

Department of Massachusetts
Sons of AMVETS
State Convention
Sturbridge Host Hotel, Sturbridge, MA
June 19th, 2004

Commander David Spencer called the Convention to order at 1:20pm.

Provost Marshal Paul Chaves led the Pledge of Allegiance. Commander Spencer led the reading of the Sons Preamble. As Chaplain Leo Manning could not be present at the Convention, Commander Spencer read the Invocation.

Roll Call was done by Commander Spencer.

Commander David Spencer-Present
1st Vice Commander Harry Dascoli-Present
2nd Vice Commander Michael Bruno-Present
3rd Vice Commander Michael Veator-Excused
Finance Officer James Flanigan, PDC-Present
Judge Advocate Cliff Kaizer, PDC-Present
Provost Marshal Paul Chaves-Present
Immediate Past Commander William Barry, PDC-Present
Chaplain Leo Manning-Excused
PRO/Historian Robert Deleskey-Present
VAVS Coordinator Cliff Kaizer, PDC-Present
NEC Cliff Kaizer, PDC-Present
NO SONS COORDINATORS PRESENT AT START OF MEETING

Approval of Convention Rules

MOTION: to accept the Convention Rules as printed in the Convention Booklet by 2nd Vice Commander Bruno, seconded by Bob Wood (Squadron 495). **MOTION PASSES**

Approval of Minutes of the May SEC

MOTION: to accept the Minutes of the May SEC as printed by 2nd Vice Commander Bruno, seconded by Immediate Past Commander Barry. **MOTION PASSES**

GUEST: Sons of AMVETS National 2nd Vice Commander Michael Mrzlak

National 2nd Vice Mrzlak brought greetings from the National Commander and his fellow National officers. He was able to talk to a lot of old friends and met with a lot of new friends. He would like to come back next year if his schedule will allow it.

Bills & Communications

The only communication that has been received by the Department was from National and was the call to National Convention. There was also a notification that they eliminated the position of National Executive Secretary at least for the time being. If you have any questions you should address them to the National Commander. Also there was a notification from the AMVETS National Commander asking the Sons to fully participate in the memorial service at the National Convention. The memorial service is on Tuesday, August 9th in Spokane. The Department does cover pre-registration fees for delegates to the National Convention. We must be notified no later than the July SEC. To date we have commitments from 5 members of the Department to go.

There was a question as to who the replacement was for the National Executive Secretary. There is no replacement at this time. The Secretary's duties are being covered between the National Executive Director and the Membership Coordinator. The next National Commander and e-board will address this situation.

Jeff Lahey (Squadron 1977) mentioned to the body regarding working at Gillette Stadium to raise funds for your Squadron.

Credentials Report

Squadron 1-4 Delegates, 1 Officer
Squadron 12-2 Delegates, 1 Alternate
Squadron 19-
Squadron 51-2 Delegates
Squadron 74-2 Delegates
Squadron 79-3 Delegates, 2 Officers
Squadron 208-3 Delegates, 1 Alternate, 2 Officers
Squadron 495-6 Delegates
Squadron 1977-2 Delegates
Squadron 1980-2 Officers
Squadron 1996-

Total Delegates-24
Total Alternates-2
Total Officers-7
Total Voting Strength-31

Majority-16
Two-thirds-21

MOTION: to accept the Credentials Report by Provost Marshal Chaves, seconded by 2nd Vice Commander Bruno. **MOTION PASSES**

Commander's Report

(See attached)

MOTION: to accept the Commander's Report as printed in the Convention Booklet by 2nd Vice Commander Bruno, seconded by Judge Advocate Kaizer. **MOTION PASSES**

1st Vice Commander's Report

(See attached)

MOTION: to accept the 1st Vice Commander's Report as printed in the Convention Booklet by 1st Vice Commander Dascoli, seconded by 2nd Vice Commander Bruno. **MOTION PASSES**

2nd Vice Commander's Report

(See attached)

MOTION: to accept the 2nd Vice Commander's Report as printed in the Convention Booklet by Judge Advocate Kaizer, seconded by Joe Crump (Squadron 495). **MOTION PASSES**

Commander Spencer noted that before this past year the program reporting in Massachusetts was in a shambles. Projects weren't coming into the Department, some Squadrons by-passed the State and sent them straight to National. Our 2nd Vice Commander this year took the time to make sure that everything was done right. On his report it is almost \$60,000.00. That's an impressive number as the National 2nd Vice can tell you. 2nd Vice Commander Bruno shared the credit with all the Sons. He thanked every Son for their efforts.

