**SPRING N.E.C.**

**MARCH 7, 2015**

Called to order at 9:03 by AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary National President Sylvia Rowland.

Bible was opened and prayer said by Chaplain Beverly Studebaker

Flags were presented and Pledge led by Sergeant-at-Arms Sheila Jackson.

Preamble read by 1st Vice Kathy Berning

Aims and Purposes read by 2nd Vice Evelyn McElvin

Code of Ethics read by 3rd Vice Marvell Ruppel

Americanism read by Americanism Officer Dee Baggett

Motion for adoption of Agenda made by 1st Vice Kathy Berning and seconded by 2nd Vice Evelyn McElvin. M/C

President Sylvia then talked about Our Daily Bread and Hobe and Sue Williams who were the recipient of our Humanitarian Award at last night’s Silver Helmet Banquet. Larry Williams their son spoke first giving us a little information on the running of Our Daily Bread. They serve approximately 1600 persons a week. They schedule about 10 meals a week and have 150 volunteers serving those meals. No one is turned away. Hobe and Sue then talked for a little bit thanking the Auxiliary for all they have done. What a wonderful couple they are.

Jr. AMVETS then came onto the floor. Their president spoke for a few minutes and then Jr AMVETS Coordinator Denise Speigle told us a little about the projects they worked on this year. She said that there was 210 members across the nation. She also told us that if your State doesn’t have any Jr.’s you could join in another State.

National Saddest A.J. Johns and National Snappiest Cindy Rice also addressed us. They told us of the Nursing Scholarships that they raise money for with their 50/50’s and other fund raisers. They asked us all to think about joining, and again you can join in another state if that works for you.

National Commander Larry Vi was next to speak to us. Told us a quick story about Sylvia and his hat. Said he was having a wonderful year and thanked us for all the we do for the Organization. National E.D. Stuart Hickey was with him.

National President Sylvia then left our floor and went on the AMVETS floor.

National 1st Vice Kathy Berning then took over our floor and had National Executive Administrator Carol King take Roll call. Roll call showed we had 7 PNP present.

National Past President Leslie Wunderle made a motion to accept Preconvention NEC minutes as written and seconded by Karen Simmons and a Motion was made by National 2nd Vice Evelyn McElvin and seconded by PNP Linda McGriff to accept Post convention NEC minutes as written. No discussion on either was made so M/C.

PNP/Parliamentarian Heidi Dineen Serpis said that no Convention Referrals were brought out of the By-Law Committee. She did ask that in the future anyone proposing a recommendation to please attend the By-Law committee meeting so they can explain what they are proposing.

National 1st Vice: Kathy Berning asked that all D&R’s be typed or printed and to please double check all spelling. New forms are all on the website. They can be typed and e-mailed in making it easy for all to process.

National President Sylvia returned to the floor. She told us that the she was given $2,500.00 for her project Camp Corral from the National AMVETS. She then gave her report. Stated that she is having a wonderful year. She spoke on her trip to South Korea and several of her other trips around the States. She thanked us for all the support we have given her.

National Son’s Commander Dan Briggs visited and told us about “The Son’s Storming the Hill”. They had 93 people involved and had 193 meeting with Rep’s and Aides. He then told us that the Sons were in the process of moving their Headquarters to Maryland, so all 3 branches would be closer together. He then reminded us, “If you want it done, ask a Son”.

National Riders President Rob Quick was next to speak with us. He stated there was 2800 members of which 600 are women. They have partnered with the AMVETS in regards to helping with the Suicide Prevention Program and also help with the Service Foundation to help with the V.A. Hospitals

National 2nd Vice: Evelyn McElvin reported “The Train is still rolling”!! She asked that we please check that each entry goes to the proper Service Report. She said a real problem is that St. Jude’s goes on Hospital, NOT Child Welfare. She thanked us all for cards on the passing of her Mother.

National 3rd Vice: Said she was having a wonderful year. Mentioned her trip to Paws With A Cause in Michigan. Reminded everyone that cemetery flag entries go on Americanism NOT Community Service. Then she reminded everyone that March was Paw With A Cause month.

National Treasurer: Barbara Guth is not able to attend as her husband is having surgery. She sent in a few changes to be made to the Budget.

National Americanism: Dee Baggett talked about how great the 9th grade Youth Seminar was at Freedom’s Foundation. Ladies Auxiliary weekend will be October 9 – 11 and the price will be $300.00. She reminded us that May is Freedom’s Foundation Month.

National Scholarship: Leslie Nell thanked us for all the reports and asked for volunteers for her committee to judge the Scholarship applicants.

National Chaplain: Beverly Studebaker asked that all death notices that are sent in be typed or at least legible and double checked for spelling. It would be better if they could be e-mailed. She also mentioned that there were a few Departments she got no notifications from.

National Sergeant-At-Arms: Sheila Jackson starting by thanking her Pages, one was our own Faye Richardson-Green. She said she enjoyed all the Smiles she got this morning. She gave out a copy of an order sheet s from Haband that has pants that can worn as part of the uniform.

National Hospital: Barbara Valley stated that Hospital work was down according to all reports. She wanted to remind our Department Hospital officers to check that all special occurrences such as Halloween and Christmas events be put on the reports. She also told us to talk with our Hospital Officers and have then get in touch with the locals and see if they could do special fund raisers for your V.A. Hospitals. There was a discussion on the number of Hospital Volunteers, Michigan’s was noted.

