



**Joint Opening of The American Legion Department of Oregon Convention**  
**103<sup>rd</sup> American Legion; 101<sup>st</sup> American Legion Auxiliary & 50<sup>th</sup> Sons of the**  
**American Legion and American Legion Riders**

**Wednesday, June 22, 2022**

**Beaverton Elks  
3464 SW 106<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Beaverton, OR 97005**

**Call to order at 5:00 PM**

The American Legion  
American Legion Auxiliary

Cory Brockmann, Department 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander  
Catherine Brockmann, District 1 President

**Introductions:**

American Legion Auxiliary  
The American Legion  
Sons of the American Legion

Debra Godwin, American Legion Auxiliary Dept. President  
Don Weber, Department of Oregon Commander  
Carl Pawlik, Detachment of Oregon Commander

Salute to Colors

Catherine Brockmann, District 1 President

National Anthem

Cheryl Park, Auxiliary Western Division President

Pledge of Allegiance

Cory Brockmann, Department 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander

Invocation/Opening Prayer

Steve Shollenburg, Department Chaplain

Legion Family Preambles

Debra Godwin, American Legion Auxiliary Dept. President

POW/MIA Ceremony

Cory Brockmann, Department 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander

The following Past Department Commanders and Past Department Presidents were introduced. Charles Bingham, Linda Boone, Robert D. Scott, Patsy Nestor, Judy Farmer, Richard A. Schenfeld, Jan Hufford-Wilson, Jaunetta Gunder, Robert D. Liebenow, Florence Comber, Donald M. Epperson, Toni Epperson, Patty Cooper, Sherita Potter, Virginia Biddle, George "Toby" Potter, Krisann Owens, Charlie Schmidt, Sid Carter, Gen Horne, Phyllis Parent, Ellie Buell, Kevin Owens, Cyndi Dahl, Cheryl Park, Jackie Collison, Trudy McGriff, Jon Marsh, Jody Marsh, Bob Huff, Pam Seelye, Mike Morris, Ginny Williams, Andy Millar, Linda Liebenow, Angie McKinney, Deby Levy, Eugene Hellickson, Helen Hisaw, Tom Harris, Krisann Owens, Steve Adams, Gea Clausier and Kathy Karnowski.

The following Past Detachment Commanders were introduced. Bill Lewis, Del White, Larry Horne, Marc Chaney, and Ron Mitchell.

Headquarters Legion and Auxiliary staff were acknowledged. Department Adjutant S. Flynn Phillips, Administrative Assistant Annaka Jorgensen, Department Finance Officer Bob Huff and Finance Specialist Lynn Newton. Auxiliary Department Administrative Assistant Cindy Hillyard, Department Secretary Linda Liebenow and Department Treasurer Helen Hisaw.

Department Officers of the American Legion: Department Commander Don Weber, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander Larry Wittmayer, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander Cory Brockmann, Immediate Past Department Commander Steve Adams, Department Adjutant S. Flynn Phillips, National Executive Committeeman Kevin Owens, Department Finance Officer Bob Huff, Department Chaplain Steve Shollenburg, Department Historian Dick Winders, Department Judge Advocate Gene Hellickson, Aide to Department Commander Adam Gettmann, District 1 Commander Lou Neubecker, District 2 Commander Juan Palacios, District 3 Commander John Morford, District 4 Commander David Applegate, District 5 Commander Lance Trowbridge, District 6 Commander Andy Millar, District 7 Commander James Moriarty, District 8 Commander Chris Christopherson, District 9 Commander Larry Hill, District 10 Commander Daniel Burks, Department Chaplain Steve Shollenburg, Department Historian Dick Winders, Alt National Executive Committeeman Gene Hellickson, Department Sergeant-at-Arms Phyllis York, Department Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms Ward Allen, Department Service Officer Ed Van Dyke, Department Service Officer Assistant Jody Marsh, Department Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms Mike Morris.

Department Officers of the American Legion Auxiliary: Immediate Past Department President Kathy Karnowski, Department Vice President Cindy Soria, Membership Chairwoman Cindy Soria, National Executive Committeewoman Krisann Owens, Alt. National Executive Committeewoman Jody Marsh, Department Secretary Linda Liebenow, Department Chaplain Gregoria Hernandez, Department Historian Geanne Horne, Department Parliamentarian Pam Seelye, Department Sergeant at Arms Suzanne Driver, Department Asst. Sergeant at Arms Suzanne Hurd, Department Administrative Assistant Cindy Hillyard, District 1 President Catherine Brockmann, District 2 President Gregoria Hernandez, District 3 President Bobby Peebler, District 4 President Donna Hartwell, District 5 President Ginny Williams, District 6 President Maggie Lamont, District 8 President Trudy McGriff, District 9 President Frankie Trask and District 10 President Linda Schmidt.

Detachment Officers for Sons of The American Legion: Detachment First Vice Commander Jerry Patton, Detachment Second Vice Commander Lou Neubecker, Immediate Past Detachment Commander Ron Mitchell, National Executive Committeeman Mark Chaney, Alternate National Executive Committeeman Larry Horne, Adjutant James Marlet, Judge Advocate Andy Millar, Sergeant at Arms Ed Halback Jr, Assistant Sergeant at Arms Dale Brown and Chaplain William Deveraux.

The American Legion Riders: Director Paul Schnell, East Director Robert Baker, West Director Robert De Kar, Adjutant Lori Heinz, Sergeant at Arms Dane Egan and Chaplain Jim Connelly.

The National Veteran Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission Chairman, Ralph Bozella of the Department of Colorado was introduced.

Recognition of Oregon's Past National Officers of The American Legion included Past National Commander Charles E. Schmidt, Past National Vice Commander Robert D. Scott, Past National Vice Commander Robert Liebenow, Past National Sergeant at Arms Kevin J. Owens, Past National Commander Aide Dirk Levy and Past National Commander Aide Don Weber.

Recognition of Oregon's Past National Officers of The American Legion Auxiliary included Past National President Linda Boone, Past Western Division Vice President Patty Cooper, Past National Chaplain Sherita Potter and Past Western Division Vice President Cheryl Park.

Recognition of Oregon's Past National Officers of Sons of The American Legion included Past National Vice Commander Bill Lewis.

Special guests from Washington State were introduced to all. Department of Washington Commander Rick Succi, Alternate National Executive Committeeman of Washington Bob Clark, and Department of Washington Adjutant Jesse Horton.

Legion Goal Posts advanced in numerical order as the Post's Colors were posted. Washington Post 2, Hillsboro Post 6, Keizer Post 17, The Dalles Post 19, McMinnville Post 21, Hood River Post 22, Bandon Post 26, Crook County Post 29, Hermiston Post 37, St Helens Post 42, Tillamook Post 47, Williams Valley Post 50, Mosier Post 55, Argon Post 56, Stayton Post 58, Florence Post 59, Harney County Post 63, Ontario Post 67, T. Les Galloway Post 68, Wallowa Post 72, Carl Douglas Post 74, Sheridan Post 75, Port Orford Post 76, Sisters Post 86, Ione Post 95, St Johns Post 98, Seaside Post 99, Aloha Post 104, Prairie Post 106, Corbett Post 108, Vernonia Post 119, Sutherlin Post 121, Beaverton Post 124, Jefferson County Post 125, Nehalem Post 126, Sandy Post 127, Athena Post 130, Oakland Post 152, Tigard Post 158, Cannon Beach Post 168, Carlton Memorial Post 173, Musicians Post 185 and White City Post 192.

There were two 100% Goal Districts: District 1 and District 10.

Legion Goal Units advanced in numerical order as the Unit's Colors were posted. Portland Unit 1, Hillsboro Unit 6, Albany Unit 10, Medford Unit 15, Dallas Unit 20, McMinnville Unit 21, Grants Pass, Unit 28, Crook County Unit 29, Bay Area Unit 34, Hermiston Unit 37, Williams Valley Unit 50, Florence Unit 59, Ontario Unit 67, Clatskanie Unit 68, Glen Morrison Unit 70, Chris Schultz Unit 71, Sheridan Unit 75, North Eugene Santa Clara Unit 83, Seaside Unit 99, Dayville Unit 115, Oakland Unit 152, Carlton Memorial 173 and Milwaukee Unit 180.

There were two Auxiliary 100% Goal Districts: District 1 & District 8.

Sons of The American Legion Goal Squadrons advanced in numerical order as the Squadron's Colors were posted. Hillsboro Squadron 6, Klamath Falls Squadron 8, Astoria Squadron 12, McMinnville Squadron 21, Milton-Freewater Squadron 24, Grants Pass Squadron 28, Prineville Squadron 29, La Grande Squadron 43, Redmond Squadron 44, Lebanon Squadron 51, Sherwood Squadron 56, Stayton, Squadron 58, Ontario Squadron 67, Seaside Squadron 99, Aloha

Squadron 104, Newport Squadron 116, Canby Squadron 122, Carlton Squadron 173 and Milwaukie, Squadron 180.

The Standards of the Armed Forces were presented in the following order: US Army, US Marine Corp, US Navy, US Air Force, US Coast Guard and US Merchant Marines.

Cory Brockmann thanked Aloha 104 Legion Family for planning/hosting the Convention as well as the Convention Corporation Chairman Adam Gettmann and Stacy Gettmann. The mentorship of Jon and Jody Marsh was very helpful and appreciated. Commander Don Weber commended Post 104 for stepping up and putting on a successful Convention with great speakers and information planned. Auxiliary President Debra Godwin related that Convention is a time to reflect on what was accomplished and what we need to accomplish in the future. Detachment Commander Carl Pawlik thanked the Aloha Post as well. He then thanked his father for his service so that he could be a member of the Sons of The American Legion as well as his own son who was currently serving in the Air Force.

Benediction, by Gregoria Hernandez

Cory Brockmann concluded the Joint Opening Ceremony and announced the Joint Memorial Service on 6/23/2022 at 0800 in the same location.



**The American Legion Department of Oregon 103<sup>rd</sup> Convention**  
**Thursday, June 23, 2022**  
**Beaverton Elks**  
**3464 SW 106<sup>th</sup> Ave.**  
**Beaverton, OR 97005**

**Call to order at 12:45 PM**

Flag Salute  
Invocation/Opening Prayer  
POW/MIA Ceremony  
Pledge of Allegiance  
Preamble to the Constitution

Don Weber, Department Commander  
Steve Shollenburg, Department Chaplain  
Steve Shollenburg, Department Chaplain  
Phyllis York, Sergeant at Arms  
Don Weber, Department Commander

Commander Don Weber announced suspension of the standard agenda due to the need to read the first reading of resolutions requiring Constitution and ByLaws changes.

Ward Allen, Constitution and By-Laws Chairman reads the Membership & Post Activities Resolution.

**Resolution No. M&PA-22-01 revised**

Origin: Membership and Post Activities  
Submitted By: Membership and Post Activities Chair

**WHEREAS**, Membership in the Department of Oregon has declined tremendously over the course of the last several years; and

**WHEREAS**; it is the mission of our Department to grow our membership numbers; and

**WHEREAS**; Our Department revenue and annual budget greatly depend on the strength of our membership numbers; and

**WHEREAS**; it is the duty of every single member of the American Legion to work membership; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that by a majority vote by the Department Executive Committee assembled in Beaverton Oregon June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022, for a duration of three months beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022, and ending September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022 first year membership per capita will be twenty-five dollars with \$18.50 going to National and \$6.50 going to The Department of Oregon, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that under this campaign the Posts be made to understand they would not receive revenue while recruiting under these twenty-five dollars for the first-year program; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that any Post that wishes to recruit under normal terms in order to receive revenue for the Post has the right to do so; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, a continuance of this program can be presented as soon as we hit our set goal of achievement, and be it finally

**RESOLVED**, the Department goal for achievement in this campaign be set at 150 new members recruited during this initial three-month membership campaign. **This was voted on and approved to be sent to the floor to be read tomorrow.**

Ward Allen, Constitution and By-Laws Chairman reads the next resolution.

