

**Sons of The American Legion
Detachment of Alabama
Midwinter Conference Minutes
Saturday, January 20th, 2018**

Meeting Called to Order at 10:00 am by Commander Miles

Invocation by Chaplain Fronduti

Opening Ceremonies

Roll Call:

Commander: Blair Miles

Vice Commanders:

Area 1: Jeremy Blevins

Area 2: Vacant

Area 3: Jeff McNair

Area 4: David W. Duffey

Area 5: Aaron Phillips

Adjutant/ Finance Officer: Andrew Cherry

NEC: Thomas Glander

Alt. NEC: Jeff Gibson

Chaplain: Mark Fronduti

Historian: Jeff Gibson

Judge Advocate: Buddy Miller

Sargent-at-Arms: Willie Dupree

Sargent-at-Arms II: Taylor Cowan - Absent - Excused

Assistant Adjutant/Past Detachment Commander: Steve Bowling

SAL Advisor: Jeremy Blevins

Roll Call of Squadrons:

Squadrons present: Gadsden #5, Jasper #9, Decatur #15, Heflin #19, Bessemer #22, Gulf Shores #44, Mobile #88, Millbrook #133, Phenix City #135, Bynum #155, Citronelle #164, B W Howell #171, Huntsville #237, Fultondale #255, Anniston #312, Gadsden #322 and Pelham #555.

Squadrons absent: #4, #8, #11, #17, #18, #26, #30, #47, #57, #71, #73, #76, #90, #98, #99, #101, #107, #113, #114, #122, #134, #137, #152, #153, #176, #188, #199, #199, #243, #250, #347, #400, #911, and #2011.

Minutes of prior meetings:

Motion, since minutes have been published, to suspend reading of and accept minutes for the 2017 Detachment Convention as published made by Tom Glander, second by David Duffey. Judge Advocate Miller stated that the Area for Vice Commander McNair was incorrect in the published minutes. NEC Glander amended his motion to: since minutes have been published, to suspend reading of and accept minutes for the 2017 Detachment Convention as published with corrections by Judge Advocate Miller, second by David Duffey, motion passed.

First Time Attendees:

Members attending an American Legion Conference or Convention for the first time were recognized by Commander Miles.

Howard Thomas, Commander, Sons of The American Legion, Squadron 155

Roy Parker, Finance Officer, Sons of The American Legion, Squadron 44

William Avery, Commander, Sons of The American Legion, Squadron 322

Jeff Jarvis, Sargent-at-Arms, Sons of The American Legion, Squadron 5

Ernest Inman, Commander, Sons of The American Legion, Squadron 9

Guest Speakers:

Rocky Smith, Assistant Director, American Legion Riders, Department of Alabama

Ron Bradstreet, Commander, The American Legion, 21st District

Leroy Davis, Sr. Vice Commander, The American Legion, Department of Alabama

John B. Pruitt, Colonel, Alabama Service Corp

Sharon Atkins, 1st Vice President, American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Alabama

Arletha Tucker, Junior Activities Chairman, American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Alabama

Officer Reports:

Area 1 Vice Commander: Report given by Jeremy Blevins

Area 2 Vice Commander: Vacant

Area 3 Vice Commander: Report given by Jeff McNair

Area 4 Vice Commander: Report given by David W. Duffey

Area 5 Vice Commander: Report given by Aaron Phillips

NEC: Report given by Thomas Glander

Historian: Report given by Jeff Gibson

SAL Advisor: Report given by Jeremy Blevins

Commander: Report given by Blair Miles

Motion to accept the Officer reports as read made by Jeff Gibson, second by David Duffey, motion passed.

Finance Officer: Report given by Andrew Cherry

Motion to accept Finance Report, subject to audit, made by Thomas Glander, second by David Duffey, motion passed.

Officer reports are on file with the Detachment Adjutant.

Committee/Commission Reports:

Membership: Report given by Aaron Phillips

Adjutant Cherry stated that Jeff Gibson and Aaron Phillips received the Blue Brigade Award for new member recruitment.

Adjourned for break at 11:06 am.

Meeting reconvened at 11:17 am.

Resolutions: None

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Good of the SAL:

Chaplain Fronduti suggested utilizing the ALR to in recruiting for the SAL. Jeff Gibson asked if there were any plans for a "Jr ALR", for kids. Chaplain Fronduti deferred the question to John Burke, Director of the Alabama ALR. He said that idea was being "tossed around" and pointed out that the ALR patch worn by its member's sparks interest in those seeing it. He pointed out that the SAL can do the same by wearing SAL apparel.

Adjutant Cherry stated that the SAL is the largest contributor to the Child Welfare Fund (CWF) and donations for this year need to be into National by May 31st. Donation envelopes and pigs are available at the back of the room. National has an online donation form on their website that allows donations to any or all of The American Legion charities. There are also donation forms for the Alabama War Memorial at the back of the room. Adjutant Cherry stated that the Consolidated Report forms will be mailed out in late February or early March. He emphasized how important the Consolidated Report is, the most important document to be completed each year. Adjutant Cherry stated that the Detachment of Alabama received the following National awards for 2016-2017:

CWF: Certificate for exceeding \$2 per capita in donations

Membership: Award for 1st Detachment to reach 100%, Southern Region

Membership: Award for most new Squadrons (4), Southern Region

Commander Miles gave times and locations for the Committee/Commission meetings. Committee/Commission reports at the Spring DEC will reflect today's meetings.

NEC Glander pointed out that Jeff Gibson won the 2016-2017 Rigsby Award at National.

Ron Haygood stated that they still have refrigerators, stoves, and dishwashers available, most need to be cleaned. They must go to a veteran or the proceeds from sale must go to a veteran.

Benediction by Chaplain Fronduti

Closing Ceremonies

Meeting Adjourned by Commander Miles at 12:06 pm.