



102nd Department Convention Meeting Minutes

Session Friday June 25th, 13:26 a.m.

**June 25th, 2021
Canyonville Oregon
13:26 P.M.**

**Call to order
Salute to Colors
Opening Prayer**

Department Commander Steve Adams

**POW/MIA Ceremony
Pledge of Allegiance
Preamble
Roll Call Quorum present
Reading of the previous minutes
Reading of the Department Standing Rules
Introductions of Department Officers
Reports**

Steve Adams:

Is this three o'clock, get your tickets here. I would like to ask all first-time convention attendees - this is the first convention you've attended - Please stand up and be recognized. Thank you for coming. Finance officer, Mr. Bob Huff, has an announcement.

Bob Huff:

Thank you, commander. I'm up here only with positive stuff today. I want everybody to know that I brought six of these receipt books. I will be available here until Sunday morning. If anybody would like to make a contribution to the Oregon American Legion Foundation, I am available to take those contributions. Remember it's a 501C3. It is tax deductible. And that helps our programs immensely. Now district four is going to make a challenge if I collect [inaudible 00:01:23]. If I receive \$5,000 in contributions, which I'll let you know at that time, my district commander David Applegate is going to lead our district in singing our district song to you. Oh, I love District 4. Thank you!

Steve Adams:

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Okay. We will now have the final presentation of the constitution and bylaw change. On the constitution and bylaws change, instead of having to read 6, 7, 8, 10 pages, all we're going to read is the them to read is the resolve part of the resolution. First vice commander Larry Wittmayer[inaudible 00:03:41] will read that. Second vice commander, excuse me.

Larry Wittmayer:

Resolution B01 resolved that the Department of Oregon constitution and bylaws be amended to permit, upon exigency, the conducting of a virtual convention

Whereby the requirements, obligations and actions of a typical convention are fulfilled via audio-visual conference technology in accordance with statutory law as stipulated further within the resolution, this resolution, and

Be it further resolved that the constitution of the American Legion Department of Oregon article five, section one, be amended to "the legislative body of the Department of Oregon shall be a Department Convention to be held annually." The location of such convention shall be fixed by a vote of the Department Executive Committee upon the recommendation of the Department convention commission.

In the event of such a system seat that the Department convention cannot be conducted where and as scheduled, the Department executive committee shall fix, by vote, a decision to conduct a virtual Department convention by audio visual conference technology upon such dates commensurate with the exigency. And

Be it further resolved that in consideration and concurrence with the convention commission, an electronic voting platform be utilized as deemed necessary during the existency in accordance with statutory law to conduct, collect and document for the record, all voting measures that be conducted and

Be it further resolved that bylaws of the American Legion Department of Oregon article five, section one, be amended to quote the several posts of the Department shall be at least 45 days prior to the opening of the annual Department convention elect their delegates and alternates and certify them to the Department adjutant. The registration fee for all authorized delegates, alternates and delegates at large, as it shall be determined by the Department, executive committee shall be sent in accordance with the convention commission code of procedures.

No delegate shall be seated at the convention unless certification of each election is received by the Department adjutant at least 30 days prior, except as herein provided and

Be it further resolved that bylaws of the American Legion Department of Oregon article seven, the amended to section 14, excuse me, be amended to quote section 14 upon incident of exigency within the virtual Department convention all resolutions memorials and other written submissions will be

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transferred via electronic transmission to the appropriate committee and as deemed necessary, an electronic voting platform be utilized in accordance with statutory laws to conduct, collect and document for record all voting measures that be conducted. And

Be it further resolved that minor edits to the language described herein be permitted, provided no substantial deviation occurs from the context of this resolution. And

Be it finally resolved that the amended be adopted upon acceptance by the American Legion Department of Oregon at the 2021 Department convention Canyonville Oregon.

Steve Adams:

Okay. That was to change to a virtual if need be convention, correct? I'm just double checking here. Okay. Is there any discussion on this resolution to the constitution and bylaw change?

Don Weber:

Commander? I second, the motion. A resolution is a motion. So, all he needs is a second, but you need a second before you go into discussion. So I'll second. The motion.

Steve Adams:

Is there any discussion on this resolution? If no discussion, all in favor say aye, those opposed say, "Nay". One "nay". Motion carries... Resolution carries, excuse me.

Larry Wittmayer:

Resolution B3 resolved. The Department of Oregon has sole authority for determining district boundaries and,

Therefore, be it further resolved that the district number for the designated district seven and eight be district 78 and

Be it finally resolved that the resolution take effect July 1st, 2022 as approved by the Department of Oregon convention, June 25th, 2021 at seven feathers resort in Canyonville Oregon.

Steve Adams:

This resolution is to merge district seven and eight. Do I hear a second?

DanEvers:

Second.

Steve Adams:

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Second by?

Dan Evers:

Dan Evers [inaudible 00:11:40].

Steve Adams:

Is there a discussion? Or recognize that Charlie Schmidt Past National Commander, just talking to commander, the American Legion,

Chairle Schmidt:

Commander, the American Legion is a resolution-oriented organization. That's how we do our business. That's how we record our business. Resolutions are a historical document. In regards to B03. So, whereas as they talk a couple of areas, couple whereas referring to boundaries. Also, as I read the resolved clauses, the resolved clauses, I don't think represent what the resolution is meant to do. The resolved clauses should say exactly what you want to do, no more and no less. Commander, if you change a district and the district areas or boundaries are outlined and specified in the bylaws, this resolution does not make any change to the constitution and bylaws should this merge happened. Therefore, I move that we table.

Kevin Owens:

As [inaudible [00:13:50] I second that motion

Steve Adams:

There has been a motion and seconded to table this resolution. There's no discussion on the table. There's been a motion made to table, motion made and seconded to table this resolution. All in favor, say aye. Those opposed? "Nay".

FlynnPhillips:

Do a hand count.

Steve Adams:

All in favor of tabling, raise your hands and keep them up. Whoa.

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Flynn Phillips:

Let's look at the nays. Let's count the nays. It's probably less.

Steve Adams:

Can you put your hands down?

Bob Huff:

There is no discussion on a table.

Steve Adams:

Okay. Those opposed to tabling or nays, raise your hand and keep them up The yays have it. This resolution has been tabled. Second vice commander will read the next resolution.

Larry Wittmayer:

Resolution C1. Be it resolved that upon approval by the Department of Oregon executive committee, the existing six members of Alexander Harper post 115 shall become members of the Ellis Tracy post 77 and shall be afforded all rights and privileges, extended...

Gene Hellickson:

Point of order. That's the merging of posts that should be done or fees should be that.

Flynn Phillips:

There's another one like that.

Larry Wittmayer:

I'm looking. Here's another one. Okay. That makes it easier. Okay. Resolution C4 violation of oath resolved by the 102nd condition of the American Legion Department of Oregon meeting assembled in Canyonville, Oregon on June 24th through the 26th, 2021, that as the largest veteran service

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organization, the American Legion publicly expressed its concern for the above mentioned events and speak out in defense of our oath of allegiance. And

Be it further resolved the American Legion encourage Departments to be vigilant of violations of a partisan political nature by any person or organization under the auspices of DOD directive, 1344.10 or the hatch act 1939 and inform their elected representatives when this occurs.