**WHEREAS** populations in the post is decreasing,

**WHEREAS** districts are having issues filling other positions,

**WHEREAS** there are other posts that are grandfathered outside of their physical district,

**WHEREAS** there is a need to realign the districts in the state of Oregon to a better balance,

be resolved that the following occur:

The Department Commander appoint a commission to convene, to review, to submit to the December in six months time, December 2022, the following: a. A plan to realign the number of districts to a smaller number, b. A timeline of change upon ratification of the convention. c. This plan is to be reviewed by the DEC and then submitted to the Oregon Department Convention for ratification at the 2023 convention. **That was also voted to pass forward.**

Ward Allen, Constitution and By-Laws Chairman reads the resolution proposal to amend the POW/MIA ceremony.

**WHEREAS a resolution 267 National Convention** called for the accounting of all POWs/MIAs and the return of the remains in addition to the release of all still held, and whereas warships in the United States Navy are considered sovereign territory of the United States, whereas the USS Pueblo (AGER-2) is a third oldest worship after the USS Constitution and the USS Arizona, BB39 in commission. Whereas the USS Pueblo is a Banner-class environmental research ship attached to the Navy Intelligence as an intelligence gathering ship. Whereas a ship was attacked and captured by North Korea forces on the 23rd of January 1968 in international waters and has been held by North Korea in violation of international law.

Be it **RESOLVED** by post number five, district eight of the American Legion Department of Oregon in a regular meeting. One that we are moved to propose the following additions to the POW/MIA ceremony after page 42, second paragraph, line six of the American Legion Officer's Guide 2022. "Let us rededicate ourselves to this final endeavor." Insert the line, "Remember the USS Pueblo." Now being read as, "Let us rededicate ourselves to this final endeavor. Remember the USS Pueblo."

Be it further **RESOLVED** that a streamer saying, "Remember the USS Pueblo" be added to all Legion POW/MIA flag's natural colors. If there is no POW/MIA flag, the streamer is four inches high and three feet long, black material with white printing. **Now, that resolution was failed.**

**Did not pass.**

Ward Allen, Constitution and By-Laws Chairman reads the resolution on the merging of Districts seven and eight.

Resolution Number C-22-01

Subject: Merger of Districts 7 and 8

Referred to Committee by District 7 and 8 Commanders

Submitted by: James Moriarty District 7 Commander

William Christopherson District 8 Commander

**WHEREAS**, The American Legion National Constitution Section 21704 – Powers (4) “corporation may establish State and territorial organizations and local chapters or post organizations” and Article VIII Section 3, “Departments shall have the authority to create and charter intermediate bodies between Posts and Department”; and

**WHEREAS**, The Department of Oregon Constitution Article VII Section 7 authorizes the Department Executive Committee to create “Intermediate bodies (i.e., Districts) between the Posts and Department to act as a liaison between such organizations” with power to define their territorial limits; and

**WHEREAS**, Department of Oregon By-Laws, Article 1 Section 1 paragraph 7 & 8 states: District No. 7 shall consist of all duly chartered Posts within the boundaries of Multnomah County and District No. 8 shall consist of all duly chartered Posts within the boundaries of Clackamas County (except as grandfathered); and

**WHEREAS**, The Districts realize the positive effect this proposed merger would have in coordinating with local governments through consistent messaging within the political Structures; and

**WHEREAS**, The Districts 7 and 8 recognize the Esprit de Corps associated with the individual Districts, the renaming, and election of District officers of the merged District should be a dual District task; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, That by a vote of and consensus of District 7 and District 8, the newly merged District shall be named District 7 with elected officers from District 7 and District 8; be it further

**RESOLVED**, That upon approval the existing paragraph: District No. 8 shall consist of all duly chartered Posts within the boundaries of Clackamas County” will be deleted; be it further

**RESOLVED**, With the approval of this resolution all assets of District 8 become the assets of the merged District 7; be it further

**RESOLVED**, That with approval of this resolution by the Department Executive Committee, the Department By-Laws Article 1 section 1 be changed to, District 7 shall consist of all duly chartered Posts within the boundaries of Multnomah and Clackamas Counties; be it finally

**RESOLVED**, By the Department of Oregon Executive Committee in regular session at the 2022 Department Convention on June 25, 2022, voted to accept this resolution to merge Districts 7 and 8 which will be effective immediately. **That was also rejected.**

Commander Don Weber announced that those were all of the resolutions that require two readings and that there would be a discussion period after the second reading tomorrow.

Other announcements included the mix and mingle at 1730 at Aloha Post 104, the White Tops breakfast tomorrow morning at 0630 and the Convention will reconvene in the morning at 0830.

Department Commander Weber conducted the Flag Salute and declared the Convention in recess at 12:57 PM.



**The American Legion Department of Oregon 103<sup>rd</sup> Convention**  
**Friday, June 24, 2022**  
**Beaverton Elks**  
**3464 SW 106<sup>th</sup> Ave.**  
**Beaverton, OR 97005**

**Call to order at 8:30 AM**

Flag Salute  
Invocation/Opening Prayer  
Pledge of Allegiance

Don Weber, Department Commander  
Steve Shollenburg, Department Chaplain  
Phyllis York, Sergeant at Arms

Commander Don Weber recognized Ralph Bozella, National Veteran Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission Chairman, Department of Washington Commander Rick Succi, Department of Washington Adjutant Jesse Horton and NECman from Washington Dave Hodgeboom and his wife Rosemary. Alternate National Executive Committeeman of Washington Bob Clark.

**Roll Call of Officers 2021 – 2022**

___ P ___	Department Commander	Don Weber
___ P ___	1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Commander	Larry Wittmayer
___ P ___	2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander	Cory Brockmann
___ P ___	Immediate Past Department Commander	Steve Adams
___ P ___	Department Adjutant	S. Flynn Phillips
___ P ___	National Executive Committeeman	Kevin Owens
___ P ___	Department Finance Officer	Bob Huff
___ P ___	Department Chaplain	Steve Shollenburg
___ P ___	Department Historian	Dick Winders
___ P ___	Department Judge Advocate	Gene Hellickson
___ P ___	District 1 Vice Commander	Susan Hughes
___ P ___	District 2 Commander	Juan Palacios
___ P ___	District 3 Commander	John Morford
___ P ___	District 4 Commander	David Applegate
___ P ___	District 5 Vice Commander	Greg Marvin
___ A ___	District 6 Commander	Randy Tye
___ P ___	District 7 Vice Commander	Terry Brown
___ A ___	District 8 Commander	Chris Christopherson
___ P ___	District 9 Commander	Larry Hill
___ P ___	District 10 Commander	Daniel Burks



**Non-Voting Members**

___ P ___	Department Sergeant-at-Arms	Phyllis York
___ P ___	Department Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms	Ward Allen
___ E ___	Department Service Officer	Ed Van Dyke
___ E ___	Department Service Officer Assistant	Jody Marsh
___ E ___	Department Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms	Mike Morris

**The Adjutant declared a quorum.**

**ROLL CALL OF LIVING PAST DEPARTMENT COMMANDERS (2021 - 2022)**

	<b>NAME</b>	<b>POST</b>	<b>YEAR</b>
___ E ___	Robert D. Scott	51	1982-83
___ E ___	Patsy Nestor	158	1986-87
___ E ___	Richard A. Schenfeld	5	1993-94
___ E ___	Robert D. Liebenow	6	1996-97
___ E ___	Donald M. Epperson	61	1997-98
___ E ___	George "Toby" Potter	12	2002-03
___ E ___	Charlie Schmidt	63	2004-05
___ E ___	Sid Carter	29	2005-06
___ P ___	Kevin Owens	34	2008-09
___ E ___	Jacqueline Collison	34	2010-11
___ E ___	Jon Marsh	43	2011-12
___ P ___	Bob Huff	15	2012-13
___ E ___	Mike Morris	21	2013-14
___ E ___	Andy Millar	24	2014-15
___ P ___	Eugene Hellickson	86	2017-18
___ P ___	Tom Harris	158	2018-19
___ P ___	Steve Adams	51	2019-21

The Standing Rules are read by Gene Hellickson, Department Judge Advocate.

**Commission Reports:**

**Americanism Convention Committee Chairman Cory Brockmann Report:** I'm Cory Brockman. I'm your Department Second Vice Commander. I was appointed the chairman of the Americanism convention committee due to the absence of the Americanism chair this year. The Americanism convention committee met at the Beaverton Elks on the 23rd of June 2022. And that meeting convened at 1321 hours, chaired by yours truly and our recording secretary was Judy Johnston. Roll call was taken and we had 19 members in attendance. That was outstanding, representing all 10 districts of our Department of Oregon. There were no resolutions brought to

the committee for our review and recommendations and there were no resolutions brought from within our Americanism Convention Committee.

We had a great round table discussion held. We went around the table and asked every member him or her to share examples of Americanism activities that are being held or conducted within their Post and here's just a sampling. Oratorical, Scouting, American Legion Riders, Honor Guard and Color Guards, Legion Baseball, Halloween safety, food, and resources in support of youth, home and families, community and civic networking, sea cadets, boys state, and girls state, and other youth scholarships that are raised in fundraising activities, but given outside of our formal youth programs. Funerals, parades, American Legion Rider and Patriot Guard escorts, patriotic holiday meals, Law Enforcement Career Camp, and more.

We had a very good discussion on American Legion Riders and Patriot Guard, and I raised the topic myself; had a very good discussion. There are differences in those entities. I think group consensus was it would be an outstanding Legion College session or a DEC training session.

Chairman Cory highlighted topical points of the scheduled Americanism luncheon slated for today about 11:30 or 12:00.

Chairman Cory also shared an Americanism in action idea for 2022-2023. That being simply that anytime you're conducting anything Americanism related, just take one or two pictures, email it to the Americanism commission chair with a very short what, when and where. So, if we're not able to conduct the luncheon session inside, I've got a 60-slide presentation, half of those slides are examples of Americanism in action from the last year.

What we want to do is showcase what all of the different Posts are doing, and a simple picture of a very few words is the first start to then growing to articles in our Oregon Legionnaire, the official publication of the Department of Oregon.

That convention committee recessed at 1405 hours. Cory Brockmann announced the following awards on the Convention floor:

**Americanism Award:**

Post size 15 to 100 members: Brownsville Post 184

Post size 101 to 250 members: Aloha Post 104

Post size 501 to 750 members: Albany Post 10

**The Back to God Award:** The award winner is Milwaukee Post 180

**Boys State Award:**

Post sizes 15 to 100 members: Wilsonville Post 65

Post size 151 to 500 members: Stayton Post 58

Community Service Awards:

Post membership size 15 to 150: White City Post 192

Post membership size 251 to 500: Stayton Post 58

Post membership sizes 500 and up: Albany Post 10

The Community Service Awards:

Post size 15 to 150: White City Post 192

Post size 251 to 500: Stayton Post 58

Post size 500 and up: Albany Post 10

Scouting, we have two awards:

Scouts: Troop 7184 of Travis Moothart Post 184

Cub Scouts: Pack 195 of Hillsboro Post 6

Now I'm going to give you a shameless public service announcement. The Jim Willis Law Enforcement Career Camp is still taking applications. There were some restrictions this year on location at Oregon State Police Academy due to the backlog created by the pandemic to train officers. The camp's been relocated to Camp Rilea up in Warrenton, on the Northwest coast and cadre from the Oregon state police and the Sheriff's association will be working with our Legion committee, but we are still taking applications. Jump on [orlegion.org](http://orlegion.org), download the application, and get your young men and women signed up to attend that camp.

As a delegate of this 103rd annual department convention and seeing no resolution brought before this Americanism convention committee, I make a motion to dissolve this Americanism convention committee. The motion was seconded.

**Finance Convention Committee Chairman Kevin Owens Report:** Yesterday at 1400 Finance Convention Committee met. We had attendees from almost every district. We had a discussion on the budget, which we'll give you some extra on that. We had no resolutions at that point. We're going to go into the budget.

Did everyone get a chance to look at the packet with the budget? No? Okay. Well, this year we have some major challenges, major challenges. It affects not just me and not just these folks up here, but it affects you. Our budget this year has a hundred thousand dollars shortfall. We have to come up with a hundred thousand dollars. The permanent finance commission, along with the administrative advisory board had been in discussion about what we are going to do and what options we have. I'll share some of the options.

