**AMVETS LADIES AUXILIARY**

**DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN**

**CONVENTION 2014**

**FRIDAY SESSION**

**The convention was called to order by Convention Chairman Dori Burton at 8:41am on Friday, June 27, 2014.**

**Department President Pat Michalski was introduced and escorted to the podium.**

**President Pat introduced National President Linda McGriff who was escorted to the head table.**

**The invocation by given by Chaplain Sue Christe and the Colors were presented by Sgt-at-Arms Martha Popour.**

**Roll Call of Officers by Secretary Nancy Middleton showed all in attendance with the exception of 3rd Vice Rosemary Perdue, Personnel Chairman Janice Marie Hapner, Jacobetti Home Rep. Judy Smith, District VII President Lois Carlson – all excused. Marked absent was District III President Jackie Bain.**

**The 1st Credentials Report was given by Convention Chairman Dori Colley. Total vote is 33, majority vote is 17 and 2/3’s vote is 22.**

**The Reading of the Convention rules was done by Parliamentarian Mary Leach.**

**\*\*Motion Mary Leach/2nd Maureen Jackson to accept the convention rules. CARRIED**

**President Pat announced there were still openings for the Paws With A Cause tour this afternoon. 5 more people requested seats on the bus. The President announced there were still t-shirts (for t-shirt day) available and if anyone had bought them, they were in her room. Please come and get them.**

**1st Vice President Allison Aldrich announced the winners of the Membership contests. The renew yourself drawings were: #1 Judy Bufka from #23, Yvonne B from #115 and May Baker from #126. The New Member drawing winners were Rosemary Nagy #57, Judy Smith #120 and ???? from #57. The Sign a New Member drawing winners were #1 Lois Cochran #126, #2 Mary Leach from #110 and #3 Daniella Slaughter from #57. The individual awards for signing up new members were given to Brenda O from #114 for signing up 9 new members and Mary Leach from #110 for signing up 6 new members.**

**Auxiliaries receiving certificates for 100% renewal or equivalent were: #9, #72, #4064, #1988, #1941, #171, #123, #122, #120, #114, #93, #57.**

**President Pat introduced everyone to PDP Betty Thomas who was Department President in 1964/65 (twenty years BEFORE Pat was President the first time!) PDP Betty lives in Florida but was able to make it back here for this convention. This is the 50th Anniversary of Betty’s election to the Office of Department President.**

**Since all the officers gave their reports at the SEC last night, the President moved forward and called on Treasurer Gloria Hall. Gloria had copies of the proposed budget for 2014/2015 passed out. She quickly read over (and explained) some of the amounts. She answered a couple questions and asked everyone to look them over carefully and be prepared to vote on them tomorrow.**

**Secretary Nancy Middleton asked those who were getting the year books to please come to the Aux. office to pick them up. She also asked Carol King, the National Executive Administrator to stand so everyone could see who they should complain to when they have to file IRS 990 forms and/or e-postcards! Everyone laughed and Carol graciously took the blame!**

**District I President Cel Rose Solak announced Seletha Robertson would be a candidate for the office of 2nd Vice President.**

**PDP Kathy Keizer announced the Gaveliers would be meeting for their annual dinner after the Memorial Service (about 8:15-8:30)**

**Maureen Jackson thanked Carol King for the great work they are doing in National Headquarters. They are very helpful and wonderful to work with.**

**Because we are a little ahead of schedule, tomorrow’s session will begin at 9am.**

**The joint opening is at noon. The PAWS tour (or ‘terr’) is from 2 to 5. The Memorial Service is at 6:45pm**

**\*\*Motion Lenore Uhl/2nd Barbara Bateman to adjourn. CARRIED**

**The benediction was given by Chaplain Sue Christe.**

**The flag retirement was led by Sgt-at-Arms Martha Popour.**

**The 1st session was adjourned at 9:45am..**

**SATURDAY SESSION**

**The Saturday session was called to order by Convention Chairman Dori Burton at 9:07am.**

**All Dept. Officers were escorted to the floor plus our National president Linda McGriff. (This took the place of a roll call) All Officers were there with the exception of Rosemary Perdue, Janice Marie Hapner, Judy Smith, Leora Williamson, Lois Carlson – all excused and Jackie Bain –absent.**

**The invocation was given by Chaplain Sue Christe who asked for a special thought for Kay Rosebrock from Aux. #22 who is having open heart surgery today.**

**The salute to the colors was led by Sgt-at-Arms Martha Popour.**

**Convention Chairman Dori Burton gave the credentials report (as of 8pm Friday) – total vote is 43, majority is 22 and 2/3’s vote is 28.**

**Scholarship Officer Kathy Schultz announced the Scholarship winners for 2013/2014. There were 5 winners:**

**Amber Swiatkowski (Aux. #9) - $1,000**

**Carrie Christe (Aux. #22) - $850**

**Mary Kurack (Aux. #79) - $850**

**Amanda McKellar (Aux. #23) - $850**

**Shannon Swiatkowski (Aux. #9) - $650**

**While waiting for a few of the AMVETS to come to our floor, President Pat asked Kathy Keizer to tell a joke. (She said this is one she heard at church – but it didn’t really sound like a ‘church’ type joke!! – but it was funny)**

