



MINUTES
OF THE
PRE-CONVENTION D.E.C. MEETING
&
43rd ANNUAL DETACHMENT CONVENTION

JULY 19 – 22, 2017
EAST SYRACUSE, NY

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
Detachment of New York
112 State Street
Suite 1300
Albany, NY 12207
518-463-2215



MINUTES OF THE PRE-CONVENTION D.E.C. MEETING

July 19, 2017

Doubletree Hotel

East Syracuse, New York

- Commander Ruthven called the Meeting to order at 6:00PM.
- The Colors of our Nation being in place the membership saluted.
- Chaplain Parks offered the Opening Prayer.
- Master Sgt.-at-Arms Falco placed the POW/MIA banner.
- V/C Clancy led the membership in The Pledge of Allegiance.
- V/C Coates led the membership in the Preamble.

□ **Adjutant Avery** took Roll Call, which indicated a quorum was present.

- **Adjutant Avery introduced Leading candidate for National Commander Danny Smith (NE) and National Commander Frain (AZ) who will address us at our Convention.**
- **Convention Chairman Williamson** welcomed everyone to Syracuse. I will have the final numbers on the golf tournament tomorrow. It looks like it will be around \$1200. If you have problems with the hotel accommodations let me know. Please be respectful of the hotel as they have been very gracious and are working well with us. Busses will be running a continuous loop. There still are tickets for the installation luncheon.
- **Internal Affairs has received a resolution to dedicate the convention to David Caldwell. It will acted on tomorrow,**
- **A motion was made by 5th District Commander George and seconded by 3rd District Commander Baker to dispense with the reading of the Mid-Winter minutes and to accept them as distributed. The motion was carried.**

1.00 SICK CALL & RELIEF

- 1.01 **Our Advisor Maurice Arthur is sick.**
- 1.02 **Sharon Polson is sick.**

2.00 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 2.01 **NONE**

3.00 NEW BUSINESS & CORRESPONDANCE

- 3.01 **Commander Ruthven issued Leading Candidate Smith and Commander Frain their credentials.**
- 3.02 **Finance Chairman Lee** asked that you please submit your vouchers as soon as possible. There are fewer mistakes on vouchers thank you. Please pre-submit your voucher if possible. The budget was read and presented by Chairmen Lee. He thanked the commission members for their work. He stated that the Department of New York works with use and the communication has been very good. The commission went over the line item budget and is reviewing the expense authorization. The finance commission is recommending the following; Expense authorization changes.
Budget line items.
District Commanders, Authorized expenses (R&T) for Department County Visitation and National Visitations within their district. Add the cost of meals at Department County and National Visitations is an authorized expense.
National Convention Authorized expenses (T&R) for the NEC man, Current and immediate past Detachment Commander, Adjutant and Past National Commander to

attended. Overnight stay up to a maximum of four nights, and add one day travel for conventions west of the Mississippi.
National Convention Delegates registration, remove Detachment/Department policy requires all those delegates who are actually in attendance to reimburse the detachment for their registrations fee.
Detachment Commander's Homecoming, Deleted travel & 1nights room: Detachment Judge Advocate, master at arms, district commanders, vice commanders, chaplain, historian, web master, anec, and color guard.
Spring and fall meetings, change the 6 to 5 authorized persons are not attending, the commander may authorize other detachment officers as needed.
Schedule "A",
5) Mid-Winter Conference add (3 days per diem for those who attend the meetings and are authorized.
8) Change Detachment Commanders Homecoming to Legion Family Homecoming. Add to Detachment color guard rooms 3.
Delete # 9), Department Commanders Homecoming.
Delete # 11), Department Presidents Homecoming.

4.00 FOR THE GOOD OF THE SONS

- 4.01 Commander Ruthven** asked that we all pay attention as there will be a lot of information coming from all the reports. Please take this information back and put it to good use.
- 4.02 Member Diman Smith** asked about the status of the resolution that was submitted at last year's convention, voted and passed and sent to national. The judge advocate Downey will check and give him an answer before the end of convention.

There being no further business to come before the Meeting, Chaplain Park offered the Closing Prayer, Master Sgt.-at-Arms Falco retrieved the POW/MIA banner, and the membership saluted the Colors of our glorious Nation.

- The Meeting was adjourned at 6:40 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



Raymond Jarvis
Assistant Adjutant

MINUTES OF THE 43rd ANNUAL DETACHMENT CONVENTION
July 20 - 21, 2017
Doubletree Hotel
East Syracuse, New York

FIRST SESSION – JULY 20, 2017

- Commander Ruthven called the Convention to order at 9:00 AM.
- The Colors of our Nation were placed by the Detachment Color Guard and the body saluted.
- Commander Ruthven recited the POW/MIA Ceremony as the Master Sergeant placed the POW/MIA banner.
- Chaplain Parks offered the Opening Prayer.
- V/C Bosford led the body in The Pledge of Allegiance.
V/C Burtch led the membership in the Preamble.
- Adjutant Avery read the Call to Convention, Roll Call of Officers, and Roll Call of Counties, which indicated a quorum was present. Present as a guest to the Convention was Leading Candidate for Commander of the Sons of The American Legion Danny Smith (NE) Sons of The American Legion National Commander Jeff Frain (AZ).

Adjutants Note: After addressing the Convention, Certificates of Appreciation were presented to all DEC members, Special Certificate Plaques were presented to Special Guests, and Commander's Pins were presented to all Guests by Commander Santa Croce.

1.00 REPORTS

- **Warren County moved to accept the Convention rules as printed in the add book. The motion was seconded and carried.**

1.01 Convention / Syracuse General Chairman Williamson welcomed us to Syracuse. Sorry for the shuttle service yesterday. Everything should be good now. If you have any question or problems let me know.

- **Internal Affairs Chairman Williamson read the following resolution, Convention 17-01**

WHEREAS; David “Lefty” Caldwell was a Life member in good standing of Herbert W. DeLong Squadron # 808, Belmont New York; and

WHEREAS; David “Lefty” Caldwell, assisted in and carried on all the great principles for which The American Legion stands, and furthered the Sons of The American Legion in the principles of Justice, Freedom, Loyalty and Democracy; and

WHEREAS; David “Lefty” Caldwell served the Detachment of New York Sons of The American Legion in the capacity of Chaplain, Historian, Vice Commander and Finance Commission over his 34 years in The Sons of The American Legion; and

WHEREAS; David “Lefty” Caldwell fostered and perpetuated a true spirit Americanism through his mentoring of the youth of our organization; and

WHEREAS; David “Lefty” Caldwell has continually demonstrated his dedication to the betterment of The Sons of The American Legion, The American Legion and The American Legion Auxiliary, our Veterans, their families and our troops who are serving our great nation; and

WHEREAS; Through his dedication to our communities, state and nation, his untiring efforts, passion and commitment to The Sons of The American Legion, The American Legion, The American Legion Auxiliary, Americas veterans, their families and our troops serving throughout the world, The Sons of The American Legion and The American Legion family has flourished; and

WHEREAS; Past Detachment Vice Commander David “Lefty” Caldwell has answered the final call and will be remembered for his love, respect, friendship and dedication for The American Legion family as he is elevated to squadron everlasting. Therefore be it;

RESOLVED; The Delegates and Alternates pause in their deliberations to commend and remember the dedication of Past Detachment Vice Commander David “Lefty” Caldwell

and his belief in The Sons of The American Legion Detachment of New York; and be it further,

RESOLVED; The Detachment of New York Sons of The American Legion assembled in the town of Dewitt, County of Onondaga, State of New York at the Doubletree Hotel on this 20th day of July, Two Thousand and Seventeen dedicate this annual Detachment Convention in the everlasting name of Past Detachment Vice Commander David “Lefty” Caldwell.

**SUBMITTED BY: Herbert W. DeLong Squadron #808 Belmont, New York
Allegany County moved to accept the Resolution. It was seconded and carried.
Commander Ruthven handed the gavel to Vice Commander DeAngelis.**

1.02

Americanism Chairman Myrtle reported..... before I begin I would like to acknowledge and thank all of the members of the Americanism Commission for their participation and support this year. James Daly of Rochester; Jim Parks of Ontario; Dennis George of Rome; Charles Depo of Chazy and Michael Rodriguez of Brooklyn. Throughout the years the Detachment of New York has built up a strong Americanism Program and these are the guys that have helped to made it all work this year. Please join me in showing them our appreciation.

This is a summary of our detachment activities and expenses for 2016-2017.

Scholarships: we received 13 applications for The Cerullo Memorial Scholarship. The applications were judged by the Americanism Commission and the winner of the Cerullo Memorial Scholarship of \$500.00 this year is: Hannah Oram of Jefferson County and a member of the A.L.A. unit 1757 Harold W., Townsend post. We had one renewal application for a previous year winner Gannon Frisbee of Delaware County and a member of squadron 167, James S. Moore post and received a \$500.00 scholarship.

Previous winners are entitled to resubmit an application for up to three years and receive scholarship of \$500.00 per year as long as they continue their college education.

Detachment paid the following contributions to be recorded for the consolidated report.

2014-2015 Americanism Commission Expenses

| | |
|--|------------|
| 1,300 Flag Lapel Pins for Boys State | \$ 767.00 |
| 4,320 Stick Flags | \$ 838.50 |
| 200 Pledge of Allegiance book markers | \$ 58.00 |
| 1 (Book) Knowledge in a Nutshell | \$ 8.95 |
| 10 Flag Education DVDs | \$ 199.00 |
| 500 Pledge of Allegiance (comic book) | \$ 295.00 |
| 500 Our Country’s Flag (comic book) | \$ 295.00 |
| Copies of Essay contest’s | \$ 83.97 |
| Shipping and Handling | \$ 39.95 |
| Scholarship Cerullo 1-new & 1-renewal | \$1000.00 |
| Mailing for Cerullo Scholarship Judging | \$ 38.85 |
| “What America means to me” | |
| Essay Contest for 1 st – 5 th Grades | \$ 300.00 |
| “What the Constitution of the United States means to Americans” | |
| Essay Contest for 6 th , 7 th , & 8 th Grades | \$ 100.00 |
| Total | \$4,024.22 |

25 hours to assemble and distribute materials to Districts at mid- winter; 15 -hours for scholarship data review and judging; 35 hours to compile data for squadrons.