And

Be it further resolved that the American Legion be used multimedia resources to reaffirm its advocacy to America of its perpetual commitment to its congressional charge of upholding and defending the constitution of the United States of America and of the American Legion's longstanding commitment to its four pillar multifaceted national security position and the promotion of American values and patriotism. And

Be it further resolved that upon acceptable vote at the American Legion Department of Oregon Convention on June 25th, 2021 at Seven Feathers Resort in Canyonville, Oregon, this resolution be forwarded to the national organization to be presented at the American Legion 2021 national convention to be held in Phoenix, Arizona.

Steve Adams:

We have this resolution to take to national. Do I have a second?

Lou Neubercker:

Second.

Steve Adams:

We have a resolution. We have a second to get this resolution to national and Phoenix this year. All in favor, say aye, aye. Those opposed say nay. Motion. The resolution carries.

Larry Wittmayer:

Resolution C03 resolved by the 102nd convention of the American Legion Department of Oregon meeting assembled in Canyonville, Oregon on June 25th through the 26th, 2021 that the American Legion has a storied history for formulating positions to support the constitution of the United States and the American Legion. And

Be it further resolved that the soul of the American legions values echo across the grassroots of America, by our commitment to each individual phrases in our constitution's preamble for America's to be here to hear. And

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Be it further resolved that the American Legion use multi-faceted resources to reaffirm its efficacy to America of its perpetual commitment to its congressional charge of upholding and defending the constitution of the United States of America and of the American Legion, longstanding commitment to promote perpetuate a 100% Americanism.

And

Be it finally resolved that upon acceptable vote at the American Legion Department of Oregon convention, June 24th through the 25th, 2021 at Seven Feathers Resort in Canyonville Oregon, this resolution be forwarded to the national organization to be presented at the American Legion in 2021 national convention to be held in Phoenix, Arizona.

Steve Adams:

Resolution C03. Do I hear a second?

Lou Neuberker:

Second

Steve Adams:

Okay. It's been a resolution and second to send C03 to national convention in Phoenix, Arizona. All in favor, say aye. Aye. Those opposed say nay. Motion carries.. resolution carries.

Larry Wittmayer:

Obviously I'm not done yet. Resolution B02. This has got hand scratching on it.

Flynn Phillips:

The hand scratching is crossed out.

Steve Adams:

Just read the result.

Larry Wittmayer:

Resolved that a mail-in ballot and copy of the budget will be sent to each post in good standing in the Department of Oregon requesting it be returned within 30 days to the Department headquarters in the event that the Department convention is canceled. And

Be it further resolved that the Department of Oregon budget will be adopted with a majority of yes votes received. And

Be it further resolved that the Department bylaws article eight, permanent finance commission, section three after quote "and presented name of the convention for adoption" unquote.

Add the sentence "in the event the convention is canceled, a mail-in ballot system to each post in good standing will be authorized". And

Be it further resolved that the resolution upon approval of the Department of Oregon convention at Seven Feathers on June 25th, take effect and is implemented.

Steve Adams:

Resolution B02 having to do with passing the budget. I have a resolution. Do I have a second?

Abunch of seconds:

I got a bunch of second. We have a resolution. We have a second. To be able to pass a budget should we not have a convention. All in favor? Say aye.

Those opposed, say nay. Okay. Resolution carried. We have further resolutions. I would like to, to have Terry Brown come to the podium and read those resolutions.

Terry Brown:

Okay. I have five resolutions that are mostly thank you's for the different groups. So as I read the resolution, that's going to be the motion. I'm going to read all five of them and at the end, we'll ask for a second to approve it. So bear with me while I read these five. Hopefully they're kind of short.

Okay. This is resolution number S0121. Whereas a 102nd annual American Legion convention was held from June 23rd through June 26th, 2021 in Canyonville Oregon. And whereas the city of Canyonville has opened their doors, rolled out the red carpet by offering their full cooperation. Therefore, be it resolved that the city of Canyonville is notified by a copy of this resolution of the sincere appreciation and thanks for the American Legion Department of Oregon for having 102nd annual Department convention in Canyonville Oregon, June 23rd to 26th, 2021.

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Okay. This is a S02-21. The 102nd annual American Legion convention was held from June 23rd to June 26th, 2021 in Canyonville Oregon. And whereas the Seven Feathers Casino Resort has opened their doors and rolled out the red carpet by offering their full cooperation. And whereas the hotel facilities provided for this convention have been to the highest quality. Therefore be it resolved that the Seven Feathers Casino Resort would be notified by a copy of this resolution of the sincere appreciation and thanks to the American Legion Department of Oregon for having 102nd annual Department convention, Canyonville, Oregon, on June 23rd to June 26th, 2021.

This is resolution S05-21. Whereas we are fully aware of the splendid cooperation that exists between the American Legion and the American Legion auxiliary Department of Oregon. And whereas we are [inaudible 00:28:04] .

PART 1 OF 4 ENDS [00:28:04]

Terry Brown:

... Auxiliary Department of Oregon, and whereas we were sincerely appreciative of the faithful support and many cooperative court courtesies, according to our Department and members of the American Legion. Now, therefore be it resolved that the American Legion Department of Oregon assembled in Canyonville, Oregon on this 102nd annual convention expressed to the Department President Kathi Karnowski, our grateful appreciation of her interest and her recognition and be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to President Kathi Karnowski and to her unit number 43.

All right, this is resolution number S04-21. Whereas, we're fully aware of the splendid cooperation that exists between the American Legion and the [inaudible 00:29:10] of the American Legion detachment of Oregon. And whereas, we are sincerely appreciative of the faithful support and many courtesies accorded to our Department and members of the American Legion. Now, therefore be it resolved that the American Legion Department of Oregon assembled in Canyonville, Oregon on the 102nd annual convention, express to Detachment Commander Carl Pollock our grateful appreciation for the interests and recognition, and be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Detachment Commander Carl Pollock to his home squadron number 83.

Finally, the last resolution S09-21. Whereas, the 102nd American Legion convention was held from June 23 to June 26th, 2021 in Canyonville, Oregon. And whereas, the City of Canyonville Chief of Police Brett Johnson took time from his busy schedule to bring greetings from a convention. Therefore, be it resolved that Police Chief Brett Johnson be notified by a copy of this resolution of the sincere appreciation and thanks to the American Legion Department of Oregon for speaking at the 102nd annual Department convention Canyonville, Oregon on June 23rd to June 26th, 2021. That is to certify that the above resolution was adopted by our commission.

Commander:

Do we have a resolution on... We are going to combine these. Do I have a second?

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Speaker 4:

Second?

Commander:

We have a second.

Terry Brown:

Right. Who was that. Okay?