**AT the request of PDP Yvette Rusak, President Pat installed Yvette’s granddaughter Ashley Lutt as a new member. Ashley just turned 18 on June 21st and is a new member of Auxiliary #57.**

**Mary Leach thanked Maureen Jackson for her contributions in helping with the budget by doing two Texas Holdems and running two Cash Blast raffles. She also thanked Nancy Middleton for doing the year book. These 5 projects took in over $4,000 to help with the budget.**

**At this time, AMVETS from #910 arrived on our convention floor to see their new Auxiliary receive their Charter. Seletha Robertson, Lorine Porter and Regina Harris-Goodwin were representing Auxiliary #910. President Pat swore them in and welcomed them to our AMVET Family.**

**The American Life Insurance Company had a raffle and President Pat presented $25 Meijer gift cards to the two winners – Richard Robertson from #910 and Betty Petitjean from Aux. #79.**

**At this time President Pat introduced Kurt Sebaly Penrickton’s Director. Faye Richardson-Green talked a bit about Penrickton and their ‘extremely creative’ Director. Kurt thanked the Auxiliary for all their support (and offered Faye a job as Penrickton’s spokesman!!). He relayed a couple stories about some of their children and the process they have made. Kurt also thanked District VI for all the items they brought for Penrickton to this convention. Penrickton receives no government money. They rely strictly on donations. All their food, cleaning supplies and paper products are donated from various service organizations, companies, etc.**

**Faye presented a check to Penrickton in the amount of $5,468.62.**

**Next to come to the Auxiliary floor was Deb Davis from Paws with a Cause. Deb passed out certificates to each Auxiliary who made a donation this year to Paws. She had two special certificates – one for Auxiliary #22 for their donation of $1,050 and another for Auxiliary #57 for their donation of $8,000.**

**President Pat presented PAWS a check in the amount of $10,760,88 from the donations our Auxiliaries have sent into the Department. She also thanked Deb for the planning of the PAWS tour. We have about 20+ people on the tour who had never been to PAWS before.**

**Gloria Hall, Treasurer presented the 2014/2015 budget for approval. Each section was gone over individually.**

**National Convention Expenses – total expense $1,700**

**\*\*Motion Faye Richards-Green/2nd Dori Burton to approve CARRIED**

**Fall Conference / Fall SEC – total expense $2,065**

**\*\*Motion Diana Lammott/2nd Kathy Biela to approve CARRIED**

**Spring SEC – total expense $625**

**\*\*Motion Maureen Jackson/2nd Martha Popour to approve. CARRIED**

**NEC Meeting – total expense $550**

**\*\*Motion Diana Lammott/2nd Lois Cochran to approve. CARRIED**

**Officer’s Expenses (postage/supplies) – total expense $1,050.**

**\*\*Motion Cel Rose Solak/2nd Bert Lema to approve. CARRIED**

**Department Expenses – total expense $12,170.**

**\*\*Motion Maureen Jackson/2nd Peggy Liss to approve. CARRIED**

**Convention Expenses 2015 – total expense $3,395**

**\*\*Motion Maureen Jackson/2nd Cel Rose Solak to approve. CARRIED**

**National Donations – total expense $175**

**\*\*Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Peggy Liss to approve. CARRIED**

**The total budget is $21,730. The total anticipated income is $7,845. The 2014/2015 Ways and Means Chairman’s goal to raise is $13,885.**

**The By-laws were presented for approval by Parliamentarian Mary Leach.**

2014 RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO DEPARTMENT BY-LAWS

1. **Article III Membership, Section 2 reads:** Local Auxiliaries may grant one Honorary

Membership each year. All Department dues are waived. If desired, a Local Auxiliary

may charge the Honorary member an assessment each year.

***CHANGE TO READ:*** *Local Auxiliaries may grant one Honorary Membership each year.*

*They need to fill out the Honorary Membership form, attach a check in the amount of*

*$5.00 which is a onetime payment for the Honorary Membership card and forward to the*

*Dept. Secretary. All Department dues are waived, however, the Local Auxiliary may*

*charge the Honorary member an assessment each year if desired.*

**Motion Nancy Middleton/2nd Maureen Jackson to accept changes. CARRIED**

2. **Article IV Dues, Section 5 reads:** Hospital donations in the amount of $3.00 per year

shall be paid by all annual and life members. In the event a life member does not pay her

hospital donation, the Local Auxiliary shall be responsible for the payment.

***ADD A:*** *The $3.00 hospital donation for all life members must be paid by December 31*

*for the Auxiliary to remain in good standing with the Department.*

**\*\*Motion Mary Leach/2nd Allison Aldrich to accept changes. CARRIED**

**3. Lost in committee**

4. **Article V Department Officers, Section 4 reads:** All newly elected and appointed

Officers shall assume the duties of their respective office after the close of the Department

Convention, with the exception of the Department Treasurer who shall assume her duties

immediately following the Department audit and the Department Executive Secretary who

shall assume her duties immediately following the Department audit and the completion of

the convention minutes being mailed to those on the mailing list.

**CHANGE TO READ:** All newly elected and appointed Officers shall assume the duties of

their respective office after the close of the Department Convention, with the exception of

the Department Treasurer who shall assume her duties immediately following the

Department audit and the Department Executive Secretary who shall assume her duties

immediately following the Department audit and the completion of the convention minutes

being posted on the Department Auxiliary website or being mailed to those on the mailing

list.

