The Department Executive Committee met on October 6, 2019 at the Columbia Marriott, 1200 Hampton St, Columbia, SC 29201.

Executive Committee Members Present:
Dept Commander Walt Richardson
Dept Adjutant Nick Diener
Dept Historian Russ Cantrell
NEC Michael Strauss
Alt NEC Bob Scherer
Imm PDC John Britt
Dept 1st Vice Cmdr Roberta Poulos
Dept 2nd Vice Cmdr Ron Price
Dept 3rd Vice Cmdr Robin Rucker
Dept 4th Vice Cmdr Jim Kvam
D-1 Cmdr Jim Jarvis
D-3 Cmdr Bridget Lewis
D-4 Cmdr Wayne Southworth
D-6 Cmdr Bill Simpson
Dept Chaplain Bill Quarles
PDC/PDA Jim Hawk
PDC Cecil Phillips
PDC Joe Lysaght
PNEC John Palmer
Asst Sgt-at-Arms Kevin Joy

Absent:
Dept JA Stephen Lewis
Dept Asst JA Anthony Livoti
Dept Asst JA Cody Mitchell
D-2 Cmdr Chuck Blankin
D-5 Cmdr Carroll Kelley
D-19 Cmdr Bob Gibbons

Also Present:
Darlene Walton, P-130
Exe Dir. M. May
Bruce Donegan, P-111
Peter St. Onge, Dept Resolutions Chair
John Lenotte, P-214

Gary Hinton, P -52
Grady Richardson, Dept Const/Bylaws Chair
Steve Reck, P-12
Matthew Gooden, P-215
Tom Hendrix- P-133

Dept Cmdr Richardson: Welcome to the DEC meeting. All rise, colors being in place, hand salute, two.

Dept Cmdr Richardson called on Chaplain Quarles for the invocation, Vice Cmdr Price for Resolution 288, Vice Cmdr Rucker for the Pledge of Allegiance and Vice Cmdr Kvam for the Preamble.
Dept Cmdr Richardson: Welcome, the best thing we can say about today is thank you, thank you. We just got through with what I think was a very, very good Fall Conference. It’s important that everybody understands that this was not just a few people that put this on (inaudible). Darlene and Jim did a fantastic job in membership, they did a great job in membership. I’ve got the numbers, I hadn’t had the chance to put them together, thank you very much, We’re looking at…Roberta and Ron with their Post Organizations, Robin, Jim, (inaudible). Nick, Maggie, Ms. Palmer, she’s outside? I want to thank ya’ll for all that ya’ll did. You kept this place running smooth and it’s just like a said, remember what I said? Ya’ll are like the nut in the hub of a wheel, you’re there and you keep everything going smooth, thank you very much. That wasn’t a very good analogy.

Dept Adj Diener: I’ve been called worse (laughter).

Dept Cmdr Richardson: I’m sorry. But anyway, as I was saying, now, the one thing that we have, the one thing that we have is, that we have reached this level of satisfaction. That’s a very, very dangerous thing. We cannot be satisfied with what we are doing now. We got some great, great comments, some great ideas from people yesterday and from Friday. It is our responsibility now to make sure that we can improve on what we did this year for next year. But let’s not wait until next year because we’ve got something very important coming up in June that we need to stretch out and make sure that we’ve got everything just as good as we can. Now, I do want to say this, that I have a couple of Post Commanders come up to me and I made the mistake (inaudible) when I go out to speak to posts and of course every one of them thinks I’m talking about Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation, because they don’t know. And you know, I just speak to them. And they kept saying, that when you talk about the Department, are you talking about Nick and Maggie because they work at Department? And I said, no, absolutely not. The Department encompasses every member of the DEC, we are the governing body of the Department. Therefore, we represent the Department. So when I say the Department is here to help you, I’m not talking simply about Nick and Maggie, I’m talking about all of us, all of us. So I just want to make that real clear, that you know, that, that, that, we’re in a position of authority and we need to use that authority to make lives better for our members and our posts. All in all, I think we had a very, very good Fall Conference and I thank you so much.

Dept Adj Diener: Roll call?

Dept Cmdr Richardson: Please.

Dept Adj Diener: Ok. but bear with me here too, because I forgot the roll call sheet. (Adjutant Diener called the roll). Commander, you have a quorum.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: Thank you very much. Mistake # three today, I forgot the grand Marshall of the parade yesterday (laughter), I forgot social media. And I apologize, I just forgot. And also, let’s don’t forget Pete, where’s Pete? We appreciate your help, thank you. Alright….

Dept Adj Diener: Motion on the minutes?

Dept Cmdr Richardson: Ok, do we have….the minutes were mailed out, do we have a motion? Do we have a motion?

D-15 Cmdr Rumbaugh: I make a motion to accept the minutes.

Vice Cmdr Kvam: Second.
Dept Cmdr Richardson: We have a second. All in favor say aye? Opposed? Ayes have it.

Dept Adj Diener; Old business.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: Old business. We’re on a roll. Alright, very good. Hold on. Ok, very good. Old business. Alright, first, we’ll have the constitution and bylaws committee chairman, Chairman Richardson?

Const & Bylaws Chairman Richardson: Good morning. This will be brief, quick and to the point. At the last DEC meeting we presented a revised amendment form. The Const & Bylaws committee had not had a meeting and voted on it and we were directed by the DEC to have that meeting to vote on it. We had the meeting the Wednesday before the hurricane came in. Regrettably, one of the members could not be there but we did have a quorum of the committee and it was approved on September 4th. The only change to the form from the last, well, there’s two changes, since the last DEC meeting. Everybody have their copy? Is… if you’ll look on the first page, number three? “The Department will accept Constitution/Bylaws change forms from posts”, we changed that date to October 11th. So let your posts know they can start mailing in the amendment forms to the Department Friday. Nick has assured us once this form is approved, that he will in due haste, get it placed on the Department website.

The other change, if you’ll look at number nine? It states, “If the post is not notified after initial notification then the amendment will be presented to the convention with the committee’s recommendation”. We took off “for approval”. The reason we took that off is because if an amendment comes in after February 2nd, and the committee recommends disapproval, it will not be sent back to the post because of the time differentiation. They won’t have enough time to do it and get it back. It will be sent to the convention with the committee’s recommendation for disapproval. That’s why we took for or “of approval” off of that, it may not go forward with approval. Other than that, this form is exactly the same as it was as presented before. And on page two, hopefully approved by the DEC on October 6, 2019, are there any questions?

