

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



**INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA  
October 10-11, 2015**

**MINUTES OF THE  
FALL NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION  
OCTOBER 10-11, 2015**

National Commander Kevin Collier (AK) called the Fall Meeting of the National Executive Committee of the Sons of The American Legion to order Saturday, October 10, 2015 at the Sheraton Hotel, Indianapolis, Indiana.

National Chaplain Michael Lawler (WI) gave the invocation.

National Commander Kevin Collier (AK) 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 William L. Foster (AZ) and the Preamble to the Constitution led by National Vice Commander Dennis J. Henkemeyer (MN).

National Commander Collier (AK) 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**

Kevin L. Collier (AK)	National Commander
William G. Hill (MD)	National Vice Commander – East
Steve R. Curry (KY)	National Vice Commander – South
Dennis J. Henkemeyer (MN)	National Vice Commander – Central
Steve Ward (KS)	National Vice Commander – Midwest
William L. Foster (AZ)	National Vice Commander – West
Brian J. O’Hearne (MA)	National Adjutant
Harold E. Thompson, Jr. (NE)	National Assistant Adjutant Emeritus
James “Ed” Sheubrooks (FL)	National Assistant Adjutant
Robert Avery (NY)	National Assistant Adjutant
David Ridenour (IN)	National Assistant Adjutant
Anthony W. Wright (PA) – E	National Assistant Adjutant
Scott Williams (VA)	National Assistant Adjutant
Scott J. Thornton (OH)	National Assistant Adjutant
Michael L. Lawler (WI)	National Chaplain
Thomas E. Marsden (NJ))	National Historian
Joseph Paviglianti (NY)	National Judge Advocate
Kyle A. Parkerson (AK) – E	National Sergeant-At-Arms
Lyle G. Larson (KS)	National Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms
Danny J. Poole (MI)	National Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms
Raymond P. Giehll, III (IN)	National Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms
Brian K. Waters (PA) - E	National Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms
Matthew Chebro (GA) – E	National Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms
Austin R. Diaz (AK)	Aide To The National Commander

### **Past National Commanders**

Michael W. Moss (CO)

Michael Seaton (CA)

Robert McBride (OH)

J. R. Stillwell (IL)

Charles E. Gannon (MD)

David P. Stephens (IN)

Christopher R. Cerullo (NY)

Douglas P. Bible (MN)

Eugene L. Sacco (CA)

Roland D. Matteson (AZ)

Joseph M. Mayne (MN)

William E. Matoska (MD)

Byron J. Robichaux (LA)

Richard L. Cook (OK)

Kevin N. Winkelmann (TX)

Clifford A. Smith (MA)

Steve C. Laws (NC)

Neal C. Warnken (KS)

Michael J. Deacon (IA)

William L. Sparwasser (MD)

Earl R. Ruttkofsky (MI)

Raymond Giehll, Jr. (IN)

Thomas E. Cisna (IL)

David L. Dew (TX)

James K. Roberts, III (FL)

Christopher J. Huntzinger (PA)

Joseph W. Gladden (MD)

### **Detachment Delegates**

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

Commander Collier (AK) then called upon National Adjutant Brian O’Hearne (MA) for the reading of the minutes from the 2015 National Convention in Baltimore, Maryland.

Adjutant O’Hearne stated we propose to have thirty (30) days to get the minutes done. Thirty (30) days for review and comments and then two (2) weeks to vote with any changes. A motion was made by Illinois to accept, seconded by Alabama.

Jim Gelwicks (CO) asked if the changes could be visible so any changes would be noted. Adjutant O’Hearne said this would not be a problem. This concluded the discussion.

National Commander Kevin Collier (AK) welcomed all the Detachment Commanders and asked first time attendees of the Fall NEC Meeting to stand for recognition.

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

Mr. Kerestan began by welcoming everyone to Indianapolis. Mr. Kerestan welcomed Past National Commander J.R. Stillwell (IL) back to the SAL meetings.

I’m going to start out with a question. What do call a cow without legs? The answer is ground beef. Mr. Kerestan apologized for not having the minutes done with Denise being in the hospital and losing a staff member to retirement. The new finance procedure went well. You need to see the finance guys if you’re entitled to a check. I hope to have the checks processed by the end of the month.

Donations are for Legion charities so be sure the checks are for our programs. We had to return some checks because they were not for a Legion charity and we can not accept two-party checks. Checks need to be made to the perspective charity or The American Legion National Headquarters.

Reservation went well this meeting. Please read your e-mails, memorandums and letters the I send out. I have some facts for you to write down. In your packets is a DOB report and if you notice we've been collecting these for fifteen years. We only have 53,000 DOB's on record on our system and we have 360,000 members...where are the rest of them? It's printed on the membership register, it's on the member data form, you can update them on mysal.org or you can call customer service to have it updated.

We are going on three years since we introduced mySAL.org. A Squadron Adjutant or representative can make corrections, add DOB's, it tells you the last time the members paid, add or change telephone numbers, labels and much more. As of last week we only have 1,060 Squadrons using mySAL.org and we have 6,100 Squadrons. Where are the other 5,000 Squadrons and why aren't we using this tool?

Last year, October 2014, we rolled out the portal for mySAL.org to Detachment Adjutants. We have 50 Detachment Adjutants and only 28 Detachments using it so where are the other 22 Detachments. This allows the Detachment Adjutants access to all their Squadrons.

We have a lot of work to do on the CSR forms. This year we only received 1,478 so where are the other 5,000 forms. Again, many tools are available, but are they being used?

This past summer we didn't have enough time to do the newsletter and have it mailed prior to the next National Convention. It takes about 3-4 weeks to have this done. We decided to have it e-mailed out to everyone so we extracted the e-mails for everyone and we only had 9,968 so where are the rest of the 360,000 members e-mail addresses? There were about 1,000 of the 9,968 that were undeliverable because they were invalid e-mails. The next newsletter is planned for November.

