**Department of Michigan Convention**

***Saturday June 25, 2016***

The first session of the 2016 Convention was called to order by Convention Chairman PDP Kathy Keizer at 8:33am. Kathy announced an Auxiliary pin had been found so if someone was missing theirs, please see her. Kathy also announced she had gone to a great deal of work preparing her infamous “Jokes of the Day” slips and each person is required to read theirs before giving a report. (this was done – and it was fun!)

***Roll Call:***

The Department Officers were introduced (which took the place of a roll call). Ways & Means Chairman Susan Hennigar was at the W&M table. Jacobetti Rep Judy Smith was excused and District VII President Lois Jurewich was absent.

Department President Faye Richardson-Green was escorted onto the convention floor by Sgt-at-Arms Lenore Uhl. This was the official start of the 2016 Convention at 8:41am.

***The invocation*** was delivered by Chaplain Leora Williamson.

***The Colors*** were presented by Sgt-at-Arms Lenore Uhl and the Pages.

***The 1st Credentials Report*** was given by Chairman Martha Popour. There were 27 delegates registered; 14 PDP’s registered; 20 Officers registered for a total registration of 61.

***The Convention Rules*** were read by Parliamentarian Pat Michalski.

There was one change: Rule #20

\*\*Motion Nancy Middleton/2nd Kathy Keizer to change the by-laws as presented on Saturday and voted on as specified on the Sunday agenda. CARRIED

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

***GUESTS:***

Kurt Sebaly from Penrickton was escorted to the podium. He told about Penrickton Center for Blind Children and stated they have several new kids attending. 2nd Vice President Wendy Lynema presented Penrickton with a check from our local Auxiliaries in the amount of $6,793.01. Kurt presented three special awards to the Auxiliaries who went above and beyond: #93 with a donation of $1,500; Auxiliary #57 with a donation of $1,500; Auxiliary #115 with a donation of $1,760.13.

Deb Davis from Paws With A Cause and Seymour, her new demonstration dog came to the floor. Deb presented certificates to #9, #13, #22, #23, #52, #57, #79, #93, #114, #115, #120, #121, #122, #126, #171, #269, #910, #1988, #3720, #4064l, District II, District V and District VI for their donations. She also presented the President and Secretary with a cup full of chocolate! As an incentive for turning in their e-mail address, each member signing up for the mailing list will receive a gift from the PAWS table in the hallway.

***Officers Reports/Presentation of Chairman’s Award***

**President Faye Richardson-Green** recognized the 7 convention first timers in attendance and presented each of them a small gift. President Faye announced her activity report was on page 63 through 66 in the Convention book. She asked everyone to read it at their leisure and thanked everyone for their hospitality this year as she visited their Auxiliary and District.

**1st Vice President Seletha Robertson** stated her activity report is on pages 67-68 in the convention book. She announced the winners of this year’s membership contests:

* 100% renewed by October 31, 2015 – winner Auxiliary #9
* Certificates for 100% or equivalent were given to #9, #57, #110, #121, #122, #123, #126, #171, #910, #2273, #3720, #4064.
* New member drawing Wendy Zografos #171 and Kathy Johnson #57
* New member recruiter Linda Zografos #171 and Michelle Jenny #57
* Certificates were presented to Joyce Fox #57, Char Rogier #57, Michelle Jenny #57, Carol Pickett #121, Linda Baccoli #1941, Evelyn Hanson, #1941, Melissa Gagnon #171 and Linda Zografos #171 for signing up multiple new members.
* There was no District winner for 100% renewal.

**2nd Vice President Wendy Lynema** stated her activity report is on page 69 and her bulletin is on page 19 in the convention book. Wendy reported there were no ‘flowers’ turned in so there was no winner of the Chairman’s award. She was very disappointed. The winner of the largest donation to Penrickton was Auxiliary #115 with $1,760.13.

**3rd Vice President Kathy Schultz** stated her activity report was on page 71 in the book. She had a drawing from the Paws Prints which were sold and then returned for the drawing. 1st Place was Jacob Moore (Secretary’s grandson!) - #23. The other winners were Suzette Ripepe - #57; Auxiliary #9; Ron M - Post #57; Lee Williamson - #23; Cheri Boyd - #23.

