

AMVETS LADIES AUXILIARY

Department of Michigan

December 2024—Issue #6

2024-25 Department Officer

President Gloria Hall
1st Vice Pam Lein
*2nd Vice Nancy Middleton
3rd Vice Maureen Jackson
Chaplain Karen Krumm
Sgt-at-Arms Jennifer Zelony
Treasurer Kathy Keizer
Americanism Cindy Wolken
Hospital Trisha Rosenberg
Scholarship Andrea Ray
N.E.C. Pat Michalski
Parliament. Bertha Zeno Lema
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John Dingell VA Cel Rose Solak
District II Pres. Pat Michalski
District V Pres. Patsy Watkins
District VII Pres. Barb Robare
Exec. Secretary Nancy Middleton

BRING BACK THE BASICS

with President Gloria Hall



Hello Ladies,

I would like to begin to tell you about a road trip Nancy Middleton, 2nd Vice, Faye Richardson-Green, NEC, and I embarked on. It started off with Nancy's idea that we should attend a Stick Bingo Fundraiser at Post 57 in Harper Wood. The bingo proceeds to go for Penrickton Center for Blind Children which Mo (aka Maureen Jackson), Dept. 3rd Vice hosted. "Of course we should go" I said. So, we went in secret. We think Mo was pleasantly surprised to see us!

This was not all that happened. By the time the event was scheduled to begin, three more Past Department Presidents: Bert Lema, Cel Rose Solak, and Sel-etha Robertson walked in. We all had a happy reunion. The night went on with happy winners of prizes and cash.

Kathy Keizer and Nancy Middleton hosted a Texas Hold'em on Oct 31- Nov 3. These dates, which are booked a year in advance, coincided with the Veteran's Day Event at Post 22. I was invited to attend, but I was sad to decline because I was scheduled to work the Dept. Texas Hold'em. The reason was simple. Replacement of a volunteer is at a premium and usually irreplaceable for the lack of additional volunteer names to draw from.

We have an Officer, Karen Krumm, who was hospitalized but has been moved to rehab in Reed City. I do not have any more additional info on her. I am told Jennifer Zaloney has been keeping tabs on Karen. Please contact Jennifer for an address to send a card.

Ladies to all who have had a hand in getting local service reports in, Thank you! I believe our percentage numbers are up!

I am wishing everyone the Merriest of Christmas's and a happy, happy New Year—2025!!

Regards from your Beekeeper,
Gloria

PS—see article about the upcoming
Spring SEC somewhere in this newsletter.



MEMBERSHIP

Pam Lein, 1st Vice President



Seasons Greetings

The Chairman's contest with annual members numbered and a number was chosen on the last day of the month. The number chosen was 493 which was Constance Lyn from Aux. 126. She has not renewed so we have no winner. A drawing will be done again at the end of the month.

Please do not forget to review your Honorary members for their continuing membership. This is done each Fall at your meeting with a vote taken and noted in your minutes. Dues must be sent in \$15 for renewal postmarked no later than December 5th. They need to go onto National and be received no later than December 31st. Every local may sign up for 2 NEW Honorary members each year along with the Honorary members you already have. MALS were sent out with their letters.

GOOD NEWS! The Membership cards and Notional roster have arrived. Due to the lateness of everything, the Dept. Secretary is sending out the National Rosters with instructions on what to do with them. This will be done in Numerical order of Auxiliaries. Some Auxiliaries that have not sent in memberships so they will go last.

DEADLINES DATES FOR MEMBERSHIP- Honorary, Renewals of Life membership be postmarked by: 12/5/24 due to the holidays and how mail moves so our secretary can get everything to National. Life member assessment is \$3 and must be received by the Department on or before 12/31/24. If this assessment is not received by the end of December, your Auxiliary will not be in good standing.

Please remember, when filling out your DNR forms they are current, last name first, and in alphabetical order. Also, it is important if you are handwriting these to make sure your spelling is clear and precise. PLEASE DO NOT: hold your renewal until the end of the year. You can send them now to the Secretary, Nancy Middleton..

Regards

Department 1st Vice Pamela Lein



MORE MEMBERSHIP NOTES

From Nancy Middleton, Exec. Secretary

If your local 1st Vice does not receive this newsletter, please share this message with her. It is very important!!