Commander:

These are courtesy and thank you resolutions, basically. All in favor, say aye.

Speaker 4:

Aye.

Commander:

Those opposed, say nay.

Terry Brown:

Thank you.

Commander:

I'm going to ask for the Judge Advocate to come up and read the convention election rules.

Judge Advocate:

Article seven convention rules, section seven. No person, not a duly accredited delegate shall participate directly or indirectly in a via voice vote on any subject before the convention. Voting shall be by acclamation except when a roll call shall be demanded by at least three delegates from three different posts. On all roll calls, the chairman or acting chairman of each delegation shall pull his delegation on the floor and announce the vote of his delegation. Nominations of Department officers, National Executive Committeeman and alternate National Executive Committeeman shall be from the floor.

Nominating speeches shall be limited to five minutes each, no more than one seconding speech shall be made for each candidate, not exceeding three minutes. In the event of two or more candidates are nominated for one office. The balloting shall continue until elected by a majority vote of the delegation to the Department convention who are present and vote for such office. The Department election shall be in the following order. The Department commander, the Department first vice-

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commander, the Department second vice-commander, the Department finance officer, the National Executive Committeeman, the alternate National Executive Committeeman, delegates and alternates to the national convention.

And just to clear up a couple of issues that had been raised. Robert's rules of order. Motions and parliamentary steps, which are not debatable and not amendable. And one of them right here is, lay on the table. So that is why when the motion was made to lay that on the table, there is no discussion allowed. The other thing I want to clarify a little bit is majority vote. The word majority means more than half. When the term majority vote is used without qualification, as in the case of a basic requirement, it means that more than half the votes cast by members entitled to the vote at a regular or properly called meeting. Example, 20 votes is cast. The majority is more than 10, which would be 11 or higher. An example is if 200 votes are cast, half would be the 100 and the majority would be 101.

A polarity vote is the largest number of votes to be given to any candidate or proposition when three or more choices are possible. The candidate receiving the largest number of votes has a polarity. A polarity is not a majority and never elects anyone to an office. The only exception to that is if it is so stated in our bylaws, which in the Department of Oregon is not. So basically if we have three candidates that are running for an office on the first vote, if one person gets 51%, that is the end of it. If on the first vote, it was, say as an example, 40%, 20% and 30% the vote continues on until one candidate or one of the candidates drops out. Then it would continue until we get down to a majority. Right Blue. We went through this a few years ago. Commander, that's all I have.

Commander:

I called for nominations for Department commander. Correct?

Speaker 5:

I've got to do the final credential committee.

Commander:

We don't have any funds. We just have, "Get the hell out of Dodge."

Speaker 5:

That works for me.

Commander:

Read the finals.

Speaker 5:

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Look at my Jeep, it's parked by the door. We'll read the final. The commander invited me up because he knew I was getting bored because the team's out here practicing our song. Okay. All of you in your packages have tally sheets. If you want to fill those out, what I'm now going to do is this the final count. How many delegate votes we have for every post? This is the final read. I'll get out of detachment to go to the American Legion. And there is one correction and when we get to it... Okay. Portland, Post 1, no vote. Washington, Post number 2, has three votes. Eugene, Post 3, has no vote. Bend, Posts 4, has no vote. Willamette Falls, Post 5, has three delegate, two delegate at large. They have five votes.

Hillsboro, Post 6, has four delegate, one delegate at large, with five votes. Silverton, Post 7, has no vote. Klamath Falls, Post 8, has four delegate and one delegate at large, for five votes. Capital, Post 9, has four votes. Albany, Post 10, has seven votes. Corvallis, Post 11, as three votes. Astoria, Post 12, has no vote. Ashland, Post 14, has two votes. Medford, Post 15, as four votes. Umpqua, Post 16, has four votes. Keizer, Post 17, has two votes. The Dalles, Post 19, has no vote. Carl B Fenton, Post 20, as three votes. McMinnville, Post 21, has six delegate, one delegate at large, for seven votes. Hood River, Post 22, has no vote. Pendleton, Post 23, has no vote. Milton-Freewater, Post 24, has three delegate, one delegate at large, for four votes. Post 25, Condon, has no votes. Post 26, Bandon, has two votes. Post 28, Grants Pass, has five votes. Post 29, Crook County, has four delegate, one delegate at large, for five votes.

Gresham, Post 30, has three votes. Cottage Grove, Post 32, has three votes. Independence, Post 33, has no vote. Bay Area, Post 34, has four delegate and two delegate at large, for six votes. Post 36, Coquille, has two votes. Post 37, Hermiston, has three delegates, one delegate at large, for four votes. Post 40, Springfield, has no vote. Post 41, Baker City, has three votes. Post 42, St. Helens, has three votes. Post 43, La Grande, has four votes. Post 44, Ray Johnson, has no vote. Post 45, La Pine, has six votes. Post 46, Woodburn, has three votes. Post 47, [Telema 00:41:14], has no vote. Post 48, Warm Springs, has no vote. Post 49, Moro, has two votes. On your sheet it indicates that Post 49 is Sheridan. Is not. It is a misprint. That is Moro, M-O-R-O. Post 50, Williams Valley, has three votes.

Post 51, Santiam, has eight delegate and four delegate at large votes, for 12 votes. Post 55, Mosier, has no vote. Post 56, Argon, has four votes. Post 57, Lester C. Rees, has three votes. Post 58, Stayton, has four votes. Post 59, Florence, has no vote. Post 61, Tri-County, has three delegate, one delegate at large, for four votes. Post 62, Reedsport, has two votes. Post 63, Harney County, has three delegate, one delegate at large, for four votes. Post 64, Oakridge, has two votes. Post 65, Wilsonville, has three delegate, one delegate at large, for four votes. Post 67, Ontario, has three delegate and two delegate at large, for five votes. Post 68, Clatskanie, has three votes. Post 69, Rogue River, has no vote. Post 70, Glenn Morrison, has two votes. Post 72, [Wawa Wawa 00:42:59], has two votes. Post 73, Maupin, has no vote. Post 74, Carl Douglas, has three delegate and one delegate at large, for four votes.

Post 75, Sheridan, has no vote. Post 76, Port Orford, has no vote. Post 77, Ellis Tracy, has no vote. Post 79, Nyssa. Excuse me. Thank you. Has two votes. Post 83, Santa Clara, has five votes. Post 84, Malin, has three votes. Post 86, Sisters, has four delegate and one delegate at large, for five votes. Post 87, Heppner, has no vote. Post 89, Mt. Angel, has three votes. Post 90, Banks, has three votes. Post 95, lone, has two votes. Post 96, Vale, has no votes. Post 97, Lincoln City, has no vote. Post 98, St. Johns, has

two votes. Post 99, Seaside, has five delegate and two delegate at large, for seven votes. Post 100, Philomath, has no vote. Post 104, Aloha, has seven delegate and one delegate at large vote, for eight votes. Post 106, Prairie City, has three votes. Post 108, Corbett, has no vote.

