**CONVENTION 2015**

**Lansing Michigan**

**Saturday, June 27, 2015**

The first session of the 2015 convention was called to order by Convention Chairman Kathy Keizer. She introduced all the Department Officers and had the Sgt-at-Arms escort in our Department President Allison Aldrich.

The invocation was delivered by Chaplain Sue Christe.

The Presentation of Colors was led by Sgt-at-Arms Lenore Uhl.

The Secretary did a roll call of all officers not introduced during the opening: PRO & Grand Rapids Home Rep Sharon Colley – absent; Jacobetti Home Rep Judy Smith – excused; District VII President Lois Carlson Juchemich – absent. PDP Kathy Biela is filling in for the Personnel Chairman PDP Janice Marie Hapner who is excused.

The first order of (monkey) business was a personal privilege called by PDP Pat Michalski. The Department Secretary had forgotten several personal items when she packed for convention. Pat presented her with a nightgown so she didn’t have to sleep in roommate Kathy Keizer’s robe.

The first order of (real) business was a credentials report by Credentials Chairman Martha Popour. As of Friday evening, we had a registration of 13 delegates, 4 Past Presidents, 21 Officers and no guests.

Parliamentarian Pat Michalski read the Convention Rules.

***\*\*Motion Pat Michalski/2nd Peggy Liss to approve the convention rules.*** CARRIED

***GUESTS:***

Our first guest to the convention floor was Deb Davis with her new dog Seymour. Deb talked about two dogs which the Department of Michigan Auxiliary has supported. #1 Nugget, a lab paired with Dennis, a veteran with limited hand use. #2 Texas, another lab paired with Jason, a Dessert Storm vet who is paralyzed from the mid-chest down. She told how the dogs have changed the lives of these two Veterans.

3rd Vice President Wendy Lynema presented Deb with a check for PAWS in the amount of $15,460.

Our next guest was Kurt Sebaly from Penrickton Center for Blind Children. Kurt talked about the different learning tools used by the children at Penrickton. He used our Auxiliary head table to demonstrate how children can learn from simple items we have around the house – texture, sound, size, shape, etc. The center has several types of activities for the children which helps them learn – swimming, horseback riding – music – dance – animals to pet, etc.

2nd Vice President Seletha Robertson presented Penrickton with a check in the amount of $5,611. Kurt thanked us and also said they appreciate all the products (food/paper/supplies) that are donated from the various Auxiliaries.

***OFFICERS REPORTS***:

Our Convention Chairman put funny little jokes on each of the Officers name cards. They needed to read them before their report. It was a fun idea!

**President Allison Aldrich** (report on page 49 & 50) asked how everyone was feeling about the shortened convention. Some of the Officers complained there was just too much to do and not enough time to do it. On Friday, they went from one meeting to the next and many of them didn’t have time for lunch.

President Allison stated this was a trial 2 day convention. We have discussed cutting back for several years and she felt maybe this was the year to give it a try. We will discuss later if we want to continue it.

**1st Vice Faye Richardson Green** stated there was an error in her bulletin on page #2, 2nd line it mentions Auxiliary #72 – this should be #79.

Faye said she had the opportunity to visit other Department convention and was surprised to see the differences. In one Department a local Membership Chairman was honored for promoting membership and increasing the Auxiliary. Her secret was to ask everyone! If a man she did not know came to the Post, she asked if he was a member and if he had a wife or daughters who might be interested in joining. If a woman came in who she did not know, she asked (if she wasn’t a member) if she was related to an AMVET or a veteran. The key was asking people to join.

Faye explained the importance of December 31. That is the cut-off date for renewing your membership. After that date, they would be considered new members and need to establish eligibility.

There were several contests held for membership this year and they were listed in Faye’s bulletin on page #37. The last contest was a drawing from all Auxiliaries with new members. They received $25. The winner was (drum roll….) #126!

Checks in the amount of $25 were also presented to Auxiliary #9 and Auxiliary #910 for having 100% renewals by October 31, 2014.

