

PROCEEDINGS

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OF

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Post-Convention Meeting

Indiana Convention Center

Sagamore Ballroom, Sections 3 & 4 (Level 2)

Indianapolis, Indiana

Sunday, August 25, 2019
2:00 p.m.

Reported by:
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Captions Unlimited of Nevada
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...At 1:43 p.m., Sunday, August 25, 2019, the Post-Convention Meeting of the National Executive Committee of Sons of the American Legion was called to order by National Commander Clint D. Bolt, Virginia, and the following proceedings were had:

Call to Order and Posting of the Colors

Clint D. Bolt, Virginia, National Commander

NATIONAL COMMANDER BOLT: With the colors of our country being in place, hand salute. Two.

I call on Past National Chaplain David Rippe who will invoke the blessing of God. Please uncover.

Invocation

David Rippe, Nebraska, Past National Chaplain

Heavenly Father, we come together as a new year begins in our organization. Provide our new Commander and Vice Commanders with the strength, guidance, and encouragement to serve and lead the Sons of the American Legion this year.

We also pray for the leadership of the detachments. May their decisions serve You, The American Legion family, and the people of this great country.

In Your name we pray, amen.

NATIONAL COMMANDER BOLT: In memory of our departed

comrades and the comrades of all veterans, let us stand in silence.

...The National Executive Committee observed a moment of silence.

POW/MIA Remembrance Ceremony

Clint D. Bolt, National Commander, Virginia

To maintain a high awareness that a constant vigil should be maintained so that no POW or MIA will be left unaccounted for, the Sons of the American Legion designate a POW/MIA Empty Chair at all meetings.

This is a physical symbol of the thousands of American POWs and MIAs still unaccounted for, as a constant reminder for all of us to spare no effort to secure the release of any American prisoners from captivity, the repatriation of the remains of those who died bravely in defense of liberty, and a full accounting of those missing.

Let us rededicate ourselves for this vital endeavor. We will place the POW -- is it already placed? It's in place. Good.

I now call on National Vice Commander Gary Nelson to lead us in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Pledge of Allegiance

Gary Nelson, New Jersey, National Vice Commander

...The National Executive Committee recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

NATIONAL COMMANDER BOLT: Cover.

I'll now call upon National Vice Commander Ned Fox to lead us in reciting the Preamble to our Constitution.

Recitation of the Preamble to the Constitution of Sons of the American Legion

Ned C. Fox, National Vice Commander, California

...The National Executive Committee recited the Preamble to the Constitution of Sons of the American Legion.

Blue Star Banner Ceremony

Clint Bolt, National Commander, Virginia

NATIONAL COMMANDER BOLT: Serving as a constant reminder that servicemen and women on a daily basis are putting themselves at risk to ensure our freedoms, the Sons of the American Legion display a corporate Blue Star Service Banner at all meetings.

To serve as a symbol of our support for the military personnel serving in this great country, let us never forget that every day these individuals are protecting our liberty.

The Blue Star Service Banner is in place.

National Adjutant Tony Wright will now call the roll.

Roll Call

...National Adjutant Wright called the Roll of the National Executive as follows:

NATIONAL OFFICERS

National Commander

Clint D. Bolt, Virginia

National Vice Commanders

East: Gary P. Nelson, New Jersey

South: Blair Miles, Alabama

Central: Richard M. "Doc" Pfeiffer, Indiana

Midwest: Christopher L. Cook, Oklahoma

West: Nedley C. "Ned" Fox, California

National Adjutant

Anthony W. Wright, Pennsylvania

National Assistant Adjutants

Harold E. Thompson, Jr., Nebraska (Emeritus)

