**Convention 2017**

**JUNE 23, 2017**

The meeting was called to order at 12 noon by Convention Chairman Peggy Liss. All the Department Officers were escorted in and the gavel was turned over to the Department President.

The invocation was delivered by Chaplain Sue Christe

The Flag was presented by Sgt-at-Arms Bert Lema. PDP Kathy Keizer and PDP Cel Rose Solak were the Color Bearers.

Roll Call of Officers was taken as the Officers were escorted into the room. Harriet Altherr was previously seated as the Ways & Means Chairman (Lenore Uhl was excused), Pat Michalski was seated as Honors & Awards (Faye Richardson-Green excused) and Kathy Keizer was seated as District V President (again, Faye Richardson-Green was excused). Others excused were: Judy Smith (Jacobetti Home) and Clarice Poisson (Grand Rapids Home). Those absent were Rebekah Pickrel, District III President and Lois Juchemich, District VII President. Peggy Liss as Higgins Lake Lodge Representative was left off the roll call list – she is now back on!

We had a guest from Ohio at our convention.

Kathy Keizer gave the credentials report. The voting strength was 33 (majority 17 and 2/3s voce 22)

Parliamentarian Pat Michalski read the Convention Rules.

\*\*Motion Pat Michalski/2nd Maureen Jackson to approve the adoption of the Convention Rules. CARRIED

President Seletha appointed Linda Marshall to sever as timekeeper for the convention.

Maureen Jackson reminded everyone about the President’s tea/reception in room 474 from 4:30pm to 5:30pm.

The Gaveliers will be meeting in room 474 after the Memorial Service.

Membership Report:

1st Vice Wendy Lynema handed out certificates for the following:

 #126 – 100% renewed by 12/31/2016

 #910 and #9 – 100% renewed by 10/31/2016 – each also received $25

 100% renewed or equivalent: #4250, #4064, #1988, #1957, #1941, #910,

 #120, #115, #79, #72, #57, #52, #23, #22, #9.

Wendy’s Membership Chairman’s Award was given to the monthly winners: Suzette Ripepe (#57), Clarice Poisson (#126), Christine Keenan (#114), Pat Whitcher (#121), Terri Young (#122), Beth Butler (#3720), Katie Burroughs (#120), Pam Smith (#1988), Sandy Drews (#1941), tie - Katie Burroughs (#120) and Jeanette Gomas (#2273), Patricia Pacynski (#22). The award for the Chairman of the Year was given to Katie Burroughs from #120.

2nd Vice President Kathy Schultz announced the total evaluation for the Child Welfare Program is $232,423.

3rd Vice President Martha Popour reported the evaluation for Community Service is Volunteers – 269, Projects 1,702; Hours 9,230, for a total evaluation $361,695.00.

Secretary Nancy Middleton presented her “On Purpose Mistake Award” to the winner and first person to find the On Purpose Mistake in the January newsletter – Peggy Liss. Small gifts were also given to the others who found the ‘on purpose mistake’ (some with some pretty big hints).

Ways & Means announced Dee Jackson won a Mystery Prize.

Treasurer Gloria Hall presented the proposed budget. Members of her committee were: Kathy Keizer, Rosemary Perdue, Peggy Liss, Nancy Middleton and Rose Solak. Gloria’s activity report is on page 67-68 and the entire finance report is on pages 33 through 53. Gloria reminded everyone who receives mileage for convention – this is for the driver only. She also stated there are some uncashed checks out there. Please cash all checks from the Department within 30 days. It makes it very difficult to balance the books when checks aren’t cashed for several months.

 We had two Texas Holdem’s this past year – one in Grand Rapids and one in Detroit - which brought in a total profit of $6,298.

 Bert Lema suggested Auxiliaries could save money on their budget by shopping at Office Max/Office Depot. (Specifics were not given).

 Gloria reported a problem with the IRS. The CPA did not submit the correct return and the IRS says we owe them $3,890! The CPA has contacted the IRS (deadline 6/29) and the matter will be reviewed within 90 days. (NOTE: since convention, the IRS has reviewed the CPA’s correction – and we do not owe anything.

 The proposed budget was distributed and everyone was asked to look it over because we will vote on it tomorrow.

Parliamentarian Pat Michalski reported the Bylaws Committee met and the members attending were Peggy Liss, Martha Popour, Rose Solak, Wendy Lynema, Maureen Jackson, Kathy Keizer, Kathy Schultz, Rosemary Perdue, Clarice Poisson, Nancy Middleton and herself as Chairman.

