

**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY  
DEPARTMENT OF ALASKA  
91<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL CONVENTION  
APRIL 25 – 27, 2013  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA**

**THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 2013**

The 91<sup>st</sup> Annual American Legion Auxiliary Department of Alaska Convention was called to order at 10:45 a.m. by Department President Beverly Eads.

The Presentation of Colors was conducted by Department Sergeant-At-Arms Barbe Wolkoff.

The Invocation was given by Acting Department Chaplain Sue Caswell.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Department First Vice-President Margaret Blankenship.

The National Anthem was sung by all Auxiliary Members.

The Auxiliary Preamble was led by Department Secretary Linda Schmitt.

Beverly Eads welcomed everyone to the 91<sup>st</sup> Department Convention. She introduced National President Peggy Thomas and her travelling companion, Ginny James. She offered the floor to President Thomas.

National President Thomas thanked the Department of Alaska for inviting her to Alaska for the Department Convention. She travels to many states and foreign countries and at each place the people have different faces, but inside they are the same. Auxiliary members are the most caring, most compassionate, most everything that the world has to offer. Without the Auxiliary veterans and their families would not enjoy a lot of the things they enjoy today. She shared a story of a visit to a State Veteran's Home. One person came up to her 3 times and introduced himself. She gave one of her pins to another person that she talked to for a while. Everyone was thankful for the smile and a pat on the back and a "thank you for your service". In the car, someone tapped on the window and asked if she had given him a gift. He gave her a gift of a devotional book because he was so appreciative that he sacrificed it to her. She told us to be sure to thank the veterans for their service and to show your appreciation. She encouraged us to never under-rate or under-sell ourselves or this organization because we are a Freedom Organization. As the National President was staying on a base she was given the same quarters as a two star general. So, understand the value of this organization. She thanked everyone for what they do and encouraged them to keep it up. She asked us to continue to work on membership because it is important. You are needed.

The Juniors were adjourned to their meeting at 10:56 a.m.

Department President Beverly Eads gave a special acknowledgement for Sue Caswell. Sue had received a "Superior Service Award" from the Department of Veterans Affairs for 17,500 hours of work with veterans. She deserves a great big thank you.

Gloria Garrett spoke to the group for a few minutes. She spoke about the Honor Flight Program. In 2004 they built a monument in Washington, D.C. one physician's assistant asked veterans if they had been there. Not one of them had gone because they didn't have the funds. He started earning money and sending WWII veterans to Washington DC free of charge. As a result, there are a little over 100 hubs throughout the United States. As of January, 2013 Alaska has joined the Honor Flight Program. We had the privilege to send 6 veterans to Washington, D.C. Each veteran was assigned a guardian for the trip. Lynda Travis (Unit 35) was one of the guardians. They took one lady (96 years old) and five gentlemen. It was a tremendous experience. It was the neatest experience she ever had. We need guardians. They had flyers about being a guardian. We also are looking for veterans. It will cost about \$2,000 to take each veteran for 4 nights and 5 days. On Sunday and Monday on the 6:00 news they should have a report about the trip. There is also a movie next month called "Honor Flight" about this activity.

Beverly noted that last year the ALA Department of Alaska donated \$1,000.

**MOTION:** by Linda Schmitt (Unit 33) and seconded by Sue Caswell (Unit 33) that we donate \$1,000 from rehab to the Honor Flight Program.

**The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.**

Sue Caswell spoke about Charlotte Palmer (Unit 35). She is currently in Primrose Estates in Room 24 in Wasilla. She is on dialysis. She would love phone calls at 745-3979.

## **ROLL CALL**

### **Officers Present**

President Beverly Eads  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President Marge Blankenship  
Secretary/Treasurer Linda Schmitt  
Historian Penny Mazonna  
Sgt-At-Arms Barbe Wolkoff  
Executive Committeewoman Deborah Gilchrist  
Executive Committeewoman Doris Thomas

### **Officers Excused**

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President Ashliey Purcell  
Chaplain Jackie Ockert

### Committees Present

Americanism – Betty Randall  
Audit – Michelle Giddings  
Auxiliary Emergency Fund – Barbe Wolkoff  
Cavalcade of Memories – Penny Mazonna  
Children and Youth – Beth Anderson  
Distinguished Guest – Ann Robinson  
Education – Colleen Newman  
Girls State – Debra Henderson  
Leadership – Eva Aulston  
Legislative – Doris Thomas  
National Security – Sue Diaz  
Past President Parley – Lynn Bash  
Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation – Marge Blankenship

### Committees Excused

Community Service – Darlene Sheldon  
Constitution and By-Laws – Lavonne Collier  
Finance – Ruth Johnson  
Junior Activities – Ashliey Purcell  
Membership – Ashliey Purcell  
Poppy – Judy Pusti  
Public Relations – Leona Shank

### Unit Representation

#### Present

Jack Henry, Unit 1  
Ketchikan, Unit 3  
Seward, Unit 5  
Dorman H. Baker, Unit 11  
Matanuska Valley, Unit 15  
General Buckner, Unit 16  
Robert G. Blair, Unit 17  
Ninilchik, Unit 18  
Nome, Unit 19  
George H. Plumley Memorial, Unit 20  
Spenard, Unit 28  
Muldoon, Unit 29  
Peters Creek, Unit 33  
Susitna Valley, Unit 35  
C. Russell Huber, Unit 57

#### Absent

Merlin Elmer Palmer, Unit 6  
Lynn Canal, Unit 12  
Sitka, Unit 13  
Edward Locken, Unit 14  
Gladys M. Heintz Memorial, Unit 27  
Con Miller, Unit 30  
Chappie James, Unit 34

### Past Department Presidents Present

Lynn Bash  
Carolyn Null  
Susan Caswell  
Betty Randall  
Lisa Williamson  
Jean Shandy  
Linda Gunvalson  
Sue Diaz  
Eva Aulston  
Rehta Foster  
Lavonne Collier  
Lori Fitzsimmons  
Jill Pawson  
Francisca Guilford

There is a quorum present.

### DEPARTMENT CONVENTION COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Department Convention Committee Appointments were given as follows:

- Credentials – Linda Schmitt (Chair) Unit 33, Betty Randall Unit 18, Eva Aulston Unit 1
- Rules Committee – Margaret Blankenship Unit 29
- Constitution and By-Laws – Lavonne Collier (Chair) Unit 1, Sharon Dillon Unit 5 and Kirsten Lewis Unit 18
- Resolutions – Susan Caswell (Chair) Unit 33, Christie Hill Unit 16 and Pat Francois Unit 35
- Finance/Budget – Ruth Johnson Unit 35, Linda Schmitt Unit 33 and Jean Shandy Unit 18
- Parliamentarian – Lisa Williamson Unit 57
- Nominations – Linda Gunvalson Unit 28 with one (1) delegate from each Unit.
- Distinguished Guests – NEC Sue Diaz Unit 20 and Gloria Garrett Unit 35
- Audit – Michele Giddings Unit 11, Nora Anderson Unit 16, Von Lamm Unit 33
- History and Scrapbook – Penny Mazonna (Chair) Unit 33, Lynn Bash Unit 17, Kathy Moore Unit 29. Books should be brought in tomorrow.
- Poppy Book – Jean Shandy Unit 18, Colleen Newman Unit 17, Carolyn Turner Unit 16
- Chaplain Prayer Book – Sue Caswell (Chair) Unit 33, Kelly Sawyer Unit 15, Beth Anderson Unit 16
- Balloting – Debra Henderson (Chair) Unit 18, Donna Brockschmidt Unit 16, Sue Coup Unit 20

## **FIRST TIME ATTENDEES TO CONVENTION**

Those ladies here for a convention for the first time introduced themselves. There were several first time attendees.

## **READING OF CONVENTION RULES**

The reading of convention rules was done by Department First Vice-President Margaret Blankenship.

**MOTION:** By Sue Diaz (Unit 20) and seconded by Eva Aulston (Unit 1) to accept the appointment of Lisa Williamson for the Parliamentarian Chair for the convention.

**The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.**

**MOTION:** by Penny Mazonna (Unit 33) and seconded by Sue Diaz (Unit 20) to dissolve the Western District.

**The motion carried by voice vote.**

Linda Gunvalson asked if we need a motion to move funds to Department. It was reported that it had already been done.

Committee Chairs were asked to get their notebooks.

There will be a time to meet and greet committee members and decide what to do on their committee. We will recess for the Americanism Luncheon.

Lisa took a point of personal privilege to get folks to sign a card for Kyle.

## **RECESS**

The Auxiliary Convention recessed for the Americanism Luncheon at 11:42 a.m.

## **RECONVENE**

The Auxiliary Convention re-convened at 2:03p.m.

President Eads asked Jan Scott to give her presentation. She invited people to be on a committee to re-structure the American Legion Oratorical contest. It is open to high school students. We have had a certain structure for a while and are excited about changing the structure. It will open it up for more students to go to Department. There will be a Post contest and with a winner to Department. There will be different levels at Department. She

has a couple of SAL members, a couple of Legion members and a few volunteers from the Auxiliary. Friday at 9:15 at Post 28 they will start. If you are interested in coming, please come to Post 28. If you have questions or need more information, please talk to Jan. She is excited to have all three branches working together toward this change.

Beverly announced that at 2:30 the parents come to pick up preschoolers. They need to utilize the front parking lot, so if anyone has a car out front please move it to the side of the building.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS -- #1 POD Veteran, Military Support and Advocacy**

National Security Report – Sue Diaz noted that National Security is a diversity of programs, all geared to help the active military. The hardest part is getting volunteers to write down their work and let their chairperson know. She highlighted some of the things she knows is happening. She wants to report all of the work and dedication to not only National headquarters, but also to the local community. She asked that everyone not consider reporting as bragging, but as a way to show what the American Legion Auxiliary is accomplishing. Throw in your pebble and watch the rings grow. She reported on the activities done throughout the year noting the activity, the amount spent, and the number of hours involved. Sue gave a recommendation regarding the PCs for DMZ soldiers. If your unit (or you personally) would like to make a donation, send the money to Linda Schmitt at ALA Department Headquarters and make sure you mark it Korean DMZ project. She will submit it to National who will purchase the product.