**\*\*Motion Mary Leach/2nd Kathy Keizer to accept changes. CARRIED**

5. **Article V, Department Officers, Section 5 reads:** The Department President, with

the approval of the Executive Committee, shall appoint a Parliamentarian,

Publicity Officer/Historian, Junior AMVET Coordinator, Ways & Means Chairperson,

Personnel Chairperson and up to 14 members of the By-Law Committee. She may also

appoint, with approval of the SEC, a Convention Chairperson and Fall Conference

Chairperson, Higgins Lake representative and/or other representatives deemed necessary

By the Convention Body and /or AMVETS.

**CHANGE TO READ:** The Department President, with approval of the Executive

Committee, shall appoint a Parliamentarian, Publicity Officer/Historian, Junior AMVET

Coordinator (IF NEEDED), Ways & Means Chairperson, Personnel Chairperson, and Higgins

Lake Lodge Representative. She shall appoint with SEC approval, fourteen (14) members

to serve on the By-Law Committee, A chairman plus two (2) members of the Department

Grievance Committee, a Chairperson plus two (2) members of the Department Appeals

Committee, a Fall Conference and Convention Chairperson,and other Representatives as

deemed necessary by the Convention Body and/or AMVETS.

**\*\*Motion Mary Leach/2nd Clarice Poisson to accept changes. CARRIED**

6**. Article V, Department Officers, Section 8 reads:** The Immediate Past Department

President shall be the elected Department Delegate and the Department President shall be

the elected Department Alternate Delegate to the National Convention. They shall not be

considered Department Officers. (A) The Department Delegate shall call a caucus at

National Convention upon the request of the majority of the delegation.

**ADD B:** If the Department President is not able to attend the National Convention and an

alternate delegate is needed, by a majority vote of the Michigan delegation, an alternate

delegate shall be voted on and she will serve at no expense to the Department.

**REASON FOR ADDITION:** This will still give us an alternate delegate if needed.

**\*\* Mary Leach/2nd Maureen Jackson to accept changes. CARRIED**

7. **Article VI, Executive Board, Committee & Board of Trustees, Section 2 reads:**

The Executive Committee of the Department shall consist of elected and appointed Officers:

President, 1st, 2nd, 3rd Vice Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer (2 years), Chaplain, Sgt-at-

Arms, Americanism, Hospital and Scholarship Officers, NEC Woman (2 years), Immediate

Past President, Ways & Means Chairperson, District Presidents, the 5 VAVS Representatives,

the 2 Michigan Veterans Home Representatives, Jr. AMVET Coordinator, Publicity

Officer/Historian, Personnel Chairman, Parliamentarian and Higgins Lake Representative.

**CHANGE TO READ:** The Executive Committee of the Department shall consist of elected

and appointed Officers: President, 1st, 2nd, 3rd Vice Presidents, Secretary (2 years),

Treasurer (2 years), Chaplain, Sgt-at-Arms, Americanism, Hospital and Scholarship Officers,

NEC Woman (2 years), Immediate Past President, Ways & Means Chairperson, District

Presidents, all the VAVS Representatives, all the Michigan Veterans Home Representatives,

Jr. AMVET Coordinator (if needed), Publicity Officer/Historian, Personnel Chairman,

Parliamentarian Fall Conference Chairman, Convention Chairman and Higgins Lake

Representative (3 years).

**\*\*Motion Mary leach Green 2nd Kathy Keizer to accept changes. CARRIED**

8. **Article VI Executive Board, Committee & Board of Trustees, Section 2 B reads**:

All elected and appointed officers shall receive four (4) days per diem and mileage to

Department Convention paid at current rate if so budgeted and/or funds are available.

**CHANGE:** The elected & appointed Officers as shown in Article VI, Section 2 shall receive

four (4) days per diem and mileage to the Department Convention paid at the current rate

if so budgeted . Mileage will be paid to the driver only.

**\*\*Motion Mary Leach/2nd Faye Richardson Green to accept changes. CARRIED**

9. **Article VI Executive Board, Committee & Board of Trustees, Section 2, C reads**:

Mileage for all SEC meetings and Convention per- diem shall be paid out of the hospital

fund for all VAVS/MVH Representatives, but will be paid only if it is budgeted in the general

fund and/or if funds are available.

**CHANGE TO READ:** Mileage for all SEC meetings and Convention per-diem shall be paid

out of the hospital fund for all VAVS/MVH Representatives, but will be paid only if it is

budgeted in the general fund.

**REASON:** Again showing paid if funds are available even though budgeted.

**\*\*Motion Mary Leach/2nd Kathy Keizer to accept changes. CARRIED**

10. **Article VI Executive Board, Committee & Board of Trustees**

Add new 3: The following Officers are required to serve on certain Convention

Committees and shall not receive mileage and per diem if they don’t show up for their

meeting. The Chairman of each meeting will inform the Department President if the officer

did not show up and the President will advise the Treasurer if the officer was excused from

the meeting. Honor & Awards Meeting: Chairperson, Immediate Past President, 2nd, 3rd

Vice Presidents, Hospital, Americanism and Scholarship Officer. Membership Committee

Meeting: 1st Vice President, District Presidents, Department Secretary, Finance Committee

Meeting, Treasurer, District Presidents and Secretary.

