



AMVETS LADIES AUXILIARY

Department of Michigan

April 2024—issue 10

2023-24 Department Officer

President Pat Michalski

1st Vice Kathy Keizer

2nd Vice Bonnie Rojaske

3rd Vice Pam Lein

Chaplain Patsy Watkins

Sgt-at-Arms Jennifer Zelony

Treasurer Deb Davis

Americanism Karen Harmon

Hospital Kay Kemp

Scholarship Roberta Robinson

N.E.C. Nancy Middleton

Parliament. Faye Richardson-Green

Personnel Chair Wendy Lynema

AMVET Lodge Roberta Robinson

Ways & Means Nancy Woodwyk

Honors & Awards Kathy Keizer

Convention Chair Carol Pickett

Fall Conf. Chair Bert Lema

Aleda E Lutz VAVS Linda Marshall

B.C. VAVS Faye Richardson-Green

G.R. Home Rep Leora Williamson

Jacobetti Home Rep Judy Smith

John Dingell VA Cel Rose Solak

District II Pres. Linda Marshall

District V Pres. Gloria Hall

District VII Pres. Barb Robare

Exec. Secretary Nancy Middleton

Pat Michalski, Department President

United in Service to America

Our Spring SEC meeting was held on 2/17/24 at the Perry Post. The minutes of this meeting have been posted to the Department Auxiliary website. Kathy Keizer, as Liaison Officer and I attended the AMVETS Mid-Winter Break (Spring SEC) which was changed to a Zoom Meeting on 2/24/24.

Time now to concentrate on the Department convention which will be held June 20-23, 2024 at the DoubleTree Hotel in Grand Rapids. The Convention Digest has been mailed and you should have received it by now. I hope all Local Presidents share this information with their members. There is a Tentative Agenda, Convention Chairman's article, Donor Rules for Honors & Awards, Registration forms and Revalidation forms included in the Digest, along with other information.

Regarding the Long-Range Planning Committee, the Committee, which is chaired by PDP Bertha Lema, is meeting via a Teams meeting on Thursday, 3/21/24. After that meeting, and if approved, there will be a survey going out to each Local Auxiliary officer if they have an email address listed on the last Revalidation form sent into the Department. This survey can be completed online. We have two Local Auxiliaries who show no emails. They will be sent the survey by mail and will have to write out their responses. There will be a deadline for surveys to be returned. We encourage each Officer to complete the survey as we would like to know the answers to these concerns, for us to plan accordingly for future events. We truly want your input. Our attendance has been down for Fall Conference and Department Conventions, and we would like to know why. We also would like to know why half of the Local Auxiliaries are NOT reporting their Service Work.

All Local Auxiliary Officers are to be elected and installed prior to the last day in April. Revalidation forms are to be sent to the Parliamentarian.



CORRECTIONS

The following correction was a misprint in the recent Convention Digest:

Carol Pickett, Convention Chairman—her email is cpickett121@comcast.net Please make a correction to your records.

The following information was received after the Digest was mailed:

Pam Lein, Dept. 3rd Vice has moved. Her new address is: 360 Grand St.. PO Box 122 Springport MI 49284. Please make the change to your records.. This is especially important for the mailing of the final Community Service reports.

CHILD WELFARE REPORT

By Bonnie Rojas, 2nd Vice President



I attended the Honors and Awards meeting prior to the Spring SEC meeting in Perry in February. It was very interesting talking to other Department Service Officers. Our main concerns are many of the Auxiliaries are NOT doing a very good job filling out their reports.

So PLEASE, PLEASE remember to total each page and if there are more than one page, still total the first page and carry over that total to the second page on line one stating balance forward from page one.

Be sure to list your Post # and number of members because this is so important for the judges.

It's your responsibility to read and follow ALL THE DONORS RULES. If not, you will be disqualified and that is something I do not want to happen after all of your Auxiliaries work thru out the year.

I am looking forward to seeing your reports and all the great thing your Auxiliary is doing.

CONVENTION

By Carol Pickett, Chairman

By now I'm sure you have received the convention digest. I hope you read it.

