

**SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
DETACHMENT OF TEXAS
DETACHMENT CONVENTION 2014
MCALLEN, TEXAS**

Call to Order

By order of the Commander and pursuant to the constitution and by-laws, Article IV, Section 1, of the Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Texas, I, Kevin Winkelmann, Detachment Adjutant, do hereby call all members of the Detachment of Texas to convene on Friday July 11, 2014 at 2:00 pm, Saturday July 12, 2014 at 9:30AM and Sunday July 13, 2014 at 9:00AM at the Convention Center in McAllen, TX

Hotel Locations

THE AMERICAN LEGION AND AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

RENAISSANCE CASA DE PALMAS

101 N. MAIN

MCALLEN, TX

888-236-2427 use code TALA

RATE—\$99.00 PER NIGHT

OVERFLOW

SPRING HILL SUITES

1800 S. WARE ST

MCALLEN, TX

956-682-6336

RATE—\$99.00 PER NIGHT

HOMEWOOD SUITES

3801 EXPRESSWAY 83

MCALLEN, TX

956-630-0500

RATE—\$104.00 PER NIGHT

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

HAMPTON INN AND SUITES

10 W. EXPRESSWAY 83

MCALLEN, TX

956-661-1100

RATE—\$99.00 PER NIGHT

AGENDA

You will find the agenda enclosed. All meetings will be held at the Convention Center along with all Committee meetings. Please review the enclosed schedule times for Committees.

COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

Please see the attached remarks from Detachment Commander Kuehner

ADJUTANT'S NOTES

Please make sure all Officers, Chairman and District and Squadron Commanders address changes are reported as soon as they occur. This includes e-mail addresses. Please e-mail me all correspondences if possible. Again this year, we have started pre-registration for all delegates and members to the Detachment Convention. Please review the enclosed registration form and return it, filled out with your payment to the Detachment of Texas, to Kevin Winkelmann, Detachment Adjutant. Pre-registration will be \$25.00 and on-site registration will be \$35.00. Also, please remember to fill out your paperwork for your delegate strength to receive your votes for the Detachment Convention. Look at our website for the form or find it in this newsletter. Your voting strength is determined by your Squadron's membership, 30 days prior to the Detachment Convention. This date will be June 11, 2014. Finally, a note on membership transmittals. Please make sure all transmittals are filled out correctly and includes payment for your members in the form of a check, money order or a cashier's check. NO CASH!!! Also, please keep a copy for your records. Our next meeting will be the Detachment Fall Conference in Austin, TX the weekend of September 26-28, 2014. The location of the meeting will be the Omni Hotel. Their phone number is 512-448-2222 and the room rates are approx. \$95.00 per night. Please make your reservations as soon as possible. Finally, election of new officers are upon us. Please remit your Squadron, District or Division Certification of Officers as soon as you can. This will help with the process of getting your cards quicker.

FINANCE

ATTENTION: PDC's, Detachment Officers, Committee Chairmen, District Commanders I plan to send the confirmation email for Detachment Convention during the month of May. If you plan to attend the convention and wish to receive your call-in at the convention, you must confirm by the first Sunday in June. Otherwise, you will not receive your check until mid August. This is a 3-day convention. You must answer roll call each day and attend your assigned committee meeting to receive your call-in. See you in Irving

Steve Slaughter, Detachment Finance Officer
Home 817-946-4506
E-mail smslaughter@sbcglobal.net

INTERNET

We are seeing very good response from the redesigned website. The website is a tool for you to use to make your job a little easier. We have most forms and up to date info on coming events posted. If there is something you would like to add to the website, please let me know. We can post your newsletters, coming events and pictures from your events. Right now we are really looking for pictures of the local events from around the Detachment. If you have an event and have pictures of the Commander or other Detachment guests, please send them to me so I can get them up on the website. We will also soon be adding pictures of all of the Detachment Officers and would like pictures of all the District Commanders. If you hold an event that you would like to have the pictures posted, please include what the event was, the date of the event and the names of the people pictured. We have all the room in the world, so send all the info and pictures you can and let's show the nation what Texas is doing.

Please send all of this information to webmaster@laketexomadesigns.com .

Gary Winters
Webmaster

DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS

As everyone should know by now, we now have an office at Headquarters. It is set up and running and is there for every member's use. We will be sending out the newsletters in the email form this time plus regular mail delivery. Hopefully, we can accomplish some good results and will get further input at the Fall DEC in September.

