

# AMVETS LADIES AUXILIARY

## Department of Michigan

April 2025—issue #10

### 2024-25 Department Officer

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1st Vice Pam Pearce

\*2nd Vice Nancy Middleton

3rd Vice Maureen Jackson

Chaplain Karen Krumm

Sgt-at-Arms Jennifer Zelony

Treasurer Kathy Keizer

Americanism Cindy Wolkens

Hospital Trisha Rosenberg

Scholarship Andrea Williamson

N.E.C. Pat Michalski

Parliament. Bertha Zeno Lema

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AMVET Lodge Roberta Robinson

Ways & Means Patsy Watkins

Honors & Awards Pat Michalski

Convention/Fall Conf. Chair  
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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. Pat Michalski

District V Pres. Patsy Watkins

District VII Pres. Barb Robare

and

Exec. Secretary Nancy Middleton

## BRING BACK THE BASICS

with President Gloria Hall



It looks like we will be seeing and hearing a lot from our Auxiliary worker bees. Especially our Officers next month. They should contact a local Officer to help with the submission of their service reports. For those to which you have sent corrected mid-year service reports back in November, make a contact and ask if they need assistance to submit their final report with the updated corrections to their reports. Ladies at the local level, my Officers in the department are waiting to hear from you. Need help? Email or call and ask for assistance. There is never a wrong question. Make an effort to make your reports count. Your members work matters and their efforts should be acknowledged and praised.

Many of you know a special woman who is near and dear to our hearts—Pat Michalski. Many of you know her lovingly as “Mama Ducky.” She has recently spent time in the hospital getting a much-needed hip replacement. She was at home recovering when she landed back into the hospital with colitis. I was informed she is out and her daughter Robin is taking great care of her. Let her know that you are thinking of her. Her email is: [amvetman@chartermi.net](mailto:amvetman@chartermi.net). Want to send a card? - 2011 S Farragut, Bay City MI. 48708

A Poll Vote was sent to approve our Ways and Means Officer Patsy Watkins to sell Convention raffle tickets. They are 1 for \$5 and 3 for \$10. The prizes are Lottery Tickets valued at \$250 1<sup>st</sup> Place, \$100 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, and \$75 3<sup>rd</sup> Place. Officers and locals watch for them in the mail once approved. We need them returned as soon as sold and we will need the unsold tickets too. Michigan Gaming Control Board are sticklers for rules and policies concerning financial data with record-keeping.

Return to: Patsy Watkins, 11109 Long Lake Dr., Sparta MI 49345. Checks payable to: AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary Dept. of MI. Drawings will be noon Sunday at the DoubleTree Hotel 4747 28<sup>th</sup> St., Grand Rapids MI. 49512. Rooms are \$110 + 11%. Stay four to a room and your bill is \$30.25 per day. Maybe this will be the year you say “Yes I will attend”. Check your newsletters, bulletins and the Convention Digest for more information and deadlines. Deadlines do matter!



I hope to see many new and smiling faces in June at the Convention. Need info? My email is [ghall0054@gmail.com](mailto:ghall0054@gmail.com)

Regards  
Gloria Hall, President





# MEMBERSHIP



by Pam Pearce, 1st Vice President

Hello Auxiliaries,

## REMEMBER TO RECRUIT AND RETAIN

Membership has slowed down a bit as we approach the end of our service year. If you plan to continue, any member who has let their membership lapse must rejoin. Please remember to retain those members you worked so hard to join.

Your deadline for rejoining the Department is May 25<sup>th</sup>. The Department secretary needs to send them out to National by May 31. You need to do this for them to be included on the next roster which comes out in September.

REMEMBER, do not send any membership in the month of June. It will not be processed until July. In June our secretary is very busy preparing and getting set for our Department Convention. There are no memberships sent in June or July to National. They are all held until the National Convention in the month of August.

### Reminders:

\*Locals will submit \$30 each for all REJOINS and new members.

\*Be sure every part of your D&Rs are filled out correctly.

\*Once you receive your membership cards back go to your D&R to be sure you received all of them. We need to stay up on everything so too much time does not slip by and we are backtracking.

\* VERY important that if you submitted to us a wrong spelling and or an address of a new member, you will have to fill out a change of name or address. We are using what you send us and this is why it is imperative to spell clearing and correctly. We are processing hundreds of D&Rs. We can only use what we receive.

\*Make sure you have submitted any deceased member forms promptly so we can process them as well. Please send those to the Executive Secretary then she will forward copies to those who need to receive them.

