	3	35	35
Indiana	38,261	80	3	83	83
Iowa	4,098	11	1	12	12
Kansas	6,516	16	1	17	17
Kentucky	3,310	10	1	11	11
Louisiana	1,905	7	1	8	8

<u>Detachment</u>	<u>Membership as of 7/19/2017</u>	<u># Delegates</u>	<u># At- Large</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total Registered</u>
Maine	2,445	8	0	8	8
Maryland	15,818	35	6	41	41
Massachusetts	5,551	14	1	15	15
Mexico	36	3	0	3	0
Michigan	2,278	49	2	51	51
Minnesota	11,449	26	2	28	28
Mississippi	581	4	0	4	4
Missouri	3,431	10	0	10	10
Montana	1,085	5	0	5	5
Nebraska	6,536	16	0	16	16
Nevada	588	4	1	5	5
New Hampshire	5,718	14	0	14	14
New Jersey	9,499	22	1	23	23
New Mexico	1,649	6	0	6	6
New York	28,656	60	1	61	61
North Carolina	2,167	7	1	8	8
North Dakota	813	5	0	5	5
Ohio	30,521	64	2	66	66
Oklahoma	1,130	5	1	6	6
Oregon	1,630	6	0	6	6
Pennsylvania	60,928	125	1	126	126
Philippines	40	3	0	3	0
Puerto Rico	34	3	0	3	0
Rhode Island	223	3	0	3	3
South Carolina	1,142	5	0	5	5
South Dakota	760	5	0	5	5
Tennessee	1,604	6	0	6	6
Texas	5,989	15	3	18	18
Utah	598	4	0	4	4
Vermont	3,812	11	0	11	11
Virginia	4,259	12	1	13	13
Washington	2,464	8	0	8	8
West Virginia	2,483	8	0	8	8
Wisconsin	3,624	10	2	12	12
Wyoming	1,213	5	0	5	5
Total	362,474	889	46	935	919

This concluded Mr. Thompson's preliminary report.

At this time Seth Rippe (NE) was called to give the National Membership Committee Report.

NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE
Seth Rippe (NE), Chairman

Mr. Rippe reported we had 22 Detachments that hit 100% with 11 Detachments hitting All-Time High. The Detachments of Alabama, Hawaii, Montana and Nevada met every target date this year.

The following awards were given:

Arthur D. Houghton Trophy Awards

Category I	Nevada
Category II	North Carolina
Category III	Missouri
Category IV	New Jersey
Category V	Michigan

Hartline Award (Detachment(s) with the most newly chartered Squadrons)

Alabama, Missouri and North Carolina

Triple Nickel Award – None Awarded

Largest Squadron Award – Newport Harbor, Squadron 291, Newport Beach, California – 1,575 Members

Regional Renewal Awards

East	France
South	Louisiana
Central	Wisconsin
Mid-West	North Dakota
West	Nevada

90% Renewal Awards

Illinois, Iowa, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio Pennsylvania, South Dakota and Vermont

First Quota Detachment

East	Maine
South	Alabama
Mid-West	North Dakota
Central	Iowa
West	Nevada

Detachments that reached 100% Membership

Philippines, Hawaii, Alabama, Nevada, Oklahoma, Montana, Utah, North Dakota, Arkansas, North Carolina, Mississippi, Arizona, California, South Carolina, Washington, Iowa, Nebraska, Colorado, Michigan, Florida and South Dakota

Detachments that reached All-Time Highs

Nevada, Montana, North Carolina, Arizona, California, South Carolina, Iowa, Nebraska, Michigan, Florida and South Dakota

This concluded the Membership Report. Mr. Rippe (NE) made a motion to accept his report, seconded by Minnesota. Motion carried.

At this time PNC Robert “Bob” Turner (GA) was escorted to the stage by the Sergeant-At-Arms. PNC Turner (GA) said he just wanted to stop by to say hi and that he signed up 10 new members to the Sons. PNC Turner said he’s had the honor of serving as Treasurer of the CWF and would

like to thank the Sons for all your hard work in donating to the CWF and the children of our country. It's been amazing of what you have done. I won't be surprised come next convention that I hear you've hit an all-time high in donations to CWF. Again PNC Turner thanked the Sons and Commander Frain (AZ) for all they've done for CWF. This concluded his remarks.

At this time Commander Frain made PNC Bob Turner a Distinguished Guest.

At this time Michael Fox (CA) was called to give his report for the Public and Media Communications Commission.

PUBLIC AND MEDIA COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Michael Fox (CA), Chairman

Mr. Fox (CA) reported that Commander Frain told them they needed to start getting aggressive outside the four walls of the American Legion Family and to push hard, push often and don't stop until I tell you. So with this, I want to thank Commander Frain and all the Detachment Adjutants, NECmen and PNC's for all their knowledge.

At this time videos (2) were shown.

Mr. Fox (CA) presented the following awards:

Snapshots of Service Awards

Americanism – 1st Place – Basic Magnesium, Inc., Squadron 40, Henderson, NV
2nd Place – Wil-Rog-Mor Squadron 407, Unionville, IA

Veterans Affairs – 1st Place – August Mattson, Inc., Squadron 71, Gladstone, MI
2nd Place – Lorton, Squadron 162, Lorton, VA

Children & Youth – 1st Place – Neal Thomas, Jr. Centennial, Squadron 209, Colorado Springs, CO
2nd Place – August Mattson, Inc., Squadron 71, Gladstone, MI

National Security – 1st Place – Newport Harbor, Squadron 291, Newport Beach, CA
2nd Place – William Proud, Squadron 211, Lompoc, CA

This concluded the Public and Media Communications Report. Mr. Fox (CA) made a motion to accept his report, seconded by Iowa. Motion carried.

At this time The American Legion PNC Jake Comer (MA) was escorted to the stage by the Sergeant-At-Arms.

PNC Comer (MA) said it's a great honor and privilege to be back here once again with the Sons and address you at your convention. The SAL has raised over \$5 million for CWF. The Sons was established as a program but we need the Sons to keep our programs alive. It's good that you will be establishing a 5-year plan so make it happen and get your NEC involved. This concluded his remarks.