 Pat thanked the Secretary for giving the Revalidation Forms to the Parliamentarian to check/correct (This was said very sarcastically!) Everyone laughed. The EINs were incorrect on several of the Revalidation forms. 3 locals were using the AMVETS number

 Bylaws are not approved until the Department President and Department Parliamentarian approve them. It should take about 30 day from the local sending them to receiving them back. We have 5 Auxiliaries not in good standing at this convention. The Department Officers from any of those Auxiliaries will still carry their own vote because the ‘Not in Good Standing’ affects the delegate vote.

\*\*Motion Pat Michalski/2nd Wendy Lynema the Department of Michigan Auxiliary suspend the Charter from #123 until further action is required. CARRIED

Chaplain Sue Christe has her activity report on page 69. She requested a list of deceased members from each Auxiliary for the Memorial Service.

A discussion came up because several people could not hear the speakers. The cost of using the microphone and speakers at this hotel is $250 a day. The cost is exorbitant and well beyond our budget. It was mentioned that several years ago the body gave permission to purchase a sound system. The Secretary explained no outline of costs was given and when she checked, the cost was about $500+. She did not think the approval to purchase took into consideration that high a cost.

\*\*Wendy Lynema/Gloria Hall to purchase a sound system in the $500 to $700 cost range. CARRIED

Christine Keenan suggesting cutting the Secretaries budget by ½ which would give plenty of money for this. There was no other discussion on this suggestion.

Sgt-at-Arms Bert Lema has her report on pages 71 and 72. She thanks Kathy Keizer, Rose Solak, Becky Kovach and Maribeth Wescott for posting the colors this afternoon.

Americanism Officer Carol Orlowski has her report on page 73. She thanked everyone for participating in the Americanism program. The total evaluation for Americanism was $468,421. The Americanism Awards program will be tomorrow at 11:30 (Saturday).

Hospital Officer Harriet Biela has her report on pages 75 & 76. The hospital evaluation is 901 projects, 263 volunteers, 11,779 hours total a total evaluation of $319,021.

 Hospital pins and bars given at this convention are:

 100 hours: Linda Marshall (#22), Gloria Hall (#23), Paula Jerzy (#57)

 300 hours: Kami Domanski (Jr. AMVET)

 32,551 Certificate: Cel Rose Solak #57

 3,500 hr. Certificate: Harriet Biela #9

 100 hr. pin & 500 hr. bar: Jon McBride (#126), Jean Hall (#126), Stephen Strikwerda (#23)

Scholarship Officer Sally Abshire did not have her report in the book but had copies distributed to each delegate. She reported the judging of the scholarships had taken place and there were 4 winners. The amounts of the regular Scholarship grants are $1000. #4064, $900. James Dixon IV #57, $800 Jonathon Swain, #23. The amount of the award for the career Scholarship is $900. Julia Ramirez, #57.

Convention Chairman Peggy Liss has her report on page 87 and her Welcome letter on page 3. Come to her if there are any problems. It is her job to take care of it.

 Carol Pickett asked why there were changes in the agenda. We were told the Commander wanted it different than what we had chosen to do.

Ways & Means – Aux. #93 won $32 on the 50/50.

NEC Woman Pat Michalski received thank you notes for donations to the St Judes Pinup Campaign. #23, #79, #93, #121, #126, #910 donated $365. Pat has the 50/50 tickets for the National raffles if anyone is interested. She also has raffle tickets for the Freedom Foundation’s Seminar from October 12 to October 15.

PRO Dee Jackson stated only one book had been submitted for judging.

Acting Honors & Awards Chairman Pat Michalski announced the Honors & Awards Program would be tomorrow after nominations.

Personnel Chairman Kathy Biela announced the committee has chosen the Secretary for 2017/2019. Come tomorrow and see who they picked!!

Higgins Lake Lodge Rep. Peggy Liss stated there have been No Meetings – No Information – No Nothin’……….so she has No Report.

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At 2:11 President Seletha gave us a 15 minute break.

Aleda E Lutz VA Rep. Linda Marshall has her report on pages 91 & 92. She has $137.18 in checking and $935.36 in savings.

Ann Arbor VA Rep. Pat Krzesowik’s report is on pages 93 & 94. She has $804.90 in her account.

