



Sons of The American Legion
Detachment of Colorado
Minutes
Detachment Executive Committee
November 19,2022

Salute

Opening Prayer: Chaplain Brad Henderson

POW/MIA Ceremony: Commander Richard Humphrey

Blue Star Banner Ceremony: Commander Richard Humphrey

Pledge of Allegiance: Commander Richard Humphrey

Recitation of Preamble: Commander Richard Humphrey

Roll Call of Officers: (Present in Bold)

NEC/Asst Adjutant	Scott Garrett (200)
ALT NEC	Nick Arceo (103)
Commander	Richard Humphrey (23)
Sr. Vice Commander	Walter Weld (1)
Jr. Vice Commander	Jim Gaddis (211) Excused
Jr. Vice Commander	Ron Noakes (2)
Jr. Vice Commander	Bobby Jones (28) Excused
Jr. Vice Commander	Randy Forsythe (65 virtual)
Jr. Vice Commander	Dave Smith (1985) Excused
Jr. Vice Commander	Rob Berry (209)
Adjutant	Mark Kilstrom (2)
Finance	Rick Baldessari (21)
Asst Finance	Jim Gelwicks (54)
Chaplain	Brad Henderson (209)
Historian	vacant
Sergeant-at-Arms	Teddy Kuntz (1985)
Judge Advocate	vacant
Detachment Advisor	Doug Wooddell (23)
Voting PDC	Pete Sierminski (32)
Voting PDC	Jim Gelwicks (54)

Roll Call - Past Detachment Commanders (Present in Bold)

Lionel Sandoval

John Herath

Gary Ray

Ben D. Owens III

Michael Moss
Jim Gelwicks
Scott Garrett
Ron Noakes

Ken Yanke
Mark Kilstrom
Mike Kirschner
Nick Arceo

Rick Baldessari
Shawn McCrary
J.R. Kent
Bobby Jones

Steve Kidd
Pete Sierminski
Jim Gaddis

Roll Call – Squadrons Represented in Bold

1	2	4	5	10	13	15	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	26	28	32	38	39
54	55	58	62	65	66	68	70	73	75
77	81	87	89	97	100	101	102	103	111
113	119	151	160	161	170	178	180	193	200
204	206	207	209	211	11-11	1985	1992	2000	2001
2008	2017								

Distinguished Guests: National Commander Chris Carlton, National Vice Commander Michael Kirschner, Past National Commander, Danny Smith, Past National Vice Commanders, Pete Sierminski (also Past National Ass't SAA), Rick Baldessari (also Past National Chaplain), Jim Gelwicks, Past National Historian Mark Kilstrom, Past Department Commanders Doug Wooddell, Richard Humphrey.

Meeting called to order on November 19th at: 2:05 pm

Reading of Minutes: Rick Baldessari moved to accept the minutes as published, seconded by Walter Weld, carried

Correspondence: Adjutant Mark read thank you letters from Spanish Peaks and Bruce McCandless and Homelake Veterans Living Center for the Detachment donations. Adjutant Mark read letters from the Child Welfare Foundation recognizing the Detachment contributions to the CWF. Adjutant Mark read a letter from The American Legion Veterans and Children Foundation thanking the Detachment for our contribution. The Adjutant mentioned a letter from Wells Fargo Bank acknowledging the change of signatories on the bank accounts. Mark mentioned receiving letters from Squadrons 5 and 21 requesting the annual per diem for their permanent members.

Special Guest: NEC Scott Garrett introduced the SAL National Commander Chris Carlton. Chris congratulated the Detachment on membership accomplishments and encouraged us to continue with our efforts. He commented on the new squadron charter applications we've submitted and is encouraged that we have an opportunity to achieve the Triple Nickle Award. Chris went on to talk about his joint project with TAL National Commander Troiola of Be The One to reduce veteran suicide and gave examples of how small gestures can make a big difference in a veteran's life. And emphasized that although we are not mental health professionals, we need to be familiar with the various recourses available to veterans in crises in particular 988-1 suicide prevention hot line for veterans. Chris also spoke about TAL National Commander goal to Raise \$2 million for the Veteran and Children Foundation.

Vice Commanders Reports:

Senior Vice Walter Weld: Reported he had made several visits around the state with the Commander working on new squadrons and membership.

Junior Vice Ron Noakes: Ron stated they are working our programs and talked about Jr Shooting Sports around the detachment.

Junior Vice Rob Berry: Rob reported that he's been working several project honoring and recognizing veterans. Squadron 209 place 1,000 flags on veterans grave sites at Memorial Gardens on Veteran's Day. The Post 209 family visited Revel Providence Senior Living Center and held a coffee for resident veterans. While there, they performed the POW/MIA empty chair ceremony and gave each veteran a certificate recognizing their service. Rob stated that he has been involved with Scouts and Adventure crews teaching leadership and survival skills and the 2nd Amendment. They have the largest crew in the state. They just received a shipment of "ALF" dogs. They have been giving presentations to different group on "Don't Be a Victim"

Junior Vice Randy Forsythe: (attending virtually via MS Teams) reported hew has visited with Squadrons 24 in Olathe and working them to revitalize Squadrons 97 in Paonia and 73 in Montrose

Chaplain Brad Henderson: Reported that PDC Ernie Clark has passed away but he didn't have much more information.