**\*\*Motion Mary Leach/2nd Faye Richardson-Green to accept changes. CARRIED**

11. **Article 6,** **Executive Board, Committee & Board of Trustees, Section 8**

**reads:** Local Auxiliary Presidents shall be officially invited to attend the

SEC meeting with no vote and at no expense to the Department. Auxiliary members are

entitled to attend the SEC meeting.

**CHANGE TO READ:** When the President puts the notice on the Auxiliary website for the

SEC meetings, she shall note all Auxiliary members are invited to attend the meeting but

have no vote and at no expense to the Department.

**\*\*Motion Mary Leach/2nd Peggy Liss to accept changes. CARRIED**

12. **Article VII Duties of Officers, Section 3, A reads:** The minutes of the pre and post

Convention SEC meetings and the Department Convention shall be sent to the President and

Parliamentarian no later than fourteen (14) days following the Department Convention for

approval. The Department President or Presiding Officer and the Department

Parliamentarian shall return the minutes to the Department Secretary within seven (7) days.

Once approved, the Secretary shall send them to each Local Auxiliary and to the members

of the Department Executive Committee, per the approved mailing schedule.

**CHANGE TO READ:** The minutes of the pre and post Convention, SEC meetings and the

Department Convention shall be sent to the President or presiding Officer and the

Parliamentarian no later than fourteen (14) days following the Department Convention for

approval. The Department President or Presiding Officer and the Department

Parliamentarian shall return the minutes to the Department Secretary within seven (7) days.

Once approved, the Secretary shall send them to each Local Auxiliary and to the members

of the Department Executive Committee, per the approved mailing schedule or the

Department website.

**\*\*Motion Mary Leach/2nd Faye Richardson-Green to accept changes. CARRIED**

13. Article VII, Section 3, B reads: The Department Secretary is to have the minutes of the Fall

and Spring SEC meetings to the Department President or Presiding Officer and the

Department Parliamentarian no later than ten (10) days after the meeting for approval. The

Department President or Presiding Officer and the Department Parliamentarian shall return

the minutes to the Department Secretary within seven (7) days. After approval, the

Secretary shall send copies to each Local Auxiliary and the members of the Department

Executive Committee, per the approved mailing schedule.

CHANGE TO READ: The Department Secretary is to have the minutes of the Fall and Spring

SEC meetings to the Department President or Presiding Officer and the Department

Parliamentarian no later than ten (10) days after the meeting for approval. The Department

President or Presiding Officer and the Department Parliamentarian shall return the minutes

to the Department Secretary within seven (7) days. After approval, the Secretary shall send

copies to each Local Auxiliary and the members of the Department Executive Committee,

per the approved mailing schedule or the Auxiliary website.

**\*\*Motion Mary Leach/2nd Barbara Bateman to accept changes. CARRIED**

14.  **Article VII Duties of Officers, Section 6 reads:**  The Department Parliamentarian will

be responsible for making any authorized revisions, corrections or deletions to the General

Instructions. Individual Officers are to advise the Department Parliamentarian, in writing,

of any changes they feel should be made to their instructions twenty (20) days prior to the

Spring SEC meeting. The Parliamentarian will request the proposed changes at the Spring

SEC. Updated instructions will be passed out at the Post Convention SEC by the

Department Secretary.

**CHANGE TO READ:** The Department President and Parliamentarian shall review the

Officers Instruction Manual for any needed changes. The Parliamentarian shall contact any

Officer whose instructions require changes to discuss the reason for the change. If an

Officer has not been contacted by December 1st and feels her instructions need to be

changed, she will contact the Parliamentarian so they can discuss any changes.

**\*\*Motion Mary Leach/2nd Maureen Jackson to accept changes. CARRIED**

**ADD A:** The Parliamentarian shall retype the Officers Instruction Manual with any changes,

e-mail to the Department Secretary who shall make enough copies for all Officers. The

Secretary will contact the Parliamentarian when this has been done and arrangements will

be made to get the copies and the folders from the Secretary, with mileage or postage paid,

if needed. The Parliamentarian will collate the instructions, place in folders with a label on

the front stating “Revised Offices Instructions” (and the year), and the name of the Office.

They will be distributed at the Post Convention SEC meeting.

**\*\*Motion Mary Leach/2nd Maureen Jackson to accept changes. CARRIED**

**15.** **Article VIII VAVS & MVH Representatives , Section 1 reads:** Hospital funds,

budgeted by the Hospital Committee, shall be allocated to V.A. Hospital and State Hospital

Representatives quarterly for service rendered in Veterans Homes and/or Local Hospitals

where Veterans and/or their families are served.

**CHANGE TO READ:** Hospital funds budgeted by the Hospital Committee, shall be

allocated to VA Hospital and State Hospital representatives quarterly on the 1st of August,

November, February and May for service rendered in Veterans Homes.

**\*\*Motion Mary Leach/2nd Harriet Biela to accept changes. CARRIED**

16. **Article VIII, VAVS & MVH Representatives**, **ADD NEW:** The Representative and

Deputy of the State V.A. Hospitals will meet with the Chief of Voluntary Services in

September to hold their annual joint review. Copies of the review will be sent to the

National VAVS Representative, the Department President and Department Hospital Officer.

