

Bennington SAL SQUADRON 266 | MINUTES

Meeting date: 10, April 2025/ time: 6 pm | Meeting location Bennington Legion Hall

Officers Present: Commander Jared Weinman, Vice-commander Jim Musel, Adjutant Les Brauer, Sargent-at-Arms Mike Valasek, Finance Officer Geoff Getzschman, Chaplin Brian Gernandt, Historian Alex Banks, Legion Liaison Glen Turner

Absent:,

Type of meeting: Monthly meeting

Facilitator: Commander Weinman

Note taker: Adjutant Brauer

Total number of members in attendance: 10 members, 1 nonmember, Post Commander Kay

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- **Minutes of previous meeting:** approval of February meeting minutes pending.
 - a. **Motion** to approve minutes by Jim Musel
 - b. **2nd** by Glenn Turner; passed
- **Finance Report**
 - a. **Motion** to approve reports for November, December, January, February and March by Glenn T.
 - b. **2nd** by Alex Banks; passed
- **Old/Unfinished business:**
 - a. **CSR Report:** Jim M.-60 hrs., Alex B.-0 hrs., Mike V.-60 hrs., Rich R.-8 hrs. + blood, Mark G. -0 hrs., Brian G.-0 hrs., Rob Goudy-0 hrs., Open Door Mission Dinner: 15-hrs., Les B. 0 hrs. District 8 Convention 12 hrs.
ADMIN HOURS- Jared W.-4 hrs., Les B. 4 hrs. and Geoff G. 3 hrs.
 - b. Time to focus on recruiting new members
 - c. Junior shooting sports/ Eddie Eagle/ NRA
 - d. Membership: we are currently at 25 members, 23 paid for 2025, 2 expired.
- **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. Griddle and Stand:** Repaired. Donated to fire dept.; plaque stating "Donated by Bennington Sons of American Legion 266 Squadron" pending.
- **SAL orders:** received hat for Robbie Glidden: distribution pending.
- **Legion Liaison Information:** Diane Warrick needs help placing crosses and flags on Saturday 24 May at 3 cemeteries and pick-up on Monday 26 May. Contact Diane to volunteer. Programs at cemeteries on Memorial day, May 26, meet at Hall at 9 am; attire to be announced. Bennington Daze parade, June 7, meet at Hall at 10 am; attire Legion-SAL logo T-shirt.
- **New Business**
- **Social Media:** Follow our Facebook page for updates.
- **Charter:** Diane Warrick added names to charter; framed; need to mount it on the wall.
- **National Commander's 4 Pillars Challenge:** increased request to \$1.50/member minimum, for 25 members = \$37.50; approved \$50 SAL minimum, approved Fiscal Year (October to September) for reset of donations, 2025 status:

Children and Youth: National set Veteran Child Welfare Foundation goal of \$500,000 - \$0; donated \$600 to baseball team. goal met.

VA&R (Veterans Affairs & rehabilitation), Operation Comfort Warrior; donated from Easter Event fund in 2024 but 2025 event canceled. Open Door Mission: \$400 in 2024, \$0 in 2025.

Americanism, no 2024 or 2025 Boys State nominations; need to find alternate way to meet requirement; sponsor fee increased to \$425 plus \$25 registration; applications were due by March 15. Possibility: Department Executive Committee authorized NE SAL Scholarship. See qualification and application at <http://nebraskalegion.net/Programs/Scholarships.html>

Submission deadline is 1 March, or sponsor 1 from another Post; 2025. \$0

National Security, donated \$500 to Bennington Police K-9 project. Goal met.

NE SAL Commander's Project: raised garden bed project at Western Nebraska Veterans Home, \$0.

- **BHS \$500 BHS College Scholarships:** award \$500 to Kathleen Musel on 27 April.

- **Motions made during meeting:**

1. Accepted these officer nominations; voting will be during 8 May meeting:

Commander: Rick Reed

Vice-commander: Jim Musel

Adjutant: Glen Turner [Les Brauer withdrew self nomination after discussion with Glenn.]

Finance: Glenn Turner and Mark Goodrich

Chaplin: Brian Gernadt

Sargent-at-Arms: Mike Valasek

Historian/Webmaster/Media: Alex Banks

Motion to close nomination by Jeff Getzchman

2nd by Glenn T.; passed

2. **Call for 48th Detachment Convention**, June 28-29, Quality Inn in Columbus, 402-564-1492. SAL 266 allowed 3 delegates and 3 alternates. Registration: Saturday 28 June 8am – 12 noon and Sunday 29 June 8 9 am. Agenda: elect officers, receive committee reports, address resolutions and such other business as appropriate.
- **SAL Detachment Convention Resolutions:** Review Squadron Constitution for possible updates:
DC-2-24: membership dates to match National SAL dates of April 6, 1917 through November 11, 1918 and anytime from December 7, 1941 to present.
DC-4-24: establish “Adopt A Veteran” program per Article III Section 17, squadrons adopt a senior 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.
 - **Open Door Mission:** need SAL volunteers on monthly basis to serve meals at Timberlake Center.
 - **Coming Events:** Open Door Mission: 17 May?, 4-7 pm, serve meal. Junior Law Cadet: June 23-24, sponsor fee \$100, no applications . Eastern NE Vets Home: ice cream social on 3rd Friday of each month and Benson Squad 112 Birthday Bingo 4th Wednesday of each month. Memorial Day, May 26, services at 3 cemeteries. Bennington Daze Parade, June 7th. Herman Post 274, 705 Main St. hosts monthly meet & greet on 3rd Saturday mornings with coffee & doughnuts, all are welcome. Riders will do Thank A Veteran Tours on May 24th and June 14th. Freedom Music Festival: Saturday 14 June at Antelope Park, Lincoln, 11am – 7pm, includes music, an art show and food vendors. Fall Round-up October 11th at Herman Post. Nebraska Department of Labor jobs fair at UNO Milo Bail Student Center, 2nd Floor, 22 May, 10am – 2pm, use parking lot E. Register at: <https://omahavetfair2025may.eventbrite.com/>
 - Meeting adjourned