

DEPARTMENT CONVENTION 2019
Friday, June 7, 2019
Crowne Plaza Hotel – Grand Rapids Michigan

The AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary 2019 Department Convention was called to order by Convention Chairman Maureen Jackson at 9:17am.

The President, Kathryn Schultz, was escorted to the podium.

Chaplain Linda Marshall delivered the invocation.

Sgt-at-Arms Cel Rose Solak called for the flags to be posted and the led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Kathryn welcomed everyone to the convention. She has had a good time this year and it has been a good experience.

Credentials Chairman Faye Richardson-Green gave the first credentials report. There was a total of 25 votes: majority of 14 and 2/3's vote of 17.

Parliamentarian Kathy Keizer read the Convention rules as printed in the convention book.

****Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Maureen Jackson to accept the Convention Rules. CARRIED**

Roll Call was taken by Secretary Nancy Middleton. All Officers were present with the exception of PRO Betty Petitjean who was excused for the entire convention. Sgt-at-Arms Sue Christe was excused for the entire convention (Cel Rose Solak had previously been approved as acting Sgt-at-Arms for the entire convention).

OFFICER'S REPORTS:

1ST Vice President Bert Lema reported a slight increase in membership. This is the first increase since 2015. We need to find a way to get renewals. We are losing too many members. Bert will give her Early Bird awards tomorrow.

2nd Vice President Kathy Keizer presented her Chairman's Award to the largest donation (statistically) to Penrickton. The winner was Auxiliary #93 in Armada. A check will be presented to Kurt Sebal from Penrickton on the convention floor tomorrow, Kathy is thankful for all those who worked this year to help kids.

3rd Vice President Clarice Poisson stated she gave her report yesterday at the SEC meeting. She has a bulletin in the convention book. Paws will be on the convention floor tomorrow morning.

Secretary Nancy Middleton announced Officer's Activity Reports were in folders on the table in the back of the room. Each folder was labeled as to which office it contained. Please take a copy of the activity reports which you are interested in – one or one of each. Please do it during a break from convention business.

President Kathryn appointed Linda Marshall as the convention timekeeper.

Treasurer Gloria Hall reported the Finance Committee met Friday morning to review the proposed budget for the 2019/2020 year. Copies were distributed to the delegates to review before the budget is voted on tomorrow.

Parliamentarian Kathy Keizer said the By-Law Committee met yesterday. Copies of the proposed changes to the by-law and copies of proposed changes to the standing rules were distributed. These changes will be voted on tomorrow.

Kathy had a Chairman's award for perfect revalidations. All those qualifying were put in a drawing for a *fabulous(!)* prize. The winner was Aux. #114.

Chaplain Linda Marshall requested any deceased member names not turned in earlier, please get them to her asap for the memorial service.

Sgt-at-Arms Cel Rose Solak – no report at this time

Americanism Officer Pat Michalski We will have 16 Americanism winners and 35 guests at the Americanism program at noon today.

The AMVETS Americanism drawing will be tomorrow: 1st place \$400 / 2nd place \$300 / 3rd place \$200 / 4th thru 8th place \$20.

Ways & Means - The Mystery Prize Drawing winner was Rosemary Perdue.

Hospital Officer Leora Williamson reported we only had 14 reports submitted out of 24 Auxiliaries. She reminded the Auxiliaries if there is no VA in their area, they could find hospitals and/or qualifying nursing homes. The reports received had a total evaluation of \$128,384.

Scholarship Officer Maribeth Wescott has 13 reports submitted. The totals on the reports were 192 volunteers, 832 hours, 2,312 miles, 308 projects and a total evaluation of \$30,646.

The Scholarship committee met (Maribeth, Wendy Lynema, Bert Lema, Peggy Liss) and awarded 5 \$1,000 scholarships.

NEC Woman Pat Michalski has forms from National for Nat'l Convention committee appointments, Patrons page listing (\$1), raffles (5 for \$5) and Freedoms Foundation raffle (6 for \$5). She will be taking Michigan's resolution regarding eliminating the 990 requirements from our revalidations.

Liaison Wendy Lynema stated her report is in the convention book.

Maureen Jackson talked about the National Freedom's Foundation Seminar on Oct. 10-13, 2019. It is in Valley Forge PA. She discussed the Medal of Honor Grove, living history, side trips to the American Revolutionary Museum, City Tavern, etc. The total cost is \$385 which includes room, board, meals, side trips, etc. You don't need to pay yet, but Freedoms Foundation needs to know if you will be there so busses can be arranged.

Ways & Means Chairman Harriet Altherr will have convention raffle tickets, mystery prizes, gas card raffles, 50/50 raffles and pop/water/chips for sale at this convention.

Convention Chairman Maureen Jackson thanked Kathy Biela for doing the attendance prizes, Faye Richardson-Green for doing credentials, Carol Pickett and Doreen Pierce for covering registration. She also said we need to find a way to get more delegates to attend.

Honors & Awards Wendy Lynema has her activity report on the back table. She asked everyone who will attend the Honors and Awards Program to hold off taking pictures until after the program. Madam President will be available after the program – in the back of the room – for pictures with the winners.

Personnel Chairman Kathy Biela asked to give her report tomorrow (Saturday)

****Motion Kathy Biela/2nd Pat Michalski to move the Personnel report to tomorrow. CARRIED]**

Higgins Lake Lodge Rep Peggy Liss reported there were two meetings this year. The committee is working out ways to redo the cabins and lodge rooms. Details on this will be coming out later.

Website Committee Chairman Pat Michalski said the committee composed of herself, Faye Richardson-Green, Bert Lema and Wendy Lynema. It went 'live' in February and is going well.

Point of Personal Privilege Kathy Keizer wanted to remind all the Gavelieres the dinner/meeting will be held at Brann's Steak House (about a block west of the hotel) at 7:30pm. Kathy needs a final head-count.

District I President Cel Rose Solak announced guests and announced Bert Lema is a candidate for Dept. President.

District II President Peggy Liss announced guests and 2 candidates for Dept. Offices: Caroline Wisniewski/Chaplain, Linda Marshall/Scholarship, Rosemary Perdue has withdrawn her name as a candidate for 2nd Vice.

District V President Faye Richardson-Green asked for a clarification on announcing guests. If they are delegates with a vote, are they still considered guests? (Answer – No they are not guests)

Faye announced the candidacy of 2 members from District V for Dept. Offices: Becky Kovach/Sgt-at-Arms and Kathy Keizer/1st Vice President. She also had to announce the loss of one of our Auxiliaries - #4250. They have turned in their charter. One of their 'founding mothers' Becky Kovach has transferred her membership to Aux. #1941.