Option number one is we will lay off an employee. We'll lay off an employee. Option two, along with the employee, we're going to cut all travel for every officer in the department from the commander down. Third, sell our building. Sell our building. But the best option we have is membership. So, we need your help to get membership.

We've historically been losing around 1600 members and that's an historical data that we've been going through the last 11, 12 years. We approximately lose 1600 members that do not renew their dues. We heard that death is the problem. Death is not the problem in the department of Oregon; it's renewals. We allow people to sign up one year. We don't communicate with them. We don't buddy check them and they go out the back door. We need to do a better job at renewals. The National Commander set of goal of 90% of renewal rate. We get 90% and we'll make up that 10%.

That's some of the options. We've also had an option, maybe going to a Post and renting space at a Post. We've talked about moving the Post headquarters out of Wilsonville. Wilsonville is a high rent district in Oregon, and it costs lot of money.

Our biggest problem, and it has nothing to do with Flynn, because people will say, is administrative cost. Because everything else, inflation goes up, water, sewage, copiers, phones, salaries, paying some medical care for our employees, Postage. Just like at your house.

So, what we're going to ask, and it should come out by July 15th, that we're going to ask each one of you and your members in your Post, to help support the department. One in membership, and two, we're going ask each member to donate some amount of money to help support the Post, as a plea letter. The idea was, we do a hundred dollars each member. If we got 5,000 people to do that, we'd be in great shape.

I think the letter's going to change a little bit. We're going to ask you to donate just like they do on our fundraisers and that is to give what you can give. If it's \$5, we'll take it. If it's a dollar, we'll take it. We'll take your change. We don't care.

I should back up a little bit. I want you to know that the department is sound financially on that part. We have our money due to our service office. We have money to do our programs. We have money invested. We're not broke. Don't take that we're broke. We're not. But the constitution, we have money that is required to be put aside for certain things.

We're not broke, but each year the budget is for that one year. It's a one-year budget. We don't want to cut employees. We don't want to get rid of our building, so we're going to need your help. It's a serious thing. If you want to get membership, and I think your membership chairman has said it before, if you would get two percent penetration into your district, in our districts all around, we would be about 20,000 members.

We're currently sitting at 13,300 and something. We based the budget on 11,750. Some of you would say, why would we do that? The reason is because historically, is the drop. It's not what you finish, it's what we think we're going to end up at the end of the year. Our budget year starts October 1st. We're fine this year. We can ride about six, seven months to the spring until we have to do some major drastic cuts. We don't want to do that. We don't want to do that. So, we need your help. We need your help. Any questions about the budget? Yes, sir.

Tim Troupe Post 5 Willamette Falls: Have you also considered, in addition to asking the membership to donate asking Posts to-

Kevin Owens: That's what I was just saying.

Tim Troupe: The whole Post?

Kevin Owens: The whole department.

Tim Troupe: Yeah.

Kevin Owens: The whole department. Everybody will get a letter that's a member of our department.

Tim Troupe: And no more fundraisers?

Kevin Owens: And we're going to cut the fundraisers back. I know people complain about the fundraisers. We got about \$12,000 this year in fundraising. From everything we sent out, the raffle that we do, the raffle, we have people who send raffle tickets in with no money. We have to put the tickets in there because that's what the raffle said. We will lose \$3,000 on that raffle this year, again.

Tim Troupe: Again.

Kevin Owens:

Again, we lost \$3,000 last year. We'll lose \$3,000 again. Yes?

Question from the floor: I just want to verify the department is not going to raise their share of my dues. Is that correct? Is that what you're saying?

Kevin Owens: At this point, we're not going to, but if we don't do something this year, we don't see... So, the worst, we're going to say in the first 45 days that letter goes out, we're going to know where we're at. If it doesn't, if something doesn't happen, we're going to put a per capita raise in and it's not going to be five bucks. It's going to be about 10 bucks.

Question from the floor: What's the process for raising that per capita rate?

Kevin Owens: We would write a resolution. It would come to the Department Convention. The last time it was done, I happened to be the guy that did it. It was in a bad time because we thought we were the only thing that was going to happen, but national raised their per capita at the same time. We didn't have much fight on the floor about it, everybody understood why we're at. I mean, people complain about our dues being too high. That's not true. Go join another

organization, join the Elks, go join the Moose, go join Rotary. Most Rotary is 175, 200 bucks to join rotary. 50 bucks, I'm pretty sure 50 bucks, everybody in this room has 50 bucks through the year. 50, 60 bucks, I mean \$6 lattes, \$120 for a carton of cigarettes.

Kevin Owens: So, money, I always think this. People talk, I've heard this and the National Commander had this question. We talk about the price of PUFLs and it's too high. And we compared with other organizations. We're not other organizations. We're the American Legion, the largest veterans organization in the world. We do more for veterans than any other organization together. Done more. We continue to do more. You heard Ralph talk about V&R, what we do, the PACT Act, the GI bill. It's an investment in your organization. If you pay a thousand dollars for a PUFL, that's an investment in the future of this organization. It's an investment, to quote the National Commander, "It's not the price you pay to belong. It's the price you paid to become a member, to belong to become a member."

Question from the floor: And what's the department share of [inaudible 00:30:07]

Kevin Owens: The PUFL?

Comment and question from the floor: So, I know price on it for PUFL right now. What's the share of those [inaudible 00:30:18]?

Kevin Owens: I couldn't even tell you because it's based on your age. It's based on your Post dues. When I joined to become a PUFL 300 years ago, my Post dues was \$25. They were going to raise the dues to 30 and I happened to be turning 35 at the same time, it was \$597. Well, they changed the tables and they're higher now, so I couldn't even tell you.

Comment and question from the floor: No, I'm not talking about [inaudible 00:30:47]

Department Commander Don Weber: Let me answer the question. So the PUFL program is sponsored by National that money goes to National. They set it up in an account and then every year they send the current dues to the Post and to Department for that year's dues.

Kevin Owens: I cannot tell you, Don, can't tell you what that amount, dollar amount is. We know that you're going to get a portion and it all depends on your age and how much you're going to get. It's an actuary table and I have no idea how to figure that out. But we will get a portion.

Gene Hellickson Judge Advocate: Every member can check online to get the cost.

Kevin Owens: Yeah. So, any other questions? I can't believe there's not questions.

Speaker from the floor: I can.

Kevin Owens: You are the easiest group I've ever seen.

Speaker from the floor: We trust you.

Kevin Owens: I can tell you just in an investment part that we've done on our part, that we've done very well. We know that just like your own, it's going to go down and up and fluctuate with the stock market. We're moderate risk. We're still ahead where we would have been if we had to just left it where we were. We watch it very closely. Bob watches every dollar that goes... people send their travel claims in, every month we get a finance report from Lynn. I review it. Bob reviews it. If I see something or I don't, then I send it out to Permanent Finance Commission, and then it goes out to the Department Officers and the District Commanders, the Past Department Commanders. So, it's double, triple checked every month. They see everything that I see. Everything. So, we are so transparent.

Question from the floor: Yeah, what if somebody dies and leaves money?

Kevin Owens: Yeah, if you want to do like other organizations, if you want to put a little thing in your will, that you'd like to give us about 2 million, we'll take her. Tim Troupe's going to put the first million in.

Tim Troupe: I just got to win the lottery.

Kevin Owens: I'm sorry, my report. I sent it to my phone and it's doing that. Probably, when I get down it will work. So, we closed the meeting about 2:35. With that, Commander, I'd like to vote on the budget. **As a duly elected delegate to this convention, I so vote we pass the budget.**

**Barb Davis Post 158: Second.**

**Larry Wittmayer: We have a second. Do we have any discussion? I recognize Tim Troupe.**

Tim Troupe: There was a motion, a measure that was taken to the Resolution Assignment Committee yesterday at four, I think approximately 4:05. It was referred to the finance committee. Has that resolution been reviewed by the finance committee? Because, at this point you said you had no resolutions.

Kevin Owens: I've not received a resolution.

Tim Troupe: Then at that point I would state that there's still business pending for the Finance Committee, and they cannot be dissolved.

Kevin Owens: I didn't ask to be dissolved. I didn't ask to be dissolved. I just asked to pass the budget for next year.

Gene Hellickson: What's the resolution?

Larry Wittmayer: Okay, so we have a resolution on the floor. **I mean a motion on the floor (to pass the budget), excuse me. We have a second and we've had discussion. Any further discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? Motion passes.**

Terry Brown, District Seven. I think that was Dan Burks' proposal for the change in the membership dues for four months or three months. It was read yesterday. No, yeah, it was read yesterday.

Kevin Owens: Again, that never came up in our packet even. Our meeting was over by then.

Terry Brown: Yeah.

Kevin Owens: Might want to confer with him, how we... I would confer with you.

Larry Wittmayer: Gene, do you have any comments concerning where we stand with regard to a resolution that was in the resolution committee, did not get to the finance committee, therefore the finance commission is still in advance until. What do we do? Your [inaudible 00:36:38]?

Gene Hellickson: I would say that if it is possible that it be given to the committee today, so they have time to review it and present it at a later time, if our schedule allows. If not, it's going to have to wait until either the Post Convention DEC or the next regularly scheduled DEC after that, which would be in about October, September, October.

Larry Wittmayer: I would comment that if it is a finance issue, it has to be passed by the convention. Is that correct?

Gene Hellickson: If it involves the budget funding, yes. And if it affects the budget, then it is going to have to be at a convention.

Larry Wittmayer: Okay. Then the best thing we could do is get that resolution to the finance committee and have them review it.

Don Weber: Ward has that.

Larry Wittmayer: Ward, you've got it? Okay. Get it to the finance committee after you reviewed it. Possibly we could do something at the post DEC.

Don Weber: That wouldn't be a DEC either.

Gene Hellickson: But I have to correct myself.

Gene Hellickson: It's in my book. No, excuse me, my iPad. Sorry. I think I'm... I believe I spoke too soon.



Gene Hellickson: Article 15, Amendments with the Constitution and Bylaws. The Department Adjutant shall, not less than 45 days prior to the opening of such convention forward a copy of each proposed amendment to each post and also post the proposed amendment on the department website and Facebook. The Department Adjutant shall cause the proposed amendment to be published in the Oregon Legionnaire prior to such convention. A copy of each proposed amendment shall be furnished to each delegate with the convention package. All proposed amendments shall be in the form of written resolutions and shall specifically refer to the article and section sought to be amended. Therefore, we can't do anything with that amendment because it was not posted. It was not sent in in time to make it into the Legionnaire. And that is Article 15 of the Constitution of the Department of Oregon titled Amendments.

Larry Wittmayer: Thank you.

Gene Hellickson: So it's dead, for now.

Larry Wittmayer: According to the Judge Advocate then, this resolution is dead because it was not posted in the Legionnaire. It wasn't received soon enough to be posted in the Legionnaire for everybody to read it.

Larry Wittmayer: Yeah, that's right out of bylaws.

Kevin Owens: Commander, I request as a duly elected delegate to this convention, that the Finance Committee be dissolved.

Larry Wittmayer: Consider yourself dissolved.

**Children and Youth Commission Chairman Judy Johnston Report:** The children and youth committee met at 3:00 PM at the Elks lodge in back of the bar. We had six members of 10. We talked about programs available for children, Halloween pamphlets, a haunted house, Easter, Christmas, sports events, veterans in need, gifts and food for families in need and the Temporary Financial Assistance was discussed in the Post. For several years we've had over \$25,000 given out to families in Oregon under TFA. And I think you should be very proud of your fact that you've been assisting all these families. Any Post can submit TFAs for a family. Call department for the forms, follow the instructions, because the family must have a veteran and a child under 18 that is living in the house. Also discussed was setting up an area for children for the Post to play and have fun and games for the Post that have homes.

Go to the community centers, schools, stores, give out the pamphlets that the children, child safety, say no to drugs, and other information that is available at the national website under pamphlets. You're going to have to pay to have them printed yourself. National no longer prints and sends them out for free. You just need to go to the national website, Legion.org.

