

**AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary
2023 Convention
June 23-24-25, 2023**

FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 2023

The 1st session of the 2023 convention was called to order at 1:05pm by President Kathy Keizer at the DoubleTree Hotel in Grand Rapids.

Chaplain Patsy Watkins opened the Bible and gave the opening invocation.

Sgt-At-Arms Sue Christe presented the flags (with flagbearers Pam Lein and Roberta Robinson) and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call of Officers was read by Secretary Nancy Middleton. The following were present: President Kathy Keizer, 2nd Vice/Webmaster/Convention Chair/Dist. II President Pat Michalski, 3rd Vice Allison Aldrich, Treasurer Deb Davis, Chaplain Patsy Watkins, Sgt-at-Arms Sue Christe, Americanism Pam Lein, Hospital Officer/GRHV Rep. Leora Williamson, Scholarship Gloria Hall, NEC Nancy Middleton, Parliamentarian/Personnel/Battle Creek VAVS Faye Richardson-Green, W&M Nancy Woodwyk, Honors & Awards/John Dingell VAVS Cel Rose Solak, Higgins Lake Lodge Rep Roberta Robinson.

Those excused: 1st Vice President/Aleda E Lutz VAVS Linda Marshall, Jacobetti Home Rep Judy Smith, District V President Becky KoVACH – represented by Gloria Hall District V 1st Vice and incoming President.

Marked as absent, Barb Robare District VII President.

Correspondence – Secretary Nancy Middleton

Letters announcing candidacy at National Convention in August:

- Dept. of Pennsylvania – Amy Stopyra for the office of National President 2023-24
- Dept. of Ohio – Cindy Rice for the office of National 1st Vice President 2023-24
- Dept. of New York – Mary Lanphere for the office of National 2nd Vice 2023-2024
- Dept. of Indiana – Deb Gass for the office of National Americanism Officer 2023-24
- Dept. of Maryland – Donna Tollard for the office of National Hospital Officer 2023-24
- Dept. of Kentucky – Theresa Adkins for the office of National Scholarship 2023-24
- Dept. of Kentucky – Barbara Guth for the office of National Treasurer 2023-24

A letter was also sent out from the Dept. of Michigan announcing the candidacy of Allison Aldrich for the office of National Scholarship.

A letter was also read from Dept. 1st Vice President Linda Marshall announcing she would not be seeking the office of Dept. President and she has chosen not to attend the convention this year. There were several comments in the letter. The Secretary disputed portions of the letter concerning membership. Although Linda never officially announced for Dept. President, President Kathy requested the letter be read to dispel any questions.

50/50 raffle – 1st winner of \$84 won by Shelly Hedland..

Credentials Report – Karen Harmon As of 6/23/2023 – 8 delegates, 3 alternates, 2 PDPs, 14 Dept. Officers, 2 guests, total registered 27, total votes 25. The majority vote is 13 and 2/3's vote is 17.

President Kathy appointed National 2ND Vice Cindy Rice as official timekeeper. (Cindy volunteered)

Parliamentarian Faye Richardson-Green read the Convention Rules – printed in the Convention Book.

Exec. Secretary had no report at this time.

OFFICERS REPORTS:

- **President** Kathy has her report and bulletin printed in the convention book.
- **2nd Vice** Pat Michalski has her activity report and her bulletin in the convention book. Patti from Penrickton will be on the floor tomorrow (Saturday)
- **3rd Vice** Allison Aldrich has her activity report and bulletin in the convention book. Paws With a Cause will be on the convention floor tomorrow (Saturday).
- **Treasurer** Deb Davis has her activity report in the book. The net worth report was also in the book. She stated we are financially healthy. (The current budget report and Savings #1 report were not submitted for the convention book.) The proposed budget for 2023/24 was distributed for Officers and delegates to review before voting on it tomorrow (Saturday).

There were questions on the amounts in the Savings 1 Restricted Reserve fund - basically the President's Gift fund. This fund should be zeroed out at the end of each year. There was a balance left in the account.

- **Americanism/SOS Officer** Pam Lein turned in her activity report and bulletin which are included in the convention book. She has had a busy year. As this is her second year, it was helpful because she learned a lot in the first year. When she visited the USO at Camp Grayling she received requests on some of the items that are most needed: bath shoes and personal care items. Pam's son-in-law is in the National Guard and just spent time at Camp Grayling. He asked her to thank us for supplying the USO at Grayling.
- **Dept. Hospital Officer** Leora Williamson has her activity report and bulletin in the convention book. She stated they are still in need of a rep at the Chesterfield facility, and we will need a new Rep at Ann Arbor. President Kathy said Pat Krzesowik is retiring as the Ann Arbor VA after many, many years of service. We will miss her – she is an awesome lady.
- **Dept. Scholarship Officer** Gloria Hall turned in her activity report and bulletin for the convention book. She thanked the local Auxiliaries for their Scholarship donations. The judging was completed. We had three application and two winners (one was disqualified) - one career start and one regular scholarship winners. The total amount of money collected this year is \$9,759. The winners will be announced tomorrow.
- **Chaplain** Patsy Watkins has her bulletin and activity report in the convention book. She has sent out many cards this year. When asked how many, she wasn't aware she was supposed to keep track and didn't want to give a wrong account. The Memorial Service is tonight (Friday night) and we had 4 deceased PDPs (Reatha Houck, Catherine VanFleteran, Clarice Poisson, Sharon Colley).

Nancy Middleton reported on the passing of PDP Reatha Houck. She was a longstanding Auxiliary member and so proud of the reception she received when she attended her last Dept. convention a few years ago. When she entered a nursing home a few weeks before her passing, she asked her daughter to ask for donations to the Department Aux. in lieu of flowers.

Some of our local members made donations and several of Reatha's family and friends sent in many more. When talking with Reatha's daughter, it was decided to divide the money received among our 5 service officers – Child Welfare, Community Service, Americanism, Scholarship and SOS. Almost \$200 was put into each of these accounts.

- **Sgt-at-Arms** Sue Christe had no report. She turned in her activity report but there was a problem with the format used for the bulletin and couldn't be used.
- **Parliamentarian** Faye Richardson-Green - the activity report and bulletin were submitted for the convention book. Faye reported she and the President went over all the Dept. Officers instructions and the updates will be posted on the website. Copies of the reviewed Standing Rules and By-laws from the By-law committee were distributed for delegates and Officers to read. They will be voted on tomorrow (Saturday).

The committee met with 12 members present, and 3 or 4 non committee members present.

- **Personnel Committee** Chair Faye Richardson-Green turned in her reports (activity and bulletin). The committee will be made up of (5) PDPs and will oversee the Executive Secretary. It is also recommended they oversee the Department Officers.
- **Convention Chairman** Pat Michalski reminded everyone the Welcome and the Memorial Service at 6pm tonight (Friday). This is followed by the Gavelieres dinner in the hotel's Gander restaurant. Tomorrow (Saturday) is the Americanism program followed by a luncheon for the Americanism winners and their families. The banquet is tomorrow night (Saturday).

OFFICER'S REPORTS (continued)

- **Higgins Lake Lodge** Rep Roberta Robinson has her activity report and bulletin in the convention book. Roberta thanked everyone for their generous donations to the lodge. Improvements continue and the changes are receiving good reviews from those staying at the lodge. Roberta has put together a power point presentation which is only about 2-3 minutes long. President Kathy asked if this could be something which can be shown at the opening.

Our National 2nd Vice Cindy Rice donated a beautiful handmade quilt to be raffled with proceeds to the Higgins Lake Lodge.

