

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

**2013 WINTER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**December 14, 2013, Reynolds Squadron 1166**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 1301 by Detachment Commander Cavanaugh.

The colors were in place, a hand salute was rendered.

Detachment Chaplain Borgman said a prayer.

3<sup>rd</sup> Division Commander Van Brocklin led the Pledge.

Commander Cavanaugh did the POW/MIA Ceremony.

Senior Vice-Commander Jarosz led the Preamble.

**ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS**

Detachment Adjutant Van Horn called the roll. The following were present (for a detailed attendance roll call, see Detachment Adjutant): Commander Cavanaugh; Sr Vice Jarosz; Adjutant Van Horn; Finance Officer & PDC Tharp; Judge Advocate & PDC Stillwell; Chaplain Borgman; Historian Shipley; Sgt-At-Arms Phelps; Sr Vice Sgt-At-Arms Hermes; Commander's Aide & IPDC Hunter; Sr Vice Aide & PDC Christie; 3<sup>rd</sup> Division Commander; 4<sup>th</sup> Division Commander, Sr Vice & Jr Vice; 8<sup>th</sup> District Sr Vice; 9<sup>th</sup> District Commander; 10<sup>th</sup> District Commander; 14<sup>th</sup> District Commander; 15<sup>th</sup> District Commander; Advisor's Phelps & Gerischer. Adjutant stated a quorum based on Article VII, Section 5 of the Constitution by having 4 Divisions by voting members of the Detachment Executive Committee represented.

**JUDGE ADVOCATE COMMENTS**

Detachment Judge Advocate JR Stillwell discussed who is eligible on making and seconding motions.

**MINUTES OF CONVENTION & DEC MEETINGS**

10<sup>th</sup> District Commander Koop motioned to accept the Post-Convention DEC minutes as printed and published, with the second, passed.

Immediate Past Detachment Commander Hunter motioned to accept the Fall DEC Minutes as printed and published, with the second, passed.

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**INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

The Sgt-At-Arms stated there were no special guests beyond those attending this DEC.

**RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE**

Commander Cavanaugh appointed JR Stillwell, 4<sup>th</sup> Division, Chairman of the Committee with 4<sup>th</sup> Division's JD Strum and 1<sup>st</sup> Division's Ken Hermes as members.

**DIVISION COMMANDERS REPORT**

Detachment Adjutant read a report from 5<sup>th</sup> Division Commander Roscow stating a couple new Squadrons are in the works. Stated funds were raised to send a veteran to Wisconsin to visit his dying father.

Senior Vice-Commander Jarosz discussed items in the First Division happenings.

3<sup>rd</sup> Division Commander Van Brocklin stated no report.

4<sup>th</sup> Division Commander Strum reported the 21<sup>st</sup> District is now certified, however there was no official meeting so he is looking into that. Stated Pana is looking to start a Squadron.

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

Sr Vice Commander gave membership reported discussion of latest membership report (on file), the upcoming Caravan and mysal.org. IPDC Hunter discussed Education program that Commander Cavanaugh has instituted with tentative schedule of Feb 1 in Wauconda and one in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Division after that. 4 new Squadrons in Blue Island, Monee, East Peoria and Chatham.

#1 Pins earned were for the Division, 1<sup>st</sup> Division (owed pins); for Districts leading in each Division: 1<sup>st</sup> Division is 8<sup>th</sup> District (pins awarded to Sr Vice Borgman of District); 2<sup>nd</sup> Division is 10<sup>th</sup> District (pins awarded to

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Commander Koop); 3<sup>rd</sup> Division is 15<sup>th</sup> District (pins awarded to Commander Van Brocklin); 4<sup>th</sup> Division is 19<sup>th</sup> District (owed pins); 5<sup>th</sup> Division is 22<sup>nd</sup> District (owed pins).

Senior Vice-Commander Jarosz motioned to accept report, with the second, passed.

**AUDIT COMMITTEE**

Chairman Jarosz asked Finance Officer Tharp to discuss Audit. Auditor recommends we get reviewed quarterly. Cost of Audit was \$1840. Jarosz motioned to accept the report, with the second, passed.

**FINANCE REPORT**

Finance Officer Tharp asked if there were any questions regarding the printed report. With none, IPDC Hunter motioned to accept the report, with the second, passed.

**STANDING COMMISSION & COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Americanism Commission**

Chairman Geary stated Legion baseball was discussed. Boy Scouts was discussed and George Koop was made *Unofficial Boy Scout Prompter* of the Detachment. Mentioned High Adventure Range in River Gorge, WV has been made the permanent site of the yearly National Jamboree and 2019 site of the World Jamboree. Discussed Boys State/Nation and how Illinois Boys State is looking for candidates each year. Oratorical is being held March 1<sup>st</sup> in East Peoria. Discussed Americanism Essay Contest, along with School Award Programs and Flag Education. PDC Hunter motioned to accept the report, with the second, passed.

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**Children & Youth Commission**

Detachment Chaplain Borgman reported there was \$1,000 for both Toby Tire and Special Olympics to be donated, but since the Commission had no Quorum, the donations would have to be held over until next DEC. Mentioned CWF CAT Team Program and CWF Banners. CWF Prompter Gort gave his report and he stated he has sent out CWF raffle tickets (3 books) to every Squadron and one book to every Post and Unit. PDC Hunter was presented an award for last year's CWF Donation. Big CWF fundraiser coming up, watch for more information. Currently donations on hand and at National total \$8835. No other reports were given. Motion by Borgman (8<sup>th</sup> District) to accept report, with the second, passed.