**Secretary Nancy Middleton** has her activity report on pages 73 and 74. She had no report at this time.

**Treasurer Gloria Hall** reported her activity report is on pages 72-74 and her finance report is on pages 25-27. The Finance Committee met on Friday to discuss the proposed budget.

Gloria stated there were several checks which have not been cashed for quite some time. The funds have been held in a Holding Fund in a Reserved Savings Account. They are check #2450 (2011) $25.00; check #2537 (2011) $201.60; check #2586 (2011) $128.40; check #2626 (2011) $1,214 plus a previous balance of $462.96 from 2010. This totals $1,833.66 in the Holding Fund.

Gloria recommends dispersing the funds and moving $1,000 to the Miscellaneous Fund and $833.66 into the Equipment Fund. This would simply be a column change because all the funds are – and will stay – in the Reserved Savings Account. There are 9 separate listings for the funds in the Reserved Savings Account. It would leave the money in there but move it from the Holding Fund to the Miscellaneous Fund and the Equipment Fund.

There are a few outstanding checks which will be in the Holding Fund for a year or two Fund – if you have them, get them cashed! #3255 (2014) $90.50’ #3301 (2015) $20; #3512 (2015) $67.80. These funds total $178.30 and will remain where they are.

Right now there is $3,297.32 in the Equipment Fund but we need to build up this account for future needs. This is the account where we purchase larger items – copy machine, computer, etc. Currently we have two Savings Accounts. #1 is a restricted account and #2 is the account where donations for our service programs are held.

\*\*Motion Gloria Hall/2nd Maureen Jackson to move the funds in the uncashed check fund (Holding Fund) to Miscellaneous - $1,000 and Equipment - $833.66. CARRIED

A discussion was held on the Secretary’s compensation.

\*\*Motion Gloria Hall/2nd Maureen Jackson to increase the Secretary’s compensation to $3,960. CARRIED

The Treasurer started to read the proposed budget.

We stopped for a guest – Marion Pope, National 2nd Vice Commander. Mr. Pope brought greetings from National Commander Pigeon, He stated, as 2nd Vice Commander he is in charge of reporting. There are 1,100 Posts to report. He also said his wife is the Department President in Louisiana. He is current running for National 1st Vice Commander.

Gloria Hall resumed her report on the proposed budget. Because there were not enough copies available, the Secretary will make more and they will be available at the afternoon session.

**Parliamentarian Pat Michalski** had the proposed changes to the by-laws passed out. She asked everyone to read them because we will vote on them tomorrow. Her report is on pages 89-90 of the convention book.

**Chaplain Leora Williamson** stated her report is on page 77 of the convention book. She announced 3 more deaths in just the last few weeks. She is returning $30 from her budgeted amount to the Treasurer.

**Sgt-at-Arms Lenore Uhl** has her report on page 79. There is an error on her e-mail address (take out the ‘j’).

We took a 10 minute break.

**Americanism Officer Carol Orlowski** has her report on pages 885-86. She is excited about having the Americanism Program back on the Convention schedule. President Faye said everyone cannot come to the lunch, but please come to the program to support the students. It will be in room I.

**Hospital Officer Harriet Biela** has her report on pages 81-82. She had 13 Auxiliaries participate in her Hospital Chairman’s Contest. The winner is #126. Harriet stated she has repeatedly reminded Auxiliaries to claim the $3 per member hospital donations on their reports but there are still some Auxiliaries who do not claim it.

**Scholarship Officer Sally Abshire** has her activity report on page 83-84. She stated there was confusion with the Scholarship applications transcript requirements.

\*\*Motion Maureen Jackson/2nd Nancy Jones that transcripts sent with the scholarship application be in a sealed envelope from the school and sent with the application to the Scholarship Officer.

After much discussion, suggestions, comments, etc. the motion was withdrawn.

\*\*Motion Nancy Middleton/2nd Kathy Keizer to form a committee of 5-6 members including the Scholarship Officer who will meet after the banquet to solve the problem. CARRIED

Nancy Middleton, Maureen Jackson, Peggy Liss and Kathy Schultz volunteered to be on the committee with Sally Abshire which will meet after the banquet.

**NEC Woman Peggy Liss** has her report on page 87-88 of the convention book. She passed around the Patrons Page sheet for names ($1 each) to be put in the National Convention book. She also had National Convention 50/50 raffle tickets for sale at $5 per book. A book gives you a ticket for each day’s raffle. She also has Freedoms Foundation raffle tickets for sale at a cost of 6 for $5.