Leadership Report – Eva Aulston (Unit 1) reported that she has not been active for the past few years, but wanted to try one more time. The first thing she learned was that the plan of works is sent via computer. She downloaded the Leadership Plan of works as well as the Plan for all chairman. She found pages of history of the American Legion Auxiliary as well as both a Department and Unit Active Leadership Exam. She shared information on leadership with all units. Duties of officers and chairman were sent to each unit. She took part in the Department Workshop. She noted that “without members we cannot have a unit; without a unit we cannot have a department.” She attended training in Las Vegas in June, paying expenses herself. She created a leadership book to be used. She has not received any responses to her letters mailed to provide this training. “We are a know-how, can do people, but we must become a will do people before we can do anything.”

Legislative Report – Doris Thomas (Unit 33) will give her report tomorrow.

VA&R Report –Marge Blankenship (Unit 29) stated that she received reports from 6 units. She has forms that can be filled out and narratives written. She would like a report from each unit. There are two objectives of this committee:

Objective 1 – Increase the number of auxiliary and committee members who volunteer.

Objective 2 – Raise awareness in your community about the ever-increasing number of homeless veterans.

For Field Services, she reported that 92 veterans were served for 130 hours and \$1,950 spent. In addition, she noted that Sue Caswell received the Superior Service Award for 17,500 volunteer hours.

For Home Service, she reported that \$2,428.94 worth of gifts was purchased for the gift shop in Anchorage, as well as \$300 in fruit to hand out. \$1,036.24 was spent in postage to mail gifts. An average of 57 veterans was served. Units have held dinners for veterans and delivered meals to shut-ins. Direct help has been given in picking up medications and driving them to medical appointments. Care packages were sent to the troops. Holiday parties were held. Marge encouraged everyone to do their reports. Two websites are available – [www.alaskalegionauxiliary.org](http://www.alaskalegionauxiliary.org) and [www.alaforveterans.org](http://www.alaforveterans.org). She talked with families about the paperwork needed. If the veteran passes away, the family will need the paperwork.

VAVS Report – Linda Schmitt (Unit 33) reported that she was the Representative, Linda Gunvalson (Unit 28) was the Deputy for the Anchorage Bowl, Lenore Scott (Unit 57) was the Deputy for the Fairbanks Region, Darlene Sheldon (Unit 16) was the Deputy for the Peninsula and Sue Caswell (Unit 33) is a lifetime volunteer for the VA. Meetings were held on a quarterly basis. Linda Gunvalson and Linda Schmitt have become certified by the VA and can now volunteer at the VA Outpatient Clinic, the Domiciliary and Fisher House. It was suggested that we try to get a Southeast representative as there is now a VA Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) there. Linda Schmitt outlined the volunteer opportunities as well as donations that can be given. Fisher House would prefer to get gift cards.

A recommendation was made to have Peggy Bateman work up a set of Guidelines to be used for the Gift Shops.

Field Service Report – Sue Caswell (Unit 33) noted that Marge Blankenship's report covered all of the Field Service Report so no additional report was given.

Home Service Report – Carolyn Null (Unit 28) had a little to add to what Marge reported. She noted that not a lot is reported about home service. It is part of the VA program and is a good way of connecting with people who are stuck at home and either can't or don't want to get out to meetings. Anything you do at home for a veteran is home service and it is badly needed. She has only received one report. Lavonne Collier noted that there is now a veteran's home in Palmer. Unit 35 and Unit 15 are working together on this.

Linda Schmitt (Unit 33) indicated she has a booklet which is about Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service.

Poppy Report – Linda Gunvalson (Unit 28) will give this report on Friday.

Christmas Gift Shop Report – Peggy Bateman (Unit 1) reported the Anchorage Gift Shop was held in December with 57 veterans shopping. There were 31 volunteers. \$2,428 was spent on gifts, \$300 on fruit, and \$1,036 on postage. She started shopping on Black Friday and continued throughout the week. Veterans were appreciative of all that was done. They did ask for

additional types of fruits (grapes, etc.) for a wider variety. She received numerous letters of thanks. Beverly asked if she would mind writing down some of her organizational skills to help other gift shops. It would be appreciated. She recommended the budget be raised to \$3,000 total.

**MOTION** made by Peggy Bateman (Unit 1) and seconded to raise the total budget from \$2,000 to \$3,000).

**The motion was rescinded to allow for discussion in Finance.**

**MOTION:** by Sue Diaz (Unit 20) and seconded to purchase a camera for the gift shops at a price not to exceed \$100.00

Betty Randall (Unit 18) will donate the cost of the camera and four rolls of film. Donna Brockschmidt (Unit 16) stated her unit will purchase film for the camera.

**The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.**

Peggy talked about the Christmas stockings. She has not gotten things donated early enough to fill the stockings before the gift shop opens. She requested donations be brought to the Fall Workshop.

Penny Mazonna (Unit 33) recommended that we make sure that Units are reminded to bring Christmas stocking stuffers to the Fall Workshop when information is sent out about the workshop. Peggy will provide a list of things they would like to have in the stockings.

### **RECESS**

The Convention recessed at 2:58 p.m.

### **RECONVENE**

The convention reconvened at 3:12 p.m.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS -- #2 Organizational Support**

Finance/Budget Report – Linda Schmitt (Unit 33) distributed documents for people to review. She gave some explanations. It is everyone's right to know what is going on with this organization. She asked everyone to review the packet that was distributed. It will be reviewed on Saturday as a body. Write down any questions that you have so they can be answered. At the workshop in October, if the budget needs to be amended it will be done at that time.

Audit Report – Michele Giddings (Unit 11) has to review the audit and this report will be done last on the agenda.

Constitution and By-Laws Report – Lavonne Collier (Unit 1) is not yet ready to give her report.

Cavalcade of Memories/Historian Report – Penny Mazonna (Unit 33) reported that there have been a lot of historical facts shared today. You can make history fun. She noted everyone is passionate about the organization and working with veterans. She asked them to think about some of the things that you have learned, grown and passed on to the next generation of auxiliary members. She has not received any official report forms yet. She challenged each person to go back to their unit and write down some of the information and email it to her so she can incorporate it into the history book. They can't do much about the history until the Department President has completed her year as President. She asked everyone to look through past scrap books and history books to see what has been done and then to put together one or both books. It doesn't have to be very elaborate. It will be something for future people to look at and be able to see what has happened. When you do put the book together, make sure you use full names of the people in the pictures.

1. Look at charter – find out when unit was chartered (year)
2. Write down who the unit president was at the time
3. Charter members at the time
4. National President and National Secretary at the time

This can be a starting point and you can do searches on the people. Then work on your unit history. Look through the archives for information. Send things to Penny through her email address ([freckles0207@yahoo.com](mailto:freckles0207@yahoo.com)) and be sure to include your unit number. There was no written report.

Auction for the Anchorage Veterans Memorial – a donation was made to them and in return they sent back 21 pins. These pins will be auctioned off and the money will go back to the Veteran's Memorial Fund. Pins were auction for a variety of costs (including \$5, \$25 and \$30) Penny asked those present if any had been to the Veteran's Memorial at 10<sup>th</sup> and "I" Streets. Several indicated they had been to the Memorial.

Past Presidents Parley Report – Lynn Bash (Unit 17) did not have a report at this time.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS -- #3 POD Youth Department:**

Children and Youth Report – Beth Anderson (Unit 16) stated it had been a fast and furious year. In the fall she attended the Children and Youth Conference. After she returned she attended the fall conference in Anchorage. The National web site is amazing and full of information to be introduced. We have to teach those who don't come to our Convention. Be creative, organize well, and keep it light and fun. National would like to see our effort more clearly delineated. Your target audience needs to be veterans and military families. She has only received a few reports, but hopes to see more. Beth had a certification of appreciation for Unit 17 for an outstanding job on their report. There is also one for Unit 16. She distributed a POD report for Youth Development. She recommended that units complete this form, giving them a great jumping spot for the narrative.

Sue Caswell (Unit 33) noted that Beth has volunteered to present reports for the other pods. If the incoming president wants to do it then Lisa can put them on the Web Site. Marge spoke about the PODS. It would not only be the chairman, but could include a lot of other committees working together.

Lisa Williamson (Unit 57) gave up her parliamentary seat for a moment. Lisa noted that the impact report numbers (hours, veterans and money) were requested by the Legion. They compile them with their numbers and that's what we charge Congress with as a group. As a National Chairman she could spout out the data and everyone would not be as affected as they would with narrative stories and photos to make it personal. We do have to turn in the numbers. One report is sent in to the National organization for the Department. We need to remember that the Auxiliary was formed to support the military, the veterans and their families.

Lisa re-took her place as parliamentarian.

Constitution and By-Laws Report – Lavonne Collier (Unit 1) distributed paperwork for review.

The following changes were suggested:

- Cover Page – Delete the words “District By-Laws” and “District Standing Rules”
- Constitution, Article V (Department Executive Committee), Section 1 – Delete the words “the two current District Presidents”
- By-Laws, Article IV, Section 4 – Rewrite to read: “The Department Executive Committee shall hold at least four meetings per year as follows: Immediately following adjournment of the annual Department Convention; immediately preceding the holding of the succeeding Department Convention; and at an appropriate time when issues arise or if necessary during the National Convention, but only to the extent that the business being conducted is in reference to voting on the National floor or National business, election of National Officers or special donations. It shall also meet at the Fall Workshop in October and upon call by the Department President and when requested in writing to do so by three members of the Department Executive Committee or in an emergency, at the request of the Department Secretary.

Sue Caswell (Unit 33) asked about the Department President appointing the Girls State director, co-director and 3rd year board member. It can't be done at this time.

Sue Diaz (Unit 20) asked if we could include Girls State Director and any unfulfilled appointments at National Convention.

By-Laws, Article XI, Authority – Delete the word “district” twice in the paragraph.

**MOTION:** by Sue Diaz (Unit 20) and seconded by Dee Thomas to accept the above changes to the Constitution and By-Laws with the ratification of the unfulfilled positions at the National Convention DEC meeting.