Total 75 - hours

In addition to the expenses above we had: Donations of Commander J. Bruce Ruthven collected funds for the National Emergency Fund of \$

| | |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| Department Commanders project | \$1,500.00 |
| Department Presidents project | \$1,500.00 |
| National Commanders project | \$1,000.00 |
| National Emergency relief fund | \$1,500.00 |
| Nicholas Sallese Scholarship | \$ 750.00 |
| American Legion Boys State (1 boy) | \$ 750.00 |
| Color guard paid | \$2,000.00 |

Consolidated Reports received this year, 127 consolidated reports were turned in from our Squadrons this year. They have been tabulated and judged according to our guidelines. Before I give the results of the consolidated reports, I would like to call up our Boys State chairman and Judge Advocate Mr. David L. Downey for purpose of a report on Boys State at Morrisville College. The summary of the Detachment of New York activities reported for this year in the 12- Americanism Programs, based on the 120 Consolidated Reports received from our squadrons are as follows.

1. Boys State and Girls State

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------|------|-------------|
| # Boys Sponsored for Boys State | 92-Boys | Cost | \$18,048.00 |
| # Girls sponsored for Girls State | 18 Girls | Cost | \$ 1,188.00 |

Education

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|------|-------------|
| # Five Star / Ten Ideals Programs | 171- Programs | Cost | \$ 3,745.00 |
| # Flags Presented | 2320 - Flags | Cost | \$ 2,480.00 |
| Cost of Scholarships | | Cost | \$31,985.00 |
| Hours for Educational Programs | 1649 - hours | | |
2. # Small Flags place on Graves 38,258 - Flags Cost \$8,422.50
Hours for Flags 2,203 - hours
Oratorical Contests 38 - Contestants Cost \$75.00 Hours of Participation 1,672
Color Guards - Squadron Sponsored 427- Appearances Cost \$11,177.00
3. NEF Donations Cost \$ 7,036.00
4. Flag Education # Flag Etiquette Programs 97 – programs Cost \$ 2,135.00 Hours 647
Flag Retirement Programs 68 - programs Hours 637
5. Community Service Hours 57,460 Cost / Donations Cost \$ 160,333.00
6. Scouting Squadron Sponsored Troops 16 Cost \$ 1,783.00 Youths Involved 65
7. Junior Shooting Sports # Youths Involved 65 # Hours Service 903 Cost \$1,900.00
8. Baseball AL Team Sponsored 8 - teams Cost \$ 3,800.00
9. Blood Drives - # Pints 341 – pints Hours 128
10. Other teams Sponsored - Cost \$ 9,040.00

To sum up these numbers the Detachment of New York has reported \$269,488.22 in the cost of programs and community donations, 44,898 - flags presented, placed on graves or given away at parades, 64,935 - volunteer hours, and \$ 7036.00 in NEF donations Americanism report of consolidated reports

Total reports: 127:

Winner's this year for the highest level of achievements for:

150 or over members

1st Place Cottreal-Warner Squadron 942 of 7th District in Monroe County with 176 members score (21)

2nd Place Seeley B Parish Squadron 457 of 7th District in Ontario County with 238 members score (20)

3rd Place New Hartford Squadron 1376 of 5th District in Oneida County with 623 members score (17)

Winner's this year for the highest level of achievements for:

149 and under members

1st Place Cassadaga Memorial Squadron 1280 of 8th District in Chautauqua County with 121 members score (22)

2nd Place Antwerp Squadron 916 of 5th District in Jefferson County with 31 members score (17)

3rd Place Hamburg Squadron 527 of 8th District in Erie County with 149 members score (16)

Congratulations to the entire winner for their hard work.

Congratulations to our winning squadrons. Great Job to all squadrons that submitted a consolidated report and special thanks goes to the second district and Fifth Districts for their reports. Let us all work together to continue making our squadrons aware of the importance of making contributions to the twelve programs of Americanism and please keep reporting.

Albany County made a motion to accept the report which was seconded and carried.
1.03 **Children & Youth Acting Chairman Ellis** reported that the commission received 128 reports, plus 2 district reports. Of the 128 that were received only 69 reported something for Children & Youth. The following totals are from the consolidated report forms. CWF Donations \$ 10,245.00 with 1362 hours donated. \$3944.00 donated to the Special Olympics and 1634 hours. \$3090.00 donated to CMN with 719 hours. 326 Josh Dogs were given at a cost of \$1185.00. \$701 donated to Operation Military Kids with 6736 hours, \$29,960.00 was donated to other Children & Youth projects along with 11,948 hours. And here are the winners;

149 and under 1st Cassadaga Memorial Squadron # 1280 Cassadaga
2nd Windsor Terrace Squadron #1175 Brooklyn
3rd Hamburg Squadron #527 Hamburg
150 and over 1st Mohawk Squadron #1450 Halfmoon
2nd Charlies E Westcott Squadron #173 Bath
3rd Chili Squadron #1830 Scottsville

Chautauqua County made a motion to accept the report which was seconded and carried.

1.04 **The Finance Chairman Lee;** Thanked the members on the Finance Commission for their work and commitment. The budget is based on 30,000 members at \$8.00 per member. The Finance Committee is recommending the following changes; Raise the line item for Commanders pins by \$500.00 due to the increased cost of the pins. Decrease the line item Committees by \$500.00 to cover the Commanders Pins line item raise. This has a zero impact on the budget bottom line. The Committee is recommending increasing the per diem for mid-winter from two days to three days if you attend the Friday Nights Meetings. It is also recommending eliminating the line items for reimbursement for the Homecomings for the Department/Detachment Commander and Auxiliary President, and just making it one line called the Family Homecoming. The Committee is also recommending a \$15,000 donation to the Committee to Elect Greg "Doc" Gibbs from the investment account. This would include updating appendix A to reflect any changes to the line item budget. For those new District Commanders and to those that don't know you are eligible for reimbursement for any meals that are incurred while on visitation with the Commander. This includes Breakfast and Dinner. We have changed the vouchers, we looking for email addresses, telephone numbers, and your position. This so if we have questions we can contact you.

Broome County made a motion to accept the report which was seconded and carried.

1.05 **Public Relations and Webmaster Cinquegrana** I would first like to acknowledge the members of our Commission: Jim Coates, Timothy VanPatten II, William Clancy, Kevin Harrington, and Ken Kraetzer. Our contact information is on the Detachment Website and on the last page of The Liberty Newsletter. I am actually going to start my report this time with the words that I usually use to end my report: It is vital to remember that anyone who is a member of the Sons of the American Legion is indirectly a member of the Public Relations Commission. Everything you do is as a representative of the Sons of the American Legion, and thereby the face of our Organization to the Public. We need to remind ourselves, and our membership, of the importance of what we do, and how important it is to let people know what we can accomplish. Public Relations is actually a communication process; a process that builds relationships between Individuals and Organizations. It's really all about letting people know this is who we are, this is what we do, and here is what we have accomplished. Commander Frain this past year reminded us all that **Knowledge is Power**. Individually we become more powerful when we learn, and then teach each other. Our Organization becomes more powerful when we take that knowledge, share it with others, and then let people know we have it. Commander Ruthven this year had a theme of **Education through Communication**; educating everyone in the Legion Family and the Community on who we are and what we do. As he stated in our Newsletter, the work is ongoing but not complete until everyone is aware and onboard with the knowledge and understanding of our

organization. Adjutant Avery also wrote in the last Newsletter, **Communication is the most important aspect in how we operate.** He continued to say to that end, the Detachment, through its website, email blasts and Facebook postings, will continue to strive to inform. So it's obvious that our Leadership gets it, they understand the importance of Public Relations as our best methods to communicate. But all of us, including me, need to get on board. We have talked in the past about press release templates, and Public Relations Tools. Those are all good and are there for us as a reference. But again the key is knowledge, communication, and relationships. Shame on you if you don't know who your local media outlets are, and have not found a contact at each one and built a relationship to share information. Provide them some pictures, write a short story, or ask them to cover an event. And double shame on you if you haven't shared what we do, with other Organizations and friends. If you see something on Facebook of interest about the Sons or a Sons accomplishment, click SHARE. But I am willing to face some of the shame also, as I think the Public Relations Commission can do a much better job of communicating and sharing as well. We have been able to share many more of your stories and good works, but I think the Commission needs to do a better job at conveying the State-Wide effort that the Sons make in serving Veterans, Families, and Youth. In those types of efforts we will take a bigger lead in researching and contacting media outlets across the State to augment your local attempts. Whether it is the Walk-A-Thon, Essay Contests, Flag Education, etc., our Commission will work to push our message throughout. Our SAL Radio headed by Ken Kraetzer continues to do remarkable things and cover major events to keep our organization in the spotlight, not only locally but nationally. Efforts continue as well on the modernization and expansion of the Chaplains Monuments in Washington, and hopefully Ken will be here later to share more of that information. We continue to tweak and update our Website. We are looking at several updates this year to help you to keep informed and communicate with others. We are also looking at generating some statistical information throughout the Detachment, which could improve communications and record keeping. There is a wealth of knowledge within the mainframes of National and Department that we will continue to investigate, so that we can become more knowledgeable, more powerful, and become better communicators.

Ontario County made a motion to accept the report which was seconded and carried.

1.06 Internal Affairs Chainman Williamson had the following Chairman give their reports. **MT&D Chairman Jarvis;** the leadership class and Advisors seminar were given at Mid-Winter as well as breakout sessions. The Committee will continue to review and update the programs as needed. The committee is looking at giving away thumb drives as handouts instead of cd, s. We will have more information at the Fall D.E.C meeting.

Membership Chairman Verstrete reported here is a list of the dates and places for the membership workshops. October 1st 2&10 Rochoma, October 7 7&8 Leroy, October 15th 1&9 Mt. Kisco, October 21st 3&4 place TBA, and 5&6 date and TBA. It is July and you should already have your OFC in. We currently have 19 Counties at or above 100%. Nationally we are in 33rd place out 55 Detachments. We have 47 squadrons with zero membership. We need to work on helping these squadrons. We currently stand at 97.209% or 828 members short of our goal of 29,671. It is now my pleasure to announce the membership award winners.