Commander Cavanaugh turned podium over to Senior Vice Jarosz at 1348.

**Contest Commission**

Chairman Shipley stated Division Member of The Year will be sent out in upcoming bulk mailings with review of applications at Spring DEC. Koop motioned to accept report, with the second, passed.

**Finance Commission**

Vice-Chairman Christie stated Finance Officer Tharp recommended at next budget meeting the Audit amount is raised. Discussed creating a budget for the 4 Pillars Chairman to attend National Commission meetings, Koop motioned that each get \$300 out of Overage to do so, motion passed in Commission. Also discussed having Detachment Chaplain having a budget for National Chaplain program. Will be tabled for now. PDC Hunter presented bill for a membership jacket that was missed from last year to and be repaid out of Overage for \$200. PDC Hunter asked for \$1,200 out of Overage for Leadership Training. Christie asked for \$1,000 out of Overage for last year's Convention expenses. Adjutant Van Horn stated that accepting this report also approves all extra expenses out of Overage. Motion by PDC Hunter to accept report, with the second, passed.

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**National Security & Poppy's**

Chairman Phelps talked about military cuts and where it could lead our country. Also stated Hines Hospital isn't assembling poppies anymore. Mentioned upcoming Police School for both boys and girls. Motion by PDC Hunter to accept report, with the second, passed.

**Legislative Commission**

Vice-Chairman Borgman reviewed a few highlights from Chairman Griffin's submitted report that covered SB275 – IL Military Family Licensing Act, SB3241 – Veteran's Tax Credit, SB2837 – SOS to give unique distinction on veteran's driver's licenses, and SB3689 – Job Training Programs. Motion by Borgman to accept, with the second, passed.

Senior Vice Commander Jarosz turned podium back to Commander Cavanaugh at 1403.

**SAL Leadership Training Commission**

No Report.

**Veteran's Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission**

Vice Chairman Christie reported that reps are still needed for Hines & Jessie Brown. Suicide & mental health are big issues with the VA and there is a crisis line available. Better feedback is needed about donations and hours worked and to make sure the hospitals properly log your time. MIAP (Missing In American Project) is about finding veterans remains that are unclaimed in funeral homes and morgues. Veteran History Project is a program where an interview with a veteran, record it and report in their own words an accounting of what they did in the service to be sent to Library of Congress. GTTY raffle will be started after the first of the new year. Fisher House needs volunteers. Motion by Koop to accept the report, with the second, passed.

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**Commander's Advisory Committee**

Chairman Hunter stated the Committee discussed a letter about PDC Carl Stratton and it will not be read during the DEC per American Legion Internal Affairs decision. Discussion about eliminating Winter DEC meeting, which was tabled until next DEC. Motion by Hunter to accept, with the second, passed.

**Detachment Convention Committee**

No report.

**Public Relations Commission**

No report.

**COMMISSION/COMMITTEE DONATIONS**

\$40 from Detachment Adjutant Van Horn to CWF, \$5 from Denver Phelps for eating with this cap on to CWF, \$627 from Squadron 974 to Legacy Scholarship Fund, \$100 from PDC Hunter to CWF.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

From the Fall DEC, PDC Melone requested letter to Detachment Commander from Department to be turned over to Detachment Adjutant to be read at either Fall DEC or Winter DEC. Commander stated this wasn't quite correct. He stated he never received the letter, however he did see it. He asked Department Adjutant and Internal Affairs if he could read the letter, he was told no, that if the PDC Stratton wanted the letter read to the Detachment, he could do it himself.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Received letter from Manteno Veterans Home thanking us for the Virtual Art book. Received photo for each from Dan Rutherford of Cavanaugh, Jarosz, Hunter and Van Horn with Rutherford taken at Department Convention. Received flag banner for NEF from Legion National Commander & Adjutant.

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**RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE REPORT**

Chairman Stillwell stated only the Hospitality Resolutions were presented at this DEC. They were adopted. Koop motioned to accept report, with the second, passed.

Members from Post, Unit & Squadron 1166 was presented hospitality plaques and copy of each Resolution by Commander Cavanaugh.

**NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEMAN'S REPORT**

Both NEC & ANEC were excused. Adjutant Van Horn mentioned mysal.org and stated anyone interested in being considered a member for a National Commission or Committee to let the NEC know ASAP.

**NEW BUSINESS**

PDC Hunter mentioned Sharon Conaster fundraiser.

**FOR THE GOOD OF THE SAL**

JR Stillwell talked about upcoming Caravan. He also mentioned a PUFL membership makes a nice Christmas present. PDC Hunter thanked the Detachment for sending both he and Commander Cavanaugh to JR Stillwell being inducted into the National SAL Hall of Fame. JR talked briefly about the experience in California. Commander thanked members of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Division for filling in the vacancies that we had, along with a couple of the District's in the Division.

**ADVISOR'S REMARKS**

No report.

**50 – 50 DRAWING**

Sgt-At-Arms conducted drawing, PDC Hunter won \$34.

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**Closing & Benediction**

Chaplain Borgman gave the closing prayer.

The colors were in place and saluted.

The Commander adjourned the meeting at 1442.

Minutes taken and compiled by  
Detachment Adjutant Jeff Van Horn