Post 130, Aurora, has no vote. Post 115, Dayville, has no vote. Post 116, Newport, has five votes. Post 119, Vernonia, has two votes. Post 121, Sutherlin, has three votes. Post 122, Canby, has five votes. Post 123, Fallin, has three votes. Post 124, Beaverton, has three votes. Post 125, Jefferson County, has no vote. Post 126, Nehalem, has no votes. Post 127, Sandy, has no vote. Post 129, Central Point, has three votes. Post 130, Athena, has no vote. Post 131, Deer Ridge is incarceration and they can't be here today. They send regrets. They came. I was told they wouldn't let them come. That's cool. Post 133, Sweet Home, no vote. Post 134, F and J Ravin, has three votes. Post 135, Wamic, has no vote. Post 136, Salem, has three votes. Post 137, Dana King, has two votes. Post 140, Mission, has no vote.

Post 148, Monument, has no vote. Post 149, Pioneer, has two votes. Post 150, Oregon Trail, has no vote. Post 152, Oakland, has two votes. Post 157, Joseph, has no vote. Post 158, Tiger, has seven delegate and two delegate at large, for nine votes. Post 159, Mill City, has two votes. Post 164, Spray, has no vote. Post 168, Cannon Beach, has three votes. Post 173, Carlton Memorial, has four votes. Post 180, Milwaukee, has eight votes. Post 184, Brownsville, has three votes. Post 185, Musicians, has no vote. Post 192, White City, has three delegates, one delegate at large, for four votes. Commander, we now have 77 Posts that are in good standing. We have 53 present. We're in better shape.

Commander:

Thank you, sir. Now I call for nominations.

Speaker 5:

So when we do the nominations, people will come up and nominate [inaudible 00:48:40].

Commander:

Are there nominations for the Department of Oregon American Legion commander? Chair recognizes Betty Fish-Ferguson.

Betty Fish-Ferguson:

Good afternoon, honored guests Department and executive committee members and Legionnaires. My name is Betty Ferguson.

Commander:

Closer to the microphone.

Betty Fish-Ferguson:

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Is it on?

Commander:

Closer to the mic.

Betty Fish-Ferguson:

Thank you. My name is Betty Fish-Ferguson. I'm an Adjutant of Pioneer Post 149 and second Vice-Commander of district two. It is my honor to nominate Don Weber for the High Office of Commander for the Department of American Legion. He is a paid-up for life member of the American Legion with 16 years of service and became eligible by serving for over 41 years in the army National Guard, including over seven years on active duty. His service in the American Legion includes most staff positions at Aloha Post 104 including two years as commander. He served in several staff positions at district one, including two years as district commander. At the Department he has served in public affairs, on the Legionnaire magazine, national guard and reserve committees, ROTC. And in the media and communications commission. He also served as the ad hoc committee chair for the centennial committee and his most demanding assignment came when he served as the aide of the National Commander. He has completed the Legion Basic Training Course and attended the National Legion College, class of 2013.

Don has a passion for reconnecting veterans which fits in purposely with the national programs work to reduce veteran suicide. By connecting with veterans, we fulfill all the goals of the American Legion. That [inaudible 00:51:18] final checks reconnects us with our members, reminds them how important they are to the organization and in the long run supports membership. Membership being the backbone of our organization. This is like the influence we have on the Storm The Hill in Washington, DC, and share with our legislators, the priorities of the American Legion. The purpose of the American Legion being our four pillars. When we reconnect veterans, we will see what the American Legion does and wants to be part of this great organization. When they enjoy the rewards of membership, they will want to become more involved in the leadership positions. Don's additional goal will be to improve communication between all administrative levels at Department, district, and post. Don looks forward to another break here in the American Legion. He asked for you to join me in casting your vote for Don Weber as commander, Department of Oregon, the American Legion. Thank you.

Commander:

Do I have a second for nomination for Don Weber. Chair recognizes [Steve Showmer 00:52:48] Department chair.

Steve Showmer:

Good afternoon, Legionnaires. It is my honor and privilege to do the second nomination of Don Weber for Department Commander of the State of Oregon. You have heard the qualifications for Don to serve

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as a Department Commander. I have worked with Don for many years, and I can tell you he is dedicated to getting his job done in an efficient, professional, and fun way. He has a wide array of experience from his military career, as you've heard, to his personal life and will serve the Department of Oregon in a very professional way. It was my pleasure that I second the nomination for Don Weber for commander of the Department of Oregon. Thank you.

Commander:

Are there any further nominations for American Legion Department of Oregon Commander? Are there any further nominations for American Legion Department of Oregon Commander? Hearing none, nominations for American Legion's Department commander will be closed. Well now, nominations for American Legion Department First Vice-Commander.

Betty Fish-Ferguson:

Can we have two motions on the board at the same time? If we move to nominate someone that's a motion. We have motions at the same time. We have to take a vote to first clear them.

Speaker 5:

I see we're not going to have a caucus.

Commander:

Do we have to take a group to accept the nomination? Not that I know of.

Judge Advocate:

This is a nomination.

Speaker 5:

It's not a motion it's a nomination.

Judge Advocate:

You want to step up?

Commander:

These are not motions, they're just nominations for office. Go ahead, Lou.

Judge Advocate:

He's trying to find his speech.

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Lou Newbekker:

Commander and the Department of Oregon Legionnaires, my name is Lou Newbekker.

Commander:

Can't hear you.

PART 2 OF 4 ENDS [00:56:04]

Speaker 6:

I hear you.

Commander:

My name is Lesley Backrow [crosstalk 00:56:10]. I'm standing right on top of it. [inaudible 00:56:14].

Commander:

I got it. Commander and the Department of Oregon Legionnaires [inaudible 00:56:52] bring the new future of our Department. I am nominating an individual who has dedicated 16 years of service to our veterans, into the community. He has served this Department as the post district and Department level leadership positions, while working with our Legion family. My nominee derives his eligibility for membership in the American Legion for 21 years of honorable service in the United States Navy, retiring as a chief petty officer. He is a paid up for life member. It is my great honor to nominate Larry Eugene Wittmayer for the high officer of the Department of Oregon in the American Legion, first vice commander, for the term of 2021 to 2022. Thank you, sir.

Speaker 8:

Thank you.

[crosstalk 00:58:13]

Commander:

Is there a second nomination for Larry Wittmayer as the first vice?

Steve:

Second?

Commander:

You need to come up and read the second.

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Speaker 6:

Commander and fellow Legionnaires, my name is Larry Edwards and I'm post commander of Wilsonville post 65. It is my privilege and honor [crosstalk 00:58:49] to second the nomination of Larry Wittmayer for first vice. Having worked with Larry since my membership in the legion, after my membership began, I know his dedication and his level of commitment to the Legion, and to all of the programs that it supports. He was instrumental in forming the Wilsonville post. And then after we got our post going, he was instrumental in dragging us into supporting a scout troop, and then later a Cub scout troop. And so I know his commitment goes beyond just favoring things, he likes to get them done and he will do what it takes to get them done. I know the level of effort and work that he has put in because I have known him and worked with him in the post for the last six years. I am honored and thrilled to second a nomination for Larry Wittmayer as first vice commander.

