

**Sons of The American Legion
Detachment of Alabama
Spring DEC Minutes
Saturday, April 22nd, 2017**

Meeting Called to Order at 10:05 am by Commander Gibson

Invocation by Chaplain Robinsky

Opening Ceremonies

Roll Call:

Commander: Jeff Gibson

Vice Commanders:

Area 1: Jeremy Blevins

Area 2: Frank Birdyshaw

Area 3: Jeff McNair - Absent - Excused

Area 4: David W. Duffey - Absent – Excused

Note: Attended most of meeting via Commander Gibson's phone on speaker.

Area 5: Aaron Phillips - Absent - Excused

Adjutant/ Finance Officer: Andrew Cherry

NEC: Thomas Glander - Absent - Excused

Alt. NEC: Blair Miles

Chaplain: Terry Robinsky

Historian: Taylor Cowan - Absent - Excused

Judge Advocate: Buddy Miller

Sargent-at-Arms: Willie Dupree

Sargent-at-Arms II: John Burke - Absent - Excused

Assistant Adjutant/Past Detachment Commander: Steve Bowling

SAL Advisor: Matt Gaff - Absent - Excused (Note: Arrived at meeting at 11:08 am)

Guests/Others Present:

PDC Ron Haygood

Ron Koonce, Pelham Squadron 555

Adjutant Jay Snow, Jasper Squadron 9

Noah Blevins, Jasper Squadron 9

Guests were recognized by Commander Gibson.

Minutes of prior meetings:

Motion to suspend reading of minutes for the 2017 Pre-Midwinter Conference, since they have been published, made by Blair Miles, second by Willie Dupree, motion passed.

Correspondence:

Adjutant Cherry report that an e-mail was received from the National Membership Committee Chairman congratulating Gadsden Squadron 5 on submitting three verified requests for 5 Member Recruitment Pins. Also reported that e-mail from SAL Liaison John Kerestan stating that the 3rd and last mailing of Renewal Postcards has been sent out by National, and an e-mail from National Vice Commander Kelly for Detachment Officers to follow-up on the National mailings and get those renewals.

Officer Reports:

Area 1 Vice Commander: Report given by Jeremy Blevins

Area 2 Vice Commander: Report given by Frank Birdyshaw

Area 3 Vice Commander: Absent, no report; Blair Miles read membership status for Area 3

Area 4 Vice Commander: Report read by Commander Gibson.

(Note: David W. Duffey, by phone, thanked Blair Miles for his help with the Enterprise Post to get a SAL Squadron and expressed his condolences to Terry Robinsky.)

Area 5 Vice Commander: Report read by Blair Miles

Finance Officer: Report given by Andrew Cherry

Adjutant: Report given by Andrew Cherry

Motion to accept Finance Report, subject to audit, made by Blair Miles, second by Buddy Miller, motion passed.

NEC: Report given by Alt. NEC Blair Miles

Chaplain: Report given by Terry Robinsky

Commander: Report given by Jeff Gibson

Motion to accept Officer Reports as read made by Buddy Miller, second by Ron Haygood, motion passed.

Officer reports are on file with the Detachment Adjutant.

Meeting recessed for Committee meetings at 11:12 am.

Meeting reconvened at 11:50 am.

Commission/Committee Reports

Membership Committee: Report given by Blair Miles, additional comments by SAL Advisor Gaff

Nomination Committee: Report given by Jeremy Blevins

Finance Commission: Report given by Andrew Cherry

SAL Advisor: Report given by Matt Gaff

Motion to accept the Commission/Committee reports as read made by Steve Bowling, second by Buddy Miller, motion passed.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

Motion to give CWF (Child Welfare Fund) a donation of \$100 made by Terry Robinsky, second by David W. Duffey (via speakerphone), passed.

Motion to donate \$100 to the Veteran's Retreat in honor of Department Commander Jim Jeffries wife Amy made by Ron Haygood, second by Blair Miles, passed.

Good of the SAL:

Commander Gibson displayed and read flyer for Goodwill Industries annual Goodwill for Veterans Bike Drive.

Jeremy Blevins stated that Cullman Post 4 and Squadron 4 will be manning a parking lot for the Rock the South Concert in Cullman. This is the main fund raiser for the Post/Squadron.

SAL Advisor Gaff stated that the POW/MIA Ride will be in September. The exact dates and route will be out soon.

Commander Gibson gave Frank Birdyshaw a book for spiritual support during his battle with cancer.

Commander Gibson presented Willie Dupree with a Certificate of Appreciation for his help with the 2016 Veterans Retreat.

Commander Gibson presented Willie Dupree with a Certificate and Pin from President Obama for his service in Vietnam.

Adjutant Cherry displayed the new 2017-2018 membership cards, pointing out the differences from the current cards. He stated that most everything in the March Newsletter is "For the Good of the Sons". He also went over the SAL forms and supplies available.

Adjutant Cherry stated that the Detachment sponsored Putt-Putt at the Banquet Game Night (Mid-Winter Conference) raised \$68 for the Commander's Gift For Vets program and presented the funds to Commander Gibson.

Benediction by Commander Gibson

Closing Ceremonies

Meeting Adjourned by Commander Gibson at 1:20 pm.