

**Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Indiana
Detachment Convention
Crawfordsville, In
June 22-24**

Commander Mike Sheets opened the Convention at 7:30 AM with a right hand salute to the colors of our nation. Chaplain Ron Sexton said an opening prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Southern Vice Commander Kirk Rewerts. The Preamble was led by Northern Vice Commander Gary Gregory.

Commander Sheets asked for a roll call of officers. Adjutant Damon Bradtmueller made a roll call of officers which showed the following:

Commander:	Mike Sheets
Northern Vice Commander:	Gary Gregory
Southern Vice Commander:	Kirk Rewerts

Past Detachment Commanders:

**Cliff Stephens
David Stephens
James Arter, Sr.
Terry Slagle
Rodney Strong
Damon Bradtmueller
David Ridenour
Robert Rodeffer
David Siggers
Harrell Sorrels
Mark Tansel
Roland Baker
Mike Pipher**

Commander Sheets called for a roll call of Squadrons. Adjutant Bradtmueller made a roll call of Squadrons which showed the following Squadrons present:

**1
10
18
28
35
49
64
66
72
82
88
104
111
128
154
160
169**

216
230
241
253
261
268
284
297
335
337
369
379
384
406
409
492
500

Commander Sheets called for the reading of the previous minutes. Adjutant Bradtmueller read the previous minutes.

Squadron 284 made a motion to accept the minutes as read, seconded by SVC Rewerts. Motion passed.

Commander Sheets called on Distinguished Guest Chairman Mark Tansel for introductions. Chairman Tansel introduced Past National Commander Dave Stephens.

Commander Sheets called on Credentials Chairman Terry Slagle for a preliminary report. Chairman Slagle stated that there were 35 Squadrons registered, of which 8 were late in certifying, for a total of 540 delegate votes available.

Squadron 128 made a motion to seat the late-certified Squadrons, seconded by PDC Siggers. Motion passed.

Cliff Stephens gave a security report.

PDC Bradtmueller made a motion to suspend the normal order of business for the purpose of first nominations, seconded by Squadron 1. Motion passed.

Commander Sheets instructed the Adjutant to read the roll of Squadrons for each office.

Sgt.-at-Arms:

Squadron 1 yields to Squadron 169. Squadron 169 nominates William Robeson. Squadron 10 seconds William Robeson.

Northern Vice Commander:

Squadron 10 yields to Squadron 241. Squadron 241 nominates Ron Sexton.
Squadron 49 yields to Squadron 253. Squadron 253 nominates Bob Zimmer.
Squadron 261 seconds both.

Southern Vice Commander:

Squadron 1 yields to Squadron 169. Squadron 169 nominates Dave Hanson.
Squadron 104 nominates Phil Purdy.
Squadron 128 seconds both.

Commander:

Squadron 18 yields to Squadron 500. Squadron 500 nominates Duane Alexander. Squadron 1 seconds Duane Alexander.

PDC Bradtmueller made a motion to return to the normal order of business, seconded by Squadron 1. Motion passed.

Sick Call:

Jack "Goat Man" McClellan from Squadron 1 is in the hospital. Please remember him in your prayers.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

PDC Strong read a resolution to amend the By-Laws, Section 5 Article 2, to state that there will not be any age limitations of any kind on any level of elections. PDC Sorrels made a motion to accept the change, seconded by PDC Tansel. Discussion followed. Squadron 492 stated that you cannot discriminate due to age. Motion passed.

Children & Youth Chairman Barry Confer reminded all present to turn in their report forms.

Americanism Chairman Duane Alexander stated that he still needs reports.

Assistant Adjutant Jim Arter said that the sign-up sheets for games were still out for those wanting to participate.

Campout Chairman Strong asked all present to move their vehicles to the Amory and stated that we were featured on the front page of the Crawfordsville newspaper.

Commander Sheets recessed the Convention at 8:20 AM.

Commander Sheets reconvened the Convention at 1:03 PM.

Commander Sheets called for a roll call of officers. The roll call of officers was the same as the morning session.

Commander Sheets called for a roll call of Squadrons. The roll call of Squadrons showed the same as the morning session, except Squadrons 27, 279 and 495 were now in attendance and Squadrons 66 and 230 were not.

Cliff Stephens gave a security report. He reminded everyone not to take drinks into or out of the Post and that we need to do a better job of policing the area.

Commander Sheers called on Credentials Chairman Terry Slagle for a credentials report.

Chairman Slagle said that there were 38 Squadrons registered with total delegate strength of 589 votes.