The following candidate letters were received for National Offices:

Evelyn McElvin for President

Marvell Ruppel for 1st Vice President

Barbara Valley for 2nd Vice President

Dee Baggett for 3rd Vice President

Amy Stopyra for Sgt-at-Arms

Faye Richardson-Green for Americanism

Joan Sirek for Americanism

Leslie Nell for Hospital

Shelia Jackson for Hospital

Peggy Liss for Chaplain

No one has announced yet for the Office of Scholarship.

Peggy is on the By-laws committee this year and it is time to review the uniform again. She tried to put all the information needed if anyone is going to National Convention in our Dept. Convention Book.

Peggy also thanked all the Dept. Service Officers who got their reports in to her on time. The totals should all be in the National Convention book.

\*\*Mot ion Nancy Middleton/2nd Kathy Biela to suggest black pants, gold or white blouse, white blazer to the By-law committee at National. CARRIED

Peggy stated she will include black shirt in the above suggestion.

\*\*Mot ion Leora Williamson/2nd Sally Abshire – a Chaplain be given permission to wear a cross on her hat instead of the pearl. CARRIED

Peggy gave Seletha Robertson a membership brochure.

**PRO/Historian Lee Williamson** has her report on page 93. She questioned the title PRO/Historian. With the newsletter and website plus all the public formats, Lee questioned why this office was not just ‘Historian’.

\*\*Motion Leora Williamson/2nd Nancy Middleton to do away with the PRO portion regarding news. DEFEATED

**Honors & Awards Allison Aldrich** said her report in on page 92-93. The Honors & Awards committee met on Thursday and have a program planned for tomorrow.

Convention Chairman Kathy Keizer had her drawing for a *fabulous prize*(!!) from the names of all the first time attendees at a Convention. The lucky winner was Joann Boards from #910. Kathy asked if the delegates liked the round tables better than the straight line tables – answer “Yes”!!!!

So far everything is going pretty well. The banquet tonight is beef pot roast at a cost of $35. Kathy is excited to turn the heavy podium over to the next Convention Chairman.

**Aleda Lutz VA Rep Linda Marshall** has her report on page 103. She has $600.01 in checking and $146.37 in Savings.

**Ann Arbor VA Rep Pat Krzesowik** has her report on page #105. She has $373.62 in her account. Pat thanked all Auxiliaries who made donations to Ann Arbor.

**Battle Creek VA Rep Faye Richardson-Green** has her report on page #107-108. She has $599.98 in her account. She will be using some of it for snacks at the VA clinic. She also thanked everyone for their donations.

**John Dingell VA Rep Harriet Biela** has her report on pages 109-111. She has $659.66 in her account.

At this time our **Ways & Means Chairman Sue Hennigar** came to the floor. Her report is on page 91. She has raffles, 50/50’s and mystery drawings going. She also has pop and water for sale and some Convention raffle tickets. She was asked if people can pay with checks – answer “Yes!!”. All raffles will be drawn today with the exception of the Department Raffle. That will be drawn tomorrow.

**Grand Rapids Home for Veterans Rep Clarice** Poisson thanked everyone for the cards and prayers when she was in the hospital. Her report is on page #113. She has $580 in savings and $158.68 in checking. Clarice thanked Aux. #13, #23, #57, #93, #114, #120, #121, #3720, District V and Nancy Blok for their donations. She is using some of it to purchase White Cap (minor league baseball) tickets for some of the residents.

**Jacobetti Home Rep Judy** **Smith** sent in her report and her books to be audited. She has $6.87 in Savings and $537.96 in Checking.

**District I President Cel Rose Solak** has her report on pages #117-118 of the convention book. She has no recommendations at this time. District I had a shower for Penrickton Center for Blind Children.

The delegates coming to convention from District I are:

From #910: Denotra Jackson, Joanne Boards, Lorine Porter, Vicki Welch, Sylvia Apple

From #57: Pat Tune, Bert Lema, PDP Yvette Rusak, Sandy Lacey, Nancy Jones, PDP Maureen Jackson, Marie Christ, Tammy Lerchenfelt

From #171: Brenda Meloche, Melissa Gagnon, Linda Zografos

District I has two candidates for Dept. offices: Seletha Robertson for President and Harriet Biela for Hospital.