Dual members get the Legion magazine of twelve issues a year. If you don't want to receive the Legion magazine call customer service and they will code your record not to receive it.

I kind of painted a weak picture of what's going on with some of the Squadrons. One thing I do know is we are not a profit making organization. We're all volunteers so keep that in mind and I think we can do a little better. Take some of this information back to your conferences to discuss.

Just a reminder to keep your personal items secure and be aware of your surroundings. This concluded his remarks.

Adjutant Brian O'Hearne stated a guy had one of our blue folders going around soliciting money. So if you don't want to use your folders don't leave it lying around.

Harold Thompson, Jr. (NE), National Assistant Adjutant announced he had breakfast tickets still and to see him in the office to purchase them.

Commander Kevin Collier (AK) had the Sergeant-At-Arms escort PNC J. R. Stillwell (IL) to the stage.

PNC Stillwell thanked the SAL, Auxiliary and Legion for all the get well wishes and cards. PNC Stillwell gave a special thank you to Bob Brown (GA), Ronnie Grist (GA) and PNC Mike Moss (CO) for all their assistance. Enjoy the rest of your time here. This concluded his remarks.

NEC Mark Severance (CA) said he was at the membership meeting yesterday and there was a special committee created and I was wondering if those gentlemen spoke with you. It's my understanding that the Commander is to be involved with all committees and commissions.

Commander Collier said after receiving the membership minutes I will bring those forward then the NEC can approve or disapprove those appointments to that sub-committee.

Chris Cook (OK) said the committee is allowed to create a sub-committee to do research that doesn't require your approval.

At this time Commander Kevin Collier (AK) called for donations.

Total Donations Received – CWF - \$27,894; NEF - \$5,570; Legacy Scholarship Fund - \$500;  
OCW - \$420; Endowment Fund - \$725

This concluded the donations submitted. Commander Collier (AK) called for announcements.

PNC Charles Gannon (MD) said I just want to make an observation. In most association/corporations, when they open a meeting they start off with a motivational type information. We didn't have very much good news this morning other than J.R. being back. The last time we had a Commander stand up and do a motivational thing to open our meeting was Kevin Winkelmann a number of years back. We can't expect our troops to go out and work if they're not motivated when they leave this room. We need more motivation and less complaining.

Jeff Frain (AZ) announced his lunch from 11 am-2 pm as Leading Candidate.

There were no further announcements. At this time the General Session was adjourned at 9:21 am with a right hand salute to the colors and resumed at 2:30 pm.

**The Fall Meeting of the National Executive Committee of the Sons of The American Legion reconvened at 8:45 a.m., Sunday, October 11, 2015.**

With colors being in place and following a right hand salute, National Commander Kevin Collier (AK) declared the National Executive Committee Fall Meeting reconvened.

National Chaplain Michael L. Lawler (WI) gave the invocation. Followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by National Vice Commander Steve Curry (KY) and the Preamble to the Constitution led by National Vice Commander William Hill (MD).

National Commander Collier (AK) 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**

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Steve Ward (KS)

National Commander

National Vice Commander – East

National Vice Commander – South

National Vice Commander – Central

National Vice Commander – Midwest

William L. Foster (AZ)  
Brian J. O’Hearne (MA)  
Harold E. Thompson, Jr. (NE)  
James “Ed” Sheubrooks (FL)  
Robert Avery (NY)  
David Ridenour (IN)  
Anthony W. Wright (PA) – E  
Scott Williams (VA)  
Scott J. Thornton (OH)  
Michael L. Lawler (WI)  
Thomas E. Marsden (NJ)  
Joseph Paviglianti (NY)  
Kyle A. Parkerson (AK) – E  
Lyle G. Larson (KS)  
Danny J. Poole (MI)  
Raymond P. Giehll, III (IN)  
Brian K. Waters (PA) - E  
Matthew Chebro (GA) – E  
Austin R. Diaz (AK)

National Vice Commander – West  
National Adjutant  
National Assistant Adjutant Emeritus  
National Assistant Adjutant  
National Assistant Adjutant  
National Assistant Adjutant  
National Assistant Adjutant  
National Assistant Adjutant  
National Assistant Adjutant  
National Assistant Adjutant  
National Chaplain  
National Historian  
National Judge Advocate  
National Sergeant-At-Arms  
National Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms  
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Michael Seaton (CA)  
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### **Detachment Delegates**

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

At this time Commander Collier (AK) had the Sergeant-At-Arms escort National Commander Dale Barnett (GA) to the stage.

Commander Barnett (GA) said it’s good to be here this morning and I am ready to go. I’m dressed for it and you know what’s better than that is I turned the TV on this morning on WISH TV. They had The American Legion in yellow shirts and John Crosby from the Department of Indiana talking about where

we're going. We are headed to the Fort Benjamin Harrison area with about 300+ walkers and runners to participate in The American Legion 5k Walk for Veterans.

I am a proud member of the SAL because my father was a WWII Veteran. I was more proud at the SAL National Convention because, Joseph, an SAL member put my cap on my head. Joseph has been trained through the 5-Star Program of Service which broadens his knowledge. Commander Barnett (GA) thanked the SAL for what they do and God Bless. This concluded his speech.

Commander Collier (AK) thanked the Detachment Commanders for having a wonderful class. They did an outstanding job and they also collected \$202 towards CWF.

Commander Collier (AK) also announced we have a couple of Distinguished Guests, George West (NH) and Larry Sheets (FL) in the audience. PNC Joe Mayne (MN) also announced American Legion National Vice Commander Al Davis (MN).

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

At this time Americanism gave their report.

### **AMERICANISM COMMISSION**

**Greg K. Gibbs (NY), Chairman**

Chairman Gibbs (NY) said the newly structured Americanism Commission met for two hours yesterday. We firmed up the new mission statement with the re-structured commission. The previous priorities developed under Danny Smith were reviewed. The Commander's project goals for this year were reiterated.