Vice Cmdr Rucker: I want to make a motion.

Vice Cmdr Poulos: Where’s page two?

Dept Adj Diener: On the back.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: Any questions?

D-1 Cmdr Jarvis: When I was on the Resolutions Committee for four years, there were times we found that we needed to forward this…

Dept Cmdr Richardson: We need to get a motion and a second then we’ll discuss it.

Dept Adj Diener: We’ve got to do a motion and a second then it opens up to discussion.

Vice Cmdr Rucker: I make a motion that we accept the form from the Bylaws Committee.

Vice Cmdr Kvam: Second.
D-1 Cmdr Jarvis: Shouldn’t we add a line here, forward this to committee? Same thing for Resolutions, as well as an amendment change. Because that could be one of your actions, as far as one of the actions as far as your committee, instead of acting on it, you might want to say that.

Const & Bylaws Chairman Richardson: We can add that, we can add that, number 13 on the front page.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: Commander Rucker, would you like to amend your motion?

Vice Cmdr Rucker: I’d like to amend the motion to add 13, that we carry the document on to… refer to committee.

NEC Strauss: I would like to know how the post will be notified by the Department Adjutant? How will the post be notified? By voice?

Dept Adj Diener: No, by e-mail.

NEC Strauss: I’m presuming that we have all the e-mails for every post? I’m just asking, for information.

D-15 Cmdr Rumbaugh: That’s a good question.

NEC Strauss: It needs to be clarified because someone will say “I didn’t get it!” You know, I didn’t get my notification and then, you know what I mean? There has to be some kind of notification where we know he was notified, he or she.

Dept Adj Diener: We will document the notification. I will either do it by e-mail or if they don’t have an e-mail, I’ll send them a letter.

NEC Strauss: Sounds good.

D-3 Cmdr Lewis: You can put a read receipt on an e-mail so that you know if they read it.

Dept Adj Diener: Jim Kvam has to agree on the change on the second.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: Oh, I’m sorry. Second, do you agree?

Vice Cmdr Kvam: I agree.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: Further discussion?

Unidentified person: What did he agree on? The amendment change?

Dept Cmdr Richardson: The change. No discussion? All in favor? I’m sorry.

PDC Hawk: Piggybacking what Mike said, shouldn’t something like this be in writing? Then there’s no difficulty at convention time for example, if Mike says, “I didn’t get it”, then Nick can produce a document for the post that it was mailed to your commander, adjutant on such and such a date.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: It would be, it would be in an e-mail…
PDC Hawk: Then there’s no confusion that they never got it. If it never come back to the Department ‘Return to Sender’, they got it.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: Correct.

PDC Hawk: Wouldn’t it be better not be email, you could do e-mail too, you could have a written document and back it up (inaudible), chairman could have something to refer to. You could do a form letter, it would help Grady, our chairman this year to say, we’ve got a copy, we mailed this, we being the Department, like we talked about, we mailed this back to you (inaudible).

Dept Cmdr Richardson: Good point. Correct me if I’m wrong, but the discussion was instead of notifying them by e-mail, just send them a letter.

Alt NEC Scherer; Either or.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: Either or, or only?

PDC Hawk: Letter

Alt NEC Scherer: Yeh, letter.

Vice Cmdr Rucker: I'll amend my motion to add a letter from the Adjutant to number five.

Vice Cmdr Kvam: I agree to that.

NEC Strauss: I’ve got another thing to add to that. It says that the DEC will have the final say on it. The bylaws say the DEC only has to meet four times a year. Is it going be a mandatory, is this body going to mandate that if there is a rejected or disapproved amendment or resolution, is that a mandate that the Executive Committee will come into session?

Dept Cmdr Richardson: If it’s a rejection we could probably do that with an electronic vote. By email, vote by e-mail.

Const & Bylaws Chairman Richardson: The DEC has a meeting in April, we will have everything done by then, it will be presented at that meeting.

Dept Adj Diener: Well, one of the things, when we talked about the timetables for the…that we put into the form that was to allow time so that everything is in, the committee’s had a chance to look at it before we have that final DEC meeting so that everything can be, any of the rejected ones could be covered at that DEC meeting. So that was taken into to consideration in the timeline. Because we have to have that meeting, you know, 30 days, ok, prior so everything will fit in there.

Const & Bylaws Chairman Richardson: If it gets to the committee before February 2\textsuperscript{nd}, we will send back to the post with our recommendation of what they need to do. Hopefully any that’s going to be rejected will be there by February 7\textsuperscript{th} and we’ll be sending it back to them so they can make any adjustments.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: Any further discussion?
PDC Lysaght: I think we need to recognize the fact too, that with email transmissions you do have a source for a paper document that you specifically can identify and ask for a receipt electronically so that once they get that e-mail, as soon as they open it up, they don’t have to do anything else. That receipt is sent back then to the sender, so there’s the verification. Snail mail is good but you’re still going to have that, I didn’t get the letter. Because they didn’t have the right address, maybe they moved or something like that. Personally I’m an advocate of electronic technology because they’re building it better and they’re providing it and you can get receipts; it could make it a lot easier and certainly a lot cheaper (inaudible).

Dept Adj Diener: Yeh, either way, one of the other problems too, when you get your e-mail and it says this person says this person wants a read receipt, ok, you can click and say no, ok?

PDC Lysaght: You still get a response

Dept Adj Diener: The bottom line to it is, as Adjutant, if any, when somebody sends one in, I will make sure that it’s documented that it’s been sent back to them and that we have some sort of document on it. But doing a form letter is going to be an easy one but…

Dept Cmdr Richardson: ….And or e-mail

Dept Adj Diener: I don’t know that we need….the main thing is that we had a document notifying them.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: Alright, discussion?

D-20 Cmdr Mills: CC the District Commanders to follow up with our posts so if we see them, we can ask them.

Dept Adj Diener: We don’t need to get down into those weeds. I will make sure that it’s documented to them, ok, I can handle that.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: Alright, there’s no more discussion. All in favor, please say aye, opposed? Carried. Resolutions Chairman St. Onge?