**District II acting President Sue Christe** The delegates from District II are:

From #22 - Rosemary Perdue, Marcella Schmidt

From #93 – Bonnie Rojeske, Kay Kemp

From #121 – PDP Carol Pickett, PDP Doreen Pierce

District II has 2 candidates: NEC Woman Pat Michalski and National Chaplain Peggy Liss.

**District V President Kathy Keizer** has her report on page #121-122. There are no recommendations from District V.

Candidates for Department offices are: Gloria Hall, Treasurer; Sally Abshire, Scholarship; Wendy Lynema, 1st Vice President.

Candidate for National Officer is: Faye Richardson-Green, Americanism

**District VI President Erica Szegda** has her report on pages 123-124. Erica introduced the “Lady Behind the Legend” – Bertha Dewey wife of MOH recipient Duane Dewey.

District VI has one candidate for Dept. office: Kathy Schultz, 2nd Vice President.

**Acting Personnel Chairman Kathy Biela.** Kathy announced the office of Secretary is open next year at convention.

**District II President Rebekah Pickrel** had no report in the convention book. There were no guests from District III.

**BREAK FOR AMERICANISM AWARD CEREMONY / LUNCH** – back at 1:30pm

**Higgins Lake Lodge Rep. Diana Lammott** has her report on page 101-102.

Maureen Jackson asked about the Jr. AMVETS. They have Jrs. at Post #57. There are no other units in Michigan.

**Nomination of Officers**

1st Vice: Wendy Lynema nominated by PDP Kathy Keizer/2nd by PDP Allison Aldrich

2nd Vice: Kathy Schultz nominated by PDP Kathy Biela/2nd Lenore Uhl

3rd Vice: - no nominations

Treasurer: Gloria Hall nominated by PDP Clarice Poisson/2nd Lenore Uhl

Chaplain: Sue Christe nominated by PDP Clarice Poisson/2nd PDP Rose Solak

Sgt-at-Arms – no nominations

Hospital Officer: Harriet Biela nominated by PDP Pat Michalski/2nd PDP Kathy Biela

Americanism: Carol Orlowski nominated by PDP Peggy Liss/2nd PDP Rose Solak

Scholarship: Sally Abshire nominated by PDP Clarice Poisson/2nd PDP Kathy Keizer

NEC Woman: Pat Michalski nominated by PDP Kathy Biela/2nd Diana Lammott

President: Seletha Robertson nominated by PDP Maureen Jackson/2nd Peggy Liss

Nominations were left open until the elections tomorrow.

**The closing Prayer** was given by Chaplain Lee Williamson.

**The colors were retired** by Sgt-at-Arms Lenore Uhl.

The business meeting was adjourned at 2:13pm. We will reconvene at 3:30 pm for Honors and Awards.

In honor of our Department President, her District Auxiliary (V) provided ice tea, lemonade, punch, cookies & brownies for all the Officers and delegates attending the Honors & Awards program.

**Honors & Awards Chairman PDP Allison Aldrich** led in the Department Service Officers for the presentations:

PDP Kathy Keizer Class A Membership – runner up #4064 / WINNER #110

PDP Yvette Rusak Class B Membership – runner up #3720 / WINNER #122

PDP Peggy Liss Class C Membership – no runner up / WINNER #123

PDP Nancy Middleton Child Welfare – runner up #23 / WINNER #4064

PDP Kathy Biela Child Welfare – runner up #93 / WINNER #9

PDP Patricia Whitcher Penrickton – no runner up / WINNER #57

District II Community Service (Memory of PDP Bernadette Robinson) –

runner up #4064 / WINNER #171

PDP Maureen Jackson Community Service – runner up #122 / WINNER #9

PDP Sharon Colley Paws With A Cause – no runner up / WINNER #57

PNP/PDP Janice Hapner Hospital – runner up #126 / WINNER #57

Dept. of MI Hospital Award – runner up #122 / WINNER #9

PDP Jeanne Wedyke Hospital – runner up #57 / WINNER #9

PDP Pat Michalski Americanism – runner up #114 / WINNER #57

PDP Allison Aldrich Americanism – runner up #9 / WINNER #93

PDP Carol Pickett SOS – no runner up / WINNER #57

PDP Doreen Pierce Scholarship – no runner up / WINNER #57

Dept. of Michigan Scholarship – runner up #57 / WINNER #126

PDP Clarice Poisson Scholarship – runner up #9 / WINNER #79

Dept. of Michigan PRO/Scrapbook – no entries

PDP Jill Byrne Scrapbook Cover – no entries

PDP Nancy J Blok Outstanding Auxiliary – runner up #57 / WINNER #9

Congratulations to all the Auxiliaries!