Commander:

Are there any further nominations for American Legion Department of Oregon first vice commander?

Steve:

Is that safe?

Speaker 7:

Are you safe, Steve? [crosstalk 01:00:22].

Speaker 9:

Good afternoon, everybody.

Speaker 7:

Good afternoon.

Speaker 9:

My fellow Legionnaires, it is my honor and pleasure to place the name of Larry Hill as the candidate for the high office of Department [inaudible 01:00:35]. Larry's membership qualification service was in the Army, from 1 April 1964 to 1 May 1984. He served 10 years with the army security agency in [inaudible 01:00:49], and the remainder of his career as the senior admin NCO, finance NCO, security officer and chief of the listed records at Presidio of San Francisco. His second career spent 22 years at San Francisco State University and the human resources of [inaudible 01:01:13] in employee relations. He was featured in the international 'who's who' of professional management in 1999. He graduated from state college of [inaudible 01:01:28] with a bachelor's degree in business management. He is a 19 year

member of the Legion. He is a member of other veteran services [inaudible 01:01:40], but is devoted to the American Legion.

Larry has been appointed as a member of the [inaudible 01:01:47] county veterans advisory council. He has been the president of Douglas county veterans form for six years. He has held numerous offices as a post district and Department [inaudible 01:02:02]. From 2007 to 2013, he was post adjutant and was named Oregon Adjutant of the Year from 2009 to 2010. During that time, post 16 was the goal post for three times. He held the office of district nine first vice commander for one year and then served as commander for three years. During his third year district nine was a gold year, Larry had been elected district nine commander for the fourth time in. In 2013, he was appointed chair of the membership and post activity, and in that year, the Department was 13th in the American Legion for membership. In 2014, Larry was elected first vice Department commander and once again led the Department to place in 13th in the American Legion membership.

He has served on the permanent finance commission, the oratorical commission, as area three Chair for three years and district for four years, the national security of Fort [inaudible 01:03:18] ROTC commission and it's BIT commission, and chair of the membership and post activities commission.

He also sat on the Department of Oregon American Legion Foundation board and the public relations commission. Larry presents to you, extensive experience and background in the Legion. He has held options at the post district and Department level. His knowledge of membership is extensive and his election will be good for the Department and his membership roles. Thank you for listening and thank you now for your vote, for later. Thank you.

Speaker 8:

You're reading the second?

Speaker 10:

No I'm not. I'm waiting for you. [inaudible 01:04:16].

Commander:

Second for nomination.

You need to get up and say some enlightening words.

Speaker 10:

I'm an early elector post 16 commander and I've worked with Larry ever since I've been a member of the American Legion. He is a wonderful man, I've enjoyed getting to know him. He has mentored me throughout my membership as a second vice commander and now a post 16 commander and I would very much recommend [inaudible 01:05:06] or Department first vice commander. Thank you.

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Steve:

[inaudible 01:05:21].

Commander:

Are there any other nominations for American Legion Department of Oregon first vice commander?

Tom Harrison:

Commander.

Commander:

Chair recognizes Tom Harris.

Tom Harrison:

Thank you, sir.

Good afternoon. My name's Tom Harris. I'm the Immediate Past Commander for the American Legion Department of Oregon, and I'm nominating Michael "Mick" Wilson for the high office of Department first vice commander. His parents were both marines. His father, a 30 year veteran with World War II in Korea. His mother, a Marine, was during world war II. Both were members of the American Legion and served in various leadership positions, including commanders. Mick attended Louisiana State University, graduated with a degree in engineering in 1969 and joined the United States Marine Corps. He was selected to attend the officer's candidate course at Quantico, Virginia, and upon completing the officer's candidate course as a second Lieutenant, he was ordered to Pensacola, Florida, [Inaudible 01:06:26] pilot training. Placing in the top 5% of his primary basic jet and advanced training, Mick was selected to fly the F4 Phantoms as his primary MOS. He attended Marine wing fire weapons training and was designated as a section and division lead pilot.

During Mick's tour of duty with his Marine Corps, his collateral duties included aviation ordinance officer, aircraft maintenance officer, management analyst officer, and his favorite duty, as a maintenance test pilot. Always interested in furthering his education, Mick attended the university of Southern California at the request of the Marine Corps and obtained a master of science degree in systems management with honors. Upon leaving active duty, Mick became the director of production at cost-control at Avondale shipyards in new Orleans. And while at Avondale, Mick designed and implemented a workforce scheduling system for 7,000 person workforce of the shipyard. This system allowed the ship yard to schedule 38 different working trades and the simultaneous construction of multiple construction projects, involving large tankers at oil rigs. Bill Aerospace Textron was setting up a plant in New Orleans to construct the Navy's new development LCAC Atlantic prep air cushion, and recruited Mick to join their team as a director of industrial engineering and production information systems. With a team of engineers and information technology professionals, Mick and his team of

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professionals laid out the production facility and implemented in price resource planning system, with mixed leadership production with [inaudible 01:08:04].

Production was successfully started ahead of schedule and on budget. Mixed successes with construction and production systems resulted in him being recruited to take [inaudible 01:08:15] stalled information system implemented at a real car and barge construction operation in Portland, and his family were relocated from New Orleans to the Northwest, and he successfully completed the job. Mick retired in 2006. Mick has always looked for a challenge, he enjoys seeking new ways to accomplish tasks. He took on the leadership role at Milwaukee post 180 and to ensure its financial stability took on the role of membership. The Milwaukee post has profited by his leadership, Milwaukee post is now the second largest in the Department with a solid balance sheet. Mick was quick to point out that this was not a one person success story. That it was due to the development of a strategic plan and the tactical implementation of that plan by a team of dedicated Legionnaires.

The Department recognized Mick with the Department Legionnaire of the year award, an honor he deeply appreciates. He is also a dual member as a Legionnaire and a member of the Sons of the American Legion, based on both of his parents membership in the American Legion. It is my privilege to nominate Mick Wilson to serve you as the Department first vice commander. Thank you.

Commander:

Do we have a second for the nomination of Mick Wilson for first vice commander?

Ted Matthews:

I second the motion, Ted Matthews.

Commander:

You've got to come up and do something, brilliant reading.

Ted Matthews:

Thank you, sir. Ted Matthews, district commander.

[crosstalk 01:09:54].

Can you hear me?

Speaker 7:

I can hear you.

