



**Sons of the American Legion  
Detachment of Vermont  
Detachment of Vermont Regular Meeting  
Convention - June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

1. Commander England called the meeting to order at 10:30 A.M. and the opening prayer was given by Chaplain Henry Cleveland. Sgt-At-Arms Adam Holden reported two visitors; Eastern NVC Mike Cotten and Detachment of Delaware NEC Toby Cullen. Adam then posted the POW/MIA banner and Blue Star banner. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sr. Vice Commander David Hendee.

2. Adjutant Colety read the roll call and reported that we had a quorum.

3. A motion was made by Dave Hendee and seconded by Bill Brothers to dispense with the reading of and to accept the minutes from the previous meeting. The motion passed.

4. Finance Officer Scolaro presented the finance report. A motion made by Jeremy Revell to accept the report and was seconded by Lucas Herring. Tim Dowdy asked for clarification on what the Doug Billado Fund was used for, Commander England explained. The motion passed. Alternate NECman Harold Trombley reminded the attendees to state their names and squadron # when being recognized by the chair.

- Checks were presented as follows:
  - Sq. 7 Hardwick – NGRF \$2000

5. Committees.

- Activities – Report by Henry Cleveland. Reported that the golf teams sold out during the annual tournament and we had great weather. Total revenue was \$19,635, expenses were \$9,755 leaving \$9,871 profit dispersed as follows: Scholarships \$3,000, Veterans Assistance \$1,500, CWF \$1,500, The Veterans Place \$1,500, Law Cadet School \$750. An additional \$435 was raised on site with the wiffle ball challenge that also went to CWF leaving a balance of \$1,194. \$1,000 was voted by the DEC earlier for use to buy a Caspian Arms hand gun to raffle next year and the balance will go to seed next year's golf fund. Henry stated we were going to be at Neshobe next year on May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Henry thanked Bill Brothers for

bringing in five new sponsors this year. A motion was made by Bion Wyman and seconded by Jack Riendeau to accept the report as read. The motion passed.

- Americanism – Report by Brian Massey. Brian discussed his visit to Boy's State this year. Brian mentioned Vermont donated 7,361 hours and \$29,703 to Americanism this year. He also thanked Mike Felber for helping with this year's Oratorical. A motion to approve the report was made by Henry Cleveland and seconded by Mike Felber. The motion passed.
- Children and Youth – Report by Jeremy Revell. Reported \$9,548 in donations. Vt. at # 8 in the nation, 1<sup>st</sup> per capita and 3<sup>rd</sup> in the East in total donations. Brian Massey made a motion, Adam Holden seconded to accept the report. The motion passed.
- Scholarships – Reported by Henry Cleveland. Scholarships were given out as follows: Ethan Biggie of St. Johnsbury \$1,000; Ryan Blaney of Morrisville \$500; Stanley Brandon of Enosburgh Falls \$500 and Kierstyn Hess of Arlington \$1,000. Some discussion ensued on the lack of applications from the Southern part of the state. A motion was made by Marc Colety and seconded by Bion Wyman to accept the report. The motion passed.
- Constitution and Bylaws – Reported by NEC/Judge Advocate John Waite. John discussed the by-law change to increase the amount of each membership that goes to National to \$5 starting in 2021 membership year. John read the warning and his proposed bylaw changes required. A motion was made by Bion Wyman and seconded by Tom Burrows to accept the report as read. The motion passed 17-1-1. John reminded everyone who had not updated their Squadron Constitution and By-Laws that he has been trying to get these completed for three years.
- Legislative – Reported by Lucas Herring. Lucas mentioned that the bill to increase the dates for American Legion membership had passed the US Senate and was in the US House and encouraged following up with your Representatives. Lucas reported Governor Scott had signed the Disposal of Veterans Remains bill. Lucas also reported there is legislation moving through at the federal level to recognize the trauma created with veterans by exposure to burn pits. A motion was made by Adam Holden and seconded by Mike Felber to accept the report. The motion passed. John Waite remarked on the excellent job Lucas had done with the Legislative Committee this year.
- Historian – No report
- Membership – Reported by Dave Hendee. 21 of 35 squadrons at 100%. 100.89% membership to goal. Reminder of the 7/24 target for 105%. Reported renewals at 90.5% for 2nd in the Eastern Region and 18<sup>th</sup> overall. Dave reported on the Prime Rib Challenge served at Readsboro Squadron #29 two weeks ago and confirmed we would be doing the challenge again next year. Membership certificates were given out to the following squadrons: 1, 3, 10, 14, 23, 25, 27, 29, 30, 36, 37, 47, 50, 59 and 67. A motion was made by Bion Wyman and seconded by Lucas Herring to accept the report. The motion passed.
- Public Relations – Deferred by Marc Colety until July DEC meeting when we need to discuss a solution to our website host discontinuing operations later this year.
- VA & R. – No report however Commander England reported on the DEC vote earlier today which approved Bill Brothers to serve on the SAL seat of the board of the VA Center in White River.
- Advisory Board – No report
- NECman report by John Waite. John and Harold attended the spring NEC meeting at National. John talked about Americanism and CWF. He reported that there would be SAL BBQ aprons and a 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary coin for sale at convention. He reported the CWF logo is being obsoleted and replaced with the American Legion logo. He reported on the effort to create a new award in memory of Chris Huntzinger PNC. He reported that of 13 resolutions,

6 were returned for more information. Finally he reported the Josh Dog Program has ended. A motion was made by Henry Cleveland and seconded by Jack Riendeau to accept the report. The motion passed.