At this time Commander Frain (AZ) presented PNC Comer with a Citation of Appreciation and made him a Distinguished Guest.

At this time Commander Frain (AZ) called for all the PNC's to line up in front of the stage. Commander Frain played his Normandy/Europe Trip videos. Commander Frain said he and National Commander Schmidt participated in the town hall meetings in Germany. Commander Frain presented each PNC in attendance a vial of sand from Normandy. This concluded his remarks.

At this time Christopher Carlson (IN) was called to give his report for the Child Welfare Foundation.

CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION COMMITTEE
Christopher Carlton (IN), Chairman

Mr. Carlton (IN) began by playing a video. The Sons have donated \$594,000 so far this year to CWF compared to last years \$3690,299.13. There were two Detachments for the first time in history tied to win the Garland F. Murphy Award – Arizona and Indiana by both of them raising \$110,000. I would also like to mention the following Detachments raised the following - Ohio \$40,207, Pennsylvania \$35,860, Florida \$34,689 and Colorado \$28,783. The following Detachments doubled their donations from last year – Kansas \$21,017 (last year \$8,670), Michigan \$13,505.30 (last year \$4,896.80), and Vermont \$15,250 (last year \$6,339).

Mr. Carlton (IN) presented the following awards:

Detachments over \$1.00 per member that were **not** Regional winners were:

Alaska, California, Delaware, Florida, France, Idaho, Missouri, Montana, Ohio, Tennessee, Utah and West Virginia.

Detachments over \$2.00 per member that were **not** Regional winners were:

Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Hawaii, Kansas, North Carolina, Oregon, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia and Wyoming.

Per Capita Awards Largest in the Nation – Nevada - \$18.⁶⁵ per member

Per Capita Awards in the Mid-West Region – Colorado - \$9.⁵⁷ per member

Per Capita Awards in the Central Region – Indiana - \$2.⁸⁷ per member

Per Capita Awards in the South Region – Mississippi - \$3.⁹⁴ per member

Per Capita Awards in the East Region – Vermont - \$3.⁹⁴ per member

Largest Monetary Donation in the Nation – Arizona & Indiana - \$110,000.⁰⁰

Largest Monetary Donation in the East Region – Pennsylvania - \$35,860.⁰⁰

Largest Monetary Donation in the South Region – Florida - \$34,689.³⁰

Largest Monetary Donation in the Mid-West Region – Colorado - \$28,783.⁸³

Garland F. Murphy Award – Arizona & Indiana

Udie Grant Award - Arizona

Mr. Carlton (IN) made a motion to accept his report, seconded (~indiscernible~). Motion carried.

At this time the Sergeant-At-Arms escorted the 2017 American Legion Youth Champions and Shayne Abrahams (IN), Assistant Director, C&Y to the stage.

Andrew Steinberg (MA), 2017 Oratorical Champion introduced Darius Thomas (AL), 2017 Boys Nation President.

Darius Thomas (AL) thanked the Sons for their support and our veterans for their sacrifices to our country. After meeting my fellow champions here at convention I can say this nation is in extremely good hands and we are the light for our nation. This concluded his remarks.

Darius Thomas (AL), 2017 Boys Nation President introduced Adam Conway (VA), 2016 American Legion Baseball All-Academic Team Captain.

Adam Conway (VA) said it was a pleasure to be at convention with the Sons. Adam thanked the Sons for allowing him to participate with Legion Baseball and appreciates the sacrifice of our veterans. This concluded his remarks.

Andrew Steinberg (MA), 2017 Oratorical Champion introduced Emily Stith (CO), 2017 Precision Shooting Champion.

Emily Stith (CO) thanked all the Departments and Squadrons for their support and all that you have done. Emily said she's grown up as an Army brat and the military values. Again, thank you for everything you've done for The American Legion. This concluded her remarks.

Darius Thomas (AL), 2017 Boys Nation President introduced Andrew Steinberg (MA), 2017 Boys Nation President.

Andrew Steinberg (MA) thanked everyone for welcoming him to the Sons convention. Andrew said he had the honor to watch the changing of the guards and witnessed a father explain what was happening. I will always work to protect the liberties that you and your family have protected. This concluded his remarks.

Commander Jeff Frain (AZ) made all the Youth Champions and Mr. Abrahams Distinguished Guests and gave them all challenge coins.

At this time Michael Kane (PA) was called to give his report on the History Book Awards.

HISTORY BOOK AWARDS
Michael Kane (PA), National Historian

Mr. Kane (PA) stated there were 26 members at our meeting this year. There weren't very many history books submitted this year and hope we get more next year.

Mr. Kane presented the History Book Award Winners:

Squadron – Harry White Wilmer, Squadron 82, LaPlata, MD

District – None Submitted

Detachment – Kansas

Mr. Kane (PA) made a motion to accept his report, seconded by Kansas. Motion carried. At this time Clint Bolt (VA) was called to give the Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission Report.

VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION COMMITTEE

Clint Bolt (VA), Chairman

Mr. Bolt said the VA&R had a historic year, for the first time ever, we were appointed to the Executive Committee for a two-year plan. We had a lot of Sons step up this year to support the VA&R Programs this year and it was greatly appreciated. Our VA&R totals are: 470,791 hours of service and \$1.7 million in donations.

The following Awards were presented:

Kirby Kepler Memorial (Squadron): McLean, Squadron 270, McLean, VA

Allen I. O'Brian Memorial (District): 1st District, Detachment of Georgia

Earl Webster Memorial (Detachment): Georgia

Charles B. Rigsby Volunteer of the Year: Jeffery L. Gibson, Sr., Fletcher-McCollister, Squadron 135, Phenix City, AL (Made a Distinguished Guest)

This concluded his report.

Mr. Bolt (VA) made a motion to accept his report, seconded by California. Motion carried.

At this time Mark Tansel (IN) was called to give the Internal Affairs Committee Report.

INTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Mark Tansel (IN), Chairman

Mr. Tansel stated there no Resolutions submitted and this is a problem. The meeting was short and we discussed Paid Up For Life and standard operating procedures for the Internal Affairs Commission will be coming out at a later date. This concluded his report.

