

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



**INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA
May 2 – 3, 2015**

**MINUTES OF THE
SPRING NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
MAY 2-3, 2015**

National Commander Michael Moss (CO) called the Spring Meeting of the National Executive Committee of the Sons of The American Legion to order Saturday, May 2, 2015 at the Sheraton Hotel, Indianapolis, Indiana.

National Chaplain Harl Ray (IL) gave the invocation.

National Commander Michael Moss (CO) 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 Greg Gibbs (NY) and the Preamble to the Constitution led by National Vice Commander David Swafford (UT).

National Commander Moss (CO) 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

Michael W. Moss (MD)	National Commander
Greg K. Gibbs (NY)	National Vice Commander – East
Jeffrey C. Evans (VA)	National Vice Commander – South
Ronald R. Wyatt (MI)	National Vice Commander – Central
Charles R. Keith (WY)	National Vice Commander – Midwest
David L. Swafford (UT)	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)	National Assistant Adjutant
Scott Williams (VA)	National Assistant Adjutant
Scott J. Thornton (OH)	National Assistant Adjutant
Harl D. Ray (IL)	National Chaplain
Mark A. Kilstrom (CO)	National Historian
Joseph Paviglianti (NY)	National Judge Advocate
Michael L. Kirschner (CO)	National Sergeant-At-Arms
Lyle G. Larson (KS)	National Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms
Danny J. Poole (MI)	National Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms
Raymond P. Giehl, III (IN)	National Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms
Brian K. Waters (PA)	National Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms
Kyle A. Parkerson (AK) – E	National Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms
Kenneth L. Yanke (CO)	Aide To The National Commander

Past National Commanders

Joseph Gladden (MD)	Kevin Winkelmann (TX)
Michael Seaton (CA)	Clifford Smith (MA)
J. R. Stillwell (IL) – Excused	Steve Laws (NC)
Charles E. Gannon (MD)	Neal Warnken (KS)

David Stephens (IN)
Christopher Cerullo (NY)
Douglas Bible (MN)
Eugene Sacco (CA)
Roland Matteson (AZ)
Joseph Mayne (MN) – Excused
John Dietz (KY)
William Matoska (MD)
Byron Robichaux (LA)
Richard Cook (OK)

Michael Deacon (IA)
William Sparwasser (MD)
Earl Ruttkofsky (MI)
Raymond Giehll, Jr. (IN)
Thomas Cisna (IL)
Mark Arneson (GA)
David Dew (TX)
James Roberts, III (FL)
Christopher Huntzinger (PA)

National Executive Committeemen

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

Commander Moss (CO) then called upon National Adjutant Brian O’Hearne (MA) for the reading of the minutes from the 2014 Fall Meeting.

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

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

Commander Moss spoke about PNC J. R. Stillwell and how he’s doing and NEC Bob Brown (GA) will be picking him up to take him to his cousins house. J. R. sent a thank you to everyone for all the get well wishes. Commander Moss was also thanked for helping J. R. as well.

At this time, American Legion, Leading Candidate Dale Barnett (GA) for National Commander of The American Legion was escorted to the stage. Mr. Barnett told a story about Joseph that attended a Detachment of Georgia camp in which it rained and rained. Mr. Barnett said there is a future National Commander at that camp because they were learning the principles about The American Legion.

Mr. Barnett said he’s proud to be an SAL member and equally proud to say that you’re still serving, growing and teaching the lessons of the SAL to the next generation. Mr. Barnett thanked the Sons for all their work. This concluded his remarks.

Commander Moss 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 in the SAL office.

Mr. Kerestan said to make sure you secure your belongings because there are a lot of people in Indianapolis this weekend.

Mr. Kerestan thanked Jim Gelwicks (CO) for looking at the minutes. NEC Bob Brown (GA) was also thanked for helping J.R. Stillwell.

We have a full agenda for this weekend. We will bring the NEC back into this room at 2:00 pm to go over the Call-In Resolution. This will be an informal meeting and will only be about 20 minutes long.

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

Commander Moss (CO) called for all donations at this time.

Commander Moss announced the following donation totals:

\$121,981 – Child Welfare Foundation
\$13,930 – National Emergency Fund
\$11,140 – Children’s Miracle Network
\$1,500 – Fisher House
\$14,284 – Endowment Fund
\$2,150 – Other Donations

Totaling: \$164,993.00

Commander Moss called for announcements.

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

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 3, 2015.

With colors being in place and following a right hand salute, National Commander Michael Moss (CO) declared the National Executive Committee Spring Meeting reconvened.