7. Sick Call and Relief. – None

8. Notes and Correspondence. - None

9. Old business:

- National Convention is August 23<sup>rd</sup> – August 27<sup>th</sup>. \$154.86 per room/night. Convention delegates were identified by a show of hands and approved without election as we did not exceed our eleven delegates: Henry Cleveland, Marc Colety, Harold Trombley, Bill Brothers, Dave Hendee, Steve England and John Waite. Please let John Waite know immediately if I missed anyone who wishes to go as a delegate.
- Golf Sponsorship certificates of appreciation were handed out to squadron's 1, 3, 5, 7, 10, 19, 25, 27, 31, 36, 39, 47, 49, 55, 59, 63, 67, 69.

10. New business:

- The Dodge House bricks look great, time to get another order of bricks together. Have to be bought in 100 brick increments.
- Topo Despault Sq. 59 reported on their hat program for WWII vets he has discussed with the Governor and written the White House. Tom Burrows requested a list from all squadrons of any living WWII veterans from their posts.
- Commander England gave his final numbers report with 31 of 35 squadrons reporting. Over 60,000 volunteer hours and over \$200,000 donations from the Detachment of Vermont this year. He also reported on making 100% membership and 90% renewal rate.
- Awards Committee Results:
  - Category 1 Children & Youth
    - 1-50 N. Troy #28
    - 51-100 Canaan #47
    - 101-150 Montpelier #3 and Barre #10
    - 151-200 Bristol #19, Chester #67 and Green Mt. #1
  - Category 2 Veterans Assistance
    - 1-50 N. Troy #28
    - 51-100 Lyndon #30
    - 101-150 Vergennes #14
    - 151-200 Rutland #31
  - Category 3 Most Active
    - 1-50 Fair Haven #49
    - 51-100 Lyndon #30
    - 101-150 Barre #10
    - 151-200 Waterbury #59
  - 100% Membership Jackets to Sq. #26 Hartford, #28 N. Troy and #55 Brandon.
  - District Commander of the Year – Brian Massey Sq. #3.
  - Nancy Tetreault Award – Guy “Rusty” Morrison Sq. #7.
  - Jr. Member of the Year – Sawyer Slayton Sq. #7.
  - Member of the Year – Bion Wyman Sq. #67.

- Also receiving nominations were Tom Burrows #59 and Cecil Hikel #47.
    - Dodge House Certificates to Squadrons #12, 13, 21, 23, 25, 26, 27, 28, 37, 42, 47, 55, 58, 60, 63, 87 and 90. It was noted by at least three other squadrons they had also donated.
    - The Butch Miller Award was chosen and presented by the previous winner Brian Massey to Adam Holden for going above and beyond as an SAL member.
  - Visitors: PVNC/PDC/JA/NEC John Waite introduced Eastern NVC Mike Cotten, a member of Detachment of Delaware Sq. 28 from Old Orchard. Mike gave his greetings from SAL Commander Doc Gibbs. Mike was very complimentary about the work the Detachment of Vermont completed this year. Mike then spoke to the juniors in the room. He asked them to think about what part of the SAL they enjoyed the most and then called on some of the juniors to share. He then turned to the elder members and told them they needed to listen to what the juniors were saying. That it could no longer be about what the elders liked to do but in order to survive and grow we needed to listen to and support the youth more. NEC Toby Cullen then handed out gifts to the assembled and the Detachment of Vermont presented NVC Cotten with a true Vermont fishing pole and a real bass fishing outfit, a Vermont products sampler package and the Vermont cowbells.
  - Elections:
    - David Hendee was nominated by John Waite, seconded by Chris Hanfield as the next Detachment Commander. Dave accepted the nomination.
    - Jeremy Revell was nominated for Sr. Vice Commander by Bill Brothers and seconded by Bion Wyman. Jeremy accepted the nomination.
    - Steve England was nominated for Chaplain by Henry Cleveland, seconded by Dave Hendee. Steve accepted the nomination.
    - Norm Scolaro was nominated by Dave Hendee and seconded by Bill Brothers for Finance Officer. Norm accepted the nomination.
    - The following were the choices from each of the district caucuses:
      - Northern Area Commander – Brian Massey
      - Southern Area Commander – Bill Brothers
        - District 1 Commander - Mike Felber
        - District 2 Commander - Darrell Degreenia
        - District 3 Commander Lucas Herring
        - District 4 Commander - Vacant
        - District 5 Commander - Adam Holden
          - Addison County Commander - Chris Hanfield
          - Bennington County Commander - David Woodcock
          - Caledonia County Commander - Jack Riendeau
          - Chittenden County Commander - Elwood Bourne
          - Essex County Commander - Vacant
          - Franklin County Commander - Vacant
          - Lamoille County Commander - Vacant
          - Orleans County Commander - Vacant
          - Rutland County Commander - Vacant
          - Windsor County Commander – Bion Wyman
          - Wyndham County Commander – Richard Aumand II
  - Adjutant Marc Colety cast a single ballot for each at large officer above who ran unopposed after a motion was made by Henry Cleveland and seconded by Bill Brothers to do so.

11. Other Business: None

12. Chaplain Steve England read our closing prayer.

13. Commander Hendee adjourned the meeting at 1:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

*Marc Colety – S.A.L. DEC Adjutant*