**\*\*Motion Mary Leach/2nd Harriet Biela to accept changes. CARRIED**

17. **Article IX Standing Committees, Section 1, C read**s: The By-Law Committee is

comprised of the Department Parliamentarian as Chairperson and no more than 15

members (including the Chairman), designated by the President or the State Executive

Committee.

**CHANGE TO READ:** The By-Law Committee is comprised of the Department

Parliamentarian as Chairperson and the fourteen (14) members as designated by the

President and approved by the Post Convention SEC meeting.

**\*\*Motion Mary Leach/2nd Maureen Jackson to accept changes. CARRIED**

18**. Article X Department Convention, Section 8, A reads**: When changes to the By-Laws

or Standing Rules are to be made, the way it presently reads is to be typed above the

change.

**CHANGE TO READ:** When changes to the By-Laws are to be made, the way it presently

reads is to be typed above the change. This also applies to Standing Rules if time permits.

\*\***Motion Mary Leach/Peggy Liss to accept changes. CARRIED**

19. **Article X Department Convention , Section 9, J reads:** The finance committee shall

be comprised of the Department Treasurer and the Ways & Means Chairperson as Co-

chairpersons, the Department Secretary and the District Presidents or her representative.

Change to read: The finance committee shall be comprised of the Department

Treasurer as Chairperson, the Department Secretary and the District Presidents

or her representative.

**\*\*Motion Mary Leach/2nd Lois Cochran to accept changes. CARRIED**

20.  **Article XII Districts, Section 2, A reads:**  The District Auxiliary shall be responsible for

sending a completed Revalidation Form for the new District Officers no later than June 1st.

**CHANGE TO READ:** The District By-Laws or Standing Rules shall stipulate if the outgoing

or incoming Secretary is responsible for sending the completed Revalidation Form and e-

postcard or 990 to the Department Secretary. It shall be sent within two weeks after the

elections. The installing Officer shall not sign the form until she has determined it has been

completely filled out.

**\*\*Motion Mary Leach/2nd Trisha Cieremans to accept changes. CARRIED**

21. **Article XII Districts, Section 2, ADD B:** The newly elected District Officers shall be

installed by a Past District President or current or past Auxiliary Department or National

Officer.

**\*\*Motion Mary Leach/2nd Trisha Cieremans to accept changes. CARRIED**

22. **Article XII Districts, Section 9 reads:** The outgoing District President shall be the

District Representative to the Department Convention.

CHANGE TO READ: The District shall notify the Department Secretary by June 1st who their

representative will be at the Department Convention..

**\*\*Motion Mary Leach/Nancy Middleton to accept change. CARRIED**

23. **Article XIII Local Auxiliaries, Section 6 reads:** All retiring Local & District Secretaries

are to send a copy of the Revalidation Form to the Department Secretary immediately

following the installation of new Officers.

CHANGE TO READ: The Local By-Laws or Standing Rules shall stipulate if the outgoing or

incoming Secretary is responsible for sending the completed Revalidation Form and e-

postcard or 990 to the Department secretary. They shall be postmarked by May 20th. The

installing Officer is not to sign the form until she has determined it has been completely

filled out.

**\*\*Motion Mary Leach/2nd Peggy Liss to accept change. CARRIED**

24**. Article XIII Local Auxiliaires, Section 8, A reads**: In the event of a forfeiture of a

charter **they** should notify the Department President, Parliamentarian, 1st Vice President and

District President.

**CHANGE TO READ:** In the event of a forfeiture of a charter, the Local President or

Secretary shall notify the Department President, Department Secretary, 1st Vice President

and District President.

**\*\*Motion Mary Leach/2nd Carol Pickett to accept change. CARRIED**

25. **Article XIII Local Auxiliaries, Section 10 rea**ds: Service reports shall cover the period

from May 1 through April 30 each year. The mid-year report is from May 1 through October

31 with postmark no later than November 5th. The final report is from May 1 through April

30, with postmark no later than May 5th of each year.

**ADD A:** If reports are submitted electronically, the same dates apply and the service officer

will download a copy of the e-mail which shows the date submitted and attach it to

the report and shall notify the Local Chairperson the report has been received.

**\*\*Motion Mary Leach/2nd Maureen Jackson to accept the change. CARRIED**

**26**. **Article XV Grievance, Section 1 reads:** The Procedure for Handling Grievances is

hereby incorporated in these By-laws as a supplement. Grievance procedures are set forth

by the National Constitution.

**CHANGE TO READ:** The Grievance and Appeals procedure shall be as outlined in Article

XII of the National Constitution and shall be used by everyone.

**\*\*Motion Mary Leach/2nd Kathy Biela to accept the change. CARRIED**

27. Article XV, Section 3 reads: The Department President shall appoint a Grievance Committee

and Appeals Board at the beginning of the year.

CHANGE TO READ: The Department President shall appoint a Grievance Committee &

Appeals Board at the beginning of the year as outlined in Article XII of the National

Constitution.

