

**Detachment of Arizona
Detachment Fall Conference 2019
DETACHMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
Saturday November 9, 2019
Doubletree Hotel, Bonsai Room, Tucson, AZ
MINUTES FROM THE MEETING**

Call to Order

The meeting started at 8:06 a.m.

Roll Call

Detachment Officers Present: Detachment Commander Chuck Treat (29) – Vice Commander Area-B Dan Ashley (29) – Vice Commander Area-C Donald Whalen (14) – NEC Matthew Griffis (109) – Alt NEC Ed Cleary (2) – Adjutant Keith Birkemeyer (34) – Asst. Adjutant Joe Roberts (36) – Sgt-at-Arms A.J. McMullen (62) – Judge Advocate Brad Heck (39) – E-Board Don Long (117) – E-Board Tommie Morrow (68) – E-Board Pete Palandri (1) – E-Board Noah McMullen (62) – E-Board Chris Balsley (91).

Past Detachment Commanders Present: Glenn Currie – Dave Lake – Roland Matteson – Rob Pedersen – Ed Cleary – Steve Blank – Joe Roberts – Joe Miller – Greg Mekula – Mike Talty – Matt Griffis – Tom Lucas – Honorary Commander GI Josh.

Excused Officers & PDC's: Vice Commander Area-A Mark Lamberton (66) – Asst. Sgt-at-Arms Michael Vasquez (3) – Finance Officer Mark Furrey (39) – Xavier Rodriguez PDC – Jeff Johnson PDC – Bob Hath

Quorum was present.

Minutes: With no corrections, the minutes from the 2019 Detachment Convention and Detachment 2019 Convention Organizational Meetings were filed as distributed.

Unfinished Business

Alternate NEC Ed Cleary addressed the conference. He reported that due to personal reasons, he did not feel he would be able to adequately fulfill the duties of Alternate NEC for the remainder of his term. He reluctantly resigned and requested that the Detachment Commander appoint someone else to finish the year. **Commander Treat appointed Joe Roberts to finish the year as Alternate NEC.**

New Business: None.

For the Good of the Sons: None

Adjourned at 8:14 a.m.

8 minutes total

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Roberts, Detachment Assistant Adjutant

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Detachment Fall Conference 2019
DETACHMENT GENERAL MEETING
Saturday November 9, 2019
Doubletree Hotel, Bonsai Room, Tucson, AZ
MINUTES FROM THE MEETING**

Call to Order

The meeting started at 8:37 a.m.

Roll Call

Detachment Officers Present: Detachment Commander Chuck Treat (29) – Vice Commander Area-B Dan Ashley (29) – Vice Commander Area-C Donald Whalen (14) – NEC Matthew Griffis (109) – Alt NEC Ed Cleary (2) – Adjutant Keith Birkemeyer (34) – Asst. Adjutant Joe Roberts (36) – Sgt-at-Arms A.J. McMullen (62) – Judge Advocate Brad Heck (39) – E-Board Don Long (117) – E-Board Tommie Morrow (68) – E-Board Pete Palandri (1) – E-Board Noah McMullen (62) – E-Board Chris Balsley (91).

Past Detachment Commanders Present: Glenn Currie – Dave Lake – Roland Matteson – Rob Pedersen – Ed Cleary – Steve Blank – Joe Roberts – Joe Miller – Greg Mekula – Mike Talty – Matt Griffis – Tom Lucas – Honorary Commander GI Josh.

Excused Officers & PDC's: Vice Commander Area-A Mark Lamberton (66) – Asst. Sgt-at-Arms Michael Vasquez (3) – Finance Officer Mark Furrey (39) – Xavier Rodriguez PDC – Jeff Johnson PDC – Bob Hath
Squadrons Present: 1, 2, 14, 19, 24, 25, 27, 29, 34, 36, 39, 44, 62, 66, 68, 78, 86, 91, 93, 105, 109, 117, 131, 132.

Quorum was present.

Special guest. Ben Headen addressed the conference. Thanked the Detachment of Arizona for all they do. Also recognized Brad Heck as a graduate of the National American Legion College. Also looking forward to working with the Detachment if elected as Department Commander for the Department of Arizona 2020-2021.

Minutes: Minutes from the E-Board were read. With no objections, they will be filed as read.

Commander opening comments: Commander Treat welcomed all attendees to this conference. Thanked everyone for their continued dedication to the organization.

Rules of Convention: The rules of convention were read by Detachment Judge Advocate Brad Heck.

Vice Commander Reports

Area A – Report given by Vice Commander, Area B Dan Ashley, who read the report from Vice Commander, Area A Mark Lamberton. Report attached.

Area B – Vice Commander Area B, Dan Ashley gave his report. Report attached.

Area C – Vice Commander Area C, Donald Whalen gave his report. Report attached.

Chaplain Report

Sick call – Mike Grigsby and Michael Vasquez. Also reported that Henry Avilez (Sqd 68) passed away. And PDC Robert Hammerel passed away as well.