The communication network developed by the National Vice Commanders through e-mails and conference calls will serve as a conduit for all our commission information this year. We encourage all Detachments they have a solid connection to the network. We would also like to hear from you about your successes so we can help strengthen our organization.

We have a new Facebook webpage under SAL Americanism so check it out. This concluded his report.

#### **Children and Youth Committee – reported by Randall L. Eicher (OH), Chairman**

We will continue to have our conference calls on the odd months with the last Sunday of each month. We will continue to promote the care and protection for our children and veterans.

We developed a mission statement this year for Children & Youth – *“The mission of the Sons of The American Legion Committee on Children & Youth is to formulate, recommend and implement plans, programs, and activities of The American Legion. The Committee’s responsibility is to promote the care and protection of the children of veterans; improve conditions for all children and youth with due concern for maintaining the integrity of the family home; prevent social and physical ills of children and youth where possible, utilizing services and cooperating with sound organizations and agencies for children and youth; maintain a balanced program that provides for their physical emotional, intellectual and spiritual needs; and such other purposes as maybe assigned to it by The American Legion and the Sons of The American Legion National Executive Committee; and to assist The American Legion Children and Youth Program in carrying on for God and Country.”*

I want you to think strongly about sending a representative to the Americanism Children & Youth Conference that's held in September each year. This is a very informative meeting and presentation.

Commander Collier's project is the Endowment Fund that will be headed up by Jim Noble and Mike Cotten will be working with TFA and Family Support Network. This concluded his report.

**Child Welfare Foundation Committee – reported by Peter Sierminski (CO), Chairman**

Chairman Sierminski (CO) said you guys are amazing. Last year you raised \$360,000 for CWF with 60% of all the money that was raised by The American Legion was raised by the SAL. The SAL has raised \$6.5 million to date and we hope to surpass the \$7 million mark this year.

There were 138 grants requested this year. We recommended to support 15 grants which included autism and children's cancer. Commander Collier set a goal of \$1.50 per member this year. This concluded his report.

***A motion was made by Commander Collier (AK) to accept the report, accepted by Connecticut (Bob Turner), seconded by Alabama (Rev. Tom Glander). Motion carried.***

Milton Chatham (TX) said Rick Kosinski (TX) should be Rick Trzcinski (TX) on the Americanism Commission Report. Commander so noted.

At this time the Finance gave their report.

**FINANCE COMMISSION**  
**Jerry Leopold (KS), Chairman**

Chairman Dr. Leopold (KS) reported the reimbursement process went well. The expenditures through June are all good. The proposed budget is in your report for you to view. We need to adopt the 2016 Budget, Leopold (KS) made a motion to accept the 2016 SAL Proposed Budget, accepted by Connecticut (Bob Turner), seconded by New Jersey (Gary Nelson).

Jim Gelwicks (CO) had a question on the income line. As of June roughly \$350,000 was reported as income. I thought the dues that were collected for 2015 during 2014 would be rolled forward in essence so the total in June would be closer to the income collected. Or is the accounting firm doing something different?

Dr. Leopold (KS) said it is per month and approved one month at a time and half the money has been collected.

Fr. Gary Gummersheimer (IL) asked what's our fiscal year? Dr. Leopold said it goes from January 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup> and it does not follow our membership year.

Fr. Gummersheimer said so for instance the scholarship awards were given out in July is why they aren't on this report. Dr. Leopold said that is correct.

Dr. Leopold (KS) continued with his report. There was one (1) Resolution SAL Res 4 – Fall 2015 for a \$5,000 donation to Harry W. Colmery Memorial in which the funds will come out of the excess funds of the 2015 budget.



Fr. Gary Gummersheimer (IL) said I find this frightening that this report only goes through June. Why not through August? Dr. Leopold said we do have it coming to us through August but with Denise in the hospital created a problem and accounting could be running a little behind. Our accounting firm controls that and we get the information out the best we can. This concluded his report.

Phillip Cook (NH) has a question on the budget line item 808000 – Data Services Allocations. What falls under Data Services? Dr. Leopold said Denise or John Kerestan can answer better but I imagine it's a lot of the printing and publication. Denise said our GOC Building does printing and publication and they have to charge us to process our requests.

***A motion was made by Commander Collier (AK) to accept the report and budget, accepted by Connecticut, seconded by New Jersey. Motion carried.***

At this time Internal Affairs gave their report.

**INTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION**  
**Mark Tansel (IN), Chairman**

Chairman Tansel (IN) called for the following reports to be given:

**Convention** – reported by Jon Coakley (OH)

On Thursday there will be a golf outing which won't be your typical golf outing. We will have more information later and looking for hole sponsorship.

There will be a dinner planned for all not just the golfers. We are working on transportation to get you back and forth to the post for a minimal cost. We are also trying to get discount tickets for Kings Island Amusement Park. This concluded his report.

**Member Training & Development** – reported by David Bishop (NY) for Mike Sawicki (IL)

Our top priority was the Commander's class that we were prepared and ready to go. The Spring 2016 NMI 1 class is full and we talked about a possible NMI 4 refresher course. Ron Roberts (MS) addressed the group briefly about parliamentary procedures and Ken Yanke (CO) spoke about public speaking. This concluded his report.

Gary Nelson (NJ) asked is there anything set up for the Detachment Adjutant Course. Commander Collier (AK) said they alternate each year so the Detachment Adjutant Class will be next year.

**Membership** – reported by Joe Roberts (AZ) for George Flasinski (PA)

Our primary focus will be conference calls to increase communication. The Blue Brigade Form has been moved to the Membership Section on the website and we have received the Individual Recruitment Pins now.

There was a Resolution that was sent back to membership committee for review and resubmission by Internal Affairs. The resolution was in regards to renewal cards and will be resubmitted during the Spring NEC Meeting. This concluded his report.

Mr. Tansel (IN) said the request for space in the Legion Magazine has been made and the membership committee is studying the Direct Mailing concept.