District VII President Barb Robare introduced herself as the incoming District VII President.

Aleda E Lutz VAVS Linda Marshall has a balance in her checking account of \$32.76 and savings of \$1,251.53.

Ann Arbor VAVS Pat Krzesowik has her report in the back of the room. She is desperately looking for a deputy. Because of health reasons, she really needs some help.

Battle Creek VAVS Faye Richardson-Green has a bulletin in the convention book and her activity report on the table in the back of the room. Asked everyone to please read them.

Faye commended Diana Lammott for running the quarterly snack cart at the Battle Creek VAMC. Faye said the residents are always so delighted to see her!

There will be a National Veterans Creative Arts Festival in Kalamazoo MI from Oct. 28th to Nov. 3rd. The VA is in need of volunteers and/or monetary donations.

John Dingell VAVS Harriet Biela stated her activity report is on the back table. She also said a new project for them is the Fisher House (which is similar to the Ronald McDonald House) which will be built near the John Dingle VAMC.

Grand Rapids Home for Veterans Rep Clarice Poisson has her activity report on the table. The balance in her checking account is \$105 and in savings \$902. She thanked #23, #57, #126, #4064 and District V for their donations.

Jacobetti Home for Veterans Rep Judy Smith talked about the program they have at Post #122. The last Tuesday of June, July, August and September approximately 17 residents from Jacobetti come for a visit. They play bingo, sing songs and have a picnic lunch. On July 9th they are having a special event just for the memory care unit. They also do monthly bingos at the Home. The balance in her account is \$575.56 in checking and \$8.68 in savings.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Maureen Jackson announced banquet tickets are available from Carol Hebert.

Cel Rose Solak announce Lee Williamson and Becky Kovach will be pages tomorrow.

Linda Marshall reminded everyone of the Memorial Service in the Grand River Ball Room tonight.

Nancy Middleton and Faye Richardson-Green noted a few places some of our members might like to visit since we have the entire afternoon off. In downtown Grand Rapids the annual 3 Day Arts Festival is in full swing. They have entertainment, food booths (many!), crafts, and many things to see and do. The beautiful Meijer Gardens is about 10 miles away and right now the 'butterflies are blooming'. The Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum is also located in downtown Grand Rapids . Heading South on 131 about 15 miles is the Gun Lake Casino. There are also two malls just down the road about 2 miles, plus dozens of restaurants and shops within a couple miles.

The Benediction was delivered by Chaplain Linda Marshall.

The Flag was retired by Sgt-at-Arms Cel Rose Solak.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:48am.

DEPARTMENT CONVENTION 2019 **Saturday, June 8, 2019** **Crowne Plaza Hotel – Grand Rapids Michigan**

The meeting was **called to order** at 9:06 by Convention Chairman Maureen Jackson.

The first order of business was to introduce the AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary Past Department Presidents.

1980/81 Pat Michalski – Cmdr. Pat Carney and her theme was "Reach Out"

1985/86 Clarice Poisson – Cmdr. Wally Gasman – SOA Cmdr. Bill Hamilton – "Working Together For Our Veterans"

1992/93 Nancy Middleton – Cmdr. Pete O'Donnell – SOA Cmdr. Bob Vettese - "Build Enthusiasm And Reinforce Service" (BEARS)

1995/96 Judy Smith – Cmdr. Jim Smith – SOA Cmdr. Steve Eggleston – "Serving With Heart"

1997/98 Cel Rose Solak – Cmdr. Joe Musial – SOA Cmdr. Jim Watson – "Commitment Reflecting Service"

1999/00 Maribeth Wescott – Cmdr. Ron Rothenberg – SOA Cmdr. Keith Emelander – "Helping Hands"

2000/01 Carol Pickett – Cmdr. Ed Florence – SOA Cmdr. Ken Smith – "Faith, Love, Loyalty"

2001/02 Doreen Pierce – Cmdr. Jim May – SOA Cmdr. Ken Smith – "Helping Hands Make Happy Faces"

2007/08 Maureen Jackson – Cmdr. Fred Schwarzwaldner – SOA Cmdr. Bruce Ringler – "Be Ever Alert and

Ready to Serve" (BEARS)

2008/09 Kathy Biela – Cmdr. Mary Wilseck – SOA Cmdr. Bruce Ringler – "Make It Happen!"

2009/10 Kathy Keizer – Cmdr. Bob Downer – SOA Cmdr. Doug Beedon – "Keep Moving Forward"

2012/13 Peggy Liss – Cmdr. John Hoecherl – SOA Cmdr. Steve Dunn – "Words Of Liberty and Freedom" (WOLF)

2013/14 Pat Michalski – Cmdr. Bob Green – SOA Cmdr. John Aldrich – "United for Service for All" (USA)

2014/15 Allison Aldrich – Cmdr. Tony Lema – SOA Cmdr. John Aldrich – "There's S'now Place Like America"

2015/16 Faye Richardson-Green – Cmdr. Steve Bidstrup – SOA Cmdr. Steve Dunn – "You Make A Difference"

2016/17 Seletha Robertson – Cmdr. Lenny Hogan – SOA Cmdr. Steve Dunn – "Let's Keep Flying"

2017/18 Wendy Lynema – Cmdr. Jean Hall – SOA Cmdr. Don Torr – "Spread Your Wings and Fly"

2018/19 President Kathryn Schultz – Cmdr. Chuck Petch – SOA Cmdr. Don Torr – "Paint a Year of Peace and Freedom"

Secretary Nancy Middleton read a note from PDP Reatha Houck, 1969/70 (Cmdr. Milton Pewitt), stating this was the 50th anniversary of her election to the Office of Dept. President. She wished everyone well and hoped for a successful convention. She said "Hello" to all those who remember her. For those who do not know her, she sent a copy of her pictures with a list of all the Officers and highlights of her year. Copies were distributed to all the delegates. (PDP Reatha turned 97 on June 5th)

The Invocation was led by Chaplain Linda Marshall.

The Colors were presented by Sgt-at-Arms Cel Rose Solak.

Roll call was taken by Secretary Nancy Middleton. All present except Betty Petitjean, excused.

Credentials was done by Chairman Faye Richardson-Green. There were 30 registrations with 29 votes allowed (President has no vote at this time). Majority is 15 and 2/3's is 19.