Mr. Tansel (IN) made a motion to accept his report, seconded by Illinois. Motion carried.

At this time PNC William Detweiler (LA), President, Endowment Fund and Meagan Sweet (IN), Assistant Director, C&Y were escorted to the stage.

PNC Detweiler (LA) thank you to Commander Frain and the members of the Sons for all your fundraising efforts. PNC Detweiler spoke about how the funds are used and are for short term help. *The Detachment of Florida was presented with the Harry W. Colmery Legacy Award (Total Contributions) and The Detachment of Oregon was presented with the James A. Drain Founder's Award (Per Capita).* This concluded his presentations and speech.

Commander Frain made PNC William Detweiler a Distinguished Guest and gave him a challenge coin.

At this time NVC Kenneth Yanke (CO) called for Gerald Hammerschmidt (KS) to give the Americanism Committee Report.

AMERICANISM COMMITTEE
Gerald Hammerschmidt (KS), Chairman

Mr. Hammerschmidt discussed the Consolidated Report Forms. Mr. Hammerschmidt said our Americanism website gets over 600-700 hits a week on an average and many positive comments from all over the US.

Mr. Hammerschmidt (KS) presented the following awards:

The winners for the Gerald Atwood-Edward Beyea-Raymond York Memorial Award are:

#1 Detachment in the Nation – Utah

#1 District in the Nation – 9th District, Georgia

#1 Squadron of the Year – John Handte, Squadron 89, Vestal, New York

Community Service Scrapbook Awards:

*Community Service Squadron Scrapbook Award – Harry White Wilmer, Squadron 82,
La Plata, Maryland*

Community Service District Scrapbook Award – 3rd District, Minnesota

Community Service Detachment Scrapbook Award – None Submitted

The following National Emergency Fund Awards were presented:

Largest Donation Per Capita in the Nation – Arkansas

Largest Donation Per Capita in the Central Region – Iowa

Largest Donation Per Capita in the East Region – Massachusetts

Largest Donation Per Capita in the Midwest Region – Colorado

Largest Donation Per Capita in the West Region – Oregon

The following Legacy Scholarship Fund Awards were presented:

Largest Donation in the Nation – Ohio (\$2,870.⁰⁰)

Largest Donation in the South Region – Tennessee

Largest Donation in the East Region – Delaware

Largest Donation in the Midwest Region – Kansas & Nebraska (tied)

Largest Donation in the West Region - Oregon

This concluded his report.

Mr. Hammerschmidt (KS) made a motion to accept his report, seconded by Massachusetts. Motion carried.

At this time John Waite (NH) was called to give his report on Children and Youth.

CHILDREN & YOUTH COMMITTEE
John Waite (NH), Chairman

Mr. Waite (NH) said we discussed the continuation of the e-newsletter and Facebook page. We stayed busy all year with Commander's Frain goal for CWF and American Legion Baseball while not forgetting the foundation the C&Y were based on.

There were only 1,716 Squadron Report Forms received by the due date of July 31st which is a 2% increase from last year. The CSR's reported the following: Special Olympics - \$279,504 with 29,992 service hours; CMN - \$438,194 with 6,821 service hours; Josh Dogs - \$38,090 with 1,640 Josh Dogs distributed; Other Children & Youth Programs/Projects - \$2.1 million with 269,472 service hours.

The following Children & Youth Awards were announced:

East Region – Westfield, Squadron 124, Westfield, MA
Central Region – East Grand Forks, Squadron 157, East Grand Forks, MN
West Region – Herman Granados, Squadron 739, Indio, CA
South Region – Tybee Island, Squadron 154, Tybee Island, GA
Midwest Region – August-Vanek, Squadron 264, Dorchester, NE

Detachment – Georgia
District – 4th District, Georgia
Overall Squadron – Seeley B. Parish, Squadron 457, Phelps, NY

Mr. Waite (NH) made a motion to accept his report, seconded by New Jersey. Motion carried.

At this time National Commander Jeff Frain (AZ) called Larry “Bear” Weinzirl (MD) to give the Veterans Employment and Education Report.

VETERANS EMPLOYMENT & EDUCATION COMMISSION
Larry “Bear” Weinzirl (MD), Vice Chairman

Mr. Weinzirl (MD) said the mission statement of the VE&E Commission is to assist The American Legion in ensuring America's Veterans have the opportunity to provide with honor and dignity the necessity of life for themselves and their families. The American Legion sponsors dozen of “hiring our heroes” job fairs each year with the tools need to begin a new job.

Sons are providing volunteers at these job fairs as requested and getting them distributed out. We are requesting that every Detachment forming your own VE&E Commission or Committee. We've also focused on military to civilian credentialing because it's a scary job market right now but the training they're receiving in the military makes them highly marketable. Another major focus was to assist The American Legion in ending veteran homelessness. You can find all the material you'll need for assisting with the program.

At this time Mr. Weinzirl (MD) showed a video/presentation on veteran homelessness. After the video/presentation Mr. Weinzirl said I hope everyone will help in ending veteran homeless. This concluded his report.

Mr. Weinzirl (MD) made a motion to accept his report, seconded by Indiana. Motion carried. At this time Master Sergeant Bret Holder (GA), USAFR, was called to the stage by National Commander Frain (AZ) for a special presentation. Master Sergeant Holder asked Commander Frain to send him some Josh Dogs and they donated 35 dogs. Thirty-four of those dogs were given to the families and one dog was not needed so he traveled with me on my deployment. (Photos are being show during his presentation). Josh and I share some representation of home – The American Flag. Master Sergeant said Josh is being released of his duty and placed back into

your custody and care of National Commander Frain. Master Sergeant read a citation from Colonel Roberts to the Sons giving Josh a lifetime membership in the Royal Order of The Horse. This concluded his remarks.

At this time National Commander Jeff Frain (AZ) thanks Master Sergeant Holder for his service and made him a Distinguished Guest.

At this time National Commander Frain (AZ) called for the National Vice Commander's Final Reports.

At this time National Vice Commander Joseph A. Korba (NJ), Eastern Region gave his final report.