**The motion carried by unanimous voice vote**

The following changes were recommended to the Calendar:

- Delete the words “Southeast District Convention” from February
- Delete the words “Elect delegates to Western District Convention” from February
- Delete the words “Western District Convention – Department Executive Committee” from March
- Change to word “becomes” to “is” under Section F.

**MOTION:** by Sue Diaz (Unit 20) and seconded by Sue Caswell to accept the above changes to the Calendar.

**The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.**

The following changes were suggested to the Policy and Procedures Manual

- Page 5, Section 2 (Call to Convention), Item B – Delete the words “and District Presidents”
- Page 5, Section 3 (Endorsement of Department Officers) Item A – Delete in its entirety
- Page 6, Section 3 (Endorsement of Department Officers) Item D – Delete in its entirety
- Re-letter Section 3
- Page 7, Section A (Credentials Committee), 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph – Delete the words “present District Presidents”
- Page 10, Section B, #2 – Delete the words “or District”
- Page 11, Section D (Reading on the Floor), #1 – Delete the words “these are followed by proposed changes to District By-Laws.
- Page 11, Section E, #4 – Delete in its entirety.
- Page 11, Section E – Renumber as needed
- Page 13, Section G (Parliamentarian), d-3 – Delete in its entirety
- Page 13, Section G (Parliamentarian), d – renumber as needed.
- Page 18, Section H (National Executive Committeewoman), b –delete the words “roll call vote of the Department Executive Committee” and replace with “Alternate National Executive Committeewoman”
- Page 19, Section e, 1, a – delete the words “i.e. District or Department”
- Page 20, Section e, 8 – delete the word “District”
- Page 22, Section M – delete the words “Southeast and Western Districts”, as well as the words “District and” on line 9 and the words “District and” on line 11.
- Page 23, Section N – delete in its entirety
- Page 23 – renumber accordingly
- Page 26, IX (Units), Section 1 (Policy), E – Delete the words “past or present District”

- Policy and Procedure manual

Sue Diaz (Unit 20) pointed out that on page 19, Item #5 the word “NEC” should be replaced with the words “Department President”. This is a newly established procedure.

Linda Schmitt (Unit 33) stated that on Page 25, IX (Units), Section 1 (Policy), E that the word “past” should be left in the section as there will still be Past District, but not present district.

Lori Fitzsimmons (Unit 1) stated that on page 19, E the words “and District” should be deleted in the first paragraph.

**MOTION:** by Sue Caswell (Unit 33) and seconded by Sue Diaz that the changes presented above to the Policy and Procedures Manual be accepted.

**The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.**

The following changes were suggested to the Unit Constitution:

- Page 4, Article VIII (Amendments), Section 1 – replace the words “at a regular meeting” with the words “at the Department Convention.

**MOTION:** by Sue Caswell (Unit 33) and seconded by Eva Aulston to accept the changes presented above to the Unit Constitution.

**The motion passed by voice vote (not unanimous).**

The following changes were suggested to the By-laws:

- Page 5, Article II (Duties of Officers), Section 1 – Delete the words “and District” at the end of the paragraph.
- Page 8, Section 4 – Delete the words “District and” as well as the words “and their respective District”.
- Page 9, Article X (Amendments), Section 3 – Delete the words “and District” and add the word “and” between National and Department on the first line.

**MOTION:** by Sue Diaz (Unit 20) and seconded by Sue Caswell to accept the changes as presented above.

**The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.**

Beth Anderson (Unit 16) asked if these changes will be on the web site. Units will receive a copy with the changes it will be posted on the web site.

Marge Blankenship (Unit 29) noted that in the part about unit elections it reads first call is in March and 2<sup>nd</sup> call is in April. She stated that a lot of units have first call in February and elections in March. You can change your standing rules to show this.

The following changes were suggested to the Junior Auxiliary Standing Rules:

- Page 1 – Delete #3 and renumber as appropriate.
- Page 2, #1 – Delete the words “and Conferences for both Districts”.
- Page 2, #3 – Delete in its entirety.
- Page 2, #4 – Delete the words “their district conferences”.
- Page 2, #5 – Delete the word “District” and the word “Conference”
- Page 2, #6 – Delete the words “and District”
- Page 2, #7 – Delete the word “District”
- Page 2, #9 – Delete the words “all Conferences and”
- Page 3, #10 – Delete the words “District and”

**MOTION:** by Rehta Foster (Unit 28) and seconded by Kathy Moore (Unit 29) to accept the changes presented above.

**The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.**

**MOTION:** by Lisa Williamson (Unit 57) and seconded to change word “convention” to “meeting” throughout the document.

This would keep the terminology the same as it is on the National level.

**The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.**

**Reading of Resolutions** – Lavonne (Unit 1) read the two resolutions for the first time

Resolution Department 2013-01 – making the Department Secretary the Second Alternate National Executive Committeewoman and amending the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Alaska, Department Constitution, Article IV (Department Officers) Section 2.

Resolution Department 2013-02 – Amending Article IV (Duties of Officers), Section H, Subsection A and Subsection B.

Lavonne then read a letter from Unit 57 endorsing Lisa Williamson for candidacy for the Office of Western Division National Vice-President of the American Legion Auxiliary for the year 2014-2015.

**MOTION:** by Lavonne Collier (Unit 1) and seconded to approve Lisa Williamson as a candidate for the Office of Western Division National Vice President of the American Legion Auxiliary for 2014-2015.

**The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.**

## **RECESS**

The Convention recessed at 4:27 p.m.

## **FRIDAY, APRIL 26, 2013**

### **RECONVENE**

The Convention reconvened at 9:08 a.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Department Secretary Linda Schmitt.

The Invocation was given by Acting Chaplain Sue Caswell.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS (continued)**

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS -- #4 POD Family Support:**

Americanism Report – Betty Randall (Unit 18) copied and mailed all information received. She handed out a packet at the fall workshop. Units not at the workshop received the packet by mail. She received four reports. Betty gave a report on what was done by each of those four units, including events, hours worked, volunteers, and expenses and donations. She stated that reports could still be given to her by June 1<sup>st</sup> to include in the National Report. There were no recommendations or resolutions. However, Betty distributed a number of things to the members (a flag, a flyer on the Pocket Flag Project, a flyer on Americanism in the Community, a picture of the Statute of Liberty formed by 18,000 men, a brochure on how to display and respect the Flag of the United State, and a book on Flag Etiquette). The question was asked about the purpose of the “blue” on the flag. It was for valor, honor, integrity and the sky and water.

Department President Eads reminded everyone to get scholarship applications signed by the Unit President or they cannot be accepted.

Education Report – Colleen Newman (Unit 17) reported that she had a lot of donations such as pencils, pens, etc. The number of children reached was approximately 600. There were approximately 15 people in the classroom reaching 4,900 students. There were 19 scholarships awarded and there was no money donated to the scholarship fund. It has been decided to “get off the stick” in Unit 1. They decided to set a certain amount aside for scholarships each month and then be able to award scholarships. If other units wanted to do this they could. If they didn’t raise enough to do a scholarship on their own, they could donate that scholarship money to the Department. She received 8 reports this year, but wants one from each unit, even if it is a “O” report. There were no resolutions or recommendations.

Community Service Report –Nora Anderson (Unit 16) reported for Darlene Sheldon. She talked about how people are notified about Auxiliary events. She mentioned a number of events

including thank you notes, media reports, etc. which give the expenses, hours and mileage utilized. The total for the year was \$23,381 in expenses, as well as 3,977 hours, 5,039 miles and \$6,899 in donations. There were no recommendations or resolutions.

Chaplain Report – Sue Caswell (Unit 33) gave the report for Jackie Ockert. Jackie expressed her appreciation for the support from Auxiliary members and indicated her health will not allow her to continue in this role. Lavonne noted that when National did the prayer book, Jackie had a prayer in that book. Jackie received reports from Units 1, 3, 5, 6, 13, 15, 18, 27. Unit 17 called in their report.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS -- #5 POD Membership Development:**

Lisa stepped down as Parliamentarian and Sue Diaz stepped into that position.

Public Relations Report – Lisa Williamson (Unit 57) gave the Public Relations Report for Leona Schank. Leona emailed it to Lisa. Three units reported their activities. We must make the Units part of the community and encourage others to join in. It was mentioned in her report about having a chairman and co-chairman and having reports on a quarterly basis. There were no resolutions or recommendations.

Public Relations – Electronic Media Report – Lisa Williamson (Unit 57) has put anything newsworthy up on the web site. She is able to create individual pages for different areas (such as VAVS). However, she has to get the information in order to put it on the web site. [Williamson@gci.net](mailto:Williamson@gci.net) is her email and she will put things either on the web site or on Facebook. The Department has a personal face book page. She suggested that units create a “fan page” for their unit under someone’s personal face book page. The National President’s Pin will be put on the web page and updated yearly. Dee Thomas (Unit 33) asked about having an event and posting it. Lisa noted they can do that if she gets the information. Send it to her in a format from which she can cut and paste. She leaves Wednesday night for National as the National Public Relations Chairman. She is pushing the electronic media portion. There is a three part campaign being done. There is also a tool box on how to do a number of things (writing a press release, a letter to the editor, etc.) She is excited about public relations. It hits every program we do. Linda Travis (Unit 35) asked about getting the program. Lisa noted it can’t be released just yet, but once it is available on the national web site or the Alaska web site, [www.alaskalegionauxiliary.org](http://www.alaskalegionauxiliary.org) or [www.alaforveterans.org](http://www.alaforveterans.org). Penny Mazonna told a story about a summer job when one of her co-workers was talking to someone about wanting to visit the Alaska Legion Post. This was told to show that you don’t always know what people are hearing. The worker was able to refer them to Penny to arrange the visit. So, don’t be discouraged if you feel information is not getting out there. Her recommendation is to use her email address to get things to her. There were no resolutions. No written report

#### **RECESS**

The Convention recessed at 9:59 a.m.

#### **RECONVENE**

The Convention reconvened at 10:18 a.m.

Beverly announced that Dee had American Legion t-shirts for sale for \$10. She has small, large and extra-large.

Tickets for the Juniors Silent Auction will be on sale during lunch and dinner.