- **Ways 'n Means** Nancy Woodwyk has her reports in the Convention book. She received an advance of \$200 for items for the W&M table. She spent \$177 and is returning \$23. She is disappointed in the number of bottles which were received for the Dept. raffle. She has several raffle items in the hallway – several great baskets, Chinese auctions, remote control Harley, etc.
- **Honors & Awards** Cel Rose Solak has her reports in the convention book. She reported they had their Honors & Awards meeting and they are getting ready for the program tomorrow (Saturday)
- **District II President** Pat Michalski announced Bonnie Rojeski is seeking the office of 2nd Vice, Karen Harmon is seeking the office of Americanism, Kay Kemp is seeing the office of Hospital and Roberta Robinson is seeking the office of Scholarship.
- **District V President** Becky Kovach has just had surgery and the District is represented by

their new President Gloria Hall. She announced Patsy Watkins is seeking re-election to the office of Chaplain and Pam Lein is seeking the office of 3rd Vice President

President Kathy pointed out we have no announcement of anyone running for the office of President or 1st Vice President. Without these 2 offices, we cannot revalidate and we would have to dissolve the Department. Locals would have to work directly with National – and they probably wouldn't like it.

- **Battle Creek VAMC** Faye Ricardson-Green has her reports in the convention book. She has two deputies: Dianna Lammott and Gloria Hall. Gloria volunteers at the Wyoming clinic. There are 5 outlets of the Battle Creek VA. Two have volunteers. They are still looking for more volunteers at the other outlets. The duties are escorts, greeters, drivers and coffee service. Faye has \$67 left in her account.
- **John Dingell VA** Rose Solak turned in her reports for the convention book. She announced there will be TLC training at John Dingell. Faye Richardson-Green also said there are opportunities for homebound volunteers. Rose is having a difficult time opening a new account for John Dingell. She has been trying for months but can't seem to get the proper paperwork together. Each time she gets what the bank wants, they add something else. She and her deputy have been financing all the expenses. Something needs to be done. The money to close out the old John Dingell account (\$410) last February has never been sent to Rose
- **Grand Rapids Home** Rep Leora Williamson has her reports in the convention book. She has a wish list for the home. She thanked Aux. #23, #57, #126, #1988 and District V for their donations to the home. The home has a rule that volunteers much commit to 1 day a week. This makes it difficult because many volunteers have a problem with it.
- There was a long discussion of how to get people back to attending the Department Convention. Roberta Robinson was given the coming up with recruitment ideas. Although there were several ideas, we need to get something in writing to go by. Roberta is working on it and wants it to be a partnership with the entire AMVET Family.

2nd Vice Cindy Rice thanked us for giving her ideas. We need to grow and AMVETS know that too.

The benediction was delivered by Chaplain Patsy Watkins.

The flag was saluted (but not retired) by Sgt-at-Arms Sue Christe.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:59pm. It will resume at 8:20am tomorrow.

SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 2023

The 2nd session of the 2023 Dept. convention was called to order at 8:20am.

The invocation was given by Chaplain Patsy Watkins.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sgt-at-Arms Sue Christe.

The Convention Chairman Pat Michalski read the list of Officers and had each of them stand to be recognized. (This constituted the roll call of Officers)

The introduction of Past Dept. Presidents was announced by President Kathy Keizer:

Pat Michalski (1st term) 1980/81; Nancy Middleton 1992/93; Cel Rose Solak (1st term) 1997/1998; Maribeth Wescott 1999/2000; Caroline Pickett 2000/2001. Kathy Biela 2008/2009; Kathy Keizer (1st term) 2009/2010; Pat Michalski (2nd term) 2013/2014; Allison Aldrich 2014/2015; Faye Richardson-Green 2015/2016; Wendy Lynema 2017/2018; Bertha Lema (2 years) 2019/2021; Cel Rose Solak (2nd term) 2021/2022.

Credentials report Karen Harmon. Karen reported the following:

As of 6/24/2023am – 15 delegates, 3 alternates, 6 PDPs, 13 Dept. Officers, 2 guests, total registered 37, total votes 33. The majority vote is 17 and 2/3's vote is 22.

2023/2024 Budget discussion and vote: Treasurer Deb Davis.

Section one – National Convention increase due to number of days which may be required. \$1,525. For NEC, Head delegate, President lodging/mileage/registration/per diem. Each person receiving funds must verify registration prior to receiving funds.

****Motion Deb Davis/2nd Kathy Biela – to approve Section #1 - CARRIED**

Section two – Fall Conference/SEC total budget \$2,400.

****Motion Deb Davis/2nd Kathy Biela to approve Section #2 – CARRIED**

Section three – Spring SEC \$1,225

****Motion Deb Davis/2nd Bert Lema to approve Section #3 – CARRIED**

Section four – NEC meeting - \$1,500. This was a large increase based on the extreme increase of cost.

****Motion Deb Davis/2nd Allison Aldrich to approve Section #4 – CARRIED**

Section five – Officer's postage/supplies - \$1,380. The main increase in this section is the request of the Treasurer to purchase Quicken Books at a cost of \$330 per year.

****Motion Deb Davis/2nd Faye Richardson-Green to approve Section #5 – CARRIED**

Section six – to be put on hold until we hear from the Personnel Committee.

Section seven – Department Convention 2024 - \$3,300

****Motion Deb Davis/2nd Gloria Hall to approve Section #7 – CARRIED**

(NOTE: the expenses for the Secretary's supplies & Postage are not correct. It is not over budget because newsletter income need to be included in income.)

Section eight – increase National donations to \$100 each (instead of \$50) from the Texas Hold'em account for a total of \$700.

****Motion Deb Davis/2nd Harriet Biela to increase National donations – CARRIED**

Copy of proposed budget is printed as voted/approved.

AMVETS LADIES AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN PROPOSED BUDGET 2023-24

APPROVED 2022-2023	2022-2023 EXPENSES TO DATE THRU 6/10/23	PROPOSED BUDGET 2023-2024
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NATIONAL CONVENTION (Pittsburgh, PA/August, 2023)
NEC's: Lodging/mileage/registration/per diem (5 days max)
Head Delegate's: Lodging/mileage/reg/per diem (5 days max)

\$ 1,150.00	\$ 1,150.00	\$ 1,525.00
\$	\$ 1,150.00	\$

President's: Lodging/mileage/reg/per diem (5 days max)
Total National Convention Expenses

1,150.00		1,525.00
\$		\$
1,150.00	\$ 1,150.00	1,525.00
		\$
\$ 3,450.00	\$ 3,450.00	4,575.00

FALL CONFERENCE/SEC/GR DOUBLETREE (2023)
Conference Mileage (SEC only)
President's hotel lodging (2 nights)
Ways & Means hotel lodging (2 nights)
Conference Chairman's hotel lodging (2 nights)
National President's hotel lodging (2 nights)
Conference Chair's hotel site visit mileage
Hotel meeting room expense estimate
National President's Hospitality
Per diem (25 SEC voting members attending in person) (added 2/23)
Miscellaneous
Total Fall Conference Expenses

		\$
\$ 500.00	\$ 458.30	400.00
		\$
\$ 300.00	\$	250.00
		\$
\$ 300.00	\$	250.00
		\$
\$ 300.00	\$	250.00
		\$
\$ 300.00	\$	250.00
		\$
\$ 50.00	\$	50.00
		\$
\$ 200.00	\$	200.00
		\$
\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	75.00
		\$
-	-	375.00
		\$
\$ 300.00	\$	300.00
		\$
\$2,300.00	\$ 508.30	2,400.00

SPRING / SEC LOCATION TBD (2024)
Mileage
Meeting room expense
Per diem (25 SEC voting members attending in person) (added 2/23)
Total Spring SEC