Guest: Kurt Sebal from Penrickton Center was escorted to the convention floor. Kurt talked about the variety of children they have in their program – from a child in a wheelchair who is blind, has cerebral palsy, an eating disorder which necessitates tube feeding to children who are blind with another disorder but able to walk and feed themselves. At the present time there are 33 children in the program. There will be some remodeling to make more room for some of the therapy services (which means the toy room is coming down!!).

Kathy Keizer presented Penrickton with a check for \$6,076.50 from the Mich. Auxiliaries. She also urged everyone to take the Penrickton Tour this Fall so they can see for themselves how great this program is.

For those who were not on the floor yesterday, Kathy said her Chairman's Award, for the largest donation to Penrickton statistically was awarded to Auxiliary #93 in Armada.

Guest: Deb Davis from Paws With A Cause and foster puppy Zelda. When asked about Seymour, her training dog, Deb said she would be at the banquet this evening.

This year is PAWS 40th anniversary. They have been with AMVETS Auxiliary for 31 of those 40 years. Deb has been the PAWS Rep for the Auxiliary for 15 years. On June 22 there will be an open house at the PAWS Head Quarters from 11 to 2. There will be self-guided tours, food tents, demonstrations and foster puppies!!!

Deb showed a video of Cal and his dog Artie who was sponsored by the Auxiliary. Since 2018, PAWS is located in 33 States. They have a successful prison program in five prisons. The inmates help with the training. The requirement for the inmates is they must be infraction free for 3 to 5 years before they can be accepted into the program as a trainer. It is a coveted position for all the inmates and they work hard to keep the requirements.

Right now there is a great need for foster puppies homes!! Information is on the PAWS website.

Clarice presented a check to PAWS in the amount of \$11,899.45. Clarice pointed out in 1978 Lorraine Beedon from Aux. #126 was the first to adopt the program in a local Auxiliary. That was back when they were known as Ears for the Deaf.

Clarice had a Chairman's award this year. A drawing from the local 3rd Vice President who corresponded with her this year. The winner was Lois Weston from Aux. #122.

Ways & Means drawing – \$50 gas card winner Karen Harmon from #93 and 50/50 raffle winner – Bert Lema (\$67)

1st Vice Bert Lema presented her Membership awards:

Early Bird Drawing (3 winners \$25 @): Deborah Besaw #22, Sally Jacobs #22, Stacie Romano #57

Life Membership 100% by 9/30/18 (\$25)– Auxiliary #2273

Chairman's Award – drawing from renewals postmarked by 12/31 - Michelle McDonald #72

Special Award - 100% renewals and life donation by 12/31/18 (\$25) – Auxiliary #126

Fall Conference Drawing (1 night's lodging/\$25 meal allowance/\$25 gas card/registration –
Katherine Taylor Ross – Aux. #1941

Treasurer Gloria Hall Proposed Budget 2019-2020 The proposed budget was distributed yesterday for everyone to look over. It was voted on by sections:

#1 National Convention total budgeted: \$1,930.

****Motion Gloria Hall/2nd Faye Richardson-Green** to approve the budget for National Convention.

CARRIED

#2 Fall Conference / SEC 9/27-28/2019 total budgeted \$1,910.

**Motion Gloria Hall/2nd Doreen Pierce to remove the line item 'Banquet tickets' (\$0 budgeted)

CARRIED

**Motion Gloria Hall/2nd Judy Smith to approve the budgeted amount of \$1,910. For Fall Conference.

CARRIED

#3 Spring SEC (Feb. 15, 2020) total amount budgeted \$700

**Motion Gloria Hall / 2nd Judy Smith to approve the budgeted amount of \$700 for the Spring SEC

CARRIED

#4 NEC Meeting total budgeted \$500

**Motion Gloria Hall/2nd Trisha Cieremans to approve the budgeted amount of \$500 for the NEC meeting. CARRIED

#5 Officer's (postage/supplies) total amount budgeted \$1,250

**Motion Gloria Hall/2nd Kathy Keizer to remove the Ways & Means line item from the budget. CARRIED (explanation: It will be a separate section in the Treasurer's books. Ways & Means amount fluctuates all year – when she needs to buy something, it comes out, when she earns money, the amount taken out is put back in for use at the next function. It will be easier to track if it is a separate item.)

**Motion Bert Lema/2nd Judy Smith to remove the increase of \$25 from the 1st Vice's Postage. CARRIED

**Motion Gloria Hall/2nd Linda Marshall to approve the new total of \$1,225 for Officers postage and supplies. CARRIED

#6 Department Expenses total amount budgeted \$14,350

**Motion Gloria Hall/2nd Peggy Liss to approve the budgeted amount of \$14,350 for Department Expenses. CARRIED

#7 Convention Expenses Gr. Rapids MI 6/2020 total amount budgeted \$2,965

**Motion Gloria Hall/2nd Clarice Poisson to approve the amount budgeted \$2,965 CARRIED

#8 National Donations total amount budgeted \$0

**Motion Gloria Hall/2nd Nancy Middleton to approve the amount budgeted at \$0 CARRIED

(Explanation – the donations will still be made but taken from the Texas Hold'em fund instead of from the General Fund)

This gives the total amount budgeted for 2019/2020 \$23,580 which is approximately \$4,500 less than last year.

Short break from 11:15 to 11:25.

**Motion Maureen Jackson/2nd Kathy Biela to reconsider the previous budget motion concerning National Donations. Leave the donations in the budget but with a 0 balance. After several minutes of discussion:

****Motion Nancy Middleton/2nd Clarice Poisson to table the motion until the afternoon session.**

CARRIED

Break for the Americanism program followed by time for lunch. We will resume at 2:00pm
Session resumed at 2:10pm. The first order of business was the proposed changes to the Department By-Laws.