Mr. Korba said he wanted to thank his father for his service in the Navy. I want to thank New Jersey for your support this year. My first visit was to the Detachment of Massachusetts with Cliff Smith. We made the rounds but the one thing that stuck out was my visit to a post in Massachusetts and the pride they put into their post.

I went to Connecticut to find out they have a Youth Cadet Law Enforcement Program. We should look into this and expand. I had the honor of installing my officers in New Jersey. I visited Pennsylvania to speak before The American Legion Riders. One thing I learned in my travels that all the Detachments supported the Four Pillars of the Legion. In closing, Mr. Korba (NJ) thanked everyone that helped and supported in along the way in the East Region.

Mr. Korba (NJ) made a motion to accept his final report, seconded by Pennsylvania. Motion carried.

At this time National Vice Commander Michael Lawler (WI), Central Region gave his final report.

Mr. Lawler (WI) said super heroes have two things – a team and super powers. You make up the team and our passion is our super power. Our power is in our membership, volunteer hours and donations. In Iowa was 103% membership with 91% retention – awesome. Michigan was 91% membership with 90% retention. Michigan put their “sole” into providing 1,000 shoes – they really stepped it up. Indiana was at 99.4% in membership and armed with the knowledge that Sons need a challenge and raised \$110,000 for CWF. Illinois was at 98.75% membership and 89% retention. In Illinois you'll find the Sons with Josh at the Children's Hospitals. In Minnesota was at 98% membership with 88% retention. The Sons will even volunteer for multiple Squadrons while maintaining their own. Missouri Sons found veterans that couldn't make it to the honor flight and they helped bring it to them. What do all these super heroes have in common? A passion to support the Four Pillars of The American Legion. It has been an honor to serve as National Vice Commander.

Mr. Lawler (WI) made a motion to accept his final report, seconded by Illinois. Motion carried. (Break from National Vice Commander's Report for a special Guest)

At this time National Commander Jeff Frain (AZ) asked the Sergeant-At-Arms escorted Senator Donald Benton (CA), Director of Selective Service.

Senator Benton said it's a great honor to be here with the Sons today and his father would be very proud. Senator Benton's father and both brother served in the military. The Selective Service is a critical piece that stands behind and for all volunteer force today. There are many people that don't know how important it is today or even know that it's still a law and required that you have to register when you turn 18 years old. The budget has been slashed over the years and we have to rely on our friends and leaders like you to get out the word.

We have a 92% rate of compliance which isn't bad for our budget getting cut and relying on leaders. So I'm asking for your help today to remind people to register at www.sss.gov. We have a state service volunteer board and a booth here a convention. Currently the law doesn't require women to register and a review of the Selective Service will be done and go to the President. I ask you reach out to your congressman to keep the Selective Service active. This concluded his remarks.

At this time National Commander Frain (AZ) presented Senator Benton with a Sons Cap, Commanders Coin and made him a Distinguished Guest.

At this time National Vice Commander William D. Kelly, Jr. (FL), Southern Region gave his final report.

Mr. Kelly (FL) said he never would have thought he'd be standing where he is today. In my first meeting at Florida Post 137 I saw a sea of blue but one red cap was there. I said, what's a red cap? I was told he's the National Executive Committeeman for Florida. Both of these men would take me under their wing but have since past to post everlasting. Remember to tell everyone about the Sons. I am honored to have been nominated to serve as the National Vice Commander. We were tasked to work the programs and we surely did – congratulations. We're the only Region to surpass the 100% Target Dates. Mr. Kelly thanked all his Detachments for all their hard work, donations and not giving up this year.

Mr. Kelly (FL) made a motion to accept his final report, seconded by Virginia. Motion carried.

At this time National Vice Commander Kenneth Yanke (CO), Mid-Western Region gave his final report.

Mr. Yanke thanked his wife, Diana for being by his side. He said most of his year has been nothing more passing e-mails on from the National Organization, Chairmen and National Commander Frain. The year started with the NEC in the Fall then attending Pearl Harbor. While at Pearl Harbor with Commander Frain we went to what's called a Defense Accounting Agency. This organization brings home those missing in action and identifying those remains. They need our DNA so they can identify if they may be your family member of our ladies. We raised \$1,000 to do a Polar Plunge into a heated pool in Texas. New Mexico and Oklahoma made me feel right at home. We have someone new in the organization, Jeff Shannon, South Dakota. This is his first time at convention and thank you for attending.

When I went to Nebraska I bid for a poppy hat and won so I wore it to their meeting. While I was in Kansas, ALR Chairman, Terry Harris, couldn't finish his report and had to have the Commander finish but I recorded the Detachment gives 700 Christmas gifts to the kids at Fort. Riley. One of the kids opened their gifts and stood on the stage crying her eyes out. So, Commander walked up to her thinking she didn't like her gift so he offered her another but instead he had a very humbling moment. The little girl looked at him and said I want my daddy

back and Commander asked what happened and just found out she had just lost her father to defending our country. Commander sat there and cried with her and comforted her. This is why we belong to this organization. I want to thank the Commanders and Past National Commanders for all your help. I also want to thank Commander Frain and my wife.

Mr. Yanke (CO) made a motion to accept his final report, seconded by Nebraska. Motion carried.

At this time National Vice Commander Joseph Keiser (NV), Western Region gave his final report.

Mr. Keiser asked everyone in the Western Region stand to be recognized for an outstanding year and thank you for your support. It's hard to believe the year has come to an end. When I became NVC I knew I needed to come up with a plan to succeed. Based on awards the regions received this plan was a success and region membership over 100%. The secret to getting so many new member and achieve Gold Brigade is to "just ask". I want to thank you for allowing me to take on the responsibility of National Vice Commander. A slide show was shown at this time. Mr. Keiser presented Commander Frain with some challenge coins. At this time all the National Vice Commanders presented Commander Frain with a guitar and gave Patti a box of red, white and blue ear plugs.

Mr. Keiser (N) made a motion to accept his final report, seconded by Idaho. Motion carried.

Jim Gelwicks (CO) asked if this will be Brian O'Hearne's last year as National Adjutant? Commander Frain said he had no idea. Discussion closed.