Poppy Report – Linda Gunvalson (Unit 28) gave the report for Judy Pusti. She noted that there was a hard time getting the 2011 poppies from Oregon with Oregon not letting them know until it was too late to order from another state. We ordered 45,500 poppies but did not receive 8,000. Linda thought this would be a good project for all the PDP's. There are plans to make the poppies for Alaska units. This year poppies were ordered from Texas at \$100 per thousand with problems and the bad poppies were replaced. She asked that each unit plant poppies around their post this summer in honor of all our Veteran's Families and Friends. Linda shared some facts about poppies. Rehta Foster also read a poem. Linda recommended that this poem be read at meetings so that the young people know where the poppy came from and meaning of it. Linda then showed everyone how to make a white poppy. Linda will be showing the Juniors how to do this. "America's Answer to Flanders Field" poem was read. There were no resolutions.

Auxiliary Emergency Fund Report – Barbe Wolkoff (Unit 17) reported on the fund which is available for Auxiliary members for financial hardship instances when no other source of help is available. Barbe read the purpose of the Fund and what it would be used to fund. She also read about eligibility to apply for money through the Fund. Donations are solicited from individual units. A National AEF Committee grants awards. She received only one report so far this year. There were no recommendations or resolutions.

Sue Caswell (Unit 33) asked that Chaplain's Books be turned in for judging.

Certificates of Appreciation for 100% membership were given to the following Units:

- General Buckner Unit 16 – 139.2%
- Nome Unit 19 – 111.25%
- Merlin Elmer Palmer Unit 6 – 130.0%
- Spenard Unit 28 – 101.35%
- Susitna Valley Unit 35 – 100.92%
- Jack Henry Unit 1 – 101.26%

Linda Schmitt acknowledged the Department new member counts. These are the number of new members:

- Spenard Unit 28 – 62 They received a certificate
- C. Russell Huber Unit 57 – 34
- Susitna Valley Unit 35- 33
- General Buckner Unit 16 – 31

Seward Unit 5 – 18  
Jack Henry Unit 1 – 17  
Merlin Elmer Palmer Unit 6 – 2  
Dorman H. Baker Unit 11 – 5  
Lynn Canal Unit 12 – 7  
Sitka Unit 13 – 8  
Matanuska Valley Unit 15 – 6  
Ninilchik Unit 18 – 5  
George H Plumley Memorial Unit 20 – 6  
Robert G Blair Unit 17 – 14  
Con Miller Unit 30 – 3  
Peters Creek Unit 33 – 11

There were a total of 274 new members in Department this year.

Dawn Brockschmidt (Unit 16) told those present about a tool of using the Bartenders to get memberships in as they have to card members.

Eva Aulston (Unit 1) stated that we have lost a lot of members in the Southeast. She asked if there is any thought that the Sons of the Legions had daughters and they could join also. You should go after your legion. The Sons have always supported us. If we tell them we need members, they can get their family involved as members.

Marge Blankenship (Unit 29) noted that since becoming a widow she's been very aware of remembering that when the husband dies the widow's income goes down. If they had been paying for family memberships, those members need help to maintain those memberships

Marge Blankenship (Unit 29) asked for members from Unit 5 to come forward. There was a drawing last year and Seward was the winner. They are receiving a STAR registration as Seward Unit 5. It is in the Northern Hemisphere.

Junior Auxiliary Activities Report – Wendy Mendez (Unit 17) is the Junior Co-Advisor and gave a report on what the Juniors are doing during Convention. Yesterday they filled out handmade cards for the VA which will be delivered tomorrow. They are practicing skits right now for tomorrow. They have been filling bags with hygiene items to be distributed. They are going to the Domiciliary tomorrow morning to deliver. They are going to Chuck E Cheese tomorrow for lunch. They have tickets to sell at lunchtime today (6 tickets for \$5). Beverly wanted everyone to know that Wendy was the co-chair so she would have a year to prepare as the chair. However, due to circumstances she had to take over the Chairmanship this year. Her co-chair is Adrienne Huff who is a new Senior member. She stated the Wendy has done a great job. The members gave her a standing ovation.

#### **PARADE OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH CHECKS**

Members brought up their checks for Children and Youth. The total received was \$1,963. This will be put into the Auxiliary account.

Nellie Dale (Unit 12) did not get to come to this convention. She still has health issues. She goes every six weeks to Juneau for blood transfusions. She is doing well and hopes to come next year. Beverly said we would keep her in prayer.

There was a suggestion to get a card for each of those not here (Judy Pusti, Jackie Ockert, and Nellie Dale). They will be purchased.

### **RECESS**

The Convention recessed at 11:02

### **RECONVENE**

The Convention re-convened at 1:45 p.m.

President Beverly Eads introduced our guests, National SAL Commander Christopher Huntzinger and his wife, as well as SAL Department Adjutant Kevin Collier. National SAL Commander Christopher Huntzinger spoke to us for a few minutes. He thanked us for inviting them to Alaska. He encouraged us to keep doing what we do so well.

Department Treasurer Linda Schmitt reported the following totals for donations received:

Scholarship – \$225.00  
Americanism – \$350.00  
Auxiliary Emergency – \$218.75

Linda Gunvalson (Unit 28) spoke to the assembly. She noted that when you come to convention you take knowledge back to your unit to share. She encouraged folks to take notes so they can share the information when they get home.

Lavonne was asked to fill in as parliamentarian as Lisa Williamson was not here. Lavonne agreed.

Children and Youth total was \$2,463. There was an additional amount received after the first amount reported.

Legislative Report – Dee Thomas will give her legislative report tomorrow.

Alaska Girls State Report – Debra Henderson (Unit 18) gave her report. She gave \$140 for t-shirts to Linda Schmitt. The Detachment of Alaska SAL donated \$1,500 to Girls State. Aurora Borealis Post 21 gave \$500.

Debbie is in the process of archiving the Girls State records. She would like any records that anyone has to be scanned to an external hard drive, once they are compiled they will be turned over to the Department Headquarters. She is making a chart of who the director was, who the American Legion Auxiliary President was, where it was held, what city, as well as the Governor and Legislators. She is missing the year 2000, the year 2001 and this year for the number of delegates. There have been 2,270 delegates in the years she has been keeping records. Records will be transferred to the new computer for the next director. She hopes she has received all of the application for Girls State. If not, she needs them ASAP. She has 36 applications at this time. They are from only five Units. Of the ones she has received, 18 do not have a sponsoring Unit. Sponsorship is \$300 per delegate. She has letters out for donations to help sponsor the delegates. It will be at the Salvation Army Kings Lake Camp. Registration is Sunday, June 9 from 1:00 – 5:00. All Auxiliary members are invited to attend any part of Girls State. It will be the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner and here will be a Talent show on Wednesday, June 12, 2013. Fischer House is the project again this year. The Flag Ceremony is at 8:00 p.m. on Friday, June 14, 2013. She thanked Unit 20 for letting them use their copier and toner to do the Citizen Manual. This year Debbie is going to do the first newsletter to be handed out with their manual and registration letters. She asked for any articles to include, as well as a welcome letter. She will start printing the middle of May. She asked any Past Department Presidents to write a letter. She made a presentation for the Units that have sent delegates to Girls State since she became in charge of it. She read the plaque and presented one to the following units:

Unit 1 with a special thank you for taking care of transportation (Peggy Bateman)  
Unit 3  
Unit 11 with a special thank you to Jan Scott for being legislative counselor  
Unit 12  
Unit 5  
Unit 15  
Unit 16  
Unit 17 with a special thank you to Beverly Eads  
Unit 18 with a special thank you to Susan Cobb who stepped in as the nurse last year  
Unit 20 with a special thank you to Sue Coup  
Unit 28 with a special thank you to DawnRae  
Unit 29 with a special thank you to Marge Blankenship for being there every year  
Unit 30  
Unit 33 with a special thank you to Sue Caswell for being mentor and helping  
Unit 35 with a special thank you to Diana Estrada, Gloria Garrett, and the Kitchen Crew  
Unit 57 with a special thank you to Judy Pusti who stepped in after the bus left  
There was special mention of Lavonne Collier for getting the permit every year.

Debbie noted there are 12 small t-shirts left.

**MOTION:** by Dee Thomas (Unit 33) and seconded to give a donation of \$100 for t-shirts to go to for the Junior Girls next year

**The motion carried by unanimous**

Marge gave a special thank you for Bill Caswell for showing the girls at Girls State how to mop the floor.

Beverly asked for applause for Debbie for 5 years of hard work and dedication.

Linda Gunvalson asked if computers for Girls State were purchased. Debbie responded that they had been purchased.

Debbie recommended that Girls State Director is not a one-year position. She recommended it be a minimum of 2 years, if not 3. It will be hashed out at Girls State and bring it up at the Fall Workshop.

Sue Caswell only saw one problem with the plan because the Board of Directors isn't going to Girls State. It may need to be a requirement.

Debbie noted the First Standing Rule needs to be changed. It currently reads that units can only send 2 delegates per school. There is plenty of space for 70 girls in one village and two other villages could be opened.

Lavonne thought that the By-Laws stated that it was 2, but if checking with the director they could send more.

Sue stated that this went back at least 10 years. By limiting the number of delegates from each school it makes it easier to break everyone up so one group doesn't have a large group from one school.

**MOTION:** by Sue Caswell moved to remove the number from the standing rules.

Lavonne Collier stated it would have to be a resolution. Sue thought it was a standing rule. Lavonne responded that it is in the Constitution and By-laws as well as the standing rules.

Marge asked if there was something about if a unit was sending a delegate to Girls State, the unit had to be involved in 4 other programs. Lavonne agreed that it was in there.

Debra Henderson is in charge of the committee. Sue Coup will serve on the committee. She will bring results to the Fall Workshop

### **RECESS**

The Convention recessed at 2:19 p.m.

### **RECONVENE**

The Convention reconvened at 2:34 p.m.

Sue Caswell is in the process of writing a resolution for the changes. Debbie announced that if there were extra girls that the Unit can't afford to fund, their application should be sent in and they will get them funded.

At this time additional Anchorage Veteran's Memorial pins were auctioned off.

