

**Sons of the American Legion  
Detachment of Michigan  
Detachment Convention South Haven June 8th, 2014**

Salute to the Flag

Invocation given by Danny Pool

Roll Call

**Elected Officers:**

**Commander** Mike Boughner, pres

**1<sup>st</sup> Zone Commander** Victor Fisher, pres

**2<sup>nd</sup> Zone Commander** Jeff Meulendyk, pres

**3<sup>rd</sup> Zone Commander** Harley (Butch) Maxwell, pres

**4<sup>th</sup> Zone Commander** Fred Ruttkofsky, pres

**5<sup>th</sup> 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, unexc

**NEC** Greg Price, exc

**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, pres

**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, exc

**Legislative** Ron Wyatt, pres

**Constitution and By Laws** Jeremy Bell, exc

**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** Sandy Lipman, pres  
**Emergency Relief Fund** Danny Poole, Pres  
**Education and Leadership** Roger Rockhold, pres  
**Legionaire Editor/Publications** Sandy Lipman, pres  
**Son of the Year** Victor Fisher, pres  
**Community Service** Randy Warner, unexc  
**American Legion Rider Chairman** Tom Howard, exc  
**Reconnect** Jack Helminski, pres  
**Awards and Trophies** Dominic Merlington, pres  
**Pin Sales** Russell Bayliss, pres  
**Upper Peninsula Membership** Jerry Lynch, pres  
**Upper Peninsula Chairman** Bill German, exc  
**Past National Commander** Earl Ruttkofsky, pres  
**Past Department Commander** Jerry Lynch, pres  
**SAL Dept. Liaison** Tom Cadmus, pres

Convention reconvened

Roll Call and final certification done by Adjutant Zack Pendell

Department Commander Ray Moore addressed the Convention. Commander Moore thanked all for attendance and membership at this Convention. Commander Moore is a dual member. He talked about the problems in the VA system he also talked about an increase of money from the State. American Legion sent staff out to Phoenix to help with the back log in the VA. Legion family input is important at both Department and National levels. Commander Moore is looking forward to putting on his blue cap and coming back to the ranks. Thanked for allowing him to serve not only at Department but also at Detachment level.

Greg Price introduced Ron Wyatt candidate for National Vice Commander Central Zone. Ron thanked all for the support to run for this position. He talked about Conference call that have been started he plans to keep doing them. He thanked all veterans for their service and welcome home. He is looking forward to working on making the Detachment proud. Skipper Towns Brought up 2 amendments to the Constitution, Article VIII, Section 2 it reads the amount of such annual Detachment Dues shall be fixed by the American Legion Department of Michigan and the National dues shall be fixed by the National organization and shall be payable on or after October 20th of each year for the succeeding calendar year. We need to add \$5.00 for Department Dues and \$2.00 for National Dues. Motion by Earl Ruttkofsky 2nd by squadron 550 to accept the amendment a roll call vote of Squadrons present was taken. The amendment carried.

Skipper Towns talked about the 2nd amendment the amendment now reads the amount of such annual Detachment Dues shall be fixed by the American Legion Department of Michigan and the National dues shall be fixed by the National Organization and shall be payable on or after October 20th of each year

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the amendment will read the amount of such annual Detachment Dues shall be fixed by the American Legion Department of Michigan and the National dues shall be fixed by the National organization and shall be payable on or after October 20th of each year for the succeeding calendar year. We need to add \$6.00 for Department Dues and \$2.00 for National Dues. Discussion was held the question was asked when this would go into effect the answer was 2015 membership year. Motion by Rodney Tolbert 2nd by Squadron 491 to have a roll call vote of Squadrons present motion carried. Sandy Lipman asked for a copy of the amendments so he could make sure they get published in the next news Legionarie. He was told he will be given a copy. Sandy Lipman brought up that the articles for the Legionarie not only being from officers but also Squadrons are encouraged to submit articles.

Americanism: Skipper Towns said that 61 reports were turned in the award for large Squadron goes to Squadron 491 the small Squadron award Squadron 146. Shooting awards in group 0-17 3rd place went to Sierra Brown with a 35 out of 50, 2nd place went to Jacob Scott and 1st place went to Taylor Townes with a 43 out of 50. 7 shooters. In group 51 and over 3rd place went to Jim Wallace with 44 out of 50. 2nd place went to Dale Neagly with 46 out of 50 and 1st place went to Andre Svacha with a 47 out of 50. 18 shooters in Group 18-50 3rd place went to Tom Killian with a 44 out of 50 2nd place went to Bill Wilson with a 45 out of 50 and 1st place went to Sheila Maxwell with a 49 out of 50 12 shooters.