\*\***Motion Mary Leach/2nd Peggy Liss to accept the change. CARRIED**

**RECOMMENDATION FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Article IV Section 3 – Add A:

The Department portion for all new members will be $12, and the local Auxiliary will remit $28 for each new member. Annual membership renewals will remain the same at $23. This to take effect October 1st, 2014.

**\*\*Motion Mary Leach/2nd Kathy Keizer to accept the change. CARRIED**

**Notices will be going out soon to prepare the local Auxiliaries about the change.**

**Nancy Middleton pointed out a change that was may a couple years ago at an SEC Meeting. For consistency, we will use the word Chairman instead of chairperson, chair, chairwoman, etc. Chairman is a generic, unisex word that denotes man or woman.**

**There was a discussion concerning mailings. A few of the members were upset because we do not mail out bulletins. The reason for this is there are NO bulletins. Everything goes on the website. The only thing mailed is the Convention Digest in March. Almost everyone has computers or knows someone who does have one and could print off a copy of a report on the website.**

**The Secretary brought up a compromise regarding minutes. If someone wanted a paper copy of the minutes (pre-convention SEC, Convention, post-convention SEC, Fall SEC and/or Spring SEC) the Secretary will mail it to them but they would have to cover the cost.**

**An estimated cost of total convention minutes would be $5, Spring or Fall SEC would be $3 each. Copies of the by-laws and standing rules would be a total of $4. The only stipulation would be the request & money would need to be paid – by check ONLY – and in advance of the mailing. This means the request and money would not be accepted in September for convention minutes which are done in the beginning of July. The Secretary would make the copies when the minutes are done. She would not have to go back and retrieve them, copy them and mail them at a later date. The cost would cover envelopes, postage, paper, ink.**

**The 2nd 50/50 was won by = National President Linda McGriff – AGAIN!**

**Maureen had her drawing for the Cash Blast Raffle. The winner was Mike Mitchell.**

**Hospital Officer Harriet Biela presented the earned hospital pins and bars for this year. Receiving their Hospital pin for 100 hours were Norma Rigby and Barbara Hall both from Auxiliary #57.**

**Receiving certificates were Cathy Lesniak from Aux. #9 for 11,000 hours. Rose Solak from #57 received a certificate for 29,000 hours – yes, 29,000!**

**Auxiliary #171 is having a spaghetti dinner on August 16th for Penrickton. The cost is $10 for adults and children under 10 years old would cost $5.**

**PDP Kathy Keizer announced the Gaveliers turned the gavel over to the new President, Yvette Rusak. Peggy Liss is the new Secretary.**

**The Gaveliers made a donation to Scholarship in memory of PDP Judy Pewitt, PDC Jasper T McCain, the Mother of Judy Smith, the Father of Marilyn Boring and their annual donation. They turned in $85 to the Scholarship Officer (who turned it in to the Secretary)**

**Motion Nancy Middleton/2nd Dori Colley to adjourn for lunch, carried.**

**We broke for lunch and will resume the 2nd session at 1:00pm with nominations and Honors & Awards.**

**RECONVENE**

**The convention reconvened and we went right into nomination of Officers for 2014/2015.**

**1st Vice President Faye Richardson Green**

**Nominated by PDP Nancy Middleton / 2nd by PDP Mary Leach**

**2nd Vice President Seletha Robertson**

**Nominated by PDP Cel Rose Solak / 2nd by PDP Betty Thomas**

**2bd Vice President Martha Popour**

**Nominated by Lois Cochran, Aux. #126 / 2nd by Lenore Uhl Aux. #115**

**3rd Vice President Wendy Lynema**

**Nominated by PDP Kathy Keizer / 2nd by PDP Peggy Liss**

**Chaplain Sue Christe**

**Nominated by PDP Clarice Poisson / 2nd by PDP Maureen Jackson**

**Sgt-at-Arms Lenore Uhl**

**Nominated by PDP Maureen Jackson / 2nd by Lois Cochran, Aux. #126**

**Hospital Officer Patricia (Trisha) Cieremans**

**Nominated by PDP Kathy Keizer / 2nd by PDP Peggy Liss**

**Americanism – no nominations**

**Scholarship Kathryn Schultz**

**Nominated by PDP Sharon Colley / 2nd by PDP Kathy Biela**

**Treasurer Gloria Hall**

**Nominated by PDP Clarice Poisson / 2nd by PDP Kathy Keizer**

**NEC Woman Peggy Liss**

**Nominated by PDP Kathy Biela / 2nd by PDP Kathy Keizer**

**Department President Allison Aldrich**

**Nominated by PDP Mary Leach / 2nd by PDP Maureen Jackson**

**Nominations will remain open until elections on Sunday.**

**Took a couple minutes break before going into Honors and Awards.**

**Honors and Awards began with patriotic music, marching and flag waving. The committee got people up off their chairs and into a happy patriotic mood!**

**The following is a list of winners for the year 2013/2014 – all brought forward with songs and enthusiasm**

**MEMBERSHIP**

**St Vice President Allison Aldrich presented certificates and $25 to Aux. #93 and #9 for being 100% renewed by 10/31/13.**