Mr. Tansel (IN) said Jim Gelwicks (CO) suggested the commission carefully gather participation data to find out how the new call in is affecting the organization.

Mr. Tansel (IN) stated there were two (2) Resolutions:

*SAL Res 1 – Fall 2015 Titled: “Endorsement of Kenneth P. Warner (PA) for National Vice Commander”. This Resolution was received and filed.*

*SAL Res 4 – Fall 2015 Titled: “\$5,000 Donation to Harry W. Colmery Memorial”.*

This concluded his report.

***A motion was made by Commander Collier (AK) to accept the report, minus the Resolutions, accepted by New Hampshire (Phil Cook), seconded by New York (Gary Denmon). Motion carried.***

Bob Turner (CT) asked if a member from Connecticut was in attendance. Mr. Tansel will check and get back with him.

At this time John Jennings (FL), Resolution Chairman read two (2) Resolutions.

***Resolution Chairman John Jennings (FL) read Resolution SAL 1-Fall 2015 titled “Endorsement of Kenneth P. Warner (PA) for National Vice Commander”. This Resolution was received and filed.***

***(Mr. Jennings said there was a change to SAL Res 4 – Fall 2015 that now reads as RESOLVED, that the funds come from the 2015 budget surplus and that this be a onetime exception to The American Legion Internal Affairs policy on donations to memorials due to the significance of Past National Commander Colmery’s contributions to The American Legion.)***

***Resolution Chairman John Jennings (FL) read Resolution SAL 4-Fall 2015 titled “\$5,000 Donation to Harry W. Colmery Memorial”. A motion was made by John Jennings (FL) to accept the resolution, seconded by Oklahoma (Chris Cook). Motion carried.***

## **LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION**

**David Lee (NY), Chairman**

Chairman Lee (NY) announced the Washington Conference will be February 21, 2016 and will visit Arlington National Cemetery, Korean Memorial and Pentagon 9/11 Memorial. Information will be out soon for the Washington Conference.

American Legion calls for action on Keystone XL Pipeline to Congress and to hold the VA accountable for West L.A. Property and Military Families Act. The VA needs to restore trust and be accountable.

Just a reminder to not get involved with politics as a Sons member or a representative as a Sons member. Reach out to your representatives so they know what we do and why.

This past year we had three Grassroots Veterans’ Advocate of the Year applicants submitted. Make sure you document what they are doing because it will make it easier to determine the work completed by the applicants to allow for proper judging and make sure you read the instructions. We are working on a resolution to present the winner an SAL cap with Grassroots Veterans’ Advocate of the Year Award with the year.

*A motion was made by Commander Collier (AK) to accept the report, accepted by Colorado (Jim Gelwicks), seconded by New York (Gary Denmon). Motion carried.*

Chris Cook (OK) wanted it noted that Philip Cook is from New Hampshire not Colorado as indicated in the Legislative minutes.

Jim Gelwicks (CO) wanted to share that he had the great honor of being in the room with a group of former Marines who served in Afghanistan. Mr. Gelwicks said many of them did not want any charity. They said two things that struck me, first it made them feel self loathing and second it made them feel under appreciated because there was a lack of recognition for what they have done. Mr. Gelwicks said I would like to urge the Sons to honor the 2001 conflicts.

At this time Public Relations gave their report.

### **PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMISSION**

**Joseph Korba (NJ), Chairman**

Chairman Korba (NJ) said we need articles submitted for the Legion Magazine. We will have colored pictures on the online version for the National Update so get those to Mike Pipher (IN).

We will continue with the Snapshots in Service Program. This year we received 15 entries for review. The winners will be announced at the next meeting. Most importantly we need e-mail addresses and if you need to correct it let us know. This concluded his report.

*A motion was made by Commander Collier (AK) to accept the report, accepted by Oklahoma (Chris Cook), seconded by Michigan (David Mennel). Motion carried.*

David Raymond (ME) wanted to announce that a Fisher House will be built in the near future.

At this time VA&R gave their report.

### **VA&R COMMISSION**

**Clint Bolt (VA), Chairman**

Chairman Bolt (VA) is asking that you encourage your Detachment VA&R Chairman to get volunteers at their local VA Hospitals.

There was a family that needed a service dog but couldn't afford one but it was possible through Operation Comfort Warrior (OCW). There was \$55,775 raised for OCW last year.

Commander Collier has set a goal of 25 cents per member for the Endowment Fund.

The Charles B. Rigsby Award Recipient, Robert Filippi (MD) received his plaque at convention and he will receive his cap from this meeting. A representative from Maryland received in his honor. Mr. Bolt said there was one (1) Resolution submitted:

*SAL Res 3 – Fall 2015 Titled: “Recommendation to Add Candidate & Detachment Communications to “Charles B. Rigsby VA&R Volunteer of the Year Award” Submittal Process”.*

This concluded Mr. Bolt's report.

***A motion was made by Commander Collier (AK) to accept the report, minus the Resolution, accepted by Illinois (Fr. Gary Gummersheimer), seconded by France (Ronald Moore). Motion carried.***

***Resolution Chairman John Jennings (FL) read Resolution SAL 3-Fall 2015 titled "Recommendation to Add Candidate & Detachment Communications to "Charles B. Rigsby VA&R Volunteer of the Year Award" Submittal Process. A motion was made by John Jennings (FL) for it to be returned and handled by the Committee administratively.***

At this time Veterans Employment & Education Committee report was given.

## **VETERANS EMPLOYMENT & EDUCATION COMMISSION**

**Larry C. Weinzirl (MD), Chairman**

Chairman Weinzirl (MD) stated Bill Towns, Jr. (OH) resigned and Harl Ray (IL) was appointed to replace Mr. Towns, Jr. by Commander Kevin L. Collier (AK).