2019 Automatic & Proposed Changes **to Department Bylaws**

UNDER ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

Section 2 now reads: Local Auxiliaries may grant one Honorary Membership each year. A completed Honorary Membership form and a check in the amount of the National one-time payment for the Honorary Membership card shall be mailed to the Department Secretary. The Department waives dues for Honorary members. However, the local Auxiliary may charge the Honorary member an assessment each year, if desired. (6/18)

AUTOMATIC CHANGE FROM NATIONAL - Change to read: *Local Auxiliaries may grant one Honorary Membership each year. Locals must submit two (2) copies of the Honorary Member Card Form to the Department with a check made out to the Department of Michigan in the amount of ten (\$10), which is the annual dues for Honorary Members effective September 2018. The Department waives dues for Honorary members. However, a local Auxiliary may charge the Honorary member an assessment each year, if desired. (1/19)*

UNDER ARTICLE IV - DUES

Section 2 now reads: The yearly membership fee for each annual Auxiliary member shall be a minimum of \$20 plus \$3 for the Department Hospital donation. (6/05)

AUTOMATIC CHANGE FROM NATIONAL - Change to read: *The yearly membership fee for each annual Auxiliary member shall be a minimum of \$22 plus \$3 for the Department Hospital donation. (1/19)*

Section 3 now reads: Each local Auxiliary shall remit annually to the Department of Michigan the sum of \$23 per annual member (\$13 for National, \$7 for Department and \$3 for the Department Hospital donation). The check shall be made payable to AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary, Department of Michigan. Any additional dues amount may be set and retained by the local Auxiliary. (6/05)

- A. The Department portion for all new members will be \$12 and the local Auxiliary will remit \$28 for each new member. Annual membership renewals will remain the same at \$23. (6/14)

AUTOMATIC CHANGE FROM NATIONAL - Change to read: Each local Auxiliary shall remit annually to the Department of Michigan the sum of \$25 per annual member (\$15 for National, \$7 for Department and \$3 for the Department Hospital donation). Checks shall be made payable to AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary, Department of Michigan. Any additional dues amount may be set and retained by the local Auxiliary. (1/19)

- A. The Department portion for all new members will be \$12 and the local Auxiliary will remit \$30 for each new member or 'rejoin' member (those who do not renew by December 31).

Section 4 now reads: A Life membership in AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary may be granted for a minimum sum of \$253 (\$200 for National, \$50 for Department and \$3 for the Department Hospital donation). Any additional amount may be set at the discretion of the local Auxiliary. (6/13)

AUTOMATIC CHANGE FROM NATIONAL - Change to read: A Life membership AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary may be granted for a minimum sum of \$278 (\$225 for National, \$50 for Department and \$3 for the Department Hospital donation). Any additional amount may be set the discretion of the local Auxiliary. (1/19)

Section 7 now reads: A member whose dues have not been paid by December 31 shall forfeit all privileges of active membership. After December 31, eligibility must be re-established by the local AMVETS.

Add a new "A" to read: Current members who pay their dues after December 31 are considered as a 'rejoin' member and must pay the same amount as a new member.

NOTE: Anywhere it states the Department Secretary posts items to the website will be changed to say the Department Webmaster will post items to the website.

UNDER ARTICLE V – DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

Section 2 now reads. There shall be six (6) District Presidents and/or Elected Representatives elected prior to Convention. If not elected prior to Convention, they shall be elected by a caucus of the respective District at the Department Convention. These six (6) Districts shall be geographically located as outlined by AMVETS.

Change to read: District Presidents and/or Elected Representatives shall be elected prior to Convention. If not elected prior to Convention, they shall be elected by a caucus of the respective District at the Department Convention. Districts shall be geographically located as outlined by AMVETS.

****Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Linda Marshall CARRIED**

Section 3-A now reads: After approval of her appointments at the post-Convention SEC meeting, the newly elected Department President shall have her installing officer do the installing.

Change to read: Prior to the close of the Department Convention, the President Elect shall get approval of the following appointments: Parliamentarian, Publicity Officer/Historian, Ways & Means Chairman and any elective offices not filled during elections. These appointees shall be installed immediately by her installing officer.

****Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Bert Lema CARRIED**

Section 8-B now reads: If the Department President is not able to attend the National Convention and an Alternate Delegate is needed, by a majority vote of the Michigan delegations an Alternate Delegate shall be voted on and she will serve at no expense to the Department.

Change to read: If the Department President is unable to attend National Convention, the Department 1st Vice President shall be the first choice to take her place as the Alternate Delegate, followed by (in this order) until someone is found who can attend: 2nd Vice President, 3rd Vice President and Executive Secretary.

A. Anyone who is chosen to serve as the Alternate Delegate will receive the budgeted monies.

****Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Peggy Liss CARRIED**

Section 10 now reads: Past Department Presidents may be nominated for any Department level office on the day of elections provided there have been no nominations made for the office on the first day of nominations. (6/17)

Change to read: Past Department Presidents may be nominated for any Department level office. (leave A. as presently worded.)

****Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Trisha Cieremans DEFEATED**

UNDER ARTICLE VI – EXECUTIVE BOARD, COMMITTEE AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES –

Change to read: Executive Board, Executive Committee and Board of Trustees

Section 1 now reads: The Executive Board shall consist of the elected Officers by the Convention Body. (See Article V, Section 1)

Change to read: The Executive Board shall consist of those holding elective offices (See Article V, Section 1), the Parliamentarian and the Executive Secretary.

****Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Faye Richardson-Green CARRIED**

Section 2 now reads: The Executive Committee of the Department shall consist of elected and appointed Officers: President; 1st Vice, 2nd Vice, 3rd Vice Presidents; Secretary (2 years); Treasurer (2 years); Chaplain; Sergeant-at-Arms; Americanism, Hospital and Scholarship Officers; NEC Woman (2 years); Immediate Past President; Ways and Means Chairman, District Presidents, all VAVS Representatives; all Michigan Veterans Home (MVH) Representatives; Junior AMVETS Coordinator (if needed); Publicity Officer/Historian; Personnel Chairman; Parliamentarian, Fall Conference Chairman; Convention Chairman and Higgins Lake Representative (2 years). (6/15)

Change to read: The Department Executive Committee shall consist of the following officers: President; 1st Vice, 2nd Vice and 3rd Vice Presidents; Executive Secretary; Treasurer; Chaplain; Sergeant-at-Arms; Americanism, Hospital and Scholarship Officers; NEC Woman; Immediate Past President; Parliamentarian, Publicity Officer/Historian; Ways and Means Chairman; Junior AMVETS Coordinator, if applicable, and District Presidents.

****Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Teresa McLane DEFEATED**

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 the meetings. The Chairman 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. Honors & Awards Meeting: immediate Past President as Chairman; 2nd Vice President, 3rd Vice President, Americanism, Hospital & Scholarship Officers. Membership Committee Meeting: 1st Vice President, District Presidents or their elected Representatives and Department Secretary. Finance Committee Meeting: Treasurer, District Presidents or their elected Representatives and Department Secretary. (6/18)

Change: Delete from this Article – this information is in Article IX – Department Convention, Section 9 – has nothing to do with title of this Article

****Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Trisha Cieremans CARRIED**

Make a 'new' Section 3 to read: The following will only be required to attend the SEC meetings noted for their particular office:

- A. VAVS/MVH Representatives will attend the pre-Convention SEC meeting and send a financial report for the Fall and Spring SEC meetings.
- B. The Fall Conference Chairman will attend the pre-Convention SEC meeting and Fall SEC meeting.
- C. The Convention Chairman will attend the pre-Convention SEC meeting and Spring SEC meeting.

****Motion Judy Smith/2nd Nancy Middleton CARRIED**

Section 4 now reads: The Executive Committee shall meet within twenty-four (24) hours preceding the Department Convention, after the close of the Department Convention, in the Spring and in the Fall, prior to Fall Conference. (6/05)

Change to read: The Executive Committee shall meet within twenty-four (24) hours prior to the Department Convention. The incoming and outgoing Executive Committee shall meet following the close of the convention for the purpose of exchanging files, with the exception of the Treasurer, which will be done after the Department audit.

Following the transfer of files, the newly elected Executive Committee shall present their themes, contests, etc. and engage in Officer training. They shall also meet in the Fall prior to Fall Conference and in the Spring. (Note: if passed, Section 5 will be deleted).

****Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Linda Marshall CARRIED**

Section 5 now reads: The outgoing Executive Committee shall meet with the newly elected Executive Committee immediately following the Department Convention closing for the purpose of receiving instructions and relinquishment of all records.

AUTOMATICALLY DELETED

UNDER ARTICLE VII – DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 4-A now reads: The reserve accounts held in the Savings Account are: Bonding (if applicable), Future National Convention Courtesies, Local Accounts Held in Trust, Membership Reserve Account, One-half of the Department portion of a Life membership, Equipment Maintenance, balances in the Scholarship Memorial Card account, Sunshine Fund, un-cashed checks, Miscellaneous Fund, Meeting Room Charges.

Change to read: The Savings Account #1 reserve accounts are as follows: Equipment Maintenance; Half of Dept. Life Membership monies; Local Monies in Trust; Membership Reserve; Outstanding checks; Scholarship Memorial Card sales, President's Gift Fund and Sunshine Fund.

****Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Maureen Jackson CARRIED**

Section 5 now reads: The duties of the District Presidents and/or elected Representatives shall be:

- A. All District Presidents or elected Representatives shall attempt to visit each Auxiliary within their respective Districts at least once during their term of office.

Change "A" to read: All District Presidents or elected Representatives shall make a minimum of one (1) visit to each local Auxiliary within their respective District during their term of office. A report of this visit shall be completed and a copy given to the Department President and Parliamentarian no later than the first SEC meeting following the visit. One copy shall be kept in the District President's files. (NOTE: a copy of this form will be available to download from the website.)

**Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Teresa McLane

** amendment Nancy Middleton/2nd Judy Smith. Add the word (1) "meeting" visit. CARRIED

New "A" will now read: All District Presidents or elected Representatives shall make a minimum of one (1) meeting visit to each local Auxiliary within their respective District during their term of office. A report of this visit shall be completed and a copy given to the Department President and Parliamentarian no later than the first SEC meeting following the visit. One copy shall be kept in the District President's files. (NOTE: a copy of this form will be available to download from the website.) CARRIED as amended

UNDER ARTICLE VIII – VAVS & MVH REPRESENTATIVES

Section 1 now reads: Hospital funds budgeted by the Hospital Committee shall be allocated to VA Hospital and State Hospital Representatives quarterly on the 1st of August, November, February and May for service rendered in Veteran's Homes. (6/15)

Change to read: The Hospital Committee shall budget hospital funds based on the number of veterans being served at each VAMC and MVH location. Funds will be disbursed quarterly on the 1st of August, November, February and May to be used to serve our veterans in each respective facility.

**Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Judy Smith CARRIED

UNDER ARTICLE IX – DEPARTMENT CONVENTION

Section 9 now reads: The Standing Committees of the Department Convention shall be as follows:

- A. The Child Welfare Committee shall be comprised of the 2nd Vice President as Chairman and other Auxiliary members.
- B. The Community Service Committee shall be comprised of the 3rd Vice President as Chairman and other Auxiliary members.
- C. The Hospital Committee shall be comprised of the Hospital Officer as Chairman, all VAVS/MVH Representatives and/or Deputies and other Auxiliary members.
- D. The Americanism/SOS Committee shall be comprised of the Americanism Officer as Chairman and four (4) other Auxiliary members, as approved by the post-Convention SEC.
- E. The Honors and Awards Committee shall be comprised of all Service Officers (Child Welfare, Community Service, Americanism/SOS, Hospital and Scholarship) and the Immediate Past President, who shall serve as Chairman, but she shall refrain from voting.
- F. The Bylaws/Resolutions Committee shall be comprised of the Department Parliamentarian as Chairman and fourteen (14) members, as designated by the President and approved at the post-Convention SEC meeting.

- G. The Scholarship Committee shall be comprised of the Department Scholarship Officer as Chairman and three (3) local Auxiliary members, preferably from three (3) different Districts, as approved by the President, for the purpose of judging the Scholarship applications.
- H. The Membership Committee shall be comprised of the 1st Vice President as Chairman, the District Presidents and/or elected Representative(s), the Department Secretary and other Auxiliary members.
- I. The Publicity Officer/Historian shall have a committee of four (4) members for the purpose of judging the scrapbooks. Committee members shall be selected from four (4) different Districts, chosen from those present at the Department Convention.
- J. The Finance Committee shall be comprised of the Department Treasurer as Chairman, the Department Secretary and the District Presidents or her Representative.
- K. 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 Chairman, Department President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, 3rd Vice President and Treasurer.

