



Sons of The American Legion
 Detachment of Colorado
 Minutes
 Pre – Convention Detachment Executive Committee
 July 1, 2022

Salute

Opening Prayer: Chaplain Brad Henderson

POW/MIA Ceremony: Commander Bobby Jones

Blue Star Banner Ceremony: Commander Bobby Jones

Pledge of Allegiance: by Wally Weld

Recitation of Preamble: by Richard Humphrey

Meeting called to order on July 1, 2022 at: 1:42 PM

Roll Call of Officers:

NEC/Adjutant	Scott Garrett (200)	
ALT NEC	Nick Arceo (103)	
Commander	Bobby Jones (28)	
Sr. Vice Commander	Walter Weld (1)	
Jr. Vice Commander	Jim Gaddis (211)	Excused
Jr. Vice Commander	Ron Noakes (2)	
Jr. Vice Commander	Richard Humphrey (23)	
Finance	Rick Baldessari (21)	
Asst Finance	Jim Gelwicks (54)	
Chaplain	Brad Henderson (209)	
Historian	vacant	
Sergeant-at-Arms	Teddy Kuntz (1985)	
Judge Advocate	Richard Humphrey (23)	
Detachment Advisor	Shane Hasert (70)	Absent
Voting PDC	Mike Kirschner (2)	Excused
Voting PDC	Mark Kilstrom (2)	

Roll Call - Past Detachment Commanders:

Ron Noakes	Rick Baldessari	Jim Gelwicks	Mark Kilstrom
Nick Arceo	Scott Garrett		

Roll Call – Squadrons:

2 21 23 28 54 65 103 200 209 211
1985

Distinguished Guests: Past National Vice Commanders, Rick Baldessari (also Past National Chaplain), Jim Gelwicks, Past National Historian Mark Kilstrom, Past Department Commander Richard Humphrey.

Reading of Minutes: Motion to approve minutes as written. 1st Mark Kilstrom. 2nd Ron Noakes. Passed.

Correspondence: Thank you letter from Volunteers for Hospitalized Veterans for \$200.00 donation. Thank you letter from CWF for \$5,200.00 donation.

Special Guests: none

Special Presentations: none

Vice Commanders Reports:

Senior Vice Walter Weld: Due to recent heart attack, Wally will remain Sr Vice and not run for Commander.

Junior Vice Ron Noakes: Attended District #8 spring conference. Emphasis on rebuilding membership after Covid.

Junior Vice Jim Gaddis: absent

Junior Vice Richard Humphrey: No report.

Committee Reports

Membership Walter Weld: We are over 100%. Riders need to be reminded of sustaining SAL membership. We need to push renewals now, not wait until next year.

Permanent Membership Rick Baldessari: Currently at 207. One brass card on order.

Finance Rick Baldessari: June 28, 2022 Balance Sheet & June 26, 2022 Unrestricted Budget are available on the website. 2021 Budget surplus recommendations were presented.

Americanism Ron Noakes:

Junior Shooting A knowledgeable Legionnaire is needed to chair the Dept committee. Post #2 is running a Tuesday class weekly in lieu of a day camp. The State tournament is scheduled for September.

Boys State 2022 program is finished and was considered successful.

Oratorical Nick Arceo: Plans for the 2023 Oratorical competition are under way. The committee is planning zoom meetings to start soon. The competition will again be held at our new location, Golden View Classical Academy in Golden CO. Next year's competition is set for Saturday February 4, 2023. Terri Clinton will again chair this committee. This will be my last year on this committee. I have enjoyed being the Judge Coordinator these past 6 years. I feel it's time to step aside and allow someone else a chance to step up in this position.

Baseball Wally Weld: Colorado has 10-20 teams this year, way down due to Covid. We have two umpires who will work the regional finals.

Boy Scouts Rick Baldessari: Colorado Eagle Scout of the Year is a girl and took 3rd runner-up at the National level. Membership is struggling.

Children & Youth Pete Sierminski: Rick Baldessari reported that he received \$12,671 from the CWF Banquet. Final CWF report has Colorado in 1st place in the region, 3rd place Per Capita in the nation. Final CO donation was \$23,235.00

Public Relations vacant

Legislative Richard Humphrey: Senate & House passed a bill to extend healthcare & tax free benefits to vets exposed by burn pits, Agent Orange, etc.
All other legislation is sitting in sub-committees.

