

**Minutes of E-Board Meeting
Antlers Hotel Boardroom
Colorado Springs, Colorado
August 12, 2025**

National President Rick Adams called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States. An officer's roll call was made.

E-Board Members Present

National President –Rick Adams

Sr. Vice President – Ray Rocho

Executive Director – Don Kelby

Vice President War on Terror—Gary Ladd (stepping down, interested in VP Communications)

Sgt at Arms—Joe Carter

Vice President—Finance – Jim McCarthy

Committee Representatives Present

Phil Menendez – Scholarship Committee Secretary

Nominations Committee—Jerry Bumpus

Excused were:

Vice President—Communications – Rusty Armstrong (stepping down)

National Treasurer – Ron Rogers

Bert Nicholson – Memorial Committee

Bill Remond—Audit Committee (Scott Moffatt will head Audit Committee)

John Harris – Health & Wellness Committee

Immediate Past National President – Bob Babcock

Rick Adams, Reunion Chairman gave an update on the reunion activities, registrations, and events for the remainder of the week. The Friday banquet will feature a Color Guard from Fort Carson and an ensemble from the 4ID band, with MG Patrick Ellis, Mrs. Ellis, CSM Waylon Petty, Mrs. Petty. General Ellis will be the keynote speaker.

A motion was approved to waive the reading of the last E-Board meeting held in September 2024.

We are still looking for someone to take on the **National Secretary** duties. The National Secretary position is appointed by the National President and also serves as an E-Board member.

President Adams reviewed several items that were included in his President's 3rd Quarter update that was issued July 1, 2025.

Reunion numbers are not great but we will have a good reunion.

Lingert Award Medallion - Medallions were received and will be presented at the banquet.

Bert Nicholson, Chairman of the Memorial Committee, is excused, and Rick gave a report. All of our caretakers are now required to be businesses that are properly licensed with the French government, with the legal and tax implications that are required. Our previous caretakers were freelance contractors. They were either not interested or unable to undertake the necessary steps to comply. All the Association's monuments in France are in very good condition.

The Trust Fund administered by PNC Institutional Investments had a value on June 30, 2025, of \$40,536 Memorial Committee Reserve checking account balance on June 30, 2025, was \$ 13,117.55. The combined value of the Trust Fund and the checking account was \$ 53,653.81 on June 30, 2025. (Financial Report was attached) This is a decrease of \$516.48 from our last fiscal year.

Scholarship Committee Secretary, Phil Menendez, reported we received one E. R. Smith Memorial Scholarship Application and 13 Legacy Educational Scholarship Applications & Essays. This year's Patriotic theme was "What makes me proud to be an American?"

The one **Memorial Scholarship was awarded** to Connor Reese. The Memorial scholarship is awarded to a child who lost their parent in either Iraq or Afghanistan. Each Memorial applicant receives \$2K annually.

The **Legacy Scholarships** are awarded through a blind judging process of Patriotic-themed essays submitted by the applicants. Scholarships are limited to a maximum of 10% of the Scholarship Trust fund value each year. The current balance (6/30/2025) is \$90,845.54. So we recommend (Annual Scholarships at \$1K each. The 2025 Judges were: Don Kelby, John Harris, and Jerry Bumpus. All funds have already been sent to the universities.

Resolution Committee Chairman, Ray Rocho – No resolutions pending.

Nominations Committee Chairman, Jerry Bumpus presented the 2025-2026 Slate of National Officers. National President – Rick Adams and National Senior Vice President – Ray Rocho will be serving the second year of their two year terms. We have two reoccurring positions up for election in 2025, each for a one (1) year term of office; **the Vice President–Finance and the Vice President–Communications**.

The current **Vice President–Finance**, Jim 'Mac' McCarthy, has agreed to seek re-election. He has done an excellent job managing the Finances of the Association.

VP Communications – Gary Ladd has expressed an interest in this position. He has submitted a media plan to the Media committee and has other ideas for recruiting. Rusty will be stepping down.

National Treasurer, Ron Rogers (excused) reviewed the Associations financial reports which included National's checking and the Consolidated Financial Report which is used to file the Association's IRS-990 form.

Balance - Checking and Savings - \$ 172,443.78

Balance - Paid for Life Fund - \$ 173,922.67

6/30/2025 Fund Balances

Green In the Ivy Fund* - \$103,457.

Monument Memorial Committee Reserve*- \$13,117.55

PNC**4125 - Monument Memorial Fund - \$40,536.26

PNC**4117 - Scholarship Fund - \$90,845.55

WCMA Fund 02027 - Paid For Life Fund - \$40,536.26

Vice President Finance, Jim McCarthy outlined the recent changes made with our savings and Paid-For-Life funds. We have established a Working Capital Management Account with Merrill / Bank of America. These changes have resulted in significant increases in investment income for the Association.

The following Annual Donations requests were presented and approved by the Board.

\$1,000 Donation to the Camp Gordon Johnston Museum, continuing our support for the CGJM

Ivy Leaves Editor – John Harris (excused), President Adams gave a report. **The next issue Fall/Winter 2025 has a submittal deadline of October 1, 2025.**

The monthly ***E-Ivy Leaf*** Newsletters and ***E-Ivy Extra*** Bulletins that we started in 2020 will continue to feed information to our members on a more regular basis.

Gary Ladd gave a brief overview of his strategic communications plan which will get our message out on numerous platforms that we are not reaching today. Younger audience folks visit different platforms than we do.

Cliff Amos, VP of Vietnam/Cold War, will research other avenues for recognition of Cold War and Vietnam Veterans.

Cliff Amos also gave an update on the Flickr photo account that the Association authorized. It will take the place of a stand-alone photographer at the reunions as well as be a repository for

member photos of Association-related items. Photos at the reunion will be taken by Cliff and he will post them to this account.

Executive Director Don Kelby gave his membership trends and chapter status reports. As of June 30, 2025, the end of our fiscal year, we have 1,541 active members. Last year we received 79 new member applications. Membership has decreased by 13 members over the past year, with 63 deaths contributing to the decline. We dropped 96 members for non-payment of dues, which is up by 12 from last year. We have several chapter mergers and closures during the year. We continue to look for ways to strengthen our chapters or close those that have become inactive.

The **2026 National Reunion** will be held in the Quad Cities, August 2-8, 2026, at The Isle Casino Hotel Bettendorf, a multi-faceted destination located at 1777 Isle Parkway, Bettendorf, IA, 52722, easily accessible via I-80, I-74, I-88 and several major state highways and Quad Cities International Airport (MLI). Sleeping room rate \$99/ night (\$126.55 inclusive of fee & tax)
“Thank you for your service” 20% discount at all Isle food outlets

The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Don Kelby, Executive Director