Finally, after several months of enormous membership problems, we finally have about 85% of them cleared up and another 10% with temporary fixes. By the time you get this newsletter, ALL memberships received by 11/30 should have been completed and returned to the local 1st Vice/Membership Chairman. If she has not received all the memberships by December 4 which were mail to me before Nov. 28th, please have her call me right away at 616/455-4525. It has been a difficult year and in addition to the normal busy office requirements, all the D&Rs have had to be revisited for annual cards. I think I got through them all—but it is very possible a few got missed.

Merry Christmas to all—and let's pray for a smoother 2025 Membership year!!!!

CHILD WELFARE



Nancy Middleton, 2nd Vice President

In a way I am disappointed because we could not get 100% of our Auxiliaries to file a midyear service report. BUT I am so proud of the 19 Auxiliaries who did send me a report. Some simply had "nothing to report at this time", some had one or two project; some had several busy weeks and months of programs for Child Welfare. Regardless of their individual totals, it was awesome when all the numbers were added together.

When I submitted my Department Child Welfare report to our N.E.C. Woman, I was so excited and couldn't wait to let you know what all 19 of these Auxiliaries have accomplished: a total evaluation of over \$80,000.

Who did this amazing work?: Auxiliaries #22, #52, #57, #79, #93, #114, #115, #120, #121, #122, #123, #126, #910, #1941, #1957, #1978, #1988, #2273, #4064. I am counting on them to follow through with a final report in April (postmarked by May 5, 2025).

Who was missing? #23, #110 #3720. Hopefully they will do a final report in April (postmarked by May 5, 2025)



Sort of...

FUNNIES!

Did you hear Mrs. Claus got Santa a new refrigerator for Christmas? His face lights up every time he opens it.

Snow globes don't ever get scared but occasionally they get shaken.

What's more unbelievable than a talking reindeer? A spelling bee.

The main reason Santa is so jolly is because he knows where all the bad girls live.'

What goes, "Oh, oh, oh"? Santa walking backward.

Don't you hate it when someone answers their own questions? I do.

How do you make holy water? You boil the hell out of it.

When everything is coming your way — you're in the wrong lane.

A termite walks into the bar and asks, "Is the bar tender here?"

There are three kinds of people. Those who can count and those who can't.



HOSPITAL NEWS

by Trisha Rosenberg, Hospital Officer



Happy Holidays to one and all. Please remember our service men and women during the holidays, both active and retired. This time of year is hard on our homeless veterans. The VAVS representatives are challenged with requests to support Homeless Veterans who come to the VA hospital for assistance but are not served as inpatient veterans. The VAVS representatives are in need of your support. Please consider a project to assist at the District and/or Local level which will make a veteran smile.

I want to thank all 20 Posts who submitted a Mid-year report. They are 22, 23, 52, 57, 79, 93, 114, 115, 120, 121, 122, 126, 910, 1941, 1957, 1978, 1988, 2273, 3720 and 4064.

Unfortunately, I do not have a report from Post 72, Post 110 and Post 123. Please remember to send your final report on or before May 5th.

Remain safe and stay blessed through out the season and make a veteran smile. Thank you for all that you do!

COMMUNITY SERVICE

By Maureen Jackson, 3rd Vice President

Community Service Shines Bright in Michigan



A Happy, Healthy, Blessed Holiday to each of you, your families and friends.

Thank you to everyone who sent me their mid-year reports. I received reports from

Auxiliaries: #22, #52, #57, #93, #114, #115, #120, #121, 122, #123, #126, #910, #1957 #1941, #2273 and #4064.

I congratulate you on the great work you are doing throughout your communities. You are definitely giving the AMVETS Auxiliary a shining star throughout Michigan.

Any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at kdgmo2@gmail.com or 586-876-1827

PARLIAMENTARIAN NEWS

by Bert Lema—Parliamentarian

Just a couple of important reminders:

- ★ If you are the Local Auxiliary President and receive the monthly newsletter, the expectation is you will share the information within with your Local Officers. All of us provide information to assist our Local Officers in the fulfillment of their duties.
- ★ For Department Officers: You are required to review your instructions and notify me of any recommended changes in December. With the excitement of preparing for the holiday season, we can get a bit behind on other responsibilities. I am recommending you take sometime to review them sooner rather than later, so you do not forget. If everything is good with you, send me a quick email saying no changes are needed. I will be in touch individually with all of you, as well.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all of you and your families

As always, when you have a question, you can email me at lema81@wowway.com or give me a call at 586.214.1019

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

By Karen Krumm, Chaplain

Sending prayers to the family of Elaine Wilcox from Durand Post 2273. She passed away on October 6.

