

**Sons of the American Legion
Detachment of Michigan
DEC-4 Flint February 15, 2014**

Salute to the Flag

Invocation given by Danny Pool

ROLL CALL: ELECTED OFFICERS

Commander Mike Boughner, pres

1st Zone Commander Victor Fisher, pres

2nd Zone Commander Jeff Meulendyk, pres

3rd Zone Commander Harley (Butch) Maxwell, pres

4th Zone Commander Fred Ruttkofsky, pres

5th Zone Commander Dwaine Verville, pres

Finance Chris Dohnal, pres

Chaplain Danny Poole, pres

Historian Rodney Tolbert, pres

Assistant Historian Danny Gleason, pres

SGT at Arms Jeff Dold, pres

ASST SGT at Arms Carvin Chapman, pres

Asst SGT at Arms Robert Harrington, pres

NEC Greg Price, pres

ALT NEC David Mennel, pres

PDC 1 Rodney Tolbert, pres

PDC 2 Dwaine Verville, pres

PDC 3 David Mennel, pres

Appointed Officers:

Adjutant Zack Pendell, pres

ASST Adjutant Joe Radiger, exc

Judge Advocate Andre Svacha, pres

Americanism Skip Townes, pres

Budget Chris Dohnal, pres

VA & R Earl Ruttkofsky, pres

Membership Dwaine Verville, pres

Service Officer Larry Money, pres

Legislative Ron Wyatt, pres

Constitution and By Laws Jeremy Bell, pres

Public Relations Jeff Meulendyk, pres
Boys State / Youth Career Law Enforcement Mike Holley, pres
Child Welfare Foundation John Kailunas, exc
Make A Wish Pete Miller, exc
MIAP Greg Price, pres
Homeland Security / Rainbow Connection Andre Svacha, pres
N.E.F. Chairman/Publications Sandy Lipman, pres
Emergency Relief Fund Danny Poole, Pres
Education and Leadership Roger Rockhold, exc
Legionaire Editor/Publications Sandy Lipman, pres
Son of the Year Victor Fisher, pres
Community Service Randy Warner, unexc
American Legion Rider Chairman Tom Howard, pres
Reconnect Jack Helminski, pres
Awards and Trophies Dominic Merlington, pres
Pin Sales Russell Bayliss, pres
Upper Peninsula Membership Jerry Lynch, exc
Upper Peninsula Chairman Bill Germain, exc
Past National Commander Earl Ruttkofsky, pres
Past Department Commander Jerry Lynch, exc
SAL Dept. Liaison Tom Cadmus, pres

Past National American Legion Commanders: Tom Cadmus

Past National Commanders: Earl Ruttkofsky

Past Detachment Commanders: Jack Helminski 1968-69, 1969-70, Louis Scott excused, Earl Ruttkofsky 1995-96, Skip Townes 1996-97, Sanford Lipman 1998-99, John Kailunas 2000-01 excused, Roger Rockhold 2002-03 excused, Roger Dees 2003-04 excused, Ron Wyatt 2004-05, Randy Jackson 2006-07 excused, Andre Svacha 2007-08, Greg Price 2008-09, Pat Pustay 2009-10 excused, Dave Mennel 2010-11, Dwaine Verville 2011-12. Rodney Tolbert 2013-2014

Guest's: National Commander Joseph Gladden

Sandy Lipman moved to approve the minutes subject to changes. Support by Earl Ruttkofsky. Motion carried.

Motion by Dwaine Verville support by Rodney Tolbert to pay Tom Howard for 2013 State convention Motion carried.

VA&R by Earl Ruttkofsky: Next month going to Washington DC. Keep up the good work volunteers that is our main objective is our Veterans.

Re-connect Jack Helminski: The Re-connect meeting is not until 4:00 will not be able to give an update until next meeting, Jack talked about ACO Hardware and there collection for Wounded Warrior and reconnect programs.