National Chaplain Harl Ray (IL) gave the invocation. Followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by National Vice Commander Jeff Evans (VA) and the Preamble to the Constitution led by National Vice Commander Ronald Wyatt (MI).

National Commander Moss (CO) 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

Michael W. Moss (MD)	National Commander
Greg K. Gibbs (NY)	National Vice Commander – East
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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)	National Assistant Adjutant
Scott Williams (VA)	National Assistant Adjutant
Scott J. Thornton (OH)	National Assistant Adjutant

Harl D. Ray (IL)
Mark A. Kilstrom (CO)
Joseph Paviglianti (NY)
Michael L. Kirschner (CO)
Lyle G. Larson (KS)
Danny J. Poole (MI)
Raymond P. Giehll, III (IN)
Brian K. Waters (PA)
Kyle A. Parkerson (AK) – E
Kenneth L. Yanke (CO)

National Chaplain
National Historian
National Judge Advocate
National Sergeant-At-Arms
National Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms
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Douglas Bible (MN)
Eugene Sacco (CA)
Roland Matteson (AZ)
Joseph Mayne (MN) – Excused
John Dietz (KY)
William Matoska (MD)
Byron Robichaux (LA)
Richard Cook (OK)

Kevin Winkelmann (TX)
Clifford Smith (MA)
Steve Laws (NC)
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Raymond Giehll, Jr. (IN)
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David Dew (TX)
James Roberts, III (FL)
Christopher Huntzinger (PA)

National Executive Committeemen

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

**So noted: Mike Lawler representing Wisconsin with voice only.*

At this time 2nd Leading Candidate for American Legion National Commander Charles Schmidt (OR) was escorted to the stage.

Mr. Schmidt briefly spoke about hospitality to our veterans and Oregon has never had a candidate for National Commander and he is humbled to be a part of this organization. He also asked everyone to make something good happen for the American Legion Family. We have inherited a great responsibility and to leave foot prints on this organization. We need to share with everyone about The American Legion. Mr. Schmidt thanked the Sons. This concluded his remarks

Commander Moss stated that NEC Bob Brown (GA) and SAL Detachment Adjutant Ronnie Grist (GA) will leave to pick up PNC J.R. Stillwell today. A hat was passed around to help with their expenses.

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

FINANCE COMMISSION
Dr. Jerry Leopold (KS), Chairman

Dr. Leopold (KS) reported the 2014 expenditures were within budget and approved by The American Legion Finance Committee. We had an excess of \$80,000 for 2014.

We have started working on the budget for 2016 and have reviewed the figures for the new call-in structure and are accurate as we could find.

There was one (1) Resolution. *SAL Res 2 – Spring 2015 Titled: NEC Meeting Call-In Change*. This concluded his report.

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

At this time National Commander Mike Helm (CO) was escorted to the stage. Commander Helm thanked the SAL and said his two projects this year were Membership and Fund Raising. The Legion lacks behind a little. Commander Helm also stated the renewals are in danger and to find out why members are not renewing and to continue to push renewals.

Commander Helm said there is only 1/3 of a year left and the SAL has raised over \$4 million and will be over \$5 million by the end of the year. There has not been a Commander that has raised this much for their year.

Commander Helm said he's a member of the SAL and next year's Commander is a member as well. You are not Sons you're equal partners in this organization. Commander thanked the Sons for serving our communities. This concluded his remarks.

Following Commander Helm's remarks, Bob Brown (GA) was called to read the Finance Resolution.

Resolution Chairman Robert Brown (GA) read resolution SAL 2-Spring 2015 titled "NEC Meeting call in change". A motion was made by Robert Brown (GA) to accept the resolution, seconded by Texas. Motion carried.

Jim Gelwicks (CO) stated he appreciated the meeting yesterday. Questioned how #7 applied to #11 about nights and travel per diem. *National Adjutant, O'Hearne, stated, it will be \$100 per day for travel and \$50 per diem if on a two day travel which would total \$300. The changes will go according to National Headquarters guidelines.*

Randy Eicher (OH) questioned #10 for Children & Youth. *National Adjutant O'Hearne stated, Chairman will get call-in.*

Jim Gelwicks thanked Finance and everyone involved and encouraged with its result of an increase. Mr. Gelwicks also said this a comprehensive Resolution moving a lot of parts at the same time making too many changes. This could effect the participation and asked Internal Affairs to monitor the effects. This concluded his remarks.

Dave Raymond (ME) stated the speed of this is happening too fast. *National Adjutant O'Hearne stated this has been in the works for two years and also stated there will be no rate increase.*

This concluded this topic of discussion.

