

**NATIONAL CONVENTION 2022
NEW ORLEANS LA**

**POST NEC MINUTES
August 20, 2022**

The meeting was called to order by National President Joan Sirek followed by the normal beginnings (invocation, pledge, roll call, etc.)

The first order of business was the 1-year term election of a NEC Woman to the Finance Committee. PNP Kathy Berning from Iowa was nominated and elected.

The Auxiliary Humanitarian Award Recipient was announced: Chef Robert Erving. He will be presented his award at the Silver Helmet Awards Ceremony which will be held during the Spring NEC In March when all facets of our organization will be meeting.

The Convention Budget for 2023 was presented. The convention budget for this year (2021/2022) was \$25,545.00. The proposed budget for the Pittsburg PA budget is \$25,670. Motion Barbara Guth, Treasurer / 2nd PNP Carol King to accept 2023 budget – CARRIED

Copies of the previous day winners during Honors & Award was distributed. The Department of Michigan won the award for the largest Percentage Gain in Membership as of 5/31. The local Auxiliary of the Year was Tennessee #101 and the Department of the Year was Pennsylvania.

Each of the newly elected National Officers presented their program for the 2022/2023 year.

#1 1st Vice President/Membership Amy Stopyra from Pennsylvania has the theme of “Linking Our Membership Together”. Grab the hand of an Auxiliary Sister and invite them to meetings. Find new friends who are eligible for membership. Carry an application with you at all times.

#2 2nd Vice President/Child Welfare Cindy Rice from Ohio has the theme “Children Learn What They Live. Inspire a Child”. The National project is John Tracy Cene. Some of the programs we may want to help with are: School supplies, backpacks, etc.; Holiday parties for underprivileged kids; have summer playground activities; sponsor a baseball, soccer or basketball team; programs to prevent drug and alcohol abuse, Boys & Girl Scouts sponsorships; Autism programs, support programs for physical, mental and sexual abused; Worchids – children of deceased veteran.

#3 3rd Vice President/Community Service Mary Lanphere from New York has the theme “Working Together for a Stronger America”. This is programs which benefit children and adults. Paws With A Cause is the National program and March is designated as PAWS month.

#4 Americanism Officer Laura Rose Bugaj from New York has the theme “Our History Will Guide the Future”. She wants to see everyone work and support our Americanism programs, especially the youth contests. An interesting fact about Laura. In 2001, she was the 9th grade “Spirit of America” essay contest winner from New York and attended the youth leadership conference at Freedom’s Foundation so she knows first-hand about the value of this program.

#5 Scholarship Officer Debra Gass from Indiana is using the theme “Paving a Way to a Higher Education. He project is “Dollars for Scholars”. She has proposed an idea to start another fund to assist those who want to work in the trades and are enrolled in Trade School.

#6 Hospital Officer Laurie Shea from Illinois has the theme “Show Our Hearts a Healthy Side by Finding a Stress-free Life Together.” She supports helping our veterans and community members by sending get well cards, visitations and possibly donation clothing. The Nation Project is “St Jude Children’s Research Hospital. St Jude opened in 1962 and was established to research childhood diseases, mainly cancer. November is St Jude month

#7 National VAVS Representative Marie Rorrio from Connecticut reports the number of Volunteers is dwindling. She challenges all our

Representatives and Deputies to sign up at least one new volunteer. Check with your local high school. Many are now requiring their students to volunteer in the community – and the Veterans love to see the youth when they come to volunteer.

#8 Sgt-at-Arms Theresa Adkins from Kentucky has the theme “Stay Strong – Strong Women Don’t Have Attitudes, We have Standards”. She talked about treating the American Flag with respect. She also discussed the Auxiliary Uniform. You can wear your hat without your uniform, but you should wear your hat with your uniform.

#9 Chaplain Alice Delzer from North Dakota chose a theme from the scriptures: Jesus said: “My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command.” John 15:12-14

#10 History and Scrapbook Paulette Joy from Alaska emphasized ‘exact criteria is required’. If it is not, the book will be disqualified. She included a pass out with the ‘exact’ criteria for the history and scrapbooks.

#11 National President Karin Simmons from Alaska/Arizona has the theme “Honor, Remember, Teach”. Honor our active-duty armed forces and first responders. Remember and reach out to our Veterans. Teach our children how to Honor and Remember. Her President’s project is Fisher House. There are 92 Fisher Houses located in the US, Germany and the United Kingdom. They have a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator and A+ from Charity Watch. They provide a free of charge home away from home for families of patients receiving medical care at major military and VA medical cents.

President-elect stated this will be claimed on Americanism reports.

**Other appointments by the President-elect:
2023 Convention Chairman Dee Kreiling-Riley
Parliamentarian Heidi Dineen-Serpis
Honors and Awards Chairman Leslie Wunderle**

Jr. AMVET Coordinator Denise Spiegle
President's Scrapbook (did not get name)
Training Chairman Linda McGriff
VAVS Representative (2-year term) Marie Rorrio

Following the retirement of colors and benediction, the meeting was adjourned

Reported by:

Nancy Middleton, NEC Woman
Department of Michigan
August 30, 2022

Approved with corrections by President Keizer 8/31/22