Battle Creek VAMC Rep. Faye Richardson-Green is excused. Her report is in the book on page #95 and she has $874.98 in her account.

John Dingell VA Rep. Harriet Biela has her report on pages 97 & 98. She has $667.86 in her account.

 Harriet stated all the hospital books had been audited except for the Battle Creek VA books. They might be audited at Fall Conference.

Grand Rapids Home for Veterans Rep. Clarice Poisson was excused.

Jacobetti Home Rep. Judy Smith was excused.

District I President Cel Rose Solak has her report in the book (#103, 104). She had no other report.

District II President Rosemary Perdue has her report on page #105. She announced Peggy Liss will be seeking re-election as the National Chaplain. Linda Marshall is seeking the Office of Department Chaplain.

District V Kathy Keizer stated Faye’s report is on pages 107 and 108. Faye sent word that Bob was doing “OK”. Kathy reported #1978’s charter has been suspended. Wendy Lynema is seeking the Office of Department President. Kathy also announced she has picture of the cutest twin ever…….if anyone wanted to see them.

District VI President Christine Keenan reported Auxiliary #13 (Higgins Lake) may disband. She also announced Kathy Schultz is seeking the office of 1st Vice President and has the support of her local and District. On discussing Aux. #110 not being in good standing, Christine said their members walked out of the District meeting in October. She has made attempts to contact them but has not been successful. The only active Auxiliaries in the District are #79, #114 and #1988.

Fall Conference Chairman Maureen Jackson was accidentally left off the agenda. Although her report is not in the book, she made many copies and each delegate, Officer and Past Department President received a copy.

\*\*Motion Nancy Middleton/2nd Bert Lema because Sally Abshire and Maureen Jackson did complete their activity reports and distribute copies, they be allowed mileage to convention if they were the driver of the car. CARRIED

\*\*Linda Marshall/2nd Peggy Liss to adjourn the meeting.

Chaplain Sue Christe gave the benediction.

Sgt-at-Arms Bert Lema retired the colors.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:50pm

**JUNE 24, 2017**

Following the Joint Opening with the AMVET Family, the 2nd Session of the Convention was called to order by Chairman Peggy Liss at 10:30am

The Department President was escorted in and she introduced the Past Department Presidents in attendance.

Pat Michalski 1980/1981 and 2013/2014; Clarice Poisson 1985/86; Nancy Middleton 1992/1993; Judy Smith 1995/96; Cel Rose Solak 1997/98; Maribeth Wescott 1999/2000; Carol Pickett 2000/01; Doreen Pierce 2001/02; Pat Whitcher 2005/06; Maureen Jackson 2007/08; Kathy Biela 2008/09; Kathy Keizer 2009/10; Peggy Liss 2012/13; Allison Aldrich 2014/15.

The invocation was given by Chaplain Sue Christe.

Sgt-at-Arms Bert Lema led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call of Officers:

All present with the following exceptions:

 Excused: Faye Richardson-Green (Battle Creek Rep) and Clarice Poisson

 (Grand Rapids Home Rep.), Carol Orlowski (Americanism), Harriet

 Altherr (Ways and Means). NOTE: Carol was with the Americanism winners and Harriet was in the hall doing her job.

 Absent: Lois Juchemich (District VII President)

Credentials given by Kathy Keizer: The total vote is 38 (majority vote 20 / 2/3’s vote 26.

President Seletha asked all the delegates and Officers to refrain from bringing alcohol in to the convention sessions. Water, coffee, tea, pop are ok.

 She announced Maureen Jackson received the National VAVS Leadership award.

GUESTS:

Kurt Sebaly from Penrickton Center for Blind Children addressed the floor. Penrickton was founded in 1952. At the present time they are serving 31 children at the center. They are always in need of donations, canned goods, paper products, etc. He thanked the Auxiliary for their years of support.

 2nd Vice President Kathy Schultz presented Kurt with a check from the Auxiliaries in the Department of Michigan for $7,097.

 Convention Chairman Peggy Liss asked for a point of privilege. On behalf of the Department of Michigan Officers, she presented a check to Kurt for $330 in memory of Bob Middleton. (NOTE from Secretary: Bob loved Penrickton and the work they do. He would have been so pleased with the choice.)

