

**MINUTES
OF THE
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF
THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION**



**INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA
May 3 – 4, 2014**

**MINUTES OF THE
SPRING NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
MAY 3-4, 2014**

National Commander Joseph Gladden (MD) called the Spring Meeting of the National Executive Committee of the Sons of The American Legion to order Saturday, May 3, 2014 at the Sheraton Hotel, Indianapolis, Indiana.

National Chaplain Danny Poole (MI) gave the invocation.

National Commander Joseph Gladden (MD) called for the Sergeant-At-Arms to place the POW/MIA flag on the empty chair which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by National Vice Commander Thomas Chebro (GA) and the Preamble to the Constitution led by National Vice Commander Brad Schroenghamer (NM).

National Commander Gladden (MD) then called on National Adjutant Brian O’Hearne (MA) to call the roll of National Officers, Past National Commanders, NECmen and Alternate NECmen.

Present were: E (excused)

National Officers

Joseph W. Gladden (MD)	National Commander
Robert L. Turner (CT)	National Vice Commander
Thomas Chebro (GA)	National Vice Commander
Randall L. Eicher (OH)	National Vice Commander
Brad R. Schroenghamer (NM)	National Vice Commander
William J. Lloyd (WA)	National Vice Commander
Brian J. O’Hearne (MA)	National Adjutant
Harold E. Thompson, Jr. (NE)	National Assistant Adjutant
James “Ed” Sheubrooks (FL)	National Assistant Adjutant
Anthony Wright (PA)	National Assistant Adjutant
Robert Avery (NY)	National Assistant Adjutant
David Ridenour (IN)	National Assistant Adjutant
Scott Williams (VA)	National Assistant Adjutant
Danny J. Poole (MI)	National Chaplain
Thomas E. Marsden (NJ)	National Historian
Joseph Paviglianti (NY)	National Judge Advocate
William G. Hill (MD)	National Sergeant-At-Arms
Lyle G. Larson (KS)	National Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms
Michael L. Kirschner (CO)	National Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms
Jeff L. Alvis (TX)	National Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms
Brian K. Waters (PA)	National Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms
Raymond P. Giehl, Jr. (IN)	National Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms
Bruce F. Paquin (MD)	Aide To The National Commander

Past National Commanders

Christopher Huntzinger (PA)
Michael Seaton (CA)
Robert McBride (OH)
J. R. Stillwell (IL)
James Hartman (MD)
Charles E. Gannon (MD)
David P. Stephens (IN)
Douglas Bible (MN)
Eugene L. Sacco (CA)
Joseph M. Mayne (MN)
John T. Dietz (KY)
William E. Matoska (MD)

Byron J. Robichaux (LA)
Richard L. Cook (TX)
Clifford A. Smith (MA)
Steve C. Laws (NC)
Neal C. Warnken (KS)
Michael Deacon (IA)
William L. Sparwasser (MD)
Ear R. Ruttkofsky (MI)
Raymond P. Giehll, Jr. (IN)
Thomas Cisna (IL)
Mark E. Arneson (GA)
David Dew (TX)

National Executive Committeemen

Alabama (B), Alaska (N), Arizona (B), California (A), Colorado (B), Connecticut (B), Delaware (B), Florida (A), France (B), Georgia (B), Hawaii (N), Illinois (B), Indiana (B), Iowa (B), Kansas (N), Kentucky (N), Louisiana (B), Maine (N), Maryland (B), Massachusetts (B), Michigan (B), Minnesota (B), Mississippi (N), Missouri (N), Montana (N), Nebraska (B), Nevada (A), New Hampshire (A), New Jersey (B), New Mexico (B), New York (B), North Carolina (B), Ohio (B), Oregon (N), Pennsylvania (N), South Carolina (B), Tennessee (N), Texas (B), Utah (N), Vermont (N), Virginia (B), Washington (N), West Virginia (N), Wisconsin (B), Wyoming (B).

Commander Gladden (MD) then called upon National Adjutant Brian O’Hearne (MA) for the reading of the minutes from the 2013 Fall Meeting.

Adjutant O’Hearne (MA) entertained a motion to accept the minutes. A motion was accepted as published.

At this time National Commander Gladden (MD) welcomed all the Detachment Commanders and asked first time attendees of the Spring NEC Meeting to stand for recognition.

Commander Gladden called on National SAL Liaison John Kerestan (IN) for remarks.

Mr. Kerestan began by welcoming everyone to Indianapolis for the Spring Meetings. He also said if you haven’t registered please do so and check your name, address, e-mail and phone number. Also, if you’re entitled to a check please see Harold Thompson, Assistant Adjutant in the SAL office.

The reservation process went very well this year because it helps to have my e-mail address on the form. Also, I’d like to thank Jim Gelwicks (CO) for looking at the minutes.