PDC Slagle made a motion to suspend the normal order of business for the purpose of second nominations, seconded by PDC Cliff Stephens. Motion passed.

Commander Sheets instructed Adjutant Bradtmueller to read the roll of Squadrons for each office. The roll was read, and Squadron 27 nominated Dave Keck for Sgt.-at-Arms, seconded by Squadron 154. There were no other nominations.

SVC Rewerts made a motion to return to the normal order of business, seconded by PDC Cliff Stephens. Motion passed.

Commander Sheets called for Committee reports.

Americanism Chairman Duane Alexander stated that he was still missing reports.

Assistant Adjutant Jim Arter said that all the senior activities will take place after this session due to the rain.

Commander Sheets recessed the Convention at 1:23 PM.

Commander Sheets reconvened the Convention at 7:05 PM.

Commander Sheets called for a roll call of officers. The roll call of officers showed the same as in the afternoon session, except PDC Giehll was now in attendance.

Commander Sheets called for a roll call of Squadrons. The roll call showed the same as the afternoon session, except Squadrons 66 and 230 were now in attendance.

Commander Sheets called on Distinguished Guest Chairman Mark Tansel for introductions of guest.

Chairman Tansel introduced Squadron 72 Commander Alan Homsher, who introduced Post 72 Commander Larry Cooper. Commander Cooper brought greetings from the Post and thanked everyone for coming. Chairman Tansel then introduced PNC Dave Stephens and the Leading Candidate for National Commander, Raymond P. Giehll, Jr.

Commander Sheets called on Credentials Chairman Terry Slagle for a report.

Chairman Slagle reported 38 Squadrons registered and a total of 590 delegate votes. Chairman Slagle read each Squadron's voting strength. Chairman Slagle brought up a point of information. After a review of the Constitution and By-Laws, we need to elect a Finance Officer at this Convention. PDC Slagle made a motion to accept his report, seconded by PDC Cliff Stephens. Motion passed.

PDC Bradtmueller moved to suspend the normal order of business to reopen nominations, seconded by PDC Giehll. Motion passed.

Commander Sheets instructed Adjutant Bradtmueller to read the roll of Squadrons for nomination of a Finance Officer.

Finance Officer:

Squadron 1 yields to Squadron 28. Squadron 28 nominates Steve Tansel. Squadron 10 seconds Steve Tansel.

PDC Slagle made a motion to close nominations, seconded by everyone. Motion passed.

PDC Giehll made a motion to return to the normal order of business, seconded by Squadron 384. Motion passed.

PDC Giehll made a motion to suspend the normal order of business for the purpose of elections, seconded by Squadron 28. Motion passed.

PDC Giehll made a motion for the Adjutant to cast 1 majority ballot for all unopposed offices, seconded by PDC Tansel. Motion passed.

Adjutant Bradtmueller cast 1 majority ballot for Steve Tansel for Finance Officer, Ron Sexton and Bob Zimmer for Northern Vice Commander, Dave Hanson and Phil Purdy for Southern Vice Commander and Duane Alexander for Commander.

Commander Sheets instructed Adjutant Bradtmueller to call roll for the election of a Sgt.-at-Arms between Bill Robeson and Dave Keck.

During the roll call of Squadrons, Candidate Keck conceded victory to Candidate Robeson.

Commander Sheets asked the Sgt.-at-Arms to bring the new officers forward. Duane Alexander addressed the convention.

PDC Giehll made a motion to return to the normal order of business, seconded by PDC Tansel. Motion passed.

Final reports were passed out to the Commission Chairmen.

Good of the S.A.L.:

PDC Giehll called a PDC meeting following this session.

Squadron 196, 156, 231 and 160 were given ball caps from the golf outing.

Campout Chairman Strong thanked all present for their cooperation with the games despite the rain and reminded everyone about carrying drinks to and from the Post.

Chaplain Sexton said that the Memorial Service will take place after the PDC meeting.

PDC Siggers said that there will not be a dinner for the USS Indianapolis Survivors. We donated \$500 to them. There is a parade in downtown Indianapolis at 11 AM Saturday, July 7, in their honor. Dedication of the USS Indianapolis Museum is at 2 PM in the Indiana World War Memorial.

Commander Sheets recessed the Convention at 7:47 PM.

Commander Sheets reconvened the Convention on Sunday at 8:02 AM.

Commander Sheets called on Chaplain Ron Sexton for an opening prayer.

Commander Sheets then called on SVC Kevin Brislen for the Pledge of Allegiance and NVC Gary Gregory for the Preamble.

Commander then called for a roll call of officers. The roll call showed the same as the evening session, except Southern Vice Commander Kevin Brislen was in attendance.

