



Sons of The American Legion
Detachment of Indiana
Detachment Executive Committee
Mid-Winter Conference
Indianapolis, IN
January 16, 2010

Commander Steven Tansel opened the meeting in due form with a right-hand salute to the colors of our nation at 11:05 am. Chaplain David Hanson led the prayer. Commander Tansel led the Pledge and the Preamble.

Commander Tansel called for a roll call of officers. Adjutant Damon Bradtmueller made a roll call of officers, which showed the following in attendance.

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Commander: | Steven Tansel |
| Northern Vice Commander: | Greg Spalding |
| Northern Vice Commander: | Dan Conkling |
| Southern Vice Commander: | Raymond Giehll III |
| Southern Vice Commander: | Dewey Long |
| Adjutant: | Damon Bradtmueller |
| Assistant Adjutant: | James Arter |
| Assistant Adjutant: | Duane Alexander |
| Finance Officer: | Raymond Giehll Jr. |
| Chaplain: | David Hanson |
| Historian: | Brian Hauser (EX) |
| Sgt-at-Arms: | James Naylor |
| Asst. Sgt-at-Arms: | Galen Close |
| Asst. Sgt-at-Arms: | Logan Pipher |
| Asst. Sgt-at-Arms: | Wesley Brock |
| Judge Advocate: | Terry Slagle |
| Membership Chairman: | Michael Arend (EX) |
| Public Relations: | Michael Pipher |
| NEC: | Roland Baker |
| Alt. NEC: | Harrell Sorrels |
| SAL Chairman: | Larry Horvath |

District Commanders:

| | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|------------------|----------------|
| 1 st | Robert Bowie (EX) | 2 nd | John Beal |
| 3 rd | Darin Batten | 4 th | Joe Wolff |
| 5 th | Mike Sheets | 6 th | James Staggs |
| 7 th | Randy Blake (EX) | 8 th | Michael Maples |
| 9 th | Cliff Williamson | 10 th | Charles Allen |
| 11 th | Chris Carlton | | |

District Advisors:

| | | | |
|------------------|-----------------|------------------|----------------|
| 1 st | Jake Webber | 4 th | Don Dapp |
| 6 th | Rodney Strong | 7 th | Harold Hensley |
| 9 th | David Mattingly | 10 th | Gordon Rayburn |
| 11 th | Duane Alexander | | |

Past Detachment Commanders:

| | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Cliff Stephens | David Stephens |
| James Arter Sr. | Raymond Giehll Jr. |
| Terry Slagle | Dave Mathews |
| Rodney Strong | Damon Bradtmueller |
| David Ridenour | David Siggers |
| Harrell Sorrels | Richard Pfeiffer |
| Mark Tansel | Roland Baker |
| Mike Sheets | Michael Pipher |
| Duane Alexander | |

Commander Tansel asked for a reading of the minutes of the previous meeting. PDC Arter moved to accept the minutes as mailed, 2nd by PDC Sorrels. Motion passed.

Commander Tansel then asked Distinguished Guest Chairman Raymond Giehll Jr. for introduction of guests. Chairman Giehll introduced Department SAL Chairman Larry Horvath and Department Historian Duane Alexander. Chairman Giehll then introduced the following: David Ridenour, National Assistant Adjutant; Damon Bradtmueller, National Public Relations Chairman; Mark Tansel, National Internal Affairs Chairman; David Stephens, Past National Commander, Sons of The American Legion; Mike Pipher, National Update Editor; Darin Batten, National Webmaster; all Past Detachment Commanders; and David Dew (TX), Leading Candidate for National Commander, Sons of The American Legion. Commander Tansel introduced Raymond Giehll, Jr. as a Past National Commander, Sons of The American Legion.

Commander Tansel asked for Commission reports.

Americanism Commission - Chairman Glenn Nagel

Chairman Nagel reported the following:

Athletics: There were 4 bids turned in, and the Committee voted to have Kokomo host the 2010 Detachment Golf Tournament on Saturday, June 5. The Committee also requested that bids for the 2011 Tournament be turned in by September 1, 2010, for voting at Fall Conference.

Americanism: The importance of the Consolidated Report Form was emphasized. The chairman requested that each Squadron should keep a monthly report of what they do for an accurate year-end report.

Hoosier Boys State: Trine University will host the 2010 Hoosier Boy's State. Angola Post 31 has asked for assistance with registration. If you can help, let them know. Department would like for each Post to sponsor at least one more boy. The goal for 2010 is to have 625 attendees. This would be a great time for Squadrons to step up and help their Posts with sponsorship. PDC D. Stephens moved to accept the Americanism Commission report, 2nd by PDC Slagle. Motion passed.

Children & Youth Commission - Chairman Kellis Allen

Chairman Allen reported the following:

Children's Miracle Network/Riley: Chairman Kirk Rewerts contacted Riley Hospital and reported that the Legion Family had donated over \$11,000.00 since July 1, 2009. Cara Lathrop, Annual Fund Assistant Director, encouraged our Squadrons to contact her with fundraising ideas or for free fundraising supplies such as buckets and canisters. Cara can be reached at 317-634-4474, ext. 346 or Clathrop@Rileykids.org. Additionally, Raymond Giehl III is soliciting donations for Josh Dogs for both Riley Hospital in Indianapolis and Kosair Hospital in Louisville, KY.

