



## Sons of The American Legion Detachment of South Dakota

Colin Royal, Commander  
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### **2015 Mid-Winter Conference Minutes – Watertown, SD – February 7, 2015**

The meeting was called to order by Commander Colin Royal at 10:30 AM.

Colors were saluted as they were in place.

Chaplain Love led the opening prayer.

Roll Call was taken with, Watertown – 7, Lemmon – 2, Hot Springs – 2, Herried – 1, Iroquois - 2. Officers present were: Commander Colin Royal, NEC Kerry Jorgenson, Alt. NEC JD Mattern, Sergeant-at-Arms AJ Royal, and Chaplain John Love. Quorum was met.

Commander read the finance report, he stated that the Detachment is doing well financially. A motion to accept the finance report by JD Mattern and 2<sup>nd</sup> by AJ Royal and carried.

Commander Royal presented the membership report and briefed on 2014 membership year. We ended the year with 110.266% and 94.87% for a renewal rate. Also was announced that Rapid City 22, Herreid 170, Iroquois 280 and Martin 240 had achieved all-time highs for the 2013 year, Plaques will be awarded at the Detachment Convention. Seven Squadrons have sent little or no memberships in. One Squadron has surpassed the 100% goal and 115 memberships were turned in. As of February 6th, the Detachment has 52 new members. . Also that Redfield 92 has surpassed the 100% goal.

Commander Royal briefed on the new MySAL.org website which allows Squadron adjutants to monitor and edit information online for Squadron members. It was recommended that all Squadrons sign up for this as it will be required in the near future and some applications were provided.

Commander Royal Briefed on the Detachment Americanism. He briefed on the 5 star program and the 10 ideals program and sated that one award was made during the 2014-2015 year as of the Mid-Winter Conference. Also were briefed, the upcoming Americanism dates and activities. Partnering with the Posts and communities in celebrating these date and activities was highly encouraged. Kerry Jorgenson was presented the Five Star Medal.

The Child Welfare Foundation was briefed for the 2014 year the detachment \$757.50 to the CWF and that the Sons of The American Legion nationally raised \$346,099.17 for the CWF and that national pledge for 2014 was \$411,710 at \$1 per member. Also discussed was that Squadron donations are also credited to the Detachment results. May 1<sup>st</sup> is the cutoff date for the funds to get from the detachment to the CWF to be included by May 31<sup>st</sup>.

Public Relations was discussed and was encouraged to get Squadron activities and accomplishment in the local news media. Also websites and facebook were encouraged for



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publicity. Commander Royal offered webs pace on his server for Squadron web pages for only the cost of the annual renewal for the domain name.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

It is highly encouraged that the Squadrons get their officers and members to go to the website, [www.sdsal.org](http://www.sdsal.org), and scroll down and signup for the Detachment emailing list to receive information, and as a minimum the Squadron adjutant should be signed up. It is recommended that the Detachment Officers also signup.

Don Ackerman of Hot Springs 71 made a motion to donate \$870, a rate of \$1.50 per detachment member, to the Child Welfare Foundation. 2<sup>nd</sup> by AJ Royal, Motion Carried.

Challenges by Lemon and Martin fell far short as only 1/3 of the Squadrons participated as discussed at the Fall Meeting. It was reported that the committee of the fall meeting dropped the challenges.

Squadron Officers need to be reported to the Detachment as soon as elections are held to ensure the responsible individual receives the information in a timely manner.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

It was announced that a raffle for a 20' telescoping flagpole, a US Flag, and a top solar light and would be drawn at the Convention in June. Also, the closet Squadron would install it for the winner. It is requested that each Squadron take 2 books and sell them.

A request went out for a volunteer Finance Officer due to Mike Goetzinger's parents health issues are taking most of his spare time. Kerry Jorgenson volunteered to take his place and therefore was appointed as Finance Officer for the remainder of the current term. Also Mike Goetzinger will remain as an authorized signer on the account in the interim.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Son of the Year program was discussed and Squadrons were encouraged to make a submission by April 15, 2015. Forms will be updated and available on the website.

The Spring Executive Meeting will be held in Pierre at the Post on Saturday, May 3, 2015 at 1:00pm. Among the business to be conducted will be the selection of the Son of the Year.

The Detachment Convention will be held in Huron at the Crossroads Convention Center on June 27, 2015. Hotels and more information will be forthcoming.

The website was stressed again and Squadron officers need to signup for the emailing list.



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Chaplain Love led in the closing prayer.

Commander Royal closed the meeting with the appropriate ceremony at 12:05PM.

Lance Vander Vorst  
Detachment Vice Commander

**COMMANDERS NOTE:** The date of the Spring Meeting was announced as Saturday May 3, 2015. The date was incorrect, as Saturday is May 2, 2015 and the meeting will be held on that day at 1:00PM.

