

FALL S.E.C. MEETING

September 28, 2018

Grand Rapids Michigan

The meeting was called to order at 6:10pm by President Kathy Schultz

The Sgt-at-Arms escorted our National President Barbara Valley into the room.

Chaplain Linda Marshall gave the invocation.

Sgt-at-Arms Sue Christe led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Kathy Schultz introduced two guests: Deb Scheer, 2nd Vice President from Ohio and Lacie Valley, daughter of National President Valley (and a life Auxiliary member from the State of Ohio).

Roll Call showed all in attendance with the exception of: Judy Smith, Jacobetti Home Rep (excused), Kathy Biela, Personnel (absent), Pat Krzesowik, Ann Arbor VA Rep. (absent), Harriet Biela, John Dingell VA Rep (excused).

Correspondence: letters from Pat Krzesowik with activity report, Judy Smith with activity report and Harriet Biela with activity report.

REPORTS:

President Kathy Schultz turned in her activity report. She has been busy lately. She also enjoyed going to National Convention and learned a lot.

1st Vice President Bertha Lema: turned in her activity report. She had several things to discuss:

#1 Bert has the local copies of the National roster to distribute here at Fall Conference. She will give them to a representative of each local represented this weekend. She is also requesting the individual sign a form stating they received them.

#2 The National dues will increase in January. Annual dues will increase by \$2, new/renew to life fees will increase by \$25.

#3 So far we have several Auxiliaries who have paid 100% of their life member's hospital donations.

#4 Bert also reported she went through the files she received and there were a lot of old - old records. She shredded them all (and there were so many, her shredder broke!)

#5 Bert has talked or communicated with each of the local 1st Vice Presidents.

2nd Vice President Kathy Keizer turned in her activity report. The Penrickton Tour is next Monday at 1pm in Taylor Michigan. Kathy received a bulletin from the National 2nd Vice Joan Sireck which talked about John Tracy Clinic and fundraisers.

3rd Vice President Clarice Poisson contacted National 3rd Vice Karin Simmons about a tour of Paws With a Cause. After going back and forth with Deb Davis at PAWS, the tour will be on the 17th of October. Karin will arrive in Michigan on the 16th and leave on the 18th. Our NEC will pick her up at the airport.

Clarice requested a Chairman's award: Local 3rd Vice Presidents who contact Clarice will have their name in a drawing.

****Motion Clarice Poisson/2nd Maureen Jackson** to allow the Dept. 3rd Vice a chairman's award as requested. CARRIED

Secretary Nancy Middleton turned in her activity report. She asked if anyone noticed the medical alert on the backside of their badges. This was brought up at National Convention by PDP Wendy Lynema. National did not seem interested but the Secretary felt it could be beneficial to have it available in Michigan. Many seemed to agree. We will try it for a few years.

Nancy also discussed correspondence she has been having with our National Executive Director Carol King regarding honorary members. Starting in January, the honorary members will be charged (by National) \$10 per year. The correspondence was initiated because we lost an Auxiliary with 3 dedicated Honorary Members. Many of the members transferred to another Auxiliary and transfer forms were sent in for all including the honorary members. Honorary members cannot transfer. It was suggested the new Auxiliary accept them - but since they are only allowed one a year, it would take three years to get them in.

As of right now, they cannot transfer and everything is in limbo until we get more clarification.

Treasurer Gloria Hall passed out the ending balance from last year (2017/18). On the back page, she included the current balance in this year's budget.

Maureen Jackson said Mike Sapp former CEO of PAWS asked National for an award to be presented to the Department with the largest donation to PAWS nationally which would include all their local Auxiliary donations also.

Back to the Treasurer's report: Chaplain Linda Marshall stated the Department budget for the Chaplain was increased to \$75. The budget says \$35 which was the amount last year. Gloria will update the budget.

Chaplain Linda Marshall turned in her activity report. She was worried because she had not heard from the AMVETS Department Chaplain about the Memorial Service. She talked with John Hoecherl who contacted him. He finally called her last Saturday. Linda is concerned about going into a Memorial Service with no information on how it will be.

She passed around a card for Seletha Robertson who is still having problems from the accident she was in during Dept. Convention. Richard (husband) is not feeling well and Kez (son) is having foot problems.