We like to review our publications each year as much as possible. In your packet is the new 2014 SAL Handbook. We did a lot of work on the SAL Handbook by taking out some of the photos and rearranging some of the items which made it a little better. Also in your packets is the new Youth Handbook in which we only printed enough for this meeting. I’m waiting for a recommendation from Children & Youth Commission before printing more for National Convention.

On the Legion side of the house there has been a lot of changes as far as organizational structure. The Children & Youth Commission is now a Committee that reports to Americanism; Public Relations no

longer exists and it has been absorbed by Media and Communications; The American Legion Trophies Awards and Ceremonials Committee is now under Internal Affairs. There are a lot of other Committees on The American Legion side that no longer exists that were absorbed into other Commissions. There are also changes to the call-ins for American Legion for example Internal Affairs Committee are called in the Spring but in the Fall just the Chairman gets a call-in as well as Membership. We are going to look into this and may be doing some restructuring for the Sons. We will also be looking at the travel call-in rates because we know airfares are out of site. This won't happen this year but hope to have something in place for 2015.

Mr. Kerestan wished everyone a good meeting this weekend. This concluded his remarks.

Commander Gladden (MD) called for all donations at this time.

At this time Jason Kees (IL), Executive Secretary for CWF was escorted to the stage.

Mr. Kees began by thanking the Sons for raising over \$6 millions dollars for CWF. The Detachment of Florida put the CWF over the six million dollar mark. I can't express my gratitude to the Sons how you've taken on the Child Welfare Foundation as their special project throughout the years.

We have a couple of new promotional items that we are doing for CWF. We have a new Facebook page and what a valuable tool this has proven to be about getting our message out. I would like to encourage you to "Like Us" on Facebook and to post your pictures, fund raising events or anything you're doing to help the CWF.

We will have a new CWF Brochure that will be available by National Convention. We still have the 100% Banner Program, in which, if you achieved \$1 per capita you will receive a flag banner. These forms are available online.

Our Children's Action Team (CAT) membership dates have changed to June 1st – May 31st to coincide with Legion membership dates. We also have new incentives for any CAT that signs up two (2) new members will receive a special emerald stone CAT paw pin; three (3) new members will receive a Guardian Coin.

I'd like to address the "white elephant" in the room. Many of you have heard last October the Board of Directors for CWF approved a grant to The American Legion National Headquarters for the Oratorical Scholarship. There were people upset about this grant and didn't think we should be funding programs of The American Legion. The Letter of Incorporation dated from 1954 clearly states the purpose of what the CWF is for and the original intent. The Oratorical Scholarship falls in the intent of the CWF and it's purpose. The last time The American Legion asked for a grant was in 1970. The \$69,000 the CWF gave to the Oratorical Scholarship was only a drop in the bucket.

Mr. Kees again congratulated the Sons for reaching six million dollars in donations for CWF. This concluded his remarks.

Commander Gladden announced the following donation totals:

\$79,518 – Child Welfare Foundation
\$3,972 – National Emergency Fund
\$6,102 – Children's Miracle Network
\$1,200 – Fisher House

Commander Gladden called for announcements.

National Adjutant Brian O’Hearne (MA) announced the Committee on Leadership Development will be meeting at 10:30 am in the Illinois Room.

Bob Brown (GA) announced Ricky Black was scheduled to attend the NMI class but his father, Jack a WWII Vet, passed away while Ricky was traveling to Indianapolis. See me if you would like to send a card or letter. I also brought some DVD’s of the Congressional Honors.

Caucus meetings were announced as well as the Leading Candidate’s luncheon.

Joe Korba (NJ) welcomed “Doc” Leopold back. Jerry thanked everyone for their cards and support.

At this time the General Session was adjourned at 9:30 am with a right hand salute to the colors.

The Spring Meeting of the National Executive Committee of the Sons of The American Legion reconvened at 8:45 a.m., Sunday, May 4, 2014.

With colors being in place and following a right hand salute, National Commander Joseph W. Gladden (MD) declared the National Executive Committee Spring Meeting reconvened.

National Chaplain Danny J. Poole (MI) gave the invocation. Followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by National Vice Commander Randy Eicher (OH) and the Preamble to the Constitution led by National Vice Commander Robert Turner (CT).

At this time American Legion National Commander Daniel M. Dellinger (VA) was escorted to the stage.

Commander Dellinger (VA) spoke about how the Sons live up to the principles of the SAL’s Preamble. I want to commend your Commander for doing a great job and to give yourself an applause for surpassing the \$6 million mark for CWF. It’s a pleasure to be here with you this weekend.

The work isn’t done as we go towards our National Convention. We have to kept working and that’s what this organization has to do. We have to work 24/7 for our veterans, communities and our nation. I just want to commend you for what you do and keep up the good work. May God Bless You, Our Troops and America. This concluded his remarks.

