

**Sons of The American Legion  
Detachment of Alabama  
Convention Minutes  
Saturday, June 18th, 2016**

Meeting Called to Order at 9:00 am by Commander Gibson

Invocation by Chaplain Robinsky

Opening Ceremonies

**Roll Call:**

Commander: Jeff Gibson

Vice Commanders:

Area 1: Don Smith - Absent

Area 2: Frank Birdyshaw

Area 3: Jerry Bailey

Area 4: Reginald Hebert - Absent

Area 5: Blair Miles

Adjutant/ Finance Officer: Andrew Cherry – Excused Absence

NEC: Thomas Glander

Alt. NEC: Blair Miles

Chaplain: Terry Robinsky

Historian: Taylor Cowan

Judge Advocate: Buddy Miller

Sargent-at-Arms: Willie Dupree

Sargent-at-Arms II: John Burke

Assistant Adjutant/Past Detachment Commander: Steve Bowling

SAL Advisor: Jeff McNair – Attending Department Finance Meeting

**Minutes of prior meeting:**

Motion to suspend reading of minutes since they have been published made by Jeremy Blevins, second by Jerry Bailey, motion passed.

**Correspondence:** None

**Officer Reports:**

Area 1 Vice Commander: Absent, no report.

Area 2 Vice Commander: Report given by Frank Birdyshaw

Area 3 Vice Commander: No report given

Area 4 Vice Commander: Absent, no report.

Area 5 Vice Commander/ Alternate NEC: Report(s) given by Blair Miles

NEC: Postponed since NEC Glander escorting National Vice Commander Steve Curry

Finance Officer: Report given by Assistant Adjutant Steve Bowling

Chaplain: Report given by Terry Robinsky

Motion to accept Officer reports, except Finance, as read made by Mike Montgomery, second by Daniel Gore, motion passed.

Motion to accept Finance Officer report as read, subject to audit, made by Jason Land, second by Jerry Bailey, motion passed.

Officer reports are on file with the Detachment Adjutant.

Commander Gibson recognized the members attending a Detachment Conference for the first time. The first time attendees are listed below:

|              |                          |
|--------------|--------------------------|
| Scott Finley | Squadron 107, Leeds      |
| Johnny Bass  | Squadron 9, Jasper       |
| Steve Bowden | Squadron 255, Fultondale |
| Carl Davis   | Squadron 76, Mobile      |

Commander Gibson asked Alternate NEC Blair Miles to present Charter to the new Squadron 9, Jasper. Blair presented the Charter to Johnny Bass.

**Membership Awards:**

Blair Miles presented the membership awards for the 2015-2016 year. Award winners are listed below by Area and Category.

|        | Category A               | Category B                 |
|--------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| AREA 1 | Squadron 237, Huntsville | Squadron 176, Huntsville   |
| AREA 2 | Squadron 255, Fultondale | Squadron 137, Fairfield    |
| AREA 3 | Squadron 322, Gadsden    | Squadron 47, West Blockton |
| AREA 4 | Squadron 133, Millbrook  | Not Applicable             |
| AREA 5 | Squadron 44, Gulf Shores | Squadron 164, Citronelle   |

Squadron 88, Mobile, was the only Squadron in the Detachment of Alabama to achieve 100% renewal rate for the 2015-2016 year.

**Guest:**

After thanking the Sons for their support of the American Legion Family and programs, Department NEC Willis Frazier introduced Charles E. Schmidt, the “Leading Candidate” for National Commander of the American Legion. Schmidt talked to the Sons for approximately 10 minutes.

**Elections:**

Sons of the American Legion Detachment of Alabama Nominating Committee Candidates for 2016-2017 Officers are as follows:

|                        |                   |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Commander:             | Jeffrey Gibson    |
| Vice Commander Area 1: | OPEN              |
| Vice Commander Area 2: | Frank Birdyshaw   |
| Vice Commander Area 3: | Jeff McNair       |
| Vice Commander Area 4: | OPEN              |
| Vice Commander Area 5: | OPEN              |
| Chaplain:              | Terry Robinsky    |
| Sargent-at-Arms 1:     | Willie Joe Dupree |
| Sargent-at-Arms 2:     | John Burke        |
| NEC:                   | Thomas Glander    |
| Alternate NEC:         | Blair Miles       |

Candidates nominated from the floor are as follows:

|                        |                |
|------------------------|----------------|
| Vice Commander Area 1: | Jeremy Blevins |
| Vice Commander Area 5: | Aaron Phillips |

Since all candidates are unopposed, motion that Adjutant cast one vote for all candidates made by John Pruett, second by Daniel Gore, motion passed.

**Old Business:**

Resolutions to amend the Detachment of Alabama Constitution that were approved by Resolutions Committee and the DEC, sent to all Squadrons at least 30 days prior to Convention, and to be voted on by the body at Convention.

Resolution DEC 1-15, for changes/corrections to the Detachment of Alabama Constitution, was read by Buddy Miller. Motion to approve the Resolution made by Michael Montgomery, second by Terry Hogg, motion passed.

Resolution DEC 3-15, for changes/corrections to the Detachment of Alabama Constitution, was read by Buddy Miller. Motion to approve the Resolution made by Terry Hogg, second by Carl Davis, motion passed.

### **Detachment of Alabama Awards**

Soaring Eagle Squadron of the Year Award: Clayton E. Moneymaker Squadron 237, Huntsville.

Assistant Adjutant Steve Bowling passed on Adjutant Andrew Cherry's message on how award recipients are determined: based on hours reported on Consolidated Report Forms, not monetary donations.

Commander Gibson presented awards to all Detachment Officers.

Commander Gibson presented the Commanders Award to Blair Miles.

Commander Gibson presented gift/award to National Vice Commander Steve Curry.

### **NEC:**

NEC report given by Thomas Glander.

NEC Thomas Glander stated that no applications were received, so the VA&R Award could not be given out this year.

Motion to accept NEC report as read by Blair Miles, second by Michael Montgomery, motion passed.

### **Guest:**

NEC Thomas Glander introduced National Vice Commander Steve Curry. National Vice Commander Curry made brief comments and requested the meeting be resumed.

Commander Gibson asked those attending Convention for the first time to stand and presented them with a token.

### **Good of the SAL:**

Commander Gibson asked each Officer and Officer elect to make any comments they would like to say for the Good of the SAL.

Installation of 2016-2017 Officers: Installation of Officers to be performed by National Vice Commander Steve Curry immediately following close of Convention.

Chaplain Terry Robinsky asked for any prayer requests to be included in the Benediction.

Benediction by Chaplain Robinsky

Closing Ceremonies by Commander Gibson

Meeting Adjourned at 11:15 am