

# Bennington SAL SQUADRON 266 | MINUTES

Meeting date: 13 June, 2024 | time: 6 pm | Meeting location [Bennington Legion Hall](#)

**Officers Present:** Commander Jared Weinman, Sargent-at-Arms Mike Valasek, Adjutant Les Brauer, Finance Officer Geoff Getzschman, Historian Alex Banks, Chaplin Brian Gernandt

**Absent:**, Legion Liaison Glen Turner

**Type of meeting:** Monthly meeting

**Facilitator:** Commander Weinman

**Note taker:** Adjutant Brauer

**Total number of members in attendance:** 10 members, 4 nonmembers including Post Commander Kay

- Meeting brought to order by Commander Jared W.
- Hand salute to the flag
- Opening prayer given by Mark Goodrich
- Commander read Resolution 288 designating the POW/MIA empty chair
- Sgt.-At-Arms Mike V. placed the POW-MIA chair cover
- Commander read Resolution N C 2-03 Blue Star Banner
- Pledge of Allegiance to the flag recited
- Preamble lead by Commander Jared W.

## ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- **Minutes of previous meeting:** approved May meeting minutes
  - a. **Motion** to approve by Mike Valsaek
  - b. **2<sup>nd</sup>** by Jim Musel; Passed
- **Finance report:**
  - a. **Motion** to approve June report by Jim Musel with in-kind donation by Adjutant of flag case, flag carry harness and uniform ties.
  - b. **2<sup>nd</sup>** by Mike Valasek; Passed
- **Old/Unfinished business:**
  - a. **CSR Report:** Jim M.-4 hrs., Alex B.-8 hrs., Mike V.-4 hrs; Rich R. -0, Mark G. -2, Brian G. -4, no blood donations, senior center tour -24, Bennington Daze Parade -20, Flag Retirement -16 hrs. ADMIN HOURS- Jared W.-11 hrs., Les B. 5 hrs. and Geoff G. 6 hr.
  - b. Time to focus on recruiting new members
  - c. Junior shooting sports/ Eddie Eagle/ NRA
  - d. Membership: we are currently at 20 members, 20 paid, 100%; 1 transfer; 1 expired; new member Zach Rauscher joined 6-21.
- **2. Renewals:** If paying online - \$30; \$15 kept by National and Detachment; \$15 returned with \$5 for Squadron and the extra \$10 is a donation to SAL 266; dual or 16 and younger members need to pay in cash to avoid extra online charge
- **3. SAL 266:** Start planning to host 2 flag retirement ceremonies per year: unofficial chair – Jim M.; held on Flag Day, Friday 14 June at 6pm. Mike V. got burn permit, good for 1 year, used fire pit at Hall, 2nd date pending.