- 1 -- \$25
- 2 -- \$25
- 3 -- \$30
- 4 -- \$20
- 5 -- \$25

Finance Report – Ruth Johnson (Unit 35) noted that the proposed budget was distributed yesterday. No one raised any questions regarding the proposed budget. She reported that the Western District funds went to set up the Merrillyn Stock Memorial Scholarship (\$15,000) and the funds from Southeast went to set up the Evelyn Oliver Scholarship (\$5,000). Funds from the southeast will send someone from the southeast area. The number of scholarship applications received (full and part-time) will determine the number of scholarships to be awarded. Rehta Foster mentioned that there may become a need to limit how many scholarships can be awarded because the funds from Western District will no longer be possible.

**MOTION:** Linda Schmitt second by Rehta Foster that one full time and one part time scholarship be awarded this year

The full time scholarship is for \$1,500 and the part-time scholarship is for \$750. So far, four scholarships have been received. They are all full-time applications.

Rehta Foster noted that only one person can win. The Scholarship Committee will review applications and make a decision.

Penny Mazonna (Unit 33) since all the applications is full time if a recommendation could be made to award one of the full time applications a part time amount. Linda said you could give the most deserving \$1,500 and each of the others \$500.

Betty Randall (Unit 18) suggested that instead of making an amendment we take the motion as it is and vote on it. If we wish to do something more you can have a second motion.

Linda Gunvalson (Unit 28) thinks we need to leave the motion as one full time and one part time award. One of the full time applicants could get a part-time award, since there is no part-time application this year.

Von Lamm (Unit 33) asked if we will have other money for scholarships. Linda noted that we did have some funds that could be put into the scholarship account.

Debbi Gilchrist (Unit 35) Suggested leaving it as it stands. You could take the \$750 and split it.

Kelly Sawyer asked if it was a one-time scholarship.

Barbara (Unit 1) objected to changing the award procedure. You have to follow the rules. If you don't have a part-time scholarship application, you just don't award it that year. We need to be mindful of spending money.

Rehta Foster clarified that we had two scholarships (Western District and Southeast). She wondered if it was going to be combined. It is not. The Evelyn Oliver Scholarship is for people from Southeast and the Merrilyn Stock Scholarship is for others. Rehta thought it should be split more equally.

**The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.**

Marge Blankenship noted that scholarships are continuing and are not just for someone coming out of high school. You can apply year after year.

The first recommendation was about the Evelyn Oliver scholarship which will be administered out of Department.

The second recommendation from the Finance Committee was that the Department President and NEC or Alternate NEC needs to find a fundraiser to help offset travel expenses this coming year.

Lavonne thought that National paid for them to travel, but they only do that for a percentage of the cost. Lavonne noted that we used to give \$500 each for travel when we had a Western District and Southeast.

Linda Gunvalson stated this is the first year that we are going to have all three of them going (President, NEC and Alternate). If they need funds for traveling, the NEC and the President have funds. If the alternate needs funds it will need to be raised by their unit or brought up at Fall Workshop.

Lavonne asked if the Alternate NEC needed to go. It was reported that the Alternate does not need to go.

Rehta asked if we could do something under guidelines to help fund this. Linda Schmitt noted it would be required to have another line item and figure out where to get that money.

Sharon Dillon (Unit 5) noted that NEC is the National Executive Committeewoman.

Lynn Bash (Unit 17) noted when she was Department President she had a fundraiser. With the help of units around the state she raised about \$4,600 toward travel. Other possibilities were mentioned.

Vonn Lamm (Unit 33) asked about the purpose of the NEC. Lisa Williamson responded that the NEC is Alaska's representative to the National organization. She carries the vote when the National organization meets. They meet three times a year. As a national chairman, they have no vote. Past national presidents don't have a vote.

Barbe noted that while we have three people who want to go to a meeting, there is only one vote. We really need one person with an alternate. The third person probably doesn't need to go. The President doesn't need to go to the NEC meetings, unless they have their own money to cover their costs.

Betty Randall (Unit 18) believes having the President, the NEC and an alternate is okay. You never know what will happen (she went out as President and had to fill in for the NEC because the President is alternate NEC). You never know how National is scheduling their meetings. If you get two meetings at the same time, you can't be in both places. Having a third person provides a way to cover that. We may need to go back to some type of fundraising to go into travel expenses.

Sue Caswell clarified that Betty is talking about National Convention only not the other two meetings. She agrees with having all three in attendance.

Michelle suggested that maybe people should gift mileage to cover the airline costs.

Lisa Williamson stated that the National organization reimburses the Department for the NEC to attend all three meetings. She agrees that the alternate NEC should attend so they know what they are voting about if they have to fill in. It's no money out of our coffers for the NEC to attend. If we can have a fundraiser to help fund the alternate NEC it will be good for us.

**MOTION:** by Linda Schmitt (Unit 33) and seconded by Rehta Foster that the Department President, NEC and/or Alternate NEC establish a fundraiser to help offset their travel costs.

Marge asked if it would be three separate fundraisers. The response was that it would be one Department fundraiser per person.

**AMENDED**

**MOTION:** that the Department President, NEC and the Alternate NEC establish a fundraiser to help offset their travel costs.

Eva Aulston noted that they had to pay for their expenses and they did some type of fundraiser. It worked out fine in the past. You have to have your own money from your pocket to spend when you fill the different positions.

Rehta noted that the President should travel to all the units. The alternate NEC doesn't do that travel. It could be very difficult to get the units to do that.

Linda Gunvalson stated that the President was partly paid by National. She believes that the NEC is a two year position. We shouldn't need the president raising money for the alternate NEC when it was their choice to run. Let the alternate do a raffle.

Linda Schmitt noted the President is funded for visitation travel throughout the state.

Von noted that other Presidents have sent out a flyer or paper and each unit sent in money

Linda thought it was in our bylaws or something that the President has to raise money. Lavonne thought it had been taken out.

**The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.**

**MOTION:** by Linda Schmitt (Unit 33) and seconded that all checks to the gift shop be made out to the Rehabilitation account.

**The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.**

The fourth recommendation was that Peggy Bateman be asked to compile guidelines for use in the both Gift Shops.

**The motion carried by unanimous voice vote**

Sue suggested that a committee be appointed to figure out what scholarships there are and to get a list to Linda. Then they could be put in the Standing Rules.

**MOTION:** by Linda Schmitt (Unit 33) and seconded by Sue Caswell that a committee be established to get all scholarships lined out in one place so that the particulars are available and bring it up at the October workshop.

**The motion carried by unanimous voice vote**

**MOTION:** Linda Schmitt (Unit 33) and seconded by Linda Gunvalson to donate \$500 to the National Emergency Fund from the general account.

**The motion carried by unanimous voice vote**

There was a request for \$3,000 for the Anchorage Christmas gift shop. Last year they received \$2,000 for buying the gifts, then there was \$1,400 for postage and \$300 for fruit. The Fairbanks gift shop got \$2,000. One person at Anchorage picked up 28 gifts. In Fairbanks they got one gift. There needs to be a reasonable guideline for which they can pick up gifts with a limit in the number of gifts.

Lavonne Collier (Unit 1) noted that a lot of the fruit was left over and not taken. She recommended not doing the fruit.

Sue noted that the gift shop in Anchorage works through the Domiciliary. She noted that some people have large families and some have only this way to connect with their families. We will need to work with the Domiciliary regarding any limitations.

Kelly Sawyer (Unit 15) went back to the post and asked about what they got for this. She wanted to increase the per person gift from \$15 to \$20. This got glossed over because it was either \$20 per person or \$3,000 total budget. She thought Peggy wanted \$20 per person. Beverly said she was trying to limit and give her the freedom to limit it.

Sharon noted that this past year a lot of the people were told that it was one gift per family member. But when they were wrapping it was apparent that the message had not gotten through to everyone as some had more than one present per person. The paperwork to the Domiciliary would need to state one gift per immediate family member.

Linda Gunvalson stated that in the past they had let it be known that it was one person for immediate family. It should not have been cousins or extended family.

Von understood what Sharon was saying about immediate family. Immediate family usually means mother, father, sisters, brothers and children. Lisa asked folks to turn to the 3<sup>rd</sup> from the back page. The Anchorage gift shop budget was \$2,000; however she spent over \$4,000 (including postage). Whatever we do we need to make sure that the amount set is all she gets to spend.

Lavonne Collier stated they went shopping right after Christmas and bought several things for next year at an extremely low cost. Lori Fruhwirth (Unit 11) said if we are going to raise the limit from \$15 to \$20 for Anchorage would we do the same for Fairbanks.

Sharon asked how much was raised from the silver tea (0) for this gift shop and if we are buying the gifts how does the limit of \$15 work.

**MOTION:** by Linda Schmitt (Unit 33) and seconded to raise both the Fairbanks and Anchorage Gift Shop gift allowance to \$3,000 each plus an additional amount of \$500 for postage and anything expenses over this amount would require departmental approval.

Kelly asked where the money comes from to fund this. It comes from the Rehab Account and Gaming. People will need to be reminded to make donations to the gift shop. Donations need to be sent to Department and indicate it was for the gift shop.

Betty Randall (Unit 18) stated that her unit sent \$250 each for Fairbanks and Anchorage gift shops. Any unit can do that. She also talked about the postage. Limiting it to \$500 and

requiring approval over \$500 means that when they get to the airport they might not be able to get ahold of someone for overage approval.

Sue stated that the chairman of the gift shop would have to manage that budget. It is their responsibility. It's not necessary to micromanage their budget; we should let them take responsibility.

This motion was withdrawn.

**AMENDED**

**MOTION:** by Linda Schmitt (Unit 33) and seconded to raise both the Fairbanks and Anchorage Gift Shop gift allowances to \$3,500 each to include postage.

Jan suggested tabling this motion and talking about it when Peggy is in the Room. It was stated we are trying to resolve the situation. It is not a personal attack.

**The motion carried by voice vote.**

Linda Schmitt got a call from the Edwards Jones investment advisory. We had a bond purchased last year (the last CD became a bond). That was a \$6,000 bond. There is a balance of \$11,174 at Edward Jones. She recommends setting up a separate savings account for the \$11,000 to be used if needed. Last year the permit was played only two months a year. It used to be 9 months a year. Right now the balance in the account is \$13,758 as of today. In the general account there is \$20,000.