**2nd Vice President Seletha Robertson** said this year has been a learning experience. She reminded everyone the reports must be postmarked by the 5th of November and May.

Dana Berry from #171 asked about members who work multiple programs and/or projects because we only list them once on the report sheets. Seletha suggested honoring them at the Post level with a certificate or other recognition

**3rd Vice President Wendy Lynema** stated the total evaluation for Community Service in the Department of Michigan was $561,896. She asked everyone to read her bulletin on page #43. She also stated there were several fundraisers listed on the evaluation sheets but there were no donations listed. Don’t forget to add them.

For her Chairman’s Award, Wendy has a prize for the Post with the most people attending the PAWS tour with the National 3rd Vice President. The winner is #23. They received a stuffed PAWS puppy – with lottery tickets in its backpack.

There was a drawing from all the PAWS prints that were returned to convention with names on them. The winners were #1 Sally Abshire from #23; KD/CP from #23; Barb Adams from #79.

**Secretary Nancy Middleton** explained her cough was from allergies tickling her throat. She thanks several members who were supplying her with mints, hard candy, etc. to help with the problem. She brought up the newsletter but asked PDP Kathy Biela, as acting Personnel Chairman, to explain more about it.

**Treasurer Gloria Hall** stated she held the Finance Committee meeting and those committee members attending were Nancy Middleton, Rose Solak, Carol Pickett, Kathy Keizer and Erica Szegda.

Gloria had the proposed budget as approved by the committee passed out to the delegates and Officers.

Gloria also reported there could be a change as to where we will have Fall Conference this year. It may be in Big Rapids. The AMVETS will vote on it later and let us know. But…we need to be prepared in case this changes the budget.

**Parliamentarian Pat Michalski** had copies of the proposed by-law changes distributed to the convention body.

**Sgt-at-Arms Lenore Uhl** had copies of her activity report distributed to the convention body. She again apologized for the error in not having it in the book.

**Americanism Officer Bonnie Rojeski** stated the final evaluation for the Department Americanism was $87,207 and SOS was $275,018. There are still a few raffle tickets available for the Americanism Drawing. They are $20 each and the drawing will take place tomorrow.

**Hospital Officer Leora Williamson** stated her bulletin is on page 45. She was a little disappointed because only 15 of our 27 Auxiliaries sent in reports. The total evaluation was $363,556. The total youth evaluation was $20,316. The total cash donations were $4,457. Lee would like to see more of our Auxiliaries taking part in the Hospital program.

PDP Nancy Block donated $50 to the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans in memory of her husband, PDC Bert Blok.

Clarice was sorting through things and found her mother’s hospital pins. She donated them to the Department. Many of them were still in the box or plastic bag they originally came in. Lee announced we had ordered pins to have on hand. Names are to be sent in March for all members who should be receiving pins, bars or certificates.

**Scholarship Officer Kathy Schultz** has her activity report on page 67. She thanked the Auxiliary for the last 2 years as she served as Scholarship Officer and has promoted education.

**NEC Woman Peggy Liss** passed around a sheet for the National Patron’s Page. Put in $1 and sign your name so it will appear in the National Convention Book. She also has National 50/50 tickets. If anyone would like to purchase some, see her after the meeting. Peggy thanked the Dept. Service Officers for getting their reports in on time.

The national Convention will be held in Birmingham Alabama this year. Kathy Berning is running for President, Evelyn McElvin for 1st Vice and Marvell Rupple for 2nd Vice, Barbara Valley for 3rd Vice, Barbara Guth for Treasurer, Beverly Studebaker & Shelia Jackson for Scholarship, Dee Baggett for Americanism, Leslie Nell for Hospital and Donna Tvedt for Sgt-at-Arms.

Peggy mentioned at the NEC meeting, Michigan was recognized as having the most youth volunteers. These came from Auxiliary #57.

**PRO/Historian Sharon Colley** absent. Kathy Biela was taking pictures because we did not have a PRO in attendance.

**Liaison/Honors and Award Chairman: Pat Michalski** there was nothing more to report as Liaison. The Honors & Awards program will be held this afternoon (Saturday).