At this time PNC Bill Detweiler (LA), Chairman, American Legion Endowment Fund was escorted to the stage. PNC Detweiler thanked Commander Moss for taking on the Endowment Fund as one of his projects. PNC Detweiler stated this fund was started in 1925. The American Legion Family has raised over \$29 million since its inception.

PNC Detweiler stated the need continues to grow. No application is turned down after proper review. There will be two awards from the SAL given for the highest donation and the highest per capita.

PNC Detweiler thanked the Sons. This concluded his remarks.

At this time National Auxiliary President Janet Jefford (CT) was escorted to the stage.

President Jefford thanked the Sons for what they have done for our veterans and the money they've raised for our programs. President Jefford also stated it has been an incredible year with Commander Moss and wished him a good meeting. This concluded her remarks.

At this time Dennis Boland (FL) President of the Child Welfare Foundation was escorted to the stage. Mr. Boland stated 47% of the donations for CWF comes from the SAL. Mr. Boland thanked the Sons for their hard work in raising money for CWF. This concluded his remarks.

Commander Moss (CO) 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 Jeffrey Seiler (MD), Chairman

A golf tournament will be held on Thursday, August 27th at The Timbers at Troy Golf Course. The cost will be \$100 for Hole Sponsorship. A dinner will be at Squadron 40 and the cost is \$20 per person with transportation provided. The deadline to submit is August 21st so check the website for updates. This concluded his report.

Member Training & Development – reported by Mike Sawicki (IN), Chairman

NMI classes have concluded and were very successful thanks to our instructors. The NECmen need to get candidates in now to Don Culver for next year's NMI classes. We are working on a Commander's School for the Fall. This concluded his report.

Membership – reported by George Flasiński (PA), Chairman

We need to be at 100% by May 13th. We need at least 1% from each Detachment to reach this goal. See Jim Gelwicks for information and questions about PUFL Membership. We also discussed a web page and online renewals. This concluded his report.

Mr. Tansel (IN) stated direct mailing was discussed and as well as putting an article in the American Legion Magazine. These will be discussed further with John Kerestan and Brian O'Hearne.

There were eight (8) Resolutions – *SAL Res 1–Spring 2015 Titled: Amendment to the Rules of the NEC for the Sons of The American Legion; SAL Res 5–Spring 2015 Titled: Endorsement of Donald S. Ramirez (CA) for National Vice Commander; SAL Res 6–Spring 2015 Titled: Rescinding Non-Legislative Resolutions from the SAL; SAL Res 7–Spring 2015 Titled: Re-aligning the SAL structure to coincide with that of The American Legion; SAL Res 8–Spring 2015 Titled: Endorsement of William G. Hill (MD) for National Vice Commander; SAL Res 11–Spring 2015 Titled: Endorsement of Joseph A. Korba (NJ) for National Vice Commander; SAL Res 12–Spring 2015 Titled: Sons of The American*

Legion National Member of The Year (rejected by the Internal Affairs Commission for not being in proper form); *SAL Res 13-Spring 2015 Titled: Election of National Sergeant-At-Arms* (rejected by the Internal Affairs Commission for not being in proper form). This concluded his report.

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

Resolution Chairman Robert Brown (GA) read resolution SAL Res 1-Spring 2015 titled “Amendment to the Rules of the NEC for the Sons of The American Legion”. A motion was made by Robert Brown (GA) to accept the resolution, seconded by Colorado. Motion carried.

Resolution Chairman Robert Brown (GA) read resolution SAL Res 5-Spring 2015 titled “Endorsement of Donald S. Ramirez (CA) for National Vice Commander”. Resolution was received and filed.

Resolution Chairman Robert Brown (GA) read resolution SAL Res 6-Spring 2015 titled “Rescinding Non-Legislative Resolutions from the SAL”. A motion was made by Robert Brown (GA) to accept the resolution, seconded by New York. Motion carried.

Resolution Chairman Robert Brown (GA) read resolution SAL Res 7-Spring 2015 titled “Re-aligning the SAL structure to coincide with that of The American Legion”. A motion was made by Robert Brown (GA) to accept the resolution, seconded by Indiana. Motion carried.

Resolution Chairman Robert Brown (GA) read resolution SAL Res 8-Spring 2015 titled “Endorsement of William G. Hill (MD) for National Vice Commander”. Resolution was received and filed.

Resolution Chairman Robert Brown (GA) read resolution SAL Res 11-Spring 2015 titled “Endorsement of Joseph A. Korba (NJ) for National Vice Commander”. Resolution was received and filed.

LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION

David Lee (NY), Chairman

At this time Ray Jarvis (NY) gave his report.