Commander Sheets called for a roll call of Squadrons. The roll call showed the same as the evening session, except Squadron 252 was in attendance and Squadrons 66, 88, 249, 268 and 492 were not in attendance.

Commander Sheets then asked for a Credentials report.

Credentials Chairman Terry Slagle stated that there were 39 Squadrons registered with a delegate strength of 602.

Commander Sheets called for Committee reports.

Campout:

Chairman Rodney Strong turned the meeting over to Assistant Adjutant Jim Arter, who passed out Campout plaques and pins to each Squadron with the help of Kellis Allen and Commander Sheets. Jim thanked everyone who helped with the games on Saturday. Jim then read the winners of the games and passed out awards with the help of Assistant Adjutant Harrell Sorrels, Alternate NEC Roland Baker and Commander Sheets. The winners were as follows.

Scavenger Hunt

1st:	Chandler Fultz	Squadron 169
2nd:	Gerad Brenton	Squadron 104
3rd:	Brian Morris	Squadron 104

Senior Horseshoes (Corn Hole)

1st:	Brandon Allen & Chucky Allen	Squadron 1
2nd:	Dave Siggers & Raymond Siggers	Squadron 169
3rd:	Bill Robeson & Duane Fultz	Squadron 169

Junior Egg Toss

1st:	Dakota Milner & Tyler Brenton	Squadron 104
2nd:	Shawn Taylor & Brian Morris	Squadron 104
3rd:	Gerad Brenton & Zack Allen	Squadrons 104 & 1

Senior Egg Toss

1st:	Duane Fultz & Corey Fultz	Squadron 169
2nd:	Chuck Allen & Brandon Allen	Squadron 1
3rd:	Galen Close & Kellis Allen	Squadrons 253 & 1

Junior Tug of War

1st:	Dakota Milner, Tyler Brenton, Shawn Taylor, Brian Morris and Andrew Taylor, Squadron 104
2nd:	Gerad Brenton, Squadron 104; Zachary Hauser, Chris Hauser, Squadron 337; Johnathon Siggers and Chandler Fultz, Squadron 169
3rd:	Seth Westerhouse, Chad Westerhouse, Zachary Allen, Squadron 1; Evan Deal, Squadron 104 and Kendall Jones, Squadron 128

Senior Tug of War

1st:	Mike Sorrels, Squadron 379; Mike Robeson, Raymond Siggers, Bobby Rayburn and Joe Gerrian, Squadron 169
2nd:	Kellis Allen, Tim Allen, Eric Allen, Brian Westerhouse and J.R. Russell, Squadron 1
3rd:	Jimmy Siggers and A.J. Stewart, Squadron 169, Eric Allen Jr., Chucky Allen and Brandon Allen, Squadron 1

Junior Soft Ball Throw

1st: Andrew Taylor Squadron 104
2nd: Tyler Brenton Squadron 104
3rd: Chris Hauser Squadron 337

Senior Soft Ball Throw

1st: Duane Alexander Squadron 128
2nd: Raymond Siggers Squadron 169
3rd: David Siggers Squadron 169

Junior Football Kick

1st: Tyler Brenton Squadron 104
2nd: Dakota Milner Squadron 104
3rd: Johnathon Siggers Squadron 169

Senior Football Kick

1st: Kellies Allen Squadron 1
2nd: Raymond Siggers Squadron 169
3rd: Joe Gerrian Squadron 169

Junior 3 Legged Race

1st: Dakota Milner & Tyler Brenton Squadron 104
2nd: Mathew Slesinski & Andrew Slesinski Squadron 279
3rd: Gerad Brenton & Chandler Fultz Squadrons 104 & 169

Senior 3 Legged Race

1st: A.J. Stewart & Jimmy Davidson Squadron 169
2nd: Brian Westerhouse & Kenny Holt Squadron 1
3rd: David Neice & Roderick Hines Squadron 104

Junior Water Balloon Toss

1st: Dakota Milner & Jimmy Davidson Squadron 169
2nd: Chandler Fultz & Johnathon Siggers Squadron 169
3rd: Chris Hauser & Zachery Hauser Squadron 337

Senior Water Balloon Toss

1st: A.J. Stewart & Jimmy Davidson Squadron 169
2nd: Tim Allen & Brian Westerhouse Squadron 1
3rd: Chucky Allen & Brandon Allen Squadron 1

Golf (Closest to the Pin)

1st: Jeff Bunge Squadron 261
2nd: Kirk Rewerts Squadron 72
3rd: Dave Siggers Squadron 169

Euchre

1st: Eric Allen & Kenny Holt Squadron 1
2nd: Tim Allen & Brian Westerhouse Squadron 1
3rd: Rodney Strong & Kirk Rewerts Squadron 72

Youngest Member: Seth Westerhouse Squadron 1

Oldest Member: Max Lorig

Squadron 72

Farthest Traveled: Squadron 409

Most in Attendance: Squadron 104

Commander Sheets presented Appreciation Plaques to Post, Unit and Squadron 72 for hosting the Campout. PDC Giehl made a motion to accept the report, seconded by PDC Sorrels. Motion Passed.