**Ways & Means Chairman Maureen Jackson** said they are trying hard to make the budget but it is hard. They may not make it but they should be fairly close. They have some good raffles going so come and buy!

**Convention Chairman Kathy Keizer** stated we will be coming to this hotel for the next two years. They are working on a couple of issues and should have them all resolved. Some of the delegates stated there were differences in the room charges. Kathy will check on it.

This is the 5th anniversary of her convention and she is starting off next year’s Scholarship program with a donation.

**Point of Personal Privilege** Maureen Jackson came to the floor and asked if all voting members were required to wear their badges. She found the Secretary’s badge just lying on a table and thought it might be worth something. (The Secretary paid a $1 fine for losing her badge!)

**(Acting) Personnel Chairman Kathy Biela** reported Nancy Middleton will continue as Secretary for the next two years. She also discussed the suggestions of the Personnel Committee:

#1. We will start up the newsletter again. Each local will receive a free copy. All others who may want a copy must pay a $10 yearly fee to help cover the cost of postage and envelopes.

#2. Suggest a training Committee to work with new officers.

#3. Deadlines must be met. The incoming President and a committee will work on deadline schedules.

**Higgins Lake Lodge Rep Diana Lammott** had a copy of the American Veteran Magazine and there is a nice article in it about the Higgins Lake Lodge.

**Fall Conference Chairman Pat Whitcher** hoped everyone learned at least one thing at the last Fall Conference. She has her report on page 79.

**Carillon Fund (Americanism) – Bonnie Rojeski** recommended the disbursement of the Carillon donations:

\*\*Motion Bonnie Rojeski/2nd Pat Michalski to send $65 to Great Lakes National Cemetery, $95 to the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans and $20 to Jacobetti – all for their carillon fund. CARRIED

Clarice Poisson announced this is her 50th year as a member and 30th anniversary of her year as president.

Break at 11:30pm for lunch – 1 hour.

Reconvene at 12:40

Peggy Liss announced Sadie (her dog) won a contest will be appearing on the cover of a calendar for doxies.

**Resume with Officer’s Reports:**

**District I President Cel Rose Solak** reported she is remaining as the District I President.

**District II President Carol Pickett** thanks everyone who helped with the District this year. She introduced the new District President, Kathy Hale.

**District V President Kathy Keizer** wanted to state she felt the Convention Chairman was doing an awesome job (in case you didn’t catch it – Kathy IS the Convention Chairman!). Lee Williamson was last year’s District President and had her report in the book on page 97. (In District V, the new President represents the District at convention)

It was announced there will be a fundraiser for the Department AMVETS on February 13, 2016 at Post #57 in Harper Woods.

**Scholarship Officer Kathy Schultz** announced the 2015 scholarship winners:

Mary Firek from #79 - $1,300

Sydney Brougham from #126 - $900

Amber Swiakowski from #9 - $800

Jonathon Swain from #23 - $500

Kathy thanked everyone for all their help and stated “we can give this much because of you!”

**Hospital Officer Lee Williamson** presented a certificate of appreciation to Cel Rose Solak for 30,000 hospital hours.

**Budget:**

\*\*Motion Rosemary Perdue/2nd Lois Cochran to bring the proposed budget to the floor. CARRIED

\*\*Motion Diana Lammott/2nd Peggy Liss to approve the budget as written. CARRIED

**NOMINATION OF OFFICERS**

Nominations were open for the Office of 1st Vice President

Seletha Robertson was nominated by PDP Rose Solak/2nd PDP Kathy Keizer

Nominations were open for the Office of 2nd Vice President

Wendy Lynema was nominated by PDP Kathy Keizer/2nd PDP Pat Michalski

Nominations were open for the Office of 3rd Vice President

Kathy Schultz was nominated by PDP Kathy Biela/2nd Erica Szegda

Nominations were open for the Office of Chaplain

Leora Williamson was nominated by PDP Pat Michalski/2nd PDP Kathy Keizer

Nominations were open for the Office of Sgt-at-Arms

Lenore Uhl was nominated by Lois Cochran/2nd Martha Popour

Nominations were open for the Office of Hospital Officer

There were no nominations

\*\*Motion Nancy Blok/2nd/Kathy Hall nominations will remain open until tomorrow. CARRIED