\$ 700.00	\$ 161.10	\$ 650.00
\$ 200.00	\$	\$ 200.00
-	-	\$ 375.00
		\$
\$ 900.00	\$ 161.10	1,225.00

NEC MEETING (2024)
NEC's travel/expenses/registration
Total NEC Expenses

\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00	\$1,500.00
		\$
\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00	1,500.00

OFFICER'S (postage/supplies)
President
1st Vice President
2nd Vice President
3rd Vice President
Hospital Officer
Americanism/SOS
Scholarship Officer

\$ 10.00	\$	\$ 15.00
\$ 150.00	\$ 32.66	\$ 150.00
\$ 10.00	\$	\$ 15.00
\$ 10.00	\$	\$ 15.00
\$ 10.00	\$ 11.21	\$ 15.00
\$ 10.00	\$	\$ 15.00
\$ 10.00	\$	\$ 15.00

Chaplain
Parliamentarian
Treasurer
PRO/Historian
NEC Woman
Honors & Awards
Total Officer's Expenses

\$	\$	\$
50.00		50.00
\$	\$	\$
50.00		50.00
\$	\$	\$
300.00	218.63	600.00
\$	\$	\$
400.00		400.00
\$	\$	\$
15.00		15.00
\$	\$	\$
20.00		25.00
\$	\$	\$
1,045.00	262.50	1,380.00

Notes from page 1:

Department Expenses	
President's Travel	
Secretary's Supplies & Postage + newsletter revenue (Amt. TBD)	
Website Veterans Web Design	
Secretary's Compensation	
AMVET Audit mileage to H.Q.	
Auxiliary Audit mileage	
President's Gifts (Cmdr/SOA/Riders)	
Past President's Pin Quartermaster	
Equipment Expenses (toner, etc.)	
President's Gift	
Ways & Means	
Miscellaneous	
Tax preparation	
National 3rd Vice Hospitality (annual PAWS visit)	
Raffle tickets (card stock/print in-house)	
Raffle license fees	
Special Projects	
Fuel Surplus (mileage over and above .15 mile) (Added 7/22) *	
Americanism Officer - Freedom's Foundation visit (visit only) **	
Total Dept. Expenses	

\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
\$4,500.00	\$4,666.61	\$ 5,000.00
\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00
\$ 50.00	\$	\$ 50.00
\$ 100.00	\$ 83.00	\$ 100.00
\$ 30.00	\$	\$ 30.00
\$ 50.00	\$	\$ 50.00
\$1,000.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 1,250.00
\$ 225.00	\$ 225.00	\$ 225.00
-	-	\$ 300.00
\$ 500.00	\$ 261.50	\$ 500.00
\$ 650.00	\$ 650.00	\$ 700.00
\$ 25.00	\$	\$ 75.00
\$ 175.00	\$	\$ 200.00
\$ 50.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 50.00
\$ 800.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 800.00
\$2,150.00	\$ 315.90	\$ 1,500.00
\$ 200.00	\$	\$ 200.00
\$18,205.00	\$15,017.01	\$19,330.00

Department Convention Expenses GR Doubletree Hilton (June 2024)

Per diem (25 SEC voting members attending in person) (added 2/23)			\$ 375.00
Driver mileage	\$ 750.00	\$	\$ 750.00
Dept. President's lodging 3 nights	\$ 375.00	\$	\$ 125.00
Dept. Secretary's lodging 3 nights	\$ 375.00	\$	\$ 375.00
Ways & Means lodging 3 nights	\$ 375.00	\$	\$ 375.00
Convention Chair lodging 3 nights	\$ 375.00	\$	\$ 375.00
Dept. Treasurer's lodging 1 night	\$ 125.00	\$	\$ 125.00
Convention Chair's hotel site visit mileage	\$ 50.00	\$	\$ 50.00
President's Banquet tickets (president & spouse only)	\$ 90.00	\$	\$ 100.00
Convention Chair's Banquet ticket	\$ 45.00	\$	\$ 50.00
Hotel meeting room expense estimate	\$ 600.00	\$	\$ 600.00
Total Dept. Conv. Expenses	\$ 3,160.00	\$	\$ 3,300.00

National Donations (May 2024)
John Tracy, Freedoms Foundation, PAWS, Parke Youth, St. Jude, National Scholarship, President's Project = \$700.00* (from THE Acct)
Total column 2 pages

\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00	\$ 700.00
\$29,810.00	\$20,148.91	

*.For mileage over and above .15/mile: If gas is \$2-\$3 per gallon, mileage is .15/mile; if gas is \$3.01-\$4.00 per gallon, mileage is .20/mile; if gas is \$4.01 - \$5.00 per gallon, mileage is .25/mile; if gas is over \$5 per gallon, mileage is .30/mile

** For American Officer to visit Freedom's Foundation every other year. Voted on and passed at 2022 convention. Will be given in 2024.

Wendy Lynema, President of the Gavelieres, presented money to Gloria Hall, Robertson Robinson and Pam Lein. (NOTE: I was just returning from the office, but I was told later it was a donation from the Gavelieres for Scholarship and the Camp Grayling USO. The new President of the Gavelieres is Bert Lema and the Secretary is Rose Solak.

A few Chairman's Awards were presented:
2nd Vice Pat Michalski 'inherited' the award: drawing from locals who made a donation to Penrickton. Winner was Auxiliary #910. (check's in the mail!)

Scholarship Officer Gloria Hall presented a \$50 prize to a local Officer – Annette Radoza from #114; a \$25 prize to a Scholarship volunteer Robbie Maleszewski from Aux. #52; and \$100 to Auxiliary #121.

Community Service Officer (3rd Vice) Allison Aldrich had a drawing from all Auxiliaries who donated to Paws thru the Department. The winner was #1988 who received a stuffed puppy and \$20 to start their program for next year.

PENRICKTON – Patti Orzbut, Exec. Director at Penrickton did a presentation. She has been at Penrickton for 35 years and worked with Kurt Sebaly for the past 25 years until he retired. Patti talked about the children and showed some of the items they use for teaching. Penrickton is a non-profit organization and relies only on donations to reach their \$1,000,000 plus budget. They do not receive United Way but receive donations from organizations like ours to meet their goals. Since Cindy Rice is the National 2nd Vice and doesn't know much about Penrickton, we used her as a to demonstrate the teaching tools. She did great until we reminded her these children were blind and she needed to close her eyes! Patti also explained the ceiling apparatus to Cindy which allows children to be in harnesses and allowed to travel from one end of the room to the other. This is the largest apparatus in the country (maybe world) and it is awesome. 2nd Vice Pat Michalski presented Penrickton with a check for \$8,802.

PAWS WITH A CAUSE Christie Blackmore and her black lab Chewy thanked the Auxiliary for their support since 1988. It takes about 2 years and \$36,000 to train a dog and they have placed over 3,300 in 44 years. Some more statistics:

- Paws also serves 32 other States besides Michigan.
- 400 applications for dogs were received ed last year.
- There is a prison program where inmates train puppies with repetitive tasks.
- 51 new teams have been certified.
- 10 new momma and poppa dogs have been added to the breeding program.
- 27 facility dogs have been added to serve hospitals, rehab facilities and schools.
- Adoption of career change dogs rose from 20% to 50%.
- 156 puppies were born this past year.
- There are 101 breeding host homes.
- There are 200 active puppy raisers.

The presentations ended at 11:39am so we adjourned for lunch and or Americanism program. We will reconvene at 1:30pm

(NOTE: thanks to Deb Davis who took over the minutes during the Special Guests portion of the meeting so I could go home and get some membership information. Thank you!)