There were no resolutions presented to the committee and the meeting closed at 3:40pm.

Children and Youth Awards:

15 to 500 Members: Travis Moothart 184

500 Members and up: Aloha 104

The Department 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander Larry Wittmayer dissolved the Committee at the request of the Committee Chair. Seconded by Steve Adams, Immediate Past Commander.

**Constitution, By-Laws, and Internal Affairs Convention Committee Chairman Steve**

**Adams Report:** Constitution, By-Laws and Internal Affairs Convention Committee. We convened at 1400 hours for you Navy, four bells, on June 23rd, 2022. We adjourned at 1520. There was nine people present, which is good turnout. We had some good discussion. We had announced awards for American Legion Riders during that Committee and they were for:

Rider of the Year: Robert Baker Post 44

Riders Group Large, Eugene Post 83

Riders Group Small, Stayton Post 58

The next resolution to come in front of us was resolution C-22-01, the merger between districts seven and eight. Resolution was read by myself and there was a lot of discussion. Lot of good discussion in that group. I would like to thank the members that were there for the discussion. They brought out things that were just incredible, really a good job.

**When the discussion lasted over an hour and the recommendation was not to approve to the convention was not to approve the merger. Vote was unanimous.** Some of the reasons for that was it did not allow in the resolution, in the resolved part, for grandfathered Posts. Membership issues in that resolution were not addressed for either district. The membership did not feel, the committee members did not feel that the problems that were addressed were not the problems that needed to be solved in those two districts. It was voted upon to the convention, not to accept it.

There was some recommendations made to come back to the convention. The commander could form an ad hoc committee to assist district seven and district eight in solving some of their issues, not to solve it for them, but to assist them in solving and working with them to solve it, solve some of their problems.

Every district in the state has got problems. I would recommend that any district commander, if you've got problems in your district, reach out, get some help. When more people are working on the problem to solve it, the quicker it gets solved and usually the better it gets solved.

I make a motion to dissolve the Constitution, By-Laws, Internal Affairs Convention Committee. Seconded by Susan Hughes, Post 104.

It was debated whether to read resolutions, specifically C-22-01 regarding the merger of 7 and 8, that had not been approved by committee to move forward to the convention floor. Department Judge Advocate Gene Hellickson read Article 15 of the Constitution and then ruled that any resolution that potentially changes the Constitution and By-Laws, and C-22-01 does, must to be published according to the requirements outlined in Article 15 of the Constitution. Resolution C-22-01 failed to meet those requirements and was ruled out of order.

First Vice Commander Larry Wittmayer announced the Judge Advocate's ruling that Resolution C-22-01 failed to meet those requirements and was ruled out of order.

Richard Ramey Post 122 reminded everyone that there was a motion on the floor to dissolve the Constitution, By-Laws, Internal Affairs Convention Committee. First Vice Commander Larry Wittmayer called for a vote and the motion passed.

It was then decided by Gene Hellickson, Judge Advocate and announced by First Vice Commander Larry Wittmayer, that other resolutions could be read that do not affect the Constitution.

Ward Allen read Post 180 resolution number S-01-19 submitted by the convention commission.

**Resolution No. S-01-19** referred to \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted by: Convention Commission

WHEREAS: The 103rd Annual American Legion Convention was held from June 22nd through June 25th, 2022, in Beaverton, Oregon, and

WHEREAS: The City of Beaverton has opened their doors and rolled out the red carpet, by offering their full cooperation, therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City of Beaverton be notified by a copy of this resolution, of the sincere appreciation and thanks of The American Legion, Department of Oregon for having the 103rd Annual Department Convention in Beaverton, Oregon on June 22nd-25th, 2022.

Ward Allen Post 180: Hence a duly authorized delegate, I move to accept the resolution or make a motion to accept.

Larry Wittmayer Department First Vice Commander: Do I have a second?

Comrade Commander, David Solomon Commander Post 10: I second the nomination.

Larry Wittmayer Department First Vice Commander: Thank you. Any discussion? In the back?

Speaker from the floor: I would like to hear from the corporation chair on what Beaverton did and said, provided, otherwise to support this convention, sir.

Larry Wittmayer Department First Vice Commander: We can hear from Adam Gettmann from the corporation.

Adam Gettmann, Aloha 104, Convention Chairman. We notified and emailed Beaverton city council and city officials. We received no word back from any of them, so there really wasn't a lot of cooperation there.

Larry Wittmayer Department First Vice Commander: Okay. Thank you. Any further discussion? All those in favor?

Group: Aye.

Larry Wittmayer Department First Vice Commander: All those opposed?

Group: Nay.

Larry Wittmayer Department First Vice Commander: Okay. Now we'll do a hand vote. All those in favor? Up high. Opposed? Overwhelming. **Resolution does not pass.**

Ward Allen read Resolution S-02-17 submitted by the Convention Commission:

**Resolution No. S-02-17** Referred to \_\_\_\_\_ Committee

Submitted by: Convention Commission

WHEREAS: The 103rd Annual American Legion Convention was held from June 22<sup>nd</sup> through June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022, in Beaverton, Oregon, and

WHEREAS: The Courtyard Marriot, Hampton Inn & Suites, Home2 Suites, Holiday Inn, and Springhill Suites have opened their doors and rolled out the red carpet, by offering their full cooperation, and

WHEREAS: the hotel and RV facilities provided for this convention have been of the highest quality, therefore be it

RESOLVED: The Courtyard Marriot, Hampton Inn & Suites, Home2 Suites, Holiday Inn, and Springhill Suites be notified by a copy of this resolution, of the sincere appreciation and thanks of The American Legion, Department of Oregon for having the 103<sup>rd</sup> Annual Department Convention in Florence, Oregon on June 22<sup>nd</sup> through June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

Adam Gettmann, Aloha Post 104: Commander, I make a motion to approve this resolution.

John Reish, Adjutant, Crook County post 29. I second the motion.

Larry Wittmayer: Any discussion? All those in favor?

Group: Aye.

Larry Wittmayer: Opposed? Resolution passes.

Ward Allen read Resolution No. S-03-17:

**Resolution No. S-03-17** referred to \_\_\_\_\_ Committee

Submitted by: Convention Commission

**WHEREAS:** the 103<sup>rd</sup> Annual American Legion Convention was held from June 22 through June 24, 2021, in Beaverton, Oregon, and

**WHEREAS:** Forest Hills Golf Course has opened their doors and out the red carpet, by offering their full cooperation, and

**WHEREAS:** the staff at the Forest Hills Golf Course by offering to all participants their assistance of the highest quality, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED:** that the Forest Hills Golf Course be notified by a copy of this resolution, of the sincere appreciation and thanks of The American Legion, Department of Oregon

Ward Allen: I make a motion to approve this resolution.

Susan Hughes Post 104: I second the motion.

Larry Wittmayer Department First Vice Commander: Any discussion? Call for a vote. All those in favor?

Group: Aye.

Larry Wittmayer Department First Vice Commander: Resolution passes. I apologize. Did anyone vote nay? **Resolution passes.**

Ward Allen read Resolution No. S-04-17:

**Resolution No. S-04-17** referred to \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted by: Convention Commission

**WHEREAS:** We are fully aware of the splendid cooperation that exists between The American Legion and the Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Oregon, and

**WHEREAS:** We are sincerely appreciative of the faithful support and many courtesies accorded our Department and members of The American Legion, now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED:** That The American Legion, Department of Oregon, assembled in Beaverton, Oregon at this 103rd Annual Convention express to Detachment Commander, Carl Pawlik, our grateful appreciation for his interest and recognition, and be it further be

**RESOLVED:** A copy of this resolution is presented to Detachment Commander Carl Pawlik and to his home Squadron 61.

Ward Allen: As a duly authorized delegate, I so move.

John Reish, Adjutant, Crook County post 29: Second.

Larry Wittmayer: Any discussion? All those in favor?

Group: Aye.

Larry Wittmayer: All those Opposed? **Resolution passes**

Ward Allen read Resolution No. S-05-17:

**Resolution No. S-05-17** referred to \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted by: Convention Commission

**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 sincerely appreciative of the faithful support and many courtesies accorded our Department and members of The American Legion, now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED:** That The American Legion, Department of Oregon, assembled in Beaverton, Oregon at this 103rd Annual Convention express to Department President, Debra Godwin, our grateful appreciation for her interest and recognition, and be it further

**RESOLVED:** A copy of this resolution will be presented to President Debra Godwin and her Unit 21.

Ward Allen: I so move.

John Staub, Aloha Post 104. I second the motion.

Larry Wittmayer: Any discussion? All those in favor?

Group: Aye.

Larry Wittmayer: Opposed? **Resolution passes.**

Ward Allen read Resolution No. S-06-17:

**Resolution No. S-06-17** referred to \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted by: Convention Commission

**WHEREAS:** The 103rd Annual American Legion Convention was held from June 22nd through June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022, in Beaverton, Oregon, and

**WHEREAS:** Adam Gettmann Post 104, Aloha, Oregon from District 1 was the Host Post, and

**WHEREAS:** Adam Gettmann Post 104, Aloha, Oregon handled all the registration and put on a super Golf Tournament, and

WHEREAS: Adam Gettmann Post 104, Aloha, Oregon did a super job of making all the Legionnaires feel welcome, therefore be it

RESOLVED: That Adam Gettmann Post 104, Aloha, Oregon contributed to the success of the Convention, be notified by a copy of this Resolution, of the sincere appreciation and thanks of The American Legion, Department of Oregon for hosting the 103rd Annual Department Convention in Beaverton, Oregon on June 22 – 25, 2022.

Ward Allen: I so move.

Steve Adams: I second the motion.

Larry Wittmayer: Any discussion? I'm sure there is going to be a discussion. All those in favor?

Group: Aye.

Larry Wittmayer: Opposed? **Resolution passes.**

Ward Allen read Resolution No. S-12-17:

**Resolution No. S-12-17** referred to \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted by: Convention Commission

WHEREAS: The 103rd Annual American Legion Convention was held from June 22nd through June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022, in Beaverton, Oregon, and

WHEREAS: District 1 was the co-host, and

WHEREAS: Post 104 handled all the meals, the Convention Book, all the preliminary groundwork, and

RESOLVED: That District 1 and Post 104 contributed to the success of the Convention, be notified by a copy of this Resolution, of the sincere appreciation and thanks of The American Legion, Department of Oregon for hosting the 103rd Annual Department Convention in Beaverton, Oregon on June 22nd – 25th, 2022.

Ward Allen: I would like to make a motion to accept.

Allen Buzzard Post 184: Commander, I second the appreciation of Aloha Post 104.

Larry Wittmayer: Thank you very much. We have a second. Do we have any discussion? All those in favor?

Group: Aye.

Larry Wittmayer: Opposed? **Resolution passes.**

Larry Wittmayer: Do you want to dissolve your commission?

Ward Allen: I would like to dissolve that commission.

Larry Wittmayer: Thank you. Your commission is dissolved and I got to get my glasses on.

Bob Huff: Could we vote on it, Commander?

Larry Wittmayer: Do we have a second?

Discussion around submission time of the next resolution from Willamette Falls Post 5 on amending the POW/MIA ceremony. Reading of the resolution allowed.

Ward Allen: Ward Allen again, Post 180. We were talking about the proposal to amend the POW, MIA ceremony.

**Be it Resolved** by Post number five, district eight of the American Legion Department of Oregon in a regular meeting.

One, that we move to propose a following addition to the POW, MIA ceremony after the line, page 42 second paragraph, line six of the American Legion Officer's Guide in 2022. "Let us rededicate ourselves to this vital endeavor", inserting the line, remembering the USS Pueblo. Now being read as, let us rededicate ourselves to this vital endeavor, remember the USS Pueblo.

Two, be for the resolved that a streamer remembering the USS Pueblo, be added to all Legions, a. POW, MIA flags, b. national colors, if there was no POW/MIA, c. the streamer is four inches high and three feet long, black material with white printing. **This resolution was rejected at the committee.**

Steve Adams Immediate Past Commander. I make a motion that we follow the recommendations of the committee and disapprove this. Thank you.