The mission statement for this Commission is: *"To assist The American Legion in ensuring that America's veterans have the opportunity to provide, with honor and dignity, the economic necessities of life for themselves and their families."*

The American Legion sponsors dozen of job fairs every year. This year we've already gotten the word out of twenty-eight (28) job fairs. We will also request that Sons provide volunteer assistance at the fairs as needed. We will like to have the Detachments form their own VE&E Commissions or Committees.

There was one (1) Resolution submitted:

*SAL Res 2 – Fall 2015 Titled: "National Veterans Employment and Education Commission".*

Mr. Weinzirl (MD) said the VE&E is off to a good start and will be a vital part of the SAL. This concluded his report.

***A motion was made by Commander Collier (AK) to accept the report, minus the Resolution, accepted and seconded by Pennsylvania (Kenneth Warner). Motion carried.***

PNC Raymond Giehll, Jr. (IN) just wanted to note that Chairman Weinzirl was well prepared and Denise Rohan (WI) did a heck of a job.

***Resolution Chairman John Jennings (FL) read Resolution SAL 2-Fall 2015 titled "National Veterans Employment and Education Commission". A motion was made by John Jennings (FL) to accept the resolution, seconded by Pennsylvania (Kenneth Warner). Motion carried.***

Commander Collier (AK) called for the Sub-Committee Report on Resolutions:

## **SUB-COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS**

**John T. Jennings (FL), Chairman**

Chairman Jennings (FL) stated the Resolutions are listed and we have already discussed. I would like you to read through my minutes. The Adjutant will post a listing of all approved resolutions on the website. A resolution log was printed and distributed at registration.

The Committee will require any committee/commission that submits a resolution to attend the meeting and present their resolution for consideration by the Sub-Committee on Resolutions.

This concluded his report.

*A motion was made by John Jennings (FL) to accept the report, seconded by Virginia (Linwood Moore). Motion carried.*

#### OLD BUSINESS

Commander Kevin Collier (AK) called for old business. There was no old business to discuss. This concluded the old business.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Commander Kevin Collier (AK) called for new business. There was no new business to discuss. This concluded the new business.

#### FOR THE GOOD OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Commander Kevin Collier (AK) called For The Good of the Sons.

Commander Collier (AK) said we collected \$862 in the piggy bank for CWF.

PNC Cliff Smith said this is Breast Cancer Month and last night we raised \$1,400 that will go towards the Susan G. Komen Fund.

Jim Noble (NJ) presented Commander Collier with a \$5 donation for the Endowment Fund. Detachment of Tennessee donated \$300 towards CWF.

Commander Collier (AK) said the Detachment of Alaska has already met their goals in donations so who else will join us? Also, make sure you put SAL in the memo line on your checks. We also need your articles sent in to Mike Pipher (IN) for our National Update.

Commander Collier's Homecoming will be March 4-6, 2016. This concluded For The Good of the Sons.

With no further business to come before the National Executive Committee, National Chaplain Michael Lawler (WI) gave the benediction. The Sergeant-At-Arms retrieved and retired the POW/MIA Flag.

Following a right-hand salute, Commander Collier (AK) declared the meeting adjourned at 10:30 am.

**Sons of The American Legion Resolution**  
**National Convention**  
**August 28 - 30, 2015**

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**No.:** SAL Res 1 – Convention 2015  
**Title:** Support of Religious Freedom  
**Origin:** Detachment of Illinois

**WHEREAS**, this country was settled by persons persecuted for their religious beliefs, who came here, that they might worship in the manner of their individual choices; and

**WHEREAS**, our government was founded upon a trust in God, a trust that was first given voice when the founding fathers proclaimed in their first official document, the Declaration of Independence, that our rights to Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness were given to us not by government, but by God, our 'Creator' and the 'Supreme Judge of the World'; and

**WHEREAS**, in pursuit of these rights, the United States Constitution was drafted to protect citizens from laws favoring the establishment of one religion over another and from laws prohibiting the free exercise of religion, so that all citizens might be free to worship God, or not, as each individually chooses, and;

**WHEREAS**, historically, this nation has acknowledged God on our national currency, in our Pledge of Allegiance, in the National Motto of 'In God We Trust,' and in references to God appearing on the nation's, and this state's greatest monuments, memorials and buildings, including the Ten Commandments, which are represented in the United States Supreme Court Building, now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Sons of The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Baltimore, Maryland, August 28–30, 2015, that the acknowledgment of God and the exercise of religious freedom are the foundation of our national and state heritage."

Convention Committee Recommendation

Approved   
Rejected   
Referred to:   
Other Action

Convention Committee, Chairman Name, and Signature

*Mark Tansel*

Mark Tansel, Chairman  
Internal Affairs Convention Committee

**Sons of The American Legion Resolution**  
**National Convention**  
**August 28 - 30, 2015**

**No.:** SAL Res 2 – Convention 2015  
**Title:** Reaffirming “In God we trust” as the official motto of The United States  
**Origin:** Detachment of Illinois

**WHEREAS**, “In God We Trust” is the official motto of the United States; and,

**WHEREAS**, the sentiment, “In God We Trust”, has been an integral part of United States society since its founding; and

**WHEREAS**, in times of national challenge or tragedy, the people of the United States have turned to God as their source for sustenance, protection, wisdom, strength, and direction; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Declaration of Independence recognizes God, our Creator, as the source of our rights, “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.”; and,

**WHEREAS**, the national anthem of the United States says “praise the power that hath made and preserved us a nation \* \* \* and this be our motto: in God is our trust.”; and,

**WHEREAS**, the words “In God We Trust” appear over the entrance to the Senate Chamber and above the Speaker’s rostrum in the House Chamber; and,

**WHEREAS**, the oath taken by all Federal employees, except the President, states “I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter. So help me God.”; and,

**WHEREAS**, John Adams said, “Statesmen may plan and speculate for Liberty, but it is Religion and Morality alone, which can establish the Principles upon which Freedom can securely stand.”; and,

**WHEREAS**, if religion and morality are taken out of the marketplace of ideas, the very freedom on which the United States was founded cannot be secured; and,

**WHEREAS**, as President Eisenhower said and President Ford later repeated, “Without God, there could be no American form of government, nor, an American way of life.”; and,

**WHEREAS**, President John F. Kennedy said, “The guiding principle and prayer of this Nation has been, is now, and ever shall be ‘In God We Trust.’ ”, now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Sons of The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Baltimore, Maryland, August 28–30, 2015, that that we reaffirm “In God We Trust” as the official motto of the United States and supports and encourages the public display of the national motto in all public buildings, public schools, and other government institutions.

