

**Detachment of Arizona**  
**Detachment Convention Meeting 2025**  
**Crown Plaza Resort Phoenix in Chandler, Arizona**

**CONVENTION MEETING**

Saturday June 28, 2025

**MINUTES FROM THE MEETING**

Call to Order The meeting started at 9:37 a.m.

Roll Call Detachment Officers (present listed):

Commander Mike Bryant, Area A Vice-Commander Chas Bird, Area B Vice-Commander Charlie Sullivan, Area C Vice-Commander Donnie Whalen, NEC Joe Roberts, Alt NEC Chris Balsley, Chaplain Jim Borgman, Adjutant Dennis Pittman, Finance Officer Ed Cleary, Parliamentarian Petey Palandri, Membership Director Gary Manwell, Sgt-at-Arms Kevin Ludvigsen, Asst. Sgt-at-Arms Brandon Britton, Asst. Sgt-at-Arms Tommy Morrow present.

Past Detachment Commanders: Ed Cleary, Steve Blank, Jeff Frain, Joe Roberts, Greg Mekula, Mike Talty, Matt Griffis, Tom Lucas, Noah McMullen, Chris Balsley, Petey Palandri, Honorary Commander GI Josh (Detachment of Arizona) present.

Excused officers: PDC Rob Pederson.

Squadron roll call present listed:

1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 9, 12, 19, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 34, 35, 36, 39, 40, 41, 42, 44, 52, 58, 59, 61, 62, 65, 66, 68, 78, 79, 81, 86, 87, 91, 97, 105, 107, 109, 115, 117, 123, 124, 131, 138 and SQUADRON 100 – present.

Quorum was present.

Reading of minutes from morning Ex meeting. Minutes accepted by voice vote into the official record.

Video #1 from National Commander Navarrette.

Guest speaker – Family from COTA.

In state guest speakers:

AZALR Chairman Tracy Lindsey

Legion NEC Andy Jaime

Arizona Department Legion Commander Beltran

Candidate for Arizona Legion Commander 25-26 Brian Jacks

Candidate for Arizona Legion Commander 25-26 Gary Vaughan

Arizona Legion Public Affairs Officer Brad Heck

In state national guest speaker: Arizona Candidate for American Legion National Commander Matt Shuman

Reports (appendix A):

Parliamentarian – rules of convention Petey Palandri

Detachment Vice Commander reports;

1. Area A Chas Bird
2. Area B Charlie Sullivan
3. Area C Gary Manwell

Detachment Chaplain's report Jim Borgman

N.E.C. report Joe Roberts

Detachment membership report Gary Manwell

Detachment finance report Ed Cleary

VA&R report

VE&E report

Americanism reports

Children & Youth report

Detachment awards Lance Bymers

Detachment Adjutant report Dennis Pittman

Detachment Commanders report Mike Bryant

All reports accepted into minutes by voice.

Unfinished business;

1. PMP plan, approved in new form by vote of body.

New business;

1. Detachment Budget passed for 2025-2026 (by SAL DEC), body notified.
2. New Detachment Camp Out finance information from Department of %30 cost of member end must be recovered in 2026 and work up to 100% recovery over next 3 years. PDC Frain rises to make motion amending 30% of member cost to 50% of all camp out cost be recovered in 2026 working up to 100% recovery in three years making camp out self-sufficient of requiring Detachment funds, seconded, debate, motion passed by body. 50% of all camp out cost must be recovered by camp out in 2026 and rise to 100% over 3 years.

Registered delegates at Convention 181

Video #2.

----- Break for nominations and elections -----

Candidates for Detachment Commander:

1. Gary Manwell
2. Past Department Commander Mike Simon

Candidates for Vice Commander:

Area A;

1. Lance Bymers

Area B;

1. Charlie Sullivan

Area C;

1. Donnie Whalen

Candidates for Detachment Chaplain:

1. Jim Borgman

Elections, all but Commander elected by single vote of Adjutant as per Detachment Constitution.

Detachment Commander elected – Garry Manwell.

----- Elections end, meeting resumes -----

Sergeant-at-Arms escorts newly elected Detachment Commander Gary Manwell and wife forward.

Pinning and capping of new Detachment Commander Elect and outgoing Detachment Commander.

Outgoing Commander Bryant gifts Commander Elect Manwell with gavel.

Outgoing Commander Bryant thanks Detachment for his year.

Video #3, Commander Bryant's year.

Detachment awards Lance Bymers.

2024-25 Son of year announced – James Matlock Sq27.

Good of the Sons:

Donation list and amounts raised by the Detachment at Convention 2025 (including Campout 2025):

- a. Campout 2025 total - \$11,538.00
- b. Boys State - \$2500.00
- c. ALLECA - \$3000.00
- d. Fisher house/CHAMP - \$3000.00
- e. CWF - \$4000.00
- f. Endowment - \$0
- g. NEF - \$0
- h. VCF - \$500.00
- i. Oratorical - \$500.00
- j. COTA - \$4852.00
- k. Other - \$595.38

Total Donations State Convention (Campout included) = \$30485.38

Good of Sons, closed.

Calls for any further business to come before the meeting, hearing none.

Closing prayer.

Salute flag.

Close meeting.

Adjourned at 1:58PM

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Pittman,

Detachment Adjutant

Running time: 262 minutes