Child Welfare Foundation: Chairman James Naylor reported that for this Conference the CWF Committee will be raffling off a donated GPS. The Detachment goal is \$25,000.00 this year, and with everyone's participation it is very achievable. As of this Conference \$4,528.00 or 18% of our goal has been collected. The 10th District is raffling off a SAL shirt this weekend. Chairman Naylor can be contacted at poohbr64@juno.com or 317-523-6047.

Knightstown Home: It was reported that the State of Indiana is ready to transfer the Boy Scout trailer, and the winning Troop has been contacted for finalization of proper paperwork.

Oratorical: Chairman Chris Carlton reported that the Department Oratorical Contest will be held at Department Headquarters on March 7, 2010, at 1:00 PM and stated that volunteers are needed. Please see him after the meeting if you can help out. The National Contest is April 10-11 at IUPUI Conference Center.

Chairman Allen asked that the passing of the hat for CWF go in memory of George B. Evans. PDC Mathews moved to accept the Children & Youth Commission report, 2nd by PDC Siggers. Motion passed.

Internal Affairs Commission - Chairman Gary Gregory

PDC Pipher made the following report for Chairman Gregory:

Convention: Chairman Ron Sexton reported that everything is on track for the 2010 Detachment Convention to be hosted by Marion Squadron 10. The Convention packet will be available at the Spring Conference for review and modifications. All activities at the Post will be subject to the final convention schedule.

Information & Training: Chairman Duane Alexander stated that a minimum of 25 members are needed for a Squadron to host a seminar. If any Squadron would like to do so, they need to contact the Chairman or the Adjutant.

Information Technology: Chairman Darin Batten reported that our website receives over 1,600 visits per month by 700 unique visitors. In the month of December 2009, we had over 50 visits per day looking at over 170 pages. If you would like anything added to promote your events, send an original file to darin@sal.mishawaka161.org or mail a copy to Darin Batten, 323 S. 8th Street, Apt. 1, Goshen, IN 46528. The Committee is requesting e-mail and website addresses for addition to our website. We also have a blog section on the website for those members who wish to discuss upcoming events and activities.

Legislative: Chairman Dan Conkling reported that February 28-March 3 is the National Legislative Conference in Washington, DC. The Committee would like to see every Squadron submit a member for the National Grassroots Veterans Advocate of the Year Award. Information about this award is available on the National website www.sal.legion.org in the Legislative section. The Committee is requesting an award for the Detachment Grassroots Veterans Advocate be added as a line item in next year's budget. There is a scam going around that targets Veterans who use the VA system for medical care. Military service from 1941-1946 now includes the Merchant Marines. Applications for the national colors to be lowered to half staff for the funeral of a veteran can be obtained through the Governor's office at www.in.gov.

Public Relations: Chairman Terry Slagle reported that Bluffton Squadron 111 donated to a local "HELP" organization. He requested that any Squadron hosting an activity should let it be known both before and after the event. The 3rd District will be holding a Piggy Bank Bash for Child Welfare this spring.

Campout: Chairman Raymond Giehll III reported that the Detachment Campout will be held on July 23-25, 2010, at Fortville Post 391. Details will be available at Spring Conference. There is a slight possibility that we may be able to return to the Knightstown Home campground in the future.

Membership: Southern Vice Commander Dewey Long reported that 1,466 cards were turned in at Mid-Winter Conference. The membership report is as follows:

| <u>Place</u> | <u>District</u> | <u>% of Goal</u> |
|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 72.95% |
| 2 | 1 | 71.14% |
| 3 | 4 | 71.10% |
| 4 | 7 | 70.43% |
| 5 | 10 | 70.30% |
| 6 | 8 | 69.22% |
| 7 | 6 | 69.10% |
| 8 | 3 | 66.93% |
| 9 | 9 | 66.59% |
| 10 | 11 | 66.11% |
| 11 | 5 | <u>53.24%</u> |
| Detachment total | | 68.30% |

PDC Pipher made a motion to accept his report, second by PDC Tansel, Motion passed.

Rehabilitation Commission - Chairman Dwayne Alliss

Indiana Veterans Home: Chairman James Arter reminded everyone of the last Bingo date, February 6. The games start at 1:30 pm and end at 3:30 pm. Please be there at 12:30 pm to help in setting up the room. At the October Bingo, 15 Legion Family members helped about 80 residents play around 60 games of Bingo. Bloomington Squadron 18 donated \$300.00 towards the Christmas Bingo, where 28 Legion Family members and 3 student employees helped 55 residents play around 55 Bingo games. Chairman Arter was able to talk Santa into making an appearance, pass out envelopes to the resident players, and then visit several floors in the buildings to pass out envelopes to the residents who could not come down to the Bingo party. There was a smaller crowd due to a shopping trip going on at the same time. Martinsville Squadron 230 donated \$200 towards the February Bingo party. The Committee has requested the same amount of money for the 3 Bingos and the Close of Books meal for the 2010-2011 year budget. Both Orland Post 423 and Squadron 423 donated \$1,000.00 each to the Home.