Convention Committee Recommendation

- Approved
- Rejected
- Referred to:
- Other Action

Convention Committee, Chairman Name, and Signature

*Mark Tansel*

Mark Tansel, Chairman  
Internal Affairs Convention Committee

**Sons of The American Legion Resolution**  
**National Convention**  
**August 28 - 30, 2015**

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**No.:** SAL Res 3 – Convention 2015

**Title:** Reiterate Commitment to The American Legion “Service to God and Country” program

**Origin:** Detachment of Illinois

**WHEREAS**, Since 1919 The American Legion has declared its recognition of the influence of God in all of humanity’s worthwhile endeavors; and

**WHEREAS**, Since 1919 The American Legion has declared its allegiance to God in the opening line of its preamble by stating, “For God and Country...”; and

**WHEREAS**, In 1951 The American Legion adopted Resolution 45 of the Internal Affairs Convention Committee, “Church Attendance And Observance Of ‘Go-To-Church’ Sunday,” and in 1952 the Americanism Convention Committee adopted Resolution 229, “All Members Of The American Legion Participate In ‘Back to God’ Program”; and

**WHEREAS**, To replace the former “Back to God” program, in 1963 The American Legion adopted Resolution 371 of the Internal Affairs Convention Committee, “‘Service to God and Country’ to be a new theme for the former ‘Back to God’ Program Of The American Legion,” and this resolution was inadvertently rescinded in October 2012; and

**WHEREAS**, It is the aim and objective of the “Service to God and Country” program to bring God to the foreground in American life, not merely in religious life, but in social, economic, and political life as well; and

**WHEREAS**, The “Service to God and Country” program of The American Legion is strictly non-denominational, non-sectarian, and intended to act in conjunction with and not independent of religious organizational bodies; and

**WHEREAS**, The American Legion “Service to God and Country” program gives emphasis to regular attendance at public worship, daily family prayers in the home, and religious training of children; and

**WHEREAS**, The National American Legion College Class of 2012 emphasized the value and importance of reiterating “Service to God and Country” program in an effort to combat moral and religious decay in our nation; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Sons of The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Baltimore, Maryland, August 28–30, 2015, that the Sons of The American Legion reiterate and encourage its commitment to the longstanding “Service to God and Country” program which seeks to prevent the

Convention Committee Recommendation

Approved

Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action

Convention Committee, Chairman Name, and Signature

*Mark Tansel*

Mark Tansel, Chairman  
Internal Affairs Convention Committee



**Sons of The American Legion Resolution**  
**National Convention**  
August 28 - 30, 2015

Page 2 of 2

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**No.:** SAL Res 3 – Convention 2015

**Title:** Reiterate Commitment to The American Legion “Service to God and Country” program

**Origin:** Detachment of Illinois

spiritual decay of America by charging the citizenry with a spirit of positive Americanism, respect for law, reverence for authority and awareness of our human rights and freedoms; and, be it finally

**RESOLVED**, that the two main components of the “Service to God and Country” program are:

1. “Service to God,” emphasizing regular public worship, daily family prayer and the religious education of children; and
2. “Service to Country,” inculcating a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation.

Convention Committee Recommendation

Approved

Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action

Convention Committee, Chairman Name, and Signature

*Mark Tansel*

Mark Tansel, Chairman  
Internal Affairs Convention Committee

**Sons of The American Legion Resolution**  
**National Convention**  
**August 28 - 30, 2015**

**No.: SAL Res 6 – Convention 2015**

**Title: Endorsement of Jeff Frain (AZ) for National Commander**

**Origin: Detachment of Arizona**

**WHEREAS**, The Sons of The American Legion is a program of The American Legion comprised of descendants 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**, Jeff Frain has distinguished himself as capable and willing to represent the Detachment of Arizona 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 Convention assembled in Baltimore, Maryland, August 28–30, 2015, that the Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Arizona hereby endorses Jeff Frain for the high office of National Commander 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 Arizona and the Department of Arizona with indicated National action submitted for the local resolving clause. The signatures of the Detachment Adjutant James Ashley and Department Adjutant Angel Juarez are on the submitted resolution.

Convention Committee Recommendation

Approved

Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action  received and filed

Convention Committee, Chairman Name, and Signature

*Mark Tansel*

Mark Tansel, Chairman  
Internal Affairs Convention Committee

# Sons of The American Legion Resolution National Convention

August 28 - 30, 2015

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**No.:** SAL Res 9 – Convention 2015  
**Title:** Annual Article in The American Legion Magazine  
**Origin:** Detachments of Minnesota and California

**WHEREAS,** The American Legion Magazine frequently publishes articles about the many programs of The American Legion; and;

**WHEREAS,** the Sons of The American Legion remains a program of The American Legion; and;

**WHEREAS,** the Sons of The American Legion would benefit from an article being published in The American Legion Magazine at a minimum of once per year; and,

**WHEREAS,** there is a possibility that the American Legion Magazine commission would facilitate the publication of an article about the Sons of The American Legion in an issue of The American Legion Magazine once per year, at no charge; now, therefore be it;

**RESOLVED,** by the Sons of The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Baltimore, Maryland, August 28–30, 2015, that the National Commander and/or the National Executive Committee of The Sons of The American , direct the National Public Media and Communications Commission Chairman of the Sons of The American Legion to contact the Chairman of The American Legion Magazine Commission and/or the editor of The American Legion Magazine on or before December 31, 2015 and determine the possibility of The American Legion Magazine featuring an article about the Sons of The American Legion one or more times per year at no cost to the Sons of The American Legion; and be it further;