Commander Frain asked for all the National Vice Commander's wives to the podium to make them Distinguished Guests.

At this time David Lee (NY) was called to give the Legislative & Rules Convention Committee Report.

LEGISLATIVE & RULES CONVENTION COMMITTEE
David Lee (NY), Chairman

Mr. Lee (NY) said there was a Legislative Bills that has passed. It was the Veterans Appeals Improvement and Modernization Act. The 100th Anniversary coin has passed the Senate and when the House comes back from the summer recess they will voting and it sounds like it will get passed, but what I need is for all of you to go out and make sure you're representative has signed up.

The Washington Conference for 2018 will be February 25-28, 2018. The wreath laying ceremony will be on February 25th at 10:00 am at the Tomb of The Unknown Soldier. We will also be laying wreaths at the WWII Memorial and the Korean War Memorial. We will have additional information at a later time. We also talked about the future direction of the Legislative Commission also when I was announced it was called the Legislative Commission there's a reason it's called Legislative...that's what we deal with. We don't deal with politics, but if you want to talk politics, that's your personal choice. It's not the choice of the Sons or The American Legion because we are here to support Legislation so if you want to talk politics take your cap off.

George B. Evans Grassroots Veterans' Advocate of The Year Award – None Submitted

This concluded his report.

Mr. Lee (NY) made a motion to accept his report, seconded by Virginia. Motion carried.

At this time William Hill (MD) was called to the stage for the Finance Committee Report.

FINANCE COMMITTEE
William Hill (MD), Vice Chairman

Mr. Hill (MD) said I was reminded by PNC Joe Mayne what our \$2 dues goes to. We stayed within budget. We outlined the budget for convention this year with no expenses occurred against it yet because we won't receive anything until the Fall NEC Meeting.

Mr. Hill (MD) made a motion to accept his report, seconded by Indiana. Motion carried.

At this time John Jennings (FL) was called to give the Constitution and By-Laws report.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS COMMITTEE
John Jennings (FL), Chairman

Mr. Jennings (FL) reported there was no Resolutions submitted.

Mr. Jennings (FL) made a motion to accept his report, seconded by New Hampshire. Motion carried.

At this time Commander Jeff Frain (AZ) called on Harold Thompson, Jr. (NE) for the Credentials Committee Final Report.

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE
Harold E. Thompson, Jr. (NE), Chairman

Mr. Thompson (NE) reported at the close of registration we had 50 Detachments, 919 Delegates, 34 Alternates and 86 Guests. There have been no changes since the report from early this morning. This concluded his report.

Mr. Thompson (NE) made a motion to accept his report, seconded by Illinois. Motion carried.

National Commander Jeff Frain (AZ) called for all donations. Following donations the National Vice Commanders announced their caucuses.

Commander Frain (AZ) recessed the meeting until Sunday, August 20, 2017 at 8:00 am, following a rendering right-hand salute to the colors.

The 46th National Convention of the Sons of The American Legion was reconvened at 8:00 am on Sunday, August 20, 2017, at the Reno-Sparks Convention Center, Reno, Nevada.

With colors being in place, a right-hand salute was rendered. National Commander Jeff Frain (AZ) declared the Convention in session.

National Chaplain Richard Ellwein (MT) was called to invoke the blessing of God.

National Vice Commander Joseph Keiser (NV) led the Pledge of Allegiance.

National Commander Jeff Frain (AZ) then called for National Adjutant Brian O’Hearne (MA) to call the roll of National Officers.

Present were: (E=Excused)

National Officers

Jeff C. Frain (AZ)	National Commander
Joseph A. Korba (NJ)	National Vice Commander – East
William D. Kelly, Jr. (FL)	National Vice Commander – South
Michael L. Lawler (WI)	National Vice Commander – Central
Kenneth L. Yanke (CO)	National Vice Commander – Midwest
Joseph B. Keiser (NV)	National Vice Commander – West
Brian J. O’Hearne (MA)	National Adjutant
Harold E. Thompson, Jr. (NE)	National Assistant Adjutant Emeritus
James “Ed” Sheubrooks (FL)	National Assistant Adjutant
Robert Avery (NY)	National Assistant Adjutant
David Ridenour (IN)	National Assistant Adjutant
Anthony W. Wright (PA)	National Assistant Adjutant
Scott Williams (VA)	National Assistant Adjutant
Scott J. Thornton (OH)	National Assistant Adjutant
Richard A. Ellwein (MT)	National Chaplain
Michael Kane (PA)	National Historian
Joseph Paviglianti (NY)	National Judge Advocate
Danny J. Poole (MI) - E	National Sergeant-At-Arms
Lyle G. Larson (KS)	National Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms
Vacant	National Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms
Raymond P. Giehll, III (IN)	National Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms
Brian K. Waters (PA)	National Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms
Matthew Chebro (GA)	National Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms
Charles E. Treat, II (AZ)	Aide To The National Commander

Past National Commanders

Michael Seaton (CA)	Byron J. Robichaux (LA)
Robert McBride (OH)	Clifford A. Smith (MA)
J.R. Stillwell (IL)	Neal Warnken (KS)
Robert Faust (CA)	Michael J. Deacon (IA)
Charles E. Gannon (MD)	William L. Sparwasser (MD)
David P. Stephens (IN)	Earl R. Ruttkofsky (MI)
Douglas P. Bible (MN)	Raymond P. Giehll, Jr. (IN)

David R. Faust (WI)
Eugene L. Sacco (CA)
Roland D. Matteson (AZ)
Joseph M. Mayne (MN)
John T. Dietz (KY)

Thomas E. Cisna (IL)
James K. Roberts, III (FL)
Christopher J. Huntzinger (PA)
Joseph Gladden (MD)
Michael W. Moss (CO)
Kevin L. Collier (AK)

National Convention Delegations

Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, France, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

Internal Affairs Commission Chairman, Mark Tansel (IN) announced he had an additional report to give to this convention. Commander Frain (AZ) granted permission.