HOMELAND SECURITY and CIVIL PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE – reported by ***Raymond Jarvis (NY), Chairman***

Mr. Jarvis apologized for the communication problems during conference calls. We will make more contact for the remainder of the year. We want to increase the number of articles posted on the website and hoping to post at least every other week. This concluded his report.

Mr. Lee reported, this year at the Washington Conference we had 69 people on a 50 passenger bus. There were 20 Detachments that participated in laying of wreaths. This program is growing year after year because the word is getting out. Also stay an extra day to meet with your representatives.

The Flag Amendment is still a high priority of The American Legion. We only have 80% support. We need to protect our American Flag from desecration. We also need to expand the tax credit to employers’ for hiring veterans.

The 2016 Washington Conference will be held February 26, 2016 at 11:15 am. We need to get the voter registration higher and get people registered to vote. We need to submit applications for the George B. Evans Grass Root Award.

There was one (1) Resolution submitted. *SAL Res 14–Spring 2015 Titled: Get out the Vote* (returned to the Legislative Commission for not having the supporting documentation attached – reported by Bob Brown, Resolution Chairman). This concluded his report.

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

At this time Public Relations gave their report.

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMISSION

Joseph A. Korba (NJ), Chairman

Mr. Korba asked, “What stories are behind raising money?”. Get your stories into us.

We are working to get fresh information on the website. We have received twelve entries so far for the “Snapshots of Service” so please get those into us. We also discussed the PR Fair at convention in Baltimore and the possibility to use monitors to display electronic materials. This concluded his report.

A motion was made by Virginia to accept the report, seconded by Pennsylvania. Motion carried.

At this time VA&R gave their report.

VA&R COMMISSION

Clint Bolt (VA), Chairman

Mr. Bolt reported that he attended the American Legion Cemetery Committee meeting and spoke of the Sons support for the Missing in America Project. The National Advisory Committee discussed the support for the care Veterans receive at the various VA Hospitals.

The \$1,000 James H. Parke Scholarship was presented to a recipient in West Palm Beach. The Detachments need to step up and push VAVS Representatives and Deputy Representatives at the Detachment level. The VA is asking for our help.

The Charles Rigby Volunteer of the Year Award form is on the website so get Squadrons to make their selections and get names submitted. These are due in to the National Adjutant O’Hearne 30 days prior to convention.

Commander Moss set a target of \$90,000 for the Endowment Fund. We need to get all the Detachments to make some kind of donation towards this fundraiser. This concluded his report.

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

AMERICANISM COMMISSION

Danny J. Smith (NE), Chairman

Mr. Smith (NE) reported the “Spot Light on Americanism” is their newsletter. We will have an “Old Glory Tribute” and through multi-media we will post pictures. We reviewed changes to the

Americanism section and the guidelines for the winners. We did some brainstorming to see what we can do to make Americanism better.

The handbook is still in progress. The scrapbook judging rules and scoring sheets for the national convention awards are posted on the website.

There were two (2) Resolutions presented to the Americanism Commission. *SAL Res 9–Spring 2015 Titled: Flag Protection Amendment Endorsement and SAL Res 10-Spring 2015 Titled: Reaffirmation of Service to God.* This concluded his report.

A motion was made by Connecticut to accept the report, minus the Resolutions, seconded by Pennsylvania. Motion carried.

Resolution Chairman Robert Brown (GA) read resolution SAL Res 9-Spring 2015 titled “Flag Protection Amendment Endorsement”. A motion was made by Robert Brown (GA) to accept the resolution, seconded by Indiana. Motion carried.

Resolution Chairman Robert Brown (GA) read resolution SAL Res 10-Spring 2015 titled “Reaffirmation of Service to God”. A motion was made by Robert Brown (GA) to accept the resolution, seconded by Alabama. Motion carried.

At this time Children & Youth gave their report.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH COMMISSION

Randall L. Eicher (OH), Chairman

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

Mr. Sierminski reported \$566,000 was distributed in grants to eighteen (18) organizations. Florida leads in cash donations and Hawaii leads in per capita at \$16.13 per member. The cut-off to get donations in to count towards Commander Moss’s year is May 31st

There were two (2) Resolutions – *SAL Res 3–Spring 2015 Titled: Child Welfare Foundation Donation of \$1,000 in Memory of The American Legion National Resolutions Subcommittee Chairman Jerry L. Hedrick (NC) and SAL Res 4-Spring 2015 Titled: Child Welfare Foundation Donation of \$4,000 from the 2015 Budget.* This concluded his report.