Commander Sheets called on Distinguished Guest Chairman Mark Tansel for the purpose of introductions.

Chairman Tansel introduced Department Commander Jim Delaney and his wife Jama, Department Historian Jim Holmes, Commander Sheets' wife Janet, Glen and June Turpin from the National Guard, incoming Commander Duane Alexander's wife Cindy, daughter Crystal, grandsons Kendall and Christopher, and Squadron 128 Commander John Brown and his wife Martha.

Commander Sheets asked Department Commander Delaney to say a few words.

Commander Delaney thanked us for all we do and for our selection of Commander Sheets.

Commander Sheets presented a plaque to Glen Turpin of the National Guard for the use of their facility.

Commander Sheets called on Rehabilitation Chairman Robert Rodeffer for his report.

Chairman Rodeffer reported that he received 96 reports. Totals were: donations, \$43,937; hours, 43,719; and visits, 630. Chairman Rodeffer announced the winners of the David P. Stephens Rehabilitation Awards. Commander Sheets, along with Past National Commander Dave Stephens, presented the trophies.

1st: Squadron 49 Warsaw

2nd: Squadron 60 Logansport

3rd: Squadron 204 Sellersburg

PDC Rodeffer made a motion to accept his report, seconded by PDC Arter. Motion passed.

Commander Sheets asked Americanism Chairman Duane Alexander for his report.

Chairman Alexander read the winners of the Campout Americanism Awards.

1st: Squadron 261 Cedar Lake

2nd: Squadron 104 Terre Haute

3rd: Squadron 500 Speedway

Chairman Alexander stated that he received 91 reports. Totals were: donations, \$202,810.21; hours, 44,038.

Chairman Alexander read the winners of the George Evans Jr. Americanism Awards. Commander Sheets and George B. Evans presented the trophies.

1st: Squadron 27 Plymouth

2nd: Squadron 49 Warsaw

3rd: Squadron 10 Marion

Squadron 128 moved to accept the report, seconded by PDC Sorrels. Motion passed.

Commander Sheets asked Children & Youth Chairman Barry Confer for his report.

Chairman Confer stated that he received 91 reports. Total were: donations, \$77,777; hours 7,013.

Chairman Confer read the winners of the Children & Youth Awards. Commander Sheets presented the trophies.

1st: Squadron 27 Plymouth

2nd: Squadron 500 Speedway

3rd: Squadron 10 Marion

Squadron 241 moved to accept the report, seconded by PDC Tansel. Motion passed.

Commander Sheets called on Community Service Chairman Greg Spalding for his report.

Chairman Spalding stated that he received 89 reports. Totals were: donations \$92, 250; hours, 35,956.5.

Chairman Spalding read the winners of the Norm Hubler Memorial Community Service Award. Commander Sheets and Sandy Hubler presented the trophies.

1st: Squadron 27 Plymouth

2nd: Squadron 49 Warsaw

3rd: Squadron 500 Speedway

PDC Baker made a motion to accept the report, seconded by PDC Dave Stephens. Motion passed.

Commander Sheets called on the Vice Commanders to present the membership awards. They were as follows.

Highest Number Of Cards Over Goal For A District: Phil Purdy, 6th District Commander

Highest Number Of Cards Over Goal For A Squadron

Category 1: Squadron 8 Evansville

Category 2: Squadron 40 Terre Haute

Category 3: Squadron 330 New Haven

Category 4: Squadron 73 Vincennes

Category 5: Squadron 72 Crawfordsville

Highest Percentage Of Cards Over Goal For A Squadron

Category 1: Squadron 280 Remington

Category 2: Squadron 257 Fremont

Category 3: Squadron 59 Rising Sun

Category 4: Squadron 104 Terre Haute

Category 5: Squadron 66 Griffith

First Squadron To Reach Goal

Category 1: Squadron 408 Chesterfield

Category 2: Squadron 40 Terre Haute

Category 3: Squadron 196 Bloomfield

Category 4: Squadron 205 Franklin

Category 5: Squadron 64 Indianapolis

SVC Brislen made a motion to accept the Membership report, seconded by PDC Sorrels. Motion passed.