James E. "Ed" Sheubrooks, Florida - Not Present

Robert J. Avery, New York - Not Present

David M. Ridenour, Indiana - Not Present

Scott A. Williams, Virginia - Not Present

Scott J. Thornton, Ohio - Not Present

Jeffrey E. Hicks, New Jersey - Not Present

National Chaplain

Rodney J. Tolbert, Michigan - Not Present

National Historian

Thomas E. "Tom" Marsden, New Jersey - Not Present

National Judge Advocate

Joseph A. Paviglianti, New York - Not Present

National Sergeant-At-Arms

Brian K. Waters, Pennsylvania - Not Present

National Assistant Sergeants-At-Arms
 Gregory A. Falco, New York - Not Present
 Lyle G. Larson, Kansas - Not Present
 Raymond P. Giehll, III, Indiana - Not Present
 Charles Curtis, California - Not Present

National Commander's Aide
 Jeffrey C. Evans, Virginia - Not Present

PAST NATIONAL COMMANDERS

Gregg K. "Doc" Gibbs, New York
 Danny J. Smith, Colorado
 Michael K. Seaton, California
 Robert A. McBride, Ohio
 J.R. Stillwell, Illinois
 John J. Smolinsky, Massachusetts - Not Present
 Robert H. Faust, California - Not Present
 James R. Hartman, Maryland - Not Present
 Gregory D. Reis, Illinois - Not Present
 Grant Jamieson, Michigan - Not Present
 Charles E. Gannon, Maryland - Not Present
 John M. Sherrard, California - Not Present
 David P. Stephens, Indiana
 Christopher R. Cerullo, New York
 Frederick L. Hartline, Sr., Ohio - Excused
 Douglas P. Bible, Minnesota
 Richard L. League, Maryland - Not Present
 David R. Faust, Wisconsin
 Robert A. Worrel, Indiana - Not Present
 Eugene L. Sacco, California - Not Present
 Roland D. Matteson, Arizona
 Joseph M. Mayne, Minnesota
 John T. Dietz, Kentucky - Not Present
 Jack E. Jordan, Texas - Not Present
 William E. Matoska, Maryland - Not Present
 Byron J. Robichaux, Louisiana
 Richard L. Cook, Oklahoma - Not Present
 Kevin N. Winkelmann, Texas - Not Present
 Clifford A. Smith, Massachusetts
 Steven C. Laws, North Carolina - Not Present
 Neal C. Warnken, Kansas - Not Present
 Michael J. Deacon, Iowa
 William L. Sparwasser, Maryland - Not Present
 Earl R. Ruttkofsky, Michigan - Not Present
 Raymond P. Giehll, Jr., Indiana
 Thomas E. Cisna, Illinois
 Mark E. Arneson, Georgia

David L. Dew, Texas - Not Present
 James K. Roberts, III, Florida - Excused
 Joseph W. Gladden, Maryland - Not Present
 Michael W. Moss, Colorado
 Kevin L. Collier, Alaska
 Jeffrey C. Frain, Arizona - Not Present
 Brian J. O'Hearne, Massachusetts - Not Present

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEMEN

Alabama (N), Alaska (A), Arizona (B), Arkansas (B),
 California (A), Colorado (B), Connecticut (NP), Delaware
 (B), District of Columbia (NP), Florida (B), France (NP),
 Georgia (B), Hawaii (NP), Idaho (A), Illinois (P), Indiana
 (B), Iowa (P), Kansas (B), Kentucky (N), Louisiana (B),
 Maine (N), Maryland (A), Massachusetts (A), Mexico (NP),
 Michigan (N), Minnesota (N), Mississippi (B), Missouri (N),
 Montana (A), Nebraska (N), Nevada (A), New Hampshire (B),
 New Jersey (B), New Mexico (B), New York (N), North Carolina
 (N), North Dakota (NP), Ohio (B), Oklahoma (N), Oregon (N),
 Pennsylvania (B), Philippines (NP), Puerto Rico (NP), Rhode
 Island (NP), South Carolina (A), South Dakota (NP),
 Tennessee (A), Texas (NP), Utah (NP), Vermont (B), Virginia
 (B), Washington (N), West Virginia (NP), Wisconsin (N),
 Wyoming (NP)

NATIONAL ADJUTANT WRIGHT: Commander, that
 completes roll call. You have a quorum.

