

**Sons Of The American Legion  
Detachment of Illinois**

**2016 SPRING EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA**

**March 12, 2016**

**Mt Vernon Squadron 141**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting called to order by Detachment Commander Geary at 1248  
Colors were in place, hand salute rendered  
Detachment Chaplain Borgman gave a prayer  
24<sup>th</sup> District Commander Trout led the Pledge  
Commander Geary performed the POW/MIA Ceremony  
with Detachment Sgt-At-Arms Haddick  
Commander Geary led the Preamble

**ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS**

Detachment Adjutant Van Horn called the roll. Present were: Commander Geary; Sr Vice Shipley; NEC Gummersheimer; ANEC Hunter; Adjutant Van Horn; Asst Adjutant Ray; Finance Officer Tharp; Judge Advocate Stillwell; Chaplain Borgman; Historian Hunter; Service Officer Cavanaugh; Sgt-At-Arms Haddick; Commander's Sgt-At-Arms' Griffin & Belovicz; Division Sgt-At-Arms Haddick (2) and Phelps (4); Commanders Aide Koop; Sr Vice Aide Phelps; PUFL Stillwell; 1<sup>st</sup> Division Sr & Jr Vices; 2<sup>nd</sup> Division Jr Vice; 3<sup>rd</sup> Division Commander; 4<sup>th</sup> Division Commander; 5<sup>th</sup> Division Sr Vice; 8<sup>th</sup> District Commander; 9<sup>th</sup> District Commander, Sr & Jr Vices; 10<sup>th</sup> District Commander and Sr Vice; 11<sup>th</sup> District Jr Vice; 13<sup>th</sup> District Commander; 16<sup>th</sup> District Commander; 18<sup>th</sup> District Commander; 19<sup>th</sup> District Commander; 21<sup>st</sup> District Jr Vice; 23<sup>rd</sup> District Commander & Jr Vice; 24<sup>th</sup> District Commander; PNC Stillwell; PDC's Stillwell, Gummersheimer, Slevin Sr., Tharp, Ray, Hunter, and Cavanaugh; 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Division Advisors.

**JUDGE ADVOCATE COMMENTS**

Judge Advocate Still discussed the rules of making a motion.

**MINUTES OF WINTER DEC MEETING**

Motion by 9<sup>th</sup> District Commander Gort to accept the 2015 Winter DEC Minutes as printed, with the second, passed.

**INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

See list

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**RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE**

Commander appointed 1<sup>st</sup> Division's Hunter to Chairman, with 2<sup>nd</sup> Division's Stander and 4<sup>th</sup> Division's Vance as members.

**DIVISION COMMANDERS REPORT**

1<sup>st</sup> Division Sr Vice, 2<sup>nd</sup> Division Jr Vice, 3<sup>rd</sup> Division Commander, 4<sup>th</sup> Division Commander and 5<sup>th</sup> Division Sr Vice all reported on membership and activities within their Divisions.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT & SQUADRON ACTIVITIES – PRESENTATION OF  
#1 PINS**

Detachment Sr Vice Shipley gave the membership report and briefly discussed the Charter Actions to be reviewed later in the meeting. He then awarded the membership #1 pins to:

#1 Pins

Division Winner is 3<sup>rd</sup> Division. Pin awarded to Division Commander.

1<sup>st</sup> Division – Winner is 4<sup>th</sup> District. Pins given to Division Sr Vice.

2<sup>nd</sup> Division – 12<sup>th</sup> District. Pins awarded to Division Jr. Vice.

3<sup>rd</sup> Division – 16<sup>th</sup> District. Pins awarded to District Commander.

4<sup>th</sup> Division – 21<sup>st</sup> District. Pins awarded to District Jr Vice.

5<sup>th</sup> Division – 23<sup>rd</sup> District. Pins awarded to District Commander.

Motion by Shipley to accept the Membership report, with the second, passed.

**FINANCE REPORT**

Detachment Finance Officer Tharp asked if there were any questions regarding the printed finance report. With no questions, ANEC Hunter motioned to accept the Finance Report, with the second, passed.

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**STANDING COMMISSION & COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Americanism Commission**

Chairman Borgman wished The American Legion Happy Birthday (March 15, 1919). Stated he will be attending Illinois Auxiliary's Patriotic Conference where a check for \$1,500 will be presented to Auxiliary Scholarship Fund. Thanked everyone who attended, participated and assisted in IPDC Jarosz's Memorial Service. Then two weeks later another Memorial Service for 8<sup>th</sup> District long time active member, Roger Unton. Talked about 4 Chaplains Service. Weekend before Department Oratorical Contest was held with 23 students. First place went to TJ Kilcullen of Grayslake North High School in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Division and will move on to National Finals April 15-17 in Indianapolis. Boys State is coming up and encouraged members to contact local high schools to get participants. Discussed NEF and in the past year, Illinois Legion Family members received a total of \$60,000. There is talk the amount will be changing from \$1,500 to \$3,000 when a member is approved. Motion by 9<sup>th</sup> District Commander Gort to approve the report, with the second, passed.