Commander Sheets then passed out Certificates of Appreciation to his Officers and Chairmen and thanked them for all their hard work.

Commander Sheets turned the podium over to Southern Vice Commander Kevin Brislen. Acting Commander Brislen called on Commander Sheets for his report.

Commander Sheets came forward and gave his heartfelt report to the membership, who gave him a standing ovation.

Squadron 160 made a motion to accept the Commander's report, seconded by everyone. Motion passed.

The PDCs came forward and presented Commander Sheets with a flag set.

Commander Sheets presented Campout Plaques to all the PDCs.

Acting Commander Brislen turned the podium back to Commander Sheets.

Commander Sheets asked Squadron 72 Commander Alan Homsher to come forward and introduce his crew. Commander Sheets presented them with campout pins. Commander Homsher introduced 6th district President Nancy Rankin.

Commander Sheets called Department Commander Jim Delaney to come forward. Commander Sheets made him a Distinguished Guest.

Commander Sheets asked the Sgt.-at-Arms to escort his wife Janet to the podium. Commander Sheets made her a Distinguished Guest.

Commander Sheets asked Distinguished Service Award Chairman Mike Pipher to give his report.

Chairman Pipher asked that Gordon Rayburn come forward to assist Commander Sheets in presenting the Gordon Rayburn Distinguished Service Award. The winners were Rodney Strong, Richard Pfeiffer, and Rodger Brown.

PDC Pipher made a motion to accept his report, 2nd by Squadron 241. Motion passed.

Commander Sheets ask for any other Committee reports.

Information/Training Committee:

Chairman Terry Slagle gave his report on the 4 training sessions during the 2006-2007 membership year. He also stated that there will be 8 sessions in the 2007-2008 membership year.

PDC Slagle made a motion to accept his report, seconded by PDC Arter. Motion passed.

Campout:

Chairman Rodney Strong thanked Cliff Stephens for taking care of Security, reminded everyone to pick up a lunch to go along with something to drink, and thanked everyone for coming.

PDC Strong made a motion to accept his report, seconded by PDC Cliff Stephens. Motion passed.

Sick Call:

A reminder was given that Jack McClellan was still in the hospital.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Squadron 18 made a motion to amend the Constitution, Article 7 Section 1 to remove the words Department Convention, seconded by PDC Giehll. Discussion followed. We amended the Constitution at the 2006 Convention to change our Convention from a campout to a hotel. We are asking to remove the meeting normally held at Department Convention. The motion if passed will take affect after the 2008 Detachment Convention. Motion passed.

PDC Bradtmueller made a motion to suspend the normal order of business for the purpose of installation of officers, seconded by PDC Giehll. Motion passed.

Commander Sheets said that there will be a 5-minute break to get ready.

Department Historian Jim Holmes led the installation team. He was assisted at Sgt.-at -Arms by 11th District S.A.L. Advisor Kenny Dowden.

Department Historian Holmes installed the officers.

Janet Sheets, the Commander's wife, presented him with his Past Detachment Commander's cap.

Newly elected Commander Duane Alexander addressed the Convention.

Cindy Alexander, wife of Commander Alexander, presented him with his Detachment Commander's cap.

Commander Sheets returned to the podium.

PDC Tansel made a motion to return to the normal order of business, seconded by PDC Sorrels. Motion passed.

PDC Giehll made a motion to purchase a laptop computer for the Adjutant with Microsoft Office installed, seconded by PDC Dave Stephens. Motion passed.

Good of the S.A.L.:

PDC Strong stated that there would be a PDC meeting after this meeting.

Newly installed Commander Duane Alexander said that he would like to pass out his pin and stickers to everyone on the way out.

Asst. Sgt.-at-Arms Logan Pipher presented \$10 in fines he collected for CWF.

Squadron 72 Commander Alan Homsher reminded everyone that there were Campout/Convention shirts still available, and a CD of pictures will be sent to all the Squadrons in attendance.

Adjutant Bradtmueller said that there would be a Post DEC meeting 19 minutes after the close of Convention.

The 4th District announced Gary Gregory as a candidate for Detachment Commander 2008-2009.

Commander Sheets thanked Squadron 72 for their hospitality and thanked PDC Cliff Stephens for his work as Chief of Security.

With no business to come before the Convention, Commander Sheets called on Chaplain Sexton for a closing prayer. Chaplain Sexton said a closing prayer. With a right hand salute to the colors of our nation, the Convention was adjourned at 10:25 AM.