***SUNDAY, JUNE 26, 2016***

The 2nd Business session was called to order at 8:30am

The Past Department Presidents in attendance were escorted in by the Sgt-at-Arms and the Pages. Attending were: Pat Michalski, Nancy Blok, Clarice Poisson, Nancy Middleton, Cel Rose Solak, Maribeth Wescott, Carol Pickett, Doreen Pierce, Maureen Jackson, Kathy Biela, Kathy Keizer, Yvette Rusak, Peggy Liss and Allison Aldrich.

The invocation was delivered by Chaplain Leora Williamson.

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

Roll Call showed all in attendance with the exception of Parliamentarian Pat Michalski and Jacobetti Home Rep Judy Smith – both excused. Absent was District VII President Lois Jurewich.

The credentials report was given by Credentials Chairman Martha Popour. The Department President has chosen to vote by ballot during the upcoming elections.

The Department Commander Steve Bidstrup visited our convention and spoke for a few minutes. He thanked the Auxiliary for their support this year.

President Faye left the floor to visit with the AMVETS convention. 1st Vice Seletha took over the Chair.

Parliamentarian Pat Michalski needed to leave the convention to handle some family matters. Kathy Keizer has been asked to fill in.

\*\*Motion Maureen Jackson/2nd Peggy Liss to accept the appointment of Kathy Keizer to fill in for Parliamentarian Pat Michalski. CARRIED

Allison Aldrich announced Doreen Pierce’s Scholarship award is being retired to Auxiliary #57.

The President returned to the floor and resumed the duties of the Chair.

Unfinished Business

Scholarship Officer Sally Abshire reported on the meeting held last night to go over the Scholarship applications. The changes suggested by the committee were:

Page 2 Guidelines for Applications

#4 Now reads The following documents MUST be sent directly to the Department of Michigan AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary Scholarship Officer by the College/University or by the local AMVETS Auxiliary Scholarship Office, if the applicant had submitted an application on that level.

Change to Read:

The following documents MUST be submitted by June 1, directly to the Department of Michigan AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary Scholarship Officer.

#4 a now reads:

An official transcript of applicant’s most recent high school or college transcript available for this year with cumulative grade average and total accumulated credits or notarized high school equivalency certificate with scores.

Change to Read:

An official transcript (with raised seal) of applicant’s most recent high school or college transcript available for this year with cumulative grade average and total accumulated credits or notarized high school equivalency certificate with scores.

\*\*Motion Sally Abshire/2nd Peggy Liss to accept the proposed changes CARRIED

Harriet Biela, Hospital Officer made a presentation to Aux. #57 of two 100 hour hospital pins to Jr. AMVETS Tami Domanski and Victoria Schaas. She also presented a special Certificate of Appreciation to Cel Rose Solak for 31,000 hours. (NOTE: yes – 31,000 hours!).

Kathy Keizer read off the names of the first timers at this convention and President Faye presented each of them with a ‘welcome gift’.

Peggy Liss presented a scholarship donation from the Gaveliers.

There was grumbling and conversation about having an unregistered ‘guest’ on the floor. Because of confusion at registration, a member of #171 was listed as a guest in the registration book – but was not given a convention book and badge. Her guest registration fee was not accepted. The member had given a $30 donation in lieu of the uncollected registration fee. This was given to the Dept. Secretary before the Sunday session started.

Nancy Jones, Aux. #57, questioned the 40% points for financial need on the judging portion of the Scholarship Application.

**Approval of the 2016/17 Budget – Treasurer Gloria Hall**

Treasurer Gloria Hall read the proposed budget and it was voted on by sections.

\*\*Motion Nancy Middleton/2nd Peggy Liss to accept the budget for the National Convention as written ($1,550.) CARRIED

\*\*Motion Gloria Hall/2nd Peggy Liss to accept the Fall Conference budget amount ($2,480)

\*\*Amendment Nancy Middleton/2nd Leora Williamson to amend the Fall Conference portion to include $30 for the Fall Conference Chairman if she needs to make a site visit. CARRIED

\*\*Original motion CARRIED as amended.

