

AMVETS LADIES AUXILIARY

Department of Michigan

June 2026—issue #12



20225/26 Dept. Officers

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1st Vice Gloria Hall

2nd Vice Wendy Lynema

3rd Vice Allison Aldrich

Chaplain Doni Simon

Sgt-at-Arms Christine Simon

Treasurer Kathy Keizer

Americanism Jennifer Zelony

Hospital Trisha Rosenberg

Scholarship Dian Hensley

N.E.C. Pat Michalski

Parliament. Kathy Keizer

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AMVET Lodge Roberta Robinson

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Honors & Awards Gloria Hall

Fall Conf. Chair Trisha Rosenberg

Webmaster Jennifer Zelony

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B.C. VAVS Faye Richardson-Green

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John Dingell VA Cel Rose Solak

District II Pres. Linda Marshall

District V Pres. Patsy Watkins

and

Executive Secretary (non voting)

Nancy Middleton

U. S. O.

Understanding our Service Organization

by President Pamela Pearce

As I write my last newsletter as your Dept. President, I reflect on my year. I have learned so much, and have so much more to learn. I would be lost if I did not acknowledge my right hand, Kathy Keizer! She has mentored me in more ways than I could count. Thank you to everyone who has helped me throughout my year.



I had my testimonial at the end of April. I personally had it in Grand Rapids, hoping more might attend. I see that people, since COVID, just do not come out to these special events anymore. Even though there were only 25, which included some of my family, I thank you for taking the time to celebrate with me. I feel more people are getting less involved with clubs like this. The younger people have so much going on, and this is not a priority to them. They feel they can contribute to non-profits without joining. I hope we can somehow continue to grow and not perish.

Looking ahead, I hope to attend the National Madam President's testimonial in July. National President Mary Lanphere inspires me with her endurance, and I am truly blessed to call her a friend.

I am also excited about the National Convention in Florida this year. Before these national events, our own Convention will take place. It is in a new, very nice facility in Mt. Pleasant, MI, and I hope to see some new faces this year.

Thank you again for a special and interesting year as the Department of Michigan President. I look forward to this next year and my new role as IPDP/ Liaison.

It has been my pleasure to serve. Keep on, "Understanding our Service Organization." Shelly believes in you!

Blessings

Pamela K Pearce, President
Department of Michigan





MEMBERSHIP

by PDP Gloria Hall, 1st Vice President

Hello Ladies,

Here we are at the end of a long stretch. I am so happy you have completed your term. Whether you are leaving your office and taking on a new step at your local or you are retaking your office for another term. Thank you for your service as 1st Vice President. But it's not done! Did you remember to pass over your accumulated office information to the new Officer replacing you? Information and tips will only help your local to advance and keep the continuity of excellence you provided. One better, did you retake your office? This would be a plus because now with your experience, details of the 1st Vice Office will be easier to navigate.

The next detail is, if you have not done so previously, for you to attend Convention on June 19th -21st in Mt Pleasant MI if possible. Details and deadlines are listed on our website: amvetsauxdeptmi.org. Cannot make it to convention? Then next coming up in October is a teaching conference where one of the classes will be on membership and details relating to the Office of 1st Vice. These classes are always good for all. More information coming up later. Watch for them. Better yet bring a fellow member to experience another level of benefits available to all members.

Lastly, your time, energy, communication and record-keeping are appreciated by your members and each Officer who depends on your accurate information. Congratulations on your job well done!

A few tips to the new Officer taking on the office of 1st Vice:

- ★ Go to the Auxiliary website amvetsauxdeptmi.org
- ★ Go to Membership/Forms and review all forms to complete them correctly
- ★ Important read the Department Auxiliary Bylaws, and Standing Rules
- ★ When in doubt, have questions, contact another Officer such as the Dept. 1st Vice, the Dept Executive Secretary or the Parliamentarian.

There you go ladies! Best wishes for the upcoming year. Remember everyone starts somewhere! Communication is the key. Go for it!

Hugs,

Gloria Hall
Department 1st Vice President
ghall0054@gmail.com



FROM THE SECRETARY!

The membership year has ended for 2025-26. All new D&Rs received as of 5/17/26 will be held for the 2026-27 year and will be processed after the Department Convention.

New memberships and life hospital assessments can be sent in after the convention but renewals cannot be sent in until the local Auxiliaries have been notified the 2026-27 membership cards have been received from National HQ.

These cards are hopefully received by the Department in September.

PLEASE MAKE NOTE OF THIS RULE!

CONVENTION UPDATES



by Faye Richardson-Green, Chairman

I can't Wait to See You the Weekend of June 19-21, 2026!

By the time you read this, we will be days away from Convention 2026. Hopefully your room at the Mt Pleasant Courtyard by Marriott on the Central Michigan University campus is booked and you are getting excited to participate.