**PDP Kathy Keizer Class A Membership Award**

**Winner - #1988 / runner up #114**

**PDP Yvette Rusak Class B Membership Award**

**Winner - #122 / runner up #93**

**PDP Maribeth Wescott Class C Membership Award**

**Winner #72 / runner up #123**

**CHILD WELFARE**

**PDP Becky Smith Award**

**Winner # 4064 / runner up #23**

**PDP Kathy Biela Award**

**No winners**

**PDP Patricia Whitcher Penrickton Award**

**Winner #57 / runner up n/a**

**COMMUNITY SERVICE**

**PDP Marilyn Boring Award**

**Winner #57 / runner up #171**

**PDP Maureen Jackson Award**

**Winner #9 / runner up #122**

**PDP Sharon Colley Paws With A Cause Award**

**Winner #57 / runner up n/a**

**HOSPITAL**

**PDP/PNP Janice Hapner Award**

**Winner #126 / runner up #57**

**PDP Lorraine Beedon Memorial Award**

**Winner #9 / runner up #72**

**PDP Jeanne Wedyke Award**

**Winner #9 / runner up #126**

**AMERICANISM**

**PDP Carol Pickett S.O.S. Award**

**Winner #126 / runner up #57**

**PDP Pat Michalski Award**

**Winner #57 / runner up #114**

**PDP Mary Leach Award**

**Winner #93 / Runner up #9**

**SCHOLARSHIP**

**PDP Doreen Pierce Award**

**Winner #57 / runner up #23**

**PDP Dori Burton Award**

**Winner #57 / runner up #23**

**PDP Clarice Poisson Award**

**Winner #9 / runner up #93**

**SCRAPBOOK**

**PDP Jill Byrne Award**

**No winners**

**OUTSTANDING AUXILIARY**

**PDP Nancy J Blok Award**

**Winner #57 / runner up #9**

**A discussion was held on having a caucus because of the two candidates for the Office of 2nd Vice President. It was determined the majority of the delegates wished to have individual caucuses instead of a general caucus. The place and time for these caucuses was announced.**

**The closing prayer was delivered by Chaplain Sue Christe.**

**The colors were retired by Sgt-at-Arms Martha Popour.**

**The convention broke until 8:30am tomorrow morning.**

**SUNDAY SESSION**

**The final session of the 2014 convention was called to order by Convention Chairman Dori Burton at 8:47am.**

**Dori introduced the Past Department Presidents who were in attendance:**

**Betty Thomas 1964/65 Patricia Michalski 1980/81**

**Clarice Poisson 1985/86 Nancy White 1989/90**

**Mary Leach 1990/91 Nancy Middleton 1992/93 Cel Rose Solak 1997/98 Sharon Colley 1998/99 Maribeth Wescott 1999/00 Caroline Pickett 2000/01**

**Doreen Pierce 2001/02 Marilyn Boring 2002/03 Dori Burton 2004/05 Maureen Jackson 2007/08 Kathy Biela 2008/09 Kathy Keizer 2009/10 Yvette Rusak 2010/11 Neva Colley 2011/12 Peggy Liss 2012/13**

**Roll call of Officers showed all in attendance with the exception of Rosemary Perdue, Janice Marie Hapner, Judy Smith and Lois Carlson – all excused and Jackie Bain, absent.**

**The invocation was given by Chaplain Sue Christe and the Pledge was led by Sgt-at-Arms Martha Popour.**

**AMVETS Commander Bob Green visited our floor. He said what a pleasure it had been working with Pat and how much he appreciated her and the entire Auxiliary. He also said he has a lot of respect for National President Linda and reading about all her travels on Facebook really wore him out! He is sorry the year is coming to a close because it has been great.**

**After the Commander left, a cleaning woman pushed her cart across the convention floor and proceeded to start dusting. OH NO – it was National Executive Administrator PNP Carol King and her ‘cart patrol’. Carol always has a tendency to liven things up when she is around!**

**Lenore Uhl presented President Pat with a gift from District II (a can of Big Boy’s hot fudge cream and whipped cream)**

**While we were waiting for a couple guests, President Pat gave out gifts for her Officers. They were given out in her room last night, but some of the Officers were not in attendance. The gift was a wonderful shoe that was made from chocolate and colored with beautiful colors and designs. The shoe was in a clear plastic purse. Each of the gifts was hand made by our President!**

**Americanism Officer Bert Lema gave out her Chairman’s Award. Winner of the most money donated to the Americanism Program was Aux. #93. The winner of the drawing from all Auxiliaries who donated to the SOS project was Aux. #171. Bert also announced $1,177 was given to the AMVETS for the Joint Americanism Committee and $1,057 will be delivered to Selfridge for the SOS program.**

**The 2nd Vice President Faye Richardson Green gave her Chairman’s award (for the most money donated to Penrickton) to Aux. #114 - $2,700.**

**National Executive Administrator PNP Carol King thanked everyone for the great weekend. She always looks forward to visiting Michigan. Yesterday she went to visit her longtime friend PDP Jan Hapner and spent some time with her.**

**Dept. of Michigan Executive Director Carol Hebert came to the floor. She announced the Dept. Convention will be at the Best Western in Lansing for the next three years. A contract is also in the works to guarantee we will have Fall Conference in Grayling for the next three years. She will be setting up a visit to the Lansing hotel and invited our Convention Chairman to visit with her. She will also make copies of the contract available for the Auxiliary to see.**