Committee Reports

Membership Walter Weld: Reported the Detachment has achieved all of the national targets thus far and has several new charter applications in the works. Things are looking good for possibly achieving the Triple Nickle this year.

Permanent Membership Rick Baldessari: The Permanent Membership Committee approved the transfer of funds to the unrestricted budget to reimburse Squadrons 21 and 5 their per-capita for permanent members. The committee also approved the transfer of funds to cover the national and detachment per-diem for all permanent members to the unrestricted budget.

Finance Rick Baldessari: Revied the proposed budget for CY 2023 to be approved at Mid-year DEC meeting. Rick also discussed a change to the financial policy recommend and approved by the Finance Committee that will be brought up for vote under new business as well as reallocation office expenses to in state travel.

VA & R Nick Arceo: VA & R report attached

VE&E Nick Arceo: VE & E report attached

Americanism Ron Noakes:

Boy Scouts: Rick Baldessari shared information on the 2023 Jamboree and some administrative changes on the structuring of the Wagon Wheel Council

Baseball: Walter Weld reported CALB has a new leader/chairman Scott Neff, and they are working on getting more teams. Randy Forsythe added that there is interest from Posts in western Colorado to get some programs going and he's been working with them

Oratorical Nick Arceo Report attached

Boys State: Boys State will be held at Northeast Junior College in Sterling, CO. It's a great facility and the cost is much less than at previous venues

Junior Shooting: Ron Noakes reported that new instructor classes have been completed and the program is doing well across the state. He's working on getting information from Post 178 on their program and how they are competing in the Legion program.

Children & Youth Pete Sierminski: Pete Sierminski gave a status report on donations year to date. Report is attached. Pete reminded everyone that the CWF banquet is on April 1st at Post 209.

Public Relations: Adjutant Mark requested that Vice Commanders and committee chairs provide articles to put in the electronic update. Mark also mentioned using Legiontown USA as a tool to share events they participate in and it's very simple to use. Squadron 209 posted a brief article of their flag placement at Memorial Gardens Cemetery, and Sgt-at-Arms Teddy Kuntz was recently recognized on it for receiving the Auxiliary Good Deed Award for his relief efforts for kids affected by the Marshall Fire.

Legislative Richard Humphrey: Richard mention the Pact Act being passes and signed into law by the President. He also mentioned the Camp Lejeune Justice Act being passed. Richard mentioned the QR code that the Legion has set up to make it easy to contact our US Representatives and Senators with pre-written letters on legislation supported by the Legion.

Advisor Doug Wooddell: Doug shared more information regarding the potential sale of the Department building. Doug also spoke about staffing at Department HQ

NEC Scott Garrett: Scott reported on activities at the fall NEC meetings

Commanders Comments: Commander Richard apologized to committee chairs for not speaking with them before appointing them, he kept all of them the same as last year assuming that they wanted to stay on, but he should have asked first. The Commander reported on the various visits he's made around the state to include Squadrons 39, 54, 65, 161, 101, 24 and Legion Post in Granby, Windsor and Castle Rock, various District Conferences he's attended and the new squadron charters we are working on for Limon, Granby, Brush and Windsor.

Rick Baldessari move to accept the Officer Reports, Ron Noakes seconded, carried

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

Rick moved to approve the reallocation of funds from the Permanent Membership account to the general unrestricted budget as approved by the Permanent Membership Committee. Scott Garrett second, carried.

Rick moved to approve the reallocation of funds from office expenses to in-state travel, second by Walter Weld, carried.

Scott Garrett moved to donate \$500.00 to the National Commanders project Veterans & Children's Foundation Mike Kirschner second carried

Rick Baldessari moved to donate \$250 to the V4HV (Veterans 4 Hospitalized Veterans) from the available VA&R funds, second by Walter Weld, carried.

Adjutant Mark read a resolution to dedicate the Mid-year DEC to the memory of PDC Ernest Clark and that the DEC perform Squadron Everlasting Ceremony at the Mid-year DEC. Mark Moved to pass the resolution second by Ron Noakes, carried.

Good of the Sons: None

Next meeting will be Mid-year DEC Saturday January 28th at American Legion Post 32 in Longmont Colorado. Joint opening at 8:30am followed by training from 10:15 am till noon, DEC Meeting to convene at 2:00 pm.

Closing Prayer: Chaplain Brad Henderson

Closing: Commander Richard Humphrey

Adjournment – Commander Richard Humphrey

Salute

Meeting adjourned at 4:20 pm.

November 19, 2022

VA&R Report

The Commission continues to have monthly zoom meetings. Our last meeting was held on 24 Oct. Effective now, these are now being considered an "official" meeting. This is just one of many positive changes this year. All commission members and NEC liaisons were in attendance. We had twenty attendees on the call. This is great! I consider VA&R the most important commission to our organization. Here are the highlights of this meeting:

*Our Commanders theme "BE THE ONE" we want you to be the one to reach out to that Veteran! Keep in mind it's hard to ask for help, I need to ask, you need to ask.... how are you doing...what can I do for you....??? Trifold and reminder cards

Buddy checks are more important than ever. This is a must! There is a new number for help, crisis line is now **988-#1** this is a 24/7 365 days a year.