Please keep our Brothers and Sisters who have been impacted by storms the last few months in your thoughts and prayers.

I'm sorry if I have missed anyone or anything. I have been dealing with some health issues and have gotten behind.

Remember to 'Bee' Kind to everyone.



WAYS and MEANS

by Patsy Watkins, Chairman

Where has this year gone? When you are reading this newsletter it will already be December. Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and a very nice New Years.



I hope you enjoying reading the items in the Ways & Means fundraiser calendar for January. If you choose not to join in the fun of the calendar you can pay \$5.00. You will be surprised at the things we take for grant in our everyday life. Look for another calendar in March.

If anyone has items they would like to donate for a white elephant sale please let me know. (contact info at the end of this article) I need to know by the February SEC meeting in Perry. You also may give the articles to someone coming to the SEC meeting.

I am looking forward to our Ladies Weekend at Higgins Lake in April. It's very enjoyable, relaxing, and a very good way to get to know everyone. I believe we will have 4 National Officers two will be there as well.

Patsy Watkins, Ways and Means Chairman
11109 Long Lake Dr. - Sparta, MI 49345
phone: 616-589-2728 - email: sassyjo1027@yahoo.com

FEBRUARY S.E.C. MEETING

February 8th at the Perry Post (#4064)

The Honors & Awards Committee meeting will start at 11am for the Chairman and all the Service Officers (2nd Vice, 3rd Vice, Americanism, Hospital and Scholarship).

The Department will provide a lunch for the SEC committee beginning at 1:00pm.

The SEC meeting will begin at 2:00pm.

Please have your activity report complete and refer to officers' instructions as to how many copies are needed and if you are required to attend the meeting.

PLAY THE

The **BEE** Calendar



**AND HELP
WAYS & MEANS!**

SANTA BEE





SGT-AT-ARMS

By Jennifer Zelony, Sgt-at-Arm

Dress Code at Events and Meetings



For those who were not at Fall Conference, here is something I know most of you at local Posts don't know. Did you know that even at our own local level we have a dress code we are supposed to go by? I know most Post don't, but it was new to me just a few months before Fall Conference, so I thought I would pass it on to everyone.

You can wear black skirts, jean pants with no wholes, a clean shirt that is not a v neck or low cut and then no open toe shoes preferred. Now I am not telling you that your Post must go to this. I just thought it was interesting because I know at Department and National there is a dress code but after being a member for 8 years, I did not know about a Post dress code.

Shows you there is so much to learn.



AMETS AUXILIARY #57

19730 HARPER AVE.

HARPER WOODS

313-885-9659



PRESENTS

STICK BINGO PARTY

FOR

"Paws With a Cause"

TUESDAY January 28th 2025

6:00PM - 8:00PM

IN THE HALL

STICKS COST \$1 -GOOD FOR 3 GAMES

GREAT PRIZES (GIFT BASKETS, GIFT
CARDS ETC)
LIGHT SNACKS

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
COME JOIN US AND
HELP THIS GREAT CAUSE!

Don't forget

**If you have not renewed your annual
membership by 12/31/24—you are no
longer of member of the Auxiliary.**

LONG-RANGE PLANNING

By Bert Lema, Chairman

Hi, Everyone!

Based upon requests received from some of you, the committee will be meeting soon to develop some training plans based on the specific needs of our Local Auxiliaries. If you are interested in having specialized training for your Auxiliary, please let me know using the contact information listed below.

The proposed training will probably be provided via online programs. In addition to what topics you are interested in discussing, we will need to know whether or not you have WiFi access at the Post or available to you at another location.



If you have any questions, contact me at 586-214-1019 or lema81@wowway.com. I check voicemail and email daily and usually respond within 24 hours.

Whenever essential information needs to be shared with our Local Presidents, I will email or call. Please add me to your phone contacts so you do not accidentally delete an important call. Also, to ensure my email to you is received and does not end up in your junk or spam folder, please add my email address to your contact list: lema81@wowway.com.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all of you and your families.