Change to read: The Standing Committees shall be as follows and they shall meet during the Department Convention:

- A. Honors and Awards Committee, which meets to choose award winners, shall be comprised of all Service Officers (Child Welfare, Community Service, Americanism/SOS, Hospital and Scholarship) and the Immediate Past President, who shall serve as Chairman and refrain from voting. This meeting shall be a closed meeting.
- B. The Bylaws/Resolutions Committee, which meets to approve proposed changes to the Department Bylaws and Standing Rules, shall be comprised of the Department Parliamentarian as Chairman and fourteen (14) members, as designated by the President and approved at the post-Convention Executive Board meeting.
- C. The Finance Committee, which meets to approve a proposed budget, shall be comprised of the Department Treasurer as Chairman, the Department Secretary and the District Presidents or Representative(s).
- D. The Hospital Committee, which meets to audit the financial books of the Representatives, shall be comprised of the Hospital Officer as Chairman, all VAVS/MVH Representatives and/or Deputies. They shall also evaluate the allotment percentages based on the occupancy of the facility. This shall be a closed meeting.
- E. The Americanism Committee, which meets jointly with the AMVETS and SOA, shall be comprised of the Americanism Officer as Chairman and four (4) other Auxiliary members, as approved by the post-Convention Executive Board.
- F. The Scholarship Committee, which meets to judge the Scholarship applications, shall be comprised of the Department Scholarship Officer as Chairman and three (3) local Auxiliary members, preferably from three (3) different Districts, as approved by the President.
- G. The Scrapbook Committee, which meets to judge scrapbooks, shall be comprised of the Department Publicity Officer/Historian and a committee of four (4) members selected from four (4) different Districts, chosen from those present and approved by the President. This is a closed meeting.
- H. The Personnel Committee, which meets in the odd years to interview applicants for the Executive Secretary position, shall be comprised of a Chairman, who shall be a Past

Department President, appointed by the President at the Post Convention meeting, and the following officers: Department President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, 3rd Vice President and Treasurer. This shall be a closed meeting.

****Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Faye Richardson-Green CARRIED**

By Laws and Standing **Rules** will be completed on Sunday. It is time to go into nominations.

Nomination for Officers for 2019/2020 were opened.

1st Vice President - Kathy Keizer was nominated by PDP Nancy Middleton / 2nd by PDP Allison Aldrich. There were no other nominations. Nominations will stay open until tomorrow.

There were no nominations for 2nd Vice President. Nominations will stay open until tomorrow.

There were no nominations for 3rd Vice President. Nominations will stay open until tomorrow.

Chaplain – Caroline Wisniewski was nominated by PDP Pat Michalski/ 2nd by Harriet Biela. There were no other nominations. Nominations will stay open until tomorrow.

Sgt-at-Arms – Becky Kovach was nominated by PDP Clarice Poisson / 2nd by PDP Maureen Jackson. There were no other nominations. Nominations will stay open until tomorrow.

Hospital Officer – Harriet Biela was nominated by PDP Pat Michalski / 2nd by PDP Maureen Jackson. There were no other nominations. Nominations will stay open until tomorrow.

There were no nominations for Americanism Officer. Nomination will stay open until tomorrow.

Scholarship Officer – Linda Marshall was nominated by PDP Pat Michalski / 2nd by PDP Clarice Poisson. There were no other nominations. Nominations will stay open until tomorrow.

Department President – Bertha Lema nominated by PDP Cel Rose Solak / 2nd by PDP Maureen Jackson. There were no other nominations. Nominations will stay open until tomorrow.

There was a short break while the Honors & Awards Committee got ready for the Awards Program. The Honors & Awards Committee, led by Chairman Wendy Lynema, came out as painters/artists. They dressed our President in a lovely (?) paint shirt and a French Beret! Here is a list of the awards and winners.

PDP Peggy Liss Class C Membership – winner #72 – no runner up

PDP Yvette Rusak Class B Membership – winner #110 – runner up #93

PDP Kathy Keizer Class A Membership – winner #23 – runner up #57

PDP Kathy Biela Child Welfare – winner #93 (evaluation \$10,894) – runner up #121

PDP Wendy Lynema Child Welfare – winner #23 (evaluation \$35,101) – runner up #57

PDP Patricia Whitcher Penrickton Award – winner #93

PDP Maureen Jackson Community Service – winner #122 (evaluation \$14,247) – runner up #79

District II Community Service – winner Aux. #126
District V Paws With A Cause – winner #126
Dept. of Michigan Hospital – winner 122 (evaluation \$11,210) – runner up #121
Dept. of Michigan Hospital – winner #57 (evaluation \$62,262) – runner up #23
District I Hospital – winner #57 (evaluation \$62,262) – runner up #23
PDP Allison Aldrich Americanism – winner #93 (evaluation \$6,830) – runner up #121
PDP Pat Michalski Americanism – winner #57 (evaluation \$261.59% - runner up #23
PDP Carol Picket S.O.S. – winner #57 (evaluation \$115,462) – runner up #93
PDP Neva Colley Scholarship – winner #93 (evaluation \$2,614) – runner up #121
PDP Clarice Poisson Scholarship – winner #57 (evaluation \$5,811) – runner up #126
PDP Doreen Pierce Scholarship winner #57 (evaluation \$2,500) – runner up #23
PDP Seletha Robertson PRO/Scrapbook – no entries
Dept. of Michigan Scrapbook Cover – no entries
Nancy J Blok Outstanding Auxiliary – winner #57 – runner up #93

It was a fun program.

The benediction was given by Chaplain Linda Marshall.

The Salute to the colors was led by Sgt-at-Arms Cel Rose Solak.

The convention was adjourned for the day. Unfortunately, I didn't check the time but I am guessing it was between 4:30pm and 5pm.

DEPARTMENT CONVENTION 2019

Sunday, June 9, 2019

Crowne Plaza Hotel – Grand Rapids Michigan

The final session of the 2019 convention was called to order by President Kathryn Schultz at 8:30am.

The invocation was given by Chaplain Linda Marshall.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sgt-at-Arms Cel Rose Solak

Roll Call of Officers by Secretary Nancy Middleton showed all in attendance with the exception of Betty Petitjean, excused and Wendy Lynema who arrived a little late.

Faye Richardson-Green asked for a point of personal privilege. She presented a gift to the Gaveliere's President Kathy Keizer for her year of service.

Scholarship Officer Maribeth Wescott announced the recipients of this year's scholarship grants:
Jennifer Vis #23 - \$1,000 / Grace Sayles #22 - \$1,000 / Carly Lemanski #57 - \$1,000 / Alison Lemanski #57 - \$1,000 / Alyssa Ava Naniewics #57 - \$1,000.

Ways & Means held a raffle on a Penrickton Sweatshirt which was donated by Kurt Sebalý.

Hospital Officer Leora Williamson presented hospital pins to Faye Richardson-Green and Gloria Hall. President Kathryn presented Leora with her 2,500 hour bar to attach to her hospital pin.

We continued on with the By-Laws until it was time for elections.

