

**MINUTES OF THE  
41st DETACHMENT CONVENTION  
SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION  
JUNE 5 & 6, 2009**

**FRIDAY JUNE 5, 2009**

Detachment Commander Barry Butman (118) called the 41st Detachment Convention of the Detachment of Massachusetts, Sons of The American Legion to order on Friday, June 5, 2009 (1:30 PM) at the Radisson Hotel Plymouth Harbor, Plymouth, Massachusetts. Sgt-at-Arms Rich Smalley led all those present in a Salute to the Colors of Our Nation.

Detachment Chaplain Phil Samko (435) gave the invocation.

The POW/MIA ceremony and the Blue Star Banner Ceremony were read by Adjutant Brian O’Hearne (273). The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Detachment Commander Butman. The Preamble to the Constitution was led by National Executive Committeeman Thomas Wigmore (118).

Detachment Commander Barry Butman (118) then asked Detachment Adjutant Brian O’Hearne (273) to read the call to the Convention. Detachment Commander Barry Butman (118) then asked Detachment Adjutant Brian O’Hearne (273) to read the roll call of Detachment Officers, District Representatives, Past Detachment Commanders and Squadrons.

Present were:

**Detachment Officers**

Barry Butman (118)	Detachment Commander
David Johnson (435)	Detachment Vice Commander
Joe Poplaski (125)	Detachment Vice Commander
Phil Samko (435)	Detachment Chaplain
Brian J. O’Hearne (273)	Detachment Adjutant
Clifford Hall (64)	Detachment Finance Officer
Mark McCue (443)	Detachment Historian
Rich Smalley (435)	Detachment Sergeant-At-Arms
Thomas Wigmore (118)	National Executive Committeeman

**Past Detachment Commanders**

Thomas Wigmore (118)  
Brian O’Hearne (273)  
Clifford Hall (64)  
William Murphy (40)

**Squadron Representation**

**Present:** 40,45,64,78,106,118,125,130,160,172,193,226,235,273,294,338,380,435,443

**Department Liaison Committee**

Leslie McKittrick	Excused
Larry Connors	Excused
James Testa	Excused
Milton Lashus	Excused
Ray Samko	Excused

Detachment Adjutant O’Hearne stated that a quorum was present.

Detachment Commander Barry Butman (118) welcomed everyone to the meeting and declared the Detachment Convention regularly convened.

Detachment Commander Barry Butman (118) called on Detachment Vice Commander Dave Johnson to the podium for an introduction.

Vice Commander Johnson introduced Cynithia Macgowan, Senoir Director of Special Events for the Cystic Fybrois Association. Ms. Macgowan made a presentation to the convention. At the conclusion of the presentation, Vice Commander Johnson handed a check for \$1,000 to Ms. Macgowan for the Cystic Fybrois Foundation.

Detachment Commander Barry Butman (118) then called for the final reports of the committees.

***Committee/Officers Reports:***

**Credentials** – Detachment Adjutant O’Hearne read the first credentials report. The following Squadrons had delegates registered: Plymouth (40), Medford (45), Middleboro (64), Hyde Park (78), Sharon (106), Cohasset (118), North Adams (125), Palmer (130), Adams (160), Orange (172), Hanson (226) , Maynard (235), Hanson (226), Burlington (273, Southwick (338), Hough’s Neck (380), Vernon Hill (435), Cherry Valley (443), for a total of 47 registered delegates.

**Americanism:** – Chairman Bill Barbour (279) was at the Legion Convention at the time his report was called. Detachment The report is based on the Squadron Consolidated Report forms received as of the convention.