National VAVS: Marie Rorrio reminded us that the Department VAVS must be certified. Forms are now available on the website.

National Parliamentarian: Heidi Dineen-Serpis told us that we needed to send only two (2) copies of the By-Laws to her. Need to check the responsibilities of the Officers. She also reminded us we had 45 days to get a copy of our report to our Departments and to her. She would prefer that we e-mail them to her. She also explained to the NEC’s that all reports from our Service Officers must be signed by both the Officer and the NEC. If you are unable to scan them signed and e-mail them, then you must sign them and send them by U.S. Mail.

National Training Officer: Betty Lawson discussed our Service Reports. She passed out a sheet of paper with a list of project and we had to tell her witch report it would go on. She also passed out to the NEC’s a laminated sheet with helpful hints to use for showing which report things should go. She made it a point that this sheet was property of National Headquarters, therefore it was to remain in the file and passed along to the new NEC. She then passed out a paper sheet for everyone else. It should be made clear that all information is clear and legible. As NEC’s we need to check each item to make sure it is right on the report. One point she made sure to make clear is that a unit that is staffed 24 hours by a doctor is considered a hospital, if it is not 24 hour staffed would be listed on Community Service. She then asked if we do anything with the information of the number of projects. Since is really a useless figure she this going to recommend that we leave it off the forms. Betty then reported on the Training Session at Pigeon Forge. She thanked her Teachers and reported that we had 19 first timers this year.

National Convention Officer: National Executive Administrator, Carol King gave the report for Charlene Key as she was unable to attend. The Convention will be at the Sheraton Birmingham in Alabama. August 15 – 23. One night’s charge of $119.00 will be placed on your credit card when you make your reservations. There is a $6.00 a night parking charge. It is a 12 minute shuttle ride from the airport to the hotel. There is one restaurant and bar in the hotel. It is far out of town, so planning to walk out for food is NOT a good idea. Below is the listing for the Convention sites for the next 4 years.

August 15 -23, 2015 Sheraton Birmingham Hotel

2101 Richard Arrington Blvd. N

Birmingham, AL 35202

(205) 324-500

August 7 – 14, 2016 The Nugget

1100 Nugget Avenue

Sparks, NV 89431

(800) 648-1177

August 6 – 13, 2017 Norfolk Waterside Marriott

235 E. Main St.

Norfolk, VA 23510

(800) 228-9290

Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel

777 N. Waterside Dr.

Norfolk, VA 23510

(800) 325-3535

August 6 – 13 Caribe Royale

8101 World Center Dr.

Orlando, FL 32821

(800) 916-4339

National Executive Administrator: Carol King reported that a memo from the Urban Institute states there was a breach to forms 990 online and the e-Post Cards for non-profit organizations. In addition it affected users of Form 8868 extensions and filing for charitable organizations in Hawaii, Michigan and New York. The usernames, first and last names, e-mail addresses, IP address, phone numbers and passwords associated with your nonprofit organization were compromised. If you use the same password for different websites as well, it is recommended that you change them immediately.

National Honors and Awards: Cindy Rice said if you check the forms for History and scrapbooks there is a mistake. Two different formats were issued. This year both formats will be honored.

National Board of Trustees: Linda Taylor said we needed nominees for next year’s Humanitarian Award.

National Council of NEC: Myra Clark reported that at yesterday’s meeting there were 24 NEC’s, 2 PNP’s and 6 Presidents and a total of 42 in attendance. She wanted to make a recommendation, but the Parliamentarian told her that recommendations must be put in writing and e-mailed to her.

NEC Reports: Many were sick and unable to attend and their alternates presented their reports. All reports were in the Spring NEC Book. Basically all had the same problems, memberships and reports. The following Departments announced candidates running for offices:

Arizona: Sheila Jackson running for National Scholarship

Florida: Evelyn McElvin running for National 1st Vice President

Dee Baggett running for National Americanism

Illinois: Leslie Nell for Hospital

Iowa: Kathy Berning running for President

Kentucky: Barbara Guth running for Treasurer

Massachusetts: Beverly Studebaker running for Scholarship

Ohio: Barbara Valley running for 3rd Vice President

Wisconsin: Marvell Ruppel running for 2nd Vice President

No Unfinished Business

New Business: Dee Baggett is selling Alabama Night Tickets for Charlene Key. The price of the Tickets are $20.00.

Training & Programs has a Quarterless Auction tonight starting at 7:00 pm. 40 tickets for $10.00, Paddles cost 1 for $3.00 or 2 for $5.00.

Raffle Queen Linda McGriff has Convention 50/50 tickets that you can sign out for. They are $1.00 per ticket or $5.00 per book. See her after the meeting if you haven’t gotten them already. If you sell the tickets and you don’t want to hold the tickets until convention, please send the money and the stubs to her, NOT to National Headquarters.

She also announced that the Diabetic Walk will be April 24-26 in Athens Ohio.

Motion to adjourn at 3:55

Benediction by National Chaplain Beverly Studebaker

Retirement of Colors by National Sergeant-At-Arms Shelia Jackson

Adjournment by National President Sylvia Rowland.

Respectfully Submitted

Peggy Liss

NEC Michigan