

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

**2012 Detachment Convention - Urbana, Illinois
Session 2 Minutes - June 24, 2012**

CALL TO ORDER

The Commander called the meeting to order at 10:15 AM.

PRESENT THE COLORS

The Colors were in place, hand salute rendered.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

The Adjutant did roll call – see addendums.

RESOLUTION COMMITTEE

Chairman Hickem reported on Resolutions DC-12-01 and DC-12-02, both candidate Resolutions for James T. Hunter as Detachment Commander and Ed Cavanaugh as Detachment Senior Vice-Commander, respectfully. The Committee recommends accepting both and placing on file. Hickem so moved to accept both Resolutions and place on file with a second, passed.

WELCOMING REMARKS

The following guests made comments:

Linda Bassett, IL Veterans Home, Quincy brought greetings and thanked everyone for all they do for the Veterans Homes through-out the state. She pointed out Senior Vice-Commander Hunter's efforts for Quincy. Ms. Bassett presented the Commander a plaque and picture.

Department President Umdenstock and Vice-President Sienkiewicz. President Umdenstock brought greetings and presented Commander with a gift. Vice-President Sienkiewicz thanked the SAL for all their support in the Auxiliary and Legion. Is looking forward to working with Senior Vice-Commander Hunter next year. She gave a shout-out to the 9th District SAL members, stating she is from Unit 208. Commander presented President with a citation of appreciation.

Department Senior Vice-Commander Wagner brought greetings from the Department of Illinois. He gave regrets for Commander Hicks on not being

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able to attend. Congratulated the SAL on the membership. Gave his appreciation to the SAL for all the donations and help they provide the Legion Family. Said he is looking forward to working with Hunter if they both get elected. PDC Slevin Jr noted that Senior Vice-Commander Wagner didn't introduce his wife and owed her a new dress. Wagner introduced his wife.

Commander Ray introduced his wife, Pam, his daughter Amy Stevens and his granddaughter.

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

Commander presented awards to: Garrett Slevin Jr, Bill Geary, JR Stillwell, Jim Schuppner, Denver Phelps, Ed Cavanaugh, Matt Musil, Jim Borgman, John Jarosz, Phil Shipley, Robert Tharp and Mark Friedman were presented a certificate of appreciation along with a CWF duffle bag by the Commander. He thanked them for all their hard work.

Commander presented Bruno & Patti Williamson, Tommie Cisna, Jimmy Hunter, Jeff Van Horn, Fred Hickem and Pam Ray were presented with plaques and a satchel.

Mark Friedman stated 25 people bowled and presented the Bowling Awards to: Adult Class – Doug Wood; Ladies – Kathy Tucek; Senior – Ron Tucek; Teen – Jeremy Boyd; John Sansoucie, Janet Tharp and Fred Hickem received humorous awards. He stated there was also a miniature golf tournament with George Koop winning. Motion by Slevin Sr. of the 16th District to approve the report and seconded, passed.

Contest Chairman Shipley presented the History & Scrap Book Awards to Squadron 615. Motion by Chelmowski of the 12th to approve and seconded, passed. Jim Borgman accepted the award and encouraged others to submit one next year. Chelmowski of the 12th motioned to accept and seconded, passed.

Contest Chairman Shipley presented the Division/Detachment Member of the Year Awards to Carl Stratton of the 5th Division, on behalf of 5th Division Commander who was excused. 1st Division Commander Borgman presented Matt Christie of the 1st Division, who also received Detachment Member of the Year. Commander Ray encouraged each Division to submit an

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application. Chelmowski of the 12th motioned to accept and seconded, passed.

C&Y Chairman Slevin Sr. announced the Scholarship Awards. He stated 15 applications were submitted and 6 were rejected due to paperwork filled out incorrectly or submitted past the deadline. Kevin Logan -- #2007, Kyle Woodworth -- #615, Drew Howell -- #480, James Risler -- #55, Zachary Huffer -- #263, Brandon Beerup -- #489, Kevin Kinder -- #685, Caleb Harsy -- #647, Ryan Huffer -- #263. Each will receive a \$500 scholarship. Slevin Sr. moved to accept his report with a second, passed.

MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

Senior Vice-Commander presented the following awards:

Anthony Badamo Award are:

- 3rd Place: Flat Rock Squadron #132, 23rd District with 193.88%
- 2nd Place: Swansea Squadron #2007, 22nd District with 202.44%
- 1st Place: Deer Creek Squadron #1276, 16th District with 208.11%.