Sandy Lipman: Reported on publications that he needs articles and pictures for the next issue. ON NEF he has not received any donations since the last meeting.

Education and Leadership: Roger Rockhold has taught classes in places like Joe Louis in Detroit. Roger would like more S.A.L. and more officers to attend the Education and Leadership classes.

Membership: Dwaine Verville reported we are doing a great job we are at 75%. We need to work on renewals we are at 66%. We have 16 0% Squadrons in the state. We also have 16 100% Squadrons. Dwaine ask for Sandy Lipman's e-mail so Squadrons can send in articles and pictures Sandy said he would get him some cards after the meeting.

Sandy Lipman said he just received \$100.00 from Stockridge Squadron and \$20.00 from Ron Wyatt for NEF.

N.E.C.: Greg Price gave a report on the District tours and Americanism dinners he has attended he also brought up the 4 chaplains ceremony done in Lapeer. The Legion Riders 20 Year Anniversary is April 5th.

MIAP: Greg Price reported that National Commander Joe Gladden has asked him to work with National VA&R on MIAP. He read an article that will be published in the state and national newsletter. Greg thanked all for all the help with MIAP.

Legion N.E.C. John Skinner introduced Legion National Commander Dan Dellinger. Dan Dellinger thanked the S.A.L. for all they do for the "Legion Family". He has been a dual member for 26 years. Keep up the good work. He talked about laying a wreath at the Punchbowl cemetery in Hawaii for Pearl Harbor Day.

Legislative: Ron Wyatt talked about D.C. next month. He received a packet from Greg Gibbs candidate for National vice Commander which New York put together by their Legislative about what to do when you go to D.C. Ron also reported on WILWIN the meeting is from 4-5 this is an open meeting. Caretakers cabin has been put up inside work needs to be done roof on main lodge needs repair. They have a table selling shirts, hats, etc., and donations still being accepted.

Awards and Trophy's: Dominic Merlington asked Committee Chairman to check list of all trophy's and awards to be given out at Convention and let him know so he can proceed with order. If any other trophy's or awards need to be ordered please let him know.

Service Officer: Larry Money Squadron service Officers are doing a great job working with post Service officers. Larry would like to see the Detachment do what the Department has done with a requirement pin. There are a lot of meetings and events he would like to see more blue caps show up to.

Homeland security: Andre Svacha reported you should keep a couple of gallons of water in case of water main breaks. As Judge Advocate he reported that he has received 1 Squadrons constitution and by-laws to review and given to Department for approval. Problems with Battle Creek Squadron was discussed.

Sick call and Relief: Danny Pool would like e-mails of sick call and relief so he can get cards out in a timely manner.

Unfinished Business: Mark Sutton gave Sandy Lipman copy of newsletter for review and corrections. 4 pages. He brought up they have had 2 business cards made up to be passed out thanking a Veteran or Veterans family. Barb Money has retired Deanna Clark is now doing membership. Department is

looking into changing remittance forms one making one for the S.A.L. and one for the Legion. Old dues and new dues must be submitted separately.

Finance officer: Chris Dohnal reported that a copier has be bought for the Adjutant.

Dwaine Verville asked Chris Dohnal if he has taken care of the \$1,200.00 for WILWIN. Chris said he is looking into it. Dwaine Verville ask about the old laptop Sandy Lipman was willing to buy it just need a price. Motion by Chris Dohnal supported by Greg Price to donate the old laptop to Sandy Lipman amendment by Sandy Lipman supported by Jeff Meulendyk that sandy will donate an additional \$25.00 to N.E.F. Amendment passed. Original Motion as amended passed.

Skipper Towns talked about an amendment to the constitution and by-laws for the \$1.00 dues increase. 1st one is going to be to article 8 sec 2 to add a dollar amounts \$5.00 to Detachment \$2.00 to National and the 2nd amendment changing the \$5.00 replace with \$6.00 to Detachment and \$2.00 to national. This is to cover 4 issues of 4 pages in the Legionaire. Mike Holly brought an old S.A.L. flag Motion Dwain Verville supported by Jack Helminski to donate old flag to Rodney Tolbert Passed.