Deb Davis and Seymour from Paws With A Cause addressed the floor. Deb stated the money donated from the Auxiliary last year supplied Mark Gorham (spelling ??), a Viet Nam Vet, with a successor dog. She also stated 82% of every dollar donated is used for program services. 78% of all donations come from individual donors. 39% ‘change of career’ dogs are accepting into other programs.

 Martha Popour presented Deb with a check for PAWS in the amount of $14,990.

\*\*Motion Maureen Jackson/2nd Linda Marshall to break for lunch and the Americanism Awards Program. CARRIED

President Seletha stated we can leave our paperwork on the tables. The door will be locked. We need to be back by 1:30pm.

Reconvene: 1:35pm

50/50 was won by Kurt Sebaly (who donated it back to Penrickton)

Clarice Poisson (returning) gave her report. Her activity list is on page 99 and 100. The carnival at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans is on July 29. She has $405 in checking and $229.23 in savings.

Judy Smith (returning) gave her report. Her activity list is on pages 101 and 102. She thanked Aux. #114, #79, #57 and #121 for their donations. She has $718.96 in checking and $6.87 in Savings.

Kathy Biela, Personnel Chairman announced the committee selected Nancy Middleton as Executive Secretary for the next two years and she has accepted. The committee also recommends to the finance committee, a salary increase to $5,000 per year.

Parliamentarian Pat Michalski – proposed by-law changes:

**Article VII – Duties of Officers Section 7**

**NOW READS:**

 The outgoing Parliamentarian shall be responsible to re-type the Department By-Laws if any changes have been made at Department Convention. They shall be submitted to the National Parliamentarian in duplicate, including a separate page indicating where changes are within the By-Laws. They shall be signed by the outgoing Parliamentarian and President and sent within thirty (30) days after adoption, for approval at which time they shall become effective. After approval, forward electronically to the Department Secretary for distribution.

**CHANGE TO READ:**

The outgoing Parliamentarian shall be responsible to re-type the Department By-Laws if any changes have been made at Department Convention. They shall be submitted to the National Parliamentarian in duplicate, including a separate page indicating where changes are within the By-Laws. They shall be signed by the outgoing Parliamentarian and President and sent within thirty (30) days after adoption, for approval at which time they shall become effective. After approval, forward electronically to the Department Secretary to be put on the website. \*\*Motion Pat Michalski/2nd Clarice Poisson to approve change. CARRIED

**Article XI – Districts Section 4**

**NOW READS:**

 The By-Laws of the District Council shall be submitted to the Department Parliamentarian every three (3) years in triplicate. Revisions and amendments are to be sent in triplicate at the time they are adopted by the District council. Any By-laws in conflict with the Department or National shall be null and void. The Parliamentarian must sign her approval in black ink and forward all copies to the Department President for her approval. The Parliamentarian will send a signed copy to the District President.

**CHANGE TO READ:**

The By-Laws of the District Council shall be submitted to the Department Parliamentarian every three (3) years in triplicate. Revisions and amendments are to be sent in triplicate at the time they are adopted by the District council. Any By-laws in conflict with the Department or National shall be null and void. The Parliamentarian must sign her approval in black ink and forward all copies to the Department President for her approval, The President will sign all copies, keep one copy and will forward one copy to the Department Parliamentarian, and one copy to District President.

\*\*Motion Pat Michalski/2nd Kathy Keizer to approve change. CARRIED

**Article XII – Local Auxiliaries Section 7**

Section 2 A

NOW READS:

 The Parliamentarian and President must sign their approval in black ink. One copy is to be sent to the Department President, one copy returned to Local Auxiliary, one copy retained in Parliamentarian’s file and one copy to be sent to District President.

**CHANGE TO READ:**

 The Department Parliamentarian and Department President must sign their approval in black ink. All copies are to be sent to the Department President for her approval. The President will sign all copies, keep one copy and return copies to appropriate Local Auxiliary President, District President and Department Parliamentarian.

 \*\*Motion Pat Michalski/2nd Maureen Jackson to approve change. CARRIED

**Article XII – Local Auxiliaries – Section 5** (sent by District I)

Rejected - in conflict with National.

**Article V Section 10**

NOW READS:

Past Department Presidents shall not be allowed to run for a Service Office, Second Vice President (Child Welfare Officer). Third Vice President (Community Service Officer), Americanism Officer, Hospital Officer, and Scholarship Officer. However, a Past Department President may be appointed to a Service Office, if not filled at Election, by the newly elected President.