Clyde Stillwell Award are:

- 3rd Place: Pesotum Squadron #580, 19th District with 227.27%
- 2nd Place: Chicago Don Varnas Squadron #986, 4th District with 290%
- 1st Place: South Roxana Squadron #1167, 22nd District, with 390.91%.

James T Cummings Award are:

- 3rd Place: DuQuoin Squadron #647, 25th District with 101.25%
- 2nd Place: Calumet City Squadron #330, 8th District with 104.87%
- 1st Place: Bartonville #979, 16th District, with 116.67%.

Roy Mitchell Award are:

- 3rd Place: Swansea Squadron # 2007, 22nd District, 42 new members
- 2nd Place: Deer Creek Squadron #1276, 16th District, 46 new members
- 2nd Place: Flat Rock Squadron #1977, 23rd District, 46 new members
- 1st Place: Bartonville #979, 16th District, 96 new members.

Final winners of the #1 pins for 2011-12.

3rd Division Commander Mike Ayala and Senior Vice-Commander Bear Van Brocklin wins of the 5 Divisions.
In the 1st Division, the 5th District

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In the 2nd Division, the 13th District
In the 3rd Division, 16th District
In the 4th Division, 18th District
In the 5th Division, 25th District

Senior Vice-Commander then presented the Division Commanders with their *Casting with Partners* Awards with 5th place – 1st Division; 4th place – 4th Division; 3rd place – 2nd Division; 2nd place – 5th Division; 1st place – 3rd Division.

Senior Vice-Commander turned the podium back over to Commander Ray.

Commander Ray recognized CWF Promoter Carl Stratton and presented him with a jacket. Stratton thanked his CAT team members.

Commander Ray introduced the Mayors of Champaign and Urbana, the Honorable Don Gerard and Honorable Laurel Lunt Prussing, respectfully. Mayor Prussing spoke of the history of Urbana and Champaign. Mayor Gerard apologized for being in shorts and a t-shirt saying he was off to his kid's baseball game and thanked the veterans for giving him the opportunity to do this in America. He stressed importance of helping veterans and fights to keep the terms homeless and veteran apart.

Commander Ray welcomed 4th Division, 19th District, Champaign County and Post 24 Legion, Auxiliary and SAL representatives. Each thanked the SAL for all they do and hoped we have a good convention.

Commander Ray took a moment of personal privilege and asked Ann & Bill Flanagan, Sharon & Marty Conatser, Sandra & Myron Kirby, Pam Ray and Irene & Clay Lofton to stand and thanked them for the Hospitality Room and for supporting his year. Commander Ray also introduced his nephew, his older sister and her husband, who is also a veteran.

Commander Ray turned podium back over to Senior Vice-Commander Hunter. Hunter then called upon Commander Ray to give his Commander's Report.

DETACHMENT COMMANDER'S REPORT

Commander Ray talked about his travels on both a State and National level. Talked about the things he learned from different Posts and Squadrons

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around the state. He talked about the accomplishments of the Detachment during the past year. He discussed the 13 new Squadrons created this past year, leading the nation. Mentioned the TV & Wii systems for the Illinois Veteran's Homes. Talked about the automation of the Consolidated Squadron Report and Squadron Certification form on the website. He thanked the American Legion Family in Illinois for the year we've had, and thanked his wife and family for their support. He thanked the Detachment for his opportunity this past year and stated it was an honor to serve. He then entertained a motion to accept his report as the Senior Vice-Commander was excused from the stage, so moved by Chelmowski of the 12th District and seconded, passed.

Recess at 11:45 AM. Reconvened at 12:07 PM

Commander Ray asked the Sgt-At-Arms to bring his daughter, Ami Stephens to the podium. She thanked everyone for supporting her father. She presented him with a gift with a peppermint stick and a lighthouse.

SAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Chairman Flanagan gave a disk of minutes from Royal DEC to Adjutant to listen and create minutes from it and try to have by Sept DEC. Discussed giving extra time to Divisions on choosing a candidate for offices. Couldn't give a solution but asked everyone to see if something can come up with a solution. Mentioned the website is in the process of being transferred. He talked about The Haven and Dale Ferguson passed away in April and his wife, Debbie has her last day on June 30th. The process of finding a replacement for the Ferguson's. Flanagan stated that paperwork for Post 321 to create a Squadron. Hudson of the 12th to accept the report with a second, passed.

Commander Ray appointed Jim Borgman as Chairman, along with Jim Schuppner and Phil Shipley has election judges. He stated if any offices are contested, each candidate may appoint one individual to serve as an election judge.