National Commander Gladden (MD) then called on National Adjutant Brian O’Hearne (MA) to call the roll of National Officers, Past National Commanders, NECmen and Alternate NECmen.

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Brian J. O’Hearne (MA)	National Adjutant
Harold E. Thompson, Jr. (NE)	National Assistant Adjutant

James “Ed” Sheubrooks (FL) - E
Anthony Wright (PA)
Robert Avery (NY)
David Ridenour (IN)
Scott Williams (VA)
Danny J. Poole (MI)
Thomas E. Marsden (NJ)
Joseph Paviglianti (NY)
William G. Hill (MD)
Lyle G. Larson (KS)
Michael L. Kirschner (CO)
Jeff L. Alvis (TX)
Brian K. Waters (PA)
Raymond P. Giehll, Jr. (IN)
Bruce F. Paquin (MD)

National Assistant Adjutant
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National Executive Committeemen

Alabama (B), Alaska (N), Arizona (B), California (A), Colorado (B), Connecticut (B), Delaware (B), Florida (A), France (B), Georgia (B), Hawaii (N), Illinois (B), Indiana (B), Iowa (B), Kansas (N), Kentucky (N), Louisiana (B), *Maine, Maryland (B), Massachusetts (B), Michigan (B), Minnesota (B), Mississippi (N), Missouri (N), Montana (N), Nebraska (B), Nevada (A), New Hampshire (A), New Jersey (B), New Mexico (B), New York (B), North Carolina (N), Ohio (B), Oregon (N), Pennsylvania (N), South Carolina (B), Tennessee (N), Texas (B), Utah (N), Vermont (N), Virginia (B), Washington (N), Wisconsin (B), Wyoming (B).

**So noted: PNVC Don Allisot (ME) recognized for voice only.*

At this time, the Commission/Committee reports were given.

LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION

David Lee (NY), Chairman

Mr. Lee (NY) wanted to take a moment of silence for Edward “Spanky” Van Houten.

At this time Harl “Butch” D. Ray (IL) gave his report.

HOMELAND SECURITY and CIVIL PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE – reported by Harl “Butch” D. Ray (IL), Chairman

Mr. Ray stated are you ready? We need to reinforce Commander Gladden’s membership theme “Shooting for the Moon”. It’s been said that speech is the “final frontier” – Homeland Security and Civil Preparedness is the final frontier. *Be ready – be informed – be prepared.* This concluded his report.

Mr. Lee said when talking about Legislative issues we tend to go to the Federal side at the National level because of the PR we see on TV and we read which is a huge part of this organization. We need everyone involved in the Legislative process. We need to reach down to our local level and get your community involved.

The American Legion has 56 current Legislative issues on their website. Go on the website and read some of the issues which reach across the board many different topics. We need to get more involved with our Grass Roots.

The Washington Conference for this year has been rescheduled for August 9th because this year was during “Cherry Blossom Season” so it was hard to get a time slot to lay a wreath at Arlington. We have rescheduled the wreath laying ceremony at Arlington National Ceremony on August 9th at 1:15 pm.

This year at the Washington Conference we had 66 people on a 52 passenger bus. We laid 15 wreaths this year with 16 Detachments present. The wreath laying is just a small portion of the Washington Conference. This year the National Commander’s testimony was tied into the Washington Conference.

The 2015 Washington Conference will be held February 22, 2015 at 11:15 am at Vietnam Veterans Memorial and the Korean War Memorial. This concluded his report.

A motion was made by New York to accept the report, seconded by Maryland. Motion carried.

At this time Public Relations gave their report.

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMISSION

Damon Bradtmueller (IN), Chairman

Mr. Bradtmueller (IN) reported the website is under review with some corrections and some still being worked on. The CPR is now a fill able format on the SAL website and MYSAL.org. If your Squadron submits their form from the website a copy is **NOT** sent back to your Detachment– print and send copies.

The “Snapshots of Service” photo contest forms are available on the website. The submission and guidelines have been given out to you and please send this information out.

Damon thanked everyone for their cards and notes of encouragement. This concluded his report.

A motion was made by France to accept the report, seconded by Indiana. Motion carried.

Mike Lawler (WI) asked if they can get the CPR form electronically. Damon said yes, it’s a fill able form on the website.

At this time VA&R gave their report.

VA&R COMMISSION
Jeff Frain (AZ), Chairman

Mr. Frain (AZ) reported that we have lost too many hours because we don't have the Reps and Deps. We need to increase our Reps and Deps in our states.

Does anyone know what's going on May 17th? May 17th is the National Veterans Assistance Day so be sure to get out and help our veterans. We have good stories so take pictures so we get them on our website.