VA & R Nick Arceo: The ECHCS VAVS Committee held its quarterly meeting on May 5, 2022. Old business review as follows; RMR Blood Drive was held on March 3, very successful event with 32 participants. Vietnam Recognition Day was held on March 29, over 150 Veterans across Colorado were served. Volunteer Recognition week was held April 18-22nd. VA Deputy SEC spoke to the Volunteers. New Business: second booster now being offered at the VA at no charge in building A. RMR Campus Beautification Project was held on May 14th @ 8:30-12:30. Latino Veteran Health fair was held on May 14th. Back to school drive throw will be held on July 16th @ CRRC. Denver Stand down will be held on Sept. 8th @ CRRC. Denver baby drive throw baby shower will be held on September 23 @ RMR. Inpatient Units are looking for monthly/ quarterly activities on the units (bingo, pizza parties, ice cream socials ect. There is always plenty of volunteer job assignments available. Donations needed; gift cards for fast food, target, Walmart, King Soopers, move in kits for homeless program, snacks for the Covid clinic & bottled water. The next VAVS meeting will be Thursday August 4th, 2022.

Volunteers for Hospitalized Veterans Nick Arceo: The committee held its last meeting on June 14. We discussed fundraising opportunities since we are still not allowed to return to pre-covid selling at the Hospital. We have partnered with Mountain City Supply. We have established a logo and are working on a web page, Facebook also. We are resuming activities on H2, this is the lockdown psychiatric unit at the hospital. We are having a Red, White & Blue ice cream social on July 4th. We purchased team shirts and caps for the Golden Age Games for \$600.00

Veterans Employment & Education Nick Arceo: The Commission continues to hold monthly conference calls. These calls are on the third Wednesday of each month 6pm Mountain time. Please join our calls there is always some very good information being shared. The Commission selected this year Marvin P. Nay award, which will be

announced at National convention. This award is given to the individual that engages in fundraising and or volunteering at an event deemed beneficial to veterans' employment and or education (to include homelessness) This will be our second year of this award. The commission has also created a SOP (suggested operating procedure) for Detachments in helping them to establish a VE&E committee. We also have a power point presentation explaining how and what VE&E is and the benefits to veterans. (Still waiting on Legions approval). We also have a trifold containing very good information and links for help. We will soon have a condensed version of the national VE&E monthly newsletter which will be called "Economic Nuggets" for distribution.

NEC Scott Garrett: National has changed the SAL regions to match the Legions regions. This has not yet been made official.

Motion to approve reports. 1st Jim Gelwicks. 2nd Ron Noakes. Passed.

Unfinished Business:

- 1) Flying Flags for Heroes update attached.

New Business:

- 1) Ad Hoc Committee Document Corrections. Motion to accept all corrections. 1st Mark Kilstrom. 2nd. Jim Gelwicks. Passed. (Both versions of Code for Convention, Finance Policy, and PUFL Policy on website.)
- 2) Motion to give \$500.00 to Volunteers for Hospitalized Veterans, and \$200.00 each to Colorado's five Veterans Living Centers from VA&R account. 1st Nick Arceo. 2nd Mark Kilstrom. Passed.

Good of the Sons:

- 1) Chaplain Brad asked for squadron input on sick and hospitalised members. As an ordained minister, Brad has visitation rights not normally available.
- 2) Scott G gave update on online renewals.
- 3) Post #23 recently performed a flag disposal ceremony with over 200 flags. Richard Humphrey gave certificates of appreciation to Wally Weld and Nick Arceo.
- 4) Mark Kilstrom asked for squadron input for his Electronic Update.

Next meeting will be Convention DEC meeting, Saturday, July 2, 9:00 AM, Crowne Plaza Hotel, 15500 E. 40th Ave, Denver, CO, 80239.

Closing Prayer: Chaplain Brad Henderson

Closing: Commander Bobby Jones

Adjournment – Commander Bobby Jones

Salute: "I Now Declare this Meeting of the Executive Committee, Detachment of Colorado, Sons of The American Legion, Adjourned.

Meeting adjourned at 2:51 PM.

Flying Flags for Heroes Report

The National Commander's service project to place 1 million flags at the gravesites of veterans at public cemeteries was announced at the National Convention in Phoenix, AZ in August 2021. I picked up as chairman for the project at the November DEC meeting. And set a goal of for the Detachment of placing 5,280 flags.

To fund the purchase of flags for the project I sent letters to approximately 50 American Legion Posts seeking donations and in total \$1,045 was raised. The flags purchased from American Legion Emblem Sales including cost of mailing was \$640.24 for 6 boxes of flags. I have 4 boxes still on hand and we have \$640.24 still available. Most of the participating squadrons already had flags on hand. Most of squadrons placed flags along with their Posts and Auxiliary units. Some incorporated organizations they support such as JROTC and Scouts.

The national organization has decided to make this an annual project so we have a supply to start next year's campaign. If you want flags for the project, see me after the meeting and I can give you some.

Eight Squadrons participated in the project.

Squadron	Flags
1	400
2	1500
5	441
28	1525
32	600
38	200
54	550
209	1700

Total 6916

Knowing that we will have this program again going forward for membership year 2023, and more advanced notification, we should have much participation. I believe Colorado can reach 10,000 flags.