CREDENTIALS REPORT

Mark Friedman read the report of Delegate Strength, which was the same as Saturday. He reminded everyone the rules of voting. Motion by Slevin Jr of the 16th to accept and seconded, passed.

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ELECTIONS

The Adjutant conducted roll-call for purposes of nomination for Detachment Senior Vice-Commander.

2nd District – absent
3rd District – absent
4th District – absent
5th District – absent
7th District – absent
8th District – yield to 19th
19th District – nominated Ed Cavanaugh
9th District – yield to 19th
19th District – 2nd Cavanaugh
10th District – 2nd Cavanaugh
11th District -- 2nd Cavanaugh
12th District -- 2nd Cavanaugh
13th District -- 2nd Cavanaugh
14th District – absent
15th District – absent
16th District -- 2nd Cavanaugh
17th District – absent
18th District -- 2nd Cavanaugh
20th District -- 2nd Cavanaugh
21st District – absent
22nd District -- 2nd Cavanaugh
23rd District -- 2nd Cavanaugh
24th District -- 2nd Cavanaugh
25th District -- 2nd Cavanaugh
8th District – 2nd Cavanaugh
9th District – 2nd Cavanaugh

Detachment Adjutant stated there was only 1 candidate for Detachment Senior Vice-Commander.

Motion by Strum of the 19th and seconded for the Adjutant to cast one unanimous ballot, passed.

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Detachment Adjutant cast 1 unanimous ballot for Ed Cavanaugh for the Office of Detachment Senior Vice-Commander for the year 2012-2013.

Detachment Commander declared Ed Cavanaugh as the newly elected Detachment Senior Vice-Commander for the year 2012-2013. Sgt-At-Arms escorted Cavanaugh to the podium for comments.

The Adjutant conducted roll-call for purposes of nomination for Detachment Commander.

2nd District – absent
3rd District – absent
4th District – absent
5th District – absent
7th District – absent
8th District – nominated James T. Hunter
9th District – yield to 25th
25th District – 2nd Hunter
10th District – 2nd Hunter
11th District – 2nd Hunter
12th District – 2nd Hunter
13th District – 2nd Hunter
14th District – absent
15th District – absent
16th District – 2nd Hunter
17th District – absent
18th District – 2nd Hunter
19th District – 2nd Hunter
20th District – 2nd Hunter
21st District – absent
22nd District – 2nd Hunter
23rd District – 2nd Hunter
24th District – 2nd Hunter
25th District -- 2nd Cavanaugh
9th District – 2nd Hunter

Detachment Adjutant stated there was only 1 candidate for Detachment Commander. Motion by Strum of the 19th and seconded for the Adjutant to cast one unanimous ballot, passed.

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Detachment Adjutant cast 1 unanimous ballot for James T. Hunter for the Office of Detachment Commander for the year 2012-2013.

Detachment Commander declared James T. Hunter as the newly elected Detachment Commander for the year 2012-2013. Sgt-At-Arms escorted Hunter to the podium for comments.

The Commander dismissed the Election Judges and requested his Officer's to return to the front.

NATIONAL CONVENTION DELEGATES

Chairman Cisna reported the following members were selected as delegates to represent Illinois at the National Convention. 29 requests were submitted. Delegates-At-Large are J.R. Stillwell, Gregory Reis, Tommie Cisna (Stillwell, Reis & Cisna are National Delegates-At-Large), Harl "Butch" Ray, William "Bill" Geary and James "Jimmy" Hunter (Ray, Geary & Hunter are Detachment Delegates-At-Large). Delegates are Jeffrey Van Horn, Denver Phelps, Ed Cavanaugh, Bruno Williamson, Michael Sawicki, Robert Tharp, James Borgman, Ray Chelmowski, Garrett Slevin Sr., John P. Strum, Marty Belovicz, George Koop, Jim Ciaccio, J.D. Strum, David Ziebell, Philip Banialis, Garrett Slevin Jr., Paul Garrett, Matt Christie, Phil Stander, Sethe Mount, John Jarosz Jr., Mark Melone, Michael Bachmann, Craig Hill and Father Gary Gummersheimer. Harl "Butch" Ray will be Chairman to be Chairman of the Delegation, James Hunter will be Vice-Chairman, Jeffrey Van Horn will be Delegation Secretary and J.R. Stillwell will be Asst. Secretary. The Chairman stated the Delegation Chairman be authorized to make additions and/or changes to this list after arrival at the 41st National Convention, held in Indianapolis, Indiana on August 24-26, 2012. Cisna moved to adopt his report with a second, passed.