**Resolved,** that if The American Legion Magazine requires a fee to run an article about the Sons of The American Legion, the fee be disclosed by the American Legion Magazine on or before December 31, 2015 and that fee be disclosed by the National Public Media and Communications Commission chairman at the Spring 2016 Sons of The American Legion National Executive Committee meeting and a request for the fee to be budgeted in the 2016-2017 budget; and be it further;

**Resolved,** that the Public Media and Communications Commission work directly with the National Commander, National Adjutant and all Committee and Commission chairman to gather information necessary for the Public Media and Communications Commission to write the article for future publication in The American Legion Magazine during the 2016-2017 administrative year; and be it finally

**Resolved,** that this change takes place within the 2016 membership year.

Convention Committee Recommendation

- Approved
- Rejected
- Referred to:
- Other Action

Convention Committee, Chairman Name, and Signature

*Mark Tansel*

Mark Tansel, Chairman  
Internal Affairs Convention Committee

**Sons of The American Legion Resolution**  
**National Convention**  
**August 28 - 30, 2015**

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**No.:** SAL Res 10 – Convention 2015  
**Title:** Endorsement of Joseph Navarrete (NM) for National Vice Commander  
**Origin:** Detachment of New Mexico

**WHEREAS**, The Sons of The American Legion is a program of The American Legion comprised of descendants 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 Navarrete has distinguished himself as capable and willing to represent the Detachment of New Mexico 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 Convention assembled in Baltimore, Maryland, August 28–30, 2015, that the Sons of The American Legion Detachment of New Mexico hereby endorses Joseph Navarrete for the high office of National Commander 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 New Mexico and the Department of New Mexico with indicated National action submitted for the local resolving clause. The signatures of the Detachment Adjutant Tony Navarrete and Department Adjutant Tony Navarrete are on the submitted resolution.

Convention Committee Recommendation

Approved

Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action  received and filed

Convention Committee, Chairman Name, and Signature

*Mark Tansel*

Mark Tansel, Chairman  
Internal Affairs Convention Committee

# Sons of The American Legion Resolution National Convention

August 28 - 30, 2015

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**No.:** SAL Res 11 – Convention 2015  
**Title:** Endorsement of Greg K. Gibbs (NY) for National Commander  
**Origin:** Detachment of New York

**WHEREAS,** The Sons of The American Legion is a program of The American Legion comprised of descendants 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,** Greg K. Gibbs has distinguished himself as capable and willing to represent the Detachment of New York 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 Convention assembled in Baltimore, Maryland, August 28–30, 2015, that the Sons of The American Legion Detachment of New York hereby endorses Greg Gibbs for the high office of National Commander 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 New York and the Department of New York with indicated National action submitted for the local resolving clause. The signatures of the Detachment Adjutant Robert Avery and Department Adjutant James W. Casey are on the submitted resolution.

Convention Committee Recommendation

Approved

Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action  received and filed

Convention Committee, Chairman Name, and Signature

*Mark Tansel*

Mark Tansel, Chairman  
Internal Affairs Convention Committee

**Sons of The American Legion Resolution**  
**National Convention**  
**August 28 - 30, 2015**

**No.:** SAL Res 12 – Convention 2015  
**Title:** Endorsement of William Kelly (FL) for National Vice Commander  
**Origin:** Detachment of Florida

**WHEREAS**, The Sons of The American Legion is a program of The American Legion comprised of descendants 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**, William Kelly has distinguished himself as capable and willing to represent the Detachment of Florida 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 Convention assembled in Baltimore, Maryland, August 28–30, 2015, that the Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Florida hereby endorses William Kelly for the high office of National Vice Commander 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 Florida and the Department of Florida with indicated National action submitted for the local resolving clause. The signatures of the Detachment Adjutant Ed Sheubrooks and Department Adjutant Michael McDaniel are on the submitted resolution.

Convention Committee Recommendation

Approved   
Rejected   
Referred to:   
Other Action  received and filed

Convention Committee, Chairman Name, and Signature

*Mark Tansel*

Mark Tansel, Chairman  
Internal Affairs Convention Committee

**Sons of The American Legion Resolution**  
**National Executive Committee**  
**October 10 & 11, 2015**

**No.:** SAL Res 1 – Fall 2015

**Title:** Endorsement of Kenneth P. Warner (PA) for National Vice Commander

**Origin:** Internal Affairs Commission

**WHEREAS**, The Sons of The American Legion is a program of The American Legion comprised of descendants 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**, Kenneth P. Warner has distinguished himself as capable and willing to represent the Detachment of Pennsylvania 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, October 10-11, 2015, That the Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Pennsylvania hereby endorses Kenneth P. Warner for the high office of National Vice Commander East 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 Pennsylvania and the Department of Pennsylvania with indicated National action submitted for the local resolving clause. The signatures of the Detachment Adjutant Anthony Wright and Department Adjutant Kit D. Watson are on the submitted resolution.