Nominations were open for the Office of Americanism Officer

Carol Orlowski was nominated by Bonnie Rojeski/2nd PDP Nancy Blok

Nominations were open for the Office of Scholarship

Rosemary Perdue was nominated by PDP Maureen Jackson/2nd PDP Peggy Liss

Sally Abshire was nominated by Gloria Hall/2nd PDP Clarice Poisson

Nominations were open for the Office of Department President

Faye Richardson-Green was nominated by PDP Nancy Middleton/2nd PDP Pat Michalski

Nominations will remain open until Sunday morning.

After Nominations we took a 20 minute break and had to leave the room while they got ready for the Honors and Awards Program.

Reconvened as the Snowmen Service Officers and the Honors & Awards Chairman danced into the room. President Allison was seated on the ‘snow bank’ for a ringside seat to the Honors and Awards extravaganza!

AND THE WINNERS WERE………………………….

PDP Kathy Keizer Class A Membership Award winner #120 / runner up #1957

PDP Yvette Rusak Class B Membership Award winner #93 / no runner up

PDP Peggy Liss Class C Membership Award winner (tie) #123 & #910 / no runner up

PDP Nancy Middleton Child Welfare Award winner #23 / runner up #57

PDP Kathy Biela Child Welfare Award winner #9 / runner up #269

PDOP Patricia Whitcher Penrickton Award winner #57 / runner up #93

PDP Marilyn Boring Community Service Award winner #171 / runner up #57

PDP Maureen Jackson Community Service Award winner #9 / runner up #93

PDP Sharon Colley Paws With A Cause Award winner #57 / runner up #93

PNP/PDP Janice Hapner Hospital Award winner #57 / runner up #126

PDP Lorraine Beedon Memorial Hospital Award winner #9 / runner up #122

PDP Jeane Wedyke Hospital Award winner #9 / runner up #57

PDP Pat Michalski Americanism Award winner #57 / runner up #114

PDP Mary Leach Americanism Award winner #93 / runner up #122

PDP Carol Pickett S.O.S. Award winner #57 / runner up #93

PDP Doreen Pierce Scholarship Award winner #57 / runner up #93

PDP Dori Burton Scholarship Award winner #79 / runner up #121

PDP Clarice Poisson Scholarship Award winner #93 no runner up

Scrapbook Awards (book and cover) – no entries

PDP Nancy J Blok Outstanding Auxiliary Award winner #57 / runner up #9

Following Honors & Awards:

Benediction by Chaplain Sue Christe

Retirement of Colors by Sgt-at-Arms Lenore Uhl

The regular business session was adjourned for the day.

President Allison asked if the delegates wanted a caucus. They did but just for the two running for scholarship, Rosemary Perdue from #22 and Sally Abshire from #23. The majority rule applied and they had a general caucus.

**SUNDAY, JUNE 28, 2015**

The second session of the Convention was called back to order by Convention Chairman Kathy Keizer at 8:35am

Stuart Hickey, AMVETS National Executive Director came onto the Convention floor to speak. He talked about the Ladies Auxiliary and how important they are to the AMVETS.

President Allison introduced the Past Department President’s in attendance:

Pat Michalski, Peggy Liss, Yvette Rusak, Kathy Keizer, Kathy Biela, Maureen Jackson, Pat Whitcher, Doreen Pierce, Carol Pickett, Cel Rose Solak, Nancy Middleton, Clarice Poisson, Nancy Blok.

The invocation was delivered by Chaplain Sue Christe.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sgt-at-Arms Lenore Uhl.

Roll call of Officers showed all in attendance with the exception of Judy Smith, excused; Sharon Colley absent; Lois Carlson Juchemich, absent

**By-Laws:**

These are the by-law changes as recommended by the By-Law Committee which met on Friday morning:

**ARTICLE VI – EXECUTIVE BOARD, COMMITTEE & BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**Recommend Change**: Wherever the word Chairperson/Chairwoman is in the Department By-Laws, automatically change to Chairman.