Please make your reservations for convention at the DoubleTree hotel in Grand Rapids. Also, send in your pre registration to our Secretary on or before the deadline.

As you are doing your final reports, don't forget to send something for our President's gift.

I am so looking forward to seeing you at convention and if there is something I can help you with, just get in touch

Your Convention Chair

Carol Pickett

cpickett121@comcast.net



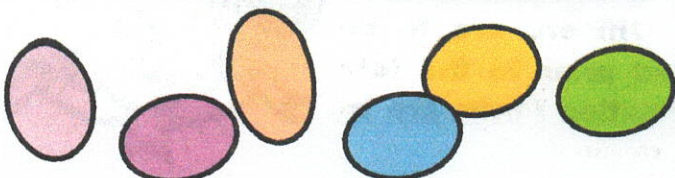
Many, many

"Get Well Soon" wishes

go out to our

Hospital Officer Kay Kemp.

Happy Easter!





WAYS & MEANS

By Nancy Woodwyk, Chairman



The Department Raffle tickets are being made as we speak thanks to Nancy Middleton. I hope to have record sales this year. I have big plans for the Post that sells the most. I am very busy with a broken finger on my right hand and a torn ligament on the left. A million tests and no answer as of yet. Thank you for all the support and working Texas Hold'ems as I wasn't able to.

See you at convention

AMERICANISM/S.O.S.

By Karen Harmon, Dept. Officer



The Department Americanism contest entries have hopefully been sent to me. They are due by April 1st.. Our Americanism committee will judge them in Perry on April 20th. Winners will be notified by mail by May 1st, and our awards ceremony is on Saturday at Dept. Convention.

Americanism raffle tickets have been printed. The cost of the tickets are: 1/\$2 6/\$10. The prize structure is the same as last year with \$1,000 payout. 50/50 if all tickets are not sold.

PRIZES: 1st- \$400 / 2nd-\$300 / 3rd-\$200 / 4th-7th- \$25

Some tickets have already been sold at Higgins Lake and at the District II meeting. However, there are MORE to sell. Please help us sell them all. If you need tickets, please contact Jessica Jones, AMVETS Americanism Officer, to let her know how many tickets you need and she will send them to you. Jessica is in charge of collecting money from the tickets and is keeping track of the raffle. **STUBS AND MONEY ARE DUE BY JUNE 1ST TO JESSICA.**

Karen Harmon
Americanism/SOS Officer
harmonk33@yahoo.com
586-604-8444

CHAPLAIN'S NEWS

By Patsy Watkins, Chaplain

Greetings everyone.

I thought Spring was around the corner, however I feel it has gotten lost. That pesky snow is back again .

The Sunshine Fund is going along very well. Please let me know when Auxiliary members are sick or in the hospital. Cards mean a lot to people when they are under the weather.

Everyone please keep our Dept. Hospital Officer Kay Kemp in your prayers after her surgery.

Linda Marshall is home getting up and around from a broken ankle.

Always remember when losing a loved one that grief has no time limit.

Be thankful for the things you have been given by the Lord Jesus.

Department Chaplain

Patsy Watkins
3723 Roma Ln NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49525



**BY -LAWS DUE SOON
SEND TO:**

**Faye Richardson-Green
3181 Nature View Dr SE
Kentwood MI 49512**



**April 2024—#122
May 2024—#4064
June 2024—#114
July 2024— #1978—District V
October 2024—#22**

MEMBERSHIP

By Kathy Keizer, 1st Vice President

Re-Member to Recruit & Retain



Membership has slowed down somewhat as we head towards the end of our service year. Per National, annual members cannot buy a Life membership until September 1. Annual members who let their membership lapse **MUST** come back as a "REJOIN" per National. They can not purchase a Life membership until September 1 because they are not considered new if they have already had an annual membership.

The deadline for submitting rejoins to the Department is May 25. The Dept. Secretary **MUST** send them to National by May 31 in order to be included on the next roster which is sent out in September.

Please do not send ANY membership to the Department during the month of June. It will not be processed until after July 1 since the Executive Secretary is busy preparing for our Department Convention at this time. No memberships are sent to National during June and July. They are held until after National Convention.

