



Minutes of 5th District SAL

Department of Texas

Convention held at American Legion Jack B. Swaim Post 424

21 April 2018

Regular Meeting Called to Order at 1401L by Acting Commander Tom Arista.

Roll Call of Officers:

Lewis "Catfish" Elam, SAL 5th District Commander – Excused
Tom Arista, 1st Vice Commander and Acting Commander – Present
Vacant, 2nd Vice Commander
Gary Smith, Adjutant – Present
Judge Advocate – Ed Wimble - Present
Pat McGee, Finance Officer – Present
Vacant, Chaplain
Michael Paul Melgoza, Historian - Present
Ron Ramirez, Sergeant at Arms – Present

Officers Present: 6

Squadrons Present: 6
111, 275, 368, 424, 453, 507

Squadrons Absent:
81, 184, 504, 511, 597

Guests Present:

Bill Kuehner, Detachment Adjutant

Jon Kingston, 1st Division Commander & Leading Candidate for Detachment Commander

Gary Smith, Legion 1st Division Vice Commander and Past Legion 5th District Commander

Opening ceremonies were held and led by the Tom Arista. Opening prayer was given by Michael Paul Melgoza.

Roll call of the Officers and Squadrons was conducted and a quorum established.

Only one candidate running from the floor for SAL 5th District Chaplain and that is Ed Mosley. Since there were no other candidates, Squadron voting credentials were not read.

Minutes: Gary Smith read the 2017 Fall Convention meeting minutes, motion to accept by Ed Wimble, seconded by Michael Paul Melgoza, motion carried. Gary Smith made a motion to waive the reading of the 2018 February meeting minutes, seconded by Bill Freauff, motion carried.

Finance Report: Report was given by Pat McGee. Ed Wimble made a motion to approve the report as read subject to review, seconded by Dennis Snow, motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership: Jon Kingston spoke to the group about membership and its importance. May 14th is the 100% objective date. Only Squadrons 111 and 597 have met or surpassed the 2018 membership objective of 100%.

Americanism: No report.

Community Service: Bill Freauff stated that Girl Scout cookies were donated to the Pinkston JROTC. Also, Josh Dogs were presented to the Scottish Rite Hospital at Post 453.

Ramon DeMaria stated that Post and Squadron 111 completed the flag pole installation and attended the dedication ceremony at Life School on March 20th.

Pat McGee stated Post 368 donated \$500 for slain Richardson police officer.

Children & Youth: Squadron and ALA 453 will do flag retirement ceremony. Exact date is TBD.

Boys/Girls State: Tom Arista stated that Post 453 is sending 13 boys and that the Squadron is sending 5 boys and 1 girl.

Unfinished Business:

- Michael Paul Melgoza made a motion that the District donate \$500 to the Department NEF to help Hurricane Harvey victims, seconded by Tom Arista, motion carried. This action has been completed.
- Tom Arista made a motion to donate \$500 to the Texas Homeless (VRC), seconded by Paul Secor, motion carried. Still pending.

New Business:

- No new business.

Election for Chaplain was held. Ed Wimble made a motion to elect Ed Mosley as the new 5th District SAL Chaplain by acclamation, seconded by Michael Paul Melgoza, motion carried. Ed will be installed at the next District meeting.

For the Good of the SONS:

- 1st Division Convention on May 5th.
- Bill Kuehner stated that SAL CPRs are due and Tom Arista stated that all Squadrons should send there CPRs to him for tracking and he will make sure they get to Bill. Bill also stated that the left portion of the membership card should be filled out to make sure information is captured. Bill is also the 2018 candidate for Detachment Adjutant. Large Squadrons are eligible for \$100 awards and small Squadrons for \$25 for meeting goals.
- Tom read "Thank You" letter from Scottish Rite Hospital.
- Tom also thanked Post 111 for donating the 5th District SAL Banner/Flag.

Sick Call: Lewis "Catfish" Elam and Ed Kownslar.

Closing Ceremonies were conducted after which the meeting was adjourned at approximately 1515 hours.

Gary Smith, 5th District SAL Adjutant