Reconvene at 1:45pm

By-Laws and Standing Rules by Parliamentarian Faye Richardson-Green. Copies of the suggested changes were passed out on Friday for voting today. We started with the Bylaws. Only the proposed changes are listed here. As they are read now and how the proposed change will be. If there are no changes, the by-law is not listed.

2023 BY-LAW CHANGES

Article I Aims and Purposes/Section 1 *add an explanation* - **The Aims and Purposes of AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary as stated in our National Constitution are**

****Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Wendy Lynema to approve the change to Article I Section 1 – CARRIED**

Article III Membership/Section 2 *automatic change to # of honorary members allowed per year due to vote at 2022 National Convention also adding explanation of what Honorary members can do:*
Local Auxiliaries may grant ~~one~~ **two new** Honorary memberships each year. Locals must submit two (2) copies of the Honorary Member Card form to the Executive Secretary with a check made out to the Department of Michigan in the amount of \$10, which is the **National** 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)

- A. Honorary members may have a vote on the local level only, if stipulated in their local By-laws
- B. Honorary members may hold any of their local elected offices except President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, 3rd Vice President and Treasurer.
- C. A Local Auxiliary can rescind an Honorary membership if the member becomes eligible for regular annual or life membership.—~~Such rescinding of the Honorary membership shall become effective at the end of the current membership year.~~

**Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Bert Lema to approve the change to Article III Section 2 – after deleting last sentence in #C. CARRIED

Article III Membership/ Section 3/ subset B now reads:

- B. The Department Membership Chairman will be responsible for sending out reminders to all members-at-large by September 30 each year. The reminder shall indicate the dues are to be remitted to the Executive Secretary and must be received no later than December 31. (6/18)

Change to read:

The Department Membership Chairman will be responsible for sending out reminders to all members-at-large by September 30 each year **according to her instructions**. The reminder shall indicate the dues are to be remitted to the Executive Secretary and must be received no later than December 31. (6/18)

**Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Bert Lema to approve the change to Article III Section 3 – CARRIED

Article III Membership/ Section 4 *add:*

The membership year shall run from January 1 through December 31. Any application or renewal request for annual membership received after December 31 shall be counted as a new member and requires the (re)establishment of membership eligibility.

**Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Wendy Lynema to approve the change to Article III Section 4 – CARRIED

Article IV Dues/Sections 2, 3 & 5 *change word “donation” to “assessment” and in Section 3/ add new subset A* to read:

- A. Checks shall be made out to the **AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary** Department of Michigan. Any additional amount may be set at the discretion of the local Auxiliary. (1/19)

**Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Wendy Lynema to approve the change to Article IV Section 2, 3, & 5 – CARRIED

Section 3/old subset A to become B and *delete “rejoin” (automatic) add “including”:*

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

**Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Bert Lema to approve the change to Article I Section 1 – CARRIED

Section 7/subset A 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.

- A. 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.

Change to read: (*automatic delete of "rejoin", clarify local officers*)

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.

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

- B. A Local Officer who does not pay her dues by December 31, is not in good standing and shall be replaced by the Local President.

****Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Kathy Jo Johnson to approve the change to Article III Section 7 – CARRIED**

Article V Department Officers/Section 3: *add B and C subsets to include missing officer appointments (Webmaster, Higgins Lake Lodge Rep and Personnel Chairman)*

- A. A Higgins Lake Lodge Representative is appointed by the Incoming President for a two (2) year term in the even years and a Webmaster is appointed for a three (3) year term (beginning June 2022) prior to the close of the Department Convention.

- B. The most senior of the five most recent Past Department Presidents (PDPs) currently serving on the Personnel Committee will be installed as the Personnel Committee Chairman with all other appointed officers prior to the close of the Department Convention.

****Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Bert Lema to approve the change to Article V Section 3 – CARRIED**

Article V Department Officers/Section 5: now reads

The Department President shall appoint with SEC approval NO LATER THAN the Fall SEC meeting, a Higgins Lake Representative (2-year term – even years); a Webmaster (3-year term) and fourteen (14) members to serve on the Bylaws Committee.

Change to read:

The Department President shall appoint with SEC approval NO LATER THAN the Fall Spring SEC meeting, a Higgins Lake Representative (2-year term – even years); a Webmaster (3-year term) and fourteen (14) members to serve on the Bylaws Committee.

****Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Harriet Biela to approve the change to Article V Section 5 – CARRIED**

Article V Department Officers/Section 6: now reads

The Department President shall appoint an officer when a vacancy occurs with the approval of the Executive Committee.

Change to read:

The Department President shall appoint an officer **via a poll vote, if necessary,** whenever a vacancy occurs with the approval of the Executive Committee.

****Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Linda Langland to approve the change to Article V Section 6 – CARRIED**

Article V Department Officers/Section 7 now reads:

All officers, may be re-elected but shall not serve more than two (2) consecutive terms, with the exception of the Department Treasurer, who shall not be limited in terms of office. (6/10)

Change to read: (*President is already a 2yr term*)

All officers, **except the Department President,** may be re-elected but shall not serve more than two (2) consecutive terms, **except for** the Department Treasurer, who shall not be limited in terms of

office. (6/10)

****Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Leora Williamson to approve the change to Article V Section 7 – CARRIED**

Article V Department Officers/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, with the exception of the position of NEC Woman.

- A. The NEC Woman shall be a Past Department President.
- B. No member may seek the office of President, 1st Vice, 2nd Vice or 3rd Vice Presidents without serving on the Executive Board for two (2) years, including one (1) year as Department Service officer. (6/17)

Change to read:

Past Department Presidents may be nominated for any Department level office.

- A. The NEC Woman shall be a Past Department President.
- B. No member may seek the office of President, 1st Vice, 2nd Vice or 3rd Vice Presidents without serving on the Executive Board for two (2) years, including one (1) year as Department Service officer. (6/17)
- C. **If a Past Department President (PDP) has been appointed to serve as the Department 1st, 2nd, or 3rd Vice President; she may have the choice to continue up to the next office by announcing her intention at the Spring SEC. She may also send out an announcement in the Convention Digest.**

****Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Wendy Lynema to approve the change to Article V Section 10 – CARRIED by majority vote**

Article VI Executive Board, Executive Committee and Board of Trustees/Sec 2

Add **“Webmaster”** to list of elected and appointed officers and subsets A thru D now read:

- A. The President votes only in the event of a tie. However, when voting on the secret ballot, the President shall have the right to vote.
- B. The elected and appointed officers as noted in Section 2 shall receive up to four (4) days per diem **and** mileage to the Department Convention; paid at the current rate, if so budgeted. Mileage will be paid to the driver only. (6/13)
- C. Mileage for all SEC meetings and Convention per diem shall be paid from the Hospital fund for all VAVS/MVH Representatives if funds are available. (6/21)
- D. For those officers traveling in the same vehicle to SEC meetings, mileage will be paid to the driver only. (6/13)

Change to read:

- A. The **Department** President votes only in the event of a tie. However, when voting on the secret ballot, the President shall have the right to vote.
- B. The elected and appointed officers as noted in Section 2 shall receive up to four (4) days per diem **and plus** mileage to the **SEC at the** Department Convention; paid at the current rate, if so budgeted. Mileage will be paid to the driver only. (6/13)
- C. Mileage for all SEC meetings and Convention per diem shall be paid from the Hospital fund for all VAVS/MVH Representatives if funds are available. (6/21)
- D. **When funds are available, each Department Officer who drives to a Department SEC meeting will receive mileage and each SEC voting member will receive \$15 per diem. (2/23)**
- E. For those officers traveling in the same vehicle to SEC meetings, mileage will be paid to the driver only. (6/13)

****Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Bert Lema to approve the change to Article VI Section 2 – CARRIED**