Bob Huff, delegate to this convention from Post 192: I second.

Larry Wittmayer: We have a motion and a second. Do we have any discussion? No discussion heard. All those in favor of... Of rejecting this resolution, signify by saying, aye.

Group: Aye.

Opposed? Nay.

Gene Hellickson: There was one.

**Larry Wittmayer: Resolution passes that we are going to reject it.**



Ward Allen, Constitution and By-Laws Chairman read the next resolution also from Willamette Falls Post 5:

**WHEREAS** populations in the post is decreasing,

**WHEREAS** districts are having issues filling other positions,

**WHEREAS** there are other posts that are grandfathered outside of their physical district,

**WHEREAS** there is a need to realign the districts in the state of Oregon to a better balance,

be resolved that the following occur:

The Department Commander appoint a commission to convene, to review, to submit to the December in six months' time, December 2022, the following: a. A plan to realign the number of districts to a smaller number, b. A timeline of change upon ratification of the convention. c. This plan is to be reviewed by the DEC and then submitted to the Oregon Department Convention for ratification at the 2023 Convention.

Gene Hellickson: Point of order.

Larry Wittmayer: Hear from the Judge Advocate.

Gene Hellickson Judge Advocate: As stated earlier, all resolutions that affect the Constitution and By-Laws have certain requirements of when there to be published and distributed. Again, this resolution has not made that timeframe and should be ruled out of order.

Larry Wittmayer: I don't recognize you, Tim. Please sit down. There's no discussion concerning a judgment by the Judge Advocate. Thank you.

Tim Troupe: There can be an appeal to the chair.

Gene Hellickson: I didn't hear that.

Larry Wittmayer: He says he wants to appeal that judgment.

Tim Troupe: Appeal to the chair.

Larry Wittmayer: Okay, then we'll hear an appeal.

Tim Troupe, Willamette Falls Post five: The measure as written does not make any changes. It makes a request to do a review to then submit the changes at the next convention. There is no actual change to the constitution or bylaws. It is a request to do a committee, to do a research study on it and come back and give us information so we can make changes. Therefore, the

decision the judge advocate ruling is out of order would in fact be out of order because he is mistaken in the purpose of the measure.

Larry Wittmayer: I'll hear from the Judge Advocate.

Gene Hellickson: We have a Constitution and By-Laws Committee. They should be the ones that review this, not form another committee to do the same thing that the Constitution and By-Laws Committee is already tasked to do. [inaudible 01:26:51]

Larry Wittmayer: Okay, the judgment of the Judge Advocate, this resolution should be referred to the Constitution and By-Laws Committee. Oh, Membership and Post Activities, sorry. Is that correct? Is that what you said?

Gene Hellickson: No.

Larry Wittmayer: Okay. Come back up. Say it again.

Gene Hellickson: Constitution and By-Laws.

Larry Wittmayer: Constitution and By-Laws, that's what I said.

Gene Hellickson: Yeah.

Larry Wittmayer: Oh, okay. All right. I looked at you and I thought you disagreed. Okay. So what we are going to do is refer this to the Constitution and By-Laws. Now do I have a motion to do that?

Tim Troupe, Willamette Falls, post five: I wholeheartedly make the motion to refer it to said committee so they can take care of it and we not have extra stuff.

Larry Wittmayer: Okay. Do I have a second? I recognize Bob Huff.

Bob Huff, delegate Post 192 to this convention: I second that motion.

Larry Wittmayer: Okay. Now that we have a second, do we have any discussion? All those in favor?

Group: Aye.

**Larry Wittmayer: Opposed? Motion passes.**

Larry Wittmayer announced that it was 10 AM and that the Convention would recess for 10 minutes.

## **Convention reconvened at 10:15AM**

**Legislative Convention Committee Chairman John Lee Report:** John Lee Post 184, Legislative Commission. So, the Convention Legislative Committee met at 1404 on June 23rd, 2022, in the Elks Lodge, here in Beaverton. There were three members present. I was the Chair. William Devereaux from Post 58 and Nick Juarez from Post 104 were present. We discussed some of the bills that had gone through the 2022 session and the ones that failed and why. We also talked about the 2023 session that was coming up and how bills are submitted, how they get in and how to intervene and put your input into them, and when and how you do that and how you track them through OLIS, which is the Oregon Legislative Information System.

John Lee made the motion that the Legislative Convention Committee be dissolved. John Reish, Adjutant Crook County 29 seconded the motion.

**Membership and Post Activities Chairman Dan Burks Report:** The Membership Committee met outside the Elks Club located in Beaverton, Oregon. We convened at 1400 June 23<sup>rd</sup>. We had eight legionnaires in attendance. No resolutions were presented. Awards were discussed. I'll go through this and then we'll go through the awards. I then opened a discussion about approving membership with an enthusiastic response that is included, but not limited to expanding our Riders, evites to meetings, buddy checks and round table discussions and more recruiting materials and several more. After a strong round table conversation, we closed our meeting at 1503. We did have a list of awards:

Dan Burks read letters from National Commander Paul E. Dillard for the revitalization of Vernonia Post 119, the appreciation of Commander Thomas A Harris and Commander Damien Cox.

“Welcome back. Dear members, welcome back. It is exciting to know the American Legion will once again have a presence in the local community. This is an opportunity for the Post to reestablish itself as the leader in the community by providing support and guidance through our programs. It is important for the Post to be an asset in the community. This can be accomplished through determination and teamwork. We pledge this every time we recite our preamble. In the last clause, it states for us to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship, our devotion to mutual helpfulness. These are not just words to recite, but the ideals to which the Post should be guided. On behalf of a grateful American Legion, welcome back. Sincerely, Paul E. Dillard, National Commander”.

“Dear Commander Harris. We sincerely appreciate your assistance in the revitalization efforts of Post 119 in the Department of Oregon. I want to personally thank you for a job well done. Very good. The American Legion was founded on four pillars of assisting veterans and ensuring a strong national defense promoting Americanism and preparing our children in youth to be good citizens. Now that Post 119 has been revitalized and is active again, the Post and its members can

be an asset in the community through our many outstanding programs. This is an example that you and other members of this Post are still serving America. Again, thank you. The revitalization was well worth your time and investment, and, on behalf of a grateful American Legion, I want you to know that we really appreciate your efforts. Sincerely, Paul E. Dillard, National Commander”.

“Dear Commander Cox. We sincerely appreciate your assistance in the revitalization efforts of Post 119 in the Department of Oregon, and I want to personally thank you for a job well done. The American Legion was founded on four pillars of assisting veterans to try and strong national defense, promote Americanism and preparing our children and youth to be good citizens. Now that Post 119 has been revitalized and is active again, the Post and its members can be an asset to the community throughout many outstanding programs. This is an example that you and other members of the Post are still serving America. Again, thank you. The revitalization was well worth your time and investment, and, on behalf of a grateful American Legion, I want you to know that we really appreciate your efforts. Sincerely, Paul E. Dillard, National Commander”.

All-Time High Award: Prairie City, Post 106.

100% District Goal Award: District 1, Lou Neubecker and District 10, Dan Burks.

100% Family Award. (Post, Unit and/or Squadron all made 100% goal): McMinnville Post 21, Prineville Post 29, Hermiston Post 37, Florence Post 59, Ontario Post 67, Sheridan Post 75, Seaside Post 99, Aloha Post 104, Carlton Post 173, Hillsboro Post 6, Clatskanie Post 68, Sherwood Post 56, Tigard Post 158, Williams Post 50 and Stayton Post 58.

First to Goal: Pendleton Post 23, Bandon Post 26, Grants Pass Post 28, Baker City Post 41, Williams Post 50, Mosier Post 55, Stayton Post 58, Florence Post 59, Junction City Post 61, Burns Post 63, Port Orford Post 76, Sisters Post 86, St. Johns Post 98, Prairie City Post 106, Vernonia Post 119, Sutherlin Post 121, Fallin Post 123 and Dana King Post 137.

100% Honor Goal: Keizer Post 17, Pendleton Post 23, Bandon Post 26, Grants Pass Post 28, Baker City Post 41, Williams Post 50, Mosier Post 55, Stayton Post 58, Florence Post 59, Junction City Post 61, Burns Post 63, Ontario Post 67, Wallowa Post 72, Sheridan Post 75, Port Orford Post 76, Sisters Post 86, Ione Post 95, St. Johns Post 98, Prairie City, Post 106, Vernonia Post 119, Sutherlin Post 121, Fallin Post 123, Sandy Post 127, Athena Post 130, Dana King Post 137, Oakland Post 152, Carlton Post 173 and White City Post 192.

100% Post Goal: Washington Post 2, Bend Post 4, Hillsboro Post 6, Klamath Falls Post 8, Keizer Post 17, The Dalles Post 19, McMinnville Post 21, Hood River Post 22, Pendleton Post 23, Bandon Post 26, Crook County Post 29, Hermiston Post 37, Baker City Post 41, St Helens Post 42, Tillamook Post 47, Williams Post 50, Mosier Post 55, Sherwood Post 56, Stayton Post 58, Florence Post 59, Harney County Post 63, Ontario Post 67, T. Les Galloway Post 68, Wallowa Post 72, Carl Douglas Post 74, Sheridan Post 75, Port Orford Post 76, Sisters Post 86, Ione Post

95, St Johns Post 98, Seaside Post 99, Aloha Post 104, Prairie Post 106, Vernonia Post 119, Sutherlin Post 121, Fallin Post 123, Beaverton Post 124, Madras Post 125, Nehalem Post 126, Sandy Post 127, Athena Post 130, Dana King Post 137, Oakland Post 152, Tigard Post 158, Cannon Beach Post 168, Carlton Memorial Post 173, Musicians Post 185 and White City Post 192.

Veterans Award Grenada, Lebanon, Panama and Persian Gulf/War on Terror Conflicts:

Posts 15 to 100 Wilsonville Post 65,

Posts 101 to 250 Stayton Post 58,

Posts 251-500 McMinnville Post 21

Posts 500 and up Milwaukie Post 180.

Dan Burks requested the committee be dissolved. Seconded by David Solomon.

**Public Relations and Publications Committee Renee Ohler Report:** The Public Relations and Publications Committee met in the backroom yesterday at 1500. I was a replacement Chair for Charlie Schmidt. We had a very small group. Wilsonville Post 65 Jerry Outslay and Banks Post 90, Philip Kollas were two that came in. Had a round table discussion, things outside of Legion publications that they can do in their community, hooking onto other veteran's events for non-Legion events, publications and all that stuff. We had no resolutions to be discussed by the committee. We have 16 Public Relation Awards.

Public Relations Awards: Milwaukie Post 180, Carlton Post 173, Tigard Post 158, Vernonia Post 119, Prairie City Post 106, Mt. Angel Post 89, Harney County Post 63, Stayton Post 58, Bay Area Post 34, Calvin Funk Post 32, Crook County Post 29, Bandon Post 26, Frank Burns Post 25, Albany Post 10, Hillsboro Post 6, and Eugene Post 3.

Newsletter Awards:

Membership 15 to 500: Hillsboro Post 6

Membership 501 and up: Milwaukie Post 180.

Renee Ohler made a motion to dissolve the Public Relations Committee for this convention. Cory Brockmann, Department Second Vice seconded that motion.

**Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Convention Committee Chairman Bob Huff Report:**

The Rehabilitation Commission met yesterday afternoon at 1500 in the backroom here. There were only three members that were present: Larry Hill, Post 16, Chuck Zeitler, Post 10 and myself, Post 192 as the Chair. We had no resolutions. We did have copies of the VA & R Code of Procedures, which we went over for suggestions and talked about this year and what's been going on the last two years. We reviewed that and made some of our own recommendations for the future. We adjourned at 1531 yesterday afternoon and we do have awards.

Rehabilitation VA & R Award:

Membership of 15 to 500: Burns Post 63

Membership 501 and up: Albany Post 10

Bob Huff: I request that the Convention Committee for VA & R be dissolved. Adam Gettmann Aloha Post 104 seconded the motion.