Mr. Eicher (OH) reported at the Fall meeting we will be the hardest working Committee. We have been communicating and getting information through to the National Vice Commanders. We are working on a 5 year plan and a foundation for the future. Also, we need you to submit photos and CSR’s. This concluded his report.

A motion was made by Colorado to accept the report, minus the Resolutions, seconded by Maine. Motion carried.

Resolution Chairman Robert Brown (GA) read resolution SAL Res 3-Spring 2015 titled “Child Welfare Foundation Donation of \$1,000 in Memory of The American Legion National Resolutions Subcommittee Chairman Jerry L. Hedrick (NC)”. A motion was made by Robert Brown (GA) to accept the resolution, seconded by New York. Motion carried.

Resolution Chairman Robert Brown (GA) read resolution SAL Res 4-Spring 2015 titled “Child Welfare Foundation Donation of \$4,000 from the 2015 Budget”. A motion was made by Robert Brown (GA) to accept the resolution, seconded by Virginia. Motion carried.

Commander Moss (CO) called for the Sub-Committee Report on Resolutions.

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE
Robert Brown (GA), Chairman

Mr. Brown stated we had fourteen (14) Resolutions read and acted upon. No further business was presented to the Committee. Georgia had been working on the resolution for a Constitutional Amendment change and we will resubmit it on the proper form. This concluded his report.

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

OLD BUSINESS

Commander Michael Moss (CO) called for old business.

No old business to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS

Commander Michael Moss (CO) called for new business.

Bob Brown (GA) announced there was card for J.R. Stillwell for people to sign.

David Lee (NY) announced PNC Carpenter (NY) passed away.

There was no other new business to discuss.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Commander Michael Moss (CO) called For The Good of the Sons.

John Odom (FR) presented a donation.

PNC Smith (MA) announced Tom Wigmore will be going into rehab.

Doug Bible (MN), Ray Giehll, Jr. (IN), Neal Warnken (KS) and Chuck Gannon (MD) asked to approach the podium.

Mr. Bible, Mr. Giehll, Mr. Warnken and Mr. Gannon discussed and explained the purpose of the Commanders Advisory and Committees on Committees. They said they need support and input for training so we can get outstanding leaders trained and bring them forward. We need names to fill appointments. We only received 21 Detachments that sent in 51 names. There were 22 Detachments that did not respond. We keep getting the same names submitted each year. We want new and fresh names submitted. This concluded their discussion.

With no further business to come before the National Executive Committee, National Chaplain Harl Ray (IL) gave the benediction.

Following a right-hand salute, National Commander Moss (CO) declared the meeting adjourned at 11:40 am.

Sons of The American Legion Resolution
National Executive Committee
May 2 & 3, 2015

No.: SAL Res 1 – Spring 2015
Title: Amendment to the Rules of the NEC for the Sons of The American Legion
Origin: Internal Affairs Commission

WHEREAS, It is necessary, at various times, to modernize and update obsolete references in Rules, By-Laws, and Uniform Codes; and

WHEREAS, The “Rules of the National Executive Committee for The Sons of The American Legion”, do not currently outline the procedure for removal of a Commission/Committee member for non-performance. Now therefore be it,

RESOLVED, That the Sons of The American Legion, in a National Executive Committee meeting assembled May 2 - 3, 2015 in Indianapolis, Indiana, amend the “Rules of the National Executive Committee for The Sons of The American Legion”, in Rule 3 “Duties and Powers”, by inserting a section after Rule 3b to read:

3 c. *To remove members from National Commissions, National Committees, Boards or Subcommittees of the National Executive Committee, that were previously approved by the National Executive Committee, by a majority vote of the National Executive Committee upon the recommendation of the National Commander, for cause to include, but not limited to, unexcused absences from two consecutive meetings of such National Commissions, National Committees, Boards or Subcommittee of the National Executive Committee; and be it further*

RESOLVED, That the remaining sections of Rule 3 be renumbered sequentially in the same order they currently exist.