**CHANGE TO READ:**

Past Department Presidents may be nominated for any Department level office on the day of elections provided there have been no nominations made for the office on the first day of nominations.

\*\*Motion Pat Michalski/2nd Maureen Jackson to approve the change. CARRIED

**Add new Article V Section 10 A.**

No member may seek the office of President, 1st, 2nd or 3rd Vice Presidents without serving on the Executive Board for 2 years including 1 year as a Department Service Officer.

\*\*Motion Pat Michalski/2nd Kathy Keizer to approve a new Article V –10a CARRIED

Standing Rule #8

Now Reads:

If a possible candidate for any Department Office would like to review the Instructions for an office, the Department Parliamentarian will make a copy of the Instructions for that particular office to send out. A complete copy of Instructions will be available on the website.

Change to Read:

If a possible candidate for any Department Office would like to review the Instructions for an office, the Department Parliamentarian will make a copy of the Instructions for that particular office to send out. The Officer’s Instructions will be put on the website individually.

\*\*Motion Pat Michalski/2nd Peggy Liss CARRIED

Standing Rule #21

Now Reads:

The Registration desk will be open at Convention as listed on the President’s tentative agenda in the Convention Digest.

Change to Read:

The Registration desk will be open at Convention as listed on the President’s tentative agenda in the Convention Digest and also on the Auxiliary website.

\*\*Motion Pat Michalski/2nd Clarice Poisson to approve the change. CARRIED

Treasurer Gloria Hall presented a check to Scholarship in the amount of $20 in memory of PDP Jim Smith and Bob Middleton.

 The Hospital Chairman turned in a bill for reimbursement for the letters to raise funds for a National Project for St Jude’s. This would put her $15.49 over budget.

\*\*Motion Gloria Hall/2nd Maureen Jackson to reimburse Harriet Biela for the $15.49 overage on her budget. CARRIED

 Gloria reported the Texas Holdem profits from the 2 events (1 in Detroit and 1 in Grand Rapids) was $6,298.

 The proposed budget for 2017-18 was brought for a vote.

Section #1 – National Convention (total $2,400)

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

Section #2 – Fall Conference/SEC (October, 2017) (total $2,320)

 \*\*Motion Maureen Jackson/2nd Becky Kovach to approve. CARRIED

Section #3 Spring SEC (February 2018) (total $900)

 \*\*Motion Lee Williamson/2nd Becky Kovach to approve. CARRIED

Section #4 NEC Meeting (March, 2018) (total $550)

 \*\*Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Sally Abshire to approve. CARRIED

Section #5 Officer’s (postage/supplies) (total $1,240)

 \*\*Motion Maureen Jackson/2nd Linda Marshall to approve. CARRIED

Section #6 Department ($13,765)

 \*\*Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Clarice Poisson to amend Equipment expense from

 $1,000 to $1,500. CARRIED

 \*\*Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Clarice Poisson to amend Miscellaneous from

 $600 to $750)

New total for Section 6 is $14,415.

 \*\*Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Becky Kovach to approve as amended. CARRIED

Section #7 Convention (June, 2018) (total $3,730)

 \*\*Motion Clarice Poisson/2nd Becky Kovach to amend Chairman’s banquet

 ticket from $35 to $70. CARRIED

New total for Section 7 is $3,765.

 \*\*Motion Clarice Poisson/2nd Becky Kovach to approve as amended. CARRIED

Section #8 National Donations (total $350)

 \*\*Motion Carol Pickett/2nd Peggy Liss to approve. CARRIED

The budget is approved as $25,940.

We had a long discussion about the website. It costs $25 a month and many felt there was very little on there. It was asked why there are not more events listed – there are just old pictures, nothing updated – why don’t we have Officers putting articles on there. The reason is simple. Very few people are sending in anything to put on the website. It was also felt the website was not user friendly – this was about equally divided. Some said yes, some said no. There was a discussion about the font which is used. It is hard to read. The answer is it depends on the system you are using. Those with access pulled up the website on their phones. There were a variety of colors, fonts, etc. There is not much that can be done. Everyone would have to adjust their own setup.