Resolutions Chairman St. Onge: This should be short, Commander, same thing. Everybody’s had a chance to see the Resolution form if you went to the training. The only changes on there, line three, the date change will also be October 11th, this Friday. And line nine, for approval, will be taken out, at the very end, inserting sent back with committee’s recommendation. Other than that, are there any…

Dept Cmdr Richardson: Any questions?

D-1 Cmdr Jarvis: Are we going to make the changes we made (inaudible), we’re going to forward this to a committee?

Dept Cmdr Richardson: Once again, give me a motion.

D-15 Cmdr Rumbaugh: I make a motion that we accept this except just as we did the last one, add another line on to it, forward it to a committee.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: Second?
D-16 Cmdr Defrehn: Second.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: Discussion?

Alt NEC Scherer: (Inaudible).

Dept Adj Diener: What I would recommend that if you put into your motion of making the first page of the Resolutions form match the amendment form and any changes made on the amendment form where the two are identical where we’re sending out the same rules.

D-15 Cmdr Rumbaugh: I would like to amend my motion to make the two forms identical and the notifications.

D-16 Cmdr Defrehn: Second.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: Discussion? All in favor say aye, opposed? Thank you very much. Ok, Law and Order and Homeland Security, Kevin Joy?

L & O/HS Chairman Joy: What we’re going to talk about are the awards we have in the state of South Carolina. There’s four that have been out there forever, the bravery award, the traffic safety award, the law enforcement officer award and the firefighter award. We get these awards turned in from the posts every year, and every year the turn in date is February 15. Well, since I’ve taken over on the committee, come to find out we have to change that date from February 15 to January 15. The reason for that being is if we want to send someone to National, their turn-in date is February 1st. So it makes no good to turn our forms in by February 15th if we can’t submit them if we have someone that we want to submit. So the first thing we did on our forms was change the turn in date to January 15th. The second change that we’re going to make, and it’s already been submitted to the Awards Committee, it’s on the Traffic Safety Award. That leaves out your EMS and your dispatchers on that award. So what we did was we changed the title award to the Public Safety Award. This way if you have somebody that is EMS or a dispatcher, they can be included in this award. And that’s been turned into the Awards Cmte for their approval or disapproval, as soon as they come back with their recommendation one way or another…

Dept Adj Diener: They have approved it.

L & O/HS Chairman Joy: They have approved it? So the forms will be on the website. The other thing we did is have generated a letter for the Commander to send out to all the Fraternal Organizations. So all the Fraternal Organizations out there know that these awards are out there, all they’ve got to do is pass it down to their local police departments, fire departments, on whatever you want to talk about, so they can submit their names. Last year when I was on the committee, out of the whole state of SC, I think there was nine or ten people. There was one firefighter that was turned in, a Captain from Columbia, there were three other officers that were turned in and that was it out of the whole state. And that tells me that either the Departments out there don’t know of the awards, or we as posts are not reaching out to the local agencies and letting them know that they’re there. I can tell you from my neck of the woods that I’m involved with the Aiken County Sheriff’s Department, the Edgefield County Sheriff’s Department, North Augusta and Aiken Public Safety because I’m also on the Fraternal Order of Police Board, I’m their Sgt-at-Arms. So I’m in direct contact with them at all times, they know about the awards and we’re going to start getting submissions from them, you know, whenever they decide they want to submit somebody.
Dept Adj Diener: As a DEC, the change in the dates you do not have to approve, they can change that unless you have a problem with that. The change in the title changing it from a Traffic Safety to a Public Safety Award, you all have to make a motion and approve that before you can make a change. But both committees have looked at it and approved it.

L & O/HS Chairman Joy: We had a meeting yesterday, and one of the things that came about was that, come to find out, that some of as far as your corrections people go, there was some departments out there where corrections don’t fall underneath the sheriff’s department or they don’t, SCDC, we’re going to take a look at it and try to include them.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: Let’s get a motion. Alright, alright, do I have a motion?

NEC Strauss: I’d like to make a motion that we take the recommendation from the committee and approve the changes that they specify.

D-1 Cmdr Jarvis: I second that.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: Any discussion?

D-10 Cmdr Sinclair: Does one person get this award or is it open? As I’m reading, it says winner in one place, other place it says all first responders are eligible? If 50 people apply and they meet the criteria…

Unidentified speaker: Just one.

D-10 Cmdr Sinclair: Just one.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: Very good, questions? Discussion? All in favor say aye, opposed? Very good. We’ll now have the finance report, Jim?

Finance Chairman Jarvis: I’m going to make this short, any questions? (laughter). You’re getting the statement, nothing is out of the ordinary, we’ve got three more months left on this year, income and expenses are on track, we think we’re on line to reduce the trash though, significantly, so we haven’t closed that one out yet, we’re not ready to say that’s a fact but we think we found somebody cheaper. But that statement is pretty cut and dry and everything’s on schedule. We’re doing well. One thing I need and the finance committee’s making a motion that we allow the Riders to modify their budget by adding $750.00. What they have requested is they want to have a rifle and handgun that was donated by a certain party, and they’re going to raffle that off. They want the $750.00 to get up tickets and get things together. It’s their money, they have the money, so we need to make, the finance committee’s making the motion that we approve their request to modify their budget by $750.00.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: Motion, motion’s been made, do we have a second?

Vice Cmdr Poulos: Second.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: We have a second, is there any discussion? Everybody have the paper? Any discussion on the Riders request to amend their budget? All in favor say aye, opposed?
Finance Chairman Jarvis: The last thing is just want to mention, I want to beg you, I want to plead you or whatever the word, but when you leave I’m going to give you, or Darlene Walton’s going to hand out to you a packet that’s a proposed budget for 2020. Please look at it now or within the next couple weeks. Don’t wait until the night before the next DEC meeting. We have to approve this in December since we’re not meeting in November. We don’t have much time so we could be here every Saturday in December to get it. So please read it. Call me, it’s pretty clear, cut and dry. There may be a couple areas that you might have a question on, we’ve got a lot of changes, district cmdr awards, oratorical now for the quadrant, that kind of stuff. If you have a question, don’t hesitate to call me, I can explain it but please don’t wait until the end. I’d like to, if I have to, if you catch something that I didn’t catch or the committee didn’t catch, then I want to get…so when we come into that DEC meeting, it’s ready to go. Thank you.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: Chairman Walton, membership committee report?

