

**Sons of the American Legion
Detachment of Michigan
DEC-3 Muskegon September 24, 2016**

Salute to the Flag

Roll Call

Elected Officers:

Commander Carvin Chapman, pres

1st Zone Commander Victor Fisher, exc

2nd Zone Commander John VanHavel, pres

3rd Zone Commander Louis Scott Jr., exc

4th Zone Commander John P. Brown, pres

5th Zone Commander Bill Germain, pres

Finance Earl Ruttkofsky, pres

Chaplain Jack Helminski, pres

Historian Andre Svacha, pres

Assistant Historian vacant

SGT at Arms Dan Tyak, exc

Asst SGT at Arms Joe Lipman, pres

Asst SGT at Arms Danny Gleason, pres

NEC Rodney Tolbert, pres

ALT NEC Mike Boughner, pres

PDC 1 Fred Ruttkofsky, pres

PDC 2 Harley (Butch) Maxwell, exc

PDC 3 Mike Boughner, pres

Appointed Officers:

Adjutant Zack Pendell, pres

Asst Adjutant Mike McDonnell, pres

Judge Advocate Skip Townes, pres

Americanism Keith Tyler, pres

Budget Chairman Chris Dohnal, pres

VA & R Fred Ruttkofsky, pres

Membership Patrick Pustay, exc

Service Officer Larry LaMunyon, pres

Legislative David Mennel, pres

Constitution and By Laws Greg Price, pres

Public Relations Dominic Merington, pres

Boys State / Youth Career Law Enforcement Mike Holley, abs

Child Welfare Foundation John Kailunas, pres

Make A Wish John Brown, pres

MIAP Greg Price, pres

Homeland Security Mike Boughner, pres

Homeless Vets Rodney Tolbert pres

N.E.F. Chairman Sandy Lipman, pres

Emergency Relief Fund Jack Helminski, pres

Education and Leadership Ray Moore, pres

Legionnaire Editor/Publications Sandy Lipman, pres

Son of the Year Victor Fisher, exc

Reconnect Jack Helminski, pres

American Legion Rider Chairman Tom Howard, abs

Awards and Trophies Dominic Merlington, pres

Pin Sales Russell Bayliss, pres

Upper Peninsula Membership Bill Germain pres
Upper Peninsula Chairman George Maciejewski pres
Wilwin Chairman Harley (Butch) Maxwell, exc
SAL Dept. Liaison Ray Moore, pres
Past National Commander Earl Ruttkofsky, pres

Past Detachment Commanders: Jack Helminski 1968-69 1969-70 pres, Lou Scott 1971-73, 1983-84 exc, Earl Ruttkofsky 1995-96 pres, Skip Townes 1996-97 pres, Sanford Lipman 1998-99 pres, John Kailunas 1999-2000 pres, Dennis Larson 2000-01 abs, Roger Rockhold 2001-02 abs, Roger Dees 2002-03 abs, Dan Tyak 2003-04 pres, Ron Wyatt 2004-05 pres, Randy Jackson 2006-07 pres, Andre Svacha 2007-08 pres, Greg Price 2008-09 pres, Pat Pustay 2009-10 exc, Dave Mennel 2010-11 pres, Rodney Tolbert 2012-2013 pres, Mike Boughner 2013-14 pres, Harley (Butch) Maxwell 2014-15 exc, Fred Ruttkofsky 2015-2016 pres

Guests: Linda Helmenski, Beverly Ruttkofsky, Bill Hafeman, Auxiliary Department President Ellen Jackson, Mark Sutton, Department of Michigan Commander Larry Money, Department of Michigan Adjutant Ron Runyan, National Vice Commander Paul Martel, Department of Michigan NEC Roger Webster, Department of Michigan Alt NEC Tom Brown, Department of Michigan 4th Zone Commander Neal Horning, Richard Parks and Juanita Price.

Wilwin Director Bill Hafeman addressed the meeting and thanked the SAL for their generous donation.

Sandy Lipman makes a motion to approve the minutes for DEC 2, subject to corrections, support Rodney Tolbert, **motion carried.**

Junior Auxiliary President Sabrina Towns and Commander Chapman exchanged gifts. Sabrina introduced her officers for 2016 – 2017.

Department Auxiliary President Ellen Jackson addressed the meeting. Auxiliary President Jackson and Commander Chapman exchanged gifts.

American Legion Department of Michigan Public Relation Chairman Mark Sutton addressed the meeting. He mentioned that the Nation Commander wants membership to raise 10% over last year. He talked about how to accomplish that. If every member gets one new member we just doubled the size of the SAL.

American Legion Department Commander Larry Money and Adjutant Ron Runyan addressed the meeting. Commander Money thanked the SAL for everything they do for the organization. Ron mentioned the 25% rule, he said not to worry about that because that rule applies to the overall National numbers.

American Legion Department of Michigan NEC Roger Webster introduced National Vice Commander Paul Martel. Vice Commander Martel addressed the meeting.

Committee Reports: Budget: Budget Committee Chairman Chris Dohnal went over the changes in the proposed budget for the years 2017 -2018. Andre Savcha makes a motion to accept the Budget Committee report, Jack Helminski support, motion carried.

Membership: Andra Svacha presented the Detachment of Michigan with its 100% ribbon. He also stated the Michigan is at 12.5 % on membership. We should be at 45% at this time.

National Convention 2016: Andra Svacha presented Past Commander Fred Ruttkofsky with an all time high ribbon for membership in 2015. At the convention past Commander Ruttkofsky was presented with three awards, they were, the national membership award for achieving and exceeding 90% renewals for 2015, an award from the Nation Legacy Scholarship for donating \$3750.00 the highest of any Detachment and from the Nation Emergency Fund per ca-pita award for donating the highest per ca-pita for the Central Region.

NEF: Sandy Lipman stated that if you make a donation to the National Emergency Fund please send it to the Detachment so we can get credit for it.

Child Welfare: As of September 15, 2016 Michigan is at \$22,000 for donations for Child Welfare which is far low for this time of year. The objective is \$1.00 per member and we are at 26 cents per member. At the National level the total donations to Child Welfare for 2015 was \$653,970.00, out of that the SAL donated \$360,299.00, the American Legion donated \$162,115.00 and the Auxiliary donated \$94,469.

VA & R: Fred Ruttkofsky reported that the total VA&R hours was 455,656, total monies donated was \$1,618,370.

WILWIN: Earl Ruttkofsky reported that Wilwin is booked solid for this year and next year. He stated that they are in the process of building a handicap suite for wheelchairs. He also stated that out of the three organizations the SAL has donated the most money to Wilwin.

Motion by Jack Helminski to accept all committee reports, support Andra Svacha, **motion carried.**

Sick Call: Chaplin Jack Helminski asked that you notify him right away with any sick call or members passing.

Good of the Sons: Dave Mennel makes a motion to give the two members on the commission \$300.00 each to go to the Fall NEC meetings, Sandy Lipman and Greg Price, support Rodney Tolbert, **motion carried.** Dave Mennel makes a motion to pay Greg Price \$50.00 for one day and \$30.00 per Diem for attending the National VA & R Meeting. Squadron 72 from Dundee, MI submitted a contract to hold the 2017 – 2018 Convention. A recommendation was put on the floor to allow Squadron 568 from Stevensville, MI to go forward with preparations for the 2016 -2017 Convention.

No further business

Benediction given by Chaplin Jack Helminski

Meeting Adjourned