<b>AMERICANISM REPORTS</b>		<b># of Squadron's Reporting</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Boys State</b>	Number of Boys		4
	Cost		\$1,095.00
<b>Education</b>	No. Flags presented		100
	Cost		\$25.00
	No. Small Flags Placed on		
	Graves/Given Away at Parades		5351
	Cost		\$827.00
	Hours of Participation		217
<b>Oratorical Contest</b>	Cost of Scholarships Awarded		\$9,850.00
	No. Hours for Educational Programs		52
	Hours of Participation		27
	<b>Color Guards</b>	Squadron Sponsors	
	No. of Appearances		41

<b>National Emergency Fund</b>	Cost of Sponsorship	\$2,000.00
<b>Flag Education</b>	Amount of Donations	\$752.00
	No. of Flag Etiquette Programs	2
	Hours	4
	No. Flag Retirement Programs	11
	Hours	129
<b>Community Service</b>	No. Hours of Service	1,678
	Cost / Donation to Other Orgs	\$4,761.00

<b>Scouting</b>	Squadron Sponsors Troop	3
	No. of Youths Involved	38
	Cost of Sponsorship	\$150.00
<b>Junior Shooting Sports</b>	Cost of Sponsorship	\$200.00
<b>Baseball</b>	Baseball Teams Sponsored	3
	Cost of Sponsorship	\$450.00
<b>Other Teams Sponsored</b>	Cost of Sponsorship	\$950.00

**Community Service:** - Chairman Steve Fowles was not present.

**Children and Youth** – Chairman Milton Lashus (235) was at the Legion Convention at the time his report was called. Detachment The report is based on the Squadron Consolidated Report forms received as of the convention.

#### CHILDREN AND YOUTH REPORTS

<b>Child Welfare Foundation</b>	Donations	\$830.00
<b>Special Olympics</b>	Donations	\$2,000.00
	Hours	14
<b>Children's Miracle Network</b>	Donations	\$975.00
	Hours	20
<b>Josh Dogs Given</b>	No. Given	36
	Cost \$)	\$1,543.00
<b>Other Children &amp; Youth Projects</b>	Donations	\$900.00
	Hours	54

**Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation:** - Chairman Glenn Seymour (338) was at the Legion Convention at the time his report was called. Detachment The report is based on the Squadron Consolidated Report forms received as of the convention.

#### VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION REPORTS

<b>Veterans Home</b>	Number of Visits: (58)	10
	Number of Hours: (59)	32

<b>Cash Donations</b>	Amount \$ (60)	\$ 350.00
<b>V.A. Medical Centers</b>	Number of Visits: (61)	18
	Number of Hours: (62)	62
<b>Items Donated</b>	Estimated Dollar Amount\$ (63)	\$ 575.00
<b>Field Service</b>	Number of Hours: (64)	86
<b>Home Service</b>	Number of Hours: (65)	150
<b>Fisher House</b>	Cost (67)	\$ 15,000.00
<b>Support the Troops</b>	Number of Hours: (68)	98
	Cost (69)	\$ 1,230.00

<b>Other VA &amp; R Projects</b>	Number of Hours: (72)	10
	Cost (73)	\$ 150.00

**OTHER HOURS AND DONATIONS NOT COVERED ABOVE**

<b>Total Hours</b>	No. of Visits (77)	1,341
	Cash Donations: (78)	\$ 10,087.00

**IT Committee:** : Chairman David Johnson (435) reported that The first Combined IT Committee meeting was held Tuesday October 21, 2008 at Tuttle Post 279 in Auburn. There was a lot to discuss since it was the first meeting in quite a while. Committee Chairman Steve Jimmo informed all members present that he was pickup up the server on 10/24/08 from the Department Office in Boston. He explained that it has not been working properly and it would be shut down for a few days for upgrading and maintenance. A motion was made and seconded to bring the duplication system out of Boston also. The logic to this is:

1. It is difficult to go back and forth to the Department Office in Boston due to work schedules and the hours the office open.
2. The majority of those using it are from the Worcester/Central MA area.

Chairman Jimmo also stated that our current web site is old and out dated. He said that the college his son attends, Arcadia University, has as their class project; to create a new web site for the Department of Massachusetts. This will be done at no cost to the Department. It is not known just when the new web site will be completed.

Bill Barbour asked about the Status of the “Why Join” new DVD for younger member. It was decided to send that to the Chairman of Marketing to update it. Bill also asked about the capability of holding virtual meeting over the internet.