*TAL has a goal this year of two million \$ for the VCF. Share this with your detachments and find a way to contribute to this cause.

Commander Carlton has asked us to support this.

*Some great news! At this fall's NEC, we passed Resolution 5, this will allow The Sons of The American Legion to certify our own Reps & Deps. In the past this has been conducted by TAL and has been a long-drawn-out procedure, that really didn't work very well. Many thanks to Gabe Cinquegrana for his extra efforts on this.

*There are 155 VA facilities across the US. We currently have 43 Reps & Deps in 31 VA's. we need your help. We need to have at least 25 to keep our seat at the table.

* Our commission has two main goals this year, the first one, the resolution on Reps & Deps, that has been accomplished. Second, to create a National Award, outside of the VA facility.

*Other goals include having each detachment recruit Reps & Deps. Each detachment identify individuals for the Rigsby award. Speak about this award.

VE&E Report

The VE&E Commission held its monthly conference meeting on November 16. Here are some highlights of the meeting. The Commission has a Tri fold brochure which has information as it relates to Veterans employment & education, this has been submitted to The Legion for approval. Very good information on this including websites for the Veteran to go to for help with employment and education. Chairman Coats is reporting several concerns getting information on Veteran stand downs. Here is a good web site to go to for valuable information regarding Veteran Homelessness, NCHV.org. Discussed "BE THE ONE" program. Again Be The One..to talk to that Veteran that is ready to commit suicide. Get to know this program, we better know what were talking about on this one. This MUST be an important item for the SAL. In conjunction with BE THE ONE, I received information from Chairman Coats regarding a Community Engagement & Partnership program that the VA has started. I now have the contact person for this group on behalf of The VA facility here in Denver. I will reach out to him and share information as I get it.

V4HV Report

Volunteers for Hospitalized Veterans is a 501C3 non-profit group. We partner with the H2 wing at the VA Hospital. This is a Lock Down Mental patient ward with 30 beds. I am chairman of this non-profit, I have five board members. We supply these Veterans with most essential items IE clothes etc. etc. We have monthly parties & gatherings, including ice cream socials, pizza party, Veterans Day celebration, Super Bowl party, 4th of July celebration Christmas gift bags, etc. etc. Thank you to the Detachment for your monetary support in the past and hopefully moving forward. This is really a worth while effort on be half of our Veterans.

November 19, 2022

Oratorical report

This year's oratorical contest will be held February 4, 2023, at Golden View Classical Academy, Golden Colorado. The National finals will be held in Indianapolis IN. April 21-23, 2023. Applications must be submitted by December 31, 2022. For more information, please visit the website at coloradolegionoratorical.org. Everything you need to know about the contest is there. All the forms etc. etc. For the last 5 years, I've been involved with this great program. This year I've decided to step aside. I want to challenge every post to seek out a student and sponsor them. Get them certified and ready to compete. There is lots of scholarship money available. These students are remarkable speakers! They give two speeches on the Constitution, and they will blow you away. Please consider being a volunteer for this year's contest, you will not regret this.

Resolution

Resolution DEC 2022-01

Source Detachment Executive Committee

Whereas Ernest Clark was a faithful and dedicated member of the Sons of The American Legion for 34 years. And

Whereas Ernest Clark served honorably as the Commander of the Detachment of Colorado, Sons of the American Legion. And

Whereas Ernest Clark, from 2006 until his recent passing, operated the Second Chance Bicycle Shop in the City of Aurora as a non-profit operation serving his community. And

Whereas over these years, Ernest Clark donated more than 4,000 bicycles to children, people in need and the homeless. And

Whereas Ernest Clark was well known in his community for his generosity and was ceremoniously recognized by the City of Aurora for his generosity and contributions to the community. And

Whereas Denver television channel 9 KUSA-TV aired a feature story remembering Ernest Clark. And

Whereas through his actions and deeds Ernest Clark epitomized the essence of The American Legions' stated call of "individual obligation to the community, State and Nation". And

Whereas on the 10th of November 2022 Ernest Clark passed on and transferred to the Squadron Everlasting. Be it therefore

Resolved at a regular scheduled meeting of the Executive Committee, Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Colorado, on 19 November 2022, in the City of Colorado Springs, Colorado, that the Detachment of Colorado dedicate its midyear Detachment Executive Committee meeting and conference, scheduled for 27-29 January 2023 in the city of Longmont, Colorado to the memory of Past Detachment Commander Ernest Clark. And be it finally

Resolved that at this midyear meeting, in remembrance of Ernest Clark's many years of dedicated service to the Sons of The American Legion, the Detachment Executive Committee conduct the ceremony of the Squadron Everlasting to properly transfer Ernest into the Squadron Everlasting and into the care of the Supreme and Almighty Commander.

Richard Humphrey, Commander

Mark A Kilstrom, Adjutant