Come and be ready to join your Auxiliary sisters and other AMVET family members. There will be awards and prizes to win; raffles to participate in; business decisions to make; new Officers to elect; friendships to renew; and socializing to occur.

The most specific agenda details will be in the Convention Book. For your planning purposes, we have scheduled Honors and Awards for Friday afternoon around 4pm and the elections for Saturday afternoon at 3pm. We are also planning a Joint Memorial Service for Saturday afternoon at 4pm and an AMVETS family Ice Cream Social for Saturday evening at 6pm. If you have questions or concerns, please contact me at ladlib53@gmail.com. See you soon!!

TREASURER

By Kathy Keizer, Treasurer

I hope all of you have done an annual audit of the local Treasurer records by now.

If you belong to a larger and/or busier local, you may want to consider doing a mid-year audit sometime in November. This will keep the annual audit much easier to do.

Also, remember, an audit of the Treasurer records can be done at any time if you have questions which are not getting answered about the reports given at your meetings.

Lastly, you only have to keep seven (7) years of records, which includes the current year's records.

Please contact me thru email at:

katzr@gmail.com

if you have any questions.



NANCY SAYS:





COMMUNITY SERVICE



By Allison Aldrich. 3rd Vice President

Happy Summer (at least I hope it's here).

I am really sad to report out of 23 Auxiliaries in the Department of Michigan I had only 8 final reports which were sent in for Community Service. Some sent in a midyear report but not a final report, some were post marked late, and some did not send in one at all.

I hope next year more will send in reports. I know most of you are doing the work - so let's report it.

Those reporting are: #57 #93, #910, 1988, 4064 The other 3 were late.

The Department Convention will be here soon June 18-21 in Mt. Pleasant I hope to see a lot of new faces and, of course, faces we have seen before.

Dept. MI 3rd Vice

PDP Allison Aldrich



PENRICKTON TOUR PHOTOS



The Penrickton Tour had to be postponed in April. It was rescheduled in May and lucky for us, our National 2nd Vice Deb Gass was able to attend and see this amazing facility first hand.

L to R: Susan Ringleka (Wendy's sister) / PDP Gloria Hall, #126 / 2nd Vice PDP Wendy Lynema, #23 / Nat'l 2nd Vice Deb Gass, Indiana #91 / Dept. President Pam Pearce, #23 / Cindy Beck, Indiana #91 / PDP Cel Rose Solak, #57 / PDP Carol Pickett, #121 / PDC John Hoecherl, #23.



FROM THE DESK OF THE DEPARTMENT PARLIAMENTARIAN

by PDP Kathy Keizer



- ★ By now, you all should have had your elections, been installed and submitted the required Revalidation form to the Department Executive Secretary.
- ★ All of the new Officers should be taking over in May for the new service year.
- ★ Your Treasurer's records should have been audited and a report given to the membership at the first meeting following the audit.
- ★ All of the locals listed in my last article have submitted their bylaws. Thank you to those who took care of getting this done.
- ★ If you have any questions, you can contact me via email, text or phone.
- ★ Soon your local will receive a letter stating how many delegates you are allowed for the 2026 Department Convention. If you question the number, please contact the Department Executive Secretary.

BATTLE CREEK VAMC NEWS

By PDP Faye Richardson-Green, VAVS

Greetings All!

I continue to ask for volunteers for the various Battle Creek VA locations: Battle Creek, Benton Harbor, Lansing, Muskegon and Wyoming. Although there are lots of volunteer opportunities needed, the roles needed most from us are greeters / ambassadors and/or coffee room helpers. They welcome individuals of all backgrounds and abilities. To ensure a safe and positive environment as well as a successful volunteer experience, all volunteers are carefully screened and individually matched to their assignments.

Potential volunteers are required to complete the following:

- ☐ Interview
- ☐ Volunteer Application
- ☐ Background Investigation
- ☐ General Orientation
- ☐ Joint Memorial Service
- ☐ COVID-19 vaccinations and Influenza vaccination

YOU are wanted and needed! Please consider volunteering at one of the Battle Creek VA Locations.

HOSPITAL NEWS

by Trisha Rosenberg, Dept. Hospital Officer

Final reports are in. I received a report from the following Auxiliaries: 22, 23, 52, 57, 114, 115, 121, 122, 126, 1988, and 2273. I want to thank everyone for all you do for our veterans. Everyone has done a great job.

I am looking forward to Convention in June and hope to see more people attending. I am also excited for another year to support our veterans and to serve as a Department Officer if elected as 2nd Vice.

Have a great day and stay blessed. Remember to make a veteran smile!