I asked about updating the current Sons link on the web site. Frank McDonald said he is updating it as he receives information. I also asked if we will have access to the new web site to do our own updating. Chairman Jimmo said we will be given a password to do our own updating and set up. The meeting then adjourned and no date was set for the next meeting.

At the November Detachment E-Board meeting, a motion was made and carried for the Detachment to purchase our own web site. After approval, the Detachment IT Committee has been working on the new Detachment Web Site. The web site has been up and running since 1/20/09. Committee members Mark Mc Cue, Pat Mc Keon and I held a meeting on 1/17/2009 at Vernon Hill Post 435. We discussed the web site appearance and various layouts for the site. I would like to thank the committee members for their hard work on getting the web site up and the great appearance. The web site address is [www.salmass.org](http://www.salmass.org) we encourage all members to visit the web site and send us their thoughts, recommendations and information that can be posted on the site.

As of the last Detachment E-Board meeting there has been no IT Committee meeting for the Detachment, but the Combined IT Committee did meet in May at Tuttle Post 279. Chairman Steve Jimmo stated the Department's new web site should be up and running by Convention. He also showed the new projectors that were purchased, and asked for help setting up the auditorium at the State Convention in Plymouth.

The Detachment Web Site is running great. Since it has been up and running since 1/20/2009 and as of 6/1/2009 there has been over 1,350 hits. I think that alone shows how good the web site is doing. I would like to say a special thank you to Mark McCue for the great job he has done as the Web Site Administrator since the web site started. His hard work and dedication has been instrumental for the web sites success.

We still have to get the word out to the Squadrons to send in any information they have regarding what they have done or any plans they have for future events.

The web site address is [www.salmass.org](http://www.salmass.org) we encourage all members to visit the web site and send us their thoughts, recommendations and information that can be posted on the site.

**Internal Affairs:** – Chairman Brian O’Hearne (273) stated that no resolutions were presented to the convention.

Motion made by Mark McCue (443), seconded by Tom Wigmore (118) to accept all committee reports as final. Motion carried.

Detachment Adjutant O’Hearne expressed the importance of submitting the Squadron Consolidated Report. Squadrons that turned in reports as of the convention received a certificate.

Commander Barry Butman (118) called for any Old Business. There was none.

Commander Barry Butman (118) called for any New Business. There was none.

With no further business to come before today’s session, the Commander proceeded with the nomination of officers.

Commander Butman (118) asked for nominations for Detachment Commander: Squadron 435 nominated Dave Johnson (435).

Commander Butman (118) asked for nominations for Detachment Vice Commander: Squadron 443 nominated Mark McCue (443). Squadron 125 nominated Joe Poplaski (125).

Commander Butman (118) asked for nominations for Detachment Chaplain: Squadron 435 nominated Phil Samko (435).

Commander Butman (118) asked for nominations for Detachment Historian: Squadron 435 nominated Tom Friend (435).

Commander Butman (118) asked for nominations for Detachment Adjutant: Squadron 273 nominated Clifford Smith (106).

Commander Butman (118) asked for nominations for Detachment Finance Officer: Squadron 273 nominated Clifford Hall (64).

Commander Butman (118) asked for nominations for Delegates to the National Convention. Squadron 118 nominated Thomas Wigmore (118). Squadron 273 nominated Brian O’Hearne (273). Squadron 64 nominated Clifford Hall (64). Squadron 106 nominated Robert Fifield (64) and Carl Rossi (106). It was noted the PNC Smith and PNC Smolinski are delegates at large. Squadron 273 nominated Milton Lashus (235). Squadron 435 nominated Dave Johnson (435).

The preliminary nominations were complete and it was stated by the Adjutant that they will be re-opened in the morning.

Following a right-hand salute, Detachment Commander Barry Butman (118) declared the 2009 Detachment Convention in recess until 8:30 am on Saturday, June 06, 2009.

## **41 st DETACHMENT CONVENTION SATURDAY, JUNE 06, 2009**

Detachment Commander Barry Butman (118) called the 41st Detachment Convention of the Detachment of Massachusetts, Sons of The American Legion to order on Saturday, June 06, 2009 (8:30 AM) at the Radisson Hotel Plymouth Harbor, Plymouth, Massachusetts. Sgt-at-Arms Rich Smalley led all those present in a Salute to the Colors of Our Nation.