Ted Matthews:

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Mike is an innovator, he sees a problem, he looks for a solution. That solution may mean change the way we have been doing business. If a process is not achieving those desired result, Mike will seek out and implement a process that works. Here are some of the quotes and endorsements from those who have worked closely with me. I have known Mike for seven years and five years, as post 180 commander. His skill of leadership, organization and resolving [inaudible 01:10:32] are outstanding. His confidence, leadership and management skills have kept this physically spite stable, and our membership growing. As a SAL member of post 180, I have worked with commander Mike Wilson for years. He is dedicated to veterans in our community. I have known Mike for seven years and worked with him on several tasks. He takes on a job, plans every move before his first move and then follows up on each detail until completion. I have known and worked with Mike Wilson on various management, membership, recruiting projects, as well as other projects. Mike is a leader and a doer, which is why I endorse him for the Department first vice command.

In five years, I have known and worked with Mike, I have had the opportunity to observe his ability and activities. He is totally qualified for the office of first vice commander with the wide background in organization training and management. The Oregon Department would be well-served with Mike Wilson in a chief position in Oregon's leadership team. Mick truly represents the four pillars of the American Legion, his drive and dedication of membership, [inaudible 01:11:53] and civic functions at many levels. All Oregon legion members could benefit from his dedication drive and ability to get the results. It is my privilege to second the nomination of Michael Wilson to serve you as your Department first commander.

Commander:

Thank you.

Are there any other nominations for American Legion Department of Oregon first vice commander? Are there any other nominations, American Legion Department of Oregon, first vice commander? Any other nominations, American Legion Department of Oregon, first vice commander? Hearing none. Nominations for American Legion Department of Oregon, first vice commander are closed. Nominations are open for American Legion Department of Oregon, second vice commander.

Speaker 7:

Right behind you, commander.

Commander:

Chair recognizes the short guy.

Tom Harris:

Hey, good afternoon again, Legionnaires. It's my privilege to... again PDC Tom Harris. It is my privilege to nominate Conrad Cory Brockmann to the high office of second vice commander for the American Legion Department of Oregon.

There's a lot here. Okay. Cory earned his eligibility for membership within the American Legion during the Cold War in Lebanon and Granada, with nearly seven years of honorable active duty service. He served in the US army from 1981 to 1984 and was assigned to the atmospheric sciences laboratory, at White Sands missile range, New Mexico. He served in the meteorology field, conducting surface weather observations as well as upper atmospheric soundings, using radio sonde and rocket sonde, and was an honor graduate of the Army's primary leadership development course and decorated for numerous achievements and accomplishments. Upon the closing and civilianizing of the army career field, he entered the US Air Force. Cory served in the US Air Force from 1984 to 1988 and continued working in the meteorology field. He was assigned to detachment eight, 5th weather squadron tactical weather team, first infantry division, Fort Riley, Kansas.

As a weather forecaster, he provided weather teams, forecast and other specialized weather information support of Garrison troops and aviation communities for the Fort Riley installation, as well as the first infantry division European theater deployment area of operations. Along with the technical competencies and courses, he completed the noncommissioned officers' leadership course and was decorated for other achievements and accomplishments. From 1988 to 1991, Cory continued military service in the Air National Guard, while working his way through college. Cory completed three years of honorable service assigned to the 127th weather flight, Corpsfield, Kansas. Cory served as weather forecaster on the tactical weather team, supporting weather operations for the Army National Guard's 35th infantry division.

Cory is an eight year Paid Up For Life member of the American Legion Post 104 in Aloha, Oregon. He has held numerous positions of leadership at the post district and Department levels, which will further aid his qualifications to serve you as second vice commander. At the post, his appointments were adjutant, second vice commander and first vice. And at district, as district adjutant, vice commander, and district commander for district one. At the Department level, Cory currently serves as the chair of the oratorical committee and the ad hoc exigency action committee. He also serves as committee member on the Oregon American Legion Foundation and veterans employment education committees. Cory previously chaired the media and communications commission, as well as the Americanism commission. Cory's Legion experience also includes having served as chair and or as member on numerous committees at the post district and Department levels. These include the Legionnaire committee, public relations, information, technology, Legion baseball, national security, Americanism, membership, children and youth, honor guard and more.

On American Legion education, he has completed the American Legion Extension Institute course, the basic training course and a graduate of the National American Legion College, class of 2017. He is a member of the American Legion media Alliance, as well as a former member of its predecessor organization, the National American Legion press association and the national American Legion media association.

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He has a bachelor's degree in science, or a science degree in range land management from Kansas City University. He has spent 29 of his 36 years of federal service employed by the USDA natural resources conversation service, where he held technical and leadership positions, including range land conservationist, soil conservationist, district conservationist, state resources inventory, GIS coordinator. And for 16 years here in Oregon, as a team leader at the west remote sensing laboratory in Portland.

In addition to being a Paid Up For Life member of the American Legion, he is a member of the air force association, a member of the army Navy and air force veterans in Canada, United States unit [inaudible 01:18:15], and a member of the US air force academy validation saber society. Service before self is a value that Cory holds in high regard, and this is easily demonstrated by his leadership positions within the American Legion for seven of eight years as a member. So please join me in electing Conrad Cory Brockmann for the high office of second vice commander. And let me tell you something, he might sound like he's over qualified, but there's no place else. I'll tell you that much. Thank you.

Commander:

Is there a second?

Dan Kevin:

Good afternoon, fellow legionnaires and guests. I'm Dan Kevin, post commander of Aloha 104 and duly elect to delegate to this, the Department of Oregon, under the 102nd annual convention. It's a privilege and honor to second the nomination for Cory Brockmann for the high office of Department second vice commander for 2021 to 2022.

Commander:

Are there any other nominations for America Legion Department of Oregon, second vice commander? Are there any other nominations, American Legion Department of Oregon, second vice commander? Are there any other nominations, American Legion, Department of Oregon, second vice commander? Hearing now, American Legion, Department of Oregon, second vice commander nominations are closed. Then we go into finance, right?

Are there any nominations, American Legion, Department of Oregon, finance office?

Commander:

The chair recognizes Kevin Hobbs.

Speaker 11:

[inaudible 01:20:52] Bob, isn't getting anybody to help him out? I'm honored to place the name of Bob Huff, he has done a great job for the Department as finance officer.

[crosstalk 01:21:05]

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Commander:

Is there a second nomination of Bob Huff for finance officer?

Tom Harris:

Commander. Legionnaires, it is my privilege to nominate permanent finance officer, Bob. How many years have you been doing this?

Bob Huff:

I started in 2009.

Tom Harris:

2009, so I think he might know how to do the job.

Commander:

Are there any further nominations, American Legion Department of Oregon, finance office? Are there any further nominations, American Legion Department of Oregon, finance office? Are there any further nominations, American Legion Department of Oregon, finance office? Hearing none. Nominations for American Legion, Department of Oregon, finance officer is closed.

Speaker 7:

NEC.

Commander:

Nominations for American Legion, Department of Oregon, National Executive Committee.

Speaker 14:

Tyler Nicole Berry, post 34, I nominate Kevin Owens for National Executive Committee.

Speaker 15:

That's National Commander Schmidt, National Executive Committee [inaudible 01:23:36]. Commander Adams, [inaudible 01:23:38]. If you don't know who I am, I am the past partner president of Oregon, twice. My eligibility is through my father, a World War II army veteran, and because of him, I have been a member of the American Legion Auxiliary for 47 years. My name is Krisann Owens. Today I'm here to give you kind of...