Last year we only had 3 names submitted for the Charles B. Rigsby Volunteer of the Year Award but we had to pull one name because they didn't follow the rules. We want to push this award hard this year. The form and guidelines are on the website and send them to me.

Earl Ruttkofsky (MI) talked to us about the Wilwin Lodge in Trout Lake, Michigan. It's a veterans' center in Michigan for veterans to reconnect with their families. There is one also located in Virginia.

If you need any brochures or information please contact me. This concluded his report.

A motion was made by Arizona to accept the report, seconded by Wisconsin. Motion carried.

At this time Children & Youth gave their report.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH COMMISSION
Clint Bolt (VA), Chairman

Mr. Bolt (VA) began by congratulating the Detachment of Florida for taking the Sons over the \$6 million mark for CWF.

Child Welfare Foundation Committee - reported by Peter Sierminski (CO)

Mr. Sierminski said we will continue with the Per Capita Banner. The Children's Action Team (CAT) has 800 members. This year we will coincide membership with CWF's year which is June 1st.

Last October we had 21 grants submitted totaling over \$644,000 in which the Sons sponsored or co-sponsored 11 and we were awarded 10 of the grants. You can go the American Legion website to make a donation.

There were two (2) Resolutions – **SAL Res 1 – Spring 2014 Titled: Child Welfare Foundation Donation of \$4,000 from the 2014 Budget** and **SAL Res 3 – Spring 2014 Titled: Child Welfare Foundation Donation of \$1,000 in Memory of The American Legion Past National Commander Richard M. Pedro (NY)**.

Mr. Sierminski said you do make a difference for that blind kid who's born with that disadvantage. Last year we donated to the National Braille Press which produces a Braille primer for sighted parents to teach their blind child to read. We also gave a grant to the Joe Foss Institute that will provide students with copies of the United States Constitution and Declaration of Independence. So your contributions do make a difference when you donate.

The following names were drawn for prizes:

Bob Rosenboom (IA) – Bag with other gifts
Brad Dudley (PA) – Bag with other gifts
Mike Kirschner (CO) – Umbrella

This concluded his report.

Mr. Clint Bolt (VA) reported the last thing our troops want to worry about are the house hold repairs and that their families are being taken care of. That's why The American Legion has a toll free number for the Family Support Network. Once the call is received it is routed to the Department they are in and is taken care of within 24 hours. Once the post is alerted they assess the situation. They need assistance every day and that's where the SAL comes in. Volunteer is what families need.

The "New" Youth Handbook – we had several revisions and corrections. This will be ready to go to print in June with the revisions and will be ready for convention in North Carolina. Also, Commander Gladden mentioned reporting. We have to report and it's vitally important that we report.
This concluded his report.

A motion was made by Wisconsin to accept the report, minus the resolutions, seconded by Florida. Motion carried.

Resolution Chairman Robert Brown (GA) read resolution SAL 1-Spring 2014 titled "Child Welfare Foundation Donation of \$4,000 from the 2014 Budget". A motion was made by Robert Brown (GA) to accept the resolution, seconded by Mississippi. Motion carried.

Resolution Chairman Robert Brown (GA) read resolution SAL 3-Spring 2014 titled "Child Welfare Foundation Donation of \$1,000 in Memory of The American Legion Past National Commander Richard M. Pedro (NY)". A motion was made by Robert Brown (GA) to accept the resolution, seconded by New York. Motion carried.

At this time Larry D. Sheets (FL), Legion SAL Sub-Committee was recognized by Commander Gladden and he thanked Mr Sheets for his attendance.

At this time Americanism gave their report.

AMERICANISM COMMISSION
Danny J. Smith (NE), Chairman

Mr. Smith (NE) started by saying religion is a huge part of Americanism – *For God and Country*. We are all here for the programs of The American Legion and one of those programs is the National Commander's Project.

We have a goal of \$250,000 for The American Legion Legacy Scholarship Fund. We currently stand at \$60,000 with the challenge coins we're collecting for. We have a way's to go to met this goal. Don't give up on the National Commander's Project of the Legacy Scholarship Fund.

Another important project of the National Commander is Boys State. We need to get out and volunteer, assist, sponsor or do whatever we can do to help The American Legion with their Boys State Program.

The Commission started something new this year called “*Spotlight on Americanism*”. The purpose of the Spotlight on Americanism is to educate members and raise awareness of the programs we’re involved in. We need to educate our membership and community and to keep passing the information along.

The submission of CPR’s are not a contest. The winners are the people we help – get these forms in. I’m going to try to refrain from using “winners” and call them “recipients” for the awards.

We spent some time this year putting together an Americanism section in the Squadron Handbook as directed by Internal Affairs. It was approved and will be printed in the handbook.