NATIONAL COMMANDER BOLT: Thank you, sir.

PAST NATIONAL COMMANDER DEACON (IA): Mr. Commander,
 Past National Commander Deacon. Our NEC for Iowa is leading
 our Color Guard, so he can't be here. I would like
 permission for our detachment commander to be given voice
 but no vote in the NEC meeting so that any information that's
 given out he can get ahold of.

NATIONAL COMMANDER BOLT: Yes.

PAST NATIONAL COMMANDER DEACON (IA): Thank you.

PAST NATIONAL COMMANDER STILLWELL (IL): Mr. Commander, Past Commander Stillwell. In the absence of our NEC and alternate, I ask that our Detachment Commander, Phil Stander, be recognized for voice representing Illinois.

NATIONAL COMMANDER BOLT: So be it.

Any others?

(No response.)

I now declare this 2019 Post-Convention Meeting of the National Executive Committee of the Sons of the American Legion regularly convened.

Installation of the National Executive Committeemen

NATIONAL COMMANDER BOLT: Will all the National Executive Committeemen and alternates please rise.

Gentlemen, you will raise your right hand and repeat after me, giving your name where I give mine.

"I, Clint D. Bolt, do solemnly pledge myself to perform faithfully and impartially the duties of the office in the Sons of the American Legion I am about to assume. And I further pledge I am not a member of, and do not subscribe to, the principles of any group opposed to our form of government."

You may lower your hands, and please be seated.

Confirmation of Appointed National Officers

NATIONAL COMMANDER BOLT: The following are my selections for National Officers for the 2019-2020 administrative year:

National Adjutant

Anthony W. Wright, Pennsylvania

National Assistant Adjutants

Emeritus - Harold E. Thompson, Jr., Nebraska

James E. "Ed" Sheubrooks, Florida

Bob J. Avery, New York

David M. Ridenour, Indiana

Scott A. Williams, Virginia

Scott J. Thornton, Ohio

Jeffrey E. Hicks, New Jersey

National Chaplain

Rodney Tolbert, Michigan

National Historian

Tom Marsden, New Jersey

National Judge Advocate

Joseph Paviglianti, New York

National Sergeant-At-Arms

Brian K. Waters, Pennsylvania

National Assistant Sergeants-at-Arms

Greg A. Falco, New York

Raymond P. Giehll, III, Indiana

Lyle G. Larson, Kansas

Charles Curtis, California

Aide to the National Commander is Jeff Evans from Virginia.

Our Webmaster is Gene Theroux.

And our events coordinator is Clifford Hall from Georgia

I will entertain a motion to accept these National

Officers' appointments. I need you to say your name and your detachment, please.

NECMAN BROWN (GA): Commander, Bob Brown, NEC from Georgia. I make a motion to accept the list of appointments from the National Commander.

NATIONAL COMMANDER BOLT: Thank you, Bob. We have a motion. Second?

NECMAN GLANDER (AL): Tom Glander, Alabama, second.

NATIONAL COMMANDER BOLT: Thank you, Tom.

All those in favor say aye. Opposed? Ayes have it.

Confirmation of National Commission/ Committee Appointments

NATIONAL COMMANDER BOLT: You have in front of you the selections for National Commission and Committee chairmen and the members of the 2019-2020 administrative year.

I will entertain a motion to accept the National Commission and Committee appointments.

NECMAN HENKEMEYER (MN): Mr. Commander, Dennis Henkemeyer from the Detachment of Minnesota, I so move.

NATIONAL COMMANDER BOLT: Thank you, Dennis.

NECMAN GARRETT (CO): Scott Garrett, Colorado, I second.

NATIONAL COMMANDER BOLT: Got Colorado. Thank you.

We have a motion and a second. Any discussion?