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Mrs. Owens:

Today, I'm here to give you kind of the low down on Kevin Owens.

There's no personal information. You understand who he is and the contributions that you've made in this great organization and why he is clearly the most qualified to serve in a high office of the National Executive Committee. Kevin is my husband of 35 years. Yes, I know I've been falling asleep, many times, but what we'll leave that right here, he's a good man and a veteran's veteran. He's serious when the time calls for it, and he knows his role exactly. However, he has always tried to make people laugh, even at his own expense. Everyone needs to have fun. As you saw yesterday at the Foundation, Kevin just loves to have fun. Way back when we were first transferring to Coos Bay, we brought our bunny rabbit, Benjamin. Yeah, he's a rabbit and then we have chickens. We were leaving our motel room when we saw the housekeepers, and he said, "be careful, there's a boa constrictor in there. It looks very happy."

But of course, once we got back, they were like, oh, you're so funny. We were so scared. Most of you know that when you see Kevin, he's usually picking on someone. He has a great sense of humor and a great time making people laugh. If you can turn the tide on him, he's always a good sport, but you got to be careful because he hits you back when you least expect it. And you see a past Department commander wearing a pink apron. But I love yelling myself. It doesn't happen very often. But recently he had hung a sign above our garage that says, "One nation under God," which I evolved from a drug.

However, he kept insisting every time we back into the driveway, it was crooked. I disagreed and said it was great but he didn't believe me. [crosstalk 01:26:19] I hand him the level. He says, "Well, it's perfectly straight." And I could admit that he was wrong and I was right. It must have tasted like vinegar to say those words.

I have to tell you this story because there are witnesses. There were other witnesses so that felt good. It was a very teachable moment for Kevin. Kevin is my best friend and confidant. When I'm feeling mad and he makes me laugh everyday. And has been a devoted husband, father and grandfather. Through good times, bad times, and sad times. In those times when patience is a gift, he's my rock and I couldn't imagine going through this journey without him. He has made this life that we share the best life anyone could ask for. Kevin has been a member of the American Legion for 31 years and is a Paid Up For Life member. He has always been an over dedicated member.

By this I mean, he never does anything halfway. He's all in when he decides to take on a project or a program. And this was the case with our recent post home. When we were told it was going under the wrecking ball. It's a long story, but now it's over. Kevin was granted by the godfathers of our posts to take care of it. He never knew that he would be taking on the stress of first gathering vendors to build this new building, and then the emotional experience of that being denied, then heading up the clearing out of our post 34 home, which was no easy task. We had 67 years of memories in the post. Kevin made sure that everything precious for the auxiliary was put into a heated storage unit. He also made sure that we had a place to meet, to continue the mission of our organization. The dedicated man.

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In the relations barriers within period post 34, Kevin juggled between being an active duty Coastguardsman while being as active as possible and with many projects and programs in the posts that they were involved in. His dedication was noticed in 1996 and he was elected Post Commander.

Now, figuring how it worked with our Godfathers at the post. They took Kevin under his wings, they decided what he was going to do. They're going to be second Vice Commander and so on. Then you'll be first by then. Then you'll be Post Commander. That's it. No questions. So once he arrived at being Post Commander, he was never given much notice on upcoming events because why would anybody write that down? One example is oh, by the way, we need a guest speaker for Memorial day, which is two days out. Although they seem to make things difficult for Kevin, he couldn't have had better mentors. It was about building character. And I can say without a doubt that they would be very proud of him and his accomplishments. Kevin is retired from the United States Coast Guard and still jokes about smelling mud puddle jumper or puddle pirate.

Kevin had a second career with Platt Electric, where he was branch manager for 25 years. And he retired last September. He loves to spend time with our daughter, our son-in-law, our grandchildren, and our chickens. Those chickens. Kevin stays busy with something to do every day. And he usually drags me into whatever he decides to do, even though I'm fine. How do I feel about Kevin being retired? Well, isn't it time to get that goat to leave? Now let's get into the bones of what Kevin has done in the American Legion. Post Commander, 1995. Financial Officer, 1996 to present. District 9 Commander in 1998, 2000 and 2020, 2021. Pertinent NEPH Chairman 2003, 2000, 2003. Department Membership Chairman 2002, 2003. Department Legionnaire of the Year 2004, 2005. Department Economics Chairman 2005, 2006. Department Finance Chairman 2005, 2008, 2009, 2014, 2015 to present. Department Vice Commander 2007, 2008. Department Commander 2008, 2009. Department Post Commander's Club, 2008. Oregon American Legion Foundation President 2012 to present. National Distinguished Guests Committee, 2002, 2006. National American District Council, 2006, 2008. National Foreign Relations Council, 2008, 2009.

National Veterans Employment and Education Commission, 2009 to 2016, 2017 to 2022. National Legislative Council, 2009 to present. National Sergeant at Arms 2016 to 2017. Gee, I thought that was it. Civic Organizations. Post International Past Governor, 33 year member. Legionnaire, 32 year member. Elk's Past [inaudible 01:31:44] Two Time Elk's National Foundation Benefactor. Rotary International Past President. Three Time Paul Harris Fellow. 21 year member, Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee. Past Vice Chairman. Past Chairman. Past Secretary, served eight years. Past Department Commander, 33 year member. Forty and Eight. Past Branch. Fleet Reserve, life member. [inaudible 01:32:14], 33 year member. Disabled American Veterans Past Department Commander, four times. Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary, two year member. Coastguard Association. International Order of Odd Fellows Past Brand, 27 year member. Southern Oregon Umpire Association, 12 years. Semi-pro Football for the Arena Football League Referee, four years. Past Department Commanders Club. Past National Sergeant at Arms.

Kevin has always found time to volunteer in his community above and beyond. He was a general and housing authority for eight years. And once his term ended, the mayor of North Bend asked him to

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serve again and he was elected chair once more. And ended his second eight years of service. As you can see a pattern, Kevin worked not just for the American Legion, but for many organizations where he has held leadership positions which gives him a varied range of knowledge and exceptional experience to represent Oregon as the National Executive Committee. And I ask you to support my best friend who was undeniably dedicated to the American Legion.

Thank you, commander.

Kevin Owens:

Thank you.

Commander:

The chair recognizes Andy Millar.

Andy Millar:

You know, who could know better.

Andy Millar:

About the qualifications of Kevin. There were some of that I didn't hear that I'm sure he's done. The dark side of the family.

Andy Millar:

I have a distinct pleasure of Kevin's friendship for over 27 years, through the American Legion. He has been a shaker and a doer. And with his post, with his district, with his Department, and at the national level. He's got a true passion and persistence and resolve for the American Legion. It is a distinct honor for me to nominate my replace, Kevin Owen for the high office of National Executive Committeeman. Thank you.