This was an automatic change which was approved two years ago, but was not implemented.

**Section 2: Now Reads:**

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 Chairperson, Parliamentarian, Fall Conference Chairperson, Convention Chairperson and Higgins Lake Lodge Representative. (6/14)

**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 Chairman, 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 Lodge Representative **(3 years.)**

**\*\*Motion Pat Michalski/2nd Peggy Liss to approve the change. CARRIED**

**Section 3: Now Reads:**

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 Chairperson 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 Officers. Membership Committee Meeting: 1st Vice President, District Presidents and Department Secretary. Finance Committee Meeting: Treasurer, District Presidents and Department Secretary. (6/14)

**Change to Read:** 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 Chairperson 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: **Immediate Past President as Chairman,** 2nd, 3rd Vice Presidents, Hospital, Americanism, and Scholarship Officers. Membership Committee Meeting: 1st Vice President, District Presidents and Department Secretary. Finance Committee Meeting: Treasurer, District Presidents and Department Secretary. (6/14)

**\*\*Motion Pat Michalski/2nd Peggy Liss to approve the change CARRIED**

**Section 9 – Now Reads:**

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. (6/14)

**Change to Read:** When the President puts the notice on the Auxiliary website for the SEC meetings, she shall note that **Past Department Presidents** and all Auxiliary members are invited to attend the meeting but have no vote and at no expense to the Department.

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

**ARTICLE VII – DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

**Section 3 A Now Reads**: The duties of the Executive Secretary shall be:

1. 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.

**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 five (5) days. Once approved, the Secretary shall post them on the Department website.

**\*\*Motion Pat Michalski/2nd Peggy Liss to approve change. CARRIED**

**Section 4 E Now Reads:** Within fifteen (15) days following the close of the Department Convention, the Department financial records shall be audited. The outgoing President shall appoint an auditor. The records will be audited by the Incoming Department President, Incoming Secretary and/or Treasurer and the auditor. The Outgoing President, Secretary and/or Treasurer will be present to answer any questions.

**Add new # 1:** In the case where the Department Secretary and/or Department Treasurer supersede themselves, the Department President shall appoint someone else to take their place.

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

**Section 6 Now Reads:**

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.

1. The Parliamentarian shall modify the Officer’s 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 Officer’s Instructions” (and the year), and the name of the Office. They will be distributed at the Post Convention SEC meeting.

**Change to Read:**

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

1. The Parliamentarian shall modify the Officer’s Instruction Manual with any changes and e-mail it to the Dept. Secretary who will make enough copies for all Officers.

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

**ARTICLE VIII – VAVS & MVH REPRESENTATIVES**

**Section 1 now Reads:** Hospital funds budgeted by the Hospital Committee, shall be allocated to V.A. Hospital and State Hospital Representatives quarterly on the 1st of August, November, February and May for service rendered

**Automatic Change from 6/14 Conventio**n: Last three words were deleted.

Hospital funds budgeted by the Hospital Committee, shall be allocated to V.A. Hospital and State Hospital Representatives quarterly on the 1st of August, November, February and May for service rendered **in Veteran’s Homes**.

**ARTICLE IX – STANDING COMMITTEES**

**\*\*Motion Pat Michalski/2nd Maureen Jackson to delete this section CARRIED**

**ARTICLE X – DEPARTMENT CONVENTION**

**Section 9 G which Now Reads**: The Scholarship Committee shall be comprised of the Scholarship Officer as Chairperson and other Auxiliary members to formulate fund-raising programs.

**Change to Read:**  The Scholarship Committee shall be comprised of the Department Officer as Chairperson and 3 Local Auxiliary members preferably from three (3) different Districts, as approved by the President, for the purpose **of judging the Scholarship Applications.**

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

**Add Section 9 K to read:**

The Personnel committee shall be comprised of a Chairman who shall be a Past Department President appointed by the President. The committee will be comprised of the Chairperson, Department President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, 3rd Vice President and Treasurer.