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

Sons of The American Legion Resolution
National Executive Committee
May 2 & 3, 2015

No.: SAL Res 2 – Spring 2015
Title: NEC Meeting call in change
Origin: Finance Commission

WHEREAS, the National Executive Committee of the Sons of The American Legion is the governing body of the organization between conventions; and
WHEREAS, the current monetary call in rate structure for the Sons of The American Legion National Executive committee meetings has not been revised since 2006 ; and
WHEREAS, the cost of airline tickets has dramatically increased; and
WHEREAS, the current call in structure has been reviewed and modifications to meet current costs need to be implemented; 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 2 – 3, 2015, that the Sons of The American Legion adopt the following monetary call in allowance for the National Executive Committeeman (or the Alternate National Executive Committeeman), Past National Commanders, National Officers (elected and appointed), National Commission and Committee members to attend the National Executive Committee meetings as outlined below:

- 1) The cost of an airline ticket (Coach Class), purchased no later than twenty-one (21) days in advance of the meeting.
 - a. In case of a cancellation, the individual must notify the National Headquarters prior to the day of departure so that the airline ticket can be used within one year of the date specified. Any cost of a subsequent change fee will be paid provided proper notification of cancellation was made as indicated above.
 - b. If a National Executive Committeeman cancels his trip subsequent to the airline ticket being purchased, the Alternate National Executive Committeeman will receive per diem and baggage fees only. No travel or mileage will be allowed.
- 2) Baggage fees if applicable. Receipt required.
- 3) Mileage, at the current American Legion rate, to and from home to the airport.
- 4) Parking fees at the airport are not applicable..
- 5) Transportation from the Indianapolis International Airport will be reimbursed up to the allowance as determined by The American Legion.
- 6) Individuals that drive to the meeting will receive a mileage allowance based on the rate per mile as used by The American Legion. Only the driver of the vehicle will be entitled to receive the mileage allowance. The maximum allowable reimbursement shall be the same as the rate set forth by The American Legion. Parking at the meeting hotel will be covered up to the maximum allowance as determined by The American Legion.
- 7) Per Diem for two days, plus the travel per diem, at the rate allowed for meetings in Indianapolis unless otherwise authorized by the Legion’s Internal Affairs

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

Dr. Jerry Leopold

Dr. Jerry Leopold, Chairman, Finance Commission

Sons of The American Legion Resolution
National Executive Committee
May 2 & 3, 2015

No.: SAL Res 2 – Spring 2015
Title: NEC Meeting call in change
Origin: Finance Commission

- 8) The National Commander, National Adjutant, Commission/Committee Chairmen and any other Officer that has obligations to attend Legion meetings on Sunday or Monday will be allowed additional per diem as determined by the National Adjutant and The American Legion Internal Affairs Commission.
- 9) If any person entitled to air transportation needs to cancel their flight, the SAL Liaison must be notified in advance of the flight. The ticket will need to be re-issued prior to the one year expiration period. If the ticket is not used and the National Organization is billed for the flight, the host Detachment will be responsible for the cost of the ticket to the National Organization of The American Legion.
- 10) The call ins for the Fall National Executive Committee meeting will include: National Officers, National Executive Committeemen, Past National Commanders, Commission Chairmen and Vice Chairmen and Committee Chairman., the Finance Commission, the Member Training and Development Committee, and any special Sons National members designated under separate letter authorized by the National Adjutant and the Legion's National Internal Affairs Commission.
- 11) The call ins for the Spring National Executive Committee meeting will include: all National Officers, National Executive Committeemen, Past National Commanders and Commission/Committee members. No more than six members will be called in for any Commission.
- 12) The Detachment Commanders that are attending the Detachment Commanders training at the Fall NEC meeting will receive the per diem only.
- 13) Call-in's for the Washington Conference and National Convention remain unchanged.
- 14) The above guidelines are subject to modification by The American Legion Internal Affairs Commission and/or The American Legion Finance Commission, and be it further

RESOLVED, That this resolution become effective with the Fall 2015 National Executive Committee meeting of the Sons of The American Legion.

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

Dr. Jerry Leopold

Dr. Jerry Leopold, Chairman, Finance Commission

Sons of The American Legion Resolution
National Executive Committee
May 2 & 3, 2015

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No.: SAL Res 3– Spring 2015
Title: Child Welfare Foundation Donation of \$1,000 in Memory of The American Legion
National Resolutions Subcommittee Chairman Jerry L. Hedrick (NC)
Origin: National Commander Moss

WHEREAS, On August 25, 2014 The American Legion Family lost a great leader among leaders, National Resolutions Subcommittee Chairman Jerry L. Hedrick (NC) passed away; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hedrick has served on the National Resolutions Subcommittee since 1997 and as chairman for the past six years; 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 2 – 3, 2015 that the National Organization of the Sons of The American Legion memorializes the accomplishments and deeds of Jerry L. Hedrick; 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, Mr. Jerry L. Hedrick; and be it finally;

RESOLVED, That the funds be taken from the 2015 Child Welfare Foundation Donation budgeted line.