**MOTION:** by Linda Schmitt (Unit 33) and seconded by Linda Gunvalson to set up a separate savings account for \$11,174 (from Edward Jones).

Linda Travis (Unit 35) asked why the gaming permit is not being used. We are one of 33 permits that the gentleman uses in a rotation. We've tried to find another vendor, but have not been successful.

The question was asked if there is interest on a savings account. Linda explained you buy a bond for a certain percentage rate and it comes from whatever company the bond is through. If it is a bond or a CD it is tied up for a set period of time. A savings account gives us access without penalty.

**The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.**

Beverly thanked everyone on the Finance Committee

Rehta noted that the National President has a special fundraiser to raise funds.

**MOTION:** by Rehta Foster and seconded by Dee Thomas that we send ours troops \$200 to help buy the laptops out of the rehab fund.

**The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.**

### **READING OF THE RESOLUTIONS**

Sue did the first reading of Resolution 2013-5 regarding changing the number of delegates to the Alaska Girls State Program.

Audit Report – The audit report will be given later.

### **RECESS**

The convention recessed at 3:55 p.m.

### **RECONVENE**

The Convention reconvened at 4:07 p.m.

Liaison to Child Welfare Foundation Report – Jan Scott read the report.

The winners of the High School Oratorical Contest were:

Eugene Schenekoff  
Victoria Jocelyn (Delta)  
Patrick Henderson (Haines)  
Joanna Daniels (Ninilchik)

There were no recommendations or resolutions.

The rough outline from the committee work was to have three (3) Auxiliary members, one (1) SAL member and two (2) Legion members on the committee. A final draft with all the details will be sent to all members of the Legion family.

This year the post winners will all come to Department. If needed, we will have four semi-finalist contests going at the same time. The winners will advance to the finalist. The winner at the finalist level will be the Department of Alaska representative in 2014. We will need up to 26 volunteers and up to 30 judges. The facility is being looked for in Anchorage with 10 rooms. She asked for any information about location, people, judges, etc. to please let her know. She is limited because she is from North Pole. She is looking for good listeners who will be fair. On Friday evening (the weekend of March 1<sup>st</sup>) there will be an information meeting to orient the students and volunteers so they know what is expected. Saturday will be the first round of semi-finals. Saturday afternoon the winners will go into the final rounds and then we will have our Department representative. The Post provides travel costs. Deadline of notifying the post winner is February 17<sup>th</sup> with competition March 1<sup>st</sup>.

Audit Report – Michele Giddings (Unit 11) has been in contact with Linda Schmitt throughout the year. The questions had already been answered. An audit is testing the transactions to see if they are properly authorized and go to the correct places. The audit went well (it is not a CPA audit). There were no resolutions. The Audit Chairman should get with the Treasurer before they go to the auditor.

### **READING OF NOMINATIONS**

Linda Gunvalson had her committee come up and read the endorsement letters.

- Unit 20 endorsed Sue Diaz for the Office of National Executive Chairwoman for the Department of Alaska for the 2013 to 2015 administrative year.
- Unit 17 endorsed Beverly Eads for office of Alternate NEC for the 2013-2014 administrative year.
- Unit 29 endorsed Margaret Blankenship for the office of Department of Alaska President for the 2013-2014 administrative year.
- Unit 33 endorsed Penny Mazonna for the office of Department 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President for the 2013-2014 administrative year.
- Unit 29 endorsed Sharon Cherrette for the office of Department 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President for the 2013-2014 administrative year.
- Unit 1 endorsed Peggy Bateman for the office of Department 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President for the 2013-2014 administrative year.
- Unit 17 endorsed Colleen Newman for the office of Department Historian for the 2013 – 2014 administrative year.
- Unit 17 endorsed Barbe Wolkoff for the office of Department Chaplain for the 2013-2014 administrative year.
- Unit 33 endorsed Linda Schmitt for the office of Department Secretary/Treasurer for the 2013-2014 administrative year.
- Unit 33 endorsed Doris (Dee) Thomas for the office of Department Sgt-At-Arms for the 2013-2014 administrative year.
- Unit 28 endorsed Sue Waldhaus for the office of Department Executive Board.
- Unit 35 endorsed Debra Gilchrist for the office of Department Executive Board.

That concludes the nominations.

Joyce from Unit 28 was given a few minutes to speak. At the Post there is a quilt that looks like a flag. The Auxiliary is raffling it on July 4<sup>th</sup>. All proceeds go to Relay for Life. Relay for Life is the American Cancer Society. Tickets are \$10 each or a book of 10 for \$90. See a member of the Auxiliary from Unit 28 and the Bartender for tickets.

Marge Blankenship reported that the 8/40 Salon 51 has less than 10 members that are paid up. There have to be 10 members paid and there has to be a Board. This must be done within the next month or two. Lavonne thought the charter had been submitted. Marge Sheridan informed Marge that National has not cancelled the charter. It will not be done until they meet after National Convention. If you want to keep it going please see Kathy Moore and have a meeting to elect officers.

Sue Caswell explained that 8 and 40 used to be a subsidiary organization of the American Legion Auxiliary. It is no longer recognized by the Auxiliary. You don't have to be an auxiliary member to join. They work with children with lung and respiratory issues. Lynn Bash got a letter, but there was no place to submit the money. The money should be sent to Kathy Moore. Linda Gunvalson noted that we are not able to get enough women together for a meeting. If you want to be a member see Kathy Moore.

It was asked if tomorrow's lunch was open to everyone. It is open to everyone. Beverly reminded us of the luncheon. Please pay Lynn and come to the Luncheon at the Asian Gardens at Dowling and Dimond.

Linda ask that anyone who completed the exam to return it to her.

Please bring in Poppy Books for tomorrow.

### **RECESS**

The Convention recessed at 4:51 p.m.

### **SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2013**

### **RECONVENE**

The Convention reconvened at 9:12 a.m.

The Invocation was given by Acting Chaplain Sue Caswell.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Marge Blankenship.

### **FINANCE**

**MOTION:** by Lavonne Collier and seconded to accept the budget for the 2013-2014 year.

**The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.**

### **RESOLUTIONS**

Lavonne read the resolutions for the 2<sup>nd</sup> time.

2013-05 regarding how many can attend Girls State

**MOTION:** by Sue Caswell (Unit 33) and seconded by Eva Aulston to approved Resolution 2013-05 regarding Girls State.

**The motion carried by unanimous voice vote**

2013-01 regarding the NEC 2<sup>nd</sup> Alternate being the Department Secretary

**MOTION:** by Lavonne Collier (Unit 1) and seconded by Dee Thomas to approve Resolution 2013-01 regarding the NEC 2<sup>nd</sup> Alternate.

Rehta asked why are we having her as third person in line and why take out the President. Lavonne explained that when the President goes out of office she can be the Past President Parley. Sue Caswell stated that one has nothing to do with the other. PPP is only at Convention NEC is at the National level. Sue stated we are going against ourselves and putting in a secretary who may or may not have served as Past President. Linda Gunvalson stated that this may never ever happen. If it does you have your alternate, then your President. The Secretary is already there but she does not need to sit in the Presidents seat. It's cutting the President out.

Betty Randall (Unit 18) firmly believes that you should eliminate "highly recommended" and state they must be Past Presidents. She does not believe anyone should be an alternate NEC unless they have been a Past Department President. There are odd ball things that always happen. You are trying to foresee the future. Lavonne responded by stating that we had "shall be" past department president last year and the Convention delegates wanted it changed to "highly recommended". She thought the Secretary knows what is going on and we aren't cutting out the President.

Jill Pawson asked why it is being enacted. She agrees it should be a Past Department President because they are the leadership of this organization. She asked why the President is being cut out of being the alternate. She is asking for clarification. Lavonne responded it is because the NEC and the Alternate are voted in for a two year term. Rehta, "Why are we putting the secretary in as a third person. We have a NEC and an alternate."

Linda Gunvalson stated when we have luncheon we elect the person we want. Beverly is this year. We need the President, the Alternate NEC and the NEC to attend.

Caroline Altman (Unit 28) stated that we have had Presidents in the past who don't want to go any further by being NEC or alternate. This is giving them a choice.

**The motion was denied by unanimous voice vote.**

2013-02 (Duties of Officers) – with the amendment to delete words “The current Department Secretary shall be the Second Alternate National Executive Committeewoman”

**MOTION:** by Lavonne Collier (Unit 1) and seconded by Colleen Newman (Unit 17) to approved Resolution 2013-02 regarding duties of officers.

Sue stated if you are elected alternate NEC you are also the past Junior President and that gives you two chairs. Lavonne replied that will only be happening during the transition year. Next year Marge would go in as Past Presidents Parley. Sue responded that it is only one year, it may happen again. It will continue to be a potential problem. It should be a line item chairmanship.

Guests arrived and the discussion was discontinued. National Commander James Koutz, and his aide Steve Short were welcomed. The National Commander stated that it was very nice to be here. He thanked the Auxiliary for what they do and what we do as an American Legion Family. If it wasn't for the Auxiliary the Legion probably wouldn't get much done (especially cooking). They appreciate all that we do. His project, Comfort Warriors, is very important. We need to buy comfort items for our wounded warriors. They are living because we have great doctors and equipment. Last night we took in \$900 for Operation Comfort Warrior. There are three license plates left to be sold if anyone wants them. They will be going to Washington DC and then to Indiana for spring meetings. He encouraged us to have a great Convention. Don't quit on membership. We want to be at 100%

### **CONTINUED DISCUSSION ON RESOLUTIONS**

Rehta asked for all PDPs that hold a committee to stand. There were ten (10). She asked what the problem was holding two different chairs.

Sue Caswell addressed the double chair. You do PPP at convention only. It has nothing to do with NEC and would not interfere.

Kathy (Unit 18) thought there was something that said they couldn't hold two. Lavonne remarked that it wasn't in there.

**It was unclear by voice vote if the motion carried.**

Lavonne re-read the resolution.

The resolution was to delete current department secretary. The Junior Department President not the Department Secretary, shall be the second alternate NEC.

It was reminded that you can only change policies and procedures every 5 years.

**The motion carried by count**

Yea 29

Nay 19

Sue Caswell read the two courtesy resolutions.

2013-3 – thanking Spenard Post, Unit and Squadron 28 for hosting the Convention.