\*\*Motion Gloria Hall/2nd Sally Abshire to accept the Spring SEC budget as written ($858). CARRIED

At this point, the Riders President John DuVall came to the Auxiliary floor. He thanked the Auxiliary for all their help and cooperation this year. President Faye presented him with a gavel plaque from the Auxiliary.

**Back to the Budget:**

\*\*Motion Gloria Hall/2nd Kathy Keizer to approve the NEC Meeting budget as written ($500). CARRIED

\*\*Motion Gloria Hall/2nd Kathy Schultz to approve the Officers expense as written ($1,140). CARRIED

\*\*Motion Gloria Hall/2nd Maureen Jackson to approve the Department expenses as written ($12,775). CARRIED

**AT 9:45AM – THE VOTE ON THE BUDGET WAS SUSPENDED BECAUSE IT WAS THE SCHEDULED TIME FOR ELECTIONS**.

President Faye appointed Brenda Meloche (Aux. #171) and Denotra Jackson (Aux. #910) as Tellers.

The final Credentials Report was given by Credentials Chairman Martha Popour. The Auxiliaries counted down. There was a question on the countdown for Auxiliary #57. While the Credentials Chair checked the records, we had the reading of the Election Rules by acting Parliamentarian Kathy Keizer.

\*\*Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Maureen Jackson to adopt the Election Rules. CARRIED

Auxiliary #57 delegates issue was corrected. The Dept. Officers went to be seated with their Auxiliary.

Previously nominated for 1st Vice President: Wendy Lynema

\*\*Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Sally Abshire to elect Wendy Lynema as Dept. 1st Vice President by affirmation. CARRIED

Previously nominated for 2nd Vice President: Kathy Schultz

\*\*Motion Kathy Biela/2nd Leora Williamson to elect Kathy Schultz as Dept. 2nd Vice President by affirmation. CARRIED

Previously there were no nominations for 3rd Vice President

Martha Popour was placed in nomination by Doreen Pierce and Harriet Biela

\*\*Motion Doreen Pierce/2nd Harriet Biela to elect Martha Popour as Dept. 3rd Vice President by affirmation. CARRIED

Previously nominated for Treasurer: Gloria Hall

\*\*Motion Clarice Poisson/2nd Sally Abshire to elect Gloria Hall as Dept. Treasurer by affirmation. CARRIED

Previously nominated for Chaplain: Sue Christe

\*\*Motion Clarice Poisson/2nd Rose Solak to elect Sue Christe as Dept. Chaplain by affirmation. CARRIRD

Previously there were no nominations for Dept. Sgt-at-Arms

Bertha Lema was placed in nomination by Maureen Jackson and Clarice Poisson.

\*\*Motion Maureen Jackson/2nd Clarice Poisson to elect Bertha Lema as Dept. Sgt-at-Arms by affirmation.

Previously nominated for Hospital Officer: Harriet Biela

\*\*Motion Peggy Liss/2nd Kathy Biela to elect Harriet Biela as Dept. Hospital Officer by affirmation. CARRIED

Previously nominated for Americanism Officer: Carol Orlowski

\*\*Motion Peggy Liss/2nd Rose Solak to elect Carol Orlowski as Americanism Officer by affirmation. CARRIED

Previously nominated for Scholarship Officer: Sally Abshire

\*\*Motion Clarice Poisson/2nd Kathy Keizer to elect Sally Abshire as Dept. Scholarship Officer by affirmation. CARRIED

Previously nominated for NEC Woman: Pat Michalski

\*\*Motion Kathy Biela/2nd Diana Lammott to elect Pat Michalski as NEC Woman by affirmation. CARRIED

Previously nominated President: Seletha Robertson

\*\*Motion Maureen Jackson/2nd Peggy Liss to elect Seletha Robertson as Dept. President by affirmation. CARRIED

After a couple minutes of “Hooray” – “Yea” – Clap, clap, clap – “Yippee”, etc., we went back to the Dept. budget!