We had one (1) Resolution presented to the Americanism Commission. **SAL Res 5 – Spring 2014** *Titled: Junior Law Program*. The Junior Law Cadet Program is currently in only 17 Departments and hope to get it in all Departments. This concluded his report.

A motion was made by New Hampshire to accept the report, minus the resolution, seconded by Wisconsin. Motion carried.

At this time PNC Clarence Bacon (MD) was recognized by Commander Gladden and thanked him for his attendance.

Resolution Chairman Robert Brown (GA) read resolution SAL 5 - Spring 2014 titled “Junior Law Program”. A motion was made by Robert Brown (GA) to accept the resolution, seconded by New Jersey. Motion carried.

Commander Gladden (MD) called for the Internal Affairs Report.

INTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
Mark Tansel (IN), Chairman

Mr. Tansel (IN) called for the following to be given:

Convention – reported by Mark Tansel (IN) for Richard Campbell (NC)

The NASCAR Hall of Fame is nearby. A discount admission is being worked on. There will be a golf tournament on Thursday, August 21st. Three courses are currently being reviewed and one will be selected. Check the website for further details. This concluded his report.

Membership – reported by Raymond Jarvis (NY)

We are having a hard time with renewals and it seems like we keep slipping and losing the battle. Last year our renewal rates were at 87.95% with a loss of 40,000 members. We did not make our 100% Membership goal by National Convention last year but did by the end of the year with 100.8%.

We are currently at 80.92% renewal rate which is 70,000 members that haven’t renewed. We need to get out there and get renewals – go door to door. If you’re having a problem or need a hand let us know.

We need 32,700 to make 100%. Our next goal is May 14th. Our Commander set a very lofty goal of 106.3% and we need 50,000 members to meet this goal. We need to make this happen for our Commander.

This concluded his report.

At this time Commander Gladden's membership video was shown.

Member Training & Development – reported by Scott Thornton (OH) for Mike Sawicki (IL)

We discussed the preparations for the NMI classes this weekend. Mr. Thornton asked all NMI students to stand to be recognized. We also discussed the Fall Commander's class that will take place in October.

Ron Roberts (MS) spoke to us about a Parliamentary Procedure class that will be conducted in the fall of 2014. We also discussed having a class with a meeting scenario that will involve roll playing in how to conduct a meeting. This concluded his report.

Mr. Tansel (IN) stated there were two (2) Resolutions – **SAL Res 2 – Spring 2014 Titled: Appointment of Harold E. Thompson, Jr. (NE) as National Assistant Adjutant Emeritus** and **SAL Res 4 – Spring 2014 Titled: Endorsement of Joseph P. Keiser (NV) for National Vice Commander.**

SAL Res 2 – Convention 2013 Titled: Re-write the Sons of The American Legion Handbook. The Commission received this Resolution from the Convention Committee and deemed it pertinent to this Commission. A discussion continued and after reviewing the intent of the Resolution the Commission determined that this intent has been fulfilled by the action taken by The American Legion and the SAL Liaison. This action was a result of work, study and action taken by the previously formed Ad-Hoc Committee within the NEC. This committee chaired by PNC Doug Bible has laid the ground work for the new Manual's that were presented to the NEC upon registration at this Spring NEC Meeting. The manuals were a new Squadron Handbook and the new Youth Handbook. Both were well received. A motion to reject the Resolution was based on actions already taken to fulfill its intent by Don Culver (KS).

We also discussed the data collection for the CPR's. The problems are being addressed by the National Adjutant's office and these problems will be corrected. Commander Gladden had asked the Internal Affairs Commission to reread the minutes from the past 18 months on Americanism, Children & Youth and VA&R to check for any items or issues that had not been completed or carried out. We went back and analyzed each report and found several that we need to take action on.

PNC Cliff Smith stated he would like to see the state a PNC served under listed with their name in all publications that list the PNC's and on the website. This concluded his report.

A motion was made by Indiana to accept the report, minus the resolutions, seconded by Texas. Motion carried.

Jim Gelwicks (CO) asked if the 4-nines report was still being used to report Detachment activities. National Adjutant Brian O'Hearne said yes as long as you don't already have a Headquarters squadron. If you have a headquarters squadron then use that one in lieu of 9999.

Resolution Chairman Robert Brown (GA) read resolution SAL 2 - Spring 2014 titled "Appointment of Harold E. Thompson, Jr. (NE) as National Assistant Adjutant Emeritus". A motion was made by Robert Brown (GA) to accept the resolution, seconded by Nebraska. Motion carried.

At this time Harold Thompson, Jr. (NE) was escorted to the podium for a brief speech. This concluded his remarks.

Commander Gladden called for the Finance Report.

FINANCE COMMISSION
Jerry “Crash” Leopold (KS), Chairman

Dr. Leopold (KS) reported we spent 4 ½ hours looking over the finances, budget and call-ins. We found the 2013 fiscal year budget as acceptable with a net excess. The 2015 budget was accepted and filled away for final resolution. The budget will look different this year and will be making adjustments with the call-ins.