**MOTION:** by Sue Caswell (Unit 33) and seconded by Sue Diaz (Unit 20) to approve Motion 2013-3 thanking the hosts of this convention.

**The motion carried by unanimous voice vote**

2013-4 – thanking Beverly Eads for her great job serving as Department President.

**MOTION:** by Sue Caswell and seconded to approved Motion 2013-4 thanking Beverly Eads for great job serving as Department President.

**The motion carried by unanimous voice vote**

**RECESS**

The Convention recessed at 9:53 a.m.

**RECONVENE**

The Convention reconvened at 10:11

Linda Schmitt announced that she has been on Finance for a number of years. Being treasurer and serving on the Finance Committee creates a conflict. She is resigning as Finance Committee. Member Nora Anderson would be willing to be on Finance. She is a retired CPA.

**MOTION:** by Linda Schmitt (Unit 33) and seconded by Lynda Gunvalson to appoint Nora Anderson to replace Linda Schmitt on the Finance Committee.

Sue Diaz asked if that would be the incoming President's decision, but it will be re-appointed in March. Lisa reminded everyone that there are 2 member (Ruth Johnson was on her last year; Jean Shandy is completing her 2<sup>nd</sup> year, Linda was the 3 year term. At the end of Convention the new President will have one position to fill.

**The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.**

Kim Jensen (Unit 35) announced that her husband who is Finance manager for Unit 35 left his book on the table and the book was gone. Their checkbook is in the back. She asked everyone to check their binders and make sure the one they have belongs to them. They were also asked to check with spouses, etc. at the other meeting.

Scholarship Committee - Colleen Newman and Lori served on this committee. Colleen reported that there were four scholarship applications for the Merrillyn Stock Scholarship. It was difficult to choose. They chose Shawn Moline sponsored by Seward Unit 5. He was a fulltime application. There are no part-time applications.

Kim Jensen (Unit 35) asked why he was chosen.

He was chosen because he seemed to have the most need. He has been in school already. He attached his transcripts from the college. He is doing well and he works full time and goes to school full time. His major is elementary teaching. He is transferred to UAA.

Betty Randall asked about the other candidates' applications and if they are notified that they did not receive an award. Linda Schmitt sends letters to all applicants.

Sue asked about the other applicant getting a part-time scholarship.

**MOTION:** Sue Diaz (Unit 20) and seconded to give the 2<sup>nd</sup> applicant a scholarship based on the Chairman's feeling that they really deserve it.

The second application was Laura McGinnes from Ninilchik. She is 12 units from her degree and is studying for business administration.

Kelly Sawyer (Unit 15) asked about eligibility. She asked if priority was given to Auxiliary members. The response was that they do have to be a relative of a veteran. There are four areas looked at: 25% character, 25% Americanism, 25% for leadership, 25% for need

**The motion carried by voice vote**

The second applicant will receive a part-time award.

Kim Jensen (Unit 35) expressed her frustration about yesterday's actions and then negating it today. So she asked why the time was spent on it yesterday. Debbi noted that we discussed everything yesterday. Because a motion was made today to utilize the part-time and passed by the membership, the exception was made.

National President's Scholarship – Due to time constraints, Linda Schmitt called Penny Mazonna to help with the selection process since there were two applications (one from Unit 17 and one from Unit 16) for the National Presidents Children of Warriors Scholarship. They reviewed the

applications for completeness and utilized the National guidelines in their selection process. One application was incomplete. The complete scholarship was sent on to the Western Division Education Chairman and she will receive the Aggie Parks Scholarship (\$1,000) and will be considered for the National President's Scholarship (only 15 awarded in the nation). The successful applicant is Miranda Beach from Unit 16.

Donna Brockschmidt (Unit 16) will be making awards at the Unit and offered to take the letter to Miranda. Linda Schmitt did not have that letter and it will be sent from the office.

Scrapbook Report and Awards – Penny Mazonna indicated that she had Kathy Moore (Unit 29), Lynn Bash (Unit 17) and Jeannie as the judgment team. Penny decided as chairman not to judge. She thanked all the units that participated. They are very important and it is imperative to label the photos (names, happenings, dates, etc.). She thanked her team for their hard work.

The awards were as follows:

Honorable Mention – Unit 11  
Third Place – Unit 20 (received \$10)  
Second Place – Unit 28 (received \$15)  
First Place – Unit 16 (received \$25)

Penny noted that projects of books involve a lot of work and time consumption. In the long run it is worth it. Don't wait until the last minute to work on it. Do it throughout the year. Be sure to use captions. The scrapbook (anything you have done throughout the year is in your scrapbook) and the history book (a written documentation) are two different things.

Debbie Henderson asked if there were guidelines. Penny stated they existed and if they contact Linda she has them. They will also be on the web site.

Unit 28 donated their \$15 back for Children and Youth.  
Unit 20 donated the \$10 back for the Girls State program  
Unit 16 donated the \$25 back for Girls State program

Linda Gunvalson believes that the historian sends out the guidelines for the history book, the scrapbook and the poppy book.

Sue Caswell noted it is on the national web site.

Marge Blankenship noted the Historian is more than taking pictures. It is the history of your Unit and what has gone on in the Unit for that year. Everyone can take pictures and get them to the historian.

Eva Aulston stated that is why Lavonne and Eva brought in the scrapbooks from when they were Western District Presidents. There are a lot of people from the past who may or may not be around anymore. She was "cute" and "young" in those.

Penny shared a photo memory from Haines around 1990. Her daughter, Patty, was 5. It was very hot in Haines that year. Only one person brought summer clothes with him. The installation is her best photo memory. It was done outdoors on top of a patio area at the hotel next to the Post. The first female Commander for the Department was installed that year. Pictures will set off memories for a lifetime. Don't forget to label, label, label pictures.

**MOTION:** by Linda Gunvalson (Unit 28) and seconded by Eva Aulston to donate \$500 to the recreation project for the VA at the Domiciliary.

The money does exist.

**The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.**

Colleen Newman is looking for keys that were lost. It has an auto start. Let her know if you find it.

Caroline asked who was doing the Elmendorf Hospital stockings this coming Christmas. She is willing to have Unit 28 be in charge of it. Her offer was accepted.

Colleen talked about having the Polar Bear donation (\$1,000) but in the budget as we do it every year. Linda Schmitt noted it was done in the fall.

Beverly asked the new ladies attending if they feel a difference and if they feel things are starting to click. Kelly thought it was really that she didn't know what was going on. She is charged to go back and do things. There is so much money to be raised (scholarships, Domiciliary, etc.).

Eva Aulston asked how many new people have ever read the constitution. Some of them have read it and most of the older members have read it. She urged that people read the constitution and by-laws prior to coming to the Convention. It will give you prior knowledge that you need to have.

Jackie (Post 5) has learned that you don't have to just serve at your post. You can go to other Posts. We are a family and we can help each other. She encouraged people to do that.

Sharon Cherrette reiterated reading the constitution and by-laws. The Plans of Works put out by National is also something to read. It's generic for all states. It's not just about doing something in your family, but also in the community.

Beverly called for someone from Nome to come up to the Podium to explain something to Lisa Williamson.

Sue Caswell noted that each Unit picks programs to work on. When it comes time to do reporting, those programs will overlap each other so information is reported for all of the programs for which it applies.

Linda Gunvalson told folks that when she started she was working 40 hours a week on one job, 20 hours on another and when she found that she liked to read before she went to bed and she read one chapter of the handbook and then went into other papers and documents. Don't say you can't do it. You just have to make the time.

Marge Blankenship stated that sometime today members of the 8 and 40 need to see Kathy Moore. The USS Anchorage is being commissioned on May 4<sup>th</sup>. They need volunteers.

### **RECESS**

The Convention recessed at 10:58

### **RECONVENE**

The Convention reconvened at 11:17

The Department President turned her gavel over to Marge Blankenship while she gave her report.

Caroline Null asked that everyone present sign the welcome sign for the Post.

Legislative Report – Dee Thomas does not have a legislative report.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Department President Beverly Eads gave her report. She started a year ago, feeling anxious and enthusiastic to learn. She visited several posts throughout the year. She also attended the President and Secretary Conference in Indianapolis. In addition, she visited the Domiciliary and attended the training mission in Las Vegas.

The report was accepted with applause.

She received gifts from her home unit as well other units.

### **RECESS**

The Convention recessed at 11:30 a.m.

### **RECONVENE**

The Convention reconvened at 2:26 p.m.

The Bag Raffle was finished. Members bought tickets and then put them in the bag which they wanted to win. Lynn took volunteers to help (Caroline Null and Betty Randall). They drew

names out of each bag and announced winners. The Bag Raffle raised about \$168 for Future Development.

Past President's Parley – There were 708 lunches today and it was \$980. A plaque was presented to the Service Woman of the Year.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**MOTION:** by Sue Diaz (Unit 20) and seconded to accept one design that was given by Linda Schmitt.

**The motion was withdrawn as there was another pin design accepted.**

The other pin was a white background with red poppies on the side and the back it says Dept. of Alaska and our website on the back side.

**MOTION:** by Linda Gunvalson (Unit 33) and seconded Kathy Moore that both be drawn up in color and sent to Linda Schmitt by September 1<sup>st</sup> and then be presented at the October workshop so that people can see what they are voting on.

**The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.**

Betty Randall applauded Lynn Bash for the Past Presidents Parley. It was great and everything went well. The membership applauded and thanked her.

Sue Coup asked to make sure that everyone has signed the Post 28 Welcome Board.

**MOTION:** by Sue Diaz and seconded by Dee Thomas that we donate \$500 each to the Creative Arts Festival, the Women Veterans Program, the Golden Age Games and the Winter Sports Clinic.

Linda G thought it was said earlier that we needed to keep our money until we see what our Gaming permit does. Linda Schmitt stated that this was in the budget.

**The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

The Sgt-of-Arms determined that all those present had active membership and were eligible to vote.

Credentials – Department Secretary Linda Schmitt did roll call.