REMINDERS:

- ◆ Locals must submit \$30 each for ALL rejoin and new members.
- ◆ Be sure you are filling out ALL spaces on the D&R which should have the revised date of 2019 on the bottom. **DO NOT USE OLD FORMS!!**
- ◆ When you receive the membership cards back from the Department be sure to check your D&R to be sure you received all of them – don't wait. We have 1st Vice Presidents calling about cards which were supposedly not received months ago.
- ◆ IF you submitted the wrong spelling and/or address of a new member, you must fill out a Change of Name/Address. Don't blame our Executive Secretary for cards being wrong when she has only used the info YOU SENT HER!!
- ◆ Be sure you have submitted Deceased Member forms in a timely manner. I received one for a member who died 2 years ago!! In Michigan, we ask you send them to the Executive Secretary and she will forward copies to those who need them.

SCHOLARSHIP

By Roberta Robinson, Scholarship Officer

Spring is in the air and graduation is just around the corner. If you haven't already, now is the time to get the Scholarship Applications to our AMVET family children and grandchildren for completion and submission.

I hope everyone had an opportunity to have a special fundraiser during February as it was Scholarship month to support the program. Remember to report your activities as you may have a chance at winning one of the Scholarship Chairman awards.

Reminders:

- Scholarship applications must be mailed to the Scholarship Officer and post-marked no later than Friday, May 24, 2024.
- The final Service Report is May 1 through April 30, and must be mailed with a postmark of no later than May 5th
- Mailing Address: Roberta Robinson, P.O. Box 254, Roscommon, MI. 48653



SGT-AT-ARMS

By Jennifer Zelony

KEEPING ORDER AT A MEETING

- ⇒ Ensure the room is set up and ready for the meeting.
- ⇒ Make sure everyone has the materials needed from the Officers
- ⇒ When things need to be passed out. Keep the volume of the meeting under control throughout the whole meeting.
- ⇒ Ensure there is respect and discipline while the meeting is in session.
- ⇒ Lastly carry out any requests or orders made by the President.



Jennifer Zelony
Sgt-at-Arms

STUFF

WHICH NEEDS TO BE POST-MARKED BY MAY 5TH, 2024!!

By Nancy Middleton, Secretary

- A. Service report forms
- B. Revalidation Forms
- C. Updated By-laws
- D. Department & National Donations

see page #6 for addresses where they must be sent.



Pre-registration forms for the Department Convention must be postmarked to the Department Secretary by June 7, 2024. Address is on the form on page #7

AMVETS LODGE NEWS

By Roberta Robinson, Aux. Rep.

As you begin to review Department Donations, please consider making a donation to Higgins Lake Lodge and Cabins. Checks are to be made payable to: AMVETS Department of Michigan with a note in the Memo designating it to Higgins Lake Lodge and Cabins.

Mailing Address: AMVETS Dept of Michigan
ATTN: Finance Officer
106 Thorpe Avenue
Roscommon, MI 48653

Note from Secretary: If you send donations directly to AMVETS and do not use the Aux. Donation list provided in the Convention Digest, the donation will not be listed in the Convention Book. Only donations listed are those sent and are processed through the Auxiliary finance books.

BY-LAWS DUE TO PARLIAMENTARIAN

#22 – October 2024

#114 – June 2024

#122 – April 2024

#1978 – April 2024

#4064 - May 2024

District V – April 2024

What's New! Thru the months of June and August, AMVETS Higgins Lake Lodge & Cabins will be accepting "extended weekend" reservations in addition to full week rentals. An extended weekend is a 3-night, 4-day minimum stay either arriving on Thursday and departing Sunday or arriving Friday and departing on Monday. Full week rentals are from Friday through the following Thursday. Check in is 4:00PM and Check Out is 10:00AM (The Lodge is limited to group stays with a 10-room minimum occupancy required). Reservation/Inquiries:

989-821-6574 or AMVETSldodge@gmail.com

MAILING ADDRESSES FOR LOCAL SERVICE REPORTS



Child Welfare:

Bonnie Rojeski- 13329 Gilbert Rd—Riley MI 48041



Community Service

Pam Lein— 360 Grand St PO Box 122—Springport MI 49284



Americanism and SOS

Karen Harmon—17400 Prat Rd—Armada MI 48005



Hospital

Kay Kemp—804 Peppermill Circle—Lapeer MI 48446



Scholarship

Roberta Robinson—PO Box 254—Roscommon MI 48653



COMMUNITY SERVICE
By Pam Lein, 3rd Vice President



Here we are coming close to the final reports. Remember, they must be postmarked by May 5th.