Largest Squadron:

| | | |
|---|-------------|---------------------------------|
| 3 rd Place Winnek Squadron #396 | Ontario Co. | District 7 (328 members) |
| 2 nd Place Charles E. Westcott Squadron #173 | Steuben Co. | District 7 (391 members) |
| 1 st Place New Hartford Squadron #1376 | Oneida Co. | District 5 (603 members) |

Most new members:

| | | |
|--|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| 3 rd Place Cottreall-Warner Squadron #942 | Monroe Co. | District 7 (32 members) |
| 2 nd Place Charles Harbel Squadron #892 | Cattaraugus Co. | District 8 (33 members) |
| 1 st Place James Harvey Spire Squadron #787 | Onondaga Co. | District 5 (50 members) |

Highest percent increase over prior year (Under 300):

3rd Place Edmund Kells-Richard A. Grennie Squadron #316 Richmond Co. District 2
(176%)

2nd Place Eastwood Squadron #1276 Onondaga Co. District 5 (183%)

1st Place Tipperary Hill Squadron #1361 Onondaga Co. District 5 (260%)

Highest percent increase over prior year (Over 300):

3rd Place Winnek Squadron #396 Ontario Co. District 7 (93%)

2nd Place Charles E. Westcott Squadron #173 Steuben Co. District 7 (97%)

1st Place New Hartford Squadron #1376 Oneida Co. District 5 (100%)

Convention Chairman Williamson already gave his report in his welcoming remarks.

Onondaga County motioned to accept the internal affairs report which was seconded and carried.

1.07 Commanders Advisory Chairmen Santa Croce reported that he certainly had the easiest job this year. Commander Bruce was an outstanding ambassador for our organization. He represented us with class and dignity. From what I heard and witnessed, the visitations this year went extremely well with great synergy between Bruce, Commander John and President Debbie. I'm sure he enjoyed his year as much as I did. Commander Bruce, congratulations for your accomplishments this year and thank you and Jane for taking a year out of your lives to serve our organization.

Kings County made a motion to accept the report which was seconded and carried.

1.08 3rd District Commander reported Albany County - Zaloga Squadron sent a young man to Boy's State for \$425, Gave out 100 flags veterans' day, 4 appearances for memorial services with their color guard and members. Gave to the Red Cross 10 times including 30 hours in time donated. Donated 100 hours to VA&R, has 2 representatives (New VA&R Reps, John Benoit and Jim Prime along with over \$3,800.00 in donations for the Stratton VA Hospital and Holding fundraisers for American Legion programs and our veterans. North Albany Squadron Sent one young lady to Girl's state at the cost of \$378.00, Placed over 100 flags on grave sites. Donated 215 hours to community projects as well as donated \$3,800.00 toward veteran and community projects. Helderberg Squadron Sent two young men to boy's state, Gave scholarships of over \$5,000.00. Placed flags on graves held a flag retirement service with 10 hours donated. Logged 20 hours and gave over \$1,000.00 towards community services. Donated over 50 hours and \$5,000.00 for veterans programs. Voorheesville Squadron Raised over \$1,600.00 and donated 320 hours towards community and veteran programs Rensselaer County - Gerald O'Neil Squadron held several dinners to raise funds for various Veteran projects, Donated to Flight over America. Held Toys for Tots drive and helped over 1000 children from the community. They raised funds for the Stratton VA Hospital, Held local raffles to assist with their various veteran programs. Members of the Gerald O'Neil sons who are also members of the Legion Riders participated with Rolling Thunder in placing flags at Arlington Cemetery. Melvin Roads Squadron sent 1 young man to Boy's State at a cost of \$500.00, Presented 25 flags at a cost of \$675.00, distributed over 600 flags on Gravesites and Parades. Members participated in the Post's color Guard, They worked over 1200 hours of community service. Worked and donated at Blood Drives which collected over 100 pints of blood, donated over \$5,000.00 towards community and veteran programs. Held Lenten Fish Fries with donations going towards upgrades to the post. They Co-Sponsored a cabin fever party with the proceeds going to honor flight to send veterans to Washington DC to visit their memorials, Held fundraiser breakfasts, Took in over 400 pieces of clothing including 12 business suits for Veterans in need. Members of the Melvin Roads Sons who are also members of the Legion Riders participated with Tolling Thunder in placing flags at Arlington Cemetery, And Celebrated 40th Anniversary as a Squadron. North Greenbush Memorial Squadron Placed 288 flags on gravesites, Held a flag retirement ceremony, Donated over \$600.00 towards community and Veteran projects. Schoharie County - Timothy Murphy Placed over 400 flags on grave sites, Held a flag retirement ceremony and Donated over \$200.00 towards veteran services. Ulster County - Cook-Taylor Sent one young male to boy's state at a cost of \$450.00, awarded a \$500.00 Scholarship. Place over 1300 flags on graves for

Memorial Day and Donated 64 hours to community and veteran programs, Gave over \$400.00 to Children and Youth. Working with the boy Scouts, Veterans and Many community projects

Rensselaer County made a motion accept the report which was seconded and carried.

- 1.09 4th District Commander Williams** reported that around the 4th district squadrons have been busy. The 4th District donated \$500.00 to Squadron 574 for Wreaths across America. Wreaths across America at the Saratoga National Cemetery our goal was to place wreaths on every Hero's grave as we fell short our goal is to be over. 10,000 next year and it was a group effort. With motorcycle groups from around the area legion riders from post 1644, post 337 and other motorcycle groups that include Goat Brothers, Veterans MC, and many others. One Cause One Goal! As always the 4th district is backing our candidate for National Commander DOC Gibbs. Membership around the 4th district we sit in 9th place at 92.97 % understanding we have a lot of work in front of us, as always get the word out need to be at a 100% by convention.

Saratoga County made a motion to accept the report which was seconded and carried.

- 1.10 5th District Commander George** reported Membership: As of 7/10/17, 5th District is 1st in Detachment @ 99.64%, with 688 new members, 7005 paid members, and 37 of 65 squadrons @ 100% or above, with Squadron 1361 Tipperary Hill @ 260%.
County listing:

- o Lewis – 107.26% w/ 399 paid - #5 in the state
- o Onondaga – 103.51% w/ 1,090 paid - #8 in the state
- o Oswego – 101.38% w/589 paid - #11
- o Oneida – 100.65% w/ 2,944 paid - #15
- o Jefferson – 94.96% w/ 1,638 paid - #44
- o Herkimer – 92.25% w/ 345 paid - #49

I attended Onondaga County S.A.L. meeting on February 9, 2017, at Eastwood Post # 1276. I also, attended the “4 Chaplain Ceremony” at The Onondaga County American Legion meeting. Oriskany Squadron 1448's 6th Annual Golf Outing, on Armed Forces Day – May 20, 2017, raised \$4,000 for the Sitrin Military Rehabilitation Program. A veteran, who is a participant in the program, had a team in the outing. The running total of this outing to the Sitrin Military Rehabilitation Program is now over \$20,000. I presented the check at Sitrin's Run-Walk Kick-off on 6/21/17 with 5th-6th Vice Commander Christopher Burtch and Squadron Commander Larry Rieben. The Oriskany Squadron also donated \$500 to Legion baseball for new uniforms. Placed flags on deceased veterans' graves on May 25, 2017. I participated in 3 ceremonies on Memorial Day, placed wreaths with Post Commander Joe Gibson in Oriskany, NY at the Oriskany Monument and at the Parkhurst site in Whitesboro, NY. I attended American Legion Family Homecoming on June 10, 2017, luncheon @ Oriskany American Legion Post 1448 and dinner @ Vernon Downs Hotel & Casino in Verona, NY. I participated in the Flag Retirement Ceremony at Oriskany Legion on 6/14/17, there were over 5,000 flags retired. I have served on the 2017 Convention Committee. I participated in a funeral service for a deceased Son from Squadron 1448 on 6/28/17. Thank you to my County Commanders for their efforts and support this year, to my 5th District Membership Chairman Joe Lenhardt, and to Vice Commander Chris Burtch for being there whenever I had a question or concern.

Oneida County made a motion to accept the report which was seconded and carried.

- 1.11 Credentials Chairman Alex Anderson** gave the credentials report which indicated 98 registered delegates.
- 1.12 6th District Commander Ainslee** reported I would like to start out by congratulating Commander Bruce on a great job representing the SONS this past year for the Detachment of N.Y., it was a pleasure and an honor to travel with him, Commander John, and President Debbie. Times like them you will remember for the rest of your life. Not much has been going on in the 6th district since midwinter conference I'm sure all or most of my Squadrons participated in any or all Memorial Day activities at their Post as I did

by cooking 275 halves of chicken in the pouring rain. Wright after Memorial Day I had the pleasure of attending the 2017 alumna yr. of The American Legion College. This was the first yr. that it was held with all of the Legion Family. They teach you about The Four pillars of The American Legion which are Americanism, Children and Youth, Veteran Affairs and Rehabilitation, and National Security. It was a very information fill weekend and I would recommend that if you get a chance to attend it that you do so. Membership for the District as reported at Midwinter was a sorry 46.26% and 8th out of 10 districts in the state. I am very pleased to report as of 7/17 our membership was reported at 96.8% and 6th out of 10 districts with 27 of 52 total Squadrons at 100% or more with the highest being Sq. 1567 Hartwick N.Y..I want to thank my entire district Squadrons for the great job they did on membership in the last 6 months. Great job guys!!!

1.13 Otsego County made a motion to accept the report which was seconded and carried. 7th District Commander Topper

reported that the month of February stated out with a round of eight County Visitations. It was very rewarding experience spending time with the Department and Detachment Officers. I would like to give big shout out to all the District Officers that made all the visitations. Our membership is currently at 97.7% and we are in 2nd place with 5157 members. We have 3 of our 8 counties at 100% or better. In April we had two walk-a-thons. One in Ontario County and one in Stueben County, We had a good turn out the district officers at both events. We also held our Youth Bowling day in Hornell which many District Officers attended after the walk-a-thons. Everyone had a great time. The 7th District Sons presented a plaque and a check for \$100 to an R.I.T. Campus Ryan Nugent who is a ROTC Cadet that showed outstanding leadership. On May 21st we held our Flag Education Ceremony and Flag Retirement Ceremony at the Francis B. Dalton Post #282 in Lima, NY. We also presented our Doc Powers member of the year award to William Kershner. William is a member of the Daniel Goho Squadron #87 in Dansville. He has held many offices in his squadron and is volunteer fireman an active in Children & Youth programs in his squadron.