**Children & Youth Commission**

Chairman Ray stated that Children & Youth, on a National level, is now a Committee and falls under the Americanism Commission and will continue to foster and enrich lives of children. He reported April is Children & Youth Month and encouraged events, activities and projects in local community involving children or raising funds for children programs, such as Child Welfare Foundation or Children's Miracle Network. Discussed the Temporary Financial Assistance (TFA) program that National has to help veterans' children. Chairman Ray discussed different programs which donations could be made to. They are: CWF, Scholarship Fund, Josh Dogs, CMN, Special Olympics, Boy & Girl Scouts, Boys & Girls State to name a few. Motion by Gort to accept the Children & Youth report, with the second, passed.

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**Contest Commission**

No report.

**Finance Commission**

No Report

**National Security & Poppy's**

Chairman Phelps discussed Police School in June. A total of 83,086 troops have been unaccounted for as of August 12, 2015. Poppies typically start up around March and continue through May. Please help with the program. Nothing much has changed with National Security since the Fall DEC report. Motion by 8<sup>th</sup> District Jr Vice Commander to accept the report, with the second, passed.

**Legislative Commission**

Chairman Griffin reported that on December 18, 2015, Congress passed and the President signed into law H.R. 2029 – The Consolidated Appropriations Act. of 2016. This provides funding the Department of Veterans Affairs with healthcare and long term veteran care including mental health, post-traumatic stress, substance abuse and suicide prevention outreach programs. Motion by ANEC Hunter to accept the report, with the second, passed.

**SAL Leadership Training Commission**

Chairman Cavanaugh stated his Commission is more than happy to go out and do training for Squadron's and Districts. They will submit a flyer for the bulk mailing to remind everyone of this resource. Motion by ANEC Hunter to accept the report, with the second, passed.

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**Veteran's Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission**

Committee Member Koop reviewed Chairman Williamson's submitted report discussing VAVS rep and deps, Fisher House, and Legion VAR charities (Soldiers Wish, OCW and the Endowment Fund). Discussed Stand Down's and encouraged members to get more information regarding them at [www.nchv.org](http://www.nchv.org). Hines VA Fisher House still has their wish list and needing supplies (groceries, store gift cards, frozen entrees, snacks, juices, toiletries, soaps, etc.). Gifts To The Yanks raffle tickets should be in everyone's hands by now. Motion by Koop to accept the report, with the second, passed.

**Commander's Advisory Committee**

Vice Chairman Ray started off report requesting a moment of silence for IPDC Jarosz, who was also the Chairman of Commander's Advisory. Since Contest Commission didn't submit application for Member of the Year, the deadline was moved to May 15, 2016 for the 2015-16 membership year. At Detachment budget meeting it was decided to have a trial run of a paid call (more to come later today). Discussion to change the agenda of Fall DEC to allow for training of District and Division Officers, along with Committee/Commission members in lieu of the usual Committee/Commission meetings. It's hoped that this will help in all areas of education, information and membership of Detachment. 2018 is the date the Illinois American Legion Families will start their combined convention, held in Springfield in July. Adjutant Van Horn and Assistant Adjutant Ray will travel to surrounding states who hold Family Conventions to see how they operate. An allowance of \$500 was approved out of overage to cover expenses. A proposal to change the appointment process to allow all appointments made at the Fall DEC to be made at the Post Convention DEC. This will be reviewed and studied. Jim Borgman was appointed to finish the term of John Jarosz on this Committee. Motion by 9<sup>th</sup> District Commander Gort to approve the report, with the second, passed.

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**Detachment Convention Committee**

Chairman Koop reported everything is pretty much set for convention. Hotel is Baymont Suites in Mundelein. Friday morning unofficial golfing at Village Green in Mundelein. Dinner and karaoke at Post 911 after Pre-Convention DEC. Saturday unofficial bowling after Session 1. Saturday night delegates are encouraged to visit Wauconda Fest. Sunday Memorial Service at Memorial Park. Info will be posted on Detachment website and put in bulk mailing. Motion by 2<sup>nd</sup> Division Jr Vice Commander Koop to accept the report, with the second, passed.

**Public Relations Commission**

Committee member Nemanich discussed ways of promoting your Squadron and Post. Submit press releases, with photos if possible wearing your cap. Lots of PR items available from National. Motion by 9<sup>th</sup> District Commander Gort to accept the report, with the second, passed.

**COMMISSION/COMMITTEE DONATIONS**

Squadron 287, \$250 to Fisher House	Squadron 911, \$369 to CWF
Squadron 911, \$200 to Fisher House	12 <sup>th</sup> District, \$100 to CWF
Squadron 911, \$250 to GTTY	12 <sup>th</sup> District, \$100 to OCW
Squadron 703, \$100 to CWF	

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

None.