Article VI Executive Board...../Section 3/Subset A now reads:

A. VAVS/MVH Representatives will attend the Convention AUDIT meeting and send a financial report for the Fall and Spring SEC meetings without mileage. (6/21)

Change to read:

A. VAVS/MVH Representatives will attend the Convention **Hospital** AUDIT meeting ~~and~~ **but would only be required to** send a financial report for the Fall and Spring SEC meetings without mileage. (6/21)

****Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Gloria Hall to approve the change to Article VI Section 3 – CARRIED**

Article VII Duties of Officers is now **Meetings & Quorum** (*Sections 4 – 8 are now renumbered as Sections 1 – 5. Section 9 was moved to Article VI as Section 4*)

Article VIII is now Duties of Officers/Section 1 now reads:

Except as herein described, the duties of the Department officers shall be as outlined in the National Constitution and clarified in the AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary Instruction Manual

Change to read:

Except as herein described, the duties of the Department officers shall be as outlined in the National Constitution and **as** clarified in the AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary ~~Instruction Manual~~ **Officer Instructions posted on the Department website. Copies of these instructions will be distributed to new officers at the Post-Convention SEC meeting by the outgoing Parliamentarian.** (6/23)

****Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Linda Langland to approve the change to Article VIII Section 1 – CARRIED**

Article VIII Duties of Officers/Section 4 now reads:

The outgoing Parliamentarian shall be responsible to retype the Department Bylaws 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 Bylaws. They shall be signed by the outgoing Department Parliamentarian and sent within thirty (30) days after adoption. After the signed copies are returned from National, they shall be forwarded electronically to the Department webmaster to be posted on the Department website. (6/17)

Change to read:

The outgoing Parliamentarian shall be responsible to retype the Department Bylaws 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 Bylaws. They shall be signed by the outgoing Department Parliamentarian and sent within thirty (30) days after adoption **by the Convention body**. After the signed copies are returned from National **to the current Department Parliamentarian**, they shall be forwarded electronically to the Department webmaster to be posted on the Department website. (6/17)

****Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Bert Lema to approve the change to Article VIII Section 4 – CARRIED**

Article VIII Duties of Officers/Section 4 has been changed to new Article IX/Section 1 and now reads:

The Department Treasurer shall set up five (5) accounts: General fund account; Hospital fund account, Texas Hold'em account, a Savings account (#1) monies and a Savings account (32) for the donations to the Department service programs (excluding Hospital, which shall be deposited into the Hospital checking account). (6/18)

Change to read:

The Department Treasurer shall set up five (5) accounts: General fund account; Hospital fund account, Texas Hold'em account, a Savings account (#1) monies and a Savings account (32) for the donations to the Department service programs (excluding Hospital, which shall be deposited into

the Hospital checking account). (6/18) **Three (3) names are to appear on these accounts with two (2) names required for all checks written and/or savings withdrawals.**

****Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Bert Lema to approve the change to Article IX Section 1 – CARRIED**

Article IX Finance/Section 1/Subset A now reads

A. The Savings Account #1 reserve accounts are as follows: Equipment Maintenance; Half of Dept. Life membership monies; local monies in trust Membership Reserve (for contests); Outstanding checks; Scholarship memorial card sale; President's gift fund and Sunshine fund. (6/19)

Change to read:

A. The Savings Account #1 reserve accounts are as follows: Equipment **Reserve**; **New Life**; Membership **Contests**; Outstanding checks; **General Fund Reserve**; President's gift fund and Sunshine fund. (6/19)

****Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Linda Langland to approve the change to Article IX Section 1A – CARRIED**

Article IX Finance/Section 1/Subset E and Subset E1 now read:

E. Within fifteen (15) days following the close of the Department Convention the Department financial records shall be audited. The outgoing Department President shall appoint an auditor. The records will be audited by the incoming Department President, **incoming Executive Secretary** and/or Department Treasurer and the auditor. The outgoing Department President, **Executive Secretary** and/or Department Treasurer will be present to answer any questions.

1. In the case where the **Executive Secretary and/or** Department Treasurer supersede themselves the Department President shall appoint someone else to take their place. (6/15)

Change to read:

E. Within fifteen (15) days following the close of the Department Convention the Department financial records shall be audited. The outgoing Department President shall appoint an auditor. The records will be audited by the incoming Department President, incoming **Executive Secretary** 1st Vice and/or Department Treasurer and the auditor. The outgoing Department President and/or Department Treasurer will be present to answer any questions.

1. In the case where the Department Treasurer supersede themselves the Department President shall appoint someone else to take their place. (6/15)

****Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Bert Lema to approve the change to Article IX Section 1E – CARRIED**

Article X VAVS & MVH Representatives/Section 3/Subset B now reads:

B. At least three (3) names are to appear on this account with only one signature required to draw checks. The Executive Secretary's signature shall be on all VAVS/MVH bank accounts. (6/90)

Change to read:

B. **A minimum of two (2)** names are to appear on this account with only one signature required to draw checks. The Executive Secretary's signature shall be on all VAVS/MVH bank accounts. (6/90)

****Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Dorothy Gillingham to approve the change to Article IX Section 3B – CARRIED**

Article XI Department Convention/Section 1 now reads:

The Department of Michigan Convention shall be held annually at the same time and place as The AMVETS Department of Michigan (if feasible, except in a State of Emergency) (6/21)

Change to read:

The **AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary** Department of Michigan Convention shall be held annually at the same time and place as the AMVETS Department of Michigan **Convention** (if feasible, except in a State of Emergency) (6/21)

****Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Allison Aldrich to approve the change to Article XI Section 1 – CARRIED**

Article XI Department Convention/Section 3 now reads:

Past Department Presidents, current Department officers and/or chairmen shall have their registration fee waived at the Department Convention.

Change to read:

Past Department Presidents, current Department officers, **Executive Secretary** and/or **Department Chairmen** shall have their registration fee waived at the Department Convention.

****Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Pat Michalski to approve the change to Article XI Section 3 – CARRIED**

Article XI Department Convention/Section 9B now reads:

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 Department President and approved at the post-Convention Executive Board meeting.

Change to read:

B. The Bylaws/Resolutions Committee, which meets to approve proposed changes to the Department Bylaws and Standing Rules **and any resolutions received from Locals and Districts**, shall be comprised of the Department Parliamentarian as Chairman and fourteen (14) members, as designated by the Department President, and approved at the post-Convention Executive Board meeting.

****Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Allison Aldrich to approve the change to Article XI Section 9B – CARRIED**

Article XI Department Convention/Section 9D now reads:

D. The Hospital Committee, which meets to audit the financial books of the Representatives, shall be comprised of the Department Hospital officer as Chairman, all VAVS/MVH Representatives and/or Deputies. They shall also evaluate the allotment percentages based on the occupancy of each facility. This shall be a closed meeting.

Change to read:

D. The Hospital Committee, which meets to audit the financial books of the Representatives, shall be comprised of the Department Hospital officer as Chairman, all VAVS/MVH Representatives and/or Deputies. They shall also evaluate the allotment percentages based on the occupancy of each facility. **The Hospital Chairman and Treasurer will review budget and/or funds available to determine if the November allotment will be double the usual amount.** This shall be a closed meeting.

****Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Pat Michalski to approve the change to Article XI Section 9D – CARRIED**

Article XI Department Convention/Section 9H now reads:

H. The Personnel Committee shall be comprised of six (6) PDPs. The Chairman shall be the earliest ranking PDP. After serving a year, the PDP Chairman will be removed and the next earliest **ranking PDP will become the Chairman to this committee. The Chairman will seek appointments** from PDPs for approval at Post Convention SEC meeting.