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Resolutions Subcommittee Recommendation

Approved

Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action  received and filed

Signature Chairman, Resolutions Subcommittee

*John Jennings*

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John Jennings, Chairman, Sub Committee on Resolutions

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Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature

*Mark Tansel*

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Mark Tansel, Chairman, Internal Affairs Commission

**Sons of The American Legion Resolution**  
**National Executive Committee**  
**October 10 & 11, 2015**

**No.: SAL Res 2 – Fall 2015**  
**Title: National Veterans Employment and Education Commission**  
**Origin: National Veterans Employment and Education Commission**

**WHEREAS**, SAL Resolution 7 Spring NEC 2015 established the Veterans Employment and Education Commission at the National level of the Sons of The American Legion; and

**WHEREAS**, The Mission Statement of the SAL National Veterans Employment and Education Commission is to “Assist The American Legion in ensuring that America’s Veterans have the opportunity to provide, with dignity and honor, the economic necessities of life for themselves and their families”; and

**WHEREAS**, The training and experience that our Veterans received in the military makes them highly marketable; and

**WHEREAS**, The American Legion sponsors dozens of “Hiring Our Heroes” job fairs throughout the nation each year; and

**WHEREAS**, Many states offer Veterans education benefits and programs of their own in addition to, or as an alternative to federal GI Bill benefits; and

**WHEREAS**, The Sons of The American Legion’s National Veterans Employment and Education Commission assists The American Legion with disseminating information of the existence of these hiring fairs and benefits available down to the Detachments, Districts, Squadrons and to the Veterans that may benefit from the existence of these hiring fairs and benefits; now, therefore be it

**RESOLVED, By the Sons of The American Legion at the National Executive Committee Meetings assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana October 10, 11, 2015, That the Sons of The American Legion National Veterans Employment and Education Commission inform the Detachments, Districts and Squadrons of the existence of and purpose of this new National Commission; and, be it finally RESOLVED, That the National Veterans Employment and Education Commission encourage all Detachments, Districts and Squadrons to create Veterans Employment and Education Commissions/Committees at all levels of the Sons of The American Legion to assist in getting valuable information on hiring fairs and benefits available out to America’s Veterans in their individual states.**

Resolutions Subcommittee Recommendation

- Approved
- Rejected
- Referred to:
- Other Action

Signature Chairman, Resolutions Subcommittee

*John Jennings*

John Jennings, Chairman, Sub Committee on Resolutions

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature

*Larry Wienzirl*

Larry Wienzirl, Chairman, Veterans Employment and Education Commission



**Sons of The American Legion Resolution**  
**National Executive Committee**  
**October 10 & 11, 2015**

**No.:** SAL Res 4 – Fall 2015  
**Title:** \$5,000.00 Donation to Harry W. Colmery Memorial  
**Origin:** Internal Affairs Commission

**WHEREAS**, Harry W. Colmery deserves a prominent and permanent memorial in Topeka, Kansas; and

**WHEREAS**, Harry W. Colmery served with distinction as American Legion National Commander in 1936; and

**WHEREAS**, Harry W. Colmery is considered the principal architect of the Serviceman’s Readjustment Act of 1944, more popularly known as the G.I. Bill of Rights; and

**WHEREAS**, since its introduction, the G.I. Bill has given literally millions of Veterans and families the opportunity to pursue the American dream through higher education; and

**WHEREAS**, since its introduction, the G.I. Bill has also given millions more Veterans the opportunity for home loans backed by the VA; and

**WHEREAS**, In honor of his dedicated service to Veterans, The American Legion awarded him its highest honor, the Distinguished Service Medal in 1975, the first Past National Commander to receive the Distinguished Service Medal; and

**WHEREAS**, The American Legion has endorsed the building of this memorial and has made a monetary donation, now, therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, By the Sons of The American Legion in National Executive Committee assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, October 10,11, 2015, That the Sons of The American Legion also endorses and supports building the Harry W. Colmery Memorial; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, That the Sons of The American Legion donate \$5000.00 to the Harry W. Colmery Memorial Fund, c/o The American Legion Department of Kansas, for the construction of the long overdue memorial; and be it finally

**RESOLVED**, that the funds come from the 2015 budget surplus and that this be a onetime exception to the The American Legion Internal Affairs policy on donations to memorials due to the significance of Past National Commander Colmery’s contributions to The American Legion.

Resolutions Subcommittee Recommendation

- Approved   
Rejected   
Referred to:   
Other Action

Signature Chairman, Resolutions Subcommittee

*John Jennings*

John Jennings, Chairman, Sub Committee on Resolutions

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature

*Mark Tansel*

Mark Tansel, Chairman, Internal Affairs Commission

***Internal Affairs Commission Report to  
National Executive Committee  
The American Legion  
October 14-15, 2015***

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 October 14-15, 2015.

	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
<b>SAL NC 1-15</b>	<b>Support of Religious Freedom</b>	<b>Approved</b>
<b>SAL NC 2-15</b>	<b>Reaffirming “In God We Trust” as the official Motto of The United States</b>	<b>Approved</b>
<b>SAL NC 3-15</b>	<b>Reiterate Commitment to The American Legion “Service to God and Country”</b>	<b>Approved</b>
<b>SAL NC 4-15</b>	<b>Sons of The American Legion National Member of The Year titled “The Son That Shines”</b>	<b>Rejected</b>
<b>SAL NC 6-15</b>	<b>Endorsement of Jeff Frain (AZ) for National Commander</b>	<b>Received and Filed</b>
<b>SAL NC 7-15</b>	<b>Electronic Copy of the SAL National Update Newsletter and termination of mailed copies unless opted out of email</b>	<b>Rejected</b>
<b>SAL NC 9-15</b>	<b>Annual Sons Article in The American Legion Magazine</b>	<b>Hold for Further Study</b>
<b>SAL NC 10-15</b>	<b>Endorsement of Joseph Navarrete (NM) for National Vice Commander</b>	<b>Received and Filed</b>
<b>SAL NC 11-15</b>	<b>Endorsement of Greg K. Gibbs (NY) for National Commander</b>	<b>Received and Filed</b>
<b>SAL NC 12-15</b>	<b>Endorsement of William Kelly (FL) for National Vice Commander</b>	<b>Received and Filed</b>
<b>SAL NEC 1-F15</b>	<b>Endorsement of Kenneth P. Warner (PA) for National Vice Commander</b>	<b>Received and Filed</b>
<b>SAL NEC 2-F15</b>	<b>National Veterans Employment and Education Commission</b>	<b>Approved</b>
<b>SAL NEC 4-F15</b>	<b>Donation of \$5,000 to the Harry W. Colmery Memorial Fund (KS)</b>	<b>Approved</b>