**Time and Place Convention Commission -Kevin Owens (for Jon Marsh) Report:**

Commander, John Marsh gives his regrets, he's not here. He's in the big porcelain in the sky. He's got some medical issues, so he's not here right now. The Time and Place Convention Committee met yesterday at 3:06 PM at the Beaverton Elks Lodge in the bar. Roll call was taken. A Code of Procedures were handed out on how to hold and run a convention. It's very important that when you get those code of procedures, as probably Adam can contest, that you need to read those very closely because it could be very costly to your Post if you don't because there's some requirements that a Post needs to do.

Just a small one is rooms. You're required to give five rooms at the cost of your corporation, so please if you're going to hold a convention, have a look at those. There was no resolution to be acted upon. There was a great group discussion on future locations of conventions. It's in negotiations for the next department convention will be held in McMinnville, hosted by Post 21. Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:38 PM.

Kevin Owens requested the Time and Place Committee be dissolved. John Cannon seconded the motion.

**Resolutions Convention Commission Terry Brown Report:** Terry Brown, Resolutions Convention Committee. We met at 1420 yesterday and we had seven members present. We had seven of the boilerplate resolutions, which is the thank you to the golf course and the hotels and whatever that be, and then four resolutions that were submitted. Again, a couple of those were just submitted at that time, so I don't know if they were shipping forward or not.

As you can see, lots of discussion that went on for quite a while. It was a good discussion, a lot of good points brought up. Basically, the membership resolution that changed the amount that was going to be collected on a trial basis, reviewed the two that Tim Troupe had submitted. One for the changes to the districts. The other was the ... POW MIA [inaudible 32:12]. And then the other one was the Finance Resolution. The one thing I liked to bring onto was that we didn't finish our discussion until 1600 and there doesn't seem to be enough time because those resolutions have to be recommended by the committee, then forwarded to our three other committees. I couldn't have got mine to Kevin because he had already disbanded by 1600, so I don't know how we can adjust that timeframe in there. So anyway, we adjourned at 1600.

Terry Brown made a motion to dissolve the committee. Seconded by Juan Palacios Second District.

**National Security and Foreign Relations Commission Greg Marvin Report:** Thank you, Commander. The National Security and Foreign Relations Commission. Tonight, we're having our awards for the Law Enforcement Officer and Firefighter of the Year awards. They'll be given out at the banquet. Our firefighter is Brent Wellington from Hillsboro Fire and Rescue. Our law enforcement officer is Detective Michael Day from Oregon City Police Department. This year we have the honor that both our firefighter and law enforcement officers were Western Region's winners, so they'll get their awards for that again tonight and they'll both be going on to national contests for the National Firefighter and Law Enforcement Officer of the Year. We don't know when we'll hear on that.

Blood Donor Award Certificates: Carlton Memorial Post 173, Tigard, Post 158, Condon Post 25. Albany Post 10 and Milwaukie Post 180 and Wilsonville Post 65.

The Color Guard Awards:

Membership size 15-500: Carlton Memorial Post 173

Membership size 501 and up: Milwaukie Post 180

Historian Awards: Have not been determined yet.

The Honor Guard Award:

Membership size 15-500: Carlton Memorial 173

Membership size 501 and up: Milwaukie Post 180

The Ritual Team Award:

Membership size 15-500: Carlton Memorial 173

Membership size 501 and up: and Albany Post 10

Greg Marvin made a motion to dissolve the National Security Finance Commission. John Staub: Post 104 Seconded.

**S. Flynn Phillips Department Adjutant presents Certificate of Commendation to Geanne Horne:** You know, this department is run by volunteers. All of you are volunteers and some volunteer more than others. Some volunteer in spite of others, so I'd like to recognize somebody that's been doing a layout for the Legionnaire for the last three years and did more than that.

"Department of Oregon Certificate of Commendation. This Certificate of Commendation is gratefully presented to Geanne Horne in recognition of your outstanding volunteer service as the Oregon Legionnaire Magazine, the layout person for the American Legion, Department of Oregon, and your many hours of assistance to the incoming administrative assistants, Mary Laudon and Annika Jorgensen, in helping them navigate the myriad of tasks needed to make the office run smoothly."

"And especially during convention preparation and assisting the SAL Past National Vice-Commander Rob Liebenow with his new SAL tasks as he prepares to be their detachment commander, if he should be elected."

"Your loyal dedication and commitment to duty directly affected the areas you serve. This brought great credit upon yourself, the department, community, state and nation and, also, the auxiliary."

First Vice Commander Larry Wittmayer introduced the Department of Oregon American Legion Auxiliary.

First Vice Commander Larry Wittmayer recessed the convention at 11AM and announced the Convention would reconvene at 12:45.

### **Convention Reconvened at 12:45PM**

Department Commander Don Weber announced that there was an update to the old caucus style format and that there would now be a town hall style format where candidates would be called on to give some comments and then the floor would have an opportunity to ask some questions.

Tim Troupe Willamette Falls Post 5 was recognized and announced that their Post had decided to donate \$500 to the department to help with the budget and challenged every post in this department to do their best and match Post 5 if possible. The challenge was accepted by Tigard Post 158, Clatskanie Post 68 and La Pine Post 45. Commander Don Weber acknowledged that the pledges would be of great assistance to the budget and further pledges would be accepted throughout the day.

Department Commander Don Weber called on Larry Wittmayer for comments on his candidacy for Department Commander. Larry Wittmayer confirmed that his speech for Department Commander would be short and said, "The short of it is, I'm developing a team. Do you want to be on it?"

Commander Don Weber asked for questions from the floor and hearing none, recognized Cory Brockmann for comments as the nominee for First Vice Commander.

Second Vice Commander Cory Brockmann addressed the members of the 103rd delegation to the Department of Oregon Convention and special guests from North Oregon or Southern Washington. I'm glad you all can be here. In your program, this is me. It's a pretty good likeness. You see it in some post offices and other shady areas. But it is me. I made it to eight of our 10 districts, caucuses nine of our 10 districts and participated in meetings or other functions. I drove through the great district of six on my way to watch Air Force beat Boise State last fall but didn't make their caucus this year. And I think it was district seven, I didn't. Made their meetings, but not their caucus. I spent a great amount of time this past year working to help our department elevate its visibility as part of commander Don's reconnecting veterans and post pandemic marching forward and starting to grow back an energetic department. There were some



successes I'll share briefly and some failures. Failure's never a bad thing if you learn something from it. But one example is we work pretty hard. And I also serve you as the revenue subcommittee chair on the Oregon American Legion foundation. We work really hard with the Rose Festival Foundation. We could not pony up \$45,000 to \$75,000 to meet their foundation's requirements to be in the Rose Festival. We're in good stead. Anything can happen in the future. Comrade Kevin shared the Hillsboro Hops had great outreach. The Oregon International Airshow three days, fantastic work, lots of engagement. We had VSOs from Washington county there. We're working with the Portland Timbers and the Portland Thorns major League Soccer League. They're receptive to our ideas. We'd like to hold nonperishable food drives. So, members that aren't of the American Legion family can contribute cans of food that would all go to support veterans in need. We don't have a game set that we're going to be recognized, but that's in the works. The Portland Trail Blazers, we're going to reach out to them probably here in late July.

Second Vice Commander Cory Brockmann continued. The Winterhawks. We reached out to the Portland Winterhawks, which is a youth hockey team. Last year, it was in December. They held their veterans appreciation night in November, which makes sense. But they did us the good courtesy of posting a VSO or a PSA, saying thank you to all veterans who served. It's those kinds of things, it doesn't seem like much, but we need to create that visibility. As all the great blue-cappers that do the boots on the ground to work the renewal of membership, we're trying to expand the veterans or the members in our department. So, a lot of that's what we're doing, we're going to keep doing that through next year. And I'll share just briefly a real exciting nugget. We're working with the national headquarters, marketing leadership, Kimberly Meesters and Mary Jo Dial. We're trying to create a relationship with this department and Dutch Brothers Coffee. Dutch Brothers is headquartered in Grants Pass Oregon, two brothers that moved off the dairy farm and started a business. One of the brothers has since passed away. Dutch Brothers is found in 12 Western states with 538 coffee shops. And they are largely young people oriented. Be The One. It's not just a campaign to talk about. It's a campaign of action. And I think that's what we try to demonstrate with our buddy check packs that we've made ourselves. We're about 4,000 packs made, and we use them as outreach tools to engage veterans.

If this campaign takes off, what we hope to do is cash transaction roll ups. If you've been to grocery stores or other retail stores, and then say, "Would you like to donate the remainder of your change to the American Legion? Why not? And help support our youth programs." We'd like to see the, Be the One campaign put on every paper and beverage cup that comes out of Dutch Brothers. The idea's already through the national leadership is if they can attach a relationship with the Indy Car partnership, we have with Chip Ganassi Racing, there's a lot of races that happen outside the 12 Western states. So, it's a real opportunity as we're raising the Be The One campaign in our Western division, Dutch Brothers are getting their brand out in the Eastern half of the US. So, there's lots of ideas about having Dutch Brothers pay for coffee provided at all the race tracks, pay for all the weekend's new memberships that get signed up.

Again, it's just a nugget, but it's something to be very excited about if we can make it happen. My name is Cory Brockmann, and it's been an honor to serve you this year. Thank you.

Dan Burks was recognized to make comments as the candidate for Second Vice Commander. My name is Dan Burks. I'm the District 10 Commander. I'd like you to join me in a mission. My mission here is to help build the Department of Oregon this next year. If elected I'll have oversight of your guys' programs, also our potential commander to be would like me to remain as membership chair. We would like to build that as well. I can't do that by myself. So, I'm going to keep this short and ask you for your vote and join me in my mission to help build the Department of Oregon.

Bob Huff was asked to make comments as the candidate for Finance Officer. Bob Huff proposed that the outgoing Commander take the job. No, if anybody would like the job, I'd be happy to support you. I've been in it, I think, nine years plus being district commander three years. John was in it and then I've been in seven years, eight years since. But I was doing the job when I was a vice-commander commander. But yeah, I'll stay for another year because I also do other stuff. But I thank you very much.

Department Commander Don Weber asked if there were any questions for any of the candidates and called for any other nominations for Department Officers. The Credential Committee Report was then requested.

### **Credentials Committee Finance Officer Bob Huff Report:**

Those of you who have been here before, and most of you have, this is going to take a while. What I'm going to do is read each post in the department and how many votes that they have as of right now. Portland, post 1, has zero votes. Washington, post 2, has three votes. Eugene, post 3, has three votes. Bend, post 4, has three votes. Willamette Falls, post 5, has three plus one for four votes. Hillsboro, post 6, has four plus one delegate vote for five votes. Silverton, post 7, has zero votes. Klamath falls, post 8, has five votes. Capital, post number 9, has four votes. Albany, post 10, has seven votes. Corvallis, post 11, has three plus one delegate vote for four votes. Astoria, post 12, has zero votes. Ashland, post 14, has zero votes. Medford, post 15, has four votes.

Umpqua, post 16, has four plus one delegate vote for five votes. Kaiser post 17 has two votes. The Dalles post 19 has three votes. Carl B Fenton, post 20 has three votes. Can you hear me in the back? Thank you. McMinnville, post 21, has six plus two delegate votes for eight votes. Hood River post 22 has zero votes. Post 23, Pendleton, has two votes Post 24, Milton-Freewater, has three plus one delegate for four votes. Post 25, Condon, has zero votes. Post 26, Bandon, has three votes. Post 28, Grants Pass, has five votes. Post 29, Crook County, has four plus one delegate vote for five votes. Post 30, Gresham, has no votes. Post 32, Cottage Grove, has three

votes. Post 33, Independence, has two votes. Post 34, Bay Area, has four plus two votes for six votes. Post 36, Coquille, has six votes or has zero votes.

I'm sorry. Post 37, Hermiston, has zero votes. Post 40, Springfield, has zero votes. 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 zero votes. Post 45, La Pine, has six votes. Post 46, Woodburn, has two votes. Post 47, Tillamook, has zero votes. Post 48, Warm Springs, has zero votes. Post 49, Moro, has two votes. Post 50, Williams Valley, has two plus one for three votes. Post 51, Santiam, has eight plus two delegate votes for 10 votes. Post 55, Mosier, has zero votes. Post 56, Argonne, has four votes. Post 57, Lester Rees, has three votes. Post 58, Stayton, has four votes. Post 59, Florence, has zero votes. Post 61, Tri-Counties, has three plus one delegate at large for four votes. Post 62 Reedsport has zero votes.