SGT-AT-ARMS

By Jennifer Zelony, Sgt-at-Arm

Salute the Flag

With Veterans Day just passed, everyone who was out for that day should have been doing this every time the flag went by.

What is the point of Saluting the flag when you see one or when you are in a meeting or at a ceremony where the American flag is present?

Very simple, it is to give respect to everyone who is, or has been, out making this world better and giving us the freedom we all have. For all those we lost and those who are still here. For those who are still fighting for what we have today. For our service men and woman fighting for our world so we have freedom and able to do what we do. For respect to our members and family and to the World.



SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE

By Andrea Williamson, Scholarship Officer

With the holidays approaching we tend to be more financially focused on that versus donating to organizations like our scholarship fund. That being said, it's the perfect time to reach out to school districts and student organizations to spread the word on our scholarship. Make a facebook post and include the link for the scholarship application. Using social media to reach out is an easy and effective way to connect. Try private messaging your local high school and include the link for the application.

I know not everyone is comfortable making phone calls to people we don't know. This is an easier way to connect. Sending out the scholarship applications will raise more awareness and get more applicants!

If you have any questions or need a sample script please reach out. andrea.j.3181@gmail.com



AMVETS POST #57 ANNUAL SPAGHETTI DINNER TO BENEFIT "Selfridge Family Readiness Group"

Date: December 7th, 2024
Time: 4:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.
Place: AMVETS Post #57
19730 Harper Ave. (at Allard)
Harper Woods, MI 48225

Donation: \$10.00 & a "New" UNWRAPPED TOY!

Make checks payable to: AMVETS Auxiliary Post #57

Please show your support!

Special appearance by Santa and Mrs. Clause

If you are planning to bring children please contact Janet Hirth with their names, gender and age.
Email, phone or text to 586-899-9534 or janethirth@yahoo.com

Proceeds to help the Selfridge Family Relief Fund

**JANUARY NEWSLETTER
IS DUE TO THE SECRETARY
AND THE WEBSITE BULLETIN
IN DUE TO THE WEBMASTER
BY DECEMBER 15, 2024!**



JANUARY

Northern Saw-whet Owl

Scan here to learn more about the Northern Saw-whet Owl:



DECEMBER 2024
S M T W T F S
1 2 3 4 5 6 7
8 9 10 11 12 13 14
15 16 17 18 19 20 21
22 23 24 25 26 27 28
29 30 31

As our climate continues to change, the Northern Saw-whet Owl will face growing dangers — from fire weather to heavy rain — that could threaten more than 70 percent of its summer range. If nothing is done, this tiny owl may not survive. Fortunately, thanks to the Audubon community, we are making extraordinary progress to save vulnerable birds, like the Northern Saw-whet Owl, across the Americas.

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

4d if you 5
bun a
Red Dress

1d if you 6
if you ate
a piece of
Candy yesterday

4d if you 7
wear
glasses

3d if you 8
burn a
known pair
of shoes

1d for 9
each TV
program you
watched
yesterday

6d if 10
you can
drive a
car

2d if you 11
made
dinner last
evening

National Bird Day

1d if you 12
have made
me and
calls this
month

2d for 13
each
organization with in
to which you
belong

1d for 14
each
nick in
your
waistline

5d if 15
you have
blue eyes

1d for 16
each
flower plant
you have

13d if you 17
didn't
attend class
meeting this
month

3d if 18
your hair
color is
brown or
black

2d if you 19
are going
shopping
today

1d for 20
each
number in
your name
Martin Luther King Jr.
Day

1d for 21
each
child you
have

5d if you 22
didn't attend
church last
Sunday

1d for 23
each
letter in
your first
name

1d for 24
each
letter you
have seen
in

3d if you 25
have a fur
collar on
your coat

5d for each 26
cup of coffee
you had last
month
(begins at sundown)

2d if you 27
have
naturally
curly hair

3d for 28
each
pet you
have

4d if 29
you have a
trail or
camper
Lunar New Year

1d for 30
each
letter in
your name

1d for 31
each
letter in
your name

2d if you 32
have a fur
collar on
your coat

Audubon

Last year, Audubon members, supporters, and staff won powerful victories for birds and our natural world. Check out some of our top achievements at audubon.org/wins4birds.