Monroe County made a motion to accept the report which was seconded and carried.

➤ **V/C De Angelis turned gravel over to Commander Ruthven.**

1.14 8th District Commander Van Patten reported after leaving the Mid-Winter Conference in Albany, the Mighty Eighth District went into hospitality mode as we welcomed the touring leadership of our American Legion Family. I was able to attend all the dinners with Commander Bruce and Vice-Commander Jim. I was very pleased with the overall attendance of Sons members at these events. Then I had the pleasure of attending various County meetings of our Organization and am pleased to report that we have resurrected two squadrons are in the process of creating two more original charters. I was able to attend the dedication of a new Post home for the Iroquois Post on the Seneca Nation Indian Reservation, which will be one of the mentioned new Sons Charters. The dedication consisted of proclamations by local officials, blessings by the Tribe's elders, Ceremonial singing and dancing, and featured a traditional meal. It was a fantastic event and I was honored to be there for the Festivities. I along with Vice Commander Coates, travelled to the St. Bonaventure Campus in Olean for the annual presentation of the William P. O'Connell R.O.T.C. Award. Regrettably one week before our Joint 7th & 8th District get-together, Many Sons members came together in the peaceful town of Belmont in Allegany County to say Good-bye to one of the most well-respected and active members of our organization, Past Detachment Vice Commander David "Lefty" Caldwell. Besides being a past Detachment Vice Commander, Lefty was also a past Commander on the Squadron, County, and District levels as well as serving as the 8th District Chaplin and was a member of the Detachment Finance Committee at the time of his being called to the Squadron Everlasting. The following week the Joint 7th and 8th District get-together was held in Lefty's honor with a moving Squadron Everlasting ceremony before the start of the meeting. We were honored to have Commander Bruce join us as well as Vice Commander Coats. my counterpart in the 7th Commander Jerry Toepper, along with Maurice Arthur, American Legion Rider Vice Director Jerry Ketchum, and past Detachment Commanders Randy Swarthout, Jeffrey Jordan, and Tom

Kurk. It was a great afternoon of idea sharing and comradery. I was able to venture into the 7th District to watch their annual flag retirement ceremony. It was a fantastic event with great community involvement. I was able to attend the first ever American Legion Family College this year. Another wonderful program of the family Organization, it was a weekend full of information and activities that will remain with me for years to come. I encourage everyone to apply and graduate from this stellar program. We held our 8th District Convention at the Thomas Tehan Post in Blasdell, Erie County to conclude our year's activities and elect new officers for our district. I would like to introduce the new 8th District Commander, Dale Kane from Allegany County. As far as membership this year, we had a few good weeks where we were the top District in the State, and 27 of our 60 Squadrons in the district have hit 100% or higher, but as of Monday's report we have fallen to fifth position in the Detachment with 97%, and what's worse, we are behind the 7th district by 12 members.

Erie County made a motion to accept the report which was seconded and carried.

1.15 9th District Commander Armistead reported The 9th District met on April 11, 2017 at Mahopac Post 1080. The meeting was well attended and for the first time, at least one Son from each of the five counties comprising the district was present. Additionally the most of the American Legion County Commanders from the five counties were present as well as the 9th District American Legion Commander and his officers. Some ideas were discussed for a District-wide Sons project including possibly working with Wreaths across America to help decorate the graves at the West Point Cemetery this holiday season. Elections were also held, and the new 9th District Officers are: Commander: Michael Armistead, 1st Vice Commander: Robert McCormick, 2nd Vice Commander: Lou Logozio, Adjutant: Joseph Guidice, Jr., Treasurer: Glen Russo, Sgt at Arms: Michael Jacobs, Chaplain: Ken Willis. We are also very grateful to announce that we have received a gift of \$500.00 from the 9th District American Legion to help us get our treasury started. Membership in the 9th is doing well with many squadrons at, or close to 100% of goal. There are a few that are behind but we are continuing to work to get them caught up. We are also proud to announce that G. Paul Bettinger Squadron #1308 of Pine Bush has reinstated their charter and is up and running with 26 new members. Some other news around the district: On April 8, 2017 John H. Secor Squadron #329 of Pearl River, was part of a Commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of the Bataan Death March. A parade was held on Bataan Rd. in Orangeburg, NY. The Squadron served as Parade Marshals and also placed a memorial wreath and unveiled a bronze plaque. Charles R. & Raymond O. Blauvelt Squadron 310 of Nyack, NY is in the process of reinstating their charter and will be coming on line shortly after the Convention.

Westchester County made a motion to accept the report which was seconded and Carried.

1.16 Legislative Chairman Gibbs reported with a new President inaugurated there may still be some interesting opportunities. Our Washington, DC On-the-Hill Days were February 26-March 1, 2017. The days featured the wreath lying by our National SAL Commander at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington, a tour of the monuments, some legislative preparation time, as well as visits with our Congressmen. Commander J. Bruce Ruthven, Bill Clancy Jr., Gary Denmon, Greg Gibbs, Bob Avery, David Lee, Jim Coates and David Perry were in attendance. Ken Kraetzer also attended but was in meetings with the people from Arlington Cemetery planning the updates to Chaplain Hill. That would bring our Detachment numbers to 9. We did secure appointments for meetings with all Congressmen. Our Albany On-the-Hill Days were scheduled for March 5-6, 2017 the following week from the DC trip. Sons that attended contacted their American Legion County level Legislative Chairman and let him/her know they were coming. You simply purchase a breakfast ticket and we sat by tables by County and had breakfast with our legislators. Tickets were available from our headquarters office in Albany, NY. It is a one day event; attendees were prepped the evening before in a general meeting and then went up to the congressional offices after breakfast the next morning. Doc Gibbs had other meetings regarding the Oratorical Contest in Indiana and could not attend this year. More Sons should attend; usually there are only 6-8 SAL members

present. You do not need an appointment to meet with your Congressman that day, it is Legion Day and they all know you are coming that morning. It appears we had a better than usual showing with about 12 Sons in attendance this year. With a new American Legion Legislative Director, Mathew Schuman, there may be a few changes. Be sure to go to the National Legion website (www.legion.org) and see some of his early comments and position statements. The focus legislation for the DC and Albany meetings was forwarded to all Legislative Committee members for their use and dissemination. It will also be posted in the national website legislative area as well as in our own sonsdny.org website or actively linked to it. It is easy to set up a Legislative Night at one of your Squadron meetings where all your members can write a letter to their Representative supporting any one of the many Legion Issues. You can easily go online at the national website and go to Legislative Action Center for sample letters and ideas. This is something that is critically important and easy to do and doesn't cost much at all. Talk to any of the Legislative Committee members or Chairman Doc Gibbs or our National Legislative Chairman David Lee and they can get you started. We had several legislative action alerts this past spring. When those come through they are sent from the National Chairman to the Detachment Chairman, down to the Commission members, and then on to a list of over 50 names that include the NY SAL Legislative Action Group. This group is voluntary and they have requested from the Detachment Chairman that they receive such information for further dissemination. You can have a lasting effect as a Sons member by getting legislation passed that serves veterans, military, and their families. We have made much progress in just the last few years and President Trump appears to be veteran friendly so this could be the beginning of some positive years for veterans' legislation, but we must remain ever diligent to keeping the progress we have made and staying up to date on pending issues. I did have the opportunity to co-teach the Legislative Session at the NY American Legion Family College for the 6th year along with Dean Erck, Legionnaire from Alexandria Bay. We had a full complement of 100 students, combined Auxiliary, Sons and Legion for the first time ever. This may be my final report from the Commission due to the ever present demands of running for the National Commander position. A new Legislative Commission Chairman may be named at this year's Detachment Convention in Syracuse. I appreciate the faith you entrusted in me to carry forth the Legislative messages and issues over these years. Enacting positive legislation is one of the most important things we can do as Sons to ensure our veterans and our active military get the support they have earned and most certainly deserve. I most sincerely encourage you to stay aware and active on these issues.

1.17

Erie County made a motion to accept the report which was seconded and carried.

V.A. & R. Chairman Cox reported I would like to start out with the results of this year's Walk-a-thon. This year we raised just under \$18,000.00. This is down about \$2,600.00 from last year. Guys, we need to do better. The Commission will meet at Midwinter and try to come up with ways to increase participation in next year's Walk. I was impressed with the effort that the Auxiliary put into this year's walk. I accompanied Commander Bruce's delegation this morning and presented the Auxiliary with a check for \$8,959.50 as the share of the money raised. Also Annie at headquarters has sent out checks to the VA Hospitals, Homes and the Fisher House. Next I would like to summarize the information from the Consolidated Reports. We reported 1,257 visits totaling 2,145 hours with donations of \$24,152.00 to the Veterans Homes. We reported 1,849 visits totaling 9,194 hours with donations of \$16,446.00 to the VA Medical Centers. We had 1,341 hours of volunteer field service and 2,226 hours of volunteer home service. We reported 150 hours of service at the Fisher House with \$2,450.00 in donations. We had 3,011 hours and \$11,641.00 for troop support and 960 hours and \$4,591.00 of Family support. We reported 8,615 volunteer hours and \$37,720.00 for other VA&R projects. We reported 452 hours helping 265 Vets with \$2,292.00 in donations for Veteran's Assistance Day. Finally we reported \$2,250.00 in donations for Operation Comfort Warriors. The individual reports were judged and the awards will be presented to winners for the 150 and over squadrons and the 149 or under squadrons. There were 29 reports

submitted that were not eligible for awards because they were not properly filled out. Thanks to Districts 2 and 5 for submitting their reports.