Sgt-at-Arms Sue Christe stated there was not enough room for Ways & Means. A table is needed in the room. There was one right outside the room - but it disappeared.

Hospital Officer Leora Williamson turned in her activity report. She passed out bank information forms which need to be updated every couple years. There is also a certification form which needs to be completed. Faye Richardson-Green questioned where to get the forms. Lee said she will get everyone the form and will get more from National. Lee also reminded local Hospital Officers when they order the bars/pins/certificates which are given out at convention, they are available for all members of the AMVET Family - not just the Auxiliary - when they get the required number of hours.

Americanism/SOS Officer Christine Keenan turned in her activity report. She reported on a program she would like for the Department SOS project. It is called 22 2 None. It is a suicide prevention program and the name refers to 22 (the number of suicides daily by veterans and members of the military. 22 2 (to) None. They work with National Guardsmen and the reserve throughout the State.
**Motion Christine Keenan/2nd Maureen Jackson to adopt 22 2 None as the Department SOS program for 2018/19. CARRIED

Scholarship Officer Maribeth Wescott did not turn in activity report yet. Will do it soon.

The 2019 scholarships are on the website. They will be due to the Dept. Officer by May 24th which is earlier than normal.

Maribeth has a letter she would like to use as a fundraiser. It involves trading a 1 cent Lincoln piece for a \$5 bill.

**Motion Maribeth Wescott/2nd Linda Marshal to approve the use of the letter as a fundraiser. CARRIED.

N.E.C. Woman Pat Michalski turned in her activity report. She distributed thank you cards from National for Paws With a Cause donations (#23, #126, #57, #9 and the Department). Thank you cards for Scholarship donations #23, #57, #121, #126 & Department. Thank you cards for John Tracy Clinic donations #9, #23, #57, #114, #121, #126 & Department. Thank you cards for Parke Scholarship donations #2;3, #57, #79, #114, #121, #126, #1988 and Department. Thank you cards for Freedom Foundation donations #23, #52, #57, #1988. There were other certificates passed out: Freedoms Foundation #23, 52, 57, 1988; John Tracy Clinic #23; Freedoms Foundation for the Department. There were several Youth Volunteers recognition certificates for Aux. #57.

Aux. #9 won the Barbara Guth Hospital award.

Pat Michalski talked with Carol King about the 990 form not being required by the AMVETS with the revalidation. It was brought up at the Officer's meeting. The reason it is required by the National Auxiliary is: it is in the National Auxiliary Constitution. The reason it is not required by the AMVETS is: it is NOT in the AMVETS Constitution.

****Motion Pat Michalski/2nd Maureen Jackson** move for the Department of Michigan take a recommendation to the Spring NEC to remove the requirement of the 990 form from the Constitution. CARRIED by the majority. 3 opposed the motion.

Liaison/Head Delegate/Honors & Awards Chairman Wendy Lynema turned in her activity report.

As Honors & Awards, Wendy has all the donor's rules and their expiration date typed up. She is giving them to each donor and would like them back by the end of the year if there are corrections and/or additions.

There are 6 awards available. The Child Welfare 41 & over; (formerly Nancy Middleton award); Community Service Award 41 & over (formerly Maureen Jackson); Dept. of Michigan Hospital Award 41 & over (no donor); Hospital wards 10 to 40 members (formerly District VI award); Hospital award - any size 0 (formerly PDP Jeane Wedyke; Scrapbook Cover Award (formerly Jill Byrne Award).

Maureen has elected to continue her Community Service Award.

****Motion Maureen Jackson/2nd Christine Keenan** to allow District I to continue the Hospital Award

District I would like to be the donor of the Dept. Hospital award which was given by Jeane Wedyke.

.Motion Maureen Jackson/2nd Bert Lema** to approve District I as the donor of the Jeane Wedyke Memorial Hospital award. CARRIED

Wendy Lynema requested the Child Welfare Award 41 and over.