3rd Vice Commander's Report

The 3rd Vice Commander's Report was read by Commander Spencer. (See attached)

MOTION: to accept the 3rd Vice Commander's Report as printed in the Convention booklet by Judge Advocate Kaizer, seconded by 2nd Vice Commander Bruno. **MOTION PASSES**

Finance Officer's Report

(See attached)

The Finance Officer updated his report verbally. We are currently standing at \$995.90 in the General Fund.

MOTION: to accept the Finance Officer's Report as printed and amended by 2nd Vice Commander Bruno, seconded by Bob Wood (Squadron 495). **MOTION PASSES**

Provost Marshal's Report

(See attached)

MOTION: to accept the Provost Marshal's Report as printed in the Convention Booklet by Judge Advocate Kaizer, seconded by 2nd Vice Commander Bruno. **MOTION PASSES**

Chaplain's Report

The Chaplain's report was read by 2nd Vice Commander Bruno. (See attached)

MOTION: to accept the Chaplain's Report as printed by Judge Advocate Kaizer, seconded by 1st Vice Commander Dascoli. **MOTION PASSES**

Commander Spencer noted that Chaplain Manning did an outstanding job this year. He also noted that inside the front cover of the Convention Booklet was the Deceased Members List. He read the names and asked for a moment of silence for all of these members.

Raymond Boucher, Squadron 19
Frank Cunningham, Squadron 1
Tommy Fraser, Squadron 79
Jay Lavoie, Squadron 495
Neal Mael, Squadron 495
Paul Uliano, Squadron 1977

PRO/Historian's Report

(See attached)

He also noted that he would like to see some pictures from other Squadrons if there are any.

MOTION: to accept the PRO/Historian's Report as printed by 2nd Vice Commander Bruno, seconded by Past Commander Barry. **MOTION PASSES**

VAVS Coordinator's Report

(See attached)

MOTION: to accept the VAVS Coordinator's Report as printed by 2nd Vice Commander Bruno, seconded by Bob Wood (Squadron 495). **MOTION PASSES**

National Executive Committeeman's Report

(See attached)

MOTION: to accept the National Executive Committeeman's Report as printed by Judge Advocate Kaizer, seconded by 1st Vice Commander Harry Dascoli. **MOTION PASSES**

Commander Spencer called for a brief recess at 1:50pm as we are way ahead of schedule and we are expecting a visit from the AMVETS State Commander.

Commander Spencer called the Convention back to order at 2:15pm.

Presentations of Awards

2nd Vice Commander Bruno handed out the following awards:

- A. Certificate of Achievement for submitting over \$17,000 in reports: Hudson 208, Natick 79, Three Rivers 74
- B. Certificate of Achievement for the Most Project Hours: Hudson 208
- C. Highest Program Dollar Valuation per member: Three Rivers 74

1st Vice Commander Dascoli handed out the following awards:

- A. Certificate of Achievement for submitting 75 members: Millis 495
- B. Certificate of Achievement for submitting 50 members: Marlborough 1980, Natick 79, Roslindale 1
- C. Certificate of Achievement for the Most New Members: Natick 79
- D. Traveling Plaque for Largest Squadron: Millis 495
- E. Highest Percentage of Membership: Millis 495

Commander Spencer handed out the following awards:

- A. Commander's Special Award: Harry Dascoli, Marlborough 1980
- B. Son of the Year: Jason LaChance, Three Rivers 74

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business

New Business

2nd Vice Commander Bruno asked about coming up with a more uniform way to notify the Department of events in individual Squadrons. It was addressed that local Squadrons could contact the AMVETS to get their events into the State Newsletter.