SAL Res 3 – Convention 2013 – National Executive Committee Meeting Call-In Review was rejected which was a decision by the Commission with no further action. We did pass a motion with regard to study the call-in format. This concluded his report.

A motion was made by California to accept the report, seconded by Arizona. Motion carried.

Ron Roberts (MS) asked for a motion to amend the motion subject to audit. National Judge Advocate Joseph Paviglianti (NY) stated there was nothing to audit because no financials were presented. The motion was withdrawn.

Commander Gladden (MD) called for the Sub-Committee Report on Resolutions.

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE
Robert Brown (GA), Chairman

Mr. Brown (GA) wanted to thank everyone for the donation for the DVD's and has collected \$158 to the Legacy Fund.

Mr. Brown stated we had four (4) Resolutions read and acted upon. No further business was presented to the Committee. This concluded his report.

A motion was made by Robert Brown (GA) to accept the report, seconded by Virginia. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Commander Joe Gladden (MD) called for old business.

Jim Gelwicks (CO) asked if the SAL Resolutions could be put on the website like the Legion has. Commander Gladden said he would look into it.

Commander Gladden said we had 14 motorcycles from Greenwood Post 64 o Mooresville Post 103. The Greenwood Post donated the meals and we raised \$530 for the Legacy Scholarship Fund.

No other old business to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS

Commander Joseph Gladden (MD) called for new business.

Jim Gelwicks (CO) suggested a back-up e-mail be sent to the Committees on Committees when sending e-mails by the NEC on Committee recommendations.

At this time Commander Joe Gladden (MD) appointed the following for the 43rd Annual National Convention of the Sons of The American Legion:

*Americanism – Danny Smith (NE)
Constitutional Amendments – Robert Brown (GA)
Credentials – Harold Thompson, Jr. (NE)
Internal Affairs – Mark Tansel (IN)
Membership – Raymond Jarvis (NY)
Finance – Dr. Jerry Leopold (KS)
Legislation and Rules – David Lee (NY)
VA&R – Jeff Frain (AZ)
Children & Youth – Clint Bolt (VA)*

A motion was made by Commander Joseph Gladden (MD) to accept these appointments as read, accepted by Texas, seconded by Maryland. Motion carried.

There was no other new business to discuss.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Commander Joseph Gladden (MD) called For The Good of the Sons.

John Odom (FR) presented a donation to CWF.

PNC Mike Deacon requested permission to give a presentation. PNC Deacon called NVC Randy Eicher (OH) to come to the podium. NVC Eicher (OH) was presented with two wooden states in the shape of Iowa and Ohio because he had trouble remembering which state he was in.

Milton Chatham (TX) congratulated Harold Thompson and commended him for taking good care of his mother. Also, David Blair fell in the tub and fractured some ribs.

Milton Chatham (TX) also said we often hear about the Legacy Scholarship but don't see much publication or how much has been given out. Where do you find the information? Mr. Chatham said he talked to someone and there were only 8 applications for Legacy Scholarship for this year. Commander Gladden said a report is submitted at the end of the year telling how much was given and donated. Commander also said he talked to Bill Sloan and said the DOD keeps records to themselves and aren't allowed to share the information so it's going to take time.

Bob Brown (GA) said he's participated in the Legacy Run since it's inception and don't know how many applications have been received for this year but not a single application has been denied.

At this time George Flasiniski (PA) spoke about the 34th National Veterans Wheelchair Games and showed a video. Mr. Flasiniski said the Eagle Scouts come in from all the Departments to carry banners at the opening ceremonies.

Commander Gladden asked how we can help and Mr. Flasiniski said just getting the Scouts in from all the Departments would be a good start and would appreciate any help.

John Odom (FR) asked, isn't the Eagle Scout done for the year? Mr. Flasiniski said yes, it would be for whomever it was for this year.

Chris Affolter (CA) stated that Bob Bedell is in the hospital to replace his pacemaker and stint. Also, the last NEC I stood before to please call your reps so they don't cut the benefits.

Jim Hunter (IL) stated last November he had the honor to attend the opening of the SAL Hall of Fame in California and would like to acknowledge PNC Mike Seaton and PNC Bob McBride as inductees.

Steve Gower (VA) asked that the NMI classes prefer an all-day class to get more out of it.

NVC Randy Eicher (OH) recommended that the NEC take a moment of silence for Ed VanHouton as well as the others that were lost.

Commander Gladden took a moment to thank everyone for allowing him to become National Commander.

With no further business to come before the National Executive Committee, National Chaplain Danny Poole (MI) gave the benediction.

Following a right-hand salute, National Commander Gladden (MD) declared the meeting adjourned at 10:48 am.