The Community Service awards available to earn are the PDP Maureen Jackson Award for 10-65 as well as the PDP Wendy Lynema Award with 66 + members.

With both awards:

- 1) Auxiliary must be in good standing with the Dept. of Michigan.
- 2) Both mid-year and final reports must be submitted on Dept. forms to the Dept. 3rd Vice
- 3) Reports postmarked by the Dept. deadlines.
- 4) Auxiliary must contribute to the Dept. Community Service project.

When doing your reports, make sure your first line is the total from your mid-year report. Also, remember if your total is .50 or above to round up and the same if it is less than .50 to round down.

My Chairman's awards are for the largest donation and then a drawing from a hat of all those who had qualified donations. Each of those award winners will receive a gift and a monetary gift from me.

Another thing from me is an address change! Please mail your final reports to me at 360 Grand St. PO Box 122 Springport MI 49284

I'm looking forward to getting your reports and seeing everyone at the Convention.



Thank you!!!!!!

As this newsletter is being assembled, we are in the mist of working a Dept. Texas Hold'em. We have completed 3 of the scheduled 4 days, and so far this March event in very successful

Since there is a little space available, a thank you is in order to those who are consistent in helping the Dept. this year with this major fundraiser (and a newbie who just worked her first one for us). The Texas Hold'em funds brings in approximately 70 to 75% of the entire yearly budget.

Workers for the March event in alphabetical order:

- Dist. V President Gloria Hall (Aux. #126)
- PDP/1st Vice Kathy Keizer (Aux. #23)
- PDP/Secretary Nancy Middleton (Aux. #23)
- PDP/Parliamentarian Faye Richardson-Green (Aux. #23)
- Scholarship Officer Roberta Robinson (Aux. #93)
- Chaplain Patsy Watkins (Aux. #126)
- MVH Grand Rapids Rep Leora Williamson (Aux. #23)



TO ATTEND THE
DEPARTMENT CONVENTION
IN GRAND RAPIDS

TENTATIVE CONVENTION AGENDA

THURSDAY, JUNE 20, 2024

- 1:00 pm Finance Committee Meeting
- 3:00 pm By-laws/Resolutions Committee
- TBD Joint Americanism Committee meeting
- 5:30 pm Personnel Committee Meeting
- 6:30 pm Honors & Awards Committee (closed)

FRIDAY, JUNE 21, 2024

- 9:30 am Pre-Convention S.E.C. meeting
- 12:30 pm 1st Convention Session
- TBD Joint AMVET Family opening & Memorial Service
- TBD Gavelieres Dinner and meeting

SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 2024

- 8:00 am Attendance Prize Drawing
- 8:20 am 2nd Convention Session
- Noon Americanism Program & lunch
- 1:30 p 2nd Convention session resumes
- 3:15 pm Honors & Awards program
- TBD Commanders and Presidents Banquet

SUNDAY, JUNE 23, 2024

- 8:00 am Attendance Prize Drawing
- 8:20 am 3rd Convention Session
- TBD Joint AMVET Family Installation of 2024-2025 Officers

****Closed meetings not listed**



DEPARTMENT CONVENTION 2023

PRE-REGISTRATION FORM



Name _____ Auxiliary# _____

The above listed person is authorized to be a (circle one) *Delegate / Alternate Delegate / Guest* for her Auxiliary at the Department Convention on June 20-23, 2024 in Grand Rapids Michigan.

PRE-REGISTRATION FEE - \$15

The pre-registration form and registration fee must be postmarked to the Dept. Secretary Nancy Middleton, - 1535 48th St SE—Kentwood MI 49508 on or before June 7, 2024. Registrations after that date will be charged the basic fee of \$20.

Authorized by local Auxiliary President