Joe Crump (Squadron 495) announced that Squadron 495 would be holding a Steak and Rib Barbecue on July 17th. Tickets are \$15.00. They are also raffling off a 53" TV.

Squadron 79 will be holding a Lobster Shoot on July 18th.

Randolph 51 will be holding their 3rd annual cookout on July 10

July 11 catered cook out at 1977

July 17 will be a Sons/Auxiliary Triathlon at Post 1

Haverhill has submitted their paperwork and is ready to go.

MOTION: to recognize Squadron 147 Haverhill by Finance Officer Flanigan, seconded by Judge Advocate Kaizer. **MOTION PASSES**

There was no further new business

Standing Rules Amendments

(There were no Amendments to the Standing Rules)

MOTION: to suspend the regular order of business for purposes of nominations by Judge Advocate Kaizer, seconded by 2nd Vice Commander Bruno. **MOTION PASSES**

Nominations of Officers for 2004-2005

- A. Commander:.....David Spencer, nominated by Ray Patterson, accepts
- B. 1st Vice Commander: .Michael Bruno, nominated by Bo Grammer, accepts
.....Henry Shilo, nominated by Cliff Kaizer, declines
- C. 2nd Vice Commander: Michael Bruno, nominated by Cliff Kaizer, declines
- D. 3rd Vice Commander: .William Barry, nominated by Michael Bruno, declines
.....David Rice, nominated by Clifford Kaizer, declines
- E. Adjutant:NO NOMINATIONS
- F. Finance Officer:James Flanigan, nominated by David Spencer, accepts
- G. Judge Advocate:Clifford Kaizer, nominated by James Flanigan, accepts
- H. Provost Marshal:Paul Chaves, nominated by Michael Bruno, accepts

Elections of Officers for 2004-2005

Judge Advocate Kaizer cast one vote for each unopposed officer

National 2nd Vice Commander Mike Mrzlak installed the 2004-2005 Department Officers

Convention Revenues:

We collected \$260 in delegate fees.

The Commander announced next year's fundraiser will be to raffle off a Convention Package including a 2-night stay and a 2 tickets to each event. We will begin selling tickets at July SEC.

The Convention went into recess until 2:55pm.

Provost Marshal Chaves handed in the fines from the year to the Finance Officer, totaling \$57.00. He requested that this go to the National Cancer Society in the name of the Sons of AMVETS Department of Massachusetts.

Commander Spencer appointed Henry Shilo Jr. to the office of 2nd Vice Commander and Leo Manning to the Office of Chaplain.

- A. Commander: David Spencer
- B. 1st Vice Commander: Michael Bruno
- C. 2nd Vice Commander: Henry Shilo, Jr.
- D. Finance Officer: James Flanigan, PDC
- E. Judge Advocate: Clifford Kaizer, PDC
- F. Provost Marshal: Paul Chaves
- G. Immediate Past Commander: Bill Barry
- H. Chaplain: Leo Manning

All other offices are vacant pending appointment at the July SEC

Benediction was read by Commander David Spencer.

MOTION: to adjourn by Bob Wood (Squadron 495), seconded by Joe Crump (Squadron 495). **MOTION PASSES**

The Meeting Adjourned at 3:05pm

NEXT SEC: July 18th at 1pm



Commander's Year-End Report

Convention: June 19th, 2004

My Fellow Sons,

It has been an up and down year for the Sons this year. Membership and Squadron project reporting both started off slow, and picked up after January. Altogether I have traveled a total of over 4,500 miles for various Sons and AMVETS events.

This year I attended many, many functions across the State. I attended the State Sad Sacks Scholarship Awards Luncheon (July 13), the State Installation of Officer (Sept. 13), Pilgrim Awards (Nov. 1), the State Commander's Christmas Party (Dec. 21), the Patriot's Day Theme Night (April 10), The State Commander's Testimonial in Haverhill (April 17), and the Sad Sack Mini-Golf Tournament (May 2).