Regards

Pamela Pearce, Department 1<sup>st</sup> Vice

## CHILD WELFARE

by Nancy Middleton, 2nd Vice

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE be sure to get your Child Welfare Service Report ready for mailing to me postmarked 5/5/2025!! We had some really great reports at midyear so I am pretty sure we will have some really, really great final reports.

If you had youth volunteers during the year, please fill out the Youth Service Report form and be sure to list their names so they can receive a National certificate.. If it was a classroom of children, list the name of the school and the grade. The class will receive a certificate from the National Ladies Auxiliary.

Use the current Report forms and the evaluation sheets. Start the first line with your midyear bottom line. Be sure to adjust for any corrections you may have had on the midyear report. See last page for addresses and/or emails for all final reports.

## OOOPS!

An apology to Pam Pearce for spelling her name wrong in the last newsletter and the Convention Digest!!!!

An apology to Leora Williamson for putting her address wrong in the Convention Digest.

It should be:

332 Montebello St. SE

Kentwood MI 49548





# COMMUNITY SERVICE

By Maureen Jackson, 3rd Vice President

Happy Spring!

I am looking forward to receiving your final reports. Just a reminder they must be postmarked by May 5th. They must also be on the new forms which are dated revised 5/2024 at the bottom. If you need any information check the Convention Digest which is full of information.

Even if you did not send a mid-year report, please send a final report so all your good work can be counted.

I am offering a small token for everyone who sends a final report. I know you have been busy all year helping your community. Thank you for all you do. If you have questions, or need help please text or call me at 586-876-1827 or you can e-mail me at [kdgmo2@gmail.com](mailto:kdgmo2@gmail.com).

Yours in AMVETS Auxiliary,  
Maureen Jackson  
30103 Pineview Circle  
Chesterfield, MI 48051



**FINAL SERVICE REPORTS MUST BE POSTMARKED OR  
EMAILED BY MAY 5, 2025**

**BE SURE YOU FOLLOW THE DONORS RULES FOR  
YOUR SERVICE REPORT.**

## FEBRUARY S.E.C. MEETING

*By Nancy Middleton, Exec. Secretary*

The Spring SEC minutes were completed on March 9th. They were reviewed and approved by the Department President and Department Parliamentarian.

On March 20th, They were sent to the Webmaster to be included on the Department website. Please read them.

## TENTATIVE CONVENTION AGENDA

by Nancy Middleton, Convention Chair

If you did not subscribe for the 2025 Convention Digest but would like the tentative agenda, I will email a copy. Send your request to [nancmidd@gmail.com](mailto:nancmidd@gmail.com) and I will respond with an attachment.

There will be no USPS mailing, only an email of the agenda.



**May newsletter deadline—April 15**



# FINAL SERVICE REPORTS

## 2ND VICE PRES. / CHILD WELFARE REPORT

Nancy Middleton  
1535 48th St SE  
Kentwood MI 49508  
nancmidd@gmail.com

## 3RD VICE PRES/COMMUNITY SERVICE REPORT

Maureen Jackson  
30103 Pineview Circle  
Chesterfield, MI 48051  
kdgmo2@gmail.com.

## AMERICANISM OFFICER and S.O.S. REPORTS

Cindy Wolken  
1080 Kish Rd  
Niles MI 49210  
bawk72@gmail.com

## HOSPITAL OFFICER

Patrica Rosenburg  
8067 Old M 72  
Williamsburg MI 49690  
nightqueenaac@gmail.com

## SCHOLARSHIP OFFICER

Andrea Williamson  
23580 22 Mile  
Paris MI 49338  
Andrea.j3181@gmail.com

# DONATIONS

End of the year donations must be sent to the Dept. Secretary postmarked no later than 5/5/2025 to qualify for awards. The donation must also be sent by that date if it is listed on your final service report.

There's a donation list in the Convention Digest which was mailed to each local President. Use this form which will list each donation which can be made through the department. Any donations your Auxiliary may give which is not on the list provided must be sent directly to the charity you have designated. For instances, donations to Penrickton, Paws, Scholarship, etc (on the list) are sent to the Dept. Donations to Make a Wish, MDA, Red Cross, etc. (not on the list) are not sent thru the Dept..

Add up the totals on the donation sheet and make your Auxiliary check payable to:

**AMVETS LADIES AUX. DEPT. OF MI  
and mail to:**

**Nancy Middleton—1535 48th St SE—  
Kentwood MI 49508**

*If this is done as stated, your Auxiliary will be recognized in the Convention Book as a donor to which every fund they contribute to.  
(hopefully all of them!!)*



# PARLIAMENTARIAN NEWS

by Bert Lema—Parliamentarian

I am asking you all to thoroughly review the information I have included in the Parliamentarian Bulletin included in the Convention Digest. Included is important information about elections and how to correctly complete the Revalidation Form. It is best to complete and submit the online version. However, if you fill it out by hand, PLEASE print legibly and remember to include current address, phone, and email information for every officer.