****Motion Wendy Lynema/2nd Clarice Poisson** support Wendy Lynema taking over as the donor of the Child Welfare Award subject to requirement approval. CARRIED

Requirements of the Wendy Lynema Child Welfare Award: This is for Auxiliary's with 41 plus members as of June 1. Reports must be submitted by the due date. Donation to the Child Welfare program must be made through the Department. The Auxiliary must be in good standing. Donations over \$500 must be verified.

***(Motion Wendy Lynema/2nd Maureen Jackson** to approve. CARRIED

(NOTE: I did not hear a Liaison and/or Head Delegate report. If one was given, I apologize and will get a copy to forward with the minutes)

Parliamentarian Kathy Keizer asked if you are aware of something missing in the Officer's Manual, please let Kathy know. Check if a rule covers 2 (or more) people, it should be in all of their instructions. The corrections should be to Kathy asap.

The By-laws and Standing Rules are on the website. Start looking at them now so we are prepared for any changes which may be needed at Convention.

No one has by-laws due soon. The by-laws for #1988 have been misplaced but Kathy is confident this will be resolved soon.

Ways & Means Chairman Harriet Altherr has 50/50 raffles, gas card drawings, mystery prize drawings and pop/water for sale. The convention raffle will be \$2 lottery tickets equal in value to (1st place) \$150 / (2nd place) \$100 / (3rd place) \$50.

The winner of the first gas card was Clarice Poisson. The 50/50 winner was Linda Marshall - \$47.

(NOTE from Secretary: according to my notes we started jumping around because Officers forgot to include information in their reports. I don't know what to call this but wanted to point out the following is not part of the Ways & Means Chairman's report)

1. Christine Keenan stated the Americanism raffle will be mailed to the President of each local Auxiliary.

2. President Kathy noticed a slight error! She forgot about the convention minutes.

****Pam Michalski/2nd Clarice Poisson** to dispense with the reading of the Convention minutes and accept the minutes as written. CARRIED

3. Bert Lema has new membership brochures with applications. She is sending one to each local 1st Vice. The supply is limited but the Secretary will try to copy them so they look original and send them out with the newsletter.

4. 2nd Vice Kathy Keizer would like to give an award at Convention to the largest donation to Penrickton statistically.

****Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Clarice Poisson** to allow the 2nd Vice to give an award for the largest donation to Penrickton figured statistically. CARRIED

(NOTE: back to the items on the agenda)

PRO/Historian Betty Petitjean turned in her activity report. She is asking everyone to send her pictures for the PRO book.

Fall Conference Chairman Maureen Jackson apologized about the missing tables. They disappeared after the Americanism Meeting. She commented on the cover for the Fall Conference Book. You can color it to look any way you want it to.

The room rates were done using the wrong code. The code should have been AMF. They are working on a special code (key) for us to use for Convention. You can choose your room on line.

Some of the items we were not aware of in the hotel contract were:

- A. meeting rooms will be billed \$1400 if 80 rooms are not booked.
- B. We need \$1100 in food sales but any meals bought in the hotel do not count. The Sunday morning coffee/Danish will count as will the Atrium luncheon tickets.
- C. The luncheon tickets are \$15 but if you buy in advance they are \$10. You can take your lunch into the meeting room. There will be a section for the PDPs to have their lunch together.

Higgins Lake Lodge Rep Peggy Liss turned in her activity report which had nothing on it because nothing happened.

Website Committee, Pat Michalski, Chairman reported on the website. There was a presentation by Dan Boutell. He, Pat, Bert Lema, Wendy Lynema and Faye Richardson-Green met in September. The Website will have several different sections from Who We Are, What We Do, Around the State, President's Page, Dept. Officers, Information, Bulletins, Forms & Information, Scholarship/Americanism, Youth Activities, News & Events, etc. (this was taken from a written report handed to the Secretary).

The cost would be \$250 this year then \$12 per month with the Auxiliary webmaster doing the inputting. Dan Boutell will do the initial setup and then help train others.

Gloria Hall, Treasurer stated we have a budget of \$300 and have spent \$37. We still have \$263 so we have the \$250 available as of now but \$12.50 comes out each month for the current website.