- **Griddle and Stand:** received cost refund of \$1960,37; defective due to pressure valve not for 30 lb. Propane tank and 1 burner control valve leaked; no return needed; need to determine disposition: repair & keep, sell without repair, trash. Commander Jared moved it to storage .
- **SAL orders:** none outstanding
- **Legion Information:** By Commander Kay; Donut Dollies: plan to reschedule to October. Boys State: no Legion or SAL nominations. Plan to install a drop-down screen and projector. Consider Bennington High School away football game viewing events. Hail damaged roof, replacement pending.
- **New Business**
- **Liaison Update:** Memorial Day, 27 May; good participation by Legion and SAL, programs at 3 cemeteries: Flower Hill, German and Prairie View, led Bennington Daze Parade on 1 June, fireworks sales with, new POS registers, sales begin 25 June, volunteer sign-ups on Legion web site. Legion and SAL state convention June 21-23 at Kearney Holiday Inn. Legion Baseball begun, expect Honor Guard requests. Also, included baseball team raffle with fireworks sales for 2<sup>nd</sup> yr.
- **Social Media:** Alex provided oval bumper stickers to promote squadron.
- **Charter:** Diane Warrick added names to charter; framed; need to mount it on the wall.
- **National Commander's 4 Pillars Challenge:** \$1/member minimum:  
**CBF** \$300 approved August 2023 (Children and Youth), paid.  
**VA&R** (Veterans Affairs & rehabilitation) Operation Comfort Warrior; \$400 donation from Easter Event fund raiser; payment pending.  
**Americanism**, no Boys State nominations; alternate way to meet requirement; donate \$100 to Detachment; payment pending.  
**National Security**, donated \$50 to St. Johns Church for hosting their blood drive), paid  
**NE SAL Commander's Project:** donate \$100 to Gifts for Yanks; paid.
- **BHS Awards:** \$500 college scholarship each to Nolan Walsh and Tristen Buhman; presented award certificates 28 April at BHS program. Payment once enrollment documented.
- **SAL 266 Officer Election:** held at June 13<sup>th</sup> meeting; offices: Commander-Jared W., Vice Commander-Jim M., Adjutant-Les B., Finance Officer-Geoff G., Sargent-at-Arms-Mike V., Chaplin-Brian G., Historian-Alex B. Installation at July meeting.
- **Consolidated Squadron Report:** submitted for activities from June 1<sup>st</sup> 2023 to May 31<sup>st</sup> 2024.
- **Motions made during meeting:**
  1. **Subject:** donation for Dagan Paige raffle/fundraiser; Dagan was a Marine killed as troops evacuated Afghanistan.  
**Motion:** by Alex B.. to donate \$50,  
2<sup>nd</sup> : by Geoff G.; passed.
  2. **Subject:** set aside \$200 for fireworks support; approved 6-25 by squadron executive committee
- **SAL Detachment Convention Resolutions:** (14 Squadrons present comprised a quorum) **all passed**  
DC-1-24: endorse Chris Casey for National Vice-commander.  
DC-2-24: amend SAL Constitution membership dates in Article IV Section 1 to match National SAL dates of April 6, 1917 through November 11, 1918 and anytime from December 7, 1941 to present.  
DC-3-24: amend SAL Bylaws Article III Section 1 on Standing Committees to remove restriction of Detachment Executive Committee's inability to serve on standing committees; i.e., they may now serve.  
DC-4-24: establish "Adopt A Veteran" program in Article III Section 17 where squadrons adopt a senior housing or veterans' home to provide family type comfort to veterans living there; suggested activities

include friendly visits, sending birthday and holiday cards, small gifts and if appropriate, financial support.

DC-5-24: revise standing rule on reimbursement of travel expenses. Approved by DEC, no membership vote.

DC-6-24: Detachment to provide 2 Shooting Sports Scholarships of \$500 each.

DC-7-24: reimbursement of travel expenses for Washington DC Conference attendees.

- **Coming Events: Homecoming** to meet new Family leaders: Legion Department Commander – Boyd Yochum, TAL National Executive Committeemen – James Costello; TAL Alternate NEC – John Henry Pearecy, SAL Detachment Commander – Eldon Kramer, SAL Senior Vice-commander – Todd Cabela, SAL East Area V-C – Chad Weiss, SAL West Area V-C – Chris Evesch, SAL National Executive Committeeman – Dave Rippe, SAL Alternate DEC -George Civic, ALA President – Amanda Washburn. Saturday August 10<sup>th</sup> at Yutan Veterans Club, 18581 Yutan Rd. Yutan 68073; 5 pm Social, 6 pm Dinner, \$25/person if paid by August 2<sup>nd</sup>, \$35 thereafter. Send checks payable to Boyd, mail to him at: 2909 Kel Del Dr. Ashland, 68003. Indicate you are an SAL member and if you are bring a guest.

**Millard Days Parade:** Millard Post walked in Bennington parade and asked us to join in theirs on August 24<sup>th</sup>, route: L St. 144<sup>th</sup> to 132<sup>nd</sup> then down Millard Ave. to Hobby Lobby; additional details forthcoming.

- Closing prayer given by Brian Gernandt
- Sgt.-At-Arms Mike V. retired the POW-MIA chair cover
- Hand salute to the flag
- Meeting adjourned