Maurice L. Michael award went to Squadron 287 Cedar Springs. Squadron 42 put in a bid to host the 2016 Convention 2nd by Squadron 550 motion carried.

Guests in attendance were introduced.

Commander Boughner levied a \$20 fine to himself for not having introduction of guests earlier.

Jerry Lynch talked about Boys State he said all the information can be found on the Legion website or call him we need to promote Boys State. He also talked about the Legion eliminating the contest advisory committee. John Kailunas presented Pat Pustay with his CWF pin. Motion Squadron 300 2nd by Squadron 253 to suspend regular business for the purpose of elections. Motion carried.

Zack Pendell read the election and ballot rules Commander Boughner appointed Roger Webster, Jim Wallace and Tom Cadmus to be tallies if there is more than one candidate for any position.

Commander: Squadron 216 nominates Harley "Butch" Maxwell for Detachment Commander for 2014-2015 2nd by Squadron 17. Mike Mc Donnell read a nomination letter for Harley "Butch" Maxwell

A motion by Mike Mc Donnell (216), 2nd by Squadron 17 to have Adjutant cast 1 unanimous vote for the delegation present for any uncontested office. Motion carried.

Adjutant Zack Pendell cast 1 unanimous vote for the delegation present for Harley "Butch" Maxwell for Detachment Commander for 2014-2015.

Chaplain: Carvin Chapman (377) nominates Ben Warren 2nd Dave Mennel (233) Adjutant Zack Pendell cast 1 unanimous vote for the delegation present for Ben Warren for Chaplain for 2014-2015.

Historian: Pat Pustay (305) Nominates Sandy Lipman 2nd by Randy Jackson (14) Adjutant Zack Pendell cast 1 unanimous vote for the delegation present for Sandy Lipman for Detachment Historian for 2014-2015.

Finance Officer: Squadron 34 nominated Chris Dohnal 2nd by Squadron 300 Adjutant Zack Pendell cast 1 unanimous vote for the delegation present for Chris Dohnal for Detachment finance Officer for 2014-2015.

Sgt-At-Arms: Squadron 396 nominates Jeff Dold 2nd Squadron 170. Zack Pendell cast 1 unanimous vote for the delegation present for Jeff Dold for Detachment Sgt-At-Arms for 2014-2015.

N.E.C. Squadron 396 nominates David Mennel 2nd by squadron 49 Zack Pendell cast 1 unanimous vote for the delegation present for David Mennel for National Executive Committeeman for 2014-2016

Alt N.E.C. Squadron 51 nominates Rodney Tolbert for Alt N.E .C. Zack Pendell cast 1 unanimous vote for the delegation present for Rodney Tolbert for National Executive Committeeman for 2014-2016.

Motion by Randy Jackson 14) 2nd by Dan Tyack (143) to close elections and return to regular business. Motion Carried.

Commander Elect Harley "Butch" Maxwell read his appointments. A motion by Squadron 273 2nd Squadron 300 to accept newly elected Commanders appointments. Motion Carried.

Motion Squadron 300 2nd Squadron 491 to suspend regular Business for purpose of Installation of Officers motion carried.

Ray Moore Department Commander acting Installing Officer. The newly elected Officers were installed.

A motion by Dwaine Verville (17) 2nd Squadron 491 to return to regular business. Motion carried.

Commander elect Maxwell gave his thank you speech his special project is PTSD. The theme of the year is the Year of the Tiger.

Awards: VA&R squadron under 100 members goes to Squadron 146. Squadron over 100 members goes to Squadron 34.

History books: only 3 books 1 from a district the award goes to Squadron 287 scrapbook award goes to Squadron 28.

Son of the Year: not one turned in. JR Son of the year goes to Hunter Tripp Squadron 170.

Good of the Sons: Dominic Merlington thanked Chaplain Danny Poole and Commander Boughner for doing the service for his father Ron Merlington. Dave Leasa (253) asked if anyone has any small bottles of shampoo, any soap ECT... for Stand Down, Dust off in Detroit for homeless veterans. Motion by Squadron 568 2nd by Squadron 351 to accept all reports as presented. Motion Carried. Rodney Tolbert presented a gift card to Yvonne of the hotel staff for all she did for this convention. Rodney Tolbert presented Commander Boughner with a set of Darts.

National Vice Commander Eicher thanked the Detachment for having him here. Sandy Lipman talked about a book for the younger members. A thank you letter from Wilwin Lodge was read. Squadron 514 presented one of their Past Squadron Commanders a Commanders ring from the Squadron. Squadron 514 presented a check for \$100 for Rainbow Connection and a check for \$100.

The Convention was adjourned.