Membership Chairman Walton: Ok, here again, we’re going to make it short and sweet. I want to congratulate us all on the fact that we have surpassed this goal date. We are at 58.10% and that’s great. And also the fact of the last report came out, we’ve already got three posts that are over 100%. So we need to get out there and work on it, boys and girls (applause). This is for all of us, we’ve all got to be pushing for it. We have, like I said, we have started off a good way, but we’ve got to keep it going. Keep up that momentum and don’t let it lay to where January, February, we’re slacking down. Hit it now and hit it hard. Also the fact we have passed out the membership pins. In the packets that you got from me, there are three pins, one for the Commander, the Adjutant and the membership chair. But as our Commander has stated, everybody needs to earn their pin. If the Commander’s got one, ask him how many people he has brought in. Same way with your Adjutant and your membership people. Because there again, we believe we believe in earning these pins. In the past we’ve handed them out and we don’t know really how many have put forth the effort to bring that extra member in that area so please push on that. And I’m going to ask our Commander to expound on his token that he has for each district. Commander?

Dept Cmdr Richardson: Um, we’re taking membership extremely seriously, extremely. What we’re asking is that when one of your members brings in a new member, we want to make this a big deal. We want somebody from the Department, Commander level, District Commander level, down to the Membership Team, we want somebody to attend that post meeting to present them with the pin. Now, we’re to give the recruiter a pin and we’re going to give the recruitees, is that a word? The recruitee a pin, so we will be there to give two pins out. Now, of course if there’s three new members, we’ll give six pins out. But we want to turn this into not just a, you know, they come up and hand them a pin, welcome, we want somebody there to turn this into a big event for the post. Because it’s going to help us with current membership, and it is also going to help us when we get out and visit these posts for them to understand that we’re there to help them. And we’ll go from there, so be prepared, so if they ask us, we want to be there. They will start with me, if I can be there, I’ll be there and it will filter down from me right on down the Vice Commanders, right on down to the District Commanders, right on down to the, to the Membership Team, so let’s get ready. Thank you.

(unidentified person asked a question)

Dept Cmdr Richardson: Oh, oh, oh, that’s right, thank you, thank you. And also, I, I forgot, which is not uncommon for me. But please remember, District Commanders, when you reach a hundred percent, there will be a check for you at the convention, a hundred dollars. And also remember your CPR’s too, it’s a chance for you to make a little bit of money on this thing. So let’s get out and let’s push it, if you need me to make phone calls, if you need me to, to do whatever, you let me know and it’ll get done.
Mbrship Chairman Walton: And like I said, there again, I reiterate, if you need the Membership Team, we’ve got one of our membership people that are assigned to districts. If they can’t come, let either one of us know other ones and we will try to make every attempt to get out there. Any questions on membership, we’re here, just let us know. You want me to do the VA? Ok, knock it out.

Health Administration, Veterans Benefits & Veterans Affairs (HA/VG/VA) Chairman Walton: Ok I want to congratulate, let’s see, we’ve got Rock Hill and Sumter, we just found out the other day that your new clinics are being started. They’re going to be 2500 square feet and they will be started within the next two months and after the first of the year, we’ve got one scheduled to go into Orangeburg. So the VA here in Columbia at Dorn is pushing it. Like I said, we’ve got a lot of things happening over there, we’ve got the new Psych Hospital that’s supposed to be breaking ground in February. So I will keep you up to the date on any other new changes that come about, and I try to send out all the new notices to the District Commanders to pass out to your posts about any changes within the VA, ok? Any questions let me know.

Vice Cmdr Rucker: Darlene, do you know whether they opened the parking garage at….

HA/VB/VA Chairman Walton: At Dorn? They have not, they’re waiting on the emergency fence to be put up. I know, we complained when we went to park the other day, good question.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: Alright, next, I’m sure that most of you are aware that the Dept of SC has a Foundation. It hasn’t really been active, what we’re trying to do is start this Foundation up to help with The American Legion. Now, quite frankly, I don’t know about this and I don’t think people, you know, at the Department have the time to explore this. So what I’ve done is I’ve asked the Past Department Commander’s Council (PDCC) if they would explore the feasibility and how do we go about starting up our Foundation. And ah, Commander Strauss, would you give us a report?

NEC Strauss: Yes, yesterday the PDCC met and we went over the….The Foundation was started over ten years ago, just to give you a background on it for those that have not been around for a long time. But the initial start-up of it was to have a start a Foundation was when people made donations, we could put that into a donation fund instead of our checking account. Looking around, since the Commander asked us, we have established quite a few Departments have these types of Foundations. And, you know, I guess, square one was, do we need a Foundation here in South Carolina. And after we batted it around, we think it was yes, but you know, we had to have a set of guidelines to come up with, we have to find out how many people in the group to oversee the Foundation. And so there’s a lot of work to be done. What we’re going to do is we’re going to Indianapolis next week to have the Fall Meetings and we’re going to start contacting some of the different Departments and see how they have theirs set up as far as organizationally, who’s it under, who’s a part of it. So we’re going to bring that information back and start meeting to come up with guidelines so later on we can bring that to this group, answer any questions on how it’s going to be run. But we all agreed, if we’re going to do it, it’s got to be done right. You can’t rush into something just to say we have a Foundation. We have it where it’s agreeable that if the Foundation is going to make a donation, that it has to count, it has to be with The American Legion. So we’re going to get to work on that real quick. Expect that it will take time, because we’re going to read different ways of people doing it, try to get their input, take the best things from some, take the bad things out of the other ones and try to consolidate them and make it a great thing. So I appreciate Commander Richardson for looking into that and having the faith in us to look into it and you’ll be hearing from us soon. Thank you, Commander.
Dept Cmdr Richardson: Thank you very much. I want to thank the Past Department Commanders. This is something that really need to get going and we really appreciate ya’ll’s effort to doing it and getting this thing done. We realize it’s going to take time and I pledge to you right now, let me know and I’ll do my (inaudible) best to make sure (inaudible) and this will help The American Legion Department of South Carolina. Alright, Adjutant’s updates?

Dept Adj Diener: Everything is moving too fast and smoothly this morning, so we added in my Adjutant’s update in to bring everything in back slowed down. (laughter).