The winners for 150 and over were

- 3rd Squadron 173 from Bath, NY
- 2nd Squadron 1830 from Scottsville, NY
- 1st Squadron 452 from Phelps, NY

The winners for 149 and under were

- 3rd Squadron 916 from Antwerp, NY
- 2nd Squadron 1280 from Cassadaga, NY
- 1st Squadron 1231 from Clinton Heights

Next I would like to Congratulate the winner of this year's William P O'Connell Memorial Veteran's Rehabilitation Scholarship. The winner is Connor Madden from Greenlawn, NY. Connor is a 6 year member of the Sons and will be attending Clemson University this fall. Finally I would like to encourage everyone to consider volunteering at the local VA Hospital or Home I have continued volunteering at the Syracuse VA Hospital 3 day a week. I find it to be a very rewarding experience. Also I participated in Honor Guard services for Veterans from or post with a group of Sons from my Squadron. **Onondaga County made a motion to accept the report which was seconded and carried.**

- 1.18 10th District Commander Connolly** reported that the 10th district year has come to an end. It has been an amazing year even though we are having trouble keeping the District going. I would like to thank those who continue to work hard; Greg Falco, Chris Cerullo, Joey Bellinger and our Detachment V/C DeAngelis. Thank you Peter for your help. I would also like to thank Greg for his work in reinstating the sons at Floral Park and Manhasset. We are proud of our Squadrons for all their hard work on membership. It has been an honor to serve with our Commander Bruce and I am looking forward to serving with our next Commander.

Suffolk County made a motion to accept the report which was seconded and carried.

- 1.19 Historian Van Patten** reported that he has attended all the county visitations in the eighth district. He is currently finishing the Detachment History Book for submission to National for Judging. If you have pictures please get them to at TSVP2@AOL.Com ASAP. I also attended the 7th District Flag Retirement Ceremony which an amazing event to watch. I attended the 7th & 8th District joint get together, it was a great event to get together and share ideas at to meet each other. I attended the American legion Family Collage in Morrisville and am quit proud to say I am an alumnus of the first graduating class under the new format. I would like to thank all of you for electing me your Detachment Historian for the last two years and am looking for your support as a candidate for Detachment vice Commander for the 7th & 8th District.

Erie County made a motion to accept the report which was seconded and carried.

- 1.20 Chaplain Parks reported** As Chaplain; I have sent 11 get well cards, 25 condolence cards, and 2 sets of flowers. I have attended all the visitations in the 7th District and 1 in the 8th. I also attended the 7th & 8th get together as well as the Legion Family Homecoming. Please keep up the good work on notifying me of sick members and those that have gone the Squadron Everlasting.

Wayne County made a motion to accept the report which was seconded and carried.

- 1.21 N.E.C Bishop introduced Leading Candidate for National Commander for the Sons of the American Legion Danny Smith (NE)**, thank you for the warm welcome. I should stand here and applaud you for your hard work day in day out. It is a great privilege to be here this weekend and to be able to meet firsthand the individuals that do the work here in New York. You fellows make this one of the top Detachments in the eastern region and quit possible the whole country. It is a great privilege to stand here as a candidate for National Commander of The Sons of The American Legion. That privilege was given to me by Father during his service in the Korean War. No one else gave that privilege, not the Commanders Advisory, Not the membership, yes there is a selection process and through your help I stand here as a candidate. It was through my father's service that I am able to be a member of the Sons of The American Legion. Every one of you in this room

is privilege to be a member through service and sacrifice of a father or grandparent. Please never forget that and reflect on that from time to time. He then told a couple stories that relate to him about his life and why he does what the does.

➤ **Recessed for the meet the candidate's luncheon at 12:00PM.**

➤ **Reconvened at 1:15PM**

1.22 Judge Advocate Downey reported that he received two Constitution and Bylaws; they have been approved and will be sent to Department. There was a question about kids being elected as officers in the Squadron. There is nothing in our Constitution and By-Laws restricting this. There was a question on a recent resolution that was sent to the Sons National Convention and returned. This resolution should have never been sent without going through our department first. This resolution would change the Legion Constitution and Bylaws, therefore it needs to come from a County Legion and be acted on through the American Legion.

St. Lawrence County made a motion to accept the report which was seconded and carried.

1.23 V/C Clancy reported that the 1st and 9th districts are going strong. The 9th district is having regular meetings and there membership is in good shape. The 1st district, Bronx County has 3 of the 4 squadrons at over 100% in membership and is growing. There are multiple people in line for Commander. Manhattan County is little tougher as I have been saying for a while. There is great potential for fundraising. We are still working on membership and participation.

Bronx County made a motion to accept the report which was seconded and carried.

1.24 V/C DeAngelis reported since out last meeting I have been very busy attending functions in both districts. A four Chaplains Ceremony in Suffolk County at a Veteran's home. He has attended many fundraising events including the Kings County Baseball Diner and Fundraiser, the Brooklyn Memorial Day Parade in the rain and a Flag Retirement Ceremony and fundraiser that raised \$1,000 for Operation Comfort Warriors. Richmond County continues to do well supporting the community, by giving out school supplies, back packs, food pantry donations, Flags and as always supporting our Veterans. Kings County continues to do there bingo outing at the Brooklyn V.A. on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday on the month. Broadchannel Squadron #1404 has been reinstated and continues to grow. The 10th District is doing well in membership they have reinstated two Squadrons, one in Floral Park and the other in Manhasset. They continue to also do great work in fundraising as the Mastic Beach Squadron raised and Donated over \$4,000.

Kings County made a motion accept the report which was seconded and carried.

1.25 V/C Bosford reported in February I attended the Winterfest fundraiser in in Plattsburg. In March we resumed our County Visitations in the 3rd District. I also attended the State Oratorical contest. In May I attended my first NEC Meeting in Indianapolis and attended my first MNI class. I would recommend to everyone to attend if they can you will really learn a lot. We need to let people know what we are doing; this will help us in all aspects of our organization.

Warren County made a motion to accept the report which was seconded and carried.

1.26 V/C Burtch reported Since the Midwinter meeting in Albany, I have been very busy keeping up with my duties as Vice Commander. On June 10th we had the Family Homecoming in Vernon at the Vernon Downs Track & Casino. It was very well attended and the things to do were varied and interesting. My wife and I were players in the 5th annual Wounded Warriors in Action Fundraiser (that included Golf and Dinner) in support of a program that brings in wounded service members to the Seneca Lake area for hunting fishing and social events designed to help foster and heal our Veterans. They take the people out on pheasant hunts or duck hunting with dogs, or fishing on the lake. All proceeds pay for everything the Veterans do, including; hotels, travel, clothing, and food. The Veterans are really appreciative of the chance to go out and do some of the things they use to do and now have too many limitations to get out there. I have recently had 2 funerals to attend – Daniel Huther a squad member of Squadron 1448 in Oriskany and Jim Halpin – a past Legion Commander also of Post 1448. And just this last Monday

lost a very dear friend and father figure to me – Lee Gibson – a retired Airforce Veteran that served in Vietnam. My Son Attended Boys State this year – He now wants to add ROTC to his college experience. Membership in the 5th and 6th Districts is coming along very well compared to many past years. 5th district is currently at 99.64% with 7005 paid members and 688 new members so far this year. The 5th district has 4 Counties at or over 100% - Lewis County @ 107%, Onondaga County @ 103.5%, Oswego County @ 101% and Oneida County at 100%. The 5th district is on pace to make 100% by National Convention with a little more last minute work. Onto the 6th district where we find 3299 members paid for 2017 or 96.8% of the membership collected. The 6th district has 151 new members for 2017 and has one County – Schuyler County that made 100% or greater in membership already. We have some work to do but we are ahead of where we were last year. Combined together the 5th & 6th Districts have already found 839 new members for 2017. That is enough to fill Commander Ruthven's new request to break the 30,000 member goal. With a little more work and a renewed push for 100% renewal rate, we have a great chance to meet our Commander's goal and then some. Please get out there and make the necessary phone calls to get our members renewed, and contact all the squadrons still slow in reporting. I thank the detachment and the members for the great honor in serving as the Vice Commander for Districts 5&6. It was a privilege to serve with Commander Bruce Ruthven. He has done our Detachment proud and I wish him luck in the future.

1.27 Oneida County made a motion to accept the report which was seconded and carried
V/C Coates reported the week after Mid-Winter we started our visitations, though the month of January and into the last part of February we completed our visitations to the 16 counties in the 7th and 8th Districts. On April 1st I had the pleasure to attend the St Bonaventure University's ROTC and an award ceremony with 8th District Commander Tim Van Patten as he presented the William P O'Connell Award to Cadet Jim Mclellan. Unfortunately my schedule did not allow me to attend the ROTC awards ceremony at RIT this year but Commander Toepper did a very nice job in presenting the Seventh District's awards. Presenting the William P. O'Connell Award at St. Bonaventure University and the Rochester Institute of Technology is a tradition started by Doc Gibbs from the 8th District and Jerry Ketchum from the 7th District, and it is truly and honor to see this award presented to young cadets who exhibit the ideals of the Sons of The American Legion; fostering and perpetuation a true spirit of Americanism, displaying a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation, and safeguarding the principles of justice, freedom and democracy. At Boys State this year we had a number of ROTC cadets from schools around the state and I encourage all of our districts to begin this tradition that you can carry on in your own area if you have a college with and ROTC program. Just let Doc Gibbs, Jerry Ketchum or myself know and we will be happy to help you get you the information you need to get started. I attended the Washington Conference on February 25th-27th for the first time this year and was very impressed at how the American Legion organizes this event and our own level of participation in the Sons. Thank you to David Lee and Do Gibbs for organizing our activities. It was really great seeing National Commander Frain Laying the Wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and the laying of wreaths at the other war memorial. In fact we had our own New York contingent of Legionnaires and Sons with Commander Ruthven as he laid his wreath at the WWII Memorial. On Monday I was able to join Doc Gibbs in visiting Representative Chris Collins' office and review some of the American legions legislative agenda with one of Representative Collins' senior aides. I attended the 7th District Meeting on March 12th and the 8th District meeting on April 2nd. I attended the 7th District Junior Bowling party for young S.A.L. And Jr. Auxiliary members in Hornell on April 15th and our 7th and 8th districts get together on April 30th. The get Together was a big success with over 40 people in attendance and good representation from districts. The Herbert W. DeLong Post 808 did a great job hosting this event. The only drawback of this event was the passing of Detachment Finance Commission member and Past 7th

& 8th Detachment Vice Commander and Past Detachment historian. Detachment Chaplain David “Lefty” Caldwell just the weekend before, Lefty would have been really proud of the 8th District and especially Squadron #808. Thank you for making this a success. May 5th -7th was the National management Institute training in Indianapolis, along with a couple of committee meetings and the Spring NEC meeting. And this year was my Graduation from the NMI training program as I completed Session 3; Integrity, Credibility and Ethics, planning for Success and Driving for Results. On May 21st my Post hosted the 7th District Fla Education and Retirement Ceremony and I was privileged again to attend as a Vice Commander for the Detachment of New York. The local Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts, Junior Auxiliary members, Lima Christian School Band Ensemble and Honeoye Falls-Lima High School Select Choir, and the 7th District Sons put on a really great program again this year. On June 10th I attended the 7th District Convention and then my wife and I drove to Vernon Downs to attend the American Legion Family Homecoming for Commander Sampson, President Kryczkowski and Commander Ruthven. I did something new this year and from June 24th to July 1st served as city counselor for the City of Morrill in the County of Fish at American Legion Boys State in the Cherry Valley at the Morrisville campus where we learned to live together, and learned democracy in a melting pot for color-creed and nationality. It is an experience I would encourage anyone to undertake, I think I learned as much from the boys as they did while were there and I am definitely planning on doing it again if I am able. On Membership, both Districts are still working to get to 100%. As of 7/17/2017 membership report, the 7th District at 97.71% has taken the lead over the 8th District now at 97%, securing the “Top Dog Competition” again this year.