Sons of The American Legion Resolution
National Executive Committee
May 3 & 4, 2014

No.: SAL Res 1 – Spring 2014
Title: Child Welfare Foundation Donation of \$4,000 from the 2014 Budget
Origin: Child Welfare Committee

WHEREAS, The Child Welfare Foundation is a vital part of the Sons of The American Legion since its inception in 1987; and

WHEREAS, There is a constant and vital need for funding of many programs and grants that can assist children in need; and

WHEREAS, Donations by the Sons of The American Legion have provided greatly needed assistance to these children in our country; and

WHEREAS, The support and recognition provided by The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation has further established our organization as a true partner in the goals and principles of the "Legion Family"; now therefore be it,

RESOLVED, by the National Executive Committee of the Sons of The American Legion in regular sessions in Indianapolis, Indiana, May 3 - 4, 2014 that a donation in the amount of Four Thousand Dollars, (\$4,000) be made to The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation. And be it further;

RESOLVED, That the funds be taken from the 2014 Child Welfare Foundation Donation budgeted line.

Resolutions Subcommittee Recommendation

- Approved
Rejected
Referred to:
Other Action

Signature Chairman, Resolutions Subcommittee
Bob Brown

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature

Peter Sierminski
Peter Sierminski (CO), Chairman
Child Welfare Foundation Committee

Finance Committee Recommendation:

Jerry Leopold
Jerry Leopold (KS), Chairman
Finance Commission

Bob Brown, Chairman, Sub Committee on Resolutions

Sons of The American Legion Resolution
National Executive Committee
May 3 & 4, 2014

No.: SAL Res 2 – Spring 2014

Title: Appointment Of Harold E. Thompson Jr. (NE) As National Assistant Adjutant Emeritus

Origin: National Adjutant Brian O’Hearne

WHEREAS, Harold E. Thompson Jr., a member from the Detachment of Nebraska, has been an active member of the Sons of The American Legion for over 35 years; and

WHEREAS, Harold’s eligibility comes from his father, Harold E. Thompson, who was killed in action during World War II while serving with the United States Army Air Corps; and

WHEREAS, Harold has been involved in the Sons of The American Legion when his mother was District President and remains a member to “Honor my father for his service and my freedom.”; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his membership he has demonstrated selfless commitment and exceptional leadership while serving on various Detachment and National committees, commissions, appointments and offices at all levels of the Sons of The American Legion; and

WHEREAS, He has faithfully and loyally served the Sons of The American Legion as National Assistant Adjutant since 1989 and his distinguished service has developed many initiatives to streamline the Adjutants function at the National organization; and

WHEREAS, The National Executive Committee of the Sons of The American Legion is desirous of recognizing this outstanding member for his service and achievements, particularly for serving as a National Assistant Adjutant; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of the Sons of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 3-4, 2014, That Harold E. Thompson Jr. (NE) is commended for his long and extraordinary service to the Sons of The American Legion in key leadership positions, particularly as National Assistant Adjutant; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That Harold E. Thompson Jr. (NE) is hereby appointed National Assistant Adjutant Emeritus in recognition of his 25 years of outstanding service as a distinguished National officer and in this appointed capacity may continue to serve our organization.

Resolutions Subcommittee Recommendation

Approved

Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Resolutions Subcommittee

Bob Brown

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature

Mark Tansel

Mark Tansel (IN), Chairman
Internal Affairs Commission

Finance Committee Recommendation:

Jerry Leopold

Jerry Leopold (KS), Chairman
Finance Commission

Bob Brown, Chairman, Sub Committee on Resolutions

Sons of The American Legion Resolution
National Executive Committee
May 3 & 4, 2014

Page 1 of 1

No.: SAL Res 3– Spring 2014
Title: Child Welfare Foundation Donation of \$1,000 in Memory of The American Legion Past National Commander Richard M. Pedro (NY)
Origin: National Commander Gladden

WHEREAS, On January 10, 2014 The American Legion Family lost a great leader among leaders, Past National Commander Richard M. Pedro (NY) passed away; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Pedro was named past national commander of The American Legion – only the 11th person in the history of the organization to receive such an honor without having served in the office – during the 94th American Legion National Convention; and

WHEREAS, We, the Sons of The American Legion, are deeply saddened by the loss of this very distinguished member of The American Legion family; now therefore be it,

RESOLVED, by the National Executive Committee of the Sons of The American Legion in regular session in Indianapolis, Indiana, May 3 – 4, 2014 that the National Organization of the Sons of The American Legion memorializes the accomplishments and deeds of Richard M. Pedro, Past National Commander of The American Legion. And be it further;

RESOLVED, That a donation in the amount of One Thousand Dollars be presented to The Child Welfare Foundation, in memory of Past National Commander, Mr. Richard M. Pedro. And be it finally;

RESOLVED, That the funds be taken from the 2014 Child Welfare Foundation Donation budgeted line.