Post 63, Harney County, has three plus one delegate at large for four votes. Post 64, Oakridge, has two votes. Post 65, Wilsonville, has three plus one delegate large for four votes. Post 67, Ontario, has three plus one delegate large for four votes. Post 68, Clatskanie... The one that Dan can't pronounce either... has three votes. [inaudible 00:21:16] yeah, and I should have said that, but I'm going to this. Post 69, Rogue River, has zero votes. Post 70, Glenn Morrison, has two votes. Post 72, Wallowa has two votes. Post 74, Carl Douglas, has three plus one delegate large for four votes. Post 75, Sheridan, has three votes. Post 76, Port Orford, has zero votes. Post 77, Ellis Tracy, has zero votes. Post 79, Nyssa, has zero votes. Post 83, Santa Clara, has zero votes. Post 84, Malin, has three votes. Post 86, Sisters, has three plus two delegates at large for five votes.

Post 87, Hepner has zero votes. Post 89, Mount Angel, has three votes. Post 90, Banks, has three votes. Post 95, Ione, has zero votes. Post 96, Vale, has zero votes. Post 97, Lincoln City, has zero votes. Post 98, St. John's, has excuse me, zero votes. Excuse me. Three votes. Post 99, Seaside, has six plus two delegates large for eight votes. Post 100, Klamath, has zero votes. Post 104, Aloha, has seven plus two delegates at large for nine votes. Post 106, Prairie City, has three votes. Post 108, Corbett, has zero votes. Post 110, Aurora, has zero votes. Post 115, Dayville, has zero votes. Post 116, Newport, has five votes. Post 119, Vernonia, has two plus one delegate large for three votes. Post 121, Sutherland, as zero votes. Post 122, Canby, as five votes. Post 123, Fallin, has three votes. Post 124, Beaverton, has three votes.

Post 125, Jefferson County, has two votes. Post 126, Nehalem, has zero votes. Post 127, Sandy, has no vote. Post 129, Central Point, has three votes. Post 131, Athena, has zero votes. Post 131, Deer Ridge, has zero votes. Post 133, Sweet Home, has two votes. Post 134, F and J Raven has three votes. Post 135, Wamic, has zero votes. Post 136, Salem, has zero votes. Post 137, Dana King, has two votes. Post 140, Mission, has zero votes. Post 148, Monument, has zero votes. Post 149, Pioneer, has two votes. Post 150, Oregon Trail, has three votes. Post 152, Oakland, has two votes. Post 157, Joseph, has zero votes. Post 158, Tigard, has eight plus one delegate at large for nine votes. Post 159, Mill City, has zero votes.

Post 164, Spray, has zero votes. Post 168, Cannon Beach, has three votes. Post 173, Carlton Memorial, has three votes. Post 180, Milwaukee, has eight plus one delegate at large for nine votes. Post 184, Brownsville, has three votes. Post 185, Musicians, has zero votes. Post 192, White City, has three plus one delegate at large for four votes.

I'm not finished. A post in standing as all the emails I've been sending, out is when the post has paid the delegate fees. Out of our 112 posts, we had 80 posts in good standing. Of the 80 posts and good standing, we have 54 posts here, which is 67.5% of our posts. We have to have 51% of those 80 which we have. **Commander, we have a quorum.**

Department Commander Don Weber asked for those making a nomination speech to come to the front podium and seconds to give their seconding speech from the floor stand. Five minutes for the nominating speech, three minutes for the seconds

Larry Edwards, Commander Post 65 Wilsonville, nominated Larry Wittmayer for Department Commander. I do this with a great deal of pride and with a great deal of confidence and trust. I've worked alongside Larry for the last few years within our post. I served as his post adjutant as he was Post Commander. He has served as our Post Adjutant as I have been Post Commander. I know his level of commitment to the American Legion. I know how hard he is willing to work to get the things done that we need to do. Larry was one of two people that founded our post. He knows how to build an organization. He built us from nothing. We're a little better than nothing now, we're at least 55 members solid. And we're looking to get bigger than that, but I trust in him to do what must be done to get the Legion moving forward here again in the Department of Oregon. He has got experience at this point. He has worked for the last three years. He worked with Steve Adams as Second Vice Commander. He worked with Don Weber as First Vice Commander. And the value of that is we all expect the department commander to know what the heck they're doing when they come into the office. You've got to have been there to know the groundwork, to know what to do. I know he's done that now. In serving in those positions over the last three years, you get exposure. They have worked with all the committees throughout the organization. They have traveled around the state of Oregon and visited various districts in posts. At this point, I know he understands the Department of Oregon. He understands the state. He understands what must happen here to get us going again, to get our membership back up. Really, I'm impressed with the team that he's got coming along with him. I'm enthusiastic and looking forward very much to see what they can do for this coming year. With that commander, I nominate Larry Wittmayer as our next Department Commander.

Dave Solomon seconds the motion for Larry Wittmayer as the commander of the department. Larry knows how to listen to two sides of something, does not judge, and would lead this department out of financial problems and would definitely know that everybody would be behind this. God bless him. You'll win.

Commander Don Weber asked if there were any more nominations for Department Commander.

John Reish, delegate from Crook County Post 29 made a motion that the nominations be closed and that the Adjutant be instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for Larry Wittmayer for Department Commander. Motion was seconded by Greg Marvin Post 49 Adjutant and District Five Vice Commander.

**Department Commander Don Weber: There's been a motion and a second to close the nominations and direct the Adjutant to place, one unanimous vote by acclamation for Larry Wittmayer as Department Commander. Is there any discussion? All those in favor signify by saying aye. Those opposed? Motion carries.**

A special guest, Auxiliary Madame President Debra Godwin was announced. So, I just wanted to come over and let you guys know that I have had one of the best years of my life and not only with the auxiliary, but with the support from the American Legion. When I was at National Convention, I had one veteran sit on a bench waiting for, of course the big bus is in the sunshine and the heat, tell me that the Legion, when they see the auxiliary coming, they know everything's going to be okay, because we take care of our Legion. Correct?

We do a lot of what you guys tell us to do, sometimes. So, I am going to be bugging you all again next year. So next year we're going to have an even better year. I guess I know that this has been a tough membership year, not for the auxiliary. We're at 96.8%. We need 50 members to hit a goal of a hundred percent and we couldn't even find the date the last time that the auxiliary in the state of Oregon had reached a hundred percent. That's how long it has been. So, to me, the Department of Oregon is alive and waking up from COVID, correct?

When the year started... I need to appreciate this man right here. He invited me to a lot of what he did. We got to travel together twice and actually had a great time. He went with me to present the charter to the new Williams 50 Unit. That was great. And then he stuck by the Kathy Daudistel tour every day, every hour and put up with every one of us. That takes a guy. Yes. Kathy did state that Don Weber, our Department Commander, was the first commander that had ever traveled the state with her. So that to me, stands out, it does, bless his heart. Commander Don Weber confirmed that it had been a pleasure to have been on the tour and to have worked with Debra for the last year.

Department Commander Don Weber instructed the Adjutant to cast a unanimous ballot for Larry Wittmayer.

I, Flynn Phillips, as the Department Adjutant, will place one unanimous vote for Larry Wittmayer as the new Department Commander.

**Newly elected Department Commander Larry Wittmayer** thanked everyone for their support.

Department Commander Don Weber asked if there were any nominations for the position of First Vice Commander.

Kevin Owens, National Executive Committeeman and Post 34 Commander nominated Cory Brockmann of Aloha Post 104. I would like to place the name of Cory Brockmann for the High Office of Department Vice Commander. Cory earned his eligibility for the membership within the American Legion, with nearly seven years of honorable active-duty service during the Cold War and Lebanon Grenada eras. He served in the United States Army from 1981 to 1984 and in the United States Air Force from 1984 to 1988. He was decorated with accommodations at both branches along with receiving numerous other awards for his leadership and service. Cory is a nine year Paid Up For Life member.

His service within the Department of Oregon is no secret to most of all of you. Today, he has held numerous officer and leadership positions at the post, district, and department levels, working to make positive impacts for our Department of Oregon. He has held several national appointments, including media and communications counsel, Americanism counsel, children and youth law enforcement committee, furthering his leadership to the benefit of the American Legion and the Department of Oregon. In addition to serving as your department second vice commander, Commander Brockmann serves on the Permanent Finance Commission and he is the revenue subcommittee chair on the Oregon American Legion Foundation.

In prior years, he has chaired the Americanism commission providing leadership to the seven youth committee chairs, as well as chairing the media and communications commission with its three media and IT committees. Additionally, he has served as a committee member on numerous other committees, all of which further strengthen his qualifications to serve you as your Department First Vice Commander. He has completed the American Legion Extension Institute basic training course, Oregon Legion College, and he is a graduate of the National American Legion College Rohan class of 2017. In addition to the American Legion, he is a member of ANAVICUS- the Army, Navy, and Air Force Veterans in Canada, United States unit. A lifetime member of the Air Force and Space Force association and he supports several other military and veteran advocacy projects.

We continue to experience significant challenges within our organization, following the pandemic from which membership challenge to member engagement, to inspiring veterans into action and more. Throughout this past year, Commander Brockmann has worked diligently to elevate our department's visibility, leveraging high level visibility opportunities to reach more veterans and more supporters. More importantly, these endeavors further add to our critical efforts in supporting a top America Legion priority, working to address veteran suicide awareness and prevention. Comrades, Cory Brockmann gets work done. It is that simple. He is the leader we need to help expand our engagement with members both current and past, and to lead us into difficulties facing our beloved American Legion. As a delegate to this 103rd annual department convention of the Department of Oregon, it is my great privilege and honor to hereby

nominate Cory Brockmann for the High Office of Department First Vice Commander for 2022-2023.

Mike Warrens from John Kalmbach Post 90 seconded the motion for Cory Brockmann for First Vice Commander. I got to know Cory several years ago at a convention in Florence, and we were discussing ways to raise membership through some of the community events, such as the air show. And I was really impressed with Cory. You could really tell his dedication to the American Legion. He's serious about raising the membership and taking care of veterans. Cory Brockmann, candidate for the High Office of Department First Vice, has clearly and successfully demonstrated his abilities throughout his years of membership of in the American Legion, as you just heard from this nomination.

I share further, that Vice Commander Brockmann has a Bachelor of Science degree in Range Management. He has also spent 30 of nearly 38 years of federal service employed by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services, where he has held technical and managerial leadership positions throughout his career. He has served as range land conservationist, soil conservationist, and state resources, inventory, and geographic information systems coordinator. For the last 17 plus years, he has served here in Oregon as a lab leader and as a team leader at the west remote sensing laboratory in Portland. Vice Commander, Brockmann is a dedicated Legionnaire and truly exemplifies the tagline Veterans Strengthening America. It is my great privilege to hereby second the nomination of Cory Brockmann for the High Office of Department First Vice Commander, 2022-23.

**Department Commander Don Weber: There's been a motion and a second to nominate Cory Brockmann for First Vice Commander. Any questions? All those in favor signify by saying aye. All those opposed signify by saying nay. Motion carries.**

Department Commander Don Weber asked for further nominations for First Vice Commander.

Commander John Reish Crook County Post 29 made a motion that the nominations be closed and that the Adjutant be instructed to cast the unanimous ballot for Cory Brockmann for First Vice Commander. Motion was seconded by Ward Allen delegate from Post 180.

**Department Commander Don Weber: There's been a motion and a second to close the nominations and direct the Adjutant to place, one unanimous vote for Cory Brockmann as Department First Vice Commander. Is there any discussion? All those in favor signify by saying aye. Those opposed? Motion carries. Adjutant.**

The Adjutant casts one unanimous vote for Cory Brockmann for the office of First Vice Commander.