Change to read:

H. The Personnel Committee is responsible for hiring and assessing the performance of all employed and/or contracted staff and assisting the Department President with oversight of Department Officers and Chairmen.

1. This committee will be comprised of five (5) Past Department Presidents (PDPs). Membership continues until the PDP completes her year as chairman (approximately 3-5 years).
2. The Chairmanship shall be for one (1) year and shall pass to the next most senior of the PDPs currently serving on the Committee.
3. Whenever a committee member resigns/leaves, the Chairman will seek a replacement from PDPs willing to serve on the committee and obtain SEC approval by poll vote or at the next scheduled SEC meeting.

**Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Nancy Woodwyk to approve the change to Article XI Section 3 – CARRIED

Article XII Fall Conference/Section 1 now reads:

The registration fee for the Department President, Fall Conference Chairman, Fall Conference instructors, National President, if in attendance, and any out of State guests shall be waived.

Change to read

The registration fee for the Department President, Fall Conference Chairman, Fall Conference instructors, National President, if in attendance, and any out of State guests shall be waived. All other Department Officers, Chairmen and Representatives must pay the registration fee.

**Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Pat Michalski to approve the change to Article XII Section 1 – CARRIED

Article XIII Districts/Sections 1 & 2: update language

Section 1 The Department Ladies Auxiliary shall be composed and organized into Districts and Posts also known as Locals and shall be administered and governed through an Legislative Department and Executive Department. The Department Ladies Auxiliary shall may also be divided into Districts as follows:

- A. District I: Wayne, Monroe, Washtenaw, Lenawee and Jackson counties (No District Ladies Auxiliary organized)
- B. District II: Macomb, St. Clair, Lapeer, Sanilac, Huron, Saginaw, Tuscola, Midland and Bay counties.
- C. District III: Oakland, Livingston, Ingham, Eaton, Clinton, Shiawassee and Genesee counties. (No District Ladies Auxiliary organized)
- D. District V: Ottawa, Kent, Ionia, Gratiot, Montcalm, Mecosta, Muskegon, Oceana, Newaygo, Isabella, Calhoun, Branch, Hillsdale, Berrien, Cass, St. Joseph, Van Buren, Kalamazoo, Allegan and Barry counties.
- E. District VI: Mason, Manistee, Osceola, Clare, Wexford, Benzie, Missaukee, Kalkaska, grand Traverse, Leelanau, Charlevoix, Antrim, Emmett, Crawford, Oscoda, Alcona, Roscommon, Ogemaw, Otsego, Iosco, Lake, Gladwin, Arenac, Montmorency, Alpena, Presque Isle, Cheboygan and Mackinaw counties. (No District Ladies Auxiliary organized)
- F. District VII: Keweenaw, Houghton, Ontonagon, Iron, Baraga, Gogebic, Marquette, Dickinson, Menominee, Delta, Schoolcraft, Luce and Chippewa counties.

Section 2 All existing District Councils shall hold two (2) meetings a year at a minimum. One (1) meeting shall be held in the Spring, prior to the Department Convention and one (1) shall be held in the Fall after the National Convention.

**Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Bert Lema to approve the change to Article XIII Section 1 & 2 – CARRIED

Article XIV Local Auxiliaries/Section 6 clarifying language:

Local Auxiliary **iesy officers** may be installed by the current District President , past local Auxiliary President , or current or past Auxiliary Department officer. (6/21)

****Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Leora Williamson to approve the change to Article XIV Section 6 – CARRIED**

Article XVI Uniforms/Section 1A clarifying language to reflect options:

A. The Department of Michigan official uniform **shall be may include** an A -line black dress, A - line black skirt or tailored slacks. The dress will have the jewel neckline as will the white or gold blouse which can be worn with the skirt or slacks. The dress and skirt shall be no shorter than two (2) inches above the knee and no longer than two (2) inches below the knee. The blazer, handbag, gloves hat and jewelry remain the same as the National uniform code. This uniform does not apply outside the State of Michigan. (6/18)

****Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Wendy Lynema to approve the change to Article XVI Section 1A – CARRIED**

Remaining Articles reflect new numbering systems through “XXI”

The election rules were read by Faye Richardson-Green, Parliamentarian.

****Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Pat Michalski to accept election rules. CARRIED**

NOMINATIONS:

President – no nominations

1st Vice – no nominations

2nd Vice – Bonnie Rojeski nominated by PDP Pat Michalski 2nd by PDP Kathy Biela

3rd Vice – Pam Lein nominated by PDP Faye Richardson-Green 2nd by PDP Pat Michalski

Chaplain – Patsy Watkins nominated by Leora Williamson 2nd by Dorothy Gillingham

Sgt-at-Arms – no nominations

Hospital Officer – Kay Kemp nominated by PDP Carol Pickett 2nd by Roberta Robinson

Americanism Officer – Karen Harmen nominated by PDP Carol Pickett 2nd by Roberta Robinson

Scholarship Officer – Roberta Robinson nominated by Pam Lein 2nd by PDP Carol Pickett

SHORT BREAK BEFORE HONORS & AWARDS PROGRAM

Chairman Cel Rose Solak and a group of hooting owls, presented the winning Auxiliaries for the 2022/2023 Honors & Awards program.

MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

PDP Seletha Roberson Class A Award – (41 and over membership) winner #1957 / runner up #120

PDP Yvette Rusak Class B Award (26 to 40 members) winner -#72 / runner up #121

Dept. of Michigan Class C Award (10 to 25 members) winner #123 / no runner up

CHILD WELFARE AWARDS

PDP Kathy Biela Child Welfare Award (10 to 40 members) winner #93 / runner up #115

PDP Nancy Middleton Child Welfare Award (41+ members) winner #4064 / runner up #23

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS

PDP Maureen Jackson Community Service Award (10 to 40 members) winner 93 / runner up #121

PDP Wendy Lynema Community Service Award (41+ members) winner #4064 / runner up #57

AMERICANISM AWARDS

PDP Allison Aldrich Americanism Award (10-40 members) winner #93 / runner up #121

PDP Pat Michalski Americanism Award (41+ members) winner #57 / runner up #23

S.O.S. AWARDS

Dept. of Michigan SOS Award (10 to 40 members) winner #93 / runner up #121

Dept. of Michigan SOS Award (41+ members) winner #22 / runner up #126

HOSPITAL AWARDS

Dept. of Michigan Hospital Award (10 to 40 members) winner #93 / runner up #121

PDP Kathy Keizer Hospital Award (41+ members) winner # 57 / runner up #23

District I Hospital Award (all regardless of size) winner #93 / runner up #57

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

PDP Neva Colley Scholarship Award (10 to 40 members) winner #121 / no runner up

PDP Clarice Poisson Scholarship Award (41+ members) winner #23 / runner up #126

PENRICKTON AWARDS

PDP Patricia Whitcfer Penrickton Award (all size Auxiliaries) winner #93 / no runner up

PAWS WITH A CAUSE AWARDS

PDP Faye Richardson-Green Paws with a Cause Award winner #93 no runner up

OUTSTANDING AUXILIARY AWARD

District II Outstanding Local Auxiliary Award winner #22 / runner up #57

Benediction – Chaplain Patsy Watkins

Salute to Colors – Sgt-at-Arms Sue Christe

Meeting adjourned 4:10

SUNDAY, JUNE 25, 2023

The Sunday session was called to order by President Kathy.

The invocation was delivered by Chaplain Patsy Watkins.

The salute to the colors was led by Sgt-at-Arms Sue Christe.

Credentials by Karen Harmon:

Delegates 17, alternates 3, PDPs 3, Dept. Officers 14, Guests 3, total registered 38, majority vote 19, 2/3's vote 24.