I attended several VAVS functions during the year including an Off-Station Party in Marshfield (Feb. 22) and the VAVS Fishing Derby in Hudson (June 5). I also attended Memorial Day Services at Bourne National Veteran's Cemetery (May 23).

I marched in the 4th of July Parade in Natick, the Labor Day Parade in Marlboro, the Thanksgiving/Christmas Parade in Haverhill on Nov. 23, and the Memorial Day Parade in Hudson.

I attended the Squadron 495 Clam Bake (July 20), the Randolph Installation of Officers (Sept. 20), the Chicopee Installation of Officers, (Sept. 21), and Natick Installation of Officers (Sept. 27).

I attended several meetings this year as well. I attended meetings with several AMVETS Posts who were interested in possibly Starting Sons Squadrons. I went to Lynn Post 161 (Nov. 12), Haverhill Post 147 (Nov 18), and Fall River Post 60 (Feb 13). I attended Squadron meetings to give them information and advice, including Marshfield (January 25), Haverhill 147 (May 4, 11 & June 1), and Stoughton (May 18 & June 15).

I also attended the funeral service for the stepmother of Sons State 2nd Vice Commander Michael Bruno, as well as many other functions.

Yours in Service

David Spencer

David Spencer
State Commander
Sons of AMVETS
Department of Massachusetts



1st Vice Commander's Year-End Report

Convention: June 19th, 2004

To all the Sons of Amvets members first I would like to thank all of you for your trust in me this year as your 1st Vice Commander it has been a real learning experience and I enjoyed the challenge over the last year. I also would like to thank your Commander for all his help this year with my 1 million questions without his help I would have never been ably to have made it though the year .

As for your membership we have 407 pd members for the state of Mass as of this month with more coming in slowly I hope for a lot more in the next few weeks as we close out this year. Due to a little problem I will not be running for any other office next year but hope to be still involved locally so it seems I still have at least 1 more years as Commander on the local level.

Thank You

Harry Dascoli

Harry Dascoli
1st Vice Commander
Sons of AMVETS
Department of Massachusetts



Membership Breakdown

Convention: June 19th, 2004

What follows is a breakdown by Squadron of membership as of June 19, 2004.

Squadron	New	Renew	Life	Total
1	11	55	0	66
12	11	17	0	28
19	1	7	0	8
29	0	0	0	0
51	2	10	1	13
74	0	26	3	29
79	20	40	3	63
208	11	30	5	46
495	18	61	1	80
1977	12	10	0	22
1980	5	43	2	50
1996	0	0	0	0
MAL	0	1	0	1
Total	91	301	14	406

What follows is a breakdown of membership as of Convention each of the last 5 years, as well as a percentage comparison to the previous year as of June 19, 2004.

Squadron	1999	2000(%)	2001(%)	2002(%)	2003(%)	2004(%)
1	107	78(73%)	84(108%)	77(92%)	79(103%)	66(84%)
12	14	22(157%)	15(68%)	35(233%)	28(80%)	28(100%)
19	0	0(N/A)	0(N/A)	0(N/A)	0(N/A)	8(N/A)
29	9	0(0%)	9(N/A)	2(22%)	0(0%)	0(N/A)
51	0	0(N/A)	0(N/A)	11(N/A)	23(209%)	13(57%)
74	0	20(N/A)	23(105%)	26(113%)	35(135%)	29(83%)
79	27	40(148%)	41(103%)	52(127%)	63(121%)	63(100%)
208	0	19(N/A)	31(163%)	45(145%)	45(100%)	46(102%)
495	53	68(128%)	62(91%)	56(90%)	70(125%)	80(114%)
1977	0	0(N/A)	0(N/A)	0(N/A)	19(N/A)	22(116%)
1980	25	35(140%)	39(111%)	44(113%)	47(107%)	50(106%)
1996	0	0(N/A)	0(N/A)	0(N/A)	15(N/A)	0(0%)
MAL	0	0(N/A)	0(N/A)	1(N/A)	1(N/A)	1(N/A)
Total	235	282(120%)	304(108%)	349(115%)	425(122%)	406(96%)



2nd Vice Commander's Year-End Report

Convention: June 19th, 2004

My Fellow Sons,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for allowing me to serve as your Department 2nd Vice Commander over this past year. I would also like to thank my fellow Department Officers for their input and guidance during this past year as well.