#### **Officers Present**

President Beverly Eads

1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President Marge Blankenship  
Secretary/Treasurer Linda Schmitt  
Historian Penny Mazonna  
Sgt-At-Arms Barbe Wolkoff  
Executive Committeewoman Deborah Gilchrist  
Executive Committeewoman Doris Thomas

Officers Excused

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President Ashley Purcell  
Chaplain Jackie Ockert

Committees Present

Americanism – Betty Randall  
Audit – Michelle Giddings  
Auxiliary Emergency Fund – Barbe Wolkoff  
Cavalcade of Memories – Penny Mazonna  
Children and Youth – Beth Anderson  
Constitution and By-Laws – Lavonne Collier  
Education – Colleen Newman  
Finance – Ruth Johnson  
Girls State – Debra Henderson  
Leadership – Eva Aulston  
Legislative – Doris Thomas  
National Security – Sue Diaz  
Past President Parley – Lynn Bash  
Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation – Marge Blankenship

Committees Excused

Community Service — Darlene Sheldon  
Distinguished Guests – Ann Robinson  
Junior Activities – Ashley Purcell  
Membership – Ashley Purcell  
Poppy – Judy Pusti  
Public Relations – Leona Shank

Unit Representation

Present

Jack Henry, Unit 1  
Seward, Unit 5  
Dorman H. Baker, Unit 11  
Matanuska Valley, Unit 15  
General Buckner, Unit 16  
Robert G. Blair, Unit 17  
Ninilchik, Unit 18

Absent

Merlin Elmer Palmer, Unit 6  
Lynn Canal, Unit 12  
Sitka, Unit 13  
Edward Locken, Unit 14  
Gladys M Heintz Memorial, Unit 27  
Chappie James, Unit 34

Nome, Unit 19  
 George H. Plumley Memorial, Unit 20  
 Spenard, Unit 28  
 Muldoon, Unit 29 Excused  
 Con Miller, Unit 30 Ketchikan, Unit 3  
 Peters Creek, Unit 33  
 Susitna Valley, Unit 35  
 C. Russell Huber, Unit 57

Past Department Presidents Present

Lynn Bash	Lori Fitzsimmons
Carolyn Null	Jill Pawson
Susan Caswell	Sue Diaz
Betty Randall	Eva Aulston
Lisa Williamson	Rehta Foster
Jean Shandy	Lavonne Collier
Linda Gunvalson	Francisca Guilford

There were 7 Officers present.  
 There were 14 Committee Chairs present.  
 There were 14 Past Department Presidents present.  
 There were 14 units present.  
 There were 14 chairmen present.

A quorum was present

Votes per unit are as follows:

Jack Henry Unit 1 .....	13 + 1 = 14
Ketchikan, Unit 3.....	not present
Seward, Unit 5.....	18 + 1 = 19
Merlin Elmer Palmer Unit 6 .....	not present
Dorman H Baker Unit 11 .....	8 + 1 = 9
Lynn Canal Unit 12 .....	not present
Sitka Unit 13.....	not present
Edward Locken Unit 14 .....	not present
Mat Valley Unit 15 .....	15 + 1 = 16
General Buckner, Unit 16.....	16 + 1 = 17
Robert G. Blair Unit 17 .....	17 + 1 = 18
Ninilchik Unit 18.....	13 + 1 = 14
Nome, Unit 19.....	9 + 1 = 10
George H Plumley Memorial Unit 20.....	16 + 1 = 17
Gladys M. Heintz Memorial Unit 27 .....	not present
Spenard Unit 28 .....	37 + 1 = 38
Muldoon Unit 29.....	15 + 1 = 16
Con Miller Unit 30.....	4 + 1 = 5

Peters Creek Unit 33 .....13 + 1 = 14  
 Chappie James Unit 34.....not present  
 Susitna Valley Unit 35 .....18 + 1 = 19  
 C. Russell Huber Unit 57 .....17 + 1 = 18  
 Total of 254 votes for the Units

Chairman votes = 8  
 Officer votes = 3  
 Past Department President votes = 14  
 The total number is 279 votes.

The Nominating Committee came forward. Linda Gunvalson oversaw the election/voting.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Nomination Chairman Lisa Williamson presented the slate of officers. Each position was voted on as they were presented.

National Executive Committeewoman – Sue Diaz (Unit 20)

No other nominations were presented from the floor. Hearing no other nominations, Department of Alaska President Beverly Eads declared Sue Diaz as National Executive Committeewoman of the Department of Alaska, American Legion Auxiliary for the 2013-2014/2014-2015 years by acclamation.

Alternate National Executive Committeewoman – Beverly Eads

No other nominations were presented from the floor. Hearing no other nominations, Lisa Williamson declared Beverly Eads as Alternate National Executive Committeewoman of the Department of Alaska, American Legion Auxiliary for the 2013-2014/2014-2015 years by acclamation.

President – Marge Blankenship, (Muldoon Unit 29)

No other nominations were presented from the floor. Hearing no other nominations, Department of Alaska President Beverly Eads declared Marge Blankenship as President of the Department of Alaska, American Legion Auxiliary for the 2013-2014 year by acclamation.

First Vice-President – Penny Mazonna (Unit 33)

No other nominations were presented from the floor. Hearing no other nominations, Department of Alaska President Beverly Eads declared Penny Mazonna as First Vice-President of the Department of Alaska, American Legion Auxiliary for the 2013-2014 year by acclamation.

Second Vice-President – Sharon Cherrette (Unit 29) and Peggy Bateman (Unit 1)

Hearing no other nominations, Department of Alaska President Beverly Eads declared the nominations closed. A three minute caucus was called to determine voting. No one

may leave the room as they will not be allowed to return. It was asked if a candidate had to be present in order to get any votes. Peggy is taking the minutes for the Legion Meeting. The scribe who was supposed to relieve her did not show up in time for Peggy to get here. We are assuring that the rules state that if there is no letter and the person is not present, that they cannot receive any votes. Our Parliamentarian, Lisa Williamson, called National who stated that if it wasn't in our rules, we would follow Robert's Rules. The endorsement letter is considered consent. Because we have the letter of consent, both parties are valid for consideration.

The Balloting Committee went into the foyer to count the votes for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President. It was necessary to recast votes because people miswrote their ballots. It needs to say the name or names of the people you are voting for and how many votes for the person.

The Balloting Committee again went to the foyer to count the votes for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President for a second time.

After review, Department of Alaska President Beverly Eads declared Sharon Cherrette as 2nd Vice-President of the Department of Alaska, American Legion Auxiliary for the 2013-2014 year by vote.

Historian – Colleen Newman (Unit 17) Colleen Newman respectfully declined. A nomination for Sue Waldhaus from Unit 28 was received.

No other nominations were presented from the floor. Hearing no other nominations, Department of Alaska President Beverly Eads declared Sue Waldhaus as Historian of the Department of Alaska, American Legion Auxiliary for the 2013-2014 year by acclamation.

Chaplain – Barbe Wolkoff (Unit 17)

No other nominations were presented from the floor. Hearing no other nominations, Department of Alaska President Beverly Eads declared Barbe Wolkoff as Chaplain of the Department of Alaska, American Legion Auxiliary for the 2013-2014 year by acclamation.

Secretary/Treasurer – Linda Schmitt (Unit 33)

No other nominations were presented from the floor. Hearing no other nominations, Department of Alaska President Beverly Eads declared Linda Schmitt as Secretary/Treasurer of the Department of Alaska, American Legion Auxiliary for the 2013-2014 year by acclamation.

Sgt.-at-Arms – Doris (Dee) Thomas (Unit 33)

No other nominations were presented from the floor. Hearing no other nominations, Department of Alaska President Beverly Eads declared Doris Thomas as Sgt of Arms of the Department of Alaska, American Legion Auxiliary for the 2013-2014 year by acclamation.

Executive Committee Women –Debra Gilchrist (Unit 35) with the nomination of Colleen Newman (Unit 17) from the floor.

No other nominations were presented from the floor. Hearing no other nominations, Department of Alaska President Beverly Eads declared Colleen Newman and Debra Gilchrist as Executive Committee Women of the Department of Alaska, American Legion Auxiliary for the 2013-2014 year by acclamation.

The Junior Auxiliary Officers were presented:

President – Jessica Mendez  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President – Jade Ponte  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President –Tina Cruz  
Secretary – Megan Howe  
Historian – Sierra Harrgett  
Chaplain – Krysten Gray  
Sgt at Arms –McKenzie Estrada  
Executive Committee – McKenzie Hill, Amber Gillbreath

**MOTION:** Sue Diaz (Unit 20) and seconded to accept the Junior Auxiliary Officers for the 2013-2014 year.

**The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.**

The following installing team was requested:

Installing Officer – Beverly Eads  
Chaplain – Sue Diaz  
Sgt.-at-Arms – Lisa Williamson

**MOTION** by Sue Diaz (Unit 20) and seconded that the installing team be approved.

**The motion carried by unanimous voice vote**

### **RECESS**

The Convention recessed at 3:47 p.m.

### **RECONVENE**

The Convention reconvened at 3:59 p.m.

**MOTION:** by Lavonne Collier (Unit 1) and seconded to keep the gaming permit where it is for the next year.

**The motion carried by unanimous voice vote**

All past officers were asked to turn in their pins.

**JUNIOR AUXILIARY PRESENTATION**

The Junior Auxiliary presented the Preamble of the Constitution. They also sang the Star Spangled Banner. Krysten gave a speech. She talked about how much the American Legion means to her and how involved she is and why she is involved.

**PRESENTATION OF NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS**

All newly elected officers were asked to come forward for a group photo as well as individual photos for the web site.

The following have indicated their intent to attend the National Convention in Houston, Texas in August.

Sue Diaz	Marge Blankenship	Lavonne Collier	Caroline Null
Linda Gunvalson	Rehta Foster	Beverly Eads	Betty Randall
Linda Schmitt	Barbe Wolkoff	Gloria Garrett	Lisa Williamson
Pages:	Lori Fruhwirth	Wendy Mendez	

Beverly gave a lovely gavel for Marge Blankenship. It has last year's National President's Pin on it.

**CLOSING PRAYER**

Sue Caswell, Acting Chaplain provided the closing prayer.

**RETIRING OF THE COLORS**

The colors were retired by the Sgt.-at-Arms.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before this Convention, the meeting was adjourned at 4:16 p.m.