\*\*Motion Peggy Liss/2nd Christine Keenan to try the website for at least one more year. CARRIED

We took a short break before going into nominations (3:20pm to 3:35pm)

Nominations:

1ST Vice Pres. / Kathy Schultz nominated by PDP Kathy Biela /2nd Christine Keenan

2nd Vice Pres. / Bert Lema nominated by PDP Rose Solak/2nd PDP Clarice Poisson

3rd Vice Pres. / no nominations

Chaplain / Linda Marshall nominated by PDP Pat Michalski/2nd PDP Rose Solak

Sgt-at-Arms / no nominations

Hospital Officer / no nominations

Americanism / no nominations

Scholarship / no nominations

Dept. Pres. / Wendy Lynema nominated by PDP Kathy Keizer/2nd PDP Pat Michalski

There was an annual discussion on who could serve in offices based on elected (elective) or appointed. There was a suggestion for the incoming Parliamentarian to contact the new National Parliamentarian after National Convention and get a firm resolve to this question (in writing).

HONORS AND AWARDS 2017 PROGRAM

This was a fun event but it started out as a fantasy – how else would you explain the Dept. Officers all dressed as angel? Here’s the list of winners:

PDP Kathy Keizer Class A Membership Award

 Winner #1988 – runner up #1957

PDP Yvette Rusak Class B Membership Award

 Winner #121 (by drawing)

PDP Peggy Liss Class C Membership Award

 Winner #72 – runner up #910

PDP Nancy Middleton Child Welfare Award

 Winner #114 – runner up #4064

PDP Kathy Biela Child Welfare Award

 Winner #9 – runner up #121

PDP Patricia Whitcher Penrickton Award

 Winner #93 – runner up #57

District II Community Service Award

 Winner #114 – runner up #4064

PDP Maureen Jackson Community Service Award

 Winner #9 – runner up #121

Dept. of Michigan Hospital Award

 Winner #57 – runner up #23

District VI Hospital Award

 Winner #9 – runner up #121

PDP Jeane Wedyke Hospital Award

 Winner #9 – runner up #57

PDP Pat Michalski Americanism Award

 Winner #57 - runner up #114

PDP Allison Aldrich Americanism Award

 Winner #93 – runner up #910

PDP Carol Pickett SOS Award

 Winner #93 – runner up #57

PDP Doreen Pierce Scholarship Award

 Winner #57 – runner up #121

PDP Clarice Poisson Scholarship Award

 Winner #23 – runner up #57

Department of Michigan Scholarship Award

 Winner #79 runner up #93

Dept. of Michigan PRO/Scrapbook Award

 Winner #23 – no runner up

PDP Jill Byrne Scrapbook Cover Award

 Winner #23 – no runner up

PDP Nancy J Blok Most Outstanding Auxiliary Award

 Winner #9 – runner up #57

\*\*Motion Maureen Jackson/2nd Kathy Keizer to adjourn the meeting. CARRIED

The Benediction was delivered by Chaplain Sue Christe.

The Flag was retired by Sgt-at-Arms Bert Lema.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25PM

**JUNE 25, 2017**

The 3rd Session of the Convention was called to order at 8:45am.

Chaplain Sue Christe led everyone in The Lord’s Prayer

The salute to the Colors was led by Sgt-at-Arms Bert Lema.

Roll Call of Officers showed all in attendance with the exception Pat Krzesowik, Faye Richardson-Green – both excused and Rebekah Pickrel and Lois Juchemich – both absent.

Kathy Keizer gave the credentials report: vote count of 50 (majority 26 and 2/3’s vote 34).

Article VII Section 7 of the Department By-Laws was brought up for discussion.

\*\*Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Nancy Middleton move to rescind the previous motion from yesterday. CARRIED

**NOW READS:**

 The By-Laws of the District Council shall be submitted to the Department Parliamentarian every three (3) years in triplicate. Revisions and amendments are to be sent in triplicate at the time they are adopted by the District council. Any By-laws in conflict with the Department or National shall be null and void. The Parliamentarian must sign her approval in black ink and forward all copies to the Department President for her approval. The Parliamentarian will send a signed copy to the District President.

**CHANGE TO READ:**

Effective with this 2017 Department Convention, the outgoing Parliamentarian shall be responsible for re-type the Department By-Laws if any changes have been made at Convention. They shall be sent to the National Parliamentarian in duplicate, including a separate page indicating where changes are within the By-Laws. They shall be signed by the outgoing Parliamentarian and President and sent within thirty (30) days after adoption. After signed copies are returned from National, they shall be forward electronically to the Department Secretary to be put on the website.