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

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

Finance Committee Recommendation:

Jerry Leopold
Jerry Leopold (KS), Chairman
Finance Commission

Sons of The American Legion Resolution
National Executive Committee
May 2 & 3, 2015

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No.: SAL Res 4 – Spring 2015
Title: Child Welfare Foundation Donation of \$4,000 from the 2015 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 2 - 3, 2015 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 2015 Child Welfare Foundation Donation budgeted line.

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

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

Finance Committee Recommendation:

Jerry Leopold
Jerry Leopold (KS), Chairman
Finance Commission

National Executive Committee
May 2 & 3, 2015

Page 1 of 1

No.: SAL Res 5 – Spring 2015

Title: **Endorsement of Donald S. Ramirez (CA) 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, Donald S. Ramirez has distinguished himself as capable and willing to represent the Detachment of California 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 2 - 3, 2015, That the Sons of The American Legion Detachment of California hereby endorses Donald S. Ramirez 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 California and the Department of California with indicated National action submitted for the local resolving clause. The signatures of the Detachment Adjutant Ned Fox and Department Adjutant Bill Siler III 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

Sons of The American Legion Resolution

National Executive Committee

May 2 & 3, 2015

No.: SAL Res 6 – Spring 2015

Title: Rescinding Non-Legislative Resolutions from the SAL

Commission Origin: Internal Affairs Commission

WHEREAS, The Sons of The American Legion has conducted a review of National Executive Committee and National Convention resolutions; 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 2 & 3, 2015, That the following resolutions be rescinded for being obsolete, accomplishment of purpose, being superseded by later resolutions, being in conflict with later resolutions, being duplicated by later resolutions, having no value because of later changes in program, or other reasons

No.	Year	Meeting	Title (brief)	Reason
4	2011	Spring	Expanding the Number of Commission Members on the SAL National Commissions	In conflict with resolution SAL Res 2- Spring 2015 in determining number of allowed call ins per Commission.

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, Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission

Sons of The American Legion Resolution
National Executive Committee
May 2 & 3, 2015

No.: SAL Res 7 – Spring 2015

Title: Re-aligning the SAL structure to coincide with that of The American Legion

Commission Origin: Internal Affairs Commission

WHEREAS, The American Legion has completed a realignment within the commission and committee structure, and;

WHEREAS, The Sons of The American Legion should mirror the structure of our parent organization, The American Legion in order to maintain continuity; 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 2 & 3, 2015, that the following Commission / Committee changes be made:

1. Change the Children & Youth Commission to be the Children & Youth Committee. The committee will report to the Americanism Commission.
2. Eliminate the Homeland Security Committee. Any actions required will be absorbed by the Legislative Commission.
3. Change the Child Welfare Committee to report to the Americanism Commission,
4. Change the name of the Public Relations Commission to be Public and Media Communications Commission,
5. Create the Veterans Employment and Education Commission, subject to the acceptance of The American Legion Internal Affairs Commission, **And be it further;**

RESOLVED, that the reporting structure for the Sons of The American Legion will be as follows:

LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION

PUBLIC AND MEDIA COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION COMMISSION

VETERANS EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION COMMISSION

AMERICANISM COMMISSION

CHILDREN AND YOUTH COMMITTEE

CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION COMMITTEE

INTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION

CONVENTION COMMITTEE

MEMBER TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Resolutions Subcommittee Recommendation

Approved

Rejected

Referred to:

Other Action

Committee/Commission, Chairman Name, and Signature

Mark Tansel

Mark Tansel, Chairman, Internal Affairs Commission

Signature Chairman, Resolutions Subcommittee

Bob Brown

Bob Brown, Chairman, Sub Committee on Resolutions

Sons of The American Legion Resolution
National Executive Committee
May 2 & 3, 2015

No.: SAL Res 7 – Spring 2015

Title: Re-aligning the SAL structure to coincide with that of The American Legion

Commission Origin: Internal Affairs Commission

FINANCE COMMISSION

SUB-COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS, And be it finally;

RESOLVED, that the changes become effective with the close of the 2015 National Convention.