VAVS: The Committee requested that \$1,000.00 be donated from the Veteran's Assistance section of the budget to the Roudebush VA date night program. PDC Slagle moved to accept the Rehabilitation Commission report, 2nd by PDC Sorrels. Motion passed.

Finance Commission: Finance Officer Raymond Giehll, Jr. reported that the Commission had received 4 requests.

1. (VAVS) Donate \$1,000.00 to the Roudebush VA date night program.
2. (IVH) Keep the same budget as last year (\$6,400.00) for the 3 Bingos and the Close of Books meal.
3. (Campout) Add a line item to the 2010-2011 budget for campout food and miscellaneous.
4. (Legislature) Add a line item to the 2010-2011 Detachment Grassroots Advocate of the Year Award.

PDC Giehll moved to accept the requests, 2nd by PDC Tansel. Motion passed. PDC Giehll moved to accept his report, 2nd by PDC Mathews. Motion passed.

Resolutions: Chairman Mike Sheets read resolutions for the following to be made a matter of record: Glenn Nagel for Detachment Commander 2010-2011, Westley Brock for Sgt.-at-Arms 2010-2011, Kellis Allen for Southern Vice Commander 2010-2011, Mike Sorrels for Southern Vice Commander 2010-2011, Lester Luke for 3rd District Commander 2010-2011.

PDC Pipher moved to accept the report, 2nd by PDC Tansel. Motion passed.

Old Business:

Omit the Friday evening Squadron Expansion meeting.

New Business:

Sick Call:

Lincoln Squadron 82 Commander James Grepke passed away.

Goods: National Executive Committeeman Roland Baker introduced David Dew (TX), the leading Candidate for National Commander, Sons of The American Legion. Candidate Dew

spoke to the membership about the importance of the Consolidated Report Form and the need to increase the number of forms that are returned. Nationally 20% of the Squadrons return their forms. He expressed that veterans will be his number one priority as National Commander, and that as an organization we need to place a VAVS representative in every VA Hospital. He said that membership in the American Legion Family needs to be increased. When you sign up a member, sign up the entire family. His slogan "By Their Side with Honor and Pride" will be the forefront of his year as we work towards assisting those who have kept and are keeping our country free. PDC Giehll moved to endorse Candidate Dew for the high office of National Commander, Sons of The American Legion 2010-2011, 2nd by PDC D. Stephens, motion passed.

SVC Raymond Giehll III passed out Josh and Friends pins and explained what a Josh Dog can do for children.

Commander Tansel's homecoming will be on May 8, 2010, at Speedway Post 500.

PDC D. Stephens reported that there was a need for volunteers at the Roudebush VA.

PDC Ridenour expressed the gratitude from the Evans family after the passing of PDC George Evans.

The 10th District shirt raffle netted \$74.00 for CWF.

PDC Tansel thanked Commander Tansel for the article he wrote for the Hoosier Legionnaire.

The Detachment received a plaque from the Marion VA for our donation to Department Commander Newman's project of transportation vehicles.

With no further business to come before this meeting, Commander Tansel called on Chaplain Hanson for a closing prayer. Following the prayer, Commander Tansel ordered a right-hand salute to the flag of our nation, and the meeting was adjourned at 12:32 pm.

Mid-Winter Conference Donations

Child Welfare Foundation

| | | |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Kingman Squadron 368 | \$125.00 | |
| Seventh District | \$100.00 | |
| Bloomington Squadron 18 | \$225.00 | |
| South Haven Squadron 502 | \$502.00 | |
| Detachment 50/50 | \$125.00 | |
| Mooresville Squadron 103 | \$ 20.00 | |
| 10 th District shirt raffle | \$ 74.00 | |
| Detachment pass the hat | <u>\$ 109.00</u> | In memory of <i>George B. Evans</i> |
| | <u>\$ 1,271.00</u> | |

CMN/Riley

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|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Seventh District | \$100.00 |
| South Haven Squadron 502 | <u>\$502.00</u> |
| | \$602.00 |

IVH

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|------------------|----------|
| Seventh District | \$100.00 |
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NEF

Martinsville Squadron 230 \$250.00

Josh Dogs

North Webster Squadron 253 \$400.00

Griffith Squadron 66 \$100.00

Second District \$240.00

Eighth District \$432.00

Pierceton Squadron 258 \$ 110.00

Newburgh Squadron 44 \$ 110.00

\$ 1,392.00

Operation Comfort Warrior

Speedway Squadron 500 \$500.00

Indiana National Guard Relief Fund

Speedway Squadron 500 \$500.00

Habitat for Humanity

Seventh District \$100.00

Detachment Golf Hole Sponsor

Seventh District \$50.00