\*\*Motion Gloria Hall/2nd Erica Szegda to approve Convention expenses as written ($3,410). CARRIED

\*\*Motion Gloria Hall/2nd Erica Szegda to approve the National Donations as written ($175). CARRIED

The final total for the approved budget is $22,858. Copy attached to minutes

**Vote on Proposed By-Law Changes: acting Parliamentarian Kathy Keizer.**

Article V – Section 3A Now reads

After approval of her appointments at the Post-SEC meeting, the newly elected Department President shall install the appointed officers or she may have a PDP or National Officer do the installing.

Change to Read:

After approval of her appointments at the Post-SEC meeting, the newly elected Department President shall have her installing officer do the installing.

\*\*Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Peggy Liss to accept the change. CARRIED

Article V – Section 5 Now Reads:

The Department President, with approval of the Executive Committee, shall appoint a Parliamentarian, Publicity Officer/Historian, Junior AMVETS Coordinator (IF NEEDED), Ways & Means Chairman, Personnel Chairman, and Higgins Lake Lodge Representative (3 year term). She shall appoint, with S.E.C. approval fourteen (14) members to serve on the By-Law Committee; a Chairman plus two (2) members to serve on the Grievance Committee; a Chairman plus two (2) members to serve on the Appeals Committee; a Fall Conference Chairman and a Convention Chairman and 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 AMVETS Coordinator (IF NEEDED), Ways & Means Chairman, Personnel Chairman, and Higgins Lake Lodge Representative (2 year term). She shall appoint, with S.E.C. approval fourteen (14) members to serve on the By-Law Committee; a Chairman plus two (2) members to serve on the Grievance Committee; a Chairman plus two (2) members to serve on the Appeals Committee; a Fall Conference Chairman and a Convention Chairman.

\*\*Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Maureen Jackson to accept the change. CARRIED

Article V – Section 8 Now Reads:

The Immediate Past 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. (6/10)

Change to Read:

The Immediate Past President shall be the Department Delegate and the Department President shall be the Department Alternate Delegate to the National Convention.

\*\*Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Maureen Jackson to accept the change. CARRIED

Article V Section 9A Now Reads:

In the event the NEC Woman and Alternate NEC Woman are unable to attend the NEC meeting or National Convention, by majority vote, the body may seat another member of the Department as a voting representative, if requested. This is according to National By-Laws.

Change to Read:

The Incoming President shall be the alternate NEC Woman and Alternate Head Delegate. In the event the NEC Woman and Alternate NEC Woman are unable to attend the NEC meeting or National Convention, by majority vote, the body may seat another member of the Department as a voting representative, if requested. This is according to National By-Laws.

\*\*Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Maureen Jackson to accept the change. CARRIED

Article VI – Section 2 B Now Reads:

The elected and appointed Officers as shown in Article VI, Section 2, shall receive four (4) days per diem and mileage to Department Convention, paid at current rate if so budgeted. Mileage is to be paid to the driver only.

Change to Read:

The elected and appointed Officers as shown in Article VI, Section 2, shall receive up to four (4) days per diem and mileage to Department Convention, paid at current rate if so budgeted. Mileage is to be paid to the driver only.

\*Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Kathy Schultz to accept change. CARRIED

Article VII – Section 6 Now 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 meeting. Updated instructions will be passed out at the Post Convention SEC meeting by the Department Secretary.

Section 6A The Parliamentarian shall modify the Officer’s Instruction Manual with any changes, email it to the Department Secretary who shall make enough copies for all Officers.

Change to Read:

Individual Officers will be contacted by the Department Parliamentarian during the month of January to discuss any changes in their individual officer’s instructions. After working with the individual officers, the Parliamentarian will submit the suggested changes to the Spring SEC for approval.

Section 6A The Parliamentarian shall modify the Officer’s Instruction Manual with any changes, email it to the Department Secretary who shall make enough copies for all Officers.

\*\*Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Maureen Jackson to accept changes. CARRIED

Article VII, Section 7 Now Reads:

The outgoing Parliamentarian shall be responsible to re-type the Department By-Laws, if any changes have been made at the 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 sixty (60) days after adoptions, 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 the 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 with thirty (30) days after adoptions, for approval, at which time they shall become effective. After approval, forward electronically to the Department Secretary for distribution and put on the Auxiliary website.