****Motion Maureen Jackson/2nd Peggy Liss to have Dan Boutell do the AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary website. CARRIED.**

****Motion Bert Lema/2nd Faye Richardson-Green to have Pat Michalski and Wendy Lynema as the web administrators. CARRIED**

VAVS/HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVES:

Aleda E Lutz VA - Linda Marshall Linda turned in her report. A date needs to be set for the President official visit to Aleda E Lutz. Right now Linda has \$336.88 in her checking account and \$951.15 in savings.

Battle Creek VAMC - Faye Richardson-Green turned in her activity report. She has her joint review on Oct. 11th - the same days as the Patient Carnival. Each week she works the coffee room at Battle Creek VA. This is sponsored by AMVETS, the American Legion and the DAV. She has \$104 in her checking account.

John Dingell VA - Harriet Biela turned in her activity report. Deputy Maureen Jackson gave the report which stated Harriet had her joint review. She has \$571.69 in her account. She has adopted the closed ward and is doing something special for them.

Grand Rapids Home for Veterans - Clarice Poisson reported the carnival in July went well. She thanked those from District V who worked the booth. Clarice will be doing the Star Tree again this year. An invitation will be going to the Department President for her official visit to the Grand Rapids Home. Clarice has \$405 in savings and \$118.44 in checking.

The Secretary read the reports from the following:

Jacobetti Home - Judy Smith (excused) turned in her activity report. She will be in Green Bay Wisconsin during Fall Conference she has a balance of \$888.25 in checking and \$6.88 in savings.

Ann Arbor VA Pat Krzesowik (absent) turned in her activity report. She had her annual review. The balance in the checking account is \$403.36

District V Presidents:

District I - Cel Rose Solak announced Bert Lema from Aux. #57 will be running for Department President at the next convention.

District II - Peggy Liss introduced the District II guests: PDP Doreen Pierce, PDP Carol Pickett, Linda Elsey (Aux. 22) and Marcella Schmidt (Aux. 22).

District V - Faye Richardson-Green introduced Becky Kovach from Aux. #4250. She reported all 5 Auxiliaries in District V are in good standing. They are all interested and working. At the last District meeting - there were representatives from every District V Auxiliary. She reported we have had 3 Texas Hold'ems so far this year. The Sons of AMVETS from Post #23 have an annual event which is a tribute and recognition of Veterans. This year was Recognition of POW/MIA's from Michigan. It is a very moving event. National Convention is in Louisville Kentucky this next year and Faye strongly encourages members to attend.

Faye also announced Kathy Keizer will be running for Department 1st Vice President at the upcoming Convention in June, 2019.

District VII Betty Petitjean introduced Delores Gubacz an honorary member from Aux. #79.

President Kathy introduced National President Barbara Valley for her remarks. President Barb passed out ink pens to everyone present. She stated her theme is "Putting Veterans First" and her project is the AMVETS Diabetes Research Institute in Athens Ohio at the Ohio State University. This project was started by Past National Commander John Sisler in 2003. Over 24% of Veterans have Type 2 Diabetes - and the number is growing.

President Barb lost her husband Rene last year because of complications of Diabetes so this is very close to her heart. She is asking for our help in donating to this project which provides grants to students searching for a cure. so they can find a cure.

Announcements:

1. AMVETS Veterans Recognition dinner - Saturday November 10th - Post #22 - Bay City. Open at 5:30 / dinner at 6:00 / program at 7:00. Tickets are \$10 each and REVP by 11/4.

2. The Fall Conference Memorial Service is Sunday at 8:30am. There will be coffee and donuts available from 7:30 to 8:30 in the atrium.
3. The Penrickton Tour is this Monday at 1pm - Taylor Michigan.
4. The Paws With A Cause tour is October 17th at 11am.
5. Post #57 in Harper Woods has their annual Paws Auction on November 3 at 6pm.
6. Post #126 in Grand Rapids has Karaoke tonight until 11pm.

The closing prayer was delivered by Chaplain Linda Marshall. Linda requested a moment of silence for Lenore Uhl who passed away recently.

The retirement of the colors was conducted by Sgt-at-Arms Sue Christe.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:28pm.

Respectfully submitted
Nancy Middleton, Secretary.
October 14, 2018

Minutes approved with corrections:

President Kathy Schultz 10/14/2018

Parliamentarian Kathy Keizer 10/15/2018