Livingston County made a motion to accept the report which was seconded and carried.

- 1.28 A.N.E.C Chang** reported 1/12/2017 I attended the Retirement Party for Special Agent Harold Moy of TSA. Harold is the Adjutant of SAL Kim Lau Squadron 1291. Many branches of Federal Law Enforcement were in attendance. The dinner was held in Chinatown, New York. 1/30/2017 While in the Villages, Florida I visited the Lady Lake American Legion Post. The largest American Legion Post in the County and Met up with the SAL members of the post. 2/10/2017 I attended the James Daly Post 200 VFW meeting and spoke to a dual member of the VFW and American Legion. Had a discussion of starting a SAL squadron at the American Legion Post in Hastings-on-Hudson, New York, Further discussion to continue. 3/2/2017 I attended Solomon’s Lodge meeting in Tarrytown, New York. Discussion was about how to honor Eagle Scouts by the American Legion and New York State Masons. 3/6/2017 I attended the monthly meeting of Tower Ladder 78 in Tarrytown, New York. 3/10/2017 I attended the James Daly Post 200 VFW monthly meeting. 3/12/2017 I attended the Tarrytown Fire Department Parade. 3/31 -4/1 2017 I attended the SAL Eastern Regional Gathering in Ocean City, New Jersey. It was a homecoming for National Vice Commander East Joe Korba and was well attended. 4/4/2017 I attended the monthly meeting of Tower Latter 78 in Tarrytown, New York 5/1/2017 I attended the monthly meeting of Tower Latter 78 in Tarrytown, New York 5/3/2017 I attended the meeting of Mariners Lodge in NYC to honor the Grand Master of Masons in Cuba. I got personally meet the Grand Master of Cuba and shared a great Cuban dinner with all the Brothers that came out to honor him. 5/5 – 5/7 2017 National SAL DEC meeting in Indy. Detachment of New York was well represented. 5/12/2017 I attended the James Daly Post 200 VFW monthly meeting. 5/20/2017 Armed Forces day, it was Flag Day at Mt. Hope Cemetery Hastings-on-Hudson, New York. We had the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts and Cub Scouts of Yonkers. Hastings-on-Hudson. Dobbs Ferry and Ardsley placed 500 flags of our Veterans Graves. I was there representing the SAL, American Legion and VFW. I attended the Kim Lau Squadron 1291 meeting 1-5pm at Kim Lau Post. We had our election of officers and Installation to be held on June 3rd 2017.

5/21/2017 I attended the Tri-Village Ceremony at Mt. Hope Cemetery in Hastings-on-Hudson. This year it was hosted by the Dobbs Ferry American Legion Post. Collation was held at the American Legion Post in Hastings-on-Hudson, New York.

5/28/2017 Memorial Day Service in Hastings-on-Hudson, New York. It was my parade. I invited a West Point graduate, Colonel Mike Rahut, Infantry Soldier on Active Duty, Military adviser to the United Nations, to be our guest speaker. It was a great day for all.

5/29/2017 Memorial Day Service in Tarrytown was canceled due to rain, I was asked to be the guest speaker. I went to Dobbs Ferry High School where I was honored there.

6/3/2017 Kim Lau Squadron 1291 Installation Dinner. Officers were installed.

6/5/2017 I attended the monthly meeting of Tower Letter 78 in Tarrytown, New York.

6/6/2017 I worked together with other Veterans groups to get the Village of Hastings-on-Hudson to be recognized as a Purple Heart Village. We appeared before the Board of Trustees of the Village. A vote was taken and the Mayor gave us the approval.

6/10/2017 I attended the Mason of the Year Dinner at Fino's of Wall Street to honor all the Past Masons of the Year. 6/21 – 6/25 2017 I was invited and attended the USMC Hotel 2/7 Viet Nam Reunion in New Orleans, Louisiana. I was guest and honored to be there.

New York County made a motion to accept the report which was seconded and carried.

- **There was \$3105.00 in donations made to the Committee to Elect Greg “DOC” Gibbs National Commander of the Sons of the American Legion. Greg thanked everyone for their support.**
- **PDC Chalmers informed the body that PDC Englert is in pretty bad shape. He was recently diagnosed with leukemia, and has had an aneurysm and has been in and out of the hospital numerous times. The Bath Squadron will be holding a raffle to help support him. Please help a good man out.**
- **Commander Ruthven recessed the convention until 9:00 AM tomorrow.**

SECOND SESSION – JULY 21, 2017

- Commander Ruthven called the Convention to order at 9:08 AM.
 - The Colors being in place, the membership saluted.
 - Adjutant Robert Avery read Roll Call of Officers, and Roll Call of Counties, which indicated a quorum, was present.
 - **Commander Ruthven excused the members on the podium for the duration of the Annual Memorial Service.**
 - **Chaplain Parks** conducted the Annual Memorial Service, a ceremonial parade of service caps, placement of the Memorial Wreath, and the playing of taps. The Adjutant read the names of our deceased members.
 - **Broome County made a motion to close the Registration table which was seconded and carried.**
- 1.29 2nd District Commander Rodriguez** reported that the Windsor Terrace Squadron #1175 sponsored a grant through Operation Comfort Warriors for the benefit of the New York Harbor VA Health Care System, which is made up of the VA hospitals in Manhattan, Brooklyn and Queens. Through the grant of \$9,000 they purchased electronics, recreational equipment and apparel. As of January 2017 at the request of the Kings County American Legion, the Sons have assumed responsibility for administering the Bingo games at the Brooklyn VA that is held twice a month. The process of starting a new squadron in Kings County has started. May 27th members of the SD1 Dorie Miller Post #213 has received the application and hopes to have the necessary paperwork submitted to Department by September. May 2017 found the Kings County Sons participating in Color Guards and Firing Squads at the Kings County annual Cypress Hill Pilgrimage. The new Kings County Sons Officers were sworn in June. My thanks to Joe

Santa Croce and his wife Marie for all they do in assisting the Kings American Legion Boys State program and the Oratorical Program an helping to make them successful. The winner of the State Oratorical contest Jared Rios is a Sons member at Flatlands Squadron #391.

Kings County made motion to accept the report which was seconded and carried.

1.30 Legislative Chairmen Gibbs offered an addendum to the legislative report. A Congressional proclamation was issued to David Perry from Congressman Tom Reed. It was read by Chairman Gibbs. There will be an official plaque that will be mailed.

Erie County made a motion to accept the report which was seconded and carried.

1.31 N.E.C. Bishop reported I would like to start my report by thanking the Detachment of New York for electing me to represent you as your N.E.C. for this past year. It has truly been a pleasure and honor. Since my last report which was given at our Mid - Winter Conference in January many things have happened at the National level of our organization. Starting in February our National Commander held his homecoming which was held in his home state in Arizona. The Detachment of NY was well represented in sending 6 of its members to celebrate and support our National Commander Jeff Frain's year as National Commander of the Sons of the American Legion. Soon after the National Commanders Homecoming there was the Washington Conference. This annual event is when the American Legion family travels to Washington to meet with our representatives to discuss the American Legions concerns for our veterans of our nation. During the Washington Conference our Detachment Commander Bruce had the honor of placing the Detachment of New York Wreath at the base of the WWII memorial in honor of his father's service and all New Yorkers who have served our nation. Next it was off to New Jersey to attend the Eastern Regional Gathering and Homecoming for Vice Commander Eastern Region Joseph Korba. I was joined by ANEC Chang, Detachment Commander Bruce and 2nd leading candidate for National Commander Doc Gibbs. There was a meet and great that was held on Friday night followed by a leadership workshop on Saturday morning which was presented by PNC Bill Sparwasser and PNC Cliff Smith. That evening we all attended the Vice Commanders homecoming in which all had a great time. Congrats to Vice Commander Joe Korba on the terrific job he has done representing the Eastern Region this year. After the Eastern Regional Gathering came the Spring N.E.C. meetings which were held in Indianapolis. There were 14 members representing the Detachment of New York. We had 4 Members attending NMI classes this year. Detachment Vice Commander Jim Coates graduated from NMI 3. Commander Bruce and Vice Commander Bill Clancy completed NMI 2 and Vice Commander Ike Bosford completed NMI 1. Congrats to all and thank you for participating in those classes. Also at the Spring N.E.C. meetings the National Liaison to the Sons of the American Legion John Kerestan announced that he will be retiring on November 1st after 31 years. John has been a great asset and friend to the Sons of the American Legion and has been a guest to our mid-winter conferences on many occasions. We wish John well on his retirement. Stepping up into John's position as Liaison to the Sons of the American Legion will be S.A.L. Liaison Paul Brown. Paul is a dual member and gets his eligibility into the SAL from his father and grandfather. This year National has redesigned the membership cards for 2018. There are now additional boxes which will require a phone number, email address and date of birth. This info was added this year to hopefully be used to better communicate and provide information to our members. The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation once again had a banner year. Nationally The Sons of the American Legion donated \$590,413.91 this year which brings the total donations by the Sons of the American Legion to the CWF since its beginning in 1988. To \$7.4 million dollars. Truly amazing! I will be looking forward to National Convention in Reno, Nevada this year in anticipation of the announcement of Greg Doc Gibbs from the Detachment of New York as the Leading Candidate for National Commander of the Sons of the American Legion. It will be an exciting time for the Detachment of New York. In closing we would like to congratulate National Commander Jeff Frain on a great year in serving The Sons of the American Legion as it National Commander. We wish you good health and safe travels as you close out your year.