Continued next page

Detachment Fall Conference 2019
DETACHMENT GENERAL MEETING
Minutes From The Meeting, Continued

Committee Reports

NEC – Matt Griffis reported on the National Convention, including officers elected, awards won by the Detachment of Arizona, the passing of the Legion Act, and the Western Region Rendezvous. Also discussed the NEC Meeting he attended. Topics included CWF goals, “My Life, My Story” program, veteran suicide prevention, and various resolutions that came before the National Executive Committee.

VA&R – PDC Joe Miller reported on Mission Act. Allows veterans to be treated at facilities outside the VA hospital. Care for our veterans within VA facilities appears to be improving as well.

Membership – Chairman Joe Roberts reported on the status of the PMP program. Also discussed the possible eligibility changes at the national level. Encouraged all members to advance their education with Arizona Legion College and Basic Training.

Finance – Report given by Brad Heck. With no objections, the report was moved to the record, pending audit.

Finance Committee – Report given by Brad Heck. Although it will be voted on later, discussed the budget for the coming year.

Boys State – Report given by Matt Griffis. Working to recruit attendees. Discussed transportation, and asked for \$4,300 to cover bus transportation from southern Arizona to Flagstaff. Also hoping to double the number of boys to attend.

American Legion Auxiliary PDP Josephine Herrera addressed the conference regarding the Auxiliary President’s special project, “100 Club”, to raise \$100,000 for first responders. Funds stay within Arizona and assist families and first responders as needed. Event to be held February 8, 2020 at Post 41, a day of thank you to first responders around the state. Looking for volunteers and financial assistance. A hat was passed, and \$442.35 was raised for the cause.

ALLECA – Chairman Matt Griffis that 25 cadets graduated. Hoping to have 65 cadets this year. Announced the cost per cadet has gone up from \$250 to \$300. Application form has been reduced and standards have been re-evaluated and updated.

CWF – Chairman Dan Ashley reported that we are now third in the nation with donations of \$10,136. Remainder of report is attached.

GI Josh – Report given by Chairman Tom Lucas. Detachment has 600-700 dogs in stock for deployments. We will not sell dogs to other detachments. The program is still not active nationally.

C.H.A.M.P. Foundation/Tucson Fisher House – Report given by Matt Griffis. Updated membership on projects underway at Tucson Fisher House. Also discussed upcoming fundraisers benefitting the foundation, and thereby the Fisher House.

National Judge Advocate of The American Legion, Kevin Bartlett addressed the conference. Thanked the Detachment of Arizona for their commitment. Discussed the Legion Act, enacted to honor those previously unrecognized. Encouraged us to work with the other entities for the sake of all veterans.

Campout – Report given by Chairman Chris Balsley. Campout will be held at Roper Lake April 17-19. Post 32 in Safford will be the host post. Asked for donations and discussed a fundraiser, raffling off a firepit made of steel. Thanked the squadrons that have committed to donate funds for this year’s campout. T-shirts will be included in the \$10 registration fee, no additional cost. Friday dinner at Post 32. Also discussed possible location for 2021 campout. Possibly held at Patagonia Lake. To be voted on at Department open house.

Awards – PDC Tom Lucas shared awards received at National Convention. Awards for CWF donations were distributed to earning squadrons by Vice Commander, Area B, Dan Ashley.

Commander’s Report – Detachment Commander Treat thanked the members for everything.

Adjutant – Detachment Adjutant Keith Birkemeyer reminded everyone that Squadron Officer Report Forms and updated Squadron Constitution and By-Laws must be turned in to receive cards. Also encouraged squadrons to use mysal.org and properly complete transmittals and cards.

Unfinished Business

Finance Chairman Brad Heck submitted budget for the coming year. Motion to accept the budget made by PDC Rob Pedersen, second by PDC Glenn Currie. No discussion. Passed.

Arizona NEC for The American Legion Andy Jaime addressed the conference. Congratulated us on our meeting. Discussed the need for new involvement by our members. Also discussed eligibility of stepsons in the S.A.L.

New Business

A Resolution – Detachment Commander Treat turned the podium over to Vice Commander, Area B, Dan Ashley. From the floor, Commander Treat read Resolution 1, Fall 2019, endorsing Matthew Griffis for the office of National Vice Commander. Motion by Commander Treat to accept the endorsement, second by Dave Crow (109). No discussion. Passed.

For the Good of the Sons

Brad Heck (39) discussed Arizona Legion College to be held at Post 36 on January 24-26 followed by Post 1 on April 24-26. Also discussed the Legion Act and the impact on Auxiliary membership. Discussed Buddy Check, contacting members that have not been heard from recently. Reported that The American Legion changed their preamble and ours will be updated soon as well.

Donations were collected by Vice Commander, Area B, Dan Ashley. Donations of \$520 received for CWF.

Squadron 39 donated \$450 to Boys State. Challenged all other squadrons to do the same.

Squadron 27 matched the donation of \$520 for CWF and in addition donated \$2,500 to each of the Commander’s named programs of ALLECA, Boys State, Girls State. Also donated \$3,500 to be used toward campout.

Total donations received of \$12,040.

Report given on Fishing Tournament. Need entries one month in advance.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:22 a.m.

Total time 2 hours 42 minutes

*Respectfully submitted,
Joe Roberts, Detachment Assistant Adjutant*