PAST NATIONAL COMMANDER CISNA (IL): Yes, sir, Commander, Tommie Cisna, Past National Commander from Illinois. There's a change, I'm not sure you're aware of, under the Finance Commission. William Winters from Illinois to serve until the close of the convention 2022.

That name did not get approved by Illinois. But we do have a name that's approved by Illinois, and his name is Eugene Gort. And we'll get the information to the Adjutant after the meeting.

NATIONAL COMMANDER BOLT: That will have to go to the Committee on Committees, Tommie. That will have to be submitted to the Committee on Committees.

PAST NATIONAL COMMANDER CISNA (IL): Thank you.

NATIONAL COMMANDER BOLT: Any other changes other than that one? All right. So I'm asking you all to vote for this, minus that individual, William Winters. I had a motion on that. So how do we do that?

NECMAN BROWN (GA): Commander, Bob Brown. I'm the original motion. I will amend my motion to accept those nominations for administrative officers minus the one --

NATIONAL COMMANDER BOLT: Mr. Winters. All right. Scott, do you second?

NECMAN GARRETT (CO): I second.

NATIONAL COMMANDER BOLT: Okay, any other

discussion?

NECMAN FLASINSKI (PA): George Flasinski, Pennsylvania. One question under Internal Affairs --

FROM THE FLOOR: Go to the mic, please.

NECMAN FLASINSKI (PA): Again, George Flasinski from Pennsylvania. Just one question: Under Internal Affairs, with Jay being the National Vice Commander, is he eligible to serve on the Internal Affairs Commission at the same time?

FROM THE FLOOR: That's Chris.

NECMAN FLASINSKI (PA): Oh, that's Chris. Sorry, wrong name. Never mind, Commander.

(Laughter)

NATIONAL COMMANDER BOLT: Okay, any other discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor say aye.

Opposed.

So carried.

Old Business

NATIONAL COMMANDER BOLT: Is there any old business to be brought before this National Executive Committee meeting? Any old business?

PAST NATIONAL COMMANDER GIEHLL (IN): Mr. Commander, PNC Raymond Giehll, speaking as the Chairman of the Committee on Committees. I'd mentioned at the Pre-NEC that we're still looking for a National Editor.

Mike Pipher, who's done that job for 24, 25 years, has stepped down. And, again, I want to thank Mike for the many years he did it. You got the last newsletter he did here at the convention.

(Applause)

A couple of people have already sent me emails, me or Seth Rippe, so we can get consideration for that as soon as possible.

And also one more thing, October is when we interview for National Chaplains. Lately we've had a pretty good group coming in to interview, but we'd like to interview so we have people down the road.

So if you're interested in that, please get ahold of somebody on the Committee on Committees. Thank you, sir.

NATIONAL COMMANDER BOLT: Thank you, Past National Commander.

Any others?

New Business and For the Good of the Sons of the American Legion

NATIONAL COMMANDER BOLT: Is there any new business to come before this meeting? Anything for the Good of the Sons?

NATIONAL HISTORIAN MARSDEN: Mr. Commander, Tom Marsden, National Historian. I would like for

all -- anybody who was just appointed to meet over on the left side of the stage so I can get your pictures taken. That's both officers and committees chairmen. Thank you.

NATIONAL COMMANDER BOLT: Thank you, Tom.

Announcements

NATIONAL COMMANDER BOLT: Are there any other announcements at this time?

NECMAN PIPHER (IN): Mr. Commander, Mike Pipher, retired newsletter editor.

(Laughter)

Apparently some people have not picked up the newsletter. There are still, I believe, a bunch of them at the back of the room by the door.

NATIONAL COMMANDER BOLT: Okay. Any other announcements?

FROM THE FLOOR: (Off microphone.)

NATIONAL COMMANDER BOLT: I have not got the information on that. I don't know. So I can't share it with you, what I don't know.