**Rider’s President Larry Saad came to the floor to thank the Auxiliary for their support this year.**

**Mary Wilseck came to the floor and we didn’t know whether to applaud her or boo her. She is the Dept. Saddest – but she is also the Chairman of the Michigan Veteran’s Home Board of Directors. She thanked the Auxiliary for their support.**

**Diana Lammott invited everyone to attend the AMVET Family Picnic at the Battle Creek VAMC on July 19 starting at noon.**

**National President Linda McGriff (who is from Texas) thanked the Auxiliary for the invitation to visit Michigan. She had three things happen that were ‘firsts’ for her: #1 the greeting she received at the Airport was something she will not forget (she was serenaded as she arrived) #2 she had never had her room T.P.’d before and #3 She does not know how so many of the Officers can stay up so late and still function!.**

**President Linda talked about a major change that may take effect concerning membership. The AMVETS have changed their membership year from January thru December to September thru August. They are requiring all subordinates to do the same. The Auxiliary has sent a resolution to the AMVET to exempt us from this rule, but ……………………………..**

**President Linda presented a gift to our NEC Woman Maureen Jackson and our President Pat and thanked them for the great time.**

**We took a 10 minute break before elections.**

**At 10am Parliamentarian Mary Leach read the election rules**

**Dori Colley did the credentials report. The total vote is 61, the majority vote is 31 and the 2/3’s vote is 41.**

**Nominations were reopened for the Officers for 2014/2015.**

**Previously Faye Richardson-Green was nominated as 1st Vice President.**

**\*\*Motion Nancy Middleton/2nd Mary Leach to close nominations and since there is but one candidate for the Office of 1st Vice President, Faye Richardson-Green be elected by affirmation. CARRIED**

**Previously Seletha Robertson and Martha Popour were nominated for the Office of 2nd Vice President. As a result of the vote. Seletha Robertson was elected to the office of 2nd Vice President.**

**Previously Wendy Lynema was nominated for the office of 3rd Vice President.**

**\*\*Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Lois Cochran to close nominations and Wendy Lynema be elected 3rd Vice President by affirmation. CARRIED**

**Previously Sue Christe was nominated for the Office of Chaplain.**

**\*\*Motion Clarice Poisson/2nd Nancy White to close nominations and Sue Christe be elected Chaplain by affirmation. CARRIED**

**Previously Lenore Uhl was nominated for the Office of Sgt-at-Arms.**

**\*\*Motion Maureen Jackson/2nd Lois Cochran to elect Lenore Uhl to the office of Sgt-at-Arms by affirmation. CARRIED**

**Previously Trisha Cieremans was nominated for the Office of Hospital Officer.**

**\*\*Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Peggy Liss because there is but one candidate for the Office of Hospital Officer, nominations be closed and Trisha Cieremans be elected by affirmation. CARRIED**

**Previously there were no nominations for Americanism Officer.**

**Bonnie Rojeski was nominated by PDP Carol Pickett/2nd PDP Kathy Biela.**

**\*\*Motion Carol Pickett/2nd Kathy Biela to elect Bonnie Rojeski to the Office of Americanism Officer by affirmation. CARRIED**

**Previously Kathy Schultz was nominated for the Office of Scholarship Officer.**

**\*\*Motion Kathy Biela/2nd Sharon Colley to elect Kathy Schultz to the Office of Scholarship Officer by affirmation. CARRIED**

**Previously Gloria Hall was nominated as Dept. Treasurer.**

**\*\*Motion Clarice Poisson/2nd Kathy Keizer to elect Gloria as Dept. Treasurer by Affirmation. CARRIED.**

**Previously Peggy Liss was nominated to the Office of NEC Woman.**

**\*\*Motion Kathy Biela/2nd Kathy Keizer as there is one candidate for the Office of NEC Woman, Peggy Liss be elected by affirmation. CARRIED**

**Previously Allison Aldrich was nominated to the office of Dept. President.**

**\*\*Motion Mary Leach/2nd Maureen Jackson to elect Allison Aldrich as the Department President by affirmation. CARRIED**

**The convention floor broke into song (to the tune of Frosty the Snowman) for Allison. (song written by Maureen Jackson)**

**Allison’s husband John (SOA Commander) was escorted to the floor to congratulation his wife. Allison thanked everyone for their support and confidence in her and promised to do her best.**

**Kathy Schultz won the gas card raffle.**

**President Pat Michalski said her goodbye’s and thanked everyone for allowing her the honor of serving as President – again. She enjoyed the year very much and was a little sad to be leaving. She thanked Pres. Linda McGriff for being at convention and also thanked her special surprise package (Carol King).**

**Dori Burton presented the President with her gift from the Auxiliary – a Coach purse (with some money inside).**

**Ways & Means drew for the Dept. Raffle. #1988 won the $50 3rd prize, Paul LaDouchi (#120) won the canopy and Peggy Liss #22 won the patio set.**

**At this time the AMVETS announced they were ready for the installation.**

**\*\*Motion Linda Marshall/2nd Trisha Cieremans to adjourn. CARRIED**

**The benediction was given by Chaplain Sue Christe. The colors were retired by Sgt-at-Arms Martha Popour The convention was adjourned (time not noted).**

**Respectfully submitted**

**Nancy Middleton, Executive Secretary**

**July 4, 2014**