Mark Tansel (IN) reported a Resolution was submitted this morning at 7:00 am that needed to be reviewed during this convention meeting. Mr. Tansel read the following Resolution: SAL National Convention Resolution 1 – Titled: Bestow Upon Brian J. O’Hearne the title of “Past National Commander” with all the privileges and rights pertaining to such office. This was passed before us and has been passed. Mr. Tansel made a motion to accept this Resolution, seconded by ALL National Vice Commanders.

PNC Charles Gannon (MD) stated on the behalf of all those served with Brian and those whom have missed to serve with Brian, I on the behalf of the PNC’s welcome him to our great fraternity.

PNC Cliff Hall (MA) stated 28 years ago when I went to my first Detachment convention I met Mr. O’Hearne (MA). He was the guy that guided me along through all those years as I moved up into the organization. I became a National Commander because of him. People don’t understand what a National Adjutant does which is a full-time job along with his regular full-time job. I whole heartedly support this Resolution and I hope everyone accepts this Resolution.

PNC JR Stillwell (IL) stated, I’ve known Brian for a long time. As a PNC Adjutant and PNC Commander I want to welcome Brian into our ranks and hope all will accept.

National Commander Jeff Frain (AZ), called for the votes to accept SAL National Convention Resolution 1 – Titled: Bestow Upon Brian J. O’Hearne the title of “Past National Commander” with all the privileges and rights pertaining to such office. All were in favor with a unanimous vote.

PNC Douglas Bible asked for permission to approach the podium with all and any Past National Commanders to congratulate Brian O’Hearne (MA). PNC Bible wants to present him a framed copy of his Resolution.

At this time Brian O’Hearne (MA) said to the National Judge Advocate, Joseph Paviglianti aren’t you suppose to let the Adjutant know what’s going on? Mr. O’Hearne said he’s truly humbled and wants to thank everyone for all their support. This concluded his remarks.

At this time the 2017 Color Guard Champions from California were presented with their award and made Distinguished Guests by National Commander Jeff Frain (AZ).

At this time National Commander Jeff Frain (AZ) made National Adjutant Brian O’Hearne (MA) a Distinguished Guest.

At this time the Sons of The American Legion National Memorial Service will be conducted.

National Commander Jeff Frain (AZ) asked the Sergeant-At-Arms to secure the door. National Chaplain Ellwein asked all to uncover for the duration of the Memorial Service. National Chaplain, Richard Ellwein (MT) conducted the invocation.

(At this time Amazing Grace played)

Memorial candles were lit at this time followed by National Chaplain Ellwein (MT) reading Psalm:23.

National Chaplain Richard Ellwein (MT) said a prayer followed by the placing of the wreaths.

At this time National Commander Frain (AZ) and National Adjutant O’Hearne (MA) placed Memorial Wreaths. At this time the National Vice Commanders, Joseph A. Korba (NJ) from the East, William D. Kelly, Jr. (FL) from the South, Michael L. Lawler (WI) from the Central, Kenneth Yanke (CO) from the Mid-West and Joseph Keiser (NV) from the West placed the Regional Memorial Wreaths.

At this time taps was played followed by National Chaplain, Richard Ellwein (MT) Benediction.

God Bless America was played at this time. This concluded the Memorial Service.

At this time all the National Vice Commanders presented Commander Frain with a Certificate of Flag Presentation and the US flag flown on USS Arizona, December 7, 1941.

Special Order of Business

National Commander Jeff Frain (AZ) called National Judge Advocate Joseph Paviglianti (NY) to read the rules of the convention governing the nomination and election of Officers.

National Adjutant Brian O’Hearne (MA) read the roll call for nominations of the *Office of National Commander*.

The Detachment of Alabama yielded to Nebraska, Nebraska requested permission for PNC Michael Helm (NE) to approach the podium for the purpose of nomination. Alaska yielded to the Detachment of Indiana, Indiana requested PNC Raymond P. Giehl, III (IN) permission to approach the podium to give a nominating speech. PNC James Roberts (FL), requested permission to approach the podium to give a seconding speech. All Detachments represented, seconded the nomination.

The roll call was completed and National Adjutant Brian O’Hearne (MA) announced that there was one candidate for National Commander, Danny J. Smith (NE). PNC Michael Seaton (CA) moved that National Adjutant be instructed to cast one unanimous ballot for Danny J. Smith (NE) for the Office of National Commander 2017-2018, seconded PNC Robert McBride (OH). Motion carried.

The Sergeant-At-Arms and all Past National Commanders escorted Danny J. Smith (NE) to the podium. Following a brief speech by newly elected Commander Smith, Jeff Frain (AZ) made Mr. Smith (NE) a Distinguished Guest of the National Convention.

National Commander Jeff Frain (AZ) called on National Adjutant Brian O’Hearne (MA) for the roll call for nomination for the *Office of National Vice Commander*.

At this time nominations for *Office of National Vice Commander* for the *East Region* was conducted.

The Detachment of Connecticut yielded to Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania requested permission for PNC Christopher Huntzinger (PA) to give a nomination speech. Delaware yielded to Maryland, Maryland requested permission for PNC Joseph Gladden (MD) to approach the podium for a seconding speech. Kenneth P. Warner (PA) was nominated for the Office of National Vice Commander for the Eastern Region for the year 2017-2018. The nomination for Kenneth P. Warner (PA) was seconded by all Eastern Region Detachments.

At this time nominations for *Office of National Vice Commander* for the *South Region* was conducted.

The Detachment of Alabama yielded to Florida, Florida requested permission for PNC James Roberts, III (FL) to give a nomination speech. The Detachment of Georgia yielded to South Carolina, South Carolina requested permission for PNC Robert McBride (SC) a seconding speech. Mark A. Cannito (SC) was nominated for the Office of National Vice Commander for the Southern Region for the year 2017-2018. The nomination for Mark A. Cannito (SC) was seconded by all Southern Region Detachments.

At this time nominations for *Office of National Vice Commander* for the *Central Region* was conducted.

The Detachment of Illinois yielded to Missouri, Missouri requested permission for NEC Kenny Goth (MO) to give a nomination speech. Indiana yielded to Illinois, Illinois requested PNC Thomas Cisna (IL) permission to approach the podium to give a seconding speech. Jay E. Marsden (MO) was nominated for the Office of National Vice Commander for the Central Region for the year 2017-2018. The nomination for Jay E. Marsden (MO) was seconded by all Central Region Detachments.