1) Ok, first thing, I want to give you a little update on our Department Convention. You know, one of the things that’s been brought up and hit around is the voting, the way that we did the voting. And the Commander has given me the challenge to come up with a new way to do the voting and make it work better. So we are working that, I will be coming back to you with a report on it. I talked, it just so happened, even though it was political groups out there on Friday, they also had deals set up over there with voting machines, so I talked to them. Voting machines are probably not going to work at this point without being expensive, ok? The challenge we run into with everything on the voting procedures is because we have to, you all get to, the posts get to vote their voting strength. And all the programing done on most of these machines is one person, one vote. Now they can do that but if they change over the programing, we end up having to pay for the change in the programing. So right now, I’m leaning towards setting up a separate room to do the voting so the voting would not be done…basically you go vote, except on a paper ballot. It would be done outside the convention floor, that way everybody’s not sitting there waiting on tallying and all that, working on those details. But what I would ask if any of ya’ll have any suggestions, any input, any ideas, we’re still open to anything, ok? So please contact me and let me know if you have anything on that.

2) National Commander’s visit. I want to remind you that’s the next big thing that we’re planning for. That will be happening in March, March 4th to be exact so some of you may be contacted as the Commander and I put that together, where all wanting to take him, to get all those pieces in place. But get that onto your calendar. The National Convention, we’re starting to get things out and I want you to plan what you’re to do. It’s going to be in Louisville this next year. And the room rates are going to be a great improvement for those of you that went to Indianapolis. Basically the room cost is going to be $127.00 a night plus a 16% tax, that’s still significantly less than what we paid. The other thing that’s significantly less is the parking rate per day is only going to be $15.00. For all that went to Indianapolis it was $45.00, so that’s good. Our hotel is going to be, if anybody wants to look it up, it’s the GALT House, G-A-L-T, House, in Louisville. Ok? Last piece on that, I and I don’t have it ready to send it out to ya’ll yet, but here shortly, we’re going to be sending a message out getting the word out on the National Commander’s Banquet. Every year, what happens is, in the January timeframe, early January, they send it out to us, and I have to send out how many tickets I’m buying. We buy a block of tickets, and once those tickets are gone, we’re out scrambling to buy additional tickets. Or if I buy those tickets and not enough of our people buy them or say they want to go; we end up eating the cost of those. So what I’m going go be coming out with, as soon as we get it together, is basically to pre-order your banquet tickets so when I go to National, I can get the proper amount and everybody that’s wanting one can get one.

Vice Cmdr Price: What’s the cost?

Dept Adj Diener: We don’t know that, but it will be around $50.00 a person. The reason I’m bringing it up now is you need to starting thinking about are you going to go to Louisville? And if you go, do you want to go to the Commander’s banquet because by the time I get this together and get it out to you,
you’re not going to have a whole lot of time to let me know back, ok? Alright, any questions on any of that.

Vice Cmdr Price  One questions, you said you’re going to pre-order the tickets in January?

Dept Adj Diener: I have to order them in January.

Vice Cmdr Price: You need a count by December?

Dept Adj Diener: Yeh, that’s basically it. You all will basically be pre-ordering one with us.

Alt NEC Scherer: He’s coming from March 4th to what?

Dept Adj Diener: The 4th, that’s the Sunday, he’ll be here through Thursday morning. Quickies. One, I want to add something to Commander Jarvis, we’re looking at the trash and we’re reducing it, one of the other things that we’re looking at is we made a reduction and changed our internet and it saves us about $20 a month.

Exec Dir May: Closer to a hundred a month.

Dept Adj Diener: Closer to a hundred a month so we’re looking at ways to do things more efficiently. Another thing that we’re looking to do, nothing that you have to approve on this but it’s going to save us money. Is we’re going to gradually transition over and do away with our PO Box. We’ve already paid for the year, so we’ve got time to do that but as we look at it, that PO Box cost us about $500.00 a year. And as we’re looking it’s, like, why so over this next year we’re going to transition over and telling people to send it to our physical address, that’s going to take some time for them to do that and we’ve got to have everything in place to do that but that should significantly save some money for us. Unless you have some questions for me, that’s all I have.

D-3 Cmdr Lewis: I have a question. Oh, it’s just a quick question, shush. The Connector, I’ve had one of my Commander’s ask about the Connector. Will it be put out or…?

Dept Adj Diener; As soon as I can get it done, ok? It’s basically been busy, and the past issues is the way they got out is Maggie came in on the weekends and put them out and we’re trying not to do that.

D-3 Cmdr Lewis: That’s ok, I just want to tell them.

Vice Cmdr Kvam: Nick, you said the Commander’s coming in on March 4th, that’s a Wednesday.

D-20 Cmdr Mills: He normally comes in Sunday.

Dept Adj Diener: Ignore me, the 4th is when he gives his speech, he comes in on the 1st. He’ll be here through the 4th. Again, one thing to say on that, the 4th is when he gives his speech to the Legislature. Please, please mark that down and plan to not only be here that morning for the meeting but to plan to go over to the State House and be up in the balcony for that. It makes a difference when he stands there and he’s seeing the balcony and it makes a big difference when they see a whole bunch of Legion caps up there.

D-20 Cmdr Mills: Last year, for any of those that attended like I did, when we went in there, a lot of the legislators got up and left when the National Commander was there, it was very disrespectful.
Representative Hosey is working on that, to ensure that they don’t do that again, that they stay there (inaudible). It was very disrespectful of them to leave so I just wanted to let you know that somebody is working on it.

Dept Adj Diener: And I know of at least a couple of legislators that people have said something to them along the same lines.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: I just want to piggyback onto what Nick said about the National Convention. If you’re in here and you haven’t attended the National Convention, it is a sight. It is an eye-opening experience. I’m not going to lie, it’s expensive, it is. But it is well worth it, as a member of The American Legion. And I strongly endorse going, if at all possible. Louisville is as close as it gets, other than Charlotte and I’m not aware of when it’s going to be back in Charlotte. Alright, that being said, alright, couple things we need to go over. Our Policies and Procedures Manual, we’ve hit a speed bump on the policies and procedures manual and that is, the manual was designed to make sure we’ve got all of our policies and procedures written down. So let’s say, four, five, six years from now, this the way we do it. Why? Because it’s written down like this! But according to what the, and of course, all these policies and procedures will be voted on by the DEC, that we way we know they are approved. The, the speedbump is, ah, with the Judge Advocates opinion that any legislative…any bill, whatever, any decision that was made and it was passed by the DEC with a majority vote, it now takes a two-thirds vote to undo it.