The first order of business was to finish the budget. The Personnel Committee did not recommend a change to the Secretary's compensation.

****Motion Deb Davis/2nd Gloria Hall the budget be approved with no change to the Secretary's compensation. CARRIED**

Change:

Parliamentarian Faye Richardson-Green read the proposed changes to the Standing Rules.

****Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Pat Michalski for a blanket motion to update the Standing Rules to wherever it is stated Dept. Secretary it be changed to Executive Secretary. CARRIED**

2023 STANDING RULES CHANGES

Finance

- **#1** All checks issued by the Department are to carry the words “Void in 30 days.”

Change to read: All checks issued by the Department are to carry the words “Void in 30 days” and will require two (2) of the three signatures listed on the account to appear on the check. Savings account withdrawals will also require two of the listed signatures on all withdrawal slips.

**Automatic Change

- **#2** Each Department officer who drives to a SEC meeting shall fill out a voucher with the mileage from their home to the site of the meeting they are attending (if required to attend). Drivers will be paid round trip at the current rate budgeted. (6/19)
 - a. For those who forget to check their mileage, you may check with the Department Treasurer, who will have a chart which states the mileage for each officer from their home to the meeting site. (6/19)

Change to read: When funds are available, each Department Officer who drives to a Department SEC meeting will receive mileage and each SEC voting member will receive \$15 per diem. (2/23)

- a. Each Department officer who drives to a SEC meeting shall fill out a voucher with the mileage from their home to the site of the meeting they are attending (if required to attend). Drivers will be paid round trip at the current rate budgeted. (6/19)
- b. For those who forget to check their mileage, you may check with the Department Treasurer, who will have a chart which states the mileage for each officer from their home to the meeting site. (6/19)

**Automatic Change

- **#3** Mileage for Department Convention, Fall SEC and Spring SEC which totals less than \$5.00 will not be paid. (6/18)

Change to read: Mileage for SEC at Department Convention, Fall SEC and Spring SEC which totals less than \$5.00 will not be paid. (6/23)

**Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Allison Aldrich to approve #3. CARRIED

- **#7** Fundraisers for the Department which are not held in conjunction with Convention, Fall Conference and SEC meetings will need the approval of the Ways and Means Chairman. (6/19)

Change to read: Fundraisers for the Department which are not held in conjunction with Convention, Fall Conference and SEC meetings will need ~~to~~ the approval of the Ways and Means Chairman. (6/23)

**Auto change - grammar

- **#9** Money taken in at the Department functions is to be counted by the Chairman and one other person to verify, placed in an envelope, provided by the Department Secretary, with the amount written on the outside and with the signatures of the persons doing the counting. The envelope(s) is/are to be turned into the Department Secretary as soon as possible.

Change to read: Money taken in at the Department functions is to be counted by the Chairman and one other person to verify, placed in an envelope, provided by the Executive Secretary, with the amount written on the outside and with the signatures of the persons doing the counting. The envelope(s) is/are to be turned into the Executive Secretary as soon as possible for her to make the deposit and fill out the transmittal.

**Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Kathy Jo Johnson to approve working change on #9.. CARRIED

- **#11** The Department shall establish a “Sunshine Fund”.
 - a. The guidelines shall be approved by the SEC.
 - b. Copies of the approved guidelines shall be in the Chaplain’s and Secretary’s files.

Change to read: The Department shall establish a “Sunshine Fund” for providing cards and/or gifts to Ladies Auxiliary members who are hospitalized, recovering from an accident and/or an extended illness.

- a. The guidelines shall be approved by the SEC.
- b. Copies of the approved guidelines shall be in the Chaplain’s and Executive Secretary’s files.

**Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Allison Aldrich to approve #11. CARRIED

- **#12** In the event of the death of the Department President or Department Commander, a \$50 donation shall be given to the Auxiliary Scholarship fund or the AMVETS Service Foundation unless the family designates a preference. In the event of the death of a spouse, child or parent a donation will be made in the amount of \$10.
 - a. In the event of the death of an elected or appointed Officer, Past Department President or their immediate family (spouse, child or parent), a Scholarship card is to be sent by the Department Chaplain and a \$10 donation is to be made to the Department Scholarship fund. These donations are to be done by June 1 of each year.
 - b. In the event of the death of a Past Department Commander or their immediate family (spouse, child or parent), a \$10 donation shall be made to the AMVETS Service Foundation. These donations are to be done by June 1 each year.

**Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Bert Lema change reference of \$10 to \$25. CARRIED

- **#13** In the event of the death of a National President, a donation in the amount of \$10 shall be made to her project.

Change ALL \$10 references to \$25 (to reflect cost increases)

**Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Bert Lema change reference of \$10 to \$25. CARRIED

- **#15** Any indebtedness to the Department AMVETS family relating to an Auxiliary member shall be stated at an SEC meeting. A letter shall be sent by the Department Secretary informing her of the obligation. The name of the Auxiliary member shall be anonymous until further action is necessary.

Change “Department” Secretary to “Executive” Secretary
Automatic change

- **#16** The Department will allocate registration, travel and expense funding to support the NEC Woman, Head Delegate and Department President for attendance at the National AMVETS Auxiliary Convention. These funds support the following costs: (6/19)

Change to add “Ladies” on third line and on #16C adjust convention “attendance” period for NEC Woman, Head Delegate and Department President:

(16c) The Department Treasurer and Department Executive Secretary will budget for convention. this will include an allotment for lodging from Tuesday thru Friday evenings, an allotment for mileage, per diem and registration. **May include Monday evening if additional night required to attend Tuesday pre-Convention meetings.**

**Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Allison Aldrich to approve #16. CARRIED

- **#17** Funds for National Convention will be disbursed when confirmed reservations or expense receipts are received by the Department Treasurer. Any funds disbursed, but not used, must be returned to the Department Treasurer. (6/19)

Change to read: Funds for National Convention will be disbursed when confirmed reservations or expense receipts are received by the Department Treasurer. Any funds disbursed, but not used, must be returned to the Department Treasurer **no later than the Fall SEC meeting.** (6/23)

**Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Deb Davis to approve #17. CARRIED

- Add **#18** A Department debit card will be issued to the Executive Secretary for approved expenses. The Executive Secretary will provide the Department Treasurer a debit card preloaded with funds not to exceed the approved Treasurer's budgeted amount.

**Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Wendy Lynema to approve #18. CARRIED

- Add **#19** Any purchase exceeding the approved budget, must have SEC approval.

**Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Kathy Biela to approve #19. CARRIED

Fall Conference

- **#2** The registration fee for Fall Conference shall be \$20. Pre-registration shall be available for \$15 and must be received by the Department Secretary no less than fifteen (15) days prior to the Fall Conference. Forms will be provided by the Department Secretary in the August Department newsletter. Refunds of pre-registration will be made only in the case of an emergency. (6/18)

Change "Department" Secretary to **"Executive" Secretary**

**Automatic change

Department Convention

- **#1** The registration fee for Convention shall be \$20 for Delegates, Alternates and Guests. Pre-registration can be purchased for \$15 on forms provided by the Department Secretary but must be submitted 15 days prior to the Convention date. Refunds of pre-registration will be made only in the case of an emergency. (6/14)

Change "Department" Secretary to **"Executive" Secretary**

**Automatic change

- **#2** The registration desk will be open during the times listed on the President's agenda which will be in the Convention Digest, the Department newsletter and on the Department website. These times will be set times as noted in the instructions of the President and Convention Chairman.
NOTE: times will need to be added to the President's instructions.