Make a new Section 10 to read: The 1st Vice President and Service Officers (Child Welfare, Community Service Americanism/SOS, Hospital and Scholarship) may choose to hold a meeting at Convention to discuss matters related to their respective office. The meeting shall be chaired by each officer and any interested members may attend this meeting.

****Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Linda Marshall CARRIED**

Present Section 10 will be changed to Section 11.

UNDER ARTICLE X – FALL CONFERENCE

Section 2 now reads: The Fall Conference Chairman is to appoint instructors, with the approval of the President, to handle the Fall Conference.

Change to read: The Fall Conference Chairman may appoint up to three (3) instructors to work with her to conduct the classes for Fall Conference.

****Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Judy Smith CARRIED**

Section 3 now reads: The Department Secretary, Ways & Means Chairman and Chaplain shall receive mileage to the Fall Conference, which includes the Fall SEC meeting. (6/15)

Change - delete Reason: they already receive mileage because they are at the SEC meeting.

****Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Judy Smith CARRIED**

UNDER ARTICLE XII – LOCAL AUXILIARIES

Section 2 – A now reads: The Parliamentarian and President must sign their approval in black ink. All copies are to be sent to the Department President for her approval. The President will sign all copies, keep one (1) copy and return copies to the appropriate Local Auxiliary President, District President and Department Parliamentarian. (6/17)

Change to read: The Parliamentarian shall read the submitted bylaws from each local to make sure they are not in conflict with National or Department. She shall sign and date each copy with black ink. She shall also note the date they will need to be due to be resubmitted. She will then send a copy to the Department President, District President, if applicable, and the Local President.

****Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Linda Marshall CARRIED**

Make a new Section 3 to read: Each local within an organized District shall invite the District President to make a visit to one (1) of their meetings each service year. (rest of the Sections will be renumbered accordingly)

****Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Peggy Liss CARRIED**

Proposed New Article XIII – Guidelines for Auxiliaries Disbanding

Section 1 will read: Prior to disbanding, the Local President shall provide notification to all Auxiliary members, in writing, of the intent to disband.

- A. Letters must be sent at least fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting date. All members will be invited to attend this meeting to discuss disbanding and offer alternatives to disbanding. The date, time and place of meeting will be provided in the notice.
- B. Members shall be informed their failure to attend the meeting will automatically be considered a vote in favor of disbanding.

Section 2 will read: If an Auxiliary approves a motion to disband, the following steps must be taken:

- A. The Charter, all monies, official records and property shall be surrendered to the Department to be held in trust for three (3) years.
- B. If the Auxiliary reorganizes within three (3) years, the above items shall be returned to them.

Section 3 will read: Any Life or annual member in good standing at the time of disbanding, may transfer to another Auxiliary on presentation of a completed transfer form and acceptance of the Auxiliary receiving the member.

NOTE: If this is approved, Section 8 under Article XII – Local Auxiliaries, will be deleted. Remaining Articles will be renumbered accordingly.

****Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Seletha Robertson**

After discussion:

****Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Clarice Poisson to amend the new proposed Article XIII**

Section 2: add new A. – Results will be sent to the Department President, District President (if applicable) and the Department Parliamentarian.

Proposed A will become B / B will become C.

Motion CARRIED as amended.

New Motion to be approved will now read:

Article XIII – Guidelines for Auxiliaries Disbanding

Section 1 will read: Prior to disbanding, the Local President shall provide notification to all Auxiliary members, in writing, of the intent to disband.

- A. Letters must be sent at least fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting date. All members will be invited to attend this meeting to discuss disbanding and offer alternatives to disbanding. The date, time and place of meeting will be provided in the notice.
- B. Members shall be informed their failure to attend the meeting will automatically be considered a vote in favor of disbanding.

Section 2 will read: If an Auxiliary approves a motion to disband, the following steps must be taken:

- A. Results of the meeting will be sent to the Department President, District President (if applicable) and the Department Parliamentarian.
- B. The Charter, all monies, official records and property shall be surrendered to the Department to be held in trust for three (3) years.
- C. If the Auxiliary reorganizes within three (3) years, the above items shall be returned to them.

Section 3 will read: Any Life or annual member in good standing at the time of disbanding, may transfer to another Auxiliary on presentation of a completed transfer form and acceptance of the Auxiliary receiving the member.

Motion CARRIED as amended

Section 8 under Article XII – Local Auxiliaries, will be deleted. Remaining Articles will be renumbered accordingly.

At 9:30am we stopped to go into elections.

Faye Richardson-Green gave the final credentials report with an Auxiliary count down. The final total of delegates/officers present on the floor for voting was 40. Majority vote is 21 and 2/3's vote is 27 The President chose not to vote.

Parliamentarian Kathy Keizer read the election rules.

****Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Judy Smith** to approve the election rules. CARRIED

Yesterday, Kathy Keizer was nominated for the office of 1st Vice President.

****Motion Nancy Middleton/2nd Allison Aldrich** as there are no other nominations, move to elect Kathy Keizer to the Office of 1st Vice President by affirmation. CARRIED

Yesterday, there were no nominations for the office of 2nd Vice President.

****Motion Nancy Middleton/2nd Clarice Poisson** as there are no nominations, move the Office of 2nd Vice President be an appointment by the incoming President. CARRIED

Yesterday, there were no nominations for the office of 3rd Vice President.

****Motion Clarice Poisson/2nd Faye Richardson-Green** as there are no nominations, move the Office of 3rd Vice President be an appointment by the incoming President. CARRIED

Yesterday, Caroline Wisniewski was nominated for the office of Chaplain.

****Motion Pat Michalski/2nd Becky Kovach** as there are no other nominations, move to elect Caroline Wisniewski to the Office of Chaplain by affirmation. CARRIED

Yesterday, Becky Kovach was nominated for the office of Sgt-at-Arms

****Motion Clarice Poisson/2nd Maureen Jackson** as there are no other nominations, move to elect Becky Kovach to the Office of Sgt-at-Arms by affirmation. CARRIED

Yesterday, Harriet Biela was nominated for the office of Hospital.

****Motion Pat Michalski/2nd Maureen Jackson** as there are no other nominations, move to elect Harriet Biela to the Office of 1st Vice President by affirmation. CARRIED

Yesterday, there were no nominations for the office of Americanism.

****Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Becky Kovach** as there are no nominations, move the office of Americanism be an appointment by the incoming President. CARRIED

Yesterday, Linda Marshall was nominated for the office of Scholarship.