Detachment Chaplain Phil Samko (435) gave the invocation.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Detachment Commander Butman. The Preamble to the Constitution was led by National Executive Committeeman Thomas Wigmore (118).

Detachment Commander Barry Butman (118) then asked Detachment Adjutant Brian O’Hearne (273) to read the call to the Convention. Detachment Commander Barry Butman (118) then asked Detachment Adjutant Brian O’Hearne (273) to read the roll call of Detachment Officers, District Representatives, Past Detachment Commanders and Squadrons.

Present were:

### **Detachment Officers**

Barry Butman (118)

David Johnson (435)

Joe Poplaski (125)

Phil Samko (435)

Brian J. O’Hearne (273)

Clifford Hall (64)

Mark McCue (443)

Rich Smalley (435)

Detachment Commander

Detachment Vice Commander

Detachment Vice Commander

Detachment Chaplain

Detachment Adjutant

Detachment Finance Officer

Detachment Historian

Detachment Sergeant-At-Arms

**Past Detachment Commanders**

Thomas Wigmore (118)  
Brian O’Hearne (273)  
Clifford Hall (64)  
William Murphy (40)

**Squadron Representation**

**Present:** 40,45,64,78,106,118,125,130,160,172,193,226,235,273,294,338,380,435,443

**Department Liaison Committee**

Leslie McKittrick	Excused
Larry Connors	Excused
James Testa	Excused
Milton Lashus	Excused
Ray Samko	Excused

Detachment Adjutant O’Hearne stated that a quorum was present.  
Detachment Chaplain Samko held the first annual SAL memorial service.

**Credentials** – Detachment Adjutant O’Hearne read the first credentials report. The following Squadrons had delegates registered: Plymouth (40), Medford (45), Middleboro (64), Hyde Park (78), Sharon (106), Cohasset (118), North Adams (125), Palmer (130), Adams (160), Orange (172), Hanson (226) , Maynard (235), Hanson (226), Burlington (273, Southwick (338), Hough’s Neck (380), Vernon Hill (435), Cherry Valley (443), for a total of 47 registered delegates.

Commander Barry Butman (118) called upon Finance Officer Clifford Hall (64) to present the 2008-2009 finance report and the 2009-2010 budget. A motion by Squadron 64 and seconded by Squadron 106 to receive the finance report subject to audit. Motion carried. A motion by Squadron 64 and seconded by Squadron 235 to accept the 2009-2010 budget. Motion carried. (Both reports are attached.)

Commander Barry Butman (118) called on Finance Officer Clifford Hall (64) to give the fundraiser report. The final drawing of the raffle was done. Winners were as follows: #62 Carl Rossi \$200.00, #65 Carl Rossi \$300.00, #41 Tom Friend \$500.00.

Commander Barry Butman (118) presented the Aaron E. Comer Award for Community Service to Rehoboth Squadron 302

Commander Barry Butman (118) called on Milton Lashus (235) to present the Floyd “Jake” Corliss, Children and Youth award to Middleton Squadron 227.

Commander Barry Butman (118) presented the Robert Kelleher, Americanism Award to Cohasset Squadron 118.

Commander Barry Butman (118) called presented the Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Award to

Cohasset Squadron 118.

Commander Barry Butman (118) called on Membership Chairman Tom Wigmore (118) to present the Detachment Awards. Chairman Wigmore handed out the 100% ribbons and presented the Willard J. Timcoe Award for the largest increase in membership over the previous year to Vernon Hill Squadron 435. Chairman Thomas Wigmore (118) thanked all the Squadrons and officers for their help. The 100% Squadrons are listed below:

<b>District One</b>	<b>Squadron #</b>	<b>Squadron Name</b>	<b>District Five</b>	<b>Squadron #</b>	<b>Squadron Name</b>	<b>District Seven</b>	
	125	North Adams	39	Arlington		30	East Boston
	152	Williamstown	45	Medford		<b>District Eight</b>	
	155	Dalton	62	Reading		113	Manchester
<b>District Two</b>			69	Malden		194	Hamilton
28		Northampton	101	Woburn		210	Saugus
123		Ware	115	Stoneham		331	Beverly
172		Orange	136	Wilmington		<b>District Nine</b>	
<b>District Three</b>			139	Ayer		121	Berkley
130		Palmer	156	Waltham		265	Acushnet
277		Indian Orchard	159	Westford		303	Swansea
<b>District Four</b>			183	Shirley		312	So. Attleboro
2		Barre	221	Bedford		<b>District Ten</b>	
41		North Brookfield	235	Maynard		82	Nantucket
189		Sterling	247	Tyngsboro		192	Hanover
234		Northboro	313	Chelmsford		192	Norwell
435		Vernon Hill	388	East Somerville		220	Wareham
443		Cherry Valley	<b>District Six</b>			226	Hanson
			24	Canton		257	Vineyard Haven
			79	Weymouth			
			93	Foxboro			
			106	Sharon			
			118	Cohasset			
			137	Holbrook			

Commander Barry Butman (118) now called for Final Officer Reports:

Vice Commander Dave Johnson (435): Reported on his travels and the accomplishments of the Detachment during the year, the full report is attached.

Vice Commander Joseph Poplaski (125): Reported on his travels and the accomplishments of the Detachment during the year, the full report is attached.

Detachment Historian Mark McCue (443): Reported on his activities during the year and presented the Detachment with the History book. The book will be submitted to National for Judging.

Detachment Chaplain Phil Smako (435): Reported on the accomplishments of the Detachment during the year, the full report is attached.

National Committeeman Thomas Wigmore (118): Reported on the activities at National and the upcoming National Convention in Louisville.

Detachment Commander Barry Butman (118) brought Department Boys State Chairman Mark Avis to the podium. Chairman Avis invited all S.A.L. members to attend the sessions and volunteer for registration on Saturday if possible. The program is running from June 13-19, 2009 at Stonehill College. Chairman Avis introduced T.J. Recupero from the Boys State Foundation. Mr. Recupero outlined the foundation and how it helps send Boys and Girls to Boys State and Girls State.

Detachment Commander Barry Butman (118) brought National Executive Committeeman Milton

Lashus to the podium. The NEC thanked the Detachment and is looking forward to working with us in the future.

Detachment Commander Barry Butman (118): Reported on his travels and the accomplishments of the Detachment during the year, the full report is attached.

A motion was made by Squadron 183, seconded by Squadron 118, to accept the Officer reports.

Detachment Commander Barry Butman (118) re-opened the nominations for Detachment Commander. There were no further nominations from the Friday session. A motion was made by Squadron 435, seconded Squadron 118 to close nominations for Detachment Commander and have the Adjutant cast one unanimous ballot for Dave Johnson (435) for Detachment Commander. Motion carried. The Adjutant cast one unanimous ballot for Dave Johnson for Detachment Commander.

The newly elected Commander was brought forward and gave a few remarks.

Detachment Commander Barry Butman (118) re-opened the nominations for Detachment Vice Commander. There were no further nominations from the Friday session. A motion was made by Squadron 435, seconded Squadron 135 to close nominations for Detachment Vice Commander and have the Adjutant cast one unanimous ballot for Mark McCue (443) and Joe Poplaski (125) for Detachment Vice Commander. Motion carried. The Adjutant cast one unanimous ballot for Mark McCue (443) and Joe Poplaski (125) for Detachment Vice Commander.

Detachment Commander Barry Butman (118) re-opened the nominations for Detachment Chaplain. There were no further nominations from the Friday session. A motion was made by Squadron 380, seconded Squadron 435 to close nominations for Detachment Chaplain and have the Adjutant cast one unanimous ballot for Phil Samko (435) for Detachment Chaplain. Motion carried. The Adjutant cast one unanimous ballot for Phil Samko (435) for Detachment Chaplain.