At this time nominations for *Office of National Vice Commander* for the *Mid-West Region* was conducted.

The Detachment of Colorado, yielded to New Mexico, New Mexico requested permission for Department Commander Tony Navarrete (NM) to give a nomination speech. Kansas seconded the nomination. Joseph R. Navarrete (NM) was nominated for the Office of National Vice

Commander for the Mid-Western Region for the year 2017-2018. The nomination for Joseph R. Navarrete (NM) was seconded by all Mid-Western Region Detachments.

At this time nominations for *Office of National Vice Commander* for the *West Region* was conducted.

The Detachment of Alaska yielded to California, California requested permission for PDC Matt Perrson (CA) to give a nomination speech. Arizona seconded the nomination. Donald S. Ramirez (CA) was nominated for the Office of National Vice Commander for the Western Region for the year 2017-2018. The nomination for Donald S. Ramirez (CA) was seconded by all Western Region Detachments.

Following the completion of roll call, National Adjutant O’Hearne (MA) announced the five nominations. Tom Skully, Texas moved to suspend the rules, seconded by Michael Lawler, Wisconsin, motion failed. National Adjutant O’Hearne (MA) made a motion to be elected by acclimation instructed to cast one unanimous ballot for all five National Vice Commander candidates, seconded by James Roberts, III, Florida. Motion carried.

National Commander Jeff Frain (AZ) asked the Sergeant-At-Arms to bring forth the newly elected 2017-2018 National Vice Commanders to the stage.

The Sons of The American Legion National Convention stood in recess for the Joint Memorial Service until 12:30 pm.

The Sons of the American Legion National Convention reconvened at 12:30 pm.

With the colors being in place, rendered a right-hand salute.

National Commander Frain (AZ) asked the Sergeant-At-Arms to escort the installing Officer Bob Craig (NE) to the stage. Mr. Craig (NE) asked the Sergeant-At-Arms to escort the newly elected National Officers, with the exception of the National Commander, to the stage for installation.

The newly elected National Officers were installed by Bob Craig (NE) of The American Legion.

PNC Michael Helm (NE) asked the Sergeant-At-Arms to escort Danny J. Smith (NE) and his family to the stage.

PNC Michael Helm (NE) called for the newly elected National Commander of the Son of The American Legion, Danny J. Smith (NE) for installation.

At this time PNC Michael Helm (NE) called for the *Outgoing* National Commander Jeff Frain (AZ) to release him from his duties as the National Commander for the Sons of The American Legion.

At this time PNC Michael Helm (NE) handed the gavel to the newly installed National Commander Danny J. Smith (NE). PNC Helm (NE) was made a Distinguished Guest.

At this time Danny J. Smith’s wife, Donna, placed his name tag and cap.

At this time National Commander Frain's wife, Patti, did the changing of the cap and name tag.

The newly elected National Commander Danny J. Smith (NE) said you folks gave me an awesome ovation this morning. I should have applauded you for what you have done for what you have done for the Sons. Newly elected Commander Smith said I have to thank my dad, Daniel, for his service in the Korean War because he's the link I have to this great organization. I want to also thank my mother, wife, children and in-laws for their love and support. My mother was the one that really got me started in the Legion because of her active volunteer service. Commander Smith said he had the fire of a winner burning inside him. We are The American Legion and we are winners!

Newly elected National Commander Smith (NE) made his wife, Donna, his children and grandchildren, extended family, PNC Michael Helm, Bob Craig, Jim Costello, Virginia Nelson, Seth Rippe, Jerry Cole, Leading Candidate Denise Rohan, Auxiliary Leading Candidate Diane Duscheck were all made Honorary Distinguished Guests. This concluded his speech.

At this time all the newly elected National Vice Commanders, Kenneth P. Warner, (PA), Mark A. Cannito (SC), Jay E. Marsden (MO), Joseph R. Navarrete (NM) and Donald S. Ramirez (CA) all gave brief speeches and thanked everyone for nominating them (All NVC's and their wives' were made Distinguished Guests.

At this time the podium was turned back over to National Commander Jeff Frain (AZ).

PNC Joe Gladden (MD) presented the outgoing National Commander Jeff Frain (AZ) with his flag from his year.

At this time PNC Jim Robert (FL) presented Danny J. Smith (NE) with his colors.

Donations totals were announced at this time. NEF \$12,915.21; CWF \$38,932.06; Legacy Scholarship \$47,800; OCW \$\$1,065; CMN \$2,000

At this time National Commander Jeff Frain (AZ) called for any Old Business.

Old Business:

No old business. This concluded the old business.

At this time National Commander Jeff Frain (AZ) called for any New Business.

New Business:

No new business. This concluded the new business.

At this time National Commander Frain (AZ) called For the Good of the Sons of The American Legion.

For the Good of the Sons of The American Legion:

PNC Douglas Bible (MN) announced the 2018-2019 Leading Candidate is Greg “Doc” Gibbs (NY) for National Commander; 2nd Leading Candidate is Clint Bolt (VA).

Roland Matteson (AZ) want to have the chair with the POW/MIA raised and lit for future meetings. Commander Frain said it could be possible.

Commander Danny Smith pins and homecoming information will be available outside this convention hall.

Commander Frain’s last closing remarks were “Thank You”.

This concluded the Good of the Sons.

The Post NEC Meeting will begin in fifteen minutes after we adjourn.

With no further business to come before the National Convention, National Jeff Frain (AZ) turned the podium over to National Chaplain Richard Ellwein (MT) to end the meeting in prayer.

The Sergeant-At-Arms was called to retrieve and retire the POW/MIA Flag. The National Color Guard Champions were called to retrieve and retire the National Colors.

Commander Jeff Frain (AZ) declared the 46th National Convention adjourned.

**SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
POST CONVENTION MEETING
AUGUST 20, 2017**

The Post Convention Meeting of the National Executive Committee of the Sons of The American Legion was held on Sunday, August 20, 2017, at the Reno-Sparks Convention Center, Reno, Nevada.

The colors being in place, render a right hand salute.