(Change to delete the note. Info not needed here these times were approved at the 2019 Spring SEC meeting)

**Automatic change

- **#3** All recommendations, questions and/or requests for the National Auxiliary are to be put in writing from the person requesting same with an explanation and/or sample. Submit to the NEC

Woman at least fifteen (15) days prior to the Department SEC meeting or Department Convention. (6/11)

Change to read: All recommendations, questions and/or requests for the **National Ladies Auxiliary** shall be put in writing from the person requesting same with an explanation and/or sample **and submitted** to the NEC Woman at least fifteen (15) days prior to **any** Department SEC meeting or **the** Department Convention. (6/23)

****Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Bert Lema to approve #3 Dept. Convention - CARRIED**

Ten minute break before elections.

The Department Raffles were drawn.

- First place (cooler) was won by Arminda Knape (#126)
- Second place – wood flag was won by Julie Poinatowski (#126)
- \$50 was won by Cel Rose Solak

The Harley Davidson raffle was won by President Kathy Keizer

The quilt made by Cindy Rice, National 2nd Vice won by President Kathy Keizer!

ELECTION OF 2023/2024 OFFICERS

Karen Harmon stated there was no change in the credentials report given in the morning. It will stand as given at that time. Count down of delegates was done.

President – no previous nominations.

Pat Michalski nominated by Kathy Biela / 2nd by Faye Richardson-Green.

****Motion Kathy Biela/2nd Faye Richardson-Green as there are no other nominations. Pat Michalski be elected President by affirmation. CARRIED**

1st Vice President – no previous nominations

****Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Bert Lema as there are no nominations, the Office of 1st Vice President will be an appointment by the incoming President. CARRIED**

2nd Vice President – previous nominated Bonnie Rojeski.

****Motion Pat Michalski/ 2nd Kathy Biela as there are no other nominations for 2nd Vice, nominations be closed, and Bonnie Rojeski be elected by affirmation. CARRIED.**

3rd Vice President – previously nominated Pam Lein

****Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Pat Michalski as there were no other nominations for 3rd Vice, nominations be closed and Pam Lein be elected by affirmation. CARRIED**

Chaplain – previously nominated Patsy Watkins

****Motion Leora Williamson/2nd Dorothy Gillingham as there are no other nominations for Chaplain, Patsy Watkins be elected by affirmation. CARRIED**

Sgt-at-Arms – no previous nominations.

Linda Langland nominated by Nancy Woodwyk/2nd by Patsy Watkins

****Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Nancy Woodwyk as there are no other nominations for Sgt-at-Arms, Linda Langland be elected by affirmation. CARRIED**

Hospital Officer – previously nominated Kay Kemp

**Motion Carol Pickett/2nd Kathy Jo Johnson as there were no other nominations Hospital Officer. Kay Kemp be by affirmation. CARRIED

Americanism Officer – previously nominate Karen Harmon

**Motion Carol Pickett/2nd Roberta Robinson as there were no other nominations for Americanism Officer, Karen Harmon be elected by affirmation. CARRIED

Scholarship Officer – previously nominate Roberta Robinson

**Motion Pam Lein/2nd Carol Pickett as there were no other nominations Scholarship Officer, Roberta Robinson be elected by affirmation. CARRIED

Resume Standing Rules:

Honors & Awards

- **#1** Local Auxiliaries are to follow guidelines and Donor rules in filing reports. (6/13)

Change to read: Local Auxiliaries are to follow guidelines **in the** Donor rules **when** filing **service** reports. (6/23)

**Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Kathy Biela to approve H&A #1 - CARRIED

- **#2** All donations to the Department must be postmarked to the department Secretary by the report deadline date (May 5) to be eligible for Department awards.

Change “Department” Secretary **to** “Executive” Secretary

**Automatic Change

- **#6** If there is no award donor for one of our service programs or membership categories, the Honor & Awards Chairman will obtain a certificate from the Department Secretary to present to the winning Auxiliary. The Honor & Awards Chairman shall make up the rules for the award and shall present same to the Spring SEC meeting for approval and will copy to the Department Secretary to be included in the Convention Digest. (6/14)

Change to read: If there is no award donor for one of our service programs or membership categories, the Honor & Awards Chairman will obtain a certificate from the **Executive** Secretary to present to the winning Auxiliary. The Honor & Awards Chairman shall **review this Award language for any needed changes or clarifications and** present same to the **Fall** SEC meeting for approval.

**Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Bert Lema to approve H&A #6 - CARRIED

(new #7) The Honors & Awards Chairman shall submit a complete set of approved Donor Rules to the **Executive** Secretary **no later than March 1** to be included in the Convention Digest. (6/23)

**Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Wendy Lynema to approve H&A #New 7 - CARRIED

- **Current #7 to become #8**

Miscellaneous

- **#1** Any committee with a poll vote or survey, should have a “YEA” or “NAY” response. Send your response to the Department Parliamentarian by the deadline date. Results will be brought back to the next SEC meeting and recorded in the minutes. (6/22)

Change to read: Any requested poll vote or survey, should have all “YEA” or “NAY” votes sent directly to the Department Parliamentarian by the specified deadline date. Immediately after the deadline, the overall results will be tabulated and communicated in writing to the requestor and copied to the Executive Secretary. At the next SEC meeting, the Parliamentarian will report the poll vote results for ratification and to be recorded in the minutes. (6/23)

****Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2ndLeora Williamson to approve Misc. #1 - CARRIED**

- #2 The Scholarship Officer shall notify the Department Secretary when her supply of Memorial cards is low so the Secretary can order or print more. The selling price of the cards shall be determined by the Department Secretary based on the cost and number of cards. The Scholarship Officer shall advise the members of the cost on the Auxiliary website. (6/18)

****Automatic Change.**

Commander Lenny Hogan came to the convention floor to present Roberta Robinson a Certificate of Appreciation for her dedication and support to the AMVETS Higgins Lake Lodge. He stated there were too many ways Roberta has assisted the past couple years to list them all.

At this time, we said “Good-bye” to Cindy Rice and her sister Kathy Pasquale. Both Cindy and Kathy thanked the Auxiliary for their hospitality. They enjoyed their visit with us and learned some new ideas.

OLD BUSINESS:

Pat Michalski read the list of Membership Contest “Early Bird” winners:

- \$25 to Cheryl Aylers
- \$25 to Jennifer Valdez
- \$25 to Julie Koehan

All the Early Bird winners we from Auxiliary #1957

Gloria Hall announced the Scholarship grants for 2023:

- Page Senter and Zar’ria Mitchell each in the amount of \$4,779.

Leora Williamson said a Hospital 3,000-hour bar needs to be sent to Judy Smith, Jacobetti Home Rep.

New Business:

Newsletter. Another big discussion on the newsletter. Roberta Robinson suggests putting it on the website. Allison Aldrich said to leave it as it. There were followers to both suggestions.

****Motion Wendy Lynema/Allison Aldrich to leave the newsletter as is at \$10 per year. CARRIED**

****Motion Christine Keenan/2nd Maribeth Wescott to put the newsletter on the website. CARRIED**

Since both copies carried it looks like we will do both. If so, there will be no free copies mailed out. They will have to download them from the website and print them out.

BREAK FOR INSTALLATION

After installation, Pat Michalski presented President Kathy with gifts. #1 – money!!!

#2 a beautiful red hummingbird feeder, # 3 an owl painted rock, #4 a large owl which looked very real (and spooky!!)

President Kathy gave the Presidents pin to incoming President Pat Michalski.

Chaplain Patsy Watkins closed the Bible and gave the benediction.

Convention 2023 adjourned.

Submitted by
Nancy Middleton
Executive Secretary
Saturday, July 1, 2023

Approved with corrections – Pres. Kathy Keizer 7/2/2023

Corrections by Pat Michalski – 7/3/2023

Corrections – Parliamentarian Faye Richardson-Green
7/4/2023