**Reason:** This was listed in Article IX but NOT in Article X, so if we delete Article IX, we need to add this to Article X.

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

**ARTICLE XI – FALL CONFERENCE**

**Section 3 Now Reads:** The Department Secretary, Ways & Means Chairperson and Chaplain shall receive mileage to the Fall Conference. (6/95)

**Change to Read:** The Department Secretary, Way & Means Chairperson and Chaplain shall receive mileage to the Fall Conference **which includes the Fall S.E.C. meeting.**

**\*\*Motion Pat Michalski/2nd Lois Cochran to approve change CARRIED**

**ARTICLE XII – DISTRICT**

Nothing to change but switching sections about to make more sense.

**\*\*Motion Pat Michalski/2nd Erica Szegda to make the adjustment CARRIED**

***Article XII will now read:***

**Section 1** The Department shall be composed and organized into Districts and Posts, and it shall be administered and governed through a Legislative Department and Executive Department.

1. The Department shall be divided into Districts as follow:

District 1. Wayne, Monroe, Washtenaw, Lenawee and Jackson Counties

District 2. Macomb, St. Clair, Lapeer, Sanilac, Huron, Saginaw, Tuscola, Midland and Bay Counties.

District 3. Oakland, Livingston, Ingham, Eaton, Clinton, Shiawassee and Genesee Counties.

District 5. Ottawa, Kent, Ionia, Gratiot, Montcalm, Mecosta, Muskegon, Oceana, Newaygo, Isabella, Calhoun, Branch, Hillsdale, Berrien, Cass, St. Joseph, Van Buren, Kalamazoo, Allegan and Barry Counties.

District 6. Mason, Manistee, Osceola, Clare, Wexford, Benzie, Missaukee, Kalkaska, Grand Traverse, Leelanau, Charlevoix, Antrim, Emmet, Crawford, Oscoda, Alcona, Roscommon, Ogemaw, Otsego, Iosco, Lake, Gladwin, Arenac, Montmorency, Alpena, Presque Isle, Cheboygan and Mackinaw Counties.

District 7. Keweenaw, Houghton, Ontonagon, Iron, Baraga, Gogebic, Marquette, Dickinson, Menominee, Delta, Schoolcraft, Luce, and Chippewa Counties.

**Section 2** In the event a District Auxiliary, within the Department of Michigan AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary disbands, all money, official records and property shall be surrendered to the Department of Michigan Ladies Auxiliary to be held in trust for a period of three (3) years. In case the District is re-instated or reactivated within the period of three (3) years, such money, records and property shall be returned back to the District. If not reactivated within this time frame, all money and property shall become the property of AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary, Department of Michigan.

*The remainder of the numbers will be:*

*1 will be 2; 2 will be 3 A & B; 3 will be 4; 4 will be 5; 5 will be 6; 6 will be 7; 7 will be 8; 8 will be 9 and 9 will be 10.*

**ARTICLE XIV – UNIFORMS**

Section 1 A Now Reads: The Department Officers are not to wear any pins or decorations on their hats. Earned pins are to be worn on the Auxiliary blazer, on the upper left pocket on a 2” x 4” grosgrain ribbon.

**Change to Read:** The Department Officers are not to wear any pins or decorations on their hats. Earned pins are to be worn on the Auxiliary blazer on the upper left pocket on a 2” x 4” **gold** grosgrain ribbon..

AUTOMATIC CHANGE

The Secretary asked how long we hold items from a defunct Auxiliary. The Parliamentarian will check on it. We can put this in the Standing Rules this year and add to the By-laws next year.

Diana Lammott reported on research done on her term of office. It actually was up at the end of the 2013/2014 year.

Ways & Means Chairman Maureen Jackson has more tickets for the Dept. drawing . She thanked all her workers here at convention.

Bonnie Rojeski, Americanism Officer said there were only 10 more raffle tickets left for the Americanism drawing.