- Albany County made a motion to accept the report which was seconded and carried.**
- 1.32 **Ken Kraetzer** gave an update on Chaplains Hill in Washington DC. After completing the Jewish Chaplains Monument we noticed that Protestant Chaplains were only honored though WWII. The past 3 years we have been researching the names that would be qualified for a replacement Protestant Chaplains Monument. The Army who runs Arlington National Cemetery told us that we could replace the existing monument without going through congress. We are currently researching the biographies of the Chaplains. We have sourced a donation of a \$25,000 piece of granite, to replace the concrete one currently there. It will be installed in September, once installed we can setup a dedication ceremony. There have been meetings about building a walkway to Chaplains Hill. We are currently on getting donations, and drawing up plans. We have approached the American Legion and with the help from PNC Helm and PN Chaplain Cash there is a resolution going through the American Legion to support the endeavor. We will need Congressional approval hopefully it will not take 5 months like before. We will seek out companies to partner with as the more help we have the easier our project will go.
- Westchester County made a motion to accept the report which was seconded and carried.**
- 1.33 **Department President Kryczkowski** thanked us for the invitation to address the Sons. On behalf of the 41,000 members of the Auxiliary I would like to say good morning. She thanked us for electing Commander Bruce; he has been a pleasure to travel with. What a great partnership we have as the Sons and the Auxiliary know how important it is to take care of our Veterans. She presented a check on behalf of the 5th District Auxiliary for \$200.00 to the Committee to Elect Gregg "DOC" Gibbs.
- 1.34 **PDC Robert Neville introduced N.E.C. Bill Burnett who is representing Commander Sampson. He presented a check on Behalf of the Department of New York to the committee to elect Greg "DOC" Gibbs National Commander of the Sons for \$25,000.**
- He then introduced National Vice Commander V. James Troiola.** He congratulated us for our partnership with the Auxiliary on the Walk-a-thon in April that raised money for all the New York State VA Hospitals and NYS Veterans Homes along with the Fisher House. I would like to thank all the officers and committee members for an outstanding year.
- He then introduced 2nd Leading Candidate Brett Reistad (VA).** He thanked us for the invitation to be here. He stated that he has ties to New York, his grandfather influence him to be a member of the American Legion. He was a member of O'Conner – Doyle post #633 in Highland Falls, Orange County NY. He was a veteran Of WWI. He met my mother who was born in Highland Falls while working the two of them was working in West Point. I would now like to let you know what vision is as a candidate for National Commander. In 13 short months the American Legion will celebrate a mile stone, our 100th anniversary. Our founders like New York's own Bill Donovan, Ogden Mills, Theodore Roosevelt Jr. probably never thought that the American legion would last past there lifetime. Some twenty years later there was WWII, which boosted the Legion membership. He spoke about important legislation over the years that was accomplished by the American Legion and it some of it early members. 2018-2019 will be the first fifteen months of our centennial celebration. We should be opening our post homes and inviting the area veterans, the community, and media and sharing with them what we have accomplished and let them know our plans for the future. Legislation has been introduced to create a centennial coin. Please contact your congressman and senators to co-sponsor this legislation. If I am elected I would like to have secondary emphases on our law and order program. I think that the founders put in our preamble in as the seconded part for a reason. Years ago veterans were asked to help enforce the law when the police needed help. They have always been there with the local fire departments and have help in other civic capacities. I will continue to promote the other programs of the four pillars of the American Legion.

- 1.35 **Master Sgt.-at-Arms Falco** gave his report. There have not been too many fines this year; only \$30.00 has been collected. He thanked his Assist Sgt. at Arms and the Onondaga County sons for their help at support.
- Nassau County made a motion to accept the report which was seconded and carried.**
- 1.36 **Adjutant Avery** reported on behalf of the Executive Committee, I welcome all members and guests to our 43rd Annual Detachment Convention here in Syracuse. I hope you all enjoy our meetings and times of fellowship as we close out another successful year! We are pleased to have as our guest Danny Smith (NE), the Leading Candidate for Commander of the Sons of The American Legion. We also welcome our Special Guest, the National Commander of The Sons of The American Legion Jeff Frain (AZ). Commander Frain has been leading our organization this year to new heights in membership and in support of our Nation's veterans, children and local communities. Congratulations Mr. Commander on a job well done! **Communication is the most important aspect in how we operate.** To that end, the Detachment, through its web-site, email blasts and Facebook postings, strives to inform the membership of current happenings and upcoming events. We are improving and ever building our email database. However, we still need your help in providing email addresses on the OCF and additionally following us on FB. You may sign up to receive emails by simply going to our website. Also remember to send photos and articles to PR Chairman Gabe Cinquegrana for inclusion in our Detachment Newsletter! As for membership, the June 29th report puts us at 95.63% of goal, needing 1,296 members to reach 100%. We are in 34th place in the Nation and within the Eastern Region we are in 6th place. We are about 450 members behind as compared to last year at this same time. We are still the 4th largest Detachment in the Nation and are very slowly creeping up on Ohio who currently has 1,784 members more than us. We have closed the gap by over 200 members as compared to last year. As we wrap up this membership year, everyone's assistance is needed in bringing in those last renewals. Let's be at 100% when we arrive in Reno for National Convention! Squadrons who have submitted an Officer Certification Form (OCF) for the 2018 year will soon be in possession of their 2018 cards. Send in your OCF if you have not done so already. The first Target Date will arrive quicker than you think! In closing I would like to congratulate Commander Bruce and the rest of the Detachment officers on a terrific year. I also thank our Commissions and Committees for all of their hard work. I especially want to thank all of you blue cap members out there who work so hard at the Squadron level. Without your efforts, our organization would not be as successful as it is and would fade away. I wish all members a great summer, and again thank you for being a part of this organization! For The Good of The American Legion **Monroe County made a motion to accept the report which was seconded and carried.**
- 1.37 **Commander Ruthven** gave his final report. I would like to give a special thank you, to Joe SantaCroce for chairing the Commander's Advisory Committee and providing me with much needed advice and direction throughout the year. Some of the highlights from the year included attendance at the Washington Conference and laying the Detachment wreath at the WWII Memorial in memory of my father and all of New York's WWII veterans. Attending the National Executive Committee meetings in Indy, marching down 5th Ave in New York City's Veterans Day Parade, being in New York City on 9-11, the memorial tours at Cooperstown's Baseball Hall of Fame, the boat ride on the St Lawrence River in the 1000's Islands, celebrating New York's history and our veterans. **Department county visitations:** With so much of our legion year revolving around the county visitations, I want to thank the entire American Legion Family for making them a rewarding, educational, friendship forming experience. You showed us that the Sons of the American Legion is alive and well in the Detachment of New York. The Americanism, Veteran Affairs and Children & Youth projects that you are involved show your commitment and support for the American Legion. Thank you to the leadership of the Detachment of New York, our officers especially the Vice Commander and District Commander who joined us and saw to it that we had a successful tour in their area. To the blue cap Squadron members thank you, for attending the visitation dinner and making

a donation to my project, The National Emergency Fund. The real impact you make by attending and being part of the visitation is being visual in front of the American Legion Family. Yes, we are noticed when we participate. **Fundraising:** The visitations provide an excellent opportunity for our Squadrons to make a donation to the commander project and any other national American Legion program that they wish. Again, we are visually showing the American Legion Family we are involved and support the legion programs. Total for National Emergency Fund came in at \$15,494, the Walk-A-Thon brought in \$16,869, CWF was a dismal \$2,046 and OCW there were 2 donations for \$200. I know that there are many donations that didn't go through the Detachment and are not counted here. **My theme this year was "Education thru Communication"** – I hope that I was able to get my message across to some of our members, but with the majority of our Squadron not in attendance at the visitations and the lack of email addresses the Detachment has there are many who have not heard or read my message. The importance of educating our members is clear if we want to prosper and evolve to the next level we must maintain communication to our members and educate them on who we are and what we do. **Membership:** We are so close to making our 100% goal. Currently we are at 97% short 892 members. We should not put ourselves in this position! Far too many Squadrons do not do timely dues transmittals into Albany. We must communicate with these Squadrons and educate them on the importance of this essential duty. **Consolidated Reports:** How many Squadrons got around to it! We saw some progress with 44 Squadrons report this year that didn't last year, but I was disappointed to see 57 Squadron not report this year that did so in 2016. Ray Jarvis has issued a report showing which Squadrons reported the last 8 years. Congratulations to the 25 Squadron with a perfect record reporting in each of the last 8 years. Get a copy of this report and use it to your advantage, praise those who report and educate those who do not. Record – Report – Results! **Mentoring:** Let's look at how important mentoring is to our future. Far too often we rely on the same members year after year to run our programs. Let's get the new and non-active members involved. Educate them about the Sons and how important they are to our organization. How many members are at their first Detachment Convention? Don't be scared off but we need your help and want your participation at future conventions. **Detachment email notifications.** Please help us improve our communications by getting Squadrons and members to provide us with an email address. Thank you for the opportunity to serve this great Detachment as you commander. It was an honor providing memories that I will never forget.

Ontario County made a motion to accept the report which was seconded and carried.

➤ **Broom County made a motion to close registration table which was seconded and carried.**

1.38 N.E.C. Bishop introduced the National Commander Frain (AZ). He thanked us for the invitation to be here. It is an honor to be here and thank you for doing the job. I don't have too much to say as you are working the programs and thank you. Please continue to do what you do. Please find the 826 members that you are missing and find out if they need help.

1.39 Credentials Chairman Alex Anderson gave the final credentials report which indicated 108 registered delegates.

Broom County made a motion accept the final credentials report which was seconded and carried.

2.00 SICK CALL & RELIEF

None

3.00 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

4.00 NEW BUSINESS

4.01 Oneida County made a motion to accept the finance budget with the following changes to the following budget lines, as present during the finance report.