Historian: Rodney Tolbert asked for anyone that has pictures of Commander Boughner on District tours or events please get them to him on a disc preferred there are some places that he could not attend that Commander Boughner has been at.

Motion by Dwaine Verville supported by Fred Ruttkofsky to accept all officer reports as given. Passed.

New Business: Mike Holly Brought up George Jingles passed away about a month ago memorial service tomorrow in Croton.

Motion by Dwaine Verville supported by Victor fisher to pay to send Danny Poole to Washington D.C. Passed. Rodney Galbraith from Squadron 143 presented \$100.00 check for Make a wish and a \$100.00 check for Commander Boughner's special project.

Good of the Sons: Greg price presented National commander Joe Gladden a Jacket from the Detachment. Greg also presented Commander Boughner with a jacket. National Commander Joe Gladden brought greetings from 356,000 members of the Sons of the American Legion nationwide. His theme is, "United service." Membership theme is, "Shoot for the Moon." His goal he is shooting for is 375,000 members his tool to help with this goal is family tree. He also talked about the Legacy fund he has coins for sale all proceeds go to the Legacy fund.

Correspondence: Zack Pendell read a letter from American Legion Headquarters from Children and Youth Education Committee they have a certificate of appreciation. They need names addresses and brief statements of some ones achievements that need to be received by National by April 15 2014. Reminder POW/MIA freedom car is asking for donations. Michigan Veterans Federation (MVF) thank you letters were read.

Those running for a National Office of Chairman of a National Committee need to get their paperwork or request to Greg Price as soon as possible.

Endorsement letters were read:

Post 216, Squadron 216 and the 18th District; endorse Butch Maxwell for Detachment Commander.

Post 377, Squadron 377 and 18th District endorse Carvin Chapman for Zone 3 Commander.

4th District endorses Rodney Tolbert for Alternate NEC and Danny Gleason for Zone 2 Commander.

18th District endorses David J. Mennel for National Executive Committeeman and Wells "Ben" Warren for Detachment Chaplain.

For the Good of the Son's: Adjutant Zack Pendell Presented Commander Mike Boughner with a gift of a glass penguin. Cmdr. Mike retold the story of loosing and paying a ransom to save the lost penguin. It turned out to be a fun time and monies raised to rescue the penguin were donated for a good cause.

18th District on May 10th will be holding a Lotto Ball fundraiser for putting flags back into schools.

Dave Babbage, 16th District will have a hospitality room in room 324 after the DEC meeting.

5th District tour will be on May 3rd. Victor Fisher thanked those present for supporting the 16th District tour and for all the support, calls, cards and letters when he and Greg Price lost their mother. Earl Ruttkofsky Asked for and then motioned to donate \$500.00 to the Legacy Fund and to give it to National Commander Joe Gladden to present at National. The Motion was supported by Rodney Tolbert. Motion carried. Earl also requested a meeting with Butch Maxwell and PDC's after the meeting.

Butch Maxwell introduced himself and asked for everyone's support as he seeks the office of Detachment Commander.

Keith Tyler, Squadron 287, Cedar Springs and 5th District announced he has pins for Children and Youth for sale. Monies from the sales will be used to assist Children with Boys State, Girls State and Student Trooper.

Sandy Lipman stated there were a few more Piggy Banks left for Child Welfare Fundraisers and everyone should get one.

The hotel staff has found a large package of money. If this is yours please contact the Front desk.

Chaplain Danny Poole Thanked the Detachment for their support in going to National. There is a member from New Jersey who wrote a song and recorded it and we all need to hear it. The song, "I'm a Son of the American Legion," was played.

Chaplain gave the closing prayer.

Meeting adjourned.