\*\*Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Sally Abshire move to approve the new motion. CARRIED

Kathy Keizer announced there will be a Memorial Service for Bob Middleton at Post #23 in Kentwood at 2pm on July 8th. It will be a celebration of life.

Lenore Uhl arrived at convention and apologized because she had to work this weekend. She thanked President Seletha, Pat Michalski, Maureen Jackson, Peggy Liss, Carol Picket and Doreen Pierce for all their help this year.

We took a break before elections.

It was announced Jean Hall is the new AMVETS Commander.

Pat Michalski had to leave early last year. It would have been her 35th anniversary of the 1st time she was Dept. President. She presented a check to the Auxiliary for $175 – that is $35 for each service office: Child Welfare, Community Service, Hospital American, and Scholarship.

Parliamentarian Pat Michalski read the Election Rules.

\*\*Motion Pat Michalski/2nd Peggy Liss to accept the rules as read – CARRIED

Kathy Keizer did the final credentials report and we did a countdown. Some of the Delegates/Officers were missing for elections. The new count is 44 votes – majority is 23

1st Vice President – nominated yesterday was Kathy Schultz. There were no other nominations. \*\*Motion PDP Kathy Biela/2nd PDP Judy Smith to elect Kathy Schultz to the Office of 1st Vice President by affirmation. CARRIED

2nd Vice President – nominated yesterday was Bertha Lema. There were no other nominations.

\*\*Motion PDP Cel Rose Solak/2nd PDP Clarice Poisson to elect Bertha Lema to the Office of 2nd Vice President by affirmation. CARRIED

3rd Vice President: Allison Aldrich was nominated by PDP Clarice Poisson/2nd by PDP Kathy Biela. It was pointed out Allison was elected District III President and could not run for another elective position. Nomination was withdrawn.

\*\*Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Wendy Lynema since there is no candidate for the office of 3rd Vice President, nominations will be closed and it will become an appointment by the new President. CARRIED

Chaplain – nominated yesterday was Linda Marshall. There were no other nominations.

\*\*Motion Pat Michalski/2nd Cel Rose Solak to elect Linda Marshall as Department Chaplain by affirmation. CARRIED

Sgt-at-Arms – there were no nominations yesterday

Sue Christe was nominated by PDP Peggy Liss/2nd PDP Kathy Keizer

\*\*Motion PDP Peggy Liss/2nd PDP Kathy Keizer to elect Sue Christe to the Office of Sgt-at-Arms by affirmation. CARRIED

Hospital: no nominations

\*\*Motion Pat Michalski/2nd Rosemary Perdue since there is no candidate for the office of Hospital, nominations will be closed and it will become an appointment by the new President. CARRIED

Americanism: no nominations

\*\*Motion Peggy Liss/2nd Kathy Biela since there is no candidate for the office of Americanism, nominations will be closed and it will become an appointment by the new President. CARRIED

Scholarship: no nominations

\*\*Motion Pat Michalski/2nd Kathy Keizer since there is no candidate for the office of Scholarship, nominations will be closed and it will become an appointment by the new President. CARRIED

Department President: nominated yesterday was Wendy Lynema. There were no other nominations.

\*\*Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Pat Michalski to elect Wendy Lynema to the office of Department President by affirmation. CARRIED

![C:\Users\Nancy\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\IE\SQPFP3A7\bird-singing[1].jpg]()President Elect Wendy Lynema thanked everyone – especially Auxiliary #23 for their great support and friendship. Wanting to start the year off on a “Sweet Note” she enlisted the help of some children and had them pass out treat bags full of big cookies – compliments of District V. She read a poem that she felt was appropriate for this time.

*Use the talents you possess*

*For the woods would be*

*A very silent place*

*If no birds sang*

*Except for the best.*

 *Henry Van Dyke*

Convention Chairman Peggy Liss presented President Seletha Robertson her life membership card. And a card with $400 worth of various restaurant gift cards. (She and Robert eat out a lot!!). A bracelet and necklace have been ordered from National, but they will not be available until National Convention.

President Seletha almost made it through her ‘good-bye’ speech before she cried!!

The closing prayer was given by Chaplain Sue Christe

The Closing Salute to the Colors was led by Sgt-at-Arms Bert Lema.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 so the new Officers could get installed.

Respectfully submitted

Approved/corrected by 2016-17 Dept. Parliamentarian Pat Michalski

Approved by 2016-17 Dept. President Seletha Robertson

Nancy Middleton

8/13/17