

**Minutes of E-Board Meeting
Isle Casino Hotel Riviera Room
Bettendorf Iowa
August 4, 2026**

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 and a moment of silence for our fallen Comrades.

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 Vietnam & Cold War - Cliff Amos

Committee Representatives Present

Phil Menendez – Scholarship Committee Secretary

Bert Nicholson – Memorial Committee

John Harris – Health & Wellness Committee

Excused were:

Vice President–Communications – Gary Ladd

National Treasurer – Ron Rogers

Nominations Committee—Jerry Bumpus

VP of Finance - Jim McCarthy

A motion was approved to waive the reading of the last E-Board meeting held in 8/12/2025.

Bert Nicholson, Chairman of the Memorial Committee, Gave his 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. 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, 2026, of \$40,395.64 Memorial Committee Reserve checking account balance on June 30, 2026, was \$15,642.01. The combined value of the Trust Fund and the checking account was \$ 56,037.65 on June 30, 2026. (Financial Report was attached) This is an increase of \$2,383.84 from our last fiscal year.

Scholarship Committee Secretary, Phil Menendez, reported we received one (1) E. R. Smith Memorial Scholarship Application and fourteen (14) Legacy Educational Scholarship Applications & Essays. This year's Patriotic theme was "What does being a citizen of the United States mean to me?"

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. There were 14 applicants. The current balance (6/30/2026) is \$102,464.75. So, we recommend (8) Annual Scholarships at \$1K each. The 2026 Judges were almost identical in their judging decisions. All funds have will be sent to the Universities after the reunion.

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 attendance numbers are an improvement from previous years and will have a good reunion.

Resolution Committee Chairman, Ray Rocho – No resolutions pending.

Nominations Committee Chairman, Jerry Bumpus was excused so **President Adams** who presented the 2026-2027 Slate of National Officers.

National President (2year term) – Ray Rocho

National Senior Vice President (2year term) - OPEN

We have two reoccurring positions up for election in 2025, each for a one (1) year term of office; **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 stated he wants to stay on but due to work commitments, he is unable to attend this year. He has stated that he has some great ideas to expand our footprints in different social media platforms but is experiencing some problem with the

systems going live immediately. expressed an interest in this position. He has submitted a media plan to the Media committee and has other ideas for recruiting.

National Treasurer, Ron Rogers was excused President Adams 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.

Opening balance - \$172,443.78

Closing balance - \$170,886.99

Difference Negative - (\$1,556.79)

Balance - Paid for Life Fund - \$ 181,562.20

6/30/2025 Fund Balances

Green In the Ivy Fund* - \$98,316.

Monument Memorial Committee Reserve*- \$15,642.01

PNC**4125 - Monument Memorial Fund - \$40,395.64

PNC**4117 - Scholarship Fund - \$102,464.75

WCMA Fund 02027 - Paid For Life Fund - \$181,562.20

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

\$500 Donation to the Camp Gordon Johnston Museum, continuing our support for the CGJM

\$500 for Redlegs Branson Veterans day Hospitality room

\$500 to the Dockery Foundation for PTSD therapy in honor of Maj. Dockery MOH

Pledge support for the Memorial fund as needed

Media Advisory Ivy Leaves Editor – John Harris gave his report. The Fall issue of the Ivy Leaves has a submittal deadline of October 1, 2026. The Spring issue will have a submission deadline of Feb 15, 2027.

President Adams reported that the first Digital issue of the Ivy Leave was sent in May this year via email.

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.

Executive Director Don Kelby gave his membership trends and chapter status reports. As of June 30, 2026, the end of our fiscal year, we have 1,543 active members. Last year we received 53 new member applications. We dropped 27 members for non-payment of dues, which is down by 67 from last year. He attributes part of that decline to the ability of members to pay dues by credit card. The system sends an email reminder when renewal time approaches. He reports that the biggest problems expressed by the chapter is new membership decline and

lack of participation by the members.

VP of Vietnam/Cold War Cliff Amos, had nothing new to report

Health and wellness Chairman John Harris had nothing to report

Reunion advisory Committee Rick Adams gave an update on this year's activities, The Friday banquet will feature a Color Guard from Rock Island arsenal and Ft Carson has sent an ensemble from the 4ID band, with MG Patrick Ellis, as the guest speaker. General Ellis will be joining us via video.

The 2027 National Reunion will be held in Springfield Missouri, August 2-6, 2027, at The Oasis Hotel and Convention Center, Springfield Mo. Room rate is \$132 + tax per night.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Don Kelby, Executive Director