Convention Chairman Kathy Keizer talked about the lack of a PA system. Someone had volunteered to lend us one, but they didn’t follow through (Note – it was not an Auxiliary member!). The Secretary stated it was approved to purchase one about 4-5 years ago, but when she checked on the prices, they were a little higher than anticipated and didn’t feel she should be spending that much money ($500-$600). Diana Lammott said they use a portable machine (similar to a Karaoke machine) at their market. She will bring it to Fall Conference to see if it will work for us. They cost about $200.

PDP Carol Pickett questioned when the by-laws and standing rules would be on the website and if the changes would be dated. The Parliamentarian said yes they would be dated and they would be on the website as soon as they are completed.

Commander Tony Lema came to the Auxiliary floor with a certificate for President Allison from the AMVETS. He said they were in the process of doing their elections. He also commented on the Americanism raffle tickets. He said they were much more profitable than the Americanism pins we used to sell. In fact, he has several bags of old pins in his car and if anyone has a need for them, they can have them. He also stated the AMVETS voted to move Fall Conference to the Holiday Inn in Big Rapids. It will be the same weekend previously planned.

Five minute break before elections. Doors will be closed and locked at 9:30

The Parliamentarian read the Election Rules.

\*\*Motion Pat Michalski/2nd Kathy Keizer to approve the rules as written. CARRIED

Martha Popour read the credentials report

We had 47 registered and a vote of 46. The President elected to vote.

**ELECTIONS**

\*\*MOTION Rose Solak/2nd Maureen Jackson to elect Seletha Robertson as the 1st Vice President by affirmation. CARRIED

\*\*Motion Pat Michalski/2nd Lois Cochran to elect Wendy Lynema as the 2nd Vice President by affirmation. CARRIED

\*\*Motion Kathy Biela/2nd Seletha Robertson to elect Kathy Schultz as the 3rd Vice President by affirmation. CARRIED

\*\*Motion Pat Michalski/2nd Kathy Keizer to elect Leora Williamson as the Dept. Chaplain by affirmation. CARRIED

\*\*Motion Clarice Poisson/2nd Kathy Hale to elect Lenore Uhl as the Dept. Sgt-at-Arms by affirmation. CARRIED

On Saturday there were no nominations for the Office of Hospital.

Harriet Biela was nominated by Maureen Jackson/2nd by Pat Michalski

\*\*Motion Maureen Jackson/2nd Seletha Robertson to elect Harriet Biela as the Dept. Hospital Officer by affirmation. CARRIED

\*\*Motion Bonnie Rojeski/2nd Nancy Blok to elect Carol Orlowski as the Dept. Americanism Officer by affirmation. CARRIED

On Saturday Rosemary Perdue and Sally Abshire were nominated for the office of Dept. Scholarship. Elections were held.

Sally Abshire was elected to the position of Dept. Scholarship Officer.

\*\*Motion Nancy Middleton/2nd Pat Michalski to elect Faye Richardson-Green to the office of Department President by affirmation. CARRIED (yells, shouts, laughs, tears, etc.)

PDC Bob Green was escorted in so he could congratulate his wife on her election.

In her ‘farewell’ speech, President Allison thanked everyone for helping her have a wonderful year she will always remember. She enjoyed visiting and traveling around the State and seeing some of the many projects and programs our Auxiliaries throughout Michigan do. (and she didn’t cry!!). “It was an honor to serve as the President.”

Convention Chairman Kathy Keizer presented President Allison with a gavel plaque from the Auxiliary in appreciation of her service. She also gave her a balloon plant. Kathy had the stuffed money collected from various Auxiliaries into balloons and put them in a garden pot. President Allison will need to pop all the balloons to get her money! (very cute)

The AMVETS were ready for the installation.

Chaplain Sue Christe gave the benediction.

Colors Retired by Sgt-at-Arms Lenore Uhl.

Convention adjourned by President Allison Aldrich at 10:15am

Post SEC to be after the installation of Officers

Respectfully submitted

Nancy Middleton

Dept. Secretary

APPROVED WITH CORRECTIONS:

President Allison Aldrich 7/8/2015

Parliamentarian Pat Michalski 7/9/2015

7/8/2015