Cisna of the 19th made a motion to accept the Delegates for National convention with a second, passed.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

Commander requested the Sgt-At-Arms to bring the Installing Team to the podium. David B. Montee, 8th District Commander, Department of Illinois is the Installing Officer; Fred Hickem, Past National Vice-Commander, Sons of The American Legion as the Installing Chaplain; Michael Sawicki, Past

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Detachment Commander, Detachment of Illinois as the Installing Sgt-At-Arms. The Commander dismissed the officer's at the front table then had the newly elected officer's form up in the back of the room. The Commander turned the podium over to Commander Montee.

After the Installation, Detachment Commander-Elect Hunter returned the podium to Commander Ray.

Commander Ray asked the Sgt-At-Arms to escort the Installing Team from the podium.

Commander Ray asked Sgt-At-Arms to escort Mrs. Pam Ray and Mrs. Maureen Hunter to the podium for the *uncapping and capping*. Hunter expressed gratitude to both wives and their support.

Commander Ray asked for additional donations. Adjutant Van Horn yelled from the back of the room how was he going to track them? Commander then requested his officer's to return to the stage.

Squadron 615, \$100, CWF
Squadron 615, \$100, NEF
Squadron 615, \$100, CMN
Squadron 615, \$100, R2R

Commander Ray asked Sgt-At-Arms to bring PDC John Schultz and PDC Garrett Slevin Jr. to the podium and asked all PDC's to line up in the back of the room. Commander Ray placed the Detachment Commander's pin to Commander-Elect Hunter's jacket. PDC Schultz welcomed Commander Ray to the Past Commander's Club and presented him with a plaque and reminded him he is Chairman for next year's breakfast. Then PDC Schultz introduced his wife and stated they have been married for 67 years. Ray mentioned that Schultz made him his gavel at the beginning of the year. Then PDC Slevin Jr. presented Commander Ray with a card from the PDC's. Slevin Jr. stated there were 14 PDC's at the breakfast that morning. He gave Commander Ray his Past Detachment Commander's pin. Slevin made a few comments and congratulated Ray on his year.

The Adjutant informed the Commander that his family would like to come to forward. The Sgt-At-Arms escorted them to the podium. Pam Ray thanked the SAL for giving her husband back. Sharon Conatser presented the Commander with a concrete lighthouse from the family.

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The Commander gave the Adjutant a point of personal privilege. Adjutant Van Horn talked about his role in getting a parting gift from the Detachment Officer's. He gave the Commander a bag of "experienced" golf balls (used golf balls). Adjutant Van Horn then asked PDC Cisna if there was more and Cisna approached the podium. Commander Ray was then presented with a set of custom made golfing irons from his Officer's. Cisna then talked about Commander Ray's father then presented the Commander with a flag that was flown over Camp Lemonnier in Djibouti, Africa of the Persian Gulf Command. Commander expressed his thanks to his close friends and especially thanked Kathy Cisna.

Other gifts were given to the retiring Commander.

Commander Ray asked GTTY Promoter Matt Christie to podium to draw for the raffle winners. 1st place for \$1190 is Edon SAL, 2nd place for \$800 is Gary White, 3rd place for \$400 is James Grobowski, 4th place for \$400 is Beth Runden, 5th place for \$400 is Dave Pantier. \$6,214 will be sent to Department as donation. Motion by Christie of the 9th at accept this report with a second, passed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commander the Adjutant has a few announcements.

There will be a short meeting of the National Convention Delegates and Alternatives, to give you some important information and instructions about the National Convention, immediately following the close of the Convention, up here near the stage.

After the National Convention Delegate meeting, there will be a short, but very important meeting of the new Detachment Executive Committee at the same place.

The Finance Officer asked everyone to support the Sweepstakes.

24th District Commander Seagraves mentioned a 3rd Annual Poker Run to benefit the Haven on August 18th and a golf tournament in Herrin on July 22nd. Please see him for more information.

Ron Shirley of Post 24 won \$139 in the 50-50 drawing.

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The Chaplain mentioned two recipients of the Chaplain's Cross at this morning's service. Michael Bachmann of Squadron #18 and Mark Friedman of Squadron #24. Then led everyone in the Lord's Prayer.

The Color Guard from Post 71 retired the colors.

The 49th Annual Detachment of Illinois Convention adjourned at 2:00 PM, "Sine di."

Minutes prepared by Jeffrey Van Horn, Detachment Adjutant