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**RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE REPORT**

Chairman Hunter reported the only Resolutions were the Hospitality Resolutions to the Post, Unit & Squadron. The Committee approved these. ANEC Hunter motioned to accept the report, with the second, passed.

Commander Geary instructed the Sgt-At-Arms to bring members of the Post Family to the podium for presentation. Commander presented the Post Commander, an Auxiliary member, and Squadron Jr. Vice Commander with plaques and certificates of appreciation for hosting the DEC.

**NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEMAN'S REPORT**

Commander Geary instructed Sgt-At-Arms to escort NEC Gummersheimer and his guest, National Vice Commander of Central Region Dennis Henkemeyer (MN) to the podium. The NEC introduced the NVC and turned the podium over to him. NVC brought greetings from National Commander Collier and the National Organization then introduced his wife. He discussed membership in both retaining and getting new members, public relations, etc.

Motion by NEC to accept his report, with the second, passed.

Commander instructed Sgt-At-Arms to escort the NEC & NVC from podium.

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**NEW BUSINESS**

**Charter Actions**

Adjutant Van Horn presented the Charter Actions, stating the options were to recommend canceling a Squadron or extending a Squadron until the Pre-Convention DEC. The decisions made here will be reviewed at Department DEC in April for approval of our recommendations. If approved, the extended Squadrons will have final decision (pending Dept. approval) at the Pre-Con DEC.

The following Squadrons are **NOT CERTIFIED**

5<sup>th</sup> District, Squadron 623 Paul Revere 2016 – 0 cards / 2015 – 17 cards – 1<sup>st</sup> Division Sr Vice recommends extending

The following Squadrons have **10 MEMBERS OR LESS**

\*2<sup>nd</sup> District, Squadron 923 FDR 2016 – 2 cards / 2015 – 12 cards -- Extend

5<sup>th</sup> District, Squadron 422 Berwyn 2016 – 0 cards / 2015 – 28 cards -- Extend

7<sup>th</sup> District, Squadron 46 Wilmette 2016 – 0 cards / 2015 – 16 cards -- Cancel

11<sup>th</sup> District, Squadron 52 Romeoville 2016 – 6 cards / 2015 – 13 cards – Extend

15<sup>th</sup> District, Squadron 417 Cambridge 2016 – 0 cards / 2015 – 21 cards -- Extend

16<sup>th</sup> District, Squadron 452 Brimfield 2016 – 0 cards / 2015 – 11 cards – Extend

20<sup>th</sup> District, Squadron 1083 Kampsville 2016 – 9 cards / 2015 – 13 cards – Extend

\*21<sup>st</sup> District, Squadron 436 Litchfield 2016 – 0 cards / 2015 – 11 cards -- Extend

***An asterisk ( \* ) means this was a Charter Action for 90 days at the 2015 Spring DEC.***

Motion by Koop to send the recommendations to Department DEC, with the second, passed.

Asst Adjutant Ray stated there are new directory forms for next year already available. They will also be on the website.



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Finance Chairman, Leadership & Training Chairman, PDC Hunter and Adjutant Van Horn discussed a paid call for the 2016-17 membership year for DEC's. The paid call would be made available for all Committee/Commission (Convention Committee members not eligible) members and the highest ranking District person (certified District's only) present at the meeting, with no "double dipping". IE: District Commander John Doe is at meeting and also a member of Americanism; he is not entitled to two disbursements or a member serving on two different Committee's or Commission's. The amount would be \$50 and Detachment Expense form must be turned in to Detachment Finance Officer the day of the DEC. This will be available for the Fall, Winter and Spring DEC and the funds will come out of overage. This was discussed at the Budget Meeting in February and approved by Department Adjutant Conatser and also reviewed by the SAL Advisory Committee. It was discussed that District Officer's already have a budget. It was stated that this budget was to encourage travel in their District's visiting Squadrons. Motion by 2<sup>nd</sup> Division Jr Vice Koop to accept the paid call for a 1-year trial during the 2016-17 membership year, with the second, motion passed.

**FOR THE GOOD OF THE SAL**

Adjutant Van Horn received an award from National that should have been presented to Immediate Past Commander Jarosz honoring the Detachment for their donation to the Legacy Scholarship Fund in the 2015-16 membership year. The award was presented to Americanism Chairman Borgman.

Sr Vice Shipley drew a name for a 5-year membership card for those attending the DEC. Darin Pargin of the 23<sup>rd</sup> District won. The Detachment will pay his per capita for a 5-year card, funds coming out of the Detachment Adjutant's Supply Budget.

**ADVISOR'S REMARKS**

Advisors are happy with how the Detachment is running.

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**50 – 50 DRAWING**

Sgt-At-Arms conducted the drawing. Mark Scheiber of Squadron 683 won \$146.

**Closing, Benediction & Adjournment**

No other business was brought forward.  
Chaplain Borgman gave a prayer.  
A hand salute was rendered at the colors in place.  
Commander ended the meeting at 1545.

Minutes completed by:

Jeffrey J Van Horn  
Detachment Adjutant