

Department of Michigan

N.E.C. Patricia Michalski

Madam President, National Officers, Past National Presidents, NEC Woman, Department Presidents, Members and Guests:

Greetings from the Great Lakes State of Michigan. It is an honor to serve as Michigan's N.E.C. Woman and I am proud to submit this report.

Department President, Kathy Schultz's theme this year is "Paint a Year of Peace & Freedom". She has been serving our Department with pride and dignity and under her leadership we are doing well.

Bert Lema, 1st Vice President, in charge of Membership has been working with our Local Auxiliaries to get our renewals and new members processed. Her theme is: Membership = Friendship. The Membership contests are: Everyone who renews their membership between July 1 and October 31 on D & Rs postmarked by November 5th, will qualify. Three names will be drawn for a cash award of \$25.00 each; All Auxiliaries who send 100% of their life member's hospital donations to the Department postmarked by 9/30/18 will be put in a drawing to win \$25.00 at the 2019 convention and All annual renewal D & Rs postmarked by 12/31/18 will be in a drawing for one night's lodging at the 2019 Fall Conference. For her Chairman's award, there will be a drawing from all the names who renewed on D & Rs postmarked by 12/31/18. The winner will receive a certificate and a monetary award.

Kathy Keizer, 2nd Vice President, is in charge of Child Welfare. The Department project is Penrickton Center for Blind, multi-disabled children ages 1 through 12. There was a tour of this facility scheduled in October.

Clarice Poisson, 3rd Vice President, is in charge of Community Service. Her Chairman's award will be a drawing from all who participate in the PAWS program. Also Local 3rd Vice Presidents who contact Clarice will have their name in a drawing. The Department project is PAWS With A Cause. There was a tour of the facility in October and Karin Simmons, National 3rd Vice President was in attendance.

Americanism Officer, Pat Michalski, has chosen her theme to be "American Pride". She has challenged each Local Auxiliary to sponsor the National Americanism contest even if they can't sponsor each grade level, to start with a few and do what they can. The Department Americanism project is the Joint Americanism Committee – AMVETS, Auxiliary and Sons – which raises monies for the contest winners. The Department awards prizes to the 1st, 2nd & 3rd place winners for each grade level. We invite the winners and their parents to our Department convention to receive their awards, and serve them lunch. The Department S.O.S. project this year is 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). They work with National Guardsmen and the Reserves throughout the state.

Scholarship Officer, MaryBeth Wescott, is working on sending out applications and promoting the Department Scholarships Program. The Department sponsors two different Scholarship Programs – The Scholarship program and a Career Start Scholarship. She has a letter to be used as a fund-raiser. It involves trading a 1 cent Lincoln piece for a \$5.00 bill.

Hospital Officer, Leora Williamson has discussed mending and sewing projects for those hospitalized in the Veteran's Medical Facilities.

The Department of Michigan works very hard to promote all service programs of our organization with integrity and we are proud to let our community know what AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary is all about.

The Department of Michigan was proud to have our National President, Barbara Valley, attend our Fall Conference in October. We had our Fall S.E.C. meeting on Friday night, Fall Conference & Quarter auction on Saturday, and a Memorial service on Sunday. We hope you enjoyed your visit as much as we did, especially the reception in your honor.

The Department of Michigan is proud to have a Ladies Auxiliary member serving on the National level, Peggy Liss as Scholarship Officer.

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at the Spring N.E.C. meeting in March.