Trisha Rosenberg
Hospital Officer



COME TO THE DEPARTMENT CONVENTION ON:

JUNE 18- - Committee meetings

June 19—1st Convention Session
Reports/nominations/Honors & Awards/

June 20—2nd Convention Session
Guests/Budget/Bylaws/Elections/Memorial Service

June 21—3rd Session (if needed) Installation
Post SEC meeting and Installation of Officers 2026/2027

AMERICANISM

by Americanism/SOS Officer Jennifer Zelony

Thank you to those Auxiliaries who turned in their end of year reports. There were some that I think were a little small but we will work on that for next year.

We have some of our Americanism Poster and Essay Contest winners say they are coming for the Americanism Awards Presentation. We have also had those who said they will not be able to make it, and I have re-assured them they will still be getting their awards.

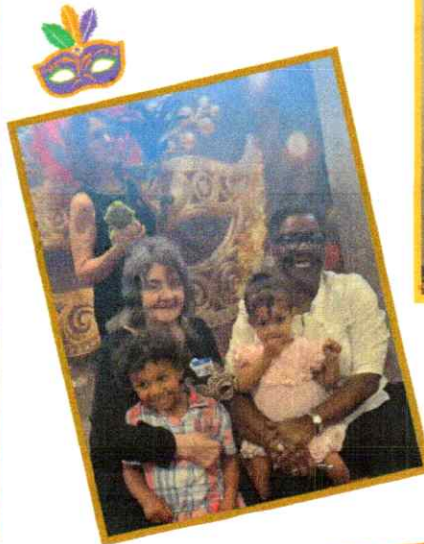
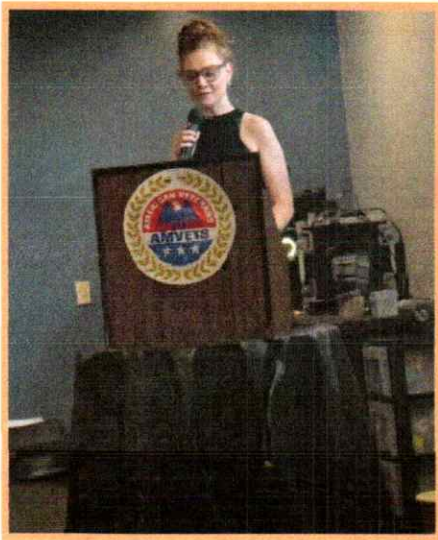
I am hoping to see a lot of new faces since our Convention is at a different location this year. We may get to make new networking connections.

The convention which is right around the corner for those who can come and I wish for a great turn out for our Americanism Ceremony to show our support to those student winners.



DON'T FORGET!!!!

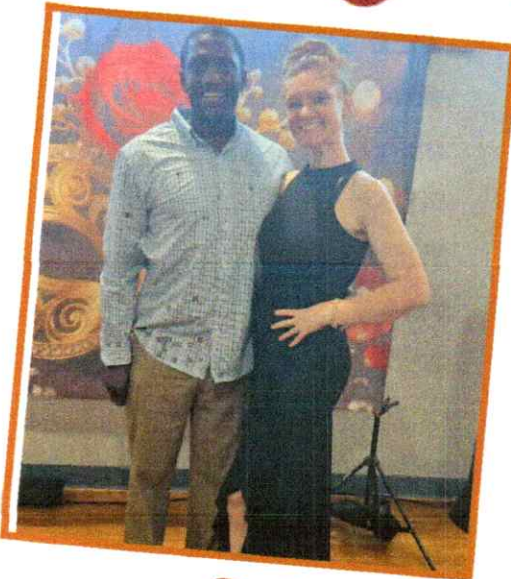
**Convention pre-registration form & payment (\$15)
must be postmarked by June 7th!!!**



SHELL-EBRATE
SUMMER!



**President Pam (and Shell-ye's)
Testimonial!**



Auxiliary
REVALIDATION FORM 2026/2027
Final Request

Local Auxiliary Revalidation forms for 2026/2027 were to be mailed to the Department Secretary. The postmark deadline is a little confusion because there are a couple different dates when this is due BUT the latest date is MAY 15, 2026

The new Officers for each Auxiliary were to be elected and installed by April 30, 2026. There is no reason it should take 6 weeks to prepare the Revalidation Form.

To date (5/16/2026) I have the following forms:

#23

#52

#57

#79

#93

#114

#115

#120

#121

#122

#126

#910

#1941

#1957

#1978

#1988

#2273

#2710

#4064

District II

If your local is NOT listed, I do not have the revalidation form or I am waiting for a correction to the form.

**THIS NEEDS TO BE SUBMITTED IMMEDIATELY FOR
YOUR AUXILIARY TO REMAIN IN GOOD STANDING.**

SEND TO:

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

Or email (front and back) to nancmidd@gmail.com