Commander:

Thank you, Andy. Are there any further nominations, American Legion Department of Oregon National Executive Committeeman? Are there any other nominations, American Legion Department of Oregon National Executive Committeeman? Are there any other nominations, American Legion Department of Oregon National Executive Committeeman. Hearing on American Legion Department of Oregon National Executive Committeeman nominations are closed.

Now open, American Legion Department of Oregon Alternate National Executive Committeeman. Chair recognizes, Gea Clausier.

Gea Clausier:

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Department Commander, Department Officers, District Commanders, Past National Commander, Charlie Schmidt, Past Department Commanders, Past District Commanders, Legionnaires, my comrades. I am nominating Gene Hellickson for the high office of Alternate National Executive Committeeman. Gene entered the United States Air Force in June, 1965. He served in Texas, Mississippi, Florida, and Alaska. His Air Force specialty was aircraft controls and warning repair. Upon his discharged from the Air Force, he worked for electronic specialties, missile guidance section in Portland. In 1972, he enlisted in the Oregon International Guard's, 116th Tactical Control Squadron. In 1973, he was hired as an Oregon Military Department as a Repair Maintenance Supervisor.

He eventually became the Squadron Quality Control Technician. And finally, as the Maintenance Support Superintendent. During the service would be Oregon Air National Guard, he designed multiple interface systems used to allow mobile radars to interface with operations equipment and missile control systems. He left the full-time employment of the Oregon Military Department in 1987 and retired as a Senior Master Sergeant in 1980. In 1987, Gene went to work for National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration, also known as NOAA, as an Electronic Technician for the NOAA fleet of research shifts in Seattle. During his employment with NOAA, he became a lead Electronics Technician and then an Information Technology Specialist. Lastly, Gene was asked to become an Electronic Quality Assurance Specialist for the entire NOAA fleet of shifts. During this time, he put together a Quality Assurance Program, Quality Control Program, becoming a contracting Officer Technical Representative and designed the electronic suite of equipment for several newly acquired ships.

During this time with NOAA, he was awarded the Department of Commerce bronze metal for superior service. Gene is a 14 year Paid Up For Life Legionnaire. And has fulfilled leadership and responsibility positions at the post, district, Department and national level. He has served as Post Commander for six years, where he was able to get the all-time high award for increasing his post membership by 218%. he has served as District Vice Commander and District Commander. He has served our Department as Second Vice Commander, First Vice Commander and Department Commander. In addition, he served as the Department Adjutant and is currently as the Department Judge Advocate. He served on the Department Training and Development Committee, the Information and Technology Committee, Permanent Finance Committee and the Oregon American Legion Foundation. He has served on the National Children and Youth Council and is currently on the National Resolution Assignment Committee.

He is also a member of the Sons of the American Legion, Fourty and Eight, and the VFW Auxiliary. In the event that the National Executive Committeeman is unable to fulfill his duties, as the Alternate National Executive Committeeman, he will be able to fulfill the duties of the National Executive Committeeman. He does not take this position of Alternate Executive Committee lightly. It is great responsibility to be the representative of our Department and carry back to our Department, the actions of the National Executive Committee. He understands the purpose of the American Legion and has the understanding of the responsibilities of this position. During his American Legion membership, he has always strived to contribute to this organization, to the utmost of his capabilities. It is my

privilege to nominate Gene Hellickson to serve as your alternate National Executive Committeeman. God bless the American Legion and God bless the United States of America.

Commander:

Is there a second for the nomination of Gene Hellickson Alternate National Executive Committeeman. Chair recognizes Greg Horn.

Greg Horn:

Thank you, Commander. Good afternoon.

Greg Horn:

Department Commander, Department Officers, District Commanders, Past Vice Commander Charlie Schmidt, Past Vice Commander Rob Liebnow, Past Department Commanders, Past District Commanders, Legionnaires, my comrades. I am seconding the nomination of Gene Hellickson for the high office of Alternative National Executive Committeeman. Here are some background about Gene. He comes from a line of military members. The first record of course is a Finnish veteran who immigrated to Norway in 73 years. His grandfather and father were army veterans. His father served with the [inaudible 01:42:47] as a Combat Engineer in France, Belgium, Poland, and Germany. Gene was born in 1957. In 1960, his family moved from Portland, Oregon, where he graduated from high school in June, 1965. After graduation, on Friday evening, he departed for basic training in the United States Air Force.

Gene studied industrial safety and quality control at Mt. Hood Community College, as well as electronic engineering at the Community College of the Air Force. During his time in the Air Force, he received multiple awards for aerospace, defense command, strategic air command, tactical air command, Air National Guard, Army National Guard for the United States Army. During his time with NOAA, he became Microsoft software certified, FCC certified, global Marine distressed, and second lead System Operator. He was honored for Department of Bombers Squad for his exemplary work and inspiration.

Five scan radar systems that are used on many of NOAA research ships. Gene and his wife, Linda of 55 years were married in June of 1966 in Key West Florida. Gene and Linda have lived in Portland, Gresham, Boring, Damascus, as well as Portland Oregon, as well as Lynnwood in Washington state. Gene retired and moved to Sisters, Oregon where they have lived since 2005. Gene and Linda have two children. Robert of Portland, Pamela of Cumbria, England, two grandchild Amber of Chandler, Arizona, Derrick of Marysville, Washington, and two great-grandchildren Quinn and Lucien of Chandler Arizona. It's my privilege to second the nomination of Gene Hellickson to serve as your Alternate National Executive Committeeman. God bless American Legion and God bless the United States of America. Thank you. Thank you very much.

Commander:

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Are there any other nominations, American Legion Department of Oregon, Alternate National Executive Committeeman. Are there any other nominations, American Legion Department of Oregon, Alternate National Executive Committeeman. Are there any other nominations, American Legion Department of Oregon, Alternate National Executive Committeeman.

Hearing none, American Legion Department of Oregon, Alternate National Executive Committeeman nominations are closed.

Man by Camera:

Good time for recess. [crosstalk 01:46:11] Oh yeah, tickets are available.

Speaker 17:

Those are the winners in order by district starting at two.

Speaker 17:

And now there all winners in the audience. If you would have announced them before we are adjourned that would be great. Thank you, sir.

Speaker 18:

Okay. It's just like my house. Yes ma'am.

Commander:

Okay. We have some winners of the auxiliary drawing and I was asked to announce. And like at home, I get the last word.

Speaker 18:

Yes, ma'am.

Commander:

District two Dan Evers. District four Gerstel. No district here, Wendy Wood.

Speaker 16:

District five.

Commander:

District six, Judy Johnson. Judy Johnson.

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Speaker 18:

That's district seven.

Commander:

For district eight.

Man by Camera:

No it's seven.

Commander:

Another Judy Johnson. I think this is district three, but they have district nine here, David Bowman. Okay. So those people have been announced. Now we will be in recess until eight o'clock tomorrow morning. Please be prompt because we have a lot to do tomorrow before we get to our final ceremonies. We are adjourned until eight o'clock tomorrow morning.

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