AGENDA

- OPENING SESSION, FRIDAY JULY 11-----2:00 PM**
- CALL TO ORDER-----COMMANDER KUEHNER**
- POST COLORS-----SGT-AT-ARMS TYLER WATSON**
- INVOCATION-----CHAPLAIN JEFFREY MEURER JR**
- MOMENT OF SILENCE, RESOLUTION FOR POW/MIA FLAG, RESOLUTION FOR BLUE STAR BANNER AT ALL MEETINGS-----COMMANDER KUEHNER**
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE-----1ST DIVISION COMMANDER GARY PAUL**
- PREAMBLE-----2ND DIVISION COMMANDER JERRY BEAIRD**
- ROLL CALL-----ADJUTANT KEVIN WINKELMANN**
- READING OF MINUTES-----ADJUTANT KEVIN WINKELMANN**
- APPOINTMENTS TO CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE-----COMMANDER KUEHNER**
- GREETINGS TO THE CONVENTION-----15TH DIST COMMANDER MILLER**
- RESPONSE TO THE GREETINGS-----PDC RICHARD BARTHOLOMEW**
- INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUEST-----NEC MILTON CHATHAM**
- PRESENTATION OF OUR SPECIAL GUEST-----BRAD SCHROENGHAMER
NATIONAL VICE COMMANDER MIDWEST, 2012-2013
DETACHMENT OF NEW MEXICO**
- FIRST READING OF CREDENTIALS-----JUDGE ADVOCATE GARY WINTERS**
- CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAW CHANGES**
- COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS----- (IF NECESSARY)**
- NEC REPORT-----NEC MILTON CHATHAM**

COMMITTEE MEETINGS-----4:00 TO 4:30

- A) CMN/CWF
- B) Boys State
- C) Convention City
- D) Internet/Credentials

COMMITTEE MEETINGS-----4:30 TO 5:15

- A) Legislative
- B) PUFL/NEC
- C) VA & R
- D) Public Relations
- E) Campaign Committee

COMMITTEE MEETINGS-----5:15 TO 6:00

- A) Americanism
- B) Children & Youth
- C) Awards
- D) Finance
- E) Internal Affairs/Membership

RECESS UNTIL 9:30 AM SATURDAY MORNING

SATURDAY JULY 12, 2014

LEADERSHIP CLASSES

- A) DISTRICT AND DIVISION COMMANDERS, 8:00-8:45 AM
- B) ALL MEMBERS, 8:45-9:30 AM

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

INVOCATION-----CHAPLAIN MEURER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE-----4TH DIVISION COMMANDER DAVID BLAIR

PREAMBLE-----3RD DIVISION COMMANDER CONNIE WADDELL

ROLL CALL-----ADJUTANT KEVIN WINKELMANN

LIAISON REPORT-----JOHN SCHENDEL, DEPARTMENT ADVISOR

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

CREDENTIALS—2ND READING BY COMMITTEE

BOYS STATE

CONVENTION CITY

INTERNET

LEGISLATIVE

PUFL

VA & R

PUBLIC RELATIONS

AWARDS

AMERICANISM

CHILDREN & YOUTH and CMN/CWF
FINANCE
INTERNAL AFFAIRS/MEMBERSHIP
CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE—IF NECESSARY

IF COMMITTEE REPORTS ARE NOT COMPLETE BY 12:00, WE WILL BREAK FOR LUNCH TILL 1:30

COMMITTEE REPORTS CONTINUE

SQUADRON, DISTRICT AND DIVISION COMMANDER REPORTS

ELECTION OF DELEGATES TO THE NATIONAL CONVENTION

DETACHMENT COMMANDER BILL KUEHNER'S FINAL REPORT

IF THE TIME REACHES 4:00PM AFTER COMMANDER KUEHNERS REPORT, WE WILL RECESS UNTIL SUNDAY MORNING. PENDING PARTICIPATION, THE 5-STAR PROGRAM CLASS WILL START AT 4:15 PM. IF TIME PERMITS, WE WILL CONTINUE WITH REGULAR ORDER OF BUSINESS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

GOOD OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

RECESS UNTIL SUNDAY AT 9:00AM

SUNDAY JULY 13, 2014

CALL TO ORDER-----COMMANDER KUEHNER

INVOCATION-----CHAPLAIN MEURER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE-----17TH DIST COMMANDER JONATHAN POE

PREAMBLE-----COMMANDER BILL KUEHNER

ROLL CALL-----ADJUTANT KEVIN WINKELMANN

PRESENTATION OF 5 STAR AWARDS

FINAL REPORT OF CREDENTIALS-----JUDGE ADVOCATE WINTERS

ELECTION OF OFFICERS-----JUDGE ADVOCATE WINTERS

INSTALLATION OF NEW OFFICERS, DETACHMENT OF TEXAS 2014-2015

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

BENEDICTION-----CHAPLAIN MEURER

RETIREMENT OF COLORS-----SGT-AT ARMS TYLER WATSON

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

MID-WINTER DETACHMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING JANUARY 25-26, 2014