Detachment Commander Barry Butman (118) re-opened the nominations for Detachment Historian. There were no further nominations from the Friday session. A motion was made by Squadron 435, seconded Squadron 64 to close nominations for Detachment Historian and have the Adjutant cast one unanimous ballot for Tom Friend (435) for Detachment Historian. Motion carried. The Adjutant cast one unanimous ballot for Tom Friend (435) for Detachment Historian.

Detachment Commander Barry Butman (118) re-opened the nominations for Detachment Adjutant. There were no further nominations from the Friday session. A motion was made by Squadron 235, seconded Squadron 380 to close nominations for Detachment Adjutant and have the Adjutant cast one unanimous ballot for Clifford Smith (106) for Detachment Adjutant. Motion carried. The Adjutant cast one unanimous ballot for Clifford Smith (106) for Detachment Adjutant.

Detachment Commander Barry Butman (118) re-opened the nominations for Detachment Finance Officer. There were no further nominations from the Friday session. A motion was made by Squadron 106, seconded Squadron 380 to close nominations for Detachment Finance Officer and have the Adjutant cast one unanimous ballot for Clifford Hall (64) for Detachment Finance Officer. Motion carried. The Adjutant cast one unanimous ballot for Clifford Hall (64) for Detachment Finance Officer.

Commander Barry Butman (118) called for nominations of delegates to the National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. There were as follows: Tom Wigmore (118), Carl Rossi (106), Robert Fifield (106), Brian O’Hearne (273), Clifford Hall (64), Dave Johnson (435), Milton Lashus (235). PNC Clifford Smith (106) and PNC John Smolinski are At-large delegates. Motion made by Squadron (273) and seconded by Squadron 106 to accept these names as Delegates to the National Convention and to have NEC Wigmore designated as the Delegation Chairman and allow any open slots will be filled by the Delegation Chairmen. Motion carried.

### **Old Business**

Detachment Commander Barry Butman (118) now called for any Old Business. None.

### **New Business**

Detachment Commander Barry Butman (118) now called for any New Business. Finance Officer Hall made a motion to expend from the 2009 budget funds the following amounts: \$521 to CWF, \$500 to NEF, \$900 to the Children’s Hospitals (\$300 to each), \$1,000 to Cystic Fibrosis and \$4,000 to our Scholarship account. Seconded by Squadron 235. Motion carried.

Motion by Brian O’Hearne (273) and seconded by Patrick McKeon (443) to take a fifteen (15) minute recess. Motion carried.

### **Good of The Sons of The American Legion**

There was none at this time

The Detachment went into a 30 minutes recess so that the Commander and Commander Elect could address the Department Convention.

### **Installation**

Detachment Commander Barry Butman (118) called upon Adjutant O’Hearne for the purpose of installing the Detachment Officers. The 2009-2010 Detachment officers were installed.

The newly elected Detachment Commander Dave Johnson (435) presented his appointments for the 2009-2010 Administrative year.

The following appointments were made:, Sgt-at-Arms – Richard Smalley (435), Assistant Sgt-at-Arms – Skyler Poplaski (125) and Robert Fifield (106), Assistant Adjutant – Patrick McKeon (443), Judge Advocate – Brian O’Hearne (273), Americanism Chairman – Carl Rossi (106), Children and Youth Chairman – Milton Lashus (235), Membership Chairman – Thomas Wigmore (118), Convention Chairman – Clifford Hall (64), Community Service Chairman – Phil Samko (435), Information Technology Chairman – Mark McCue (443), Legion College – Co-Charimen Clifford Smith (106) and Brian O’Hearne (273), Vice-Chairman Clifford Hall (64). Motion was made by Brian O,Hearne (273) and seconded by Clifford Hall (64) to accept the appointments.. Motion carried.

Motion by Squadron 435 and seconded Squadron 273 to adjourn. Motion carried.

With no further business to come before the Detachment Convention, Detachment Commander Barry Butman (118) called on Detachment Chaplain Samko for the benediction.

Following a right-hand salute, Detachment Commander Barry Butman (118) declared the 2009 41st

Detachment Convention adjourned.

Submitted by:

*Barry Butman*

Barry Butman

Detachment Commander

Attested by:

*Brian O'Hearne*

Brian O'Hearne

Detachment Adjutant