This year has proven to be a remarkable one! I am happy to report that through everyone's efforts, this has been the greatest reporting year in the history of this Department and I congratulate each and every one of you for your time and service in the furtherance of all of our aims and purposes.

Let's keep up the good work and I am looking forward to an even better year ahead!!

Yours in Service

Michael J. Bruno

Michael J. Bruno
2nd Vice Commander
Sons of AMVETS
Department of Massachusetts



Programs Breakdown

Convention: June 19th, 2004

5/22/04 Participated in Post #1 Graves Decoration at St. Joseph Cemetery, West Roxbury

The following is a list of Project Report Forms and current dollar valuations submitted by Squadron to date:

Dept. of Mass.: 3 reports	\$3,185.24
Squadron 1 Roslindale: 7 reports	\$880.00
Squadron 12 Chicopee: 6 reports	\$1,680.10
Squadron 19 Clinton: None to date	\$0.00
Squadron 51 Randolph: 1 report	\$1,620.00
Squadron 74 Three Rivers: 90 reports	\$19,577.78
Squadron 79 Natick: 50 reports	\$16,866.08
Squadron 208 Hudson: 25 reports	\$15,108.46
Squadron 495 Millis: None to date	\$0.00
Squadron 1977 Stoughton: None to date	\$0.00
Squadron 1980 Marlborough: 1 report	\$695.00
Squadron 1996 Marshfield: None to date	\$0.00

Total Department Valuation to date \$59,612.66

Total Reports submitted to date: 183

Details or questions on these reports should they be discussed will be available in the Minutes of this Convention meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J. Bruno

Michael J. Bruno
2nd Vice Commander
Sons of AMVETS
Department of Massachusetts



3rd Vice Commander's Year-End Report

Convention: June 19th, 2004

Dear Sons of AMVETS

It's been a long but great year. I have done a lot of different things this year. I wish I could have done more, but due to my two jobs it is very difficult. I would like to thank all of the State Officers in all the Sons of AMVETS for all their hard work this year. If everyone didn't help out we could never do the things we do. Thank you for that.

I would like to thank Commander Spencer for all he has done for the Sons of AMVETS. Thank you, Dave.

I wrapped up the end of the year, in which I attended State Commander Spencer's Testimonial at Hudson 208. I also carried the State Colors at Bourne National Veterans Cemetery on May 23rd. On Memorial Day I carried the POW/MIA flag in the Gloucester Memorial Day Parade.

This is my final report for the year 2003-2004. I hope to work with everyone again in the near future.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Veator

Michael J. Veator
3rd Vice Commander
Sons of AMVETS
Department of Massachusetts



Finance Officer's Year-End Report

Convention: June 19th, 2004

Gentlemen,

As always it has been a pleasure serving as your Finance Officer. As you know we have been achieving growth this year and our commitment to our parent organization has been getting stronger every year.

We have placed another Scooter in the Bedford V.A. hospital and I believe this is one thing that will get a lot of use. Our current cash flow has been fine.

We should find other way's to bring in cash to fund ourselves so we could continue to help out the veterans.

We currently have \$ 1,634.07 in checking with a \$96.00 check to deposit.
\$1730.07

Two checks out standing. #257- \$150.00 & # 249- \$25.01

Checking = \$1,555.06

Savings = \$1,705.05

The saving's account are funds for the Scooter Fund Donated by Natick. All donations for the scooter fund will be put into this account. With special thanks to Sonny Kaizer for collecting and doing a lot of the legwork.

Again I want to thank the Commander and all the Officers for their hard work and dedication. Remember vote for the good of our department.