Now, um, that’s, and, and, and you’re sitting in there right now thinking well, it’s awful hard to get, it’s awful hard to get this body of two-thirds to agree on anything. And ah, you know, and if we can’t do that, and they say, well, two thirds, but you got to remember, if two -thirds to pass it, it only takes one-third to block it. So what we need to know is that since this is a, it’s not a constitutional change, it’s not a by-laws change, this is a policies and procedures change. And this means the governing body, can we proceed and like, let’s say, six years down the road, something comes up and we need to get it changed. Can we just go ahead and get it changed it with a majority vote? Does anybody….? Yes, sir?

Vice Cmdr Kvam: The Commander’s saying…it’s our understanding, you know, that this is a policy and a procedure. So I’d like to make the motion that the DEC be able to go in and make the changes just on a simple majority vote. That way we can make the changes as we see fit. If we write one and three months down the line, we might have to change it because it’s not quite what we need, then I think we should be able to do it a majority vote.

Vice Cmdr Rucker: I second that motion.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: The motion’s been made that with the policies and procedures, and that’s it, with the policies and procedures manual, that the DEC can change this with a simple majority vote. Discussion?

D-1 Cmdr Jarvis: Why do we have a two-thirds vote? Why is there ever such a thing as a two-thirds vote?

Dept Cmdr Richardson: Ah, Jim, that was um, that was…

D-1 Cmdr Jarvis: No, I mean in general, in principal. Why do governing bodies have a two-thirds vote?

Dept Adj Diener: Robert’s Rules add those in for some things because they purposely want to make those things harder to…
D-1 Cmdr Jarvis: Harder. Not so that at some whim somebody can do something, so I don’t think this is right, let’s do it this way. There’s a reason for a two-thirds vote.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: Right.

PDC Lysaght: We give things (inaudible) terms and we need to clarify that. There is a distinct difference between a majority vote and a simple majority vote. So, I, you know, and we hear the discussion, majority and simple majority and there’s no such thing as a (inaudible). You know, we are going to follow the procedures, and I say that we certainly do, that we make sure that we have a simple majority. Therefore if you have a quorum, you can reach a simple majority and it will pass.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: Right, very good point. Correct me if I’m wrong, but Commander Lysaght brought up a very good point. And there’s a difference between a majority and a simple majority. A majority vote of the DEC takes all 28 voting members. But a simple majority takes a majority of the members present. So what we need to decide is do we want a simple majority, that would be a majority of the members present or do we want a majority of the DEC which would be 15?

D-6 Cmdr Simpson: I believe the motion was a majority vote, not a simple majority.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: Yes.

D-18 Cmdr Pouncy: I think we need to have our Judge Advocate here to explain this, there’s a whole lot of confusion between a simple majority vote, if we had him here to explain to us what’s a simple majority. Of we pass this right here, we’re hanging ourselves by the throat. We need to have our Judge Advocate here to explain to us here. It’s a good suggestion but we need someone that’s a professional here.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: The best part about this, and I agree with you one hundred percent, the best part about this, if we pass this, and the Judge Advocate convinces we done it wrong, we can change it.

Dept Adj Diener: On the discussion on it, I would like to make a recommendation, rather than trying to pass a blanket motion on it, why can when we develop the procedures, we put a line on those procedures that the DEC votes on, that says to change these procedures requires a majority vote. That way, if somebody puts something in those procedures, wait a minute, that’s one we really think needs a two-thirds vote, that can be put into that document at the time as well. Because right now, everybody doesn’t know for sure what’s going to be in that code of procedures and there may be something in there that you all want there to be two-thirds vote so if you just do it as part of the document and when this body votes on that document, they’re voting on and approving that line in there that says this portion only requires a majority vote. And then they’re seeing the exact procedures that they’re saying, these can be changed based off a majority vote and you can actually see the procedures that you’re… that you’re voting on the time.

Vice Cmdr Kvam: I’ll amend my motion with his recommendation with the majority votes in the procedure’s manual.

Vice Cmdr Rucker: Second.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: The motion has been amended that we included in the document and we vote on it and go from there. Any discussion?
NEC Strauss: It was seconded?

Dept Cmdr Richardson: Yes, Cmdr Rucker:

NEC Strauss: It says that as the Chief Operating Officer of the Department, the Department Adjutant shall be in charge of the administration of the polices and procedures of both the National and Department American Legion as well as the policies and mandates of the Department Convention. So my question is, is the Adjutant the one, and that was straight out of the Bylaws, that’s straight out of our Constitution. So is the Adjutant the one formulating the policies and procedures here?

Dept Cmdr Richardson: No. The, the DEC will be the one that formulates the policies and procedures. He brought up a real good point.

Dept Adj Diener: If it’s my administrative stuff, yeh, I’m going to be doing that. The policies for how this DEC operates, yeh, that’s going to come from you all, ok. I mean, it’s different pieces, I guess.

NEC Strauss: We’re talking about policies and procedures for the DEC, is that what you’re saying?

Dept Cmdr Richardson: No. Not just for the DEC. We’re talking about it for committees, DEC, programs, the whole nine yards. The conventions, the conferences and get them all written down. Other Departments have them and they seem to work. Discussion?

PDC Hawk: Commander, policies and procedures manual. We did have it and I think Maggie found the book. After I retired as Department Adjutant, everything we had in that book disappeared. Am I correct?

Exec Dir May: I found the book and all the guts had been taken out by one of the past Adjutant’s.

PDC Hawk: So what the Commander is talking about, we had. It was alphabetized by subject. And it was in a binder about like that. But when I retired, all that for the future Adjutant and Dept Commanders, everything, it disappeared. Now, having said that, that covered, operation of headquarters that Nicks’ talked about, weather, procedures, what do we do in case of. But since don’t have one now, we need to start one, but we don’t know what that encompasses. And I don’t know if we’re getting the cart before the horse about simple majority when we don’t know what some of the subjects are. So the main thing that I think the Commander wants to do, which I think is great….

Dept Cmdr Richardson: ….is get it started.