As always, when you have a question, you can email me at [lema81@wowway.com](mailto:lema81@wowway.com) or give me a call at 586.214.1019 and leave a message. I try to return calls and messages within 24-48 hours.







# LONG RANGE PLANNING

by Bert Lema, Chairman



**WHO?** You! Yes, You!

**WHY?** We need fresh ideas & energetic ladies who want to contribute to our Mission & Goals at the Department level.

**WHAT?** Entry-level Service Officer positions (Americanism, Hospital, and Scholarship Officers), Chaplain and Sergeant-at-Arms are the steppingstones to higher-level Department Officer positions. Instructions for Department Officer positions & requirements are on our website. Read them to see if you think you're ready for the job.

**OK, BUT WHAT DO I NEED TO DO?** Come to Convention! If you decide you may be interested in running for one of these positions, ask someone who has served as a Department Officer to see what's involved. If you're interested, ask someone – usually a past or present Department Officer who knows you – to nominate you for the position.

**STILL NOT CONVINCED?** The only way to find out is to come to Convention, listen & ask questions. You'll get to meet great ladies from all over Michigan. If you keep sitting at home, you'll never find out!

If you want to chat about it, call me at 586-214-1019 or email me at [lema81@wowway.com](mailto:lema81@wowway.com) for more information.

Bertha (Bert) Lema, Chair  
Long-Range Planning Committee



## TEXAS HOLD'EMS

Since we did not have many articles submitted for this newsletter, we would like to take this space to thank the dedicated people who have time and time again been the few who have donated their time to help the Department raise the necessary funds to support our programs, projects and costs. We very much appreciate: President Gloria Hall, National Americanism Officer Faye Richardson-Green, Ways & Means Chairman Patsy Watkins, MVH-GR Rep. Leora Williamson.

There are six of us who consistently provide the workers for all 20 shifts at each hold'em event. Some of us have to work double shifts (4pm to 2:30am) because some of the regulars have other commitments or the weather is too bad for those driving a long way. We usually make a profit of \$1,000 plus for each day of the four day event. What happens when we run out of workers??

Kathy Keizer and Nancy Middleton, Co-Chairmen





## CONVENTION NEWS

By Nancy Middleton, Convention Chairman

Here is a shorter version of an article in the Convention Digest for those of you who did not receive one. It is all about the Department Convention and we are hoping you all plan on attending. Each local Auxiliary President receive the Digest which included pre-registration forms. Check with your President if you plan on attending. She will need to ok your registration for voting purposes.

Since going through the Covid 19 epidemic, participation in Department functions has decreased tremendously. Worse yet, this handful of members are dictating our By-Laws, Standing Rules and a variety of other issues.

"What can you do about it?" Go to the Convention and make your voice heard. We are a wonderful organization and do so much to help our veterans, communities, children, and so many others.

**WHO?:** AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary Department of Michigan

**WHAT?:** Annual Department Convention

**WHERE>:** DoubleTree by Hilton – 4747 28<sup>th</sup> St SE – Grand Rapids MI 49519 (good grief—I think I put 2727 in the digest!!!!!!)

**WHEN?:** June 19-22, 2025

**WHY?:** To select our leaders; update our by-laws and standing rules; award Auxiliaries for their awesome service to our programs, renew our commitment to the Auxiliary, meet & greet members/friends and more.

**HOW MUCH?** Pre-registration is \$15. On site registration is \$20. Hotel rooms are \$110 a night plus tax. Gas prices fluctuate so much that I can't give you a price

There are dozens of fast-food places within a mile or so of the hotel – either way. McDonalds, Wendy's, Taco Bell, Burger King, Pizza Hut and many nice medium prices restaurants: Olive Garden, Brann's, Adobe, Pizza Ranch, etc.

In the evening when the sessions are complete and you just want to get out of the hotel, there are some great choices. There are 2 big shopping malls: Woodland and Centerpointe plus hundreds of smaller shops and stores. Did you know Grand Rapids at one time was the Craft Beer Capital of the World? Now every city in America has Craft Beers. BUT – we were the first! There are hundreds of different types and most of them have fun names. There are several Craft Beer Breweries close by.

Come to the convention this year and see what it is all about. Don't be afraid to offer suggestions and/or ideas. **Any questions, give me a call—616/455-4525.**

Also in the Digest is a complete tentative agenda of the entire convention (subject to change) Ask you President to see a copy if you don't have one or see page #3 (bottom right) for a different way to get a copy.