\*\*Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Maureen Jackson to accept change. CARRIED

Article IX, Section 2 Now Reads:

The voting members of the Department Convention shall consist of the elected and appointed Department Officers, Past Department Presidents, the Standing Committee Chairmen, Local Auxiliary Delegates and Alternates. Each Local Auxiliary shall be entitled to two (2) Delegates and two (2) Alternates for its Charter (first 10 members) and two (2) additional Delegates and two (2) Alternates for each ten (10) members or major fraction thereof.

Change to Read:

The voting members of the Department Convention shall consist of the elected and appointed Department Officers, Past Department Presidents, the Standing Committee Chairmen, Local Auxiliary Delegates and Alternates. Each Local Auxiliary shall be entitled to one (1) Delegate and one (1) Alternate for its Charter (first 10 members) and one (1) additional Delegate and one (1) Alternate for each ten (10) members or major fraction thereof.

\*\*Motion Nancy Middleton/Clarice Poisson to amend this section by removing the words “the Standing Committee Chairmen” from Article IX, Section 2. Amendment carried.

Will Now Read:

The voting members of the Department Convention shall consist of the elected and appointed Department Officers, Past Department Presidents, local Auxiliary Delegates and Alternates. Each Local Auxiliary shall be entitled to one (1) Delegates and one (1) Alternate for its Charter (first 10 members) and one (1) additional Delegate and one (1) Alternate for each ten (10) members or major fraction thereof.

\*\*Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Maureen Jackson to approve as amended. CARRIED

Article IX Section 4 Now reads:

All local Auxiliaries, to remain in good standing must have:

1. Revalidation form submitted to the Department Secretary, postmarked by May 20
2. Have current by-laws on file with the Department
3. Paid all indebtedness to the AMVET family, both Department and District
4. Have filed form 990 or e-postcard with IRS in accordance with IRS regulations and proof of same received by the Department Secretary with the revalidation form.

Change to Read:

All local Auxiliaries, to remain in good standing must have:

1. Revalidation form submitted to the Department Parliamentarian, postmarked by May 20
2. Have current by-laws on file with the Department
3. Paid all indebtedness to the AMVET family, both Department and District
4. Have filed form 990 or e-postcard with IRS in accordance with IRS regulations and proof of same received by the Department Parliamentarian with the revalidation form.

\*\*Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Nancy Middleton to accept changes. CARRIED

Article XI – 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, one copy is to be sent to the Department President, one copy returned to the District Council and one retained in the parliamentarian’s file.

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.

\*\*Motion Nancy Middleton/2nd Maureen Jackson to amend this by adding – The Parliamentarian will send a signed copy to the District President. CARRIED

\*\*Kathy Keizer/2nd Kathy Schultz to accept as amended. CARRIED

**Proposed Changes to Standing Rules – Department Convention, 2016**

S. R. # 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, rather than sending out the complete Officer’s Manual (10/14)

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. A complete copy of the instructions will be available on the website.

\*\*Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Maureen Jackson to accept change. CARRIED

S.R. #9 Now Reads:

The Scholarship grant shall be a minimum of $500.

Change to Read:

At least one scholarship grant in each category shall be a minimum of $500 and others as finances are available. There are two (2) Scholarship grants – Scholarship and Career Start Scholarship.

\*\*Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Maureen Jackson to accept change. CARRIED

S.R. #13 Now Reads:

Local Auxiliaries are to have their scrapbooks at the Pre-Convention S.E.C. meeting on Thursday in order to be eligible for the Department PRO award.

Change to Read:

Local Auxiliaries are to have their scrapbook to the PRO/Historian one hour prior to judging in order to be eligible for the Department PRO award.

\*\*Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Maureen Jackson to accept change. CARRIED

NEW #25

When an Auxiliary member from the Department of Michigan announces her candidacy for a National Office, all campaign expenses are to be at her own expense. No funds will be used from the Department of Michigan Ladies Auxiliary.

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

By-Laws completed – for this year!

Convention Chairman Kathy Keizer presented President Faye with a gift from the Auxiliary for her year of service. She received a beautiful gavel plaque and a “Money” tree – with real money!

President Faye thanked everyone for this past year. She is sad to leave, but secretly on the inside – she is dancin’! It has been an extremely busy and active year and she is looking forward to a little rest.

President elect Seletha Robertson said she is looking forward to the coming year and is excited to be our President.

The benediction was delivered by Chaplain Leora Williamson.

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

The 2016 AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary Department of Michigan Convention was adjourned at 11:50ish.

Submitted by

Nancy Middleton, Secretary.