Resolutions Subcommittee Recommendation

- Approved
Rejected
Referred to:
Other Action

Signature Chairman, Resolutions Subcommittee
Bob Brown

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature

Peter Sierminski
Peter Sierminski (CO), Chairman
Child Welfare Foundation Committee

Finance Committee Recommendation:

Jerry Leopold
Jerry Leopold (KS), Chairman
Finance Commission

Bob Brown, Chairman, Sub Committee on Resolutions

National Executive Committee
May 3 & 4, 2014

Page 1 of 1

No.: SAL Res 4 – Spring 2014
Title: Endorsement of Joseph P. Keiser (NV) for National Vice Commander
Origin: Internal Affairs Commission

WHEREAS, The Sons of The American Legion is a program of The American Legion comprised of descendents of Veterans; and

WHEREAS, The National Executive Committee of the Sons of The American Legion requires that candidates for national elective office in the Sons of The American Legion be presented to the National body by resolution; and

WHEREAS, Joseph P. Keiser has distinguished himself as capable and willing to represent the Detachment of Nevada as elected national officer by his dedication and sacrifice for the good of the American Legion Family; now therefore let it be

RESOLVED, That the Sons of The American Legion in National Executive Committee assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, May 3 – 4, 2014, That the Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Nevada hereby endorses Joseph P. Keiser for the high office of National Vice Commander West at such future time and year as may become available; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That the above resolution was endorsed by the Detachment of Nevada and the Department of Nevada with indicated National action submitted for the local resolving clause. The signatures of the Detachment Adjutant Kenneth S. Clasen and Department Adjutant Lionel Motta are on the submitted resolution.

Resolutions Subcommittee Recommendation

Approved

Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Resolutions Subcommittee

Bob Brown

Bob Brown, Chairman, Sub Committee on Resolutions

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature

Mark Tansel

Mark Tansel, Chairman, Internal Affairs Commission

National Executive Committee
May 3 & 4, 2014

Page 1 of 1

No.: SAL Res 5 – Spring 2014
Title: Junior Law Program
Origin: Americanism Commission

WHEREAS, the Junior Law Cadet program was adopted by the Americanism Commission of The American Legion by resolution; and

WHEREAS, the Junior Law Cadet program is currently in only 17 Departments of The American Legion; and

WHEREAS, The Americanism Commission of The American Legion is strongly encouraging American Legion departments who do not currently sponsor a Junior Law Cadet program to establish one in cooperation with their State Police or Highway Patrol, of which the name of department programs have varied to include such terms as Student Trooper Program, Trooper Week Program, Youth Law Cadet Week, etc.; and

WHEREAS, Once a greater number of American Legion departments sponsor a Law Cadet Program, the Americanism Commission of The American Legion envisions the goal of establishing a National Junior Law Cadet Academy that will provide further educational opportunities for the top cadets from each Department Junior Law program; and

WHEREAS, the Sons of The American Legion is a program of The American Legion established to assist The American Legion with the promotion of the ideals and principles on which The American Legion was founded; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of the Sons of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, May 3rd - 4th 2014, That the Sons of The American Legion work with The American Legion to promote and encourage departments of The American Legion who are not currently sponsoring a Junior Law Cadet program to establish one.

Resolutions Subcommittee Recommendation

Approved

Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action

Signature Chairman, Resolutions Subcommittee

Bob Brown

Bob Brown, Chairman, Sub Committee on Resolutions

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature

Danny Smith

Danny Smith, Chairman, Americanism Commission

ADDENDUM B

***Internal Affairs Commission Report to
National Executive Committee
The American Legion
May 7-8, 2014***

**Disposition of Action of
Sons of The American Legion**

In compliance with Resolution 21 “entitled”, “Establish Procedure for Handling Matters Originating from SAL National Conventions and SAL National Executive Committees”, adopted by the National Executive Committee of The American Legion at its meeting April 30-May 1, 1973, this is to report disposition made by the Internal Affairs Commission of SAL actions taken at the National Executive Committee May 7-8, 2014.

	TITLE	ACTION
SAL NEC 1-S14	Child Welfare Foundation Donation of \$4,000	Approved
SAL NEC 2-S14	Appointment of Harold E. Thompson, Jr. (NE) as SAL National Assistant Adjutant Emeritus	Approved
SAL NEC 3-S14	Child Welfare Foundation Donation of \$1,000 in Memory of Past National Commander Richard Pedro (NY)	Approved
SAL NEC 4-S14	Endorsement of Joseph P. Keiser (NV) for SAL National Vice Commander	Received and Recorded
SAL NEC 5-S14	Junior Law Cadet Program	Approved