****Motion Pat Michalski/2nd Clarice Poisson** as there are no other nominations, move to elect Linda Marshall to the Office of Scholarship by affirmation. CARRIED

Yesterday, Bertha Lema was nominated for the office of Department President

****Motion Cel Rose4 Solak/2nd Maureen Jackson** as there are no other nominations, move to elect Bertha Lema to the Office of Department President by affirmation. CARRIED

This was followed by cheers, yelling, etc. and concluded with the singing of You Are My Sunshine – with totally different words (written by Maureen Jackson).

After the room calmed down, we got back to unfinished business.

There was a motion put on the table yesterday.

****Motion Nancy Middleton/2nd Clarice Poisson** to take the motion off the table. CARRIED

****Motion Maureen Jackson/2nd Clarice Poisson** to make a friendly amendment to the motion: The National donations will be listed on the budget report with funds, when available, taken from the Texas Hold'em account. On the budget it will read \$0 unless Texas Hold'em funds are not available. CARRIED

****Motion Judy Smith/Faye Richardson-Green** asterisks on the budget will indicate funds will be paid from Texas Hold'em funds.

STANDING RULES: There were just a few Standing Rules proposed changes and one recommendation:
Under Finance:

#2 now reads Vouchers for mileage are to be filled out by the Officer (at the current rate) and that amount will be paid.

Change to read: Each Officer who drives to an S.E.C. meeting shall fill out a voucher with the mileage from their home to the site of the meeting they are attending. Drivers will be paid round trip at the current rate budgeted.

- A. For those who forget to check their mileage, you may check with the Treasurer who will have a chart which states the mileage for each Officer from their home to the meeting site.

****Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Wendy Lynema** CARRIED

#4 Now reads: No monies will be taken from the General Fund for special service projects. Only monies received by the Department Secretary postmarked by May 5th will be donated at Convention. Money received after the deadline will be returned to the local Auxiliary (2/06)

Change to read: Each No funds will be taken from the General Fund to use for service projects. At the discretion of the Department Secretary, donations postmarked after the deadline may be returned to the local Auxiliary.

****Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Leora Williamson** CARRIED

#6 Now reads: Any donations from local Auxiliaries to the Department General fund will be credited towards the Ways & Means Chairman's amount to balance the budget. Move to delete

****Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Judy Smith** – CARRIED (#6 will be deleted)

#8 Now reads: There will be no outside fund raiser without the approval of the Ways & Means Chairman.

Change to read: Fund raisers for the Department which are not held in conjunction with Convention, Fall Conference and SEC meetings will need the approval of the Ways & Means Chairman.

****Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Linda Marshall. CARRIED**

Under Miscellaneous:

#3 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 the particular office to send out. The Department Officers Instruction's will be put on the website individually. (6/17)

Change to read: Department Officer's instructions shall be listed individually on the Department website and are available to anyone who is interested in running for a Department office.

****Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Wendy Lynema. CARRIED**

Recommended addition to Standing Rules from the Department Finance Committee 6/6/2019:

The Department of Michigan AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary allocates registration, travel and expense funding to support the NEC Woman, Head Delegate and Department President for attendance at the National AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary Convention.

#1 These funds support the following costs:

- A. Convention pre-registration
- B. Coach airfare purchased at least 30 days in advance of travel or auto mileage at .15 cents per mile round trip (whichever is less)
- C. Double occupancy hotel room at 3 days each for the Head Delegate and Department President and 4 days for the NEC Woman unless an exception has been requested and approved.
- D. Meals at \$25 per diem

#2 Funds are distributed when confirmed reservations or expense receipts are received by the Department Treasurer.

#3 Any funds distributed, and not used, must be returned to the Department Treasurer.

****Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Maureen Jackson to add this recommendation to the Standing Rules. CARRIED**

Continuing Unfinished Business and New Business:

There were a couple corrections on the awards presented yesterday at the Honors & Awards Program. (Secretary's Note: to prevent confusion, the winners listed in these minutes during the Honors & Awards Program have already been corrected and are the actual winners)

Clarice Poisson presented her monetary award for her Scholarship Award to #57 (forgot to give the check with the certificate).

Personnel Chairman Kathy Biela announced Nancy Middleton will continue as Executive Secretary for at least the next two years.

Auxiliary #114 was the winner of the Fabulous Prize awarded by Parliamentarian Kathy Keizer for submitting a perfect revalidation with all information and forms.

The Gaveliere's presented a check for \$20 to the Department Scholarship Program. At the Gaveliere's dinner on Friday night, President Kathryn was accepted into the Gavelieres and after many years, PDP Clarice Poisson also decided she would like to be accepted – which she was.

Ways & Means Becky Kovach won the Penrickton sweatshirt drawing.

Nancy Middleton discussed a way we might encourage attendance at Fall Conference.

****Motion** Nancy Middleton/2nd Faye Richardson-Green for this year (2019) we lower the price of pre-registration to \$5 if paid by the deadline. CARRIED (Note: this won't change the \$20 onsite registration).

The newsletter was discussed and the majority of those receiving it, would like to see it continue.

****Motion** Nancy Middleton/2nd Faye Richardson-Green to continue the newsletter for 2019/2020.
CARRIED

Faye Richardson-Green reminded everyone about the National VA Arts Festival in Kalamazoo from Oct. 28 to Nov. 3. They expect about 200-300 participants. Monetary and/or volunteers would very much be appreciated.

There was a pretty long discussion on who can run for a Department Office. Check out the offices and find one you are interested in and talk to people about it. Some do have a couple restrictions. As Faye Richardson-Green stated: Work on what YOU CAN DO – not on what YOU CAN'T DO.

Convention Chairman Maureen Jackson presented a gift from the Auxiliary to our Dept. President Kathryn. It was a beautiful peach colored rose bush in a hanging basket. Attached to the prickly thorns was many folded \$1 - \$5 - \$10 - \$20 bills.

President Kathryn said it was a busy year but she enjoyed it, even though she had a lot of traveling.

Tony Lema came to the convention floor to congratulate his wife – our new President!

The final 50/50 was won by Karen Harmon from #93.

The benediction was delivered by Chaplain Linda Marshall.

The Colors were retired by Sgt-at-Arms Cel Rose Solak

The convention was adjourned at 11:05am and the new Officers left to be installed.

Respectfully submitted
Nancy Middleton
Executive Secretary
7/4/2019

Correct and approved by Parliamentarian Kathy Keizer
7/5/2019

Corrected and approved by 2018/19 President Kathy
Schultz