District Commanders, Authorized expenses (R&T) for Department County Visitation and National Visitations within their district. Add the cost of meals at Department County and National Visitations as an authorized expense.
National Convention Authorized expenses (T&R) for the NEC man, Current and immediate past Detachment Commander, Adjutant and Past National Commander to attend. Overnight stay up to a maximum of four nights, and add one day travel for conventions west of the Mississippi.
National Convention Delegates registration, remove Detachment/department policy requires all those delegates who are actually in attendance to reimburse the detachment for their registrations fee.
Detachment Commander's Homecoming, Delete travel & 1nights room: Detachment Judge Advocate, master at arms, district commanders, vice commanders, chaplain, historian, web master, anec, and color guard.
Spring and fall meetings, change the 6 to if 5 authorized persons are not attending, the commander may authorize other detachment officers as needed.
The motion was seconded and carried.

- 4.02 Oneida County made a motion to accept the following changes to Schedule "A" # 5) Mid-Winter Conference adds (3 days per diem for those who attend the meetings and are authorized.
8) Change Detachment Commanders Homecoming to Legion Family Homecoming. Add to Detachment color guard rooms 3. Delete # 9), Department Commanders Homecoming. Delete # 11), Department Presidents Homecoming.
The motion was seconded and carried.
- 4.03 Motion by Oneida County to donate \$15,000 from the investment account to the Committee to Elect Greg "DOC" Gibbs. The motion was seconded and carried.
- 4.04 Motion by Oneida County to donate \$1,000 to the Chaplains hill Project. The motion was seconded and carried.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

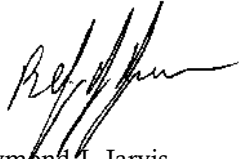
- Motion by Jefferson County to close the Convention for the purpose of Election of Officers. The motion was seconded and carried.
- Commander Ruthven appointed Mike Rodrigues, Danny Smith, and Jeff Frain as tellers for elections. There will be a 5 minute recess the head table is excused.
- 4.05 Adjutant Robert Avery opened the nominations for Chaplain by Roll Call of Counties. Wayne County Nominates Jim Parks. **There being no further nominations, a motion was made by St. Lawrence County and seconded to close the nominations and direct the Adjutant to cast one unanimous ballot for Jim Parks Chaplain was carried.**
- 4.06 Adjutant Robert Avery opened the nominations for Historian by Roll Call of Counties. **There were no nominations.**
- 4.07 Adjutant Robert Avery opened the nominations for Vice Commander by Roll Call of Counties. St. Lawrence nominated Robert Myrtle. Oswego County nominated Wayne Ainsley. New York County nominated Joe Guidice. Kings County nominated Peter DeAngelis. Erie County nominated Tim Van Patten. **There being no further nominations, a motion made by Albany County and seconded to close the nominations and direct the Adjutant to cast one unanimous ballot for Peter DeAngelis, Tim Van Patten, Joe Guidice, Wayne Ainsley, and Robert Myrtle as Vice Commanders, was carried.**
- 4.08 Adjutant Robert Avery opened the nominations for Commander by Roll Call of Counties. Bronx County nominated Bill Clancy Jr... **There being no further nominations, a motion was made by Warren County and seconded to close the nominations and direct the Adjutant to cast one unanimous ballot for Bill Clancy Jr. as Commander was carried.**

5.00 FOR THE GOOD OF THE SONS

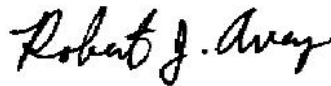
- 5.01 Dean Williamson Thanked our guest for being and also thanked the other members of the convention committee for their help. He presented a check from the golf outing to CWF for \$1202.00.
- 5.02 **Albany County made a motion to support Ken Warner (Pa) for National Vice-Commander; the motion was seconded and carried.**
- 5.03 **Erie County made a motion to support Danny Smith (NE) for National Commander; the motion was seconded and carried.**
- 5.03 **Broome County made a motion to purchase a seconded set Detachment Colors to travel with the Commander. At the end of the year the sitting commander will have the choice to keep the traveling colors if they wish. If this happens the Sitting Commander will purchase a second set of colors to replace the ones he is keeping. The motion was seconded and carried.**
- 5.04 Diman Smith Chautauqua County thanked everyone for supporting the everlasting resolution. He will continue to pursue it though the Legion.
- 5.05 Syracuse convention pins are available. They will be available at the luncheon.
- 5.06 Leading candidate for National Commander of the Sons of the American Legion thanked us for hospitality and asked us to continue our hard work on all the American Legion programs.
- 5.07 Allegany County will be holding a golf tournament on September 9th to benefit our scholarship program.
- 5.08 On October 1st the Oswego County Sons will host a chicken BBQ with all the proceeds going to the Committee to Elect Greg "DOC" Gibbs.
 - There being no further business to come before the Convention, Chaplain Parks offered the Closing Prayer, the Sgt.-at-Arms retrieved the POW/MIA banner, and the membership saluted the Colors of our glorious Nation as they were retrieved by the Detachment Color Guard.
 - The Convention was adjourned at 12:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Reviewed:



Raymond J. Jarvis
Assistant Detachment Adjutant



Robert J. Avery
Detachment Adjutant

MINUTES OF THE POST-CONVENTION D.E.C. MEETING
July 22, 2017
Doubletree Hotel
East Syracuse, New York

- Commander Clancy called the Meeting to order at 10:00 AM.
 - The Colors of our Nation being in place the membership saluted.
 - Chaplain Parks offered the Opening Prayer.
 - Master Sgt.-at-Arms Falco placed the POW/MIA banner.
 - V/C Van Patten led the membership in The Pledge of Allegiance.
 - V/C Guidice led the membership in the Preamble.
- **Adjutant Robert Avery** took Roll Call, which indicated a quorum was present.

1.00 SICK CALL & RELIEF

1.01 None

2.00 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

2.01 None

3.00 NEW BUSINESS & CORRESPONDENCE

3.01 Commander Clancy announced that his project this year will be the National Emergency Fund, and we will also work on the Child welfare Fund all Squadrons are urged to provide support.

4.00 COMMANDER'S APPOINTMENTS

4.01 Commander Clancy read his list of appointments:

Adjutant Robert J. Avery
Asst. Adjutant Raymond Jarvis
Asst. Adjutant Christopher Burtch
Asst. Adjutant Mark Kearsing
Judge Advocate David Downey
Master Sgt.-at-Arms Greg Falco
Asst. Sgt.-at-Arms David Perry
Asst. Sgt.-at-Arms Peter Geleta
Asst. Sgt.-at-Arms Joseph Cleveland
Asst. Sgt.-at-Arms Colin McDaniels
Asst. Sgt.-at-Arms Tim Broward
Commander's Aide James Livingston (1)
Commander's Aide Anthony Cisco (2)
Commander's Aide Chris Gilluley (3)
Commander's Aide Clarence Ike Bosford (4)
Commander's Aide Christopher Burtch (5)
Commander's Aide Ashton West (6)
Commander's Aide Joseph Cleveland (7)
Commander's Aide Ronald Kuczenski (8)
Commander's Aide Christopher Thiesing (9)
Commander's Aide James Connolly (10)
Color Guard Seeley B. Parrish Squadron #457
Americanism Chairman James Daly
Committeeman James Parks
Children & Youth Chairman Clarence Ike Bosford
Committeeman Richard Hodge
Committeeman Robert Ellis
Commander's Advisory Chairman J. Bruce Ruthven
Committeeman Joseph SantaCroce
Committeeman Charles Depo
Credentials Chairman Alex Anderson
Committeeman David Englert
Committeeman Alan Anderson
Finance Chairman David Lee
Committeeman Ross Polson
Committeeman Joseph SantaCroce
Internal Affairs Chairman Dean Williamson

Committeeman Christopher R. Cerullo
 Committeeman J. Bruce Ruthven
 Legislative Chairman Charles Duffy
 Committeeman Gary Denmon
 Committeeman Kurk Jarvis
 Membership Chairman Daryl Verstrete (7)
 Committeeman Robert Stokes (1)
 Committeeman Joseph Hall (2)
 Committeeman David Bishop Sr. (3)
 Committeeman Matt Aldi (4)
 Committeeman Joseph Lenhardt (5)
 Committeeman Ted Armbrust (6)
 Committeeman Ron Kuczenski (8)
 Committeeman Joseph Guidice, Jr. (9)
 Committeeman Joseph Bellinger (10)
 Member Training and Development Chairman Gaither Espey
 Committeeman Christopher Burch
 Committeeman David Downey
 Committeeman Gerald Ketchum
 Committeeman Gary Denmon
 Committeeman Raymond Jarvis
 Public Relations Chairman Gabe Cinquegrana
 Committeeman Joseph Guidice, Jr.
 Committeeman Kevin Harrington
 VA&R Chairman Thomas Kurk
 Committeeman William Baker
 Committeeman David Bishop
 Committeeman Colin McDaniels

V/C Myrtle made a motion to approve all of the Commander's appointments, which was seconded and carried.

- 4.02** The Fall D.E.C Meeting will be Friday November 10th in the Bronx; the only Reports that will be given will be the Commission reports. Saturday November 11th the Detachment will be marching in the New York City Veterans Day Parade. More information will follow in a mailing.

5.00 FOR THE GOOD OF THE SONS

- 5.01** PDC/ Harrington announced the following NYNAPLA awards; 1st place newsletter post over 300, #457 Sheley B. Parish. The Cerullo Award went to SAL Radio Squadron #135. There was a \$500 scholarship awarded.
- 5.02** Convention Chairman Williamson thanked everyone for letting him be the chairmen of this convention. He hoped that everyone had a good time.
- 5.03** PRE Chairman Cinquegrana stated that he is still trying to get members together to for a SAL band. They currently need a drummer, lead guitarist. If you know of anyone please have them contact me.
- 5.04** Kings County Sons presented a \$500 check to Gregg Doc Gibbs for his campaign.
- 5.05** **NEC Bishop made motion to send and reimburse the Charmin of the Americanism and Children & Youth to the national conference's travel and room. The motion was seconded and carried.**

There being no further business to come before the Meeting, Chaplain Parks offered the Closing Prayer, Master Sgt.-at-Arms Falco retrieved the POW/MIA banner, and the membership saluted the Colors of our glorious Nation.

- The Meeting was adjourned at 11:05 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,



Raymond Jarvis
Assistant Adjutant