National Commander Danny J. Smith (NE) asked Past National Chaplain Richard Ellwein (MT) to give the invocation.

Following the POW/MIA ceremony, National Vice Commander Mark A. Cannito (SC) led the Pledge of Allegiance and National Vice Commander Jay E. Marsden (MO) led in the Preamble to the Constitution of the Sons of The American Legion. Following the Preamble, the displaying of the Blue Star Service Banner was performed.

National Commander Danny J. Smith (NE) called on National Adjutant Brian O’Hearne (MA) to call the roll of National Officers, Past Commanders and Detachments.

National Officers

Danny J. Smith (NE)

Kenneth P. Warner (PA)

Mark A. Cannito (SC)

National Commander

National Vice Commander - East

National Vice Commander - South

Jay E. Marsden (MO)
Joseph R. Navarrete (NM)
Donald S. Ramirez (CA)
Brian J. O’Hearne (MA)
Harold Thompson, Jr. (NE)

National Vice Commander - Central
National Vice Commander – Mid-West
National Vice Commander - West
National Adjutant
National Assistant Adjutant Emeritus

Past National Commanders

Jeff C. Frain (AZ)	Byron J. Robichaux (LA)
Robert McBride (OH)	Clifford A. Smith (MA)
J. R. Stillwell (IL)	Michael Deacon (IA)
Robert Faust (CA)	William L. Sparwasser (MD)
David P. Stephens (IN)	Raymond P. Giehl, Jr. (IL)
Christopher R. Cerullo (NY)	Thomas Cisna (IL)
Douglas Bible (MN)	James K. Roberts, III (FL)
David R. Faust (WI)	Christopher J. Huntzinger (PA)
Eugene L. Sacco (CA)	Joseph Gladden (MD)
Roland D. Matteson (AZ)	Michael Moss (CO)
Joseph M. Mayne (WI)	Kevin Collier (AK)
John T. Dietz (OH)	

National Executive Committeemen Delegations

Alabama (N), Alaska (N), Arizona (B), California (B), Colorado (B), Connecticut (N), Delaware (N), Florida (B), Georgia (B), Idaho (A), Illinois (N), Indiana (N), Kansas (B), Kentucky (B), Massachusetts (A), Michigan (A), Minnesota (N), Mississippi (N), Montana (N), Nebraska (A), Nevada (N), New Hampshire (B), New Jersey (B), New Mexico (B), New York (B), Ohio (N), Oregon (N), Pennsylvania (B), Texas (A), Vermont (A), Virginia (N), Washington (N), Wisconsin (B) and Wyoming (B).

National Adjutant O’Hearne (MA) stated that there was a quorum present.

National Commander Danny J. Smith (NE) declared the Post Convention National Executive Committee meeting convened.

National Commander Danny J. Smith (NE) then installed the National Executive Committeemen and Alternates who were present.

At this time National Adjutant Brian O’Hearne (MA) said there are times when you need to let new people with new ideas come in and take position. That time has come. I don’t want to take the time to thank everyone because it’s too numerous except Cliff Smith said I had to personally thank him. We look forward to working with everyone in the future. Thank You. This concluded his remarks.

National Commander Danny J. Smith (NE) thanked Mr. O’Hearne for all his years of service and hard work. This concluded his remarks.

National Commander Danny J. Smith (NE) read the list of National Officer appointments for 2017-2018 are as follows:

Anthony W. Wright (PA)	National Adjutant
Robert J. Avery (NY)	National Assistant Adjutant

Ed Sheubrooks (FL)	National Assistant Adjutant
David M. Ridenour (IN)	National Assistant Adjutant
Scott Williams (VA)	National Assistant Adjutant
Jeff Hicks (NJ)	National Assistant Adjutant
Scott Thornton (OH)	National Assistant Adjutant
James Noble (NJ)	National Chaplain
Jerry J. Cole (NE)	National Historian
Joseph Paviglianti (NY)	National Judge Advocate
George B. Sevick, Jr. (NE)	National Sergeant-At-Arms
Lyle G. Larson (KS)	National Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms
Brian K. Waters (PA)	National Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms
Raymond Giehll, III (IN)	National Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms
Mathew Chebro (GA)	National Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms
Gregory A. Falco (NY)	National Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms
David L. Rippe (NE)	Aide to the National Commander
Mike Pipher (IN)	Editor, SAL Newsletter
Clifford E. Hall (GA)	Event Coordinator
Wes Wills (KS)	Webmaster

A motion was made, accepted by Pennsylvania, seconded by Colorado to accept the Officer appointments. Motion carried.

National Commander Danny Smith (NE) indicated that the Commission/Committee appointments had been distributed.

A motion was made by Commander Smith to accept the appointments by Alabama, seconded by Pennsylvania. Motion carried.

The Commission/Committee Chairmen were called to stand for recognition.

Phillip Cook (NH), a correction under Finance Commission to correct Keith Murdough's e-mail by removing the "s". So noted.

Other comments were made but not audible – microphone was not utilized.

At this time the podium was turned over to Paul Brown (CA), National Headquarters Staff. Mr. Brown said there was a problem with getting the checks cut and unfortunately they will have to be mailed to you. Mr. Brown said there will be a lot of challenges within the next few years. I urge you to take the higher road and let things go and move forward from here.

Daniel O'Rourke (NM) – VA&R Commission said information is wrong. Mr. O'Rourke was asked to give the correct information after this meeting.

Robert Thompson (SC), NEC, is resigning as NEC and staying on as part of the Finance Commission. Commander Smith said to take that up with your Detachment and they can find a replacement.

Commander Smith (NE) called for any *Unfinished Business* – There was none.

Commander Smith (NE) called for any *New Business* – There was none.

Commander Smith (NE) announced the transition meeting will be at 8:00 am, in room D-7 at the Reno-Sparks Convention Center. The Fall NEC room reservation forms have been mailed and e-mailed out. They need to be returned by September 4th.

With no further business to come before the National Executive Committee Meeting, National Chaplain James Noble (NJ) gave the benediction.

With the colors being in place and a right hand salute, Commander Smith (NE) declared the Post Convention of the NEC of the SAL adjourned.