

**MINUTES of**  
Americanism Convention Committee  
**THE AMERICAN LEGION**  
Friday, June 26, 2015  
Concord Room, Sterling Inn, Sterling Heights, Michigan

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman List called the meeting to order at 8:03 a.m. at the Sterling Inn, Sterling Heights, MI.

**ELECT A PERMANENT CHAIRMAN**

A motion to elect Beverly List as Chairman was made by Kirchen and supported by Atkinson. Motion carried.

**ELECT A PERMANENT SECRETARY**

A motion to elect Pat Kirchen as Secretary was made by Atkinson and supported by Stams. Motion carried.

**DISTRICTS REPRESENTED:** 1,2,3,4,6,7,8,9,11,16 & 18 (11 Districts).

**MEMBERS:** Beverly List, Chairman; Pat Kirchen, Secretary; Carl Atkinson, Mel Adams and John Stams. Absent, B.J. Arnold

11 Guests were present.

Minutes of 2014 State Convention minutes were approved as read.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

CPR's totaled approximately 52% for the year.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Question on delegate badge attached to name tag. If your Post Commander or Adjutant completed the necessary form listing you as a delegate and/or alternates, a delegate badge will be attached to your ID tag.

Carl Atkinson reported on scouting activities. The Eagle Scout Award, won by Zachary Utecht from Falmouth will be announced on Saturday at 9 a.m. Unfortunately Zachary will be unable to attend, but State Commander Wallace will present his award to him personally in a couple of weeks at Lake City Post 300. Report attached.

Earl Ruttkofsky, caretaker at Wilwin Lodge stated a Scout Jamboree would be held at Wilwin on Sept 18-19 with approximately 1000 Boy and Girl Scouts attending. Bob Constadine, who donated the Wilwin property, will be there to welcome the scouts.

John Bradford reported the Oratorical contest was held at the Henry Ford Museum in February and Gabriella Scipione won 1<sup>st</sup> place. Kendra Roche who won 2<sup>nd</sup> place went on the National as Gabriella could not attend. He stated a location change possibly to Grand Valley State was in the discussion stage. He also stated students had problems with the current time frame due to mid-term exams. This year the contest will be held between Thanksgiving and Christmas in hopes more students would apply. There were 9 Wilson and 4 Brewer Scholarships awarded. This year all zones will have a Teacher of the Year chosen and will receive their award on Friday June 26. Report attached.

David Wheeler talked briefly about Boys State. We had 272 attendees this year, up from last year. It will still be held at Northwood, although discussions were had on moving it to Grand Valley State and will be decided at a later date.

Chairman -List reported 33 teams filed for the Baseball tourneys. The A tourney will be held in Escanaba and the APost 198A tourney will be held in Sault Ste Marie, July 30- August 2, 2015. The 2016 tournament will be held in Adrian, Michigan (date to be determined).

The awards for Firefighter of the Year and Law Enforcement Officer of the year will be done on Friday June 26 @ 3p.m.

Chairman List stated that a Legacy Ride and A.L. Riders Event are in the works. The Dept. Americanism Committee paid the insurance fee for the Legacy Ride.

Another Workshop is being planned for Fall Conference regarding CPR's. We can still improve on getting these forms submitted correctly. At least 33 were disqualified from consideration as necessary info on the top of the form was omitted.

### Department Awards

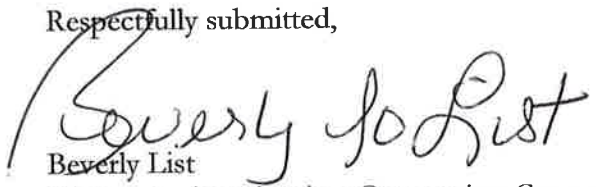
Giles A Reeve – Post 459 – Grand Rapids, Post 198 250-351 – Lewiston, Post 74 – Newberry 151-250, Post 270 – Hanover 0-50, Post 244 Powers 51-150.

Clarence W. Taylor Award , Post 253 –Royal Oak. 0-50 Post 545- Garden City, 51-150 Post 244 - Powers, 151-250 Post 459 - Grand Rapids, 251-350 Post 362 - Coloma and 351+ Post 28 - Grand Haven. The overall winner of the combined competition of the CPR and promoting Americanism was Post 459, Grand Rapids. Approximately 30 posts will receive recognition from National on completing their CPR's.

### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before this Committee the meeting was adjourned at 9 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Beverly List  
Chairman, Americanism Convention Committee

Pat Kirchen  
Secretary, Americanism Convention Committee