Do you know of any? No. You have to check with your Department, I guess. But the Sons will be up front. My Vice Commander and I will be up in front of the Sons group, so if you want to come up front with us, we'll be one of the first ones stepping off --

FROM THE FLOOR: Are you walking?

NATIONAL COMMANDER BOLT: We don't have a float, I'm sorry.

FROM THE FLOOR: What is the attire, Mr. Commander?

NATIONAL COMMANDER BOLT: My Vice Commanders and I are, we're business casual. I would say the same for you all -- business casual. Comfortable shoes. That would be the attire.

The transition meeting will be at 8.00 a.m. on Monday morning in the Indiana Convention Center, Room 204, Level 2.

The Fall National Executive Committee meeting call has been sent out. It is important that everyone use the online registration to submit their housing requests to national headquarters no later than Friday, September 20th.

If there's no further business to come before the National Executive Committee meeting, National Chaplain Rodney Tolbert will lead us in the closing prayer.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS WATERS: Commander, Brian Waters, Sergeant-at-Arms, on stage left, to your left. I have -- I'll read what I have on the parade lineup, if you would like.

NATIONAL COMMANDER BOLT: Okay. Go ahead.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS WATERS: They're going to enter from -- the Division I, which is the Sons -- you're going

to enter from Delaware Street, going west, left onto St. Claire, turning south on -- left and then proceeding to Pennsylvania Street.

As you said, it will be -- let me see if I can read this; it's kind of dark over here -- American Legion Riders and the Indianapolis Police Department and the Grand Marshal, the Junior Service Marshal, the Military Grand Marshal, the 38th Infantry Division Band, and the ceremonial unit Mounted Color Guard, the Honorary Grand Marshal, PNC Denise Rohan, the Doughboys Color Guard, the National Commander, National President, Sons of the American Legion National Commander, if possible -- they're not going to be on the float, I guess.

And then after that the National Officers of The American Legion will be walking. And then after that the Auxiliary. And after that they'll have the Past National Commanders. I guess we're right after that.

NATIONAL COMMANDER BOLT: Thank you, Brian. That helps. All right. The meeting tomorrow morning will be business casual also. Dress for that.

If there's no further business to come before this National Executive Committee meeting, National Chaplain Rodney Tolbert will lead us in a closing prayer.

Uncover.

Benediction**Rodney J. Tolbert, Michigan, National Chaplain**

Father, thank You for the marvelous things You have done today. Thank You for Your love that You have revealed into us.

We pray all the words spoken here today have sewn into people's hearts. Watch over them. Protect them. May the roots and produce wonderful things.

Amen.

Closing Remarks**Clint D. Bolt, Virginia, National Commander**

Cover. Until we meet again, let us remember that our obligation to our country can only be fulfilled by the faithful performance of all duties of citizenship.

Let service to the community, state and nation be ever a main objective of the Sons of the American Legion. Let us ever be watchful of the honor of our country, The American Legion, our organization and ourselves that nothing shall swerve us from the path of justice, freedom, loyalty and democracy.

Salute to the Colors and Adjournment

Colors of our nation being in place, hand salute.
One. Two.

I now declare the 2019 Post-Convention Meeting of the National Executive Committee adjourned. Thank you, gentlemen.

...At 2:07 p.m., Sunday, August 25, 2019, the National Executive Committee Post-Convention Meeting of the Sons of the Americana Legion was adjourned.

CERTIFICATION OF COMPLETION

I, DENISE HINXMAN, Certified Court Reporter, do hereby certify;

That on Friday, August 23, 2019, I was present and took verbatim stenotype notes of the Meeting entitled herein, and thereafter transcribed the same into typewriting as herein appears;

That said meeting was taken in stenotype notes by me, a Certified Court Reporter, and thereafter reduced to typewriting under my direction as herein appears;

That the foregoing transcript is a full, true and correct transcription of my stenotype notes of said meeting.

Dated at Reno, Nevada, this 12th day of September, 2019.

DENISE HINXMAN, CSR, RDR, CRC