Yours in Service

James Flanigan

James Flanigan PDC

Finance Officer

Sons of AMVETS

Department of Massachusetts



Provost Marshal's Year-End Report

Convention: June 19th, 2004

My Fellow Sons,

Last year was my first year serving as your Provost Marshal. It has been both an honor and pleasure to serve over the course of the year.

I have attended several Installation parties. I attended the National Convention where I led the Sons Squadron 208 Color Guard in the Posting of Colors. I have also attended the Pilgrim Awards and gone to several Post and Squadron functions, including the blood drive at Post 208, the State Sons Patriot's Day Party at Post 79, the Sons State Commander's Testimonial, and helped set up for the VA Fishing Derby in Hudson, and many other functions.

Yours in Service

Paul J. Chaves

Paul J. Chaves
State Provost Marshal
Sons of AMVETS
Department of Massachusetts



Chaplain's Year-End Report

Convention: June 19th, 2004

My Fellow Sons,

It has been a great honor to have served as your Department Chaplain over this past year. During this time we have experienced the loss of several Sons from our Department and I would ask that you take some time during this Convention to pause and remember them and all whom we have lost or have been ill throughout this past year, not the least of which are our Servicemen and women, serving in harm's way overseas.

Although I cannot be with you today, I extend to all of you my sincere hope for a successful Convention and a prosperous new year to come.

Yours in Service,

Leo Manning

Leo Manning
Chaplain
Sons of AMVETS
Department of Massachusetts



PRO/Historian's Year-End Report

Convention: June 19th, 2004

My Fellow Sons,

I attended several events this year. I attended the National Convention where I posted the National Colors with the Sons Squadron 208 Color Guard. I also attended the Joint Installation of State Officers in September, several parades, several Post Installations, the Pilgrim Awards, and as many other events as I could get to.

The State PRO/History Book will be completed shortly after the Convention and will be brought to the National Convention to show off all the great things that were done in Massachusetts this year. If you have any pictures you would like to have me add to the book, please get them to me ASAP, so that the book may be completed.

Yours in Service

Robert Deleskey

Robert Deleskey
State PRO/Historian
Sons of AMVETS
Department of Massachusetts



V.A.V.S. Coordinator's Year-End Report

Convention: June 19th, 2004

I would like to thank all of the Reps and Deps for their hard work during the past year. This year marks the first year that we have a total of any VAVS reports before Convention. We have 38 reports and 383 hours totaling \$11,004.86.

The breakdown is as follows:

Squadron.....	VA Reports	Hours.....	\$ Per Squadron
1 Roslindale	7.....	44.....	\$880.00
12 Chicopee	1.....	20.....	\$452.50
19 Clinton.....	0.....	0.....	\$0.00
51 Randolph	0.....	0.....	\$0.00
74 Three Rivers.....	1.....	32.....	\$740.00
79 Natick.....	25.....	248.....	\$6,683.80
208 Hudson.....	4.....	33.....	\$1,553.56
495 Millis	0.....	0.....	\$0.00
1977 Stoughton.....	0.....	0.....	\$0.00
1980 Marlborough	1.....	16.....	\$695.00
1996 Marshfield	0.....	0.....	\$0.00

This is only a total of the reports that have been made out and sent in to the Department as of this date. I know you have been doing the work, please send the reports in on time.

Respectfully Submitted

Clifford F. Kaizer

Clifford F. Kaizer
VAVS Coordinator
Sons of AMVETS
Department of Massachusetts



National Executive Committeeman's Year-End Report

Convention: June 19th, 2004

I bring you the congratulations of the National Sons Commander Charlie Summerall, for a great year, and the promise of another with this your 8th Annual Massachusetts State Convention. I want to thank Commander Spencer and the Executive Board for allowing me to serve as your voice at National Convention and I want you all to know that your vote of confidence is important to me. I wish you all a very happy and rewarding State Convention.

Respectfully submitted

Clifford F. Kaizer

Clifford F. Kaizer
National Executive Committeeman
Sons of AMVETS
Department of Massachusetts