PDC Hawk: Is get it started. Why? It’s a back-up document to the Constitution and Bylaws, National requirements of committees and everything but that’s in South Carolina, that’s what we need. He answered the question. So committee chairmen coming, whether it’s Law and Order or whatever, we have policies and procedures. It took a while to get it done Commander…

Dept Cmdr Richardson: It’s going to take a while.

PDC Hawk: But once we did it, we had a document, we could xerox a copy for us for whatever committee chairman, whatever, and it would be a procedure for our Department. But now, since we don’t have anything.
Dept Cmdr Richardson: Right…right now we’re just trying to get the groundwork done so we can start something, somewhere.

PDC Hawk: (Inaudible)

Dept Cmdr Richardson: Nothing will be put in there that’s not approved by this body.

PDC Hawk: Thank you, Commander.

**Dept Cmdr Richardson: No further discussion?**

Dept Adj Diener: I don’t think now that’s there anything to vote on.

D-1 Cmdr Jarvis: I don’t think there’s anything to vote on, really.

**Dept Cmdr Richardson: Sounds like a plan (laughter).** Alright, next thing, alright, next thing, let’s start with the Consolidated Post Report (CPR) And the football coach is coming out on this, I’m sorry. But when you rank 44 out of 55, that just plain sucks. That’s all in the world there is to it, we have got to get these CPR’s in. Do what you got to do but let’s get them in. Remember, if you get them all in, that’s $25. If you get them in and don’t want the $25, I’ll take it because I lost $20 yesterday but let’s work on those CPR’s.

Now, South Carolina American Legion College, we need this. And we’ve got a good group going, we’ve got the graduates from it, Bruce is heading it up and I’m hoping that we’ve got a little report here coming pretty quick from our next meeting so we can go but the main thing is that we get this thing rolling so we get it started. Because if you don’t start it, you’re never going to finish it. So we’ll go from there.

P-111 Mbr Donegan: We’re having a meeting On October 16th down in Goose Creek.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: If you send that to me, I’ll make sure it gets sent out. Do we have any questions on the Legion College? Ok.

D-9 Cmdr Sweet: What is the…have you decided the format is going to be? Is it going to be done on the internet or is it going to be something that you actually have classes or…?

P-111 Mbr Donegan: That’s what we’re going to discuss, that’s what we’re discussing. I already sent out an e-mail already with some information and suggestions and everything where I was involved before in New York and Connecticut for discussion and we’re going to have our first really formal meeting and sit down and discuss of it and everything.

D-9 Cmdr Sweet: I guess what I’m asking is it going to be a classroom or…

Vice Cmdr Kvam: That’s what we’re trying to decide.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: Ok, next. Once again, I just want to thank everybody for all the hard work you did on the conference. I think it was a very good event and I think it was very good for The American Legion. And I can tell you that the leading candidate, Paul Dillard, said he was very impressed with all the aspects of the Conference. Especially the participation in the session and the enthusiasm of the members with the questions that they were asking. So my personal observation is I think you did good,
but we do not want to get satisfied. Do not want to get satisfied. Now, next, next thing, and we’re going to wrap this thing up fast. Emergency Management Team. This came, I can’t remember who gave me the idea, somebody. It might have been Nick. But what we’ve got now is we’re setting up a plan that we can help people that are in natural disasters. The hurricane came by and we were sitting there and said, we can’t do nothing to help these people. So what we’ve done is Sumter has volunteered to be a distribution center. We broke it down into three parts. A distribution center, collection, communication and distribution. Sumter is going to the collection center. Let’s say a hurricane comes by and nails us. Boom, Sumter’s got these big buildings for the fair grounds. And let’s say that Seneca has 300 cases of water, Rock Hill’s has 500 cases of diapers and we need those diapers. And we need to get them to the coast somehow. Well, what’s happened is that post can get them to Sumter then we will take and make sure they get farmed out to where they need to be. Now, next thing is the communications and I thought this was going to be a bear because I wanted to communicate with short wave radios.

Dept Adj Diener; Ham Radios.

Dept Cmdr Richardson : Ham Radio, Ham Radio. This is what’s so good about The American Legion. I’m at a Riders meeting down in North Augusta and one of the Riders said, my Dad has them, works on them, has (inaudible) of them, and he’ll give them to us. So we’re already, we have grown from, since we started this thing, from two Ham Radios, one in Conway and one in Chapin, now we’ve got six so we’re fixing to cover the state. Also, when we go out and I ask people, when we get a natural disaster and we’ve got to these good to the places, how are we going to do it? I’m meeting with Legree Oswald, and if everybody knows, he is the transportation out as Estes Trucking Company, and he says he will set up everything we need but the truck. I said, that ain’t no problem because I can guarantee you without any problem whatsoever, that we can come up and we can get 25 or 30 good old boys with big trucks pulling trailers and they can carry it anywhere you want it to go. This is a good thing; this is what we need to do to help the state of South Carolina. And then, and I’m going to wrap this up real fast. And then, it was brought up, what about the upstate? Sometimes the upstate has these ice storms, these snowstorms. So what we’re going to do is we’re going to look for a distribution point in the upper state. A post that has the actual facilities where if we have something like that, we can ship all of our stuff to it and spread it out. Now, after November 1st, we’re going to get together and we’re going to talk to FEMA. We’re going to talk with FEMA because I went to make contact them and they said you’re trying to shut the barn door with the horses coming out. They said wait until the horses are out and close the barn door. He said wait until after Hurricane season, November the 1st. So After November the 1st, we’re going to meet with FEMA because we don’t want to step on nobody’s toes, but we want to help. We want to help. And of course I will keep you informed as to progress on this. Oh, any questions or suggestions, I’ll be more than happy to take them.

NEC Strauss: I can give you a suggestion. (Inaudible). One thing that FEMA’s going to tell you right off the bat is be familiar with their system, it’s called ICS100. It’s a course you can take online. ICS100 is just a course, it’s kind of like our basic training that we have in The American Legion. ICS100 is a certificate that you get that you’re required to get so that you know what the organizational chart is in FEMA because you have a lot of acronyms. You have a lot of these things that you have no idea what they are and they’re telling you to go here and they’re telling you to go there, when you to a scene, you have no idea what that is so they ask you to take that ICS100 as a volunteer and be in the system and you can do that in advance. Google ICS100 under FEMA and you can get to that course pretty quick.