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

Sons of The American Legion Resolution
National Executive Committee
May 2 & 3, 2015

No.: SAL Res 8 – Spring 2015
Title: Endorsement of William G. Hill (MD) 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, William G. Hill has distinguished himself as capable and willing to represent the Detachment of Maryland 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 2 - 3, 2015, That the Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Maryland hereby endorses William G. Hill 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 Maryland and the Department of Maryland with indicated National action submitted for the local resolving clause. The signatures of the Detachment Adjutant William E. Matoska and Department Adjutant Russell W. Meyers Jr. 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

Sons of The American Legion Resolution
National Executive Committee
May 2 & 3, 2015

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No.: SAL Res 9– Spring 2015
Title: Flag Protection Amendment Endorsement
Origin: Americanism Commission

WHEREAS, the Sons of The American Legion have endorsed and promoted the amendment of the U.S. Constitution to protect the flag of our Country from physical desecration; and

WHEREAS, there is a renewed effort in both Houses of Congress to bring this issue to a vote; and

WHEREAS,, House Joint Resolution (H.J.9) was introduced on January 6th 2015, by Rep. Steve Womack, R- Ark., U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate is expected to introduce a companion Bill on Flag Day, June 14th 2015; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, by the National Executive Committee of the Sons of The American Legion in regular session in Indianapolis, Indiana, May 2 – 3, 2015 that the Sons of The American Legion fully endorse the effort to amend the U.S. Constitution to protect the flag of our Country from physical desecration; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Sons of The American Legion make every effort to contact their own Representatives of both Houses of Congress and urge them to support the proposed amendment to the U.S. Constitution that would give Congress the authority to protect the U.S. flag from physical desecration, and be it further

RESOLVED, That members of the Sons of The American Legion display the American Flag daily to show support and raise awareness of the effort to amend the Constitution of the United States of America to protect the U.S. flag from desecration, and be it finally

RESOLVED, That the Sons of The American Legion continue to endorse these efforts through affiliation with The Citizens Flag Alliance, Inc. to bring to a successful conclusion to the grassroots campaign to amend the Constitution of the United States of America in order to return to the people their right to protect the Flag from acts of physical desecration.

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 (NE), Chairman
Americanism Commission

Sons of The American Legion Resolution
National Executive Committee
May 2 & 3, 2015

No.: SAL Res 10– Spring 2015
Title: Reaffirmation of Service to God

Origin: Americanism Commission

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

WHEREAS, The American Legion and the Sons of The American Legion are organizations dedicated to God and Country; and

WHEREAS, service to God is an integral part of our organization as stated in the preamble to the Constitution of the Sons of The American Legion; 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 2 & 3, 2015, that we rededicate ourselves to the service to God portion of our Preamble, through religious tolerance of all faiths; and be it further

RESOLVED, that we encourage regular attendance at religious services, and religious training of our children; and be it finally

RESOLVED, that we as American citizens, as a result of our faith in God, should model integrity, self-sacrifice, hard work, and a life of caring for one another and members of our communities. That includes caring for our families, helping the elderly, mentoring youth, working for the good of the community, and continuing to support our veterans and active military.

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 (NE), Chairman
Americanism Commission

Sons of The American Legion Resolution
National Executive Committee
May 2 & 3, 2015

No.: SAL Res 11 – Spring 2015
Title: Endorsement of Joseph A. Korba (NJ) 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, Joseph A. Korba has distinguished himself as capable and willing to represent the Detachment of New Jersey 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 2 - 3, 2015, That the Sons of The American Legion Detachment of New Jersey hereby endorses Joseph A. Korba 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 New Jersey and the Department of New Jersey with indicated National action submitted for the local resolving clause. The signatures of the Detachment Adjutant Jeffrey E. Hicks and Department Adjutant John Baker 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

ADDENDUM B

INTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION REPORT TO NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE THE AMERICAN LEGION MAY 6 - 7, 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 May 6-7, 2015.

SOURCE	TITLE	ACTION
SAL Res 1 - Spring 2015	Amendment to the Rules of the NEC for the Sons of The American Legion	Approved
SAL Res 2 - Spring 2015	NEC Meeting call in change	Approved
SAL Res 3 - Spring 2015	Child Welfare Foundation Donation of \$1,000 in Memory of The American Legion National Resolutions Subcommittee Chairman Jerry L. Hedrick (NC)	Approved
SAL Res 4 - Spring 2015	Child Welfare Foundation Donation of \$4,000 from the 2015 Budget	Approved
SAL Res 5 - Spring 2015	Endorsement of Donald S. Ramirez (CA) for National Vice Commander	Received and Filed
SAL Res 6 - Spring 2015	Rescinding Non-Legislative Resolutions from the SAL	Approved
SAL Res 7 - Spring 2015	Re-aligning the SAL structure to coincide with that of The American Legion	Approved
SAL Res 8 - Spring 2015	Endorsement of William G. Hill (MD) for National Vice Commander	Received and Filed
SAL Res 9 - Spring 2015	Flag Protection Amendment Endorsement	Approved
SAL Res 10 - Spring 2015	Reaffirmation of Service to God	Approved
SAL Res 11 - Spring 2015	Endorsement of Joseph A. Korba (NJ) for National Vice Commander	Received and Filed