**Newly elected Department First Vice Commander Cory Brockmann** thanked everyone for their service.

Department Commander Don Weber asked if there were any nominations for the position of Second Vice Commander.

I'm here to nominate comrade Dan Burks to second vice commander for the American Legion Department of Oregon. His eligibility comes from honorable service in the world's greatest Navy from January 2001 until July 2007, serving in both Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom campaigns. He's a five-year Paid Up For Life member in the American Legion Department of Oregon and has held numerous leadership positions.

As National Veterans Preference Committee, National Legislative Council, the Department Membership and Post Activities Commission Chair, Department Sons of the American Legion Committee Chair, Department Vice Chairman for the Internal Affairs Commission. And he has served as an officer for five years in District 10, four of which as District 10 Commander, and five years as Post Commander of Ontario, post 67. He's done a lot in a very short time.

He's completed the American Legion Education Institute basic training course, as well as numerous other training sessions conducted by the Department of Oregon and virtually by the national staff. As a member of this great organization, he believes that our greatest asset is our membership bar none, and he has made it his mission to reach out and assist many members and veterans as possible. As the Department's Second Vice Commander, he will have oversight on our department's programs. That's a tough job. I think we all know that trying to manage something department wide, it's quite a feat. But if anybody can do it, he can, and we must continue to work together, in his words, to help the next generation of members and volunteers who will follow behind us. Our programs are vital to a healthy America and our youth, and we can only be successful with our continued teamwork and dedication.

He's a dual member of the Sons of the American Legion, a life member of the VFW, as well as a member of the Army Navy and Air Force veterans in Canada, United States, ANAVICUS. Recently a life member of DAV, he proudly supports educational opportunities for youth of veterans. And he's a veteran advocate supporter as well as a patriot. Endeavors that embrace a strong America and routinely teach US flag history and etiquette to elementary age school children, and just recently supported our district's first oratorical contest in well over a decade.

He holds a bachelor's degree in business management, as well as an associate degree in computer networking. He's owned his own and operated his own small business. He's managed several other companies, including national companies that achieved honors in Forbes Fortune 500. He has a consistent history since he was 18 years old of responsibility of leadership and accomplishments, both in personal growth, as well as business. As Legionnaires, we have a visibility that allows us to teach it, reach out to other veterans of our communities and it is his desire to do that across the Department of Oregon. With that, I ask that you join me in nominating Daniel Burks to the High Office of Second Vice Commander in the American Legion Department of Oregon.



Kevin Owens, Past Department Commander seconded the nomination of Dan Burks for Second Vice Commander. I'm doing this on behalf of Charlie Schmidt, as you know, he is home with COVID. He wishes he had been here for Dan, but I'll tell you a little bit about what it takes to be a department commander, a department officer. It takes heart. It takes passion. It takes drive and a willingness to serve. And Dan is that man, he will make things happen. Heart goes a long way. That's what gets the job done. Dan has that heart and that desire and that passion. So please join me in supporting Daniel Burks for the High Office of Second Vice Commander.

**Department Commander Don Weber: There's been a motion and a second to nominate Daniel Burks for Second Vice Commander. Any questions? All those in favor signify by saying aye. All those opposed signify by nay. Motion carries.**

Department Commander Don Weber asked for further nominations for Second Vice Commander.

John Reish Crook County Post 29 Adjutant made a motion that the nominations be closed and that the Adjutant be instructed to cast the unanimous ballot for Dan Burks for Second Vice Commander. Motion was seconded by Ward Allen delegate from Post 180.

**Department Commander Don Weber: There's been a motion and a second to close the nominations and direct the Adjutant to place, one unanimous vote by acclamation for Dan Burks Brockmann as Department Second Vice Commander. Is there any discussion? All those in favor signify by saying aye. Those opposed? Motion carries.**

The Adjutant casts one unanimous vote for Dan Burks for the office of Second Vice Commander.

**Newly elected Department Second Vice Commander Dan Burks** thanked everyone for their support and asked them to join him in the Let's Rebuild Oregon mission.

Department Commander Don Weber asked if there were any nominations for the position of Department Finance Officer.

Tim Troupe, Commander of Post 5 Willamette Falls nominated Bob Huff for the position of Department Finance Officer. Bob has a long history of supporting veterans. He's done it in all manners of weather and health.

Bob gets his service from his time in Southeast Asia. The man has heart. The man gives and he continues to, and he's always willing to help with education, empowerment, and even with a sense of humor, he's willing to step up and do what needs to be done. He's a Past Department Commander. He's served at multiple offices, even now, throughout his district in the southern Oregon area. With that, I would ask all of you to join me in supporting Bob Huff as our continued finance officer.

John Reish Crook County Post 29 and Past Department Finance Officer seconded the nomination of Bob Huff for Department Finance Officer. I've known Bob Huff, way back when he was a district commander and I've watched him come up through the ranks. And when he became Department Finance Officer taking my place, it was one of the greatest days of my life. And I'm glad that he's been there to lead the department and the finances. So, I forward this second to his nomination.

**Department Commander Don Weber: There's been a motion to second to nominate Bob Huff as the Department of Finance Officer, are there any questions? All those in favor signify by saying aye. All those against signify by nay. Motion carries.**

Department Commander Don Weber called for any further nominations for Finance Officer.

Tim Troupe, Post 5 Willamette Falls moved to close nominations and cast a single unanimous ballot for the entire department to show that we have the money behind Bob Huff. Greg Marvin, Adjutant Post 49 seconded the motion.

**Department Commander Don Weber: There's been a motion and a second to close nominations and place one unanimous vote for Bob Huff as Department Finance Officer. All those in favor signify by saying aye. All those opposed signify by nay. Motion carries.**

The Adjutant casts a unanimous vote for Bob Huff for Department Finance Officer.

Department Commander Don Weber announced that it was an off year for NEC elections and that ratification of District Commanders and District Vice Commanders would start after a 15-minute recess. The Department Convention was set to reconvene at 2:05 PM.

### **Convention reconvened at 2:10 PM**

Department Commander Don Weber relayed that he had just spoken on the phone with Past National Commander Charlie Schmidt and that PNC Charlie Schmidt had sent his congratulations to the newly elected department officers.

Three Posts pledged the following amounts for the Department Fund Challenge: Post 21 for \$500, Post 65 for \$550 and Post 192 for \$600.

The PUFL drawing winner was Norman Simms.

Department Adjutant Flynn Phillips read the list of 2022-2023 District Commanders and District Vice Commanders to be ratified: District 1 for Commander Susan Hughes, the Vice Commander is Tom Miller. For District 2, Commander for Betty Fish-Ferguson and Vice Commander is Mike Speer. District 3 is Dale Jenkins for Commander and Vice Commander will be John Lee, Jerry Patton, and Norm Simms, because they have areas. District 4 Commander is David Applegate, and then Vice Commander is Tom Fitzgerald. Commander for District 5 is going to

be John Reish, and then the Vice Commander will be Lance Trowbridge and Vandee Mauser. District 6, Commander is going to be Randy Tye and the Vice Commander will be Tony Cordell. District 7, Commander will be Jim Moriarty, with the First Vice Commander being Terry Brown. District 8 Commander will be Tim Troupe and the Vice Commander will be Chris Christopherson. District 9 Commander will be Larry Hill and the Vice Commander will be Don Adams. The District 10 Commander would be Dan Burks and Vice Commander would be James Jerome but...

There was discussion around Dan Burks becoming the newly elected Department 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander and it was decided that James Jerome would move up to become District 10 Commander and that Robert Hornbeck would step up to be District 10 Vice Commander.

**Immediate Past Department Commander Steve Adams, Delegate at Large for Lebanon Post 51, made a motion that the names be ratified as District Commanders and District Vice Commanders. Greg Marvin, delegate of Post 49 Moro seconded the motion. Motion to ratify the District Commanders and District Vice Commanders passed by voice vote.**

Department Adjutant Flynn Phillips read the list of 2022 National Convention to National Convention. Immediate Past Commander, Don Weber. The Adjutant Flynn Phillips. Delegate at Large NECman Kevin Owens, Department Commander Larry Wittmayer. District 1, Cory Brockman, Lou Neubecker, Tom Harris, John Marsh, Rob Liebenow, Harold Thayler, Michael Standing, Robert Dean, Wendy Berger-Wood. District 2, Steve Shollenburg, Betty Fish-Ferguson, Dan Evers. District 3, John Lee, David Solomon, Norm Simms, Alan Buzzard, Chuck Zeitler, Marlon Rice, Ronald Strong, Terry Noll, Chuck Noll, Mike Anderson, Fred Jameson. District 4, Bob Huff, Jim Whitlock. District 5, Gene Hellickson, Phyllis York, Michael Williams, Ronald Swearingen. District 6 Andy Millar and Maria Tye. District 7 Judy Johnson, Terry Brown, Jim Moriarty. District 8 Ward Allen. District 9 No one. District 10, Charlie Schmidt.

There was a discussion on the number of delegates allowed at National Convention. Department Commander Don Weber called for the list to be finalized for approval when the Department Convention reconvened in the morning at 9:30 AM. The Department Convention recessed at 2:35 PM.



**The American Legion Department of Oregon 103<sup>rd</sup> Convention**  
**Saturday, June 25, 2022**  
**Beaverton Elks**  
**3464 SW 106<sup>th</sup> Ave.**  
**Beaverton, OR 97005**

**Convention reconvened at 9:30 AM**

Flag Salute	Don Weber, Department Commander
Invocation	Steve Shollenburg, Chaplain
Pledge of Allegiance	Phyllis York, Sergeant of Arms

Adjutant Flynn Phillips reads the Delegates to the '22 National Convention: NECman Kevin Owens, District 1, Cory Brockman, Lou Neubecker, Tom Harris, John Marsh, Don Weber Rob Liebenow. District 2, Steve Shollenburg, Betty Fish-Ferguson, Dan Evers. District 3, John Lee. District 4, Bob Huff, Jim Whitlock. District 5, Gene Hellickson, Phyllis York. District 6 Andy Millar and Maria Tye. District 7 Judy Johnson, Terry Brown, Jim Moriarty, Flynn Phillips on staff. District 8 Larry Wittmayer, Ward Allen. District 9 No one. District 10, Charlie Schmidt, Jim Jerome.

**Larry Wittmayer, First Vice Commander made a motion to ratify the list. Steve Adams, Immediate Past Commander seconded that motion.**

**Department Commander Don Weber called for a vote on the motion. The motion to ratify the delegates to the 2022 National Convention passed by voice vote.**

Awards from the previous night's banquet were announced:

Adjutant of the Year:	Jim Kosel from Post 89, Mount Angel
Chaplain of the Year:	Lynn Hamm from Post 6, Hillsboro
SAL member of the year:	Bill Wilkinson from Post 10, Albany
SAL Dual Member of the Year:	John Staub, from Post 104, Aloha
Legion Rider of the Year:	Robert Baker from Post 44, Redmond
Riders Large Chapter Award:	Post 83, Eugene
Riders Small Chapter Award:	Post 58, Stayton

The 2022 Sweepstakes Winners were drawn and announced:

John Rose	\$2000
Ronald Brinegar	\$1000
George Galligar	\$ 200
Bradley Harney	\$ 200
Michael Redhead	\$ 100
Gail Woodworth	\$ 100
Charles Godwin	\$ 100
Reed Barker	\$ 100
Bruce Conrad	\$ 100

Department Commander Don Weber announced the Convention was in recess at 9:50 AM.

**Department Commander Don Weber reconvened the Convention at 12:22 PM** and called for any unfinished business. First Vice Commander Cory Brockmann recognized Past National Aide to the Past National Commander Dirk Levy for collecting about \$600 for VCF the previous day by stepping up to personally bring around the donation buckets to the Convention attendees.

Department Chaplain Steve Shollenburg asked for prayers in remembering Jim Craigg from Forest Grove who had passed away earlier in the morning and gave the closing benediction.

Department Commander Don Weber closed the 103<sup>rd</sup> Annual Department Convention at 12:28 PM. Notice was given by the new Department Commander Larry Wittmayer that the Post Convention Department Executive Meeting would follow immediately.

Submitted,



**S. Flynn Phillips**

**Adjutant**