PDC Hawk: Following up on what you said, it’s a great thing because South Carolina is blessed to have everything. Earthquakes, fires, tornadoes, hurricanes. When Norma Walker was Commander, this Department put together a disaster plan, that was in that book. Now, having said that, what you just brought up about distribution points It established one distribution point in every District, so traveling
would not be horrendous for anybody. Talking about the upstate, every district had a post in every
district to bring it there, so you didn’t have everybody running. You had one, in this case, twenty
districts so they’d be able to go to a central location instead of everybody running up and down the road.
Because why? Some counties have disasters when everybody else doesn’t. But that American Legion is
distinguished in that county, I mean that district, to receive everything in that district, that’s the public
and everything else that’s assisting. So I mean, that was just one thing, I’m glad you brought it up
because, keep it small, the impact is big. Thank you.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: That’s an idea, absolutely!

D-3 Cmdr Lewis: We could get a radio in every district also.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: Yeh, ok, next.

PDC Lysaght: When we’re speaking with FEMA, I might suggest you have a rapport with the SC
Emergency Management because every, the 46 counties, they may be very small as far as having a staff,
but that network is in existence. And if we can piggyback on it within their rules, we could be up and
running a lot sooner.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: We don’t want to step on no toes or hurt anybody’s feelings, we just want to
help.

PDC Lysaght: They’ve got the communications going back and forth.

Dept Adj Diener: We don’t want to get in the way.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: That’s right.

D-14 Cmdr Brandt: You may want to check with the Red Cross also.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: Ok, next thing, we’ve got one item, one item, to go in Executive Session. And
it’s going to take us just about two minutes so if you’re not privileged to come to Executive Session, if
you’ll step right outside the door, and you don’t even need to sit down because it’s not going to take that
long.

Vice Cmdr Kvam: I make a motion we go into Executive Session.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: Do I have a second?

D-16 Cmdr Defrehn: Second.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: All in favor say aye, opposed? Thank you.

EXECUTIVE SESSION COMPLETED – RETURN TO NORMAL SESSION

Dept Cmdr Richardson: Alright, do we have, do we have anything for the good of The American
Legion.

Vice Cmdr Rucker: Each of ya’ll know how successful our Boys State is every year, I have been….
Dept Cmdr Richardson: Robin?

Dept Adj Diener: Please come over here where we can get you on the recorder.

Vice Cmdr Rucker: I’ve been in conversation with Stephen Lewis and the Commander and in recent history we’ve never really done anything for those who set up Boys State, who are the Advisors, who are the Counseling, Counselors in recent history. And what I would like the finance committee, um, Commander Price, if you would look into it, we want to do a luncheon for all of the Counselors and the Board and they’re meeting in February at Anderson University. And there’s going to be about 75 people. Now, that’s a rough number, somewhere around 75. It will cost us about seven dollars a plate, so that’s around $525.00. And what I would ask the finance committee, to release about $600.00 for this luncheon and I think Adjutant Diener’s going to take care of some certificates for us. And we’re going to go up there and tell them, the Commander’s going to go up there and tell them how much we appreciate their work in the Boys State. Because if you have not been, it’s just unbelievable what they do with those boys in a week and the things that they work on. So I would ask the finance committee to go over with that and come back to us with a recommendation at I guess our next meeting. Because we need to know because what I’m going to do is let Stephen know and he’s going to set it up through Anderson University to do the meal for us. And we just have to write him a check.

Finance Chairman Jarvis: Ok. I need documentation in writing, what you’re (inaudible). We had a meeting Wednesday.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: Yeh. What’s going to happen is, is, this is a, an awards banquet. An appreciation banquet for all the hard work that the, that the Counselors do up at Anderson at Boys State. It’s going to be roughly $600.00?

Vice Cmdr Rucker: Yeh, $600.00

Dept Cmdr Richardson: $600.00. Now, the, the, the timeline’s kind of compressed so what’s going to happen is if the finance committee gets approval, we get approval from the finance committee, be prepared for one of Nick’s famous electronic votes. And, and it’s going to come out. And of course, we will publish how the voting came out.

Finance Chairman Jarvis: Can I ask one question? Commander Rucker? Is this an annual event or is this a single event?

Vice Cmdr Rucker: Single event.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: One time. This is one time.

Finance Chairman Jarvis: Ok.

D-18 Cmdr Pouncy: What about Law Cadet?

Dept Cmdr Richardson: Say again?

D-18 Cmdr Pouncy: Law Cadet? Do you recognize them? If you’re going to have others but you left them on the table.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: I understand that, I understand that, ok.
D-11 Cmdr Lonergan: The money that was collected this weekend, do we know how much was collected?


Exec Dir May: I think it was $570.00, $582.00, something like that.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: Ok, that ain’t bad. Doc? Make it fast, Doc.

D-9 Cmdr Sweet: Has anybody in here had the Shingles or seen somebody that’s had the Shingles?

Dept Cmdr Richardson: Doc! Now, what in world’s that got to do with this? Shingles? Alright, go ahead, let’s talk about Shingles.

D-9 Cmdr Sweet: There’s a shot that you can receive that’s 90% effective of any Shingles, the prior one we had was only 30% effective. Believe me, you do not want to get the Shingles so get that shot. It’s a two-shot thing, you have to get both of them before you’re fully 90% protected.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: You’re right about that.

Dept Historian Cantrell: Please remind your posts if they do not have a post Historian, they should probably get one. We had only four entries out of 166 posts, we can do better than that. And if they have any questions, I’ll be glad to come down to the post and talk to them or send them some information or talk to them over the phone. I think it would be a good idea if we spread that around. And also, we talk about Boys State Counselors, I’m going to throw one in there for Law Cadet. Those, those, Ladies and Gentlemen, they work on Father’s Day.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: That’s been brought up.

D-7 Cmdr Calcutt: Next Saturday Post 160’s having an event, it’s on Facebook, you’re invited (inaudible), it’s a rededication of the post.

D-20 Cmdr Mills: I’d like to thank this body for their participation in the Gold Star event. Robin and myself went and represented….we received a certificate from the event and we’re going to forward it for presentation at a later date.

Dept Cmdr Richardson: Ok, anything else? Closing remarks, we had a great weekend.

Cmdr Richardson called for the Salute to Colors, called on Chaplain Quarles for the benediction and closed the meeting.

For God and Country,

Nick I. Diener
Department Adjutant

ND/mm