SATURDAY JANUARY 25, 2014

Meeting was called to order at 8:48 AM. Following hand salute to the colors, pledge, prayer and preamble, the meeting was called into session at 9:00 AM. Commander Kuehner then asked for the roll call. Officers not present are as follows: Vice Commander Division 1 Paul and Chaplain Meurer (E). Committee Chairmen not present were Internet Winters. Districts present were 1C, 2, 4, 5C, 6C, 7C, 9C, 10C, 11, 12C, 14C, 15C, 16, 17C, 19, 20C, 21C and 22. Squadrons present were 17, 36, 37, 50, 76, 81, 121, 163, 179, 200, 208, 223, 231, 245, 267, 297, 321, 447, 453, 517, 554, 569, 575, 593, 598, 618, 654 and 817. Following roll call, the minutes were asked to be read. Gary Randall made a motion to suspend the reading of the minutes, 2nd by Bob Youngren. Motion passed.

Commander Kuehner then introduced Jim Fleming, Department Commander, Texas to the body. He brought greetings to the body and thanked all members for their service and support.

NEC—NEC Chatham then came forward to give his report. He stated that there was no guest here. NEC Chatham then came forward to give his report. First item was MYSAL.org and stressed that all adjutants should participate with this web site. He spoke on various items that are on the agenda of the National Organization. A complete report is attached to these minutes. Milton made a motion to accept his report, 2nd by 20th District Commander Creech. Passed

Adjutant Winkelmann gave the body some notes and updates and copies of the Standard Operating Procedures. Commander Kuehner then recessed the meeting at 9:20 AM

The meeting was reconvened at by Commander Kuehner at 10:12 AM

INTERNET—Gary Winters not present

LEGISLATIVE—Chairman Santiago Bentancourt came to give his report. He stated that he was asked to attend the Department Legislative Committee and tell them what is going on with the Detachment. He also spoke about a Five Point Plan that is being processed and underway. He reported on the upcoming Washington Conference in March. He also spoke a change to the SOP of the Legislative Committee. A complete report is attached to these minutes. Motion made by Santiago Betancourt, 2nd by 20th District Commander. Motion passed.

AMERICANISM—Chairman Davis gave the report. He stated that all his members were not present but asked various members in attendance to help with his report. He reported on various items that are being done by many Squadrons in the Detachment. A complete report is attached to these minutes. Motion made by Steve Davis, 2nd by Ed Magers to accept the report. Motion passed.

VA & R—Chairman Jimmy Don Dixon gave the report. He reported on various activities by Squadrons in the Detachment. A complete report is attached to these minutes. Motion made by Jimmy Don, 2nd by PDC Bartholomew. Motion passed.

CHILDREN & YOUTH—Chairmen Tracy Wood gave the report. CMN/CWF Chairman Blair Sanders also came forward to give his report. Brad Pack also came forward to speak on various items concerning the committee. He spoke first about the raffle for CWF. There was some incentives placed down to help in the sales of the raffle tickets. He also spoke about the donations to CWF from the Detachment and the possibility of making our \$1.00 per member goal. The hat was passed around and a total of \$135.00 was collected for a donation to CWF. Motion made by Tracy Wood to accept the report, 2nd by PDC Bartholomew. Motion passed.

PUBLIC RELATIONS- Chairman Paul Miller gave the report. He reported on available marketing tools such as radio and news media that is available to all members and how we can use those resources. A complete copy of the report is attached to these minutes. Motion made by Paul to accept the report, 2nd by 17th district Commander Poe. Motion passed.

MARKETING—Chairman Jeff Saul has submitted his resignation and Commander Kuehner will make a new appointment at the close of this meeting.

CONVENTION CITY—Chairman Grimes came forward to give the report. He stated that no further information is available at this time concerning the Detachment Convention. He stated that a completed and updated report will be available at a later date. Richard made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by Milton Chatham. Motion passed. PDC Magers made a motion to purchase 2 pages of ads for National Commander Candidate Mike Moss and one for the Detachment for the Detachment Convention at a cost of \$300.00 total, 2nd by Richard Bartholomew.

BOYS STATE— Chairman Arreaga gave the report. He extended his apologies for missing the Fall DEC due to his participation at the Americanism Conference in September in Indianapolis. He stated that the Boys State web site has been updated and has various and new information available. He also spoke about the application process for a young man to attend the Boys State program. He spoke to the body on the dates of the upcoming Boys State agenda coming up in June. A complete report is attached to these minutes. Motion made by Travis Arreaga, 2nd by Ed Magers. Motion passed.

AWARDS— Chairman Mark Patterson gave the report. He stated that a new award will be created called the David Dew Award named VA Most Volunteer Hours and will be determined for the year 2015. He also stated that the SOP is under review. He stated that he does not have any candidates for any of the awards that are available. He is asking that nominees be sent in as soon as possible to help with selection process at Detachment Convention. Mark Patterson made a motion to accept the report as read, 2nd by 17th District Commander Jonathan Poe . Motion passed.

CHAPLAIN—Not present, no report

PUFL—Chairman Sonnier gave the report. He stated that there is \$38,216.80 in the account and there are 110 living members and 5 deceased members. He stated that Ed Magers has re-built the card program and that all new cards will also contain the PUFL

members' membership ID number. A complete report is attached to these minutes. Chairman Sonnier made a motion, 2nd by 17th District Commander Jonathan Poe. Motion passed

INTERNAL AFFAIRS/MEMBERSHIP—Chairman Richard Bartholomew gave the report. He first handed out the 100% checks to all squadrons that obtained 100% membership by Jan. 6. He stated that there is an option to still receive a check if you get to 100% by The American Legion Birthday. He stated that we did reach our 60% goal. He also stated that our renewal rate is at 47% and we need to do a better job at keeping our members signed up. There was also some discussion as to what it takes to form and/or re-activate a squadron. A complete report is attached to these minutes. Chairman Bartholomew made a motion to accept the report, 2nd by Santiago Betancourt. Motion passed.

Commander Kuehner then recessed the meeting at 11:50 AM for lunch

Commander Kuehner called the meeting back to order at 1:15 PM

DEPARTMENT ADVISOR—John Schendel came forward to give his report. Some of his comments were when are the CSR's coming out and can the Squadrons fill the report out online. We all have to work on membership especially on our renewals and where we stand. Finally, he spoke about our upcoming elections especially running for Squadron, District, Division and/or Detachment Commander. He thanked the Detachment for its continued support and dedication to the American Legion. This concluded his report.

FINANCE—Chairman Thom Skelley gave the report. He spoke about our cost being used for National expenses especially laying of the wreath. He stated that without receipts no funds will be paid out. It was also said the committee is looking into a By-Law change concerning payouts of expenses. A complete report is attached to these minutes. Motion made by Thom Skelley, 2nd by Gary Randall. Motion passed

UNFINISHED BUSINESS—There was some discussion on projectors and/or laptops for the Division Commanders. It was asked that these cost be readied for the Detachment Convention. The discussion was brought again concerning the flag cases and the idea that the Finance Officer will be responsible to purchase the flag cases.

NEW BUSINESS—The issue that a PDC has passed and that the Detachment will do a \$300.00 memorial donation to CWF and a flag that has flown over the state capital be donated to the family of Jim Kehler and the cost of an ad in the Department Convention program. Motion by Brad Pack, 2nd Tracy Wood. Motion passed.

GOOD OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION—Commander Bill Kuehner's Homecoming will be held in Benbrook, TX on March 1, 2014. More details will follow. \$20.00/ person. PDC Chatham spoke on the CSR's and the clarification of what is needed to be in either Detachment report and/or the Squadron reports. Adjutant Winkelmann gave his notes. It was stated that Veteran's Assistance Day will be May 24, we think.

ADJUTANT NOTES: He gave various ideas and request to the body concerning issues at Department Headquarters. Also what we need to do for our Detachment. It was also

requested that if anyone needs to put something in the next newsletter, send to him no later than Memorial Day.

Being no further business to come before this meeting, Commander Kuehner called the body with 3 raps. After the prayer, a hand salute to the colors was called for. Commander Kuehner then adjourned the meeting at 2:18 PM. No other business will be called for the weekend.

**SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
2014 DETACHMENT CONVENTION
ADVANCE REGISTRATION**

NAME _____ SQ. NO. _____

SQUADRON LOCATION _____

NAME _____ SQ. NO. _____

SQUADRON LOCATION _____

NAME _____ SQ. NO. _____

SQUADRON LOCATION _____

NAME _____ SQ. NO. _____

SQUADRON LOCATION _____

NAME _____ SQ. NO. _____

SQUADRON LOCATION _____

**ADVANCE REGISTRATION \$25.00—ON SITE \$35.00
UNDER 18 \$5.00**

Mail to: Kevin Winkelmann
Detachment Adjutant
9235 McDade
Houston, TX 77